

# ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831

## SAFETY FIRST

The Fullerton Joint Union High School District began a new plan to deter substance abuse on campuses through the use of drug detection dogs.

By Cheryl Yang, STAFF WRITER, and graphics by Phoebe Um, GRAPHICS



### PHARMACY

TROY HIGH SCHOOL  
FULLERTON, CA

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2019

**85%** of high school students and **44%** of middle school students report seeing drugs used, sold or stored on campus

E-cigarettes surpassed combustible cigarettes as the **most commonly used tobacco product** among U.S. middle and high school students in 2014

**50%** of teens in treatment programs say that they had used drugs for at least **2 years** before their parents even knew."

SOURCE: IMPACT CANINE SOLUTIONS



Following a spike in drug possession-related student suspensions, the Fullerton Joint Union High School District implemented a policy for contraband detection dogs to conduct campus-wide searches Feb. 1.

Around twice a month, trained dogs will arrive on campus accompanied by their handlers to perform unannounced searches. The dogs will conduct unsystematic searches on cars in the parking lot, classrooms and lockers. During the classroom searches, students will be instructed to leave the classroom with their possessions inside. The dogs will not be in physical contact with any students, as they will only search belongings.

Supplied by a company called Impact Canine Solutions, the dogs are trained to detect a wide variety of substances including marijuana, hashish, cocaine, crack, heroin, commonly abused medications, alcoholic beverages and any gunpowder items or firearms.

Since the legalization of marijuana in 2016, administrators have recorded an upward trend of student drug possession in the district. The increase in suspensions is partially due to the widespread availability of marijuana and a recent surge in the popularity of vaping.

Troy High School is not eligible for the 2019 California Distinguished School Award because of the increase in the number of suspensions over the past two years due to drug usage. According to the Assistant Principal Lance Bletscher, the ampli-

fied enforcement of the policy would discourage student drug possession at school and prevent more suspensions in the future.

"Unfortunately, students forget [about the policy], or they don't care, but either way, they bring [drugs] on the campus," Bletscher said. "That's what we're trying to prevent. That's where the dogs come in as a deterrent."

Several students and parents have raised concerns about the implementation of these inspections. In response to this apprehension, Bletscher said that the policy will not breach privacy because the dogs are non-invasive.

According to Bletscher, the searches will be brief in nature and students will not be in direct contact with the dogs. In the case that a student does suffer a severe reaction, future searches will be adjusted to fit their needs.

The decision also factored in student concerns over school safety. Many of the complaints submitted to the district's "See Something, Say Something" program are related to student drug use. The program aims to create a safer space for students through increasing the control of drugs, Bletscher said.

"Students will just feel safer knowing this is a measure to keep [drugs] out of our campus and our lives, and I think most kids want that," Bletscher said. "My hope is that students will have a greater sense of pride and security knowing that they won't see as much of drugs. We're here to learn and have a good time. Most importantly, we're here to be successful and do well in the future."

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Meet freshman Henry Tang, a badminton champion, and learn about his journey as a striving competitive athlete.



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# Care Mission USA Club holds homeless food distribution event

The first high school chapter of the Care Mission international organization volunteered to feed the homeless.

By Sky Jung  
STAFF WRITER

Educating its members about the homelessness crisis in downtown Los Angeles (LA), the Warrior Care Mission USA Club distributed food and blankets to the homeless Feb. 22.

Club members prepared meal packages filled with supplies at the Care Mission USA organization's headquarter facility. The club obtained these supplies through on-campus fundraisers.

At the event, members spent four hours traveling through LA to offer meals and blankets to the homeless. Volunteers finished preparing the meals in the late afternoon, and food distribution began in the evening. Members traveled in groups, and they handed out the meals and blankets to as many people in downtown LA as possible.

During a blanket distribution event in January, members stationed at the Care Mission USA organization's facility handed out blankets to the local homeless.

The meal package and blanket delivery event served as a follow-

up to the club's blanket distribution, which was held in the same area of LA.

kets to the homeless, who are typically without hot food or warm places to sleep. Increasingly cold

"We want to help everyone we can in any way possible, and volunteering is one way to do

board boxes in 50 degree weather, it shows what they're going through."

According to Co-President Aiden Bedward, as part of the Care Mission organization's first high school chapter, members hope that they can bring more student volunteers to help the homeless through Care Mission USA events in the future. Located in both Tijuana, Mexico and LA, Care Mission organizes volunteer events and fundraisers to provide basic necessities and services to locals in need.

Unlike other charity clubs, the Care Mission USA Club emphasizes personal interaction with the homeless, Wang said. Instead of simply sending donations to the organization, members are directly involved in aiding homeless people, which allows them to witness the daily struggles of homelessness.

"We want to see the other aspects of actual human interactions," Wang said. "The [volunteer experience] is more of an eye-opener for the individuals who have never seen homeless people in their lives. It allowed Warriors to see that even though we are cold many of these people are living without blankets and hot food. The more people we have volunteering, the more homeless people we can help in the future."



COURTESY OF BRYAN WANG

**VALIANT VOLUNTEERS:** Care Mission USA Club sophomores Aiden Bedward and Bryan Wang give food to a homeless man living near a temporary housing shelter in downtown Los Angeles.

In spite of the cold weather, volunteers walked outside to pass out their meal packages and blan-

conditions urged members to supply the homeless with basic aid, Co-President Bryan Wang said.

that," Wang said. "We're wearing [jackets], and it's still cold. If [the homeless] are living in card-

# Botany Club plans hydroponic garden

In an attempt to raise awareness about California's native plants, Botany Club launched a plan to create a hydroponic garden.

By Danielle Chow  
STAFF WRITER

Cultivating plants using modern gardening techniques, Botany Club initiated planning for their Hydroponic garden project Jan. 8.

Botany Club aims to educate students and teachers about California's native plants by distributing plants around campus and participating in other botany-related projects.

With their latest project, students planned to create a hydroponic garden

which uses a technique of growing seeds in water instead of soil. As part of the hydroponic garden project, participants will plant seeds inside of a wool cube before adding nutrients and oxygen to the surrounding water.

The hydroponic garden will be stationed at the new outdoor classroom's greenhouse.

Hydroponic gardens are more sustainable than soil plant gardens because water does not degrade or run off like soil does. By

exposing members to modern, technologically-viable gardening methods, board members planned to further participants' knowledge on hydroponic planting.

According to Secretary Tanisha Joshi, hydroponic gardens combine modern science and conventional gardening techniques. By experimenting with different ways to culture plants, members hope to discover the methods best suited for growing plants specifically in California, Joshi said.

"We hope to educate people at Troy about the different kinds of plants in the world and [what] they bring to our environment."

**Tanisha Joshi**  
Secretary

"[Club members will] gain more understanding about traditional farming techniques and how they can be evolved to include modern technology," Joshi said. "We hope that [both] Troy students and teachers learn about native plants in California: the best things to grow to help our environment with our conditions."

According to President Joseph Dong, the hydroponic garden will help participants enhance their gardening knowledge while

gaining hands-on experience and having fun. Each person's individual efforts contribute collectively to a garden created with the hard work of many Warriors.

"[The hydroponic garden is] a fun project for the club members to get experience with," Dong said. "Club members gain experience by practicing different forms of gardening. Members can contribute their own seeds, grow them at home [and] bring them here so that we can incorporate them into our garden."

According to Joshi, Warriors should learn about the process required to cultivate plants. An understanding of how plants work will also influence students' actions in other subject matters, such as environmental awareness. As human life depends on the planet's well-

being, greater knowledge about plant life will help people better tend the environment, Joshi said.

"We hope to educate people at Troy about the different kinds of plants in the world and [what] they bring to our environment," Joshi said. "Gardening [is] essentially the basic structure of America. We've always gardened [for] food. People [should] truly understand where food comes from, how to grow it [and] how to take care of it."



COURTESY OF JENNA SABLE

**PLANTING A NEW SEED:** Botany Club President Joseph Dong and freshman Jesse Dong prepare plant pots for the hydroponic garden.

# Three FBLA Club members host THS Kindness event

Students began a kindness campaign to complete their service requirement for an upcoming conference.

By Angelica Sano  
STAFF WRITER

Encouraging positivity within the Warrior population, members of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) are holding the Troy High School (THS) Kindness Campaign Jan. 4 to March 15.

Sophomore Gina Bae and juniors Aishwarya Sitaraman and Hannah Wang created the THS Kindness Campaign for their community service event to be presented at the FBLA State Leadership Conference April 25-28. The students aim to foster a more nurturing environment on campus through their campaign.

For the project, the three FBLA members will be filming a promotional video called the "Kindness Boomerang," which will depict several students partaking in small acts of helpfulness on campus. In the video, the students perform good deeds one after another in an effort to convey a chain-like reaction of kindness.

Additionally, the three students created a @thskindness-campaign Instagram account and banner, both of which are filled with inspiring quotes for students. Bae, Sitaraman and Wang hope to reach a wider audience



JULIANNA SABLE

**KINDLING KINDNESS:** *Sophomore Gina Bae and juniors Aishwarya Sitaraman and Hannah Wang supervise students writing positive messages to children in local hospitals.*

of Warriors with their wave of kindness by incorporating several projects into their campaign.

In an effort to promote kindness beyond campus, the three FBLA members also collaborated with the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) Club to write motivational messages to patients within the hospitals. CHOC Club members included these messages in their packages and gave them to the patients during their hospital visit Jan. 18.

According to Sitaraman, the club members aim to uplift the spirits of children who must remain in the hospital's environ-

ment for indefinite periods of time.

"A lot of the children at CHOC have to stay there the whole day," Sitaraman said. "To bring a smile to their faces, we got FBLA members to go out of their comfort zone and write a positive note."

Managing the THS Kindness Campaign has allowed the three students to further motivate Warriors to be more compassionate, Bae said.

"[The campaign] started because the three of us had a common goal to spread kindness, and we decided to further that mission by focusing on that issue for an FBLA project," Bae

said. "[This campaign] really goes along with the mission statement that we had at the beginning of the school year to make this school a lot friendlier and nicer for everyone."

Although the project will end in March, Wang hopes that the campaign will continue to inspire Warriors to care for one another.

"We're hoping that [the THS Kindness Campaign] leaves a lasting impression on Troy," Wang said. "People can, with their individual efforts or as a group, really change the atmosphere of the campus and make it more kind and positive."

**TROY TODAY**

*Troy Theatre Arts presents "Look Homeward, Angel"*

From Feb. 13-16, Troy Theatre Arts showcased "Look Homeward, Angel" in the Thomas Moore Auditorium. Based on the 1929 novel by Thomas Wolfe, the play centers on the story of Eugene Gant and his mother Eliza Gant, the owner of the Dixieland boarding house in Altamont, North Carolina. Throughout the show, Eugene finds an unexpected romance with new boarder Laura James while dealing with the potential selling of the family's marble shop.

*NJROTC students visit Ronald Reagan Presidential Library*

Invited to meet three Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, NJROTC sent 30 cadets to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Feb. 14. This year marks the third consecutive year that cadets were able to personally meet the Medal of Honor recipients and listen to their stories. Additionally, cadets honored war veterans from both the Korean and Vietnam War at the event.

*Warrior CyberPatriot program sends teams to Nationals*

Five Warrior CyberPatriot teams qualified for CyberPatriot XI Nationals Finals Feb. 15. Senior Christo Bakis, freshman Timothy Kim and juniors Clement Chan, Rahil Shah and Joseph Xu took first place overall in the Semifinals round. Altogether, two Open Division teams and three All Service Division teams are headed to Baltimore, MD. Troy will be the first school to send five teams to the same CyberPatriot national competition. The Warrior CyberPatriot team was both the 2018 All Service National Champion and runner-up in the Open Division.

*FBLA goes to SSLC*

The Future Business Leaders of America Club competed at the Southern Sectional Leadership Conference at Valencia High School Feb. 9. Club members participated in various events based on objective tests, public speaking skills and entrepreneurial projects. At the competition, the club placed second as a whole and qualified for the State Leadership Conference at the Sacramento Convention Center April 25-28.

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# THE CASE AGAINST TRUE CRIME

The true crime genre takes our most horrifying fears and feeds them to us in the form of modern entertainment. But as we grow more accustomed to the blood and gore, it might be time to decide if our indulgences are ethical.

By Jillian Warren, **STAFF WRITER**, and cartoons by Phoebe Um, **GRAPHICS**

Within the past decade, the rise of the true crime genre seems to have revealed some of our society's most nihilistic obsessions. With numerous television series, podcasts, Netflix documentaries and crime novels, the entertainment industry has capitalized on society's fascination with the most gruesome of criminal activity. Even rising media companies like BuzzFeed have contributed to the true crime craze, attracting millennials and younger generations with their web series "Buzzfeed Unsolved." Crime-based storytelling has evolved in such a way that producers have the ability to experiment with the content they create, facilitating the growth of the genre as a whole.

Undoubtedly, the age of contemporary media has provided numerous platforms that allow creators to present traditional crime plots in innovative ways—ones that are more intriguing to the public eye. Society's interest in true crime skyrocketed after the widespread popularity of "Serial," a podcast investigating a murder trial of the late 90's, and "The Jinx," HBO's docuseries that examines yet another ho-

micide case of the early 2000's. In 2015, the Netflix series, "Making a Murderer," gave the genre the last push it needed to infiltrate mainstream entertainment. Netflix's recent nine million dollar purchase for the film "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil, and Vile," stars Zac Efron as the notoriously evil Ted Bundy and has proven that the cultural fascination with criminals is far from over.

True crime programs almost always revolve around one central topic: the captivatingly horrifying tales of the world's most sinister serial killers. With this gruesome theme, it might be confusing as to why the genre has so many fans, but true crime encapsulates much more than just macabre tales of bloodshed. Documentaries and television shows give viewers an inside look into all aspects of a criminal investigation including the interrogations, trials and concealed motives—all of which can be extremely enthralling to the average viewer. Stories depicting true crime possess the same binge worthy factor

seen in dramas, except these stories uncover frightening facets of reality.

Despite the occasional glorification of blood and gore, true crime media actually capitalizes on other factors surrounding criminal cases, giving rise to increased social awareness. One of the reasons why "Making a Murderer" did well was because of the malpractices it highlights in our social justice system. Not only is the story entertaining, the docuseries calls attention to the unfair verdicts and wrongful accusations that

occur in criminal trials. True crime programs force society to revisit issues from the past, potentially uncovering new developments, like how "The Jinx" succeeded in claiming justice for two previously unsettled murder cases.

The true crime genre can be a powerful tool for cultural reform—however, not all of its programs act as one. Some, such as the film "My Friend Dahmer" do more to romanticize the killer and appeal to the theatrics of drama rather than raise social awareness. Captivated by the story's shock factor and excessive emotional appeals, audiences still sanction the content, catalyzing its rise in popularity. It does an extreme injustice to the victims and their families as they are overshadowed by their malicious assailant.

With the rise of streaming based services and other innovative media platforms, it's obvious that true crime media won't be making a disappearance anytime soon. Ultimately, the genre will continue to be appreciated by fans of all ages because of the powerful emotion it elicits from audiences: fear. A feeling that provides us with a unique thrill that can be found nowhere else; one that makes it just too hard for viewers to look away.

**ON SCREEN SCREAMS:**  
*Today, true crime stories are accepted to be a source of morbid fascination in society. However, what most people don't know is that much of true crime media calls attention to ignored and unsolved cases in which the victim's family is still searching for answers.*

## SERIES STAKEOUT

True crime: a genre that thrills with the chilling reality of a murder. Check out this terrifying trio—the suspense will kill you.

By Jois Talla, **ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR**, and Jillian Warren, **STAFF WRITER**, and images from Google



If the fear factor of horror films isn't for you, the Crime Junkie podcast may be the way to get your true crime fix without the grotesque details of murder. Hosted by Ashley Flowers and Brit Prawat, the podcast highlights tales of mysterious death and disappearance that are more or less unknown by the general public. The topics discussed are relatively dark, however, the storytelling is straightforward, and the dialogue between the two women feels rather lighthearted, making listeners comfortable while keeping them in suspense.



With its mix of true crime, paranormal activity and comedic banter, "Buzzfeed Unsolved" is one of the few programs that makes criminal activity enjoyable for all. The masterminds behind the series, Ryan Bergara and Shane Madej investigate everything from the chilling Black Dahlia murder to the mysterious assassination of JFK. The unbreakable chemistry and humorous dialogue between the pair give the show a charming blend of sinister storytelling and playful commentary—something for true crime fanatics and skeptics alike.



For those who want an immersive experience, "The Jinx: The Life and Death of Robert Durst" is the pure masterwork of the true crime genre. The HBO documentary miniseries explores three unsolved murders that were allegedly committed by Robert Durst. Underneath the glamorous sophistication, "The Jinx" compellingly portrays the sinister privilege of the wealthy that acts as a protective wall. Accompanied by dramatically suspenseful reenactments "The Jinx" promises a twisted journey of crime.

# Productivity in a Pinch

Mobile apps aren't just for entertainment; they're helpful for academia too. From note-taking to stopping procrastination, there's an app for everything. And with hundreds of apps on the market, choosing the right app can be the solution to all of your worries.

By Hannah Adams, STAFF WRITER, and cartoons by Kristen Perez, CARTOON

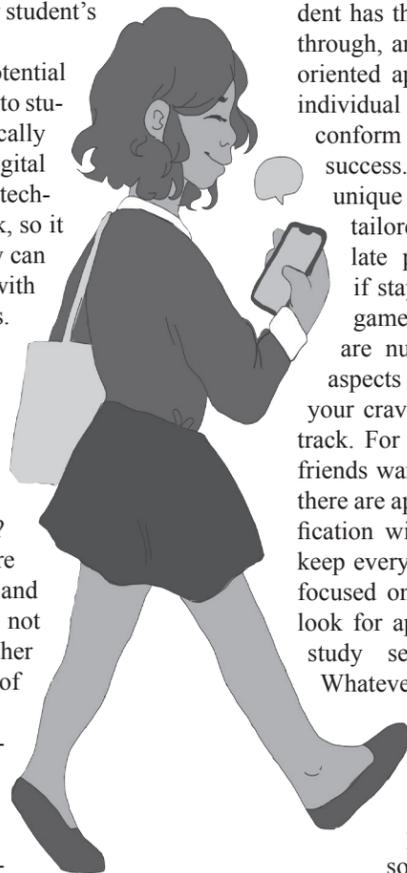
From Candy Crush to Instagram, there are hundreds of mobile apps that students know by name. Unfortunately, most mobile apps are notorious to students not because of their title but because of how distracting they can be. The majority of apps used by students are irresistible and entertaining, consequently prompting students to put off their homework for one last game or 30 minutes scrolling through social media. That being said, not all apps are synonymous with counterproductivity; there exists an abundance of helpful programs that can improve grades, sleep schedules and study habits.

Despite the host of helpful apps available, many students still turn a blind eye towards them, favoring entertainment apps instead, if they're even aware of them at all. According to a refuel report, 70 percent of students use websites and mobile apps for games, 67 percent for music and 64 percent for social networking. And although entertainment apps are a portable way to relieve stress, when they are used in place of completing homework, students are consequently wrecking their sleep schedules,

work ethic and in a Troy student's nightmare, test scores.

Despite it being a potential distraction, the solution to student struggles can ironically also be found in the digital age. Students are using technology around the clock, so it is unsurprising that they can turn to apps for help with their academic careers. For almost every troubling aspect of student life, there's an app that can provide a solution. Have trouble managing time or efficiently studying? Dozens of solutions are waiting on Android and IOS. These apps are not counterintuitive but rather are the learning tools of the future.

Although most students live the same arduous life of sleep deprivation and vigorous studying, each stu-



dent has their own method of pulling through, and the diversity of student-oriented apps is vast enough so that individual students will not have to conform to a general approach to success. Depending on a student's unique needs, different apps offer tailored benefits that can stimulate productivity. For instance, if staying off of social media or games is difficult for you, there are numerous apps that contain aspects of entertainment to satisfy your cravings while keeping you on track. For example, if you and some friends want to stay focused together, there are apps out there that pair gamification with friendly competition to keep everyone in line. If you're more focused on your individual progress, look for apps that keep logs of your study sessions and productivity.

Whatever app you choose, by combating your guilty pleasures with efficient study habits, you won't have to worry about accidentally pulling an all-nighter on social media ever again.

## Fashion Feature

Check out Oracle's inside look at the most stylish kids representing campus chic.

By Jois Talla, ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR, and photo courtesy of Jenna Sabile



CHELSEA CHUNG  
9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

A splash of color doesn't hurt anyone, and to freshman Chelsea Chung, it's a must-have for every outfit.

In her daily fashion, Chung plans her outfits in such a way that their colors act as stylish accents rather than flashy features. Fond of colorful barrettes and elegantly simple necklaces, Chung tries to create a color motif within each outfit. Bright accessories can enhance the ensemble, accentuating certain colors without making them the central component of an everyday look..

Unlike some who emphasize conventional solid colors, Chung encourages experimentation with a variety patterns and styles. Taking inspiration from the styles of Rina Sawayama and Liz from HOLYCHILD, Chung attempts to integrate the bold combinations of streetwear into her own fashion. On Instagram, she admires the styles of @kic-kiyangz and @aerincreer, using their posts as inspiration to experiment with striking colors.

Chung's outfits, completely based on her comfort, reflect her bright personality. "Don't be afraid of being judged because you could be starting a trend yourself! If you're doubting yourself, it'll show, so just totally indulge yourself in whatever you think is cool or cute."

### Seed for Smarts

Flora, available on IOS, and Forest, available on both Android and IOS, are nature-inspired apps that specialize in weeding out your temptations with gamification and real-life rewards. For a group of friends that wants to stay on track together, Flora would be ideal, as it holds everyone accountable for one virtual tree. If one person were to go on their social media accounts, the tree would die and everyone would be forced to restart. As for students who wish to focus on their study habits alone, both Flora and Forest provide a collective data set of the time you spend working in the form of an electronic forest. As an added bonus, users can earn points from growing digital trees and choose to redeem them in support of non-profit organizations that plant real trees in developing countries.



### Notable Notes

This dynamic duo of apps, Evernote and Cite This for Me, offers life-saving features that are available on IOS, Android and their own sites. In terms of individual benefits, Evernote is compatible with numerous platforms, including familiar ones such as Google Docs. The app, equipped with a document scanning service and premade note templates, also includes a search bar that can identify documents by keywords or their titles. As for Cite This for Me, this app can make you say goodbye to struggling with bibliographies. Including 6,500 citation styles and a service that turns photos into citations, this app will save your works cited page from the evil clutches of formatting errors.



### Need for Sleep

While putting off sleep seems to be the go-to for students trying to cram a week's worth of studying into one night, sleeping for more than two hours will do far more wonders for your body than an all-nighter would do for your test. Sleep Cycle—an app available on Android and IOS—is here to prevent you from getting everlasting eyebags. Sleep Cycle is a smart alarm clock that identifies the stage of sleep you're in by the sounds you make while you're sleeping. And based on its findings, it can determine the best time to wake you up, even if you're not a morning person. In addition, it keeps a log of how well you slept and suggests possible factors that keep you from getting a good night's rest.



# ON THE SCENE

# BEHIND THE SCENES

Preparing the daily broadcast is more than just “lights, camera, action!” Dive into Omnia’s inner workings from its complex program

By Amber Huynh, ASSISTANT FEATURE EDITOR, cartoon by Kristen Perez, CARTOON, graphic by Tu-An Nguyen, GRAPHIC

## An Overall Take

Omnia’s mission is creating content that makes students listen and teachers pull down their projector screens. Though it is a relatively recent addition to the campus, dating back to only three years ago, Omnia has now grown to have quite a presence.

Dynamic and innovative, the staff is constantly trying out new and engaging ways to keep the audience entertained and involved. There are two sides to Omnia: pre-production editorial roles and mid-broadcast production roles! From switching sound sources to

managing smooth transitions between videos, live coverage and pictures, every student has their own realm of expertise.

The broadcast’s newly-debuted weather forecast, a suggestion from senior and current weather reporter Max Levine, is one of them. Its fast-paced Kahoot games are another. Even just recently, they invited theatre students to act as talents in place of the usual ASB members Feb. 20.

Still, although Omnia may seem demanding, it’s not all work! Mistakes turn into inside

jokes, as senior Rowena Lumnarias assures. She fondly recalls the time she wished everyone a “great three day warrior” instead of a “great three day weekend.” It’s spawned a new running joke that resurfaces before every three day weekend.

As producer and administrator Mr. Knowles contends, one’s initial technical skills or GPA don’t matter in the selection process. For those wishing to join Omnia, “what matters is your willingness to tell other people’s stories.”

### Editorial Staff

Even in the dim lighting, it’s easy to make out the scrutinizing gazes of the Omnia members as they analyze their previous broadcast. When the lights switch on, a student hurries to the front of the room, snatching a whiteboard marker and furiously scribbling down suggestions from the class on how to improve.

Mr. Knowles concludes this daily ritual with a quick speech, then the room bursts into motion. Not one person idles: each student has his/her assigned “editorial” role—which can range from making graphics about the latest sports games to managing Omnia’s social media accounts—to fulfill before production begins. From on-the-field missions gathering information about their fellow Warrior’s latest achievements to tracking clubs’ social media accounts, the work put into their broadcast’s content is formidable. Most work at their computer stations; depending on the student, one might find Adobe Premiere or Google Docs displayed on their monitors.

The script, carefully crafted from both the staff’s research and the student body’s submissions to the morning announcements, begins to take shape. Though some linger, others begin to move onto their next challenge: production.

### Production Team

As time trickles by, students file into the control room. Soundproofing acoustic foam lines the corners and wall. The room contains at least 10 monitors—with several being at least 60 inches wide. Everything, from the myriad of confounding wires to the keyboards’ keys, is color-coded to facilitate production.

Even to the amateur eye, it’s easy to discern the level of technical skills required to pilot the room’s equipment.

There’s a glass window that overlooks the adjacent recording studio. Two “talents,” as the staff members call the pair of spokespeople, tip-toe inside and settle down on their stools as the staff points three cameras at them. It’s not quite show-time yet, but the first of many run-throughs for the day’s broadcast is about to begin.

There may be an error or two: perhaps the teleprompter advances the script too quickly, or the talents stumble over their words, or the wrong camera is used, or the two lucky students chosen for the Pledge of Allegiance miraculously become mute as they’re hustled into a soundproof box. However, by the time chiming bells signal the beginning of announcements, everyone is ready.

Now, the stage is set. Lights, camera, action!

00:00:11:35

● REC

TROY HIGH SCHOOL

OMNIA

EDITORIAL  
STAFF

Social Media Editor in Chief

Email/Youtube

Facebook/Instagram/Snapchat

Kahoot

Sports Editor in Chief

Fall/Winter/Spring Sports

Arts/Clubs/Competitions

Teachers/Counseling/ASB

Publications

Special Ed

Student Life

World News

This Day in History/Fun Fact

Joke of the Day

Animations/Backgrounds/Effects

03/01/2019



# SCREEN

ns to its organized production team.

CS EDITOR



**POSITIONS**

**PRODUCTION TEAM**

- Director
- Assistant to the Director
- Camera 1/2/3
- Technical Director (TD)
- Assistant TD
- Streaming Engineer
- Sound Engineer (SE)
- Assistant SE
- Lighting
- Teleprompter
- Hair/Makeup/Wardrobe
- Set Director
- Production Assistant
- Producer

9:59 am



## Q & A

### What is Omnia's goal?

Essentially, at its root, we are telling people's stories. [Students] are constantly consuming those on social media. You're getting all these stories, and that's what connecting you. I see this broadcast as the opportunity to do that with the school. Instead of having everyone turn out to the various things they do, for a moment, they'll turn in to learn about the school. That's the goal: to bring this school closer. We're going to do that through social media, video segments people submit, tracking sports, [and] tracking competition teams. [We are] telling those stories.

Jesse Knowles, *Omnia advisor*

### What kind of work is put into the broadcast that the student body might not think about?

The daily broadcasts are just five minutes at the end of second period, but it takes a while to write a script for the talents to read, make graphics and prepare the sound and audio equipment in the studio to launch the broadcast for the day. I'd encourage more students to tell their teachers to watch the broadcasts everyday because we put a lot of work into producing it.

Nicole Villegas, *Senior*

### What inspires you to keep being a part of Omnia?

I'm inspired to do this every day because of the people I'm covering—[this school] is not an easy place, but it is a school brewing with talent and passion and perseverance unseen anywhere else. Each person has their story, and those incredible stories deserve to be acknowledged. Whether it be a video about Dungeons and Dragons, a segment from Ladies' First or an amazing sports report, the Warriors are active, and we are right behind them cheering them on.

Rowena Luminarias, *Senior*

When others view our broadcasts, they don't know what goes on behind the scenes. We try our best on the daily broadcasts and that involves a lot of stressful situations and quick thinking. For example, we may have a problem with the script or our graphics may not work. Sometimes, our computer may crash. Depending on these situations, we have to work around the problems we have and strive to the very last minute to get everything ready. Technical difficulties are unpredictable and uncontrollable which is why we have to push until the very end to make things work.

Angela Huh, *Junior*

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# Keep the acting on television; hate crimes are a real problem

By Isaac Yang  
STAFF WRITER



Forget the boy who cried wolf; meet the actor who cried “MAGA!”

As actor Jussie Smollett walked down the street in Chicago Jan. 29, he claimed to have been ambushed by two men who seemed to know him. According to Smollett, these attackers shouted racial and homophobic slurs as they poured bleach and hung a noose around his neck. However, Smollett was found guilty of filing a false police report and fabricating his story Feb. 20.

Smollett’s irresponsible actions only diminish the gravity of a very real issue. Statistics for 2017 presented by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) revealed an alarming 17 percent increase in reported hate crimes, or offenses motivated by bias, from the previous year. A reported 58.1 percent of hate crimes were racially motivated, while 22 percent and 15.9 percent were motivated by religion and sexual orientation, respectively. Evidently, countless civil rights movements have not been enough to combat the discrimination corrupting the country. However, staging at-

tacks and lying to the police will not fix this problem. In fact, doing so will only detract from the credibility of individuals who have truly been victims of hate crimes.

Despite Smollett’s severe mistake, the controversy still sheds light on a serious problem. Currently, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act defines hate crimes and enhances the legal ability of prosecutors to combat them. However, hate crimes are still prevalent—the FBI discloses that 8,437 hate crime offenses were reported in 2017—because American citizens have grown indifferent to blatant discrimination. For example, data collected

“The U.S. must fight against discrimination, but orchestrating crimes and wasting police resources on wild goose chases are not the answer.”

by the FBI in 2016 showed that members of the LGBT community were the most likely targets of hate crimes. These statistics prove that America is still in burning turmoil because of discrimination.

America is an extremely diverse country, and its citizens should acknowledge this fact. In fact, the Pew Research Center projects that the U.S. will not even have a single racial or ethnic majority by 2055. Gallup also reveals that the number of people who identify as LGBT has grown to 4.5 percent in 2017 from 3.5 percent in 2012. Considering the growing populations of these so-called minorities, discrimination is ab-

surd. All U.S. citizens deserve to be treated equally, regardless of their identity. Especially in the 21st century, discrimination and prejudice should be a thing of the past.

To fix the divisive ways of thinking that are setting this country against itself, everyone—including Warriors—must be aware of them in the first place. Citizens must clearly emphasize unity instead of promoting division, especially to the youth. Practically, Americans can be warned against discrimination and be taught at a young age to accept diversity.

The U.S. must fight against discrimination, but orchestrat-

ing crimes and wasting police resources on wild goose chases are not the answer. These irresponsible acts are counterproductive because they only raise opposition to embracing diversity. If figures such as Smollett want discrimination to be left in history, they must not use deception and lies.

## Examining the Evidence



### Suspects or *Witnesses*?

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) took **Abel and Ola Osundairo**, brothers of Nigerian descent, into custody. They were released without charges.

### The payment



CPD claims that they have **Smollett’s 3,500 dollar check** paid to the brothers to help stage the supposed hate crime.

### The Stage Props



Surveillance footage shows the Osundairios purchasing **rope, ski masks, gloves and red baseball caps**. The brothers claim that Smollett paid for the items.



# Clearer communication and compromise can remediate students’ fundraising frustrations

Why is fundraising at Troy so difficult?

With the recent Food Fest, many Warriors were introduced to the long process of setting up a school fundraiser. Some of the more complicated and inefficient rules may contribute to the long lines outside of the Activities Office and the breaks and lunches students lose waiting in them. Moreover, last-minute cancellations and administrative alterations have led to missed revenue opportunities for clubs.

Still, student unfamiliarity with procedure is the primary source of many complications. Administrative policies are simply meant to maintain law and order, and the full protocol can be found on the Troy website and at the front office. Fundraising slots and cash box availability have to be

reserved on a first-come-first-serve basis, and all funds must be handled by a faculty advisor. Sales can only start 15 minutes after the school day ends—when many prospective buyers have already left—according to state regulation. In other words, although the administration’s policies may seem to be justified and logical, they still present hurdles to Warrior fundraising efforts.

With school liability for student affairs, concerns are understand-

able, but the process needs to be simplified if students are to efficiently raise the funds they need. The current structure is too restrictive; it fails to offer students sufficient freedom towards the operation

of their own fundraisers. Some rules go beyond caution to the point of implying a lack of trust in student coordinators, many of whom are high-achieving club board members and who will go on to be future leaders. If our own

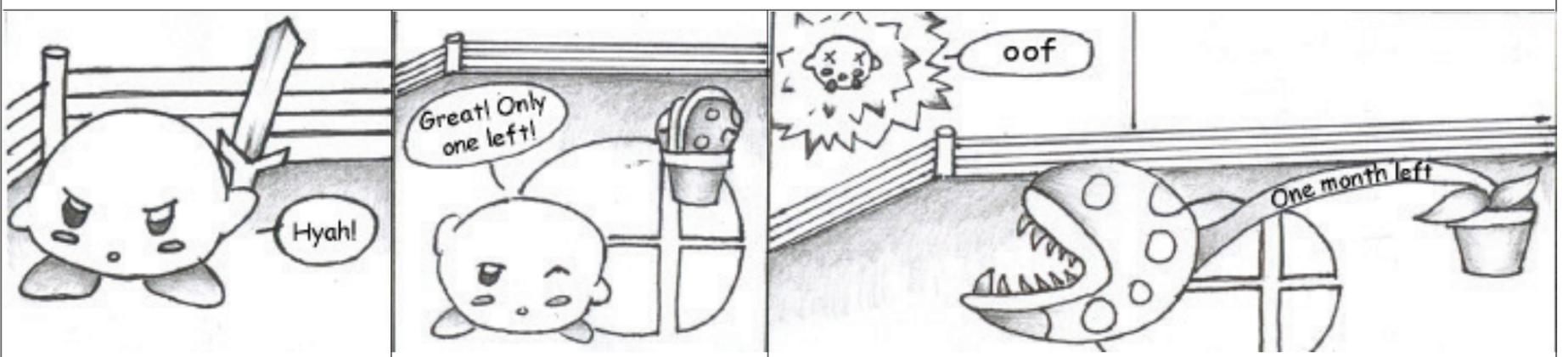
school can’t trust them to handle operations, how can they gain experience for future endeavors?

That noted, students do have a responsibility to notify the administrators early about any special requests or concerns. Coordinators cannot expect to operate completely independently of school policies; they have to work within the system. The solution is as simple as organizing a meeting with the Activities Office to discuss plans. After all, administrators can only fix whatever they are told is broken.

More than anything, administrators and students need to work together before making any drastic decisions. Compromise is the best tool in these situations so that both parties understand each other’s concerns and work from there.



## Troytendo: More Foes Left by Katie Nguyen



## KEEPING UP with the OPINION EDITORS

### Brexit: the importance of informed voting

By Amy Weng  
OPINION EDITOR



One of the most iconic democratic countries has fallen prey to its own political system.

The United Kingdom's (UK) planned exit from the European Union (EU), known as "Brexit," is entering its final stages as the deadline of March 29, 2019 approaches. In a 2016 public referendum, one which had a remarkable 72.2 percent turnout rate, the majority of British citizens voted to leave the EU.

Ironically, three years later, UK Prime Minister Theresa May's proposed Brexit deal suffered a monumental defeat in Parliament Jan. 15. The majority of British citizens are

"However, fantasies of reliving the glory of the once-mighty British empire do not withstand the test of actual economic hardship."

no longer in favor of Brexit. Polls show that the majority opinion would be against Brexit if a second public referendum, which would further jeopardize the integrity of the first one, is held.

Adding insult to injury, the threat of a no-deal remains, potentially devastating the UK's economy even more. In short, the UK is in a tight lose-lose situation that could have been avoidable if the UK had not voted so hastily in the first place.

This regret in hindsight only highlights the joke of the first referendum, during which uninformed citizens voted on a decision that would permanently affect not only the domestic economy but also that of foreign trade. In 2016, the people of the UK were clearly consumed with dreams of once again becoming an independent country that would dictate the rules rather than be marginalized by the European mainland.

However, fantasies of reliving the glory of the once-mighty British empire do not withstand the test of actual economic hardship. May's government is facing peril and headaches because of a voting population that is divided and unwilling to pay the price of its actions. One of the staunchest opposers of Brexit is Northern Ireland, which hopes to remain in the EU with its fellow Republic of Ireland brothers.

All of this shows a failed democracy—in which the people are divided, uninformed and irresponsible, and one at which other countries, especially ones that have suffered the messy aftermath of British colonialism, will only laugh. If democracy is to live up to the apparently glorious system that the West lauds so much, then its people should take responsibility for their actions.

# A stable foundation of trust must be fostered for denuclearization

By Miseok Kim  
STAFFWRITER



Haste makes waste. Giving himself and his aides less than a month to prepare, President Donald Trump announced Jan. 30 his second summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un Feb. 27 and 28 at Hanoi, Vietnam.

Although Kim has toned down his anti-American rhetoric since the first summit in June 2018, Trump should remain wary of North Korea's sudden shift from hostility. No matter how benign his persona may be at the second summit, Kim is antagonistic towards the US, warning in his New Year's address that he will "consider a new way" if sanctions continue.

Due to distrust between the two countries, the US cannot unrealistically expect the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula to come anytime soon. The United States cannot end its sanctions or military presence in South Korea, which are its primary means of counteracting North Korea's nuclear weapon use and development. From the North Korean perspective, its nuclear power is its only leverage to ward off threats.

Given the United States' extensive history of failed nuclear deals, more work needs to be done to lay a stable foundation of trust. One deal that Kim probably noted was the 2011 assassination of Libyan dictator Muammar Gaddafi by rebel forces backed by the United States, even after Gaddafi re-

Korea agreed to "work toward complete denuclearization" and the United States promised "to provide security guarantees," sanctions remained and CNN confirmed that North Korea continued to expand a key nuclear missile base.

Besides failing to spur any progress in denuclearization, the first summit primarily benefited Kim. While world leaders obtained a vaguely-termed contract with no deadlines for scaling down his nuclear arms program, Kim gained global spotlight. He capitalized on this attention by using it to reshape his image as a modern leader dedicated to revitalizing North Korea's economy. Kim also put Trump and other world leaders in politically precarious positions—they cannot impose additional sanctions on North Korea without Kim lashing out and withdrawing from the already shaky denuclearization deal as he had done in 2012.

70 years of hostility and tension cannot evolve into a friendly relationship with only a couple of meetings. If neither the United States nor North Korea acts upon its past promises, there is no point in keeping up the ineffective dialogue. In order to denuclearize the Korean peninsula, both nations must prove their commitment to dismantling nuclear weapons. Both leaders should follow through with an actual contract with deadlines and conditions before another summit.



PHOTO COURTESY OF REUTERS

**FIRST SUMMIT:** Donald Trump and leader Kim Jong-un shake hands in the historic summit at Singapore.

linquished his nuclear arms. Kim likely saw that incident as a reminder that the security provided by nuclear weapons is preferable to the US' promises.

Without fair trade-offs, neither North Korea nor the US can safely make binding promises. In retrospect, the first summit was a gaudy photo opportunity for Trump and Kim to exchange empty words. While North

# Entrapment is not the solution

By Kaitlyn Han  
STAFFWRITER



It's time for the Department of Homeland Security to stop playing dress-up.

For the past four years, the Immigrant and Customs Enforcement (ICE)—an agency within the Department of Homeland Security—has been operating the fake University of Farmington in order to expose immigrant fraud. The school is one of many so-called visa mills, bogus colleges where foreign students enroll to obtain a F-1 student visa. The offer is too good to be true since students are not required to attend classes and only have to pay a low annual tuition of \$8,500. ICE tried to catch these illegal students through its elaborate scheme; instead they were really encouraging more crime and tarnishing America's education system.

ICE certainly outdid itself when the agency created the fake university. Years prior to founding the University of Farmington, ICE fabricated a backstory, promoted the school with social media and created fake calendars and transcripts. Rather than micromanaging this over-the-top plan, the agency should be closing visa mills—not creating them. ICE could be sorting out far more cases of visa fraud if they close down existing fake schools rather than be occupied with its own.

Although ICE detained over 130 University of Farmington

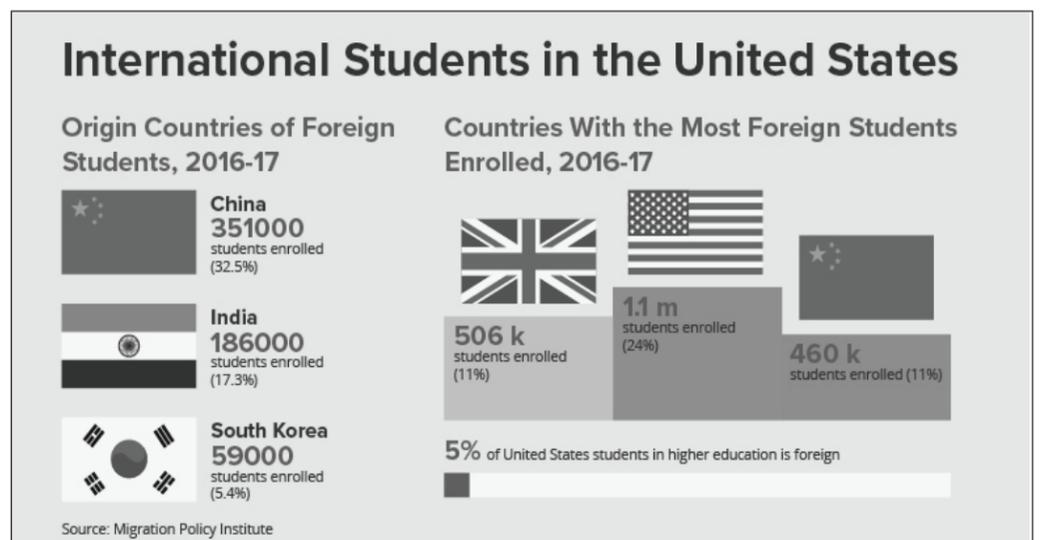
students, entrapping them is not the solution to visa fraud. Undocumented students are only encouraged to illegally remain in the US because these visas are easily obtainable and double as work permits. By waiting for students to enroll in its visa mill, ICE is solving the crime after it happens—meaning that future fraud is not being prevented. Focusing on current visa mills would ensure that foreign students will not repeat these same crimes.

Nevertheless, ICE has played this card before, when they created the University of Northern New Jersey back in 2013. The university arrested 21 people for student visa fraud within the three years it operated. ICE should have admitted defeat after it was forced to close its first visa mill; creating its latest fake university adds one more scandal to the list and further undermines America's education system.

Especially now that ICE's fake universities have been exposed, foreign students

are apprehensive of setting foot in America. This past year, foreign student enrollment has dropped almost seven percent, doubling the previous year's rate. While the numbers seem small, foreign students are actually a vital part to America's education system. According to Bloomberg, more than one million foreign higher-education graduates contributed \$39 billion to the US economy and supported almost 500,000 jobs. The undocumented immigrants are evidently not the issue; it's how they illegally came into America. That problem is the federal government's responsibility.

Dressing up as secret agents to organize elaborate visa mills does the country no favors. ICE should firmly put its foot down to prevent illegal immigration and develop more efficient ways for immigrants to legally enter the country. After all, the immigrants are only entering illegally because the US is making it difficult to enter otherwise.



GRAPHIC BY TU-AN NGUYEN

# mark my words

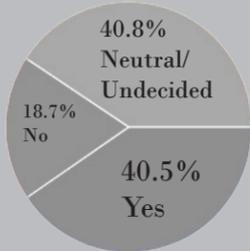
## Warriors speak out on campus issues

Read about what our Warriors have to say about the district-wide use of contraband detection dogs.

“It is a violation of privacy, but it is justified when one is in a public space. *Utilitarianism* basically, the common good and public safety.”

-For the greater good, Junior

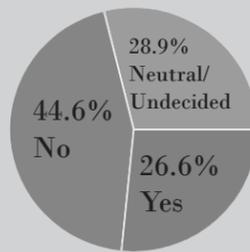
Do you agree with the district’s use of drug detection dogs?



“Dogs are **faulty, expensive, and unnecessary**. Bringing in contraband dogs will only cause true culprits to frame other students as well as establishing elaborate systems to bypass the dogs.”

-Critical Junior

Do you think the drug detection dogs are a violation of privacy?



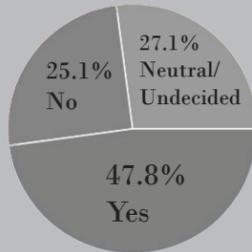
“It’s an **effective, punitive and preventive** countermeasure against drug use in our schools. Just the threat of getting sniffed out can reduce the prevalence of dangerous substances on our campus.”

-Confident Senior

“It’s not new that we sacrifice *privacy* for other *benefits*, as we have seen with technology.”

-Sacrifices Made, Sophomore

Do you think that the dogs will be effective?



“I understand that there’s a drug issue but I don’t feel that it’s so severe that we need to be putting money into paying for drug sniffing dogs. There are so many other programs and aspects of school that need funding that **continue to go unnoticed** while administration keeps pouring dollars into **useless efforts**.”

- Reasonable Senior

“Drug detection dogs could create **false positives** for students. A police presence on campus has had side effects which are worse than the minimal benefits. Many such interventions often **dangerously and deceptively** sidestep *basic rights*. Bringing these types of interventions into schools generally increases the presence of unnecessary stressors. Initiating police state-like activity in an educational environment for a made-up non-crisis is **inexcusable**. It is a large expenditure of money for a program that is unlikely to have the advertised impact and brings with it all kinds of negative side effects. This just feels like a **monstrous policy** driven by a misplaced desire to have social control over students.”

- Passionate and Spirited, Senior

“It’s just like screening for weapons and drugs at the airport. The police and security officers only pay attention to or respond to *potentially dangerous events*, and **do not infringe on our rights** as citizens.”

- Comparing Situations, Senior



Thank you for all the responses! Want to read more Warrior opinions? Scan the code above to see the complete list of responses or visit [troyoracle.com/opinion](http://troyoracle.com/opinion) for more editors’ favorites.

“It’s about time the district actually takes action to stop drugs from circulating our schools. This seems like the most **assertive** move by far.”

- Supportive Sophomore

“You do not need a warrant if there is *probable cause*, and the act of a dog going up to you when they are specialized to sniff drugs constitutes a *probable cause*.”

Justifications, Freshman

COMPILED BY LEX PARK, AMY WENG & ISAAC YANG

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# Baseball triumphs over Katella Knights

The Warrior baseball team dominated the opposition from the start, resulting in scoreless opponents at the tournament.

By Sarah Son  
STAFF WRITER

Putting their hard-learned skills to use, the Warrior baseball team (3-2-0, 0-0-0) defeated the Katella Knights 7-0 Feb. 18.

From the opening of the game, sophomore Jack Warsaw showcased his strong pitching skills, giving up just one hit in four innings. The players dominated the field as senior Noah Lee delivered a successful double, followed by senior Ryan Hawkins' deliberate bunt. This filled the bases for senior Jason Yokoyama's grand

slam that left the crowd wild as his teammates advanced home.

After a victorious start, the Warriors maintained a steady game. By the fifth inning, senior Blake Hansen and Lee had consecutive hits that let four runners reach home plate. Even

with a lead of 6-0, the Warriors pushed for a larger win. Sophomore Nathan Jackle kept third base well-defended, hindering the opponents' attempts to make it home. During the sixth inning, the team loaded their bases as Yokoyama reached the final base for the ultimate score of 7-0.

The team's immense success in the game can be attributed to the players' persistent and organized practices even before the beginning of the season, Hansen said.

"The fall and winter [practices] were intended to condition our bodies so we wouldn't get tired during the season," Han-

sen said. "Now that it's time for

possible setbacks, Yokoyama said. "Lately, the rain has been stopping us from practicing on our field," Yokoyama said. "But we have gone indoors to work on our hitting and that has translated to the game."

Likewise, the ever-developing team bonding enhances the plays on the field, Coach Houston Hernandez said.

"The boys are starting to play for each other," Hernandez said. "As a coach, there's nothing better than when you can look over into the dugout and see everyone cheering their teammates on. Baseball is a team sport

with individual aspects, but if we can find a way to get the win as a team, we are going to be very tough to beat."

Reflecting back on the successful game, Hansen noted minor errors to focus on during future practices and an overarching theme

of teamwork, making it a great start to the season, Hansen said.

"All around, our team did an outstanding job," Hansen said. "You can't really ask for a better game played. Now we are just ironing out all of the wrinkles and getting ready for league."

"All around, our team did an outstanding job. You can't really ask for a better game played."

**Blake Hansen**  
senior

sen said. "Now that it's time for season, we will practice hard. Currently, the whole team is stronger and faster, enabling us to perform better on the field."

The Warriors approach their practices with unwavering strength, working hard despite



COURTESY OF PATRICK TAKKINEN

**HEROIC HIT:** Preparing to hit the ball, senior Ryan Hawkins keeps his eyes on the pitcher.

# CAUSING A RACKET

Read about freshman Henry's Tang Journey as he moves up in the competitive badminton world.

By Lucas Santos, STAFF WRITER, photos courtesy of Jenna Sabile and Henry Tang

Competing as a member of the US National Team, a winner of a national championship and a participant in tournaments across the country all sound like the accomplishments expected of a professional athlete, but freshman Henry Tang already possesses all of these accolades.

As the 12th ranked junior badminton player in the country, Tang excels day in and day out on the court. Despite the sport's relative rarity here in the United States, it still appears at national events and has international opportunities for American players like Tang.

Tang's exposure to badminton started at a young age, as his parents and their friends all had an interest in the sport.



From there, he slowly built up aptitude and competed in his first official tournament at age 10.

"My parents always played with family friends, and I would just watch," Tang said. "After repeatedly watching I eventually wanted to play to be just like them."

Since then, Tang has improved immensely in the sport, mostly due to his grueling practice schedule which consists of five practices per week, each involving heavy conditioning. His skill can also be attributed to the guidance of his coach, former Olympic gold medalist Tony Gunawan, who helped Tang to place in the top three in 12 of his 15 tournaments last year.

"I look up to my coach because he

grew up in the Indonesian slums with almost nothing and he still managed

to become a gold medalist in the Olympics," Tang said. "He showed how far hard work and determination can take you."

Tang's dedication to the game pays off regularly as he consistently travels around the

country to compete against the top-tier level youth badminton players in America. He has previously traveled to Florida, New Jersey, Washington and Massachusetts. Still, the most notable of Tang's travels includes Wisconsin and Brazil. Just last year, Tang emerged victorious from the the National Badminton Championships in Wisconsin. Over the summer, Tang represented the national team that competed in the Junior Pan-American Games in Salvador, Brazil.

In spite of his outstanding performance in the sport, Tang still values his education above all. Displaying his true student-athlete mentality, his future goals consist of academic goals to comple-

ment his athletic ability.

"I do consider playing in college and even potentially at the professional level," Tang said. "However, academics come first for me."

While Tang excels in his sport, it also offers rewards other than his numerous athletic achievements. Tang met many friends and acquaintances through the sport, which is just another rea-



COURTESY OF HENRY TANG

**RACKET RALLIES:** During a match, freshman Henry Tang prepares to serve the birdie.

son why he loves badminton. "Badminton is fun for him. [Badminton] takes a lot of my time, and I have to work really hard for it," Tang said. "But I also have really good bonds with my partners and fellow club members. I also wouldn't have met my coach who is a very well-known professional."

Tang's love for the sport stems from a very simple reason:

Badminton gives me friends and connections, and is very beneficial to me, but the reason I love it so much is because it's just fun," he said. "That's what is important to me, as I believe that everyone should find a hobby that makes them happy."

