

# ORACLE

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**THE CANARY SINGS:** *William Singer, the main architect of the scheme, pleaded guilty to racketeering, money laundering, conspiracy and obstruction of justice.*

**MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW BEST:** *Actress Lori Loughlin paid \$500,000 for her daughters to appear as athletes.*

By Lex Park & Amy Weng  
**OPINION EDITORS**

College admissions 101: be rich. A colossal college admissions scandal uncovered March 12 resulted in the indictment of 50 people—including celebrities, test administrators and college sports coaches—for fraud and bribery. The absurdity lies in the infuriating revelation that certain students posed as athletes with learning disabilities to get into elite universities, including Yale University and the University of Southern California. This brazen scandal taught one unsurprising lesson: money controls education. While other high school students labored with sweat and tears in pursuit of admission at their dream colleges, the students with certain wealthy parents had their fake transcripts, test scores and extracurriculars silver-spooned to them. This incident divulged the prevailing but unspoken truth, that one's hard-earned achievements can be easily undermined by the affluence of another's parents. Moreover, the scam effectively undercuts the integrity of higher education, compromising

both the colleges' reputations and, more importantly, the hard work of students who have been cheated of their rightful spots by undeserving individuals. These colleges have demonstrated to dedicated students the insincerity of their pledges of equal opportunity and academic caliber. For students who have been told their entire academic careers that they must actively attain the best grades and accolades possible to succeed, the recent admissions fraud is a bucket of cold water. Yet, the scandal may not have happened if not for the underlying flaws of the college admissions process, which is inherently elitist—and not in the manner of intellectual excellence. If anything, the scandal reveals one overlooked fault in the college admissions process: the excessive favoring of student athletes. In 2002, James Shulman, the Vice President of the American Council of Learned Societies, and William Bowen, a former Princeton University president, found that athletes were given a significant 48 percent admissions boost compared to the average applicant, much higher than that of legacy or minority students. Certainly, student athletes contribute to their campus. Sports events channel school spirit, and ticket sales for games generate revenue for schools with prominent sports cultures. Even then, the markedly lowered admission standards for student athletes are unjust,

as athletic scholarships are readily accessible to upper-middle to upper class students. Students from such backgrounds have the means to afford private lessons and equipment. Besides, athletics are not the only field in which richer families have the upper hand. Elite tutoring, private schools, college coaches and suspiciously generous donations enable well-off families to pave their children's paths to success. The mere fact that socioeconomic status can heavily influence college admissions is strikingly ironic. Higher education is frequently considered to be the vehicle for social mobility, one of the rare methods for someone to advance their social status. Yet, even this system that is supposed to help the fundamentally disadvantaged works against them. After all the felony charges and bail bonds, the devastating fact remains that money's dominance in education is not a new phenomenon. This painful reminder of how the wealthy can casually play the education system at the expense of other students will not stop at the exposure of 50 guilty individuals. Their indictment is not a statement against the use of money in education but rather the lengths that they went to in order to commit fraud. Legal methods of using money to gain unfair advantages will perpetually be exploited by those who have the means to do so.

**REPORT CARD**

**FELICITY HUFFMAN**

SUBJECT	GRADE
CREATIVITY	A-
CITIZENSHIP	F

## COLLEGE: PAY TO PLAY?

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VANITY FAIR, THE CHEAT SHEET AND GOOGLE

## TROY TODAY

**Warriors compete in district dodgeball tournament**

The three Warrior teams, the Dodgefathers, Pechakucha and Performing Arts, were sent to the annual FJUHSD dodgeball competition at Buena Park High School March 15. At the tournament, a La Habra High School team took first with Pechakucha at a close second. Spectators were encouraged to dress in accordance with the tournament's nerd theme.

**Biology teachers launch Outdoor Classroom fundraiser**

Warrior Biology teachers, led by James Kirkpatrick, are partnering with Bricks-R-Us to raise money for the Outdoor Classroom. Through this collaborative project, people can choose to engrave a message on a brick that will be paved along a pathway within the Outdoor Classroom. Each of the four-by-eight foot bricks are \$50 with an additional \$15 for clip art.

**Troy receives first AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award**

Representing female students in computer science, Troy High School earned the College Board's 2018 AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for the first time March 7. Granted to 685 schools worldwide, the award recognizes schools with computer science courses that have at least 50 percent female participation.

**District announces partnership with CSUF and FJC**

Fullerton Junior College (FJC) and California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) announced the new Fullerton Education Partnership with FJUHSD Feb. 28. The partnership will facilitate matriculation into CSUF and FJC by all students within the district. Both colleges have expressed a desire to attract more Fullerton students.

**Warriors perform at Festival of Strings**

The Troy Instrumental Music Program hosted the Festival of Strings in the North Gym March 8. The Symphony of Troy and Apollo Strings played pieces from diverse cultural backgrounds. With 70 participants, the String Orchestra placed in the top 10 percent of string orchestras in southern California in their latest assessment.

# Senior students participate in NAEP nationwide assessment

Warriors tested in the subjects of science, math or reading for a national evaluation of scholastic progress.

By Danielle Chow  
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to evaluate academic performance, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) tested 71 Warriors Feb. 28.

As the largest assessment group in the nation, the NAEP is a congressionally mandated program that conducts tests to compile statistical information on the country's educational standards. Testing results are used to determine the necessary changes in funding for educational programs across the country.

During the testing period, the NAEP randomly selects schools to participate. The organization aims to proportionately represent people of different sexes and races to accurately show the achievement of students from different backgrounds.

Rather than simply administering multiple choice tests, the NAEP uses diverse testing methods to gain an unbiased perspective of national performance. The students, who are randomly selected, each take a different exam in either math, science or reading. To evaluate the effects different testing methods have on results, two groups of students completed the assessment on a tablet, while the last group took a traditional test by hand.

Although students do not receive their results, the data is compiled into a collective assess-



JULIANNA SABILE

**TIME TO TEST:** Senior Tiffany Kim completes her science exam during a NAEP testing session in the library.

ment of academic accomplishment. The tests allow educators to analyze differing performance levels in various subjects.

According to Assistant Principal Lance Bletscher, testing helps students better retain information.

"There's intrinsic value to [reviewing information] every now and then," Bletscher said. "There's always something to be gained and benefited from being asked what you know because it allows your brain to go back and pull that information out."

Involvement with the NAEP will uphold the reputation of both the school and the Fullerton Joint Union High School District, Bletscher said.

"We want to support [testing] because our district is informed that our schools are being selected for NAEP and everyone knows what NAEP is," Bletscher said. "[Participation] reflects well on our community, district and school."

According to Bletscher, assessments like the NAEP are necessary to ensure a holistic view of the nation's academic standing. The findings allow people to decide the most effective ways to improve education. Results also help evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and improve overall education rather than addressing each issue individually, Bletscher said.

"These initiatives [are necessary] because we have to hold people accountable," Bletscher said. "This is how state and national testing changes. Our standards are important. We [need] national perspective."

The NAEP provides supplementary data that allows educators to make changes to the system and enhance student achievement, senior Kaitlyn Chang said.

"[The NAEP] is necessary because it helps find how students are doing in school," Chang said. "It helps the [educators] know that they need to change something or do something differently in the education system so the students can improve more."

# Warriors to volunteer at Discovery Cube Bubblefest

Volunteers will participate at Bubblefest to develop leadership skills and to celebrate bubble science.

By Angelica Sano  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Fostering a love for science among local youth, Warriors will attend Bubblefest 2019 at the Discovery Cube in Santa Ana, Orange County March 30.

Open to people of all ages, Bubblefest is an annual non-profit event that features a variety of educational games for children. At the event, high school volunteers prepare recreational, hands-on activities that teach young children about the science of bubbles.

Aside from assisting guests at various stations, including the inflatable castle and the maze, Warriors will host games that introduce the audience to geometry and buoyancy concepts. The students will also teach children how to

blow intricately-designed bubbles and how to race in hamster balls on water, junior Justin Tan said.

Throughout the day, volunteers will supervise the Mega Bubblefest Laser Show, a stage performance for families that includes music, strobe lights and bubbles. At the production, performers invite young audience members to join the stage with the goal of creating a more enjoyable environment for the children.

According to Tan, Bubblefest allows Warriors to inspire children to explore different branches of science. Volunteering at Bubblefest gives students the opportunity to spark an interest in science among younger generations, Tan said.

"[Our goal] is to further a passion for science and technology fields to others," Tan said. "We [strive to] help the community and to influence the future

generation to enjoy science."

In addition to cultivating children's interest in the sciences, the event gives Warriors a chance to use their new leadership skills to

said. "In summary, Bubblefest is a way to increase scientific interest in children and to allow them to have a great time playing with mesmerizing bubbles."

According to junior Joseph Dong, participating in Bubblefest is a great way for students to be productive during their spring break. By volunteering at this event, Warriors hope to motivate children within the community to actively engage themselves in activities, Dong said.

"The experience is worthwhile," Dong said. "This event will be a nice

way for students to conclude their spring break with the feeling of impacting their community. I feel that [we] do not spend enough time on bringing an impact to our immediate community, [and] this Bubblefest will definitely offer such an opportunity to do just that."

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Joseph Dong  
junior

create meaningful memories for the children. As a previous participant of Bubblefest himself, Tan hopes to share his experience at the event with the guests.

"[Bubblefest] is fun for the children, and I appreciate bubbles for giving me hours of playtime when I was a toddler," Tan

# Math Club students compete in annual Orange Coast College Math Meet

Members attended the meet to refine teamwork skills and learn new mathematical concepts that are useful for future competitions.

By Cheryl Yang  
STAFF WRITER

Developing collaborative skills through team competition, Math Club members participated in their first math meet at Orange Coast College March 15.

The annual Math Meet is a math competition that tests Orange County high school students on their application of general math concepts. The competition begins with an individual test followed by a group round. The two categories are scored separately, and each includes different accolades, such as a plaque and a trophy for the first place team.

Each school sends four team members and an alternate competitor, who only participates in the individual round. The team is composed of juniors Soham Bose, Darren Chen, Cassia Yeo and seniors Sanat Mishra and alternate Jerry Li. Members took an online test in February to determine the students who would participate in the competition.

In preparation for the meet, the competitors practiced through individual sample tests, which they

reviewed at their weekly meetings. According to President Soham Bose, the students aimed to improve both the individual and the team aspects of the competition with practice.

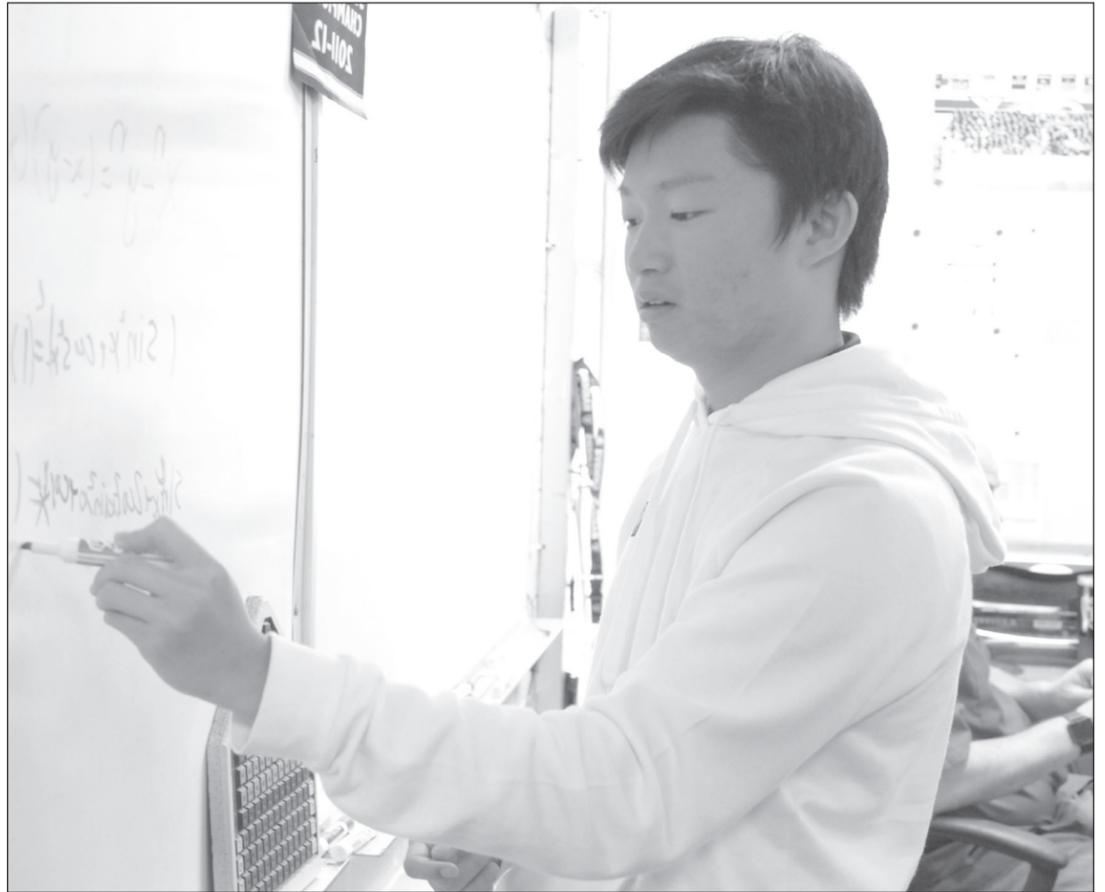
The school had not participated in the Orange County Math Meet for several decades. At the meet, the Warrior team won first place, their most recent victory since their previous win in 1972. The revived interest in the meet is part of the club's efforts to partake in more events, Bose said.

"[The Math Meet] provides more opportunities for club members to compete," Bose said. "Over the last few years, [we have] been trying to [find] more opportunities so that the club has more competitions to participate in."

According to Treasurer Darren Chen, the competition allowed students to improve their cooperative skills and learn how to solve problems efficiently.

"The event will teach students how to work together as a team as well as individually," Chen said. "Usually, people are used to doing math on their own, but this event can foster a competitive spirit and teach students how to work together and split up parts of a problem according to each members' strengths."

Participants can use the skills they developed in future com-



COURTESY OF GISELLE FERNANDEZ

**MASTERING MATHEMATICS:** Senior Colby Chang derives the solution to a complicated math problem as he helps fellow club members understand complex calculus concepts prior to the meet.

petitions, such as the primary focuses of the year: the national American Math Competition and American Invitational Mathematics Examination. Competi-

tors can also use teamwork in future events, Chen said.

"Competitors can apply the values of teamwork to other math competitions," Chen said. "They

will work better with their peers because they will learn that rather than focusing on problems by themselves, everyone can work together to solve [problems]."

# Troy Support Organization holds Troy Gala

The parent-run organization hosted the gala in order to raise funds for student resources on the Warrior campus.

By Sky Jung  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

In an effort to raise funds for student programs and activities, the Troy Support Organization (TSO) hosted the annual Troy Gala at the Richard Nixon Library March 15.

At the event, TSO invited parents, alumni and business partners to help contribute to the school's collective fundraising efforts. The gala provided participants with opportunities to donate funds through auctions and casino-style poker games.

In addition to the

live auction at the gala, TSO solicited donations through an online silent auction for parents and donors unable to attend the event. TSO aimed to interest Warriors and their families by featuring diverse auction prizes, which ranged from private counseling sessions to college travel package vouchers. The auction items at the gala were also meant to create opportunities for Warriors to connect with teachers, TSO Co-Chairperson Helen Kharrat said.

"The TSO is trying to build unique experiences for Troy students and their families through these kinds of auction items," Kharrat said. "We

hope that students take advantage of these great opportunities to make fun high school memories with their teachers."

TSO is a non-profit organization that specifically aims to help the school provide high quality education through sponsorships and donations. Last year, the gala

raised more than \$30,000 to finance various student activities. Funds from this year's Troy Gala will be used to update the computer labs and support activities in student programs such as Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program and Link Crew. Additionally, the money raised by TSO will help extend library hours and increase digital literacy training for Troy Tech teachers.

The organization communicates with the school administration during annual meetings to identify the programs and equipment that need the most financial support. Collectively, monetary gifts from private businesses and individual donors directly

support school projects that are meant to benefit Warriors, such as the library modernization project.

According to TSO Co-Chairperson Amy Choi-Won, the

Troy Gala serves as more than just a charity event, as it builds community within the Warrior circle and highlights the accomplishments of both

current students and alumni. The gala has been an important way for parents to engage and connect with one another, Choi-Won said.

"One of the purposes [of the gala] is to build a community and to connect people from around Troy so that they can get involved in enriching the educational experience of our students," Choi-Won said. "The purpose of the gala is for people in the Troy community to really get to know each other. It is to reach out to the alumni network because Troy is so good at producing great students who go out and do some great things. [At the gala], they have a chance to come back and help the current students [by donating]."

"One of the purposes [of the gala] is to build a community and connect people from around Troy."

Amy Choi-Won  
TSO Co-Chairperson



GRAPHIC BY TU-AN NGUYEN

# Populism is a prevalent force now, and the people want change quickly

By Miseok Kim  
STAFFWRITER



Infuriated with their government blatantly overlooking their economic struggles, 28,600 French citizens trudged into Paris for their 18th weekend protest March 16. These citizens constitute the Yellow Vest movement, a name inspired by the safety vests referring to the diesel tax that spurred the people of France into a united fury against its festering economic instability.

The recent populist wave reflects the decades-long inability of affluent countries like France to ensure living wages for all citizens. Confronting their governments' unwillingness to acknowledge the needs of the majority, modern populists champion the "will of the common people" against elite political institutions. In order to avoid further civil unrest, the governments of republic countries must admit their failures in providing fair living standards for their citizens.

The persisting financial struggles of the newly converted populists and increasing income inequality explain their frustration and irateness. In the last several years, the salaries of the middle and lower classes in France climbed by less than one percent, while those of the top-tier classes rose

by three percent; the same trend exists in the United States, where poorer classes saw their average income rise by a mere six percent in contrast to a nine percent gain by the upper class. The modern populists are not necessarily resentful of the wealthy, but are rather struggling to make ends meet while the rich continue to flourish.

But even when the people explicitly express their beliefs, like the Yellow Vest protestors, the governments still dismiss valid populist economic proposals. In fact, the governments are aggressively opposing or ignoring the populist movement. Neither approach addresses the underlying socioeconomic issues that led to the renewed popularity of populism. Instead, they allow the current tension and financial uncertainty to continue.

In order to effectively address the desires of the populists and restore peace to areas impacted by violent protests, governments need to reevaluate their current policies. For example, the 16 percent tax increase on diesel seemed like a measure to fight climate change by discouraging the use of fossil-fuels. In reality, the tax hurt thousands of French citizens living in rural provinces who are already struggling with the rising costs of living and their stagnant salaries. This lack of comprehensive foresight of the law's potential impact

aggravated the already exasperated citizens.

In the U.S., politicians have been exploiting the sentiments behind populism without actually acting on the movement's principles. A prominent example is President Donald Trump who secured blue-collar votes by presenting himself as anti-establishment and sending a message of greater domestic economic prosperity. Ironically, one of the first administrative actions that Trump carried out was passing a revised tax code that benefited the super-wealthy significantly more than it did lower income groups.

Even with genuine populist politicians like Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Bernie Sanders, the legislative branch as a whole is still unwilling to recognize the validity of populist proposals. When Ocasio-Cortez introduced the Green New Deal Feb. 7, many members of Congress—Republicans and Democrats alike—criticized the bill instead of discussing its valid solutions. Congress broadcasted a message

of passivity to the financial plights of the Americans by not taking the opportunity to further improve the Deal, which would have constituted an attempt to tackle income inequality. If the U.S. government wants to discourage American populists from taking the route of the aggressive

Yellow Vest protestors, it must actively acknowledge populist sentiments, starting with debates on the House floor.

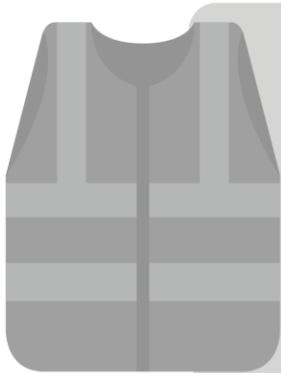
Rather than ignoring the rise of populism or attempting to silence its activists—both of which waste resources and endanger innocent lives—the current governments should first acknowledge their citizens' valid requests for reasonable laws and desire for financial security. Unless governments want to contend with more public unrest, they need to quickly address the protestors' grievances.

The citizens are done waiting at home. Better late than never.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BBC

## POPULIST MOVEMENTS 2019



### YELLOW VEST

- Repeal green tax on diesel
- Increase minimum wage
- Dissolve National Assembly
- Hold new elections

### NEW GREEN DEAL

- 100% of US power through renewable energy
- Eliminate carbon pollution
- Universal access to healthy food
- Overhaul transportation systems
- Quality health care for all Americans
- Guaranteed family-sustaining jobs for all Americans



GRAPHIC BY TU-AN NGUYEN

### Spring Break's in Sight by Kristen Perez



# Social media companies and users must work together to curb the spread of extremism

By Kaitlyn Han  
STAFF WRITER



An extremist virus is plaguing the Internet, and social media sites are providing no cure.

Last week, gruesome videos of the New Zealand mosque shooting spread like wildfire across social media platforms Facebook, YouTube and Twitter. Almost 50 people were slain at the hands of three extremist right-wing terrorists before the public's digital eyes.

The shooting first went live on Facebook, and viewers around the world watched the graphic footage of gunmen raiding the mosque and indiscriminately opening fire on innocent men, women and children.

Social media has become an essential weapon for extremists to entice people of democratic nations to join their radical causes. As more impressionable minds are exposed to extremist propaganda, social media may be exacerbating its hold on a generation already constantly influenced by such horrifying ideas.

Extremists have come to rely on social media to spread their atrocious ideologies because the platforms inadvertently facili-

tate the propagation of such material. According to a study by New York University, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) generates over 200,000 social media messages daily. Sites like Facebook and Reddit have implemented algorithms that unintentionally act as conduits for radical posts by focusing on virality rather than content. Facebook's algorithm specifically encourages users to view posts that trigger the most engagement, whereas Reddit proliferates mainstream material. Unfortunately, according to The New York Times, vulgar language and extremist propaganda are

**"Social media users need to fight this battle themselves for there to be considerable victories against the war against extremism."**

supposedly the most mainstream—meaning that most eyes are not only exposed to but also drawn towards these radical posts. Extremism is already a complicated war to win; big technology companies

need to be more conscious of and regulate what information they are allowing to circle the Internet.

Still, some social media companies have made commendable efforts to reduce extremist content. Platforms like Google, Facebook and Twitter have been—though perhaps not quite effectively—screening and removing radical content for years. Now, many of them are turning towards anti-terror propaganda as their main weapon against extremism. Google's YouTube,

for example, has implemented the "Redirect Method" algorithm, which calculates whether a person may be attracted to extremism based on their search history. These algorithm also feeds users propaganda that would contradict extremist claims and counteract hate. In light of the recent mosque shooting, Google, Facebook and Twitter are scrambling to remove copies of the graphic videos documenting the murder. Even with their supposedly substantial efforts to combat extremism, companies still need to more effectively monitor the content they are exposing their users to.

However, solely putting responsibility on companies to rid the Internet of radicalism will not solve the problem; social media users must be personally involved in the fight against the rampant extremist posts. Hoda Muthana, an American who left the US four years ago to marry a member of ISIS, recently pled for readmittance. However, President Donald Trump has refused her request because her now-blocked Twitter and Instagram posts espoused extremist values and attempted to recruit others to joining the ISIS cause. Fellow users should not only aim for awareness about this type of content, but they should also take it upon themselves to report any extremist posts. Involving users

in combating fundamentalist material already puts them a step away from being influenced by it. The ultimate goal is to cultivate a larger online community of users that actively moderates extremism along with the social media platforms.

Battling extremism is a collective effort, not the job of a single tech company or an individual. Social media platforms and users are the overall group affected by extremist propaganda, so they should both be doing their respective parts in deterring extremism. After all, only tech companies coupled with an educated audience can create a force powerful enough to prevent certain social media users from becoming tomorrow's extremists.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOSTON COLLEGE

# The newest YouTube "adpocalypse" highlights an insensitivity towards its users

By Isaac Yang  
ASSISTANT OPINION EDITOR



YouTube ads might be going away, but don't celebrate yet.

When online producer Matt Watson posted a video Feb. 18 exposing the prevalence of pedophilia on the media platform YouTube, controversy over its child exploitation problems erupted. As of March 20, this revealing video has garnered 3.4 million views. After realizing their ads were being shown on videos drawing in pedophilic audiences, companies such as Disney, Nestle, AT&T and Epic Games pulled their commercials

boycott. YouTube responded by increasing its regulation of ads and comments, deleting over 400 channels and clamping down on monetization. Undoubtedly, YouTube's ineffective solution to its problems highlights a disheartening disregard for both its content creators and viewers.

Despite massively overstepping boundaries, YouTube has yet to effectively fix its filtering issues. Of course, a company as big as YouTube will always struggle with efficient filtering because roughly 300,000 videos are uploaded a day. However, this problem has reached an intolerable level. While YouTube has allowed the growth of channels that feature content bordering on pedophilia, it accidentally deleted two innocent

channels featuring Pokemon Go content called "MYSTIC7" and "Trainer Tips." Although YouTube restored the aforementioned channels back, such mistakes are inexcusable. Unbelievably, they are only a part of the filtering-related problems. YouTube's filtering system has been perpetually faulty due to its laziness in finding solutions. In fact, the filtering system caused the first "adpocalypse" from March to May of 2017 by allowing ads to be shown on highly sensitive content—the same cause as the current "adpocalypse." Ads were only featured on channels that were considered "family-friendly" by the advertisers, which hurt both content creators and YouTube itself. Eventually, YouTube appeased its advertisers by introducing a vague policy of automated demonetization, or the removal of video profitability, in hopes that

**"Undoubtedly, YouTube's ineffective solution to its problems highlights a disheartening disregard for both its content creators and viewers."**

YouTube should understand that commenting is a significant part of the YouTube experience and provides a way for the YouTubers' personal improvement.

YouTube must do everything to aid its content creators, as posting on YouTube has become a career for around 40,000 people. These YouTubers should not

have to find new jobs because of faulty filtering algorithms or deal with unrest due to unreasonable content strikes.

If YouTube is not stirred to action by the well-being of thou-

sands of dependent users, it should be alarmed by the threat to its own survival. YouTube largely depends on ad revenue for profit, so another extended "adpocalypse" is definitely dangerous.

Ultimately, YouTube must commit more to finding an effective solution to its filtering problems. YouTube's lethargic attitude towards dealing with its issues is what has allowed its filtering system to become so problematic in the first place. The 30 million viewers that watch the site everyday should access a well-filtered network, not an amalgam of videos polluted with inappropriate content. Instead of causing unrest in YouTubers, YouTube should be supporting and encouraging them to upload because more videos make viewers, content creators and YouTube all happy.



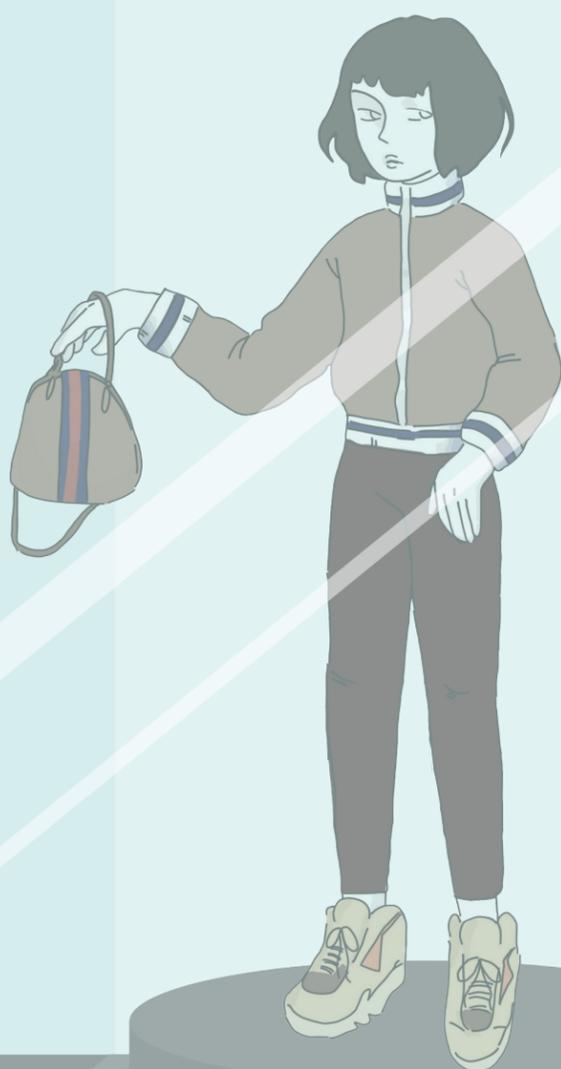
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE IMPACT

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YouTube's filtering system has been

THE FAULTS OF

BEFORE FAST FASHION



When walking into stores like H&M and Forever 21, the low price and variety of clothing looks almost too good to be true. But in terms of environmental impact, fast fashion retailers may be getting to

By Jillian Warren, ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY WRITER  
 CARTOON, graphics by Phoebe Um, GRAPHIC DESIGNER

With over 80 billion pieces of clothing consumed internationally each year, it's clear that people can't get enough of their clothes. For many shoppers, the alluring array of readily accessible styles facilitates the impulsive splurging on clothing, especially when faced with irresistible deals. But as consumer culture has seemingly taken over public ideology, the business of fast fashion has grown to a massive extent—and not in a good way.

In essence, fast fashion refers to clothing that is produced quickly, cheaply and at a lower quality, but is made to mimic designer brands. Retail giants such as Zara, H&M and Topshop take looks from high-end fashion lines, such as Gucci or Prada, and incorporate them into their own cheap alternatives for the average consumer. Contrary to their luxury counterparts, which take an average of six months to produce a new collection, fast fashion retailers crank out styles at incredibly high speeds. Most of these companies manufacture their designs in just under a few weeks, allowing customers to sport the catwalk looks of Paris Fashion Week not long after they premiere on the runway. Yet, in reality, speedy production has

a cost that isn't shown.

Hidden behind the glass window displays and advertisements lies a problem that the public often doesn't get the opportunity to see. While the production of clothing is what's revealed in most advertisements, the majority of fast fashion uses synthetic textile dyes that are full of toxic chemicals, leading to water pollution. To make matters worse, most fast fashion retailers encourage consumers to throw away clothing as soon as they get it, rather than recycling them. This buildup is extremely concerning, considering that the number one synthetic material used today is polyester—that can take decades to decompose.

Along with the demand for cheap clothing deals to the environment, fast fashion tends to overlook the environmental majority of our clothing. The pressure to make clothing faster to speed up production has led retailers to cut corners on labor. Stores like Forever 21—famous for their use of sweatshop labor to produce clothing—ever, this system is



**QUALITY OVER QUANTITY:** *With limited unique collections, high fashion retailers produce products of unrivaled quality. Nevertheless, their extravagant prices are impractical and will easily empty your bank account.*

~20 billion garments are consumed a year, equal to 62 garments per American

<1 percent of materials used to produce clothing is recycled into new textiles

ZARA

4-5 week design to retail period

450 million items produced yearly



FAST FASHION

...l, the astonishing array of stylish, affordable clothes  
...ns of ethicality and sustainability, our favorite  
...o far ahead of themselves.

...ND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, cartoons by Kristen Perez,  
...ICS, and Tu-An Nguyen, GRAPHICS EDITOR

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exploit workers. Companies' rampant disregard of safety measures combined with long work hours and exposure to harmful materials can be detrimental to a person's health. Not to mention, those slaving away to produce our beloved blouses and graphic tees are often severely underpaid. Seeing as these conditions are inherently immoral and unethical, there's no doubt that cheap clothing comes at a high human cost.

Like any big business, fast fashion retailers prioritize profit as their number one goal. Widespread advertising and marketing has the ability to persuade consumers into purchasing clothes that they ultimately don't need. As buyers give in and continue to purchase an excess amount of clothing to keep up with the latest trends, pieces end up being worn less often and disposed of at an unprecedented rate.

The current era of fast fashion is inevitably accelerating the proliferation of throwaway culture, in which people blindly burn through their wardrobes without a clear view of the impending ramifications. When it comes to fast fashion, it may be time for retailers to hit the brakes.

AFTER FAST FASHION



~20 percent of global industrial water pollution are from garment manufacturing

~60 percent of all clothing ends up in landfills within a year of being made



2 week design to retail period

16 collections launched annually



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# STEP INTO the ZONE



Viewers beware! With a new, haunting tale each episode, “The Twilight Zone” hosts a haven of horrors. For those who dare to venture into the zone, know one thing: there’s no turning back.

By Hannah Adams, ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, graphic by Phoebe Um, GRAPHICS, and photos courtesy of Google

The fifth dimension: an infinite plane of existence where the line between fantasy and reality is blurred, dreams become reality and déjà vu has no curfew. This place, known only by those who have crossed the line between insanity and sanity, is called the twilight zone—and it’s making a comeback.

On air from 1959 to 1964, “The Twilight Zone” is an anthology series that explores heavy topics such as morality and mortality. With over 100 unique, terrifying episodes, it combines fantasy, horror, sci-fi and psycho-thriller elements into a show that would later inspire the modern-day series “Black Mirror.” Over six decades later, the latest reboot of the original is set to premiere April 1 and will be directed by Jordan Peele, Simon Kinberg and Marco Ramirez. Including guest appearances from Seth Rogen, Jessica Williams and Steven Yeun, this retelling of “Twilight Zone” will add a star-studded spin to the beloved classic.

Although many die-hard “Twilight Zone” fans are

thrilled about this announcement, some can’t help but be apprehensive due to the show’s history of relatively unsuccessful revival attempts. From the 1985 to 1989 reboot of the series to “Twilight Zone: The Movie,” many have fallen short of recreating the show’s legacy. That being said, achieving the same success as the original is no easy feat, as the show is the epitome of what an anthology series should be. Throughout the series, despite the fact that the same themes of uncontrollable forces and fear of the unknown are ever present, each episode is an iconic masterpiece that never fails to have a surprising twist.

During its run, “The Twilight Zone” was an unparalleled novelty that kept viewers glued to their seats, reigning supreme over its contemporaries. In the late fifties and sixties, when cynicism and government polarization clashed with society, the show revolutionized television by boldly satirizing social issues without censorship. It questioned social norms and was the first television series in history to feature an all-

black cast in the episode “The Big Tall Wish.”

Despite the towering expectations to replicate its predecessor’s success, the newest reboot does have potential. Unlike the first one, this “Twilight Zone” features a more racially diverse cast which has the ability to connect to a larger audience than ever before. And with modern day makeup and technology, the original black-and-white terrors from the fifties will be transformed to terrifying, nightmarish creatures that will haunt the dreams of the new, twenty-first century audience. While it’s true that anthology series as a whole have made a comeback in recent years, the current “Twilight Zone” will also have support from the loyal fanbase of the original.

It will be difficult for the show to surpass the irreplaceable classic; however, the world has entered an era of technological advancements and better representation for all audiences, and there has never been a better time to step back into the zone.

## Behind the Scenes

Before there were green screens and Computer Generated Imagery (CGI), “The Twilight Zone” still managed to thrill its viewers with each episode. Even by today’s standards, the show isn’t too tacky nor has it lost its ability to frighten generation after generation. Regardless of its use of latex prosthetics, it perfectly captures the horror of a nightmare in a way that creates an eerily relatable experience for all audiences. For five seasons, this thrill factor was created not with modern day technology, but rather through a commendable investment of time into filming.

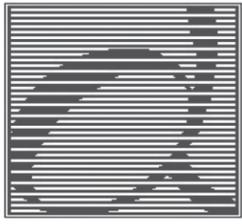
For instance, in the episode “Long Live

Walter Johnson,” the main character appears to crumble to dust. This special effect was achieved by applying a certain color of makeup to the actor and covering the camera lens with a transparent layer of the same color. When the layer was removed, it made it appear as if the degeneration was actually happening.

Despite the fact that the prosthetics and costumes can be a bit corny at times, they are the inspiration behind many modern day designs and nonetheless still send shivers down the spines of those who dare to enter the mysterious realm of “The Twilight Zone.”



**JOHNSON’S DEMISE:** This screencap from the episode “Long Live Walter Johnson” is a glimpse into the laborous special effects that were implemented before CGI.



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# Boys tennis defeated by Sage Hill

The Warrior boys tennis team yielded to Sage Hill after playing a series of head-to-head sets in an ultimately close match.

By Lucas Santos  
STAFF WRITER

Displaying perseverance and grit on the court, the Warrior boys tennis team (4-3-0, 1-0-0) ceded to Sage Hill 6-12 March 11.

Led by sophomore Andy Hernandez, the singles lineup rose victorious for four sets. Hernandez persistently managed to defeat his opponents, succeeding in all three of his sets. Yet his stellar performance, paired with junior Liam Pinson's one-set win, could not combat Sage Hill's efforts to disrupt the Warriors' spectacular plays. Fighting back, the team consistently placed strong shots on the court and served rapid aces. However, Sage Hill's backhands and lobs undermined their skill, catching the Warriors off guard on multiple occasions. Standing on opposite sides of

the courts, doubles pair senior James Lucero and sophomore Josh Qian exhibited noteworthy agility. They battled against Sage Hill's tactical chip shots and backhands, putting points on their own board as their opponents made consistent errors. After the hard-fought series, Lucero and Qian triumphed over Sage Hill, winning two out of three sets.

The Warriors claimed victory for four singles and two doubles sets, but even with these achievements, Sage Hill managed to subdue them by six points. Ultimately, the score settled at 6-12, with the War-

rriors' opponents at the advantage. proud of the effort and spirit they showed out on the courts.

"We fought hard out there even though we didn't win," Hernandez said. "We gave it our all and supported each other."

With a group of league games approaching, the Warriors look to improve their chemistry and teamwork in doubles matches, even when some players are unable to attend.

"Our doubles lineups often train together in our designated pairs, but when some players are missing, it affects our team greatly," senior Tanmay Singhal said. "This shouldn't happen and we

need to learn to adjust to absences and injuries."

In future practices, the Warriors aim to continue to correct mistakes that showed in the match. The team notes specific areas of improvement for future practices, Lucero said.

"We will definitely work on serving, returns and consistency," Lucero said. "We also need to perfect our general skill and up our mentality, as it hinders our play at times. If we can manage to put the work in at practice, we can definitely perform better in future matches."

"We gave it our all and supported each other, which should help us in future matches."

Andy Hernandez  
sophomore



COURTESY OF JENNA SABLE

SET AND SERVE: Eyeing the ball, senior James Lucero prepares to start the set.



## TAKING A LEAP

Read about the journey of junior Deanna Wemmer, former gymnast and current diver.

By Sarah Son, ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR, photos courtesy of Isaiah Pro and Deanna Wemmer

With a running start, she leaps, twists and turns mid-air, sticking a perfect landing on the gymnastics floor. Now, replacing the mat with water, junior Deanna Wemmer springs off a diving board, twisting and turning straight into the pool—an impressive dive. Her new passion is found.

For 12 years, Wemmer performed in traditional gymnastics, executing flawless routines that left the audience in awe. She holds the first place title of Southern California (SoCal) State and Regional Championships, specializing in bars. However, talent comes with dangerous risks. Wemmer suffered major injuries from gymnastics, and with one leading up to another, she finally decided to let go and find a new sport.



A little bit of luck led Wemmer to come across the club So-Cal Divers. When she attended her first practice, she got sick from the stark contrast of the warm pool water and cold air. Nevertheless, Wemmer returned. And needless to say, she knew she found her new sport. Coincidentally, she met the Troy diving coach's daughter at the club, which sparked her interest in joining Warrior diving.

According to Wemmer, there are surprising similarities between gymnastics and diving, so the transition from one sport to the other was smoother than she expected. "In the beginning, it was weird for me," Wemmer said. "In gymnastics, you usually land on your feet, but in diving, [it's actually the opposite]. And then there are different techniques involved.



But diving is fun, [and] I stuck with it!

I still get to flip and [perform tricks]—

I miss that from doing gymnastics.

It's nice to continue to be able to do my twisty, flippy things."

Although Wemmer started diving only two months ago, she is serious about the sport; the thrill of plunging into the waters fuels her newfound passion. Wemmer is now looking to continue diving in the future.

"[Diving] is just really fun; you're literally jumping into a pool," Wemmer said. "It's [simply] another opportunity that I have after gymnastics. Ultimately, the goal for me is to [dive] in college and get a scholarship. I have a few schools I'm interested in, but I'm not set on anything yet."

It wasn't easy for Wemmer to find the perfect sport after her intimate, 12-year attachment to gymnastics. But through trial, error and open opportunities, she began diving.

"Don't get discouraged if you try something and it doesn't work out," Wemmer said. "Brush it off

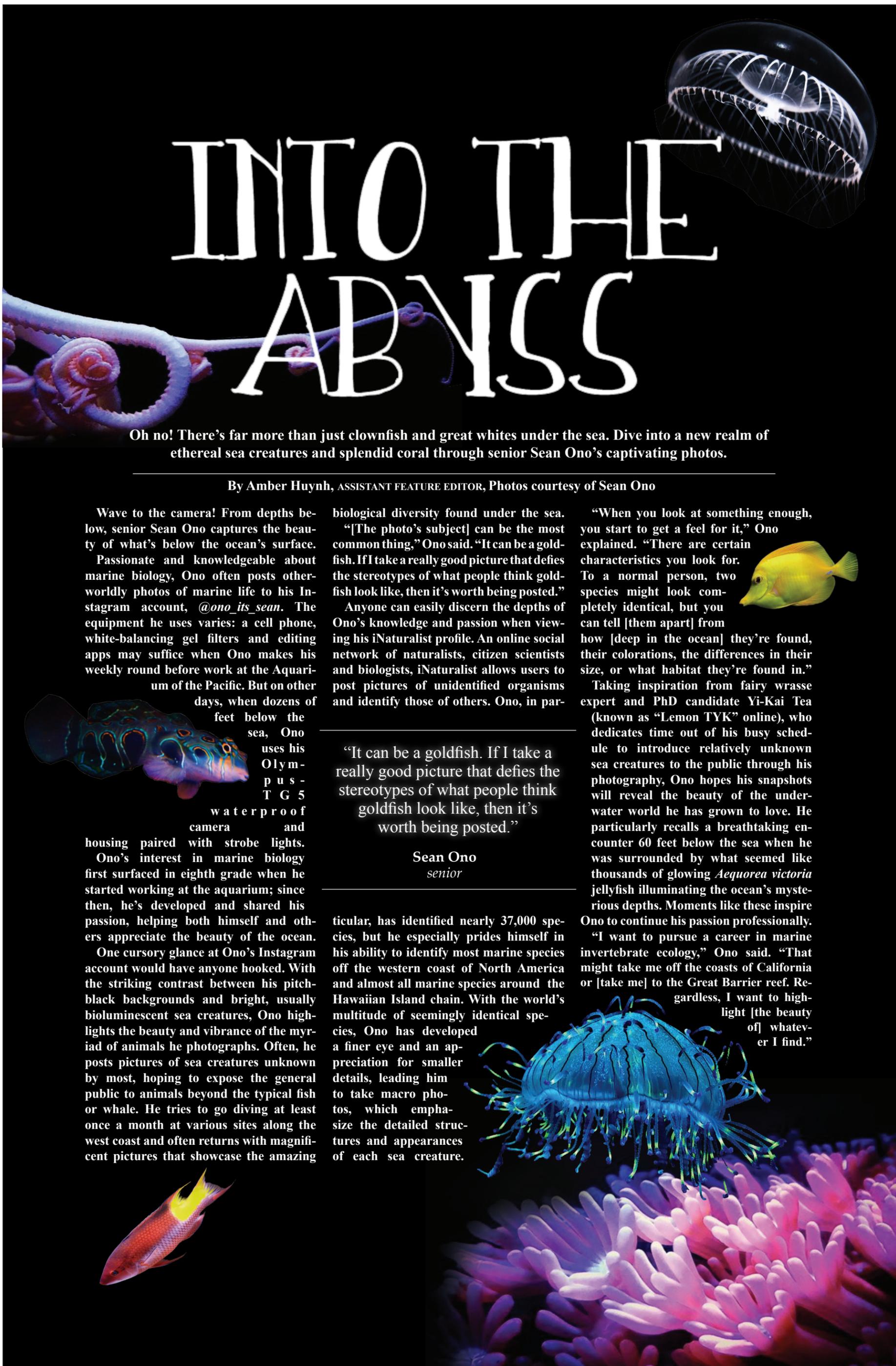


COURTESY OF DEANNA WEMMER

DARING DIVE: Focusing on her form, junior Deanna Wemmer dives into the pool.

and just try better the next time—don't dwell on it. [After quitting gymnastics], I tried track, but I found that it just wasn't for me. I

moved on [and] found a sport that I love. It's not [a bother] to have to go to practice; it's more of [a delight] to be able to go!"



# INTO THE ABYSS

Oh no! There's far more than just clownfish and great whites under the sea. Dive into a new realm of ethereal sea creatures and splendid coral through senior Sean Ono's captivating photos.

By Amber Huynh, ASSISTANT FEATURE EDITOR, Photos courtesy of Sean Ono

Wave to the camera! From depths below, senior Sean Ono captures the beauty of what's below the ocean's surface.

Passionate and knowledgeable about marine biology, Ono often posts otherworldly photos of marine life to his Instagram account, *@ono\_its\_sean*. The equipment he uses varies: a cell phone, white-balancing gel filters and editing apps may suffice when Ono makes his weekly round before work at the Aquarium of the Pacific. But on other

days, when dozens of feet below the sea, Ono

uses his Olympus T G 5

waterproof camera and

housing paired with strobe lights.

Ono's interest in marine biology first surfaced in eighth grade when he started working at the aquarium; since then, he's developed and shared his passion, helping both himself and others appreciate the beauty of the ocean.

One cursory glance at Ono's Instagram account would have anyone hooked. With the striking contrast between his pitch-black backgrounds and bright, usually bioluminescent sea creatures, Ono highlights the beauty and vibrance of the myriad of animals he photographs. Often, he posts pictures of sea creatures unknown by most, hoping to expose the general public to animals beyond the typical fish or whale. He tries to go diving at least once a month at various sites along the west coast and often returns with magnificent pictures that showcase the amazing

biological diversity found under the sea.

"[The photo's subject] can be the most common thing," Ono said. "It can be a goldfish. If I take a really good picture that defies the stereotypes of what people think goldfish look like, then it's worth being posted."

Anyone can easily discern the depths of Ono's knowledge and passion when viewing his iNaturalist profile. An online social network of naturalists, citizen scientists and biologists, iNaturalist allows users to post pictures of unidentified organisms and identify those of others. Ono, in par-

"It can be a goldfish. If I take a really good picture that defies the stereotypes of what people think goldfish look like, then it's worth being posted."

Sean Ono  
senior

ticular, has identified nearly 37,000 species, but he especially prides himself in his ability to identify most marine species off the western coast of North America and almost all marine species around the Hawaiian Island chain. With the world's multitude of seemingly identical species, Ono has developed a finer eye and an appreciation for smaller details, leading him to take macro photos, which emphasize the detailed structures and appearances of each sea creature.

"When you look at something enough, you start to get a feel for it," Ono explained. "There are certain characteristics you look for.

To a normal person, two species might look completely identical, but you can tell [them apart] from

how [deep in the ocean] they're found, their colorations, the differences in their size, or what habitat they're found in."

Taking inspiration from fairy wrasse expert and PhD candidate Yi-Kai Tea (known as "Lemon TYK" online), who dedicates time out of his busy schedule to introduce relatively unknown sea creatures to the public through his photography, Ono hopes his snapshots will reveal the beauty of the underwater world he has grown to love. He particularly recalls a breathtaking encounter 60 feet below the sea when he was surrounded by what seemed like thousands of glowing *Aequorea victoria* jellyfish illuminating the ocean's mysterious depths. Moments like these inspire Ono to continue his passion professionally.

"I want to pursue a career in marine invertebrate ecology," Ono said. "That might take me off the coasts of California or [take me] to the Great Barrier reef. Regardless, I want to highlight [the beauty of] whatever I find."

