

ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831



Virtual School: DISTANCE AND PERSISTENCE

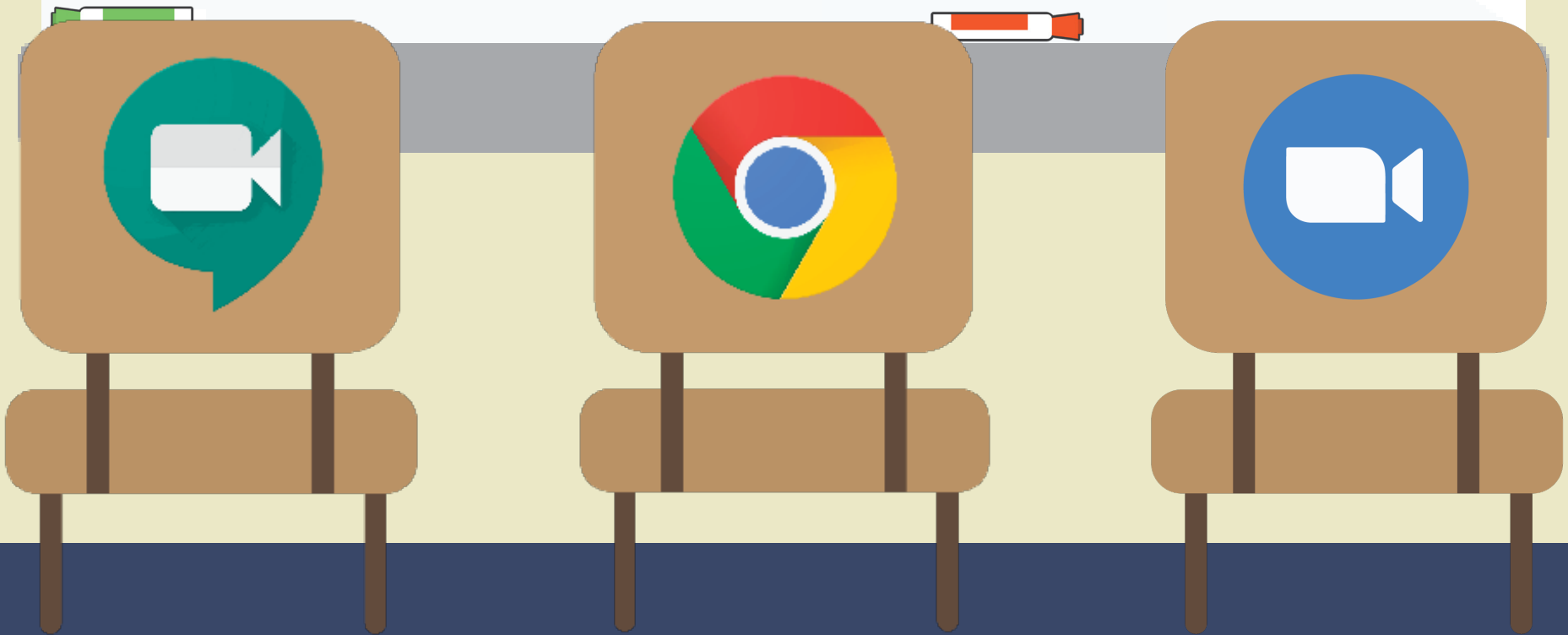
As coronavirus cases continue to rise in the county, schools across the district kick off the new academic year with an entirely online learning format.

Compiled by Cathy Chen, NEWS EDITOR, article by Isabelle Liang, STAFF WRITER, graphics by Cassidy Chang, GRAPHICS EDITOR

Preparing for the transition to hybrid schedule, the district administration underwent changes to accommodate the students' return to campus. Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, schools in Orange County started the academic year completely online. The county was removed from California's coronavirus monitoring list Sept. 23, which prompted the discussion about the return to school. According to Governor Gavin Newsom, the county must remain off of the state coronavirus list for at least two weeks to gain permission to transition into the hybrid schedule. In order to abide by the protocols for the Public Health Guideline, the hybrid schedule will consist of a Cohort A/B for those who wish to return to school and a Cohort C for full distance learning. During the shift to the hybrid schedule, students will receive emails confirming their cohort preferences, along with preliminary

information that outlines the return to school. In response to the student body's main concerns about safety, the administration secured new pieces of People Protection Equipment (PPE) around campus. The main upgrade on campus is the filtration system with new Merve 13 filters, which are close to hospital-grade and increase airflow. In addition, body scanners will check the students' temperatures before they are allowed on campus. Coupled with the installation of new technology on campus, numerous safety policies have been enacted, and students are required to stay six feet apart with masks on at all times. For those in Cohort A/B, the procedure states that students who experience symptoms will be closely monitored and quarantined. Administration will contact the parents in the case of possible contraction. In preparation for unanticipated circumstances, teachers attended

development days for supplementary training. Through upcoming updates from administration, students have the opportunity to choose whichever cohort is the most suitable to their learning experience. The hybrid schedule will reintroduce social interaction to create a supportive environment for Warriors, junior Kyle Yang said. "It would be beneficial because [we] will be able to get interaction with other students, especially after staying home for a long time," Yang said. "It would be a nice opportunity to finally meet our classmates in person." In regards to the implementation of the hybrid schedule, administrators are expecting positive outcomes, Principal William Mynster said. "There is definitely a mental aspect to it, but our staff is [adapting] to the situation," Mynster said. "So in that sense, we are well-positioned as a district with the students and teachers."



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RMVG launches Craft Kit Project in partnership with LA and OC Houses

Student-made craft kits provide families with a source of entertainment during the pandemic.

By Kaelyn Kwon
STAFF WRITER

Introducing unique volunteer opportunities, Ronald McDonald Volunteer Group (RMVG) delivered craft session supply kits for Orange County (OC) and Los Angeles (LA) Ronald McDonald Houses (RMH) Aug. 29. Hosted each weekend, the virtual craft sessions are hosted by members of RMVG through Zoom. With Troy High School’s RMVG chapter mainly working with local RMH, participants will be made up of families from the OC and LA Houses, as well as OC’s alumni family. Inordertoaccommodatealarger audience, RMVG will post pre-recorded videos, printed material and instruction guides on their Google Classroom. Participants who have questions about the assignment can contact RMVG via their social media platforms. As a registered nonprofit organization, RMVG is dedicated to assisting families with members undergoing medical treatment. During the pandemic, RMVG aims to present students volunteer possibilities and to provide families ways to express their

creativity through their virtual craft sessions.

Prior to their implementation of social distancing regulations, RMVG participated in an in-person meal service called Meals of Love, which is aimed to help eliminate the stressors that accompany meal preparation. To abide by social distancing restrictions, RMVG changed Meals of Love to a catering format where the board delivered pre-made meals to RMH.

In a partnership with the LA and OC Houses, RMVG will do n a t e student-m a d e craft kits monthly t h a t contain all the necessary supplies



PHOTO COURTESY OF RMVG BOARD

CRAFTY CREATIONS FOR CHILDREN: *RMVG delivers over 30 craft kits to the LA and OC Houses with instruction guides and all the necessary supplies for their monthly four activities.*

and instructions for selected crafts. The organization was the first to introduce contactless volunteer opportunities at the OC House, RMHOC Volunteer Manager Johanna Stickles said. “I love the idea of having classes virtually for the families of RMHOC,” Stickles said. “During the pandemic, families have become more isolated than ever, which is not healthy for anyone let alone those going through critical illnesses. Giving them hands-on activities with friendly faces is a great way to maintain safety standards while providing some much needed social interaction.” In order to ensure the safety of participants, all volunteer opportunities such as crafts and instruction designing, video making and the assembling of kits will be conducted virtually. Families are going through difficult times, so the organization will do its best to help them out in various ways, RMVG Publicity Chair Isabella Alpert said. “Virtual volunteering can be used more in the future,” Alpert said. “Until it is safe for us to go back to [RMH] and host Meals of Love, the virtual craft sessions are a good alternative and will be a more convenient way for us to host volunteer sessions.”

iExplore Club hosts world affairs summit

Warrior chapter presents members with opportunities to widen their perspective on worldwide issues through international conferences.

By Erin Jang
STAFF WRITER

Exploring international current events, the iExplore club hosted a global student panel via Zoom Sept. 5. Designed as a worldwide communication forum, iExplore organized a virtual panel for an open discussion. High school student volunteers from countries such as Japan, Canada, Singapore and Hong Kong prepared the event. Distributed into general and advanced topics, the 15 panelists led discussions about the new online education system and its benefits. Founded in early June, iExplore club aims to provide students with free, high-quality learning resources. In the span of three months, iExplore expanded and now has over 80 volunteers who offer customized tutoring to more than 500 students worldwide. Outside of offering a tutoring service, club members utilized their resources and created an unconventional panel to share different

opinions, specifically in regards to the changes from the present pandemic.

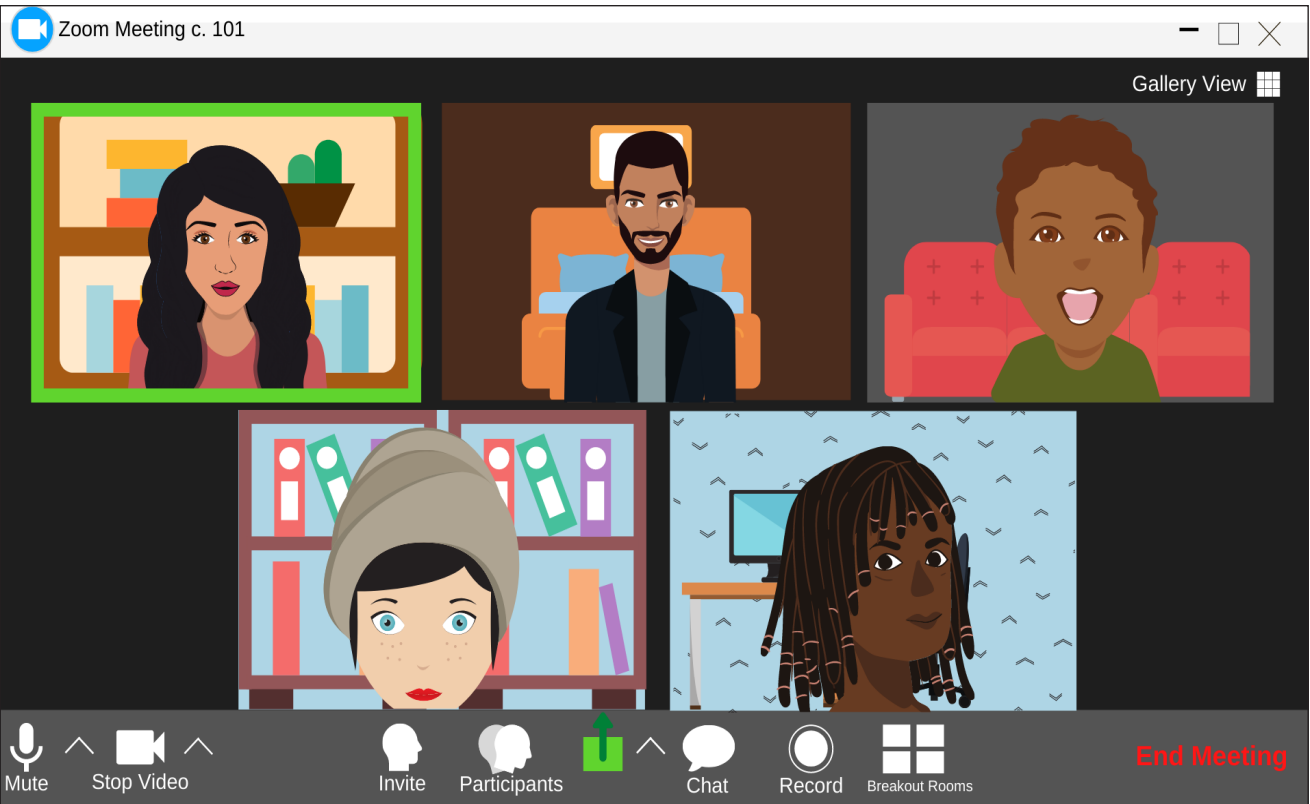
A l o n g s i d e Instagram and F a c e b o o k , iExplore uses YouTube as an additional gateway to post recordings from their weekly w e b i n a r s . Accessible to students outside of the club, the application was an essential resource because of the wide range of videos and high number of users, President Ryan Kern said.

“We wanted everything to always be free and saw YouTube as an opportunity,” Kern said. “On our Youtube channel, we have had quite a lot of videos and we are bringing up a good amount of content.” Beyond the local area, the panelists from foreign countries presented diverse perspectives outside of the Warrior population. As an international club,

iExplore’s main goal is for students to understand how academic subjects can be applied outside of school, Kern said. “It is really important to have people from around the world speak on very important topics and give their input for everyone to have a well-rounded view,” Kern said. “Therefore, our students do not just have

one narrow-minded idea of a subject but a broader perspective that has different viewpoints from the entire world.” Organized within a planned structure, the participants conversed on various topics for approximately four minutes each and questions were addressed at the end of each round. In tandem with students’ active

schedules with school, their participation will lead to a more fruitful discussion, Kern said. “[The panel] will be really great for all of our students to come join and listen,” Kern said. “It is an experience to be able to talk, especially now in this time where it is difficult to get different perspectives from people around the world.”



GRAPHIC BY DAVID LEE

FJUHSD introduces Care Solace amid virtual school

The Care Solace program was initiated in tandem with psychologists to increase mental health awareness.

By Diya Patel
STAFF WRITER

Nurturing the growth of healthy minds, Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD) partnered with health service Care Solace to aid students with mental health struggles Aug. 8. Open to all families and staff in FJUHSD, Care Solace serves as a professional online health service dedicated to providing resources for overcoming substance abuse and mental health disorders. In an effort to provide support for the community during the pandemic, the facility employs an anonymous health form to determine the severity of the users' struggle and recommended treatments. Accessible through a link on the district website, Care Solace's experts are available through their phone number, crisis hotline, video chat, email address and online-request form. Based on responses to the personal insight questions, Care Solace may suggest therapy, outpatient programs or hospitalization. Available around the clock, the service will attempt follow-up with each individual for fourteen days if contact ceases. Care Solace provides each user with specialized resources, navigates through wait-times, assists with health insurance policies,

helps schedule appointments and reaches out to individuals in need of additional services. Initially implemented by Chico Unified

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School District (CUSD) to aid individuals displaced by a deadly wildfire, the mental health resource aided in rebuilding a stronger community that catered to each individual's mental health journey, CUSD Superintendent Kelly Staley said. "At the end of the day, we realize that when it comes to very specific mental health situations, our country needs ad-

ditional support," Staley said. "The combination of services

ensures that the school is able to meet individuals where they are, and serve the whole person." Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all FJUHSD students

entered the current school year with distance learning. Care Solace is a resource with the ability to support students who are negatively impacted by the transition to online school, Principal William Mynster said. "Mental health is something that many people have been struggling with and the pandemic does not make it easier," Mynster said. "Care Solace can make sure you are getting the attention and focus you need so you do not have to feel like you are figuring it all out on your own." According to Mynster, the school introduced on-campus counselors and psychologists to expand health resources. The district introduced Care Solace as a step towards increasing mental health awareness, Mynster said. "Last school year, students may have seen an increase in the number of counselors and psychologists that are available on campus," Mynster said. "We are just trying to meet the needs of our community, who may need specialized help beyond family support."



CARTOON BY ELLA MOON

Extreme heat in Orange County causes blackouts

As temperatures continue to rise to the extremes, the increased electricity demand poses a hazard.

By Mai Omoto
STAFF WRITER

In an attempt to conserve energy in Southern California, the California Independent System Operator declared a Stage 3 Electrical Emergency due to high electricity demand in Orange, Los Angeles (LA), Riverside and San Bernardino counties Aug. 14. In response to the increased electricity demand amid the heatwave, 132,000 Southern California Edison (SCE) customers lost power with an additional 70,000 customers who experienced a power outage the following day. Aimed to prevent a blackout, the operator who oversees the state's power grid ordered a Flex Alert, which is an announcement to encourage citizens to conserve energy.

As SCE customers continued to use air conditioners, the California Independent System Operator initiated the state's rolling blackouts. The high demand could damage the state's electrical power transmission equipment and could shut off power throughout California. With the first Stage 3 Emergency since 2001, the National Weather Service named this temperature surge as one of the worst heat waves in years. Due to the high temperatures, officials issued a warning that the heatwave pushed smog and lung-damaging ozone pollution into unhealthy levels that would last until Aug. 17. Officials encouraged citizens to limit their electricity usage and forgo the filtration of air conditioning. Throughout the quarantine, California's energy usage lessened as commercial and industrial businesses slowed the manufacturing processes. This decrease has changed since the recent heatwave, in which

California's energy supply disappointed many businesses, President of the California Manufacturers and Technology Association Lance Hastings said. "Hot weather and a cloudy day should not be able to shut down the fifth-largest economy in the world," Hastings said. "While we support California's renewable energy goals, we need system redundancy that allows us to continue to operate and manufacture products for our residents and the world." Implemented to ensure that the state does not exceed its electrical supply, a Stage 3 emergency may cause citizens' utilities to shut off abruptly for about an hour. In response to the spontaneous power outages, teachers and students accommodated the many inconveniences that this power outage created. On September 8, thousands of SCE and LA Department of Water and Power (DWP) customers were expected to remain without power until the following day

due to a widespread electricity shortage following Labor Day weekend. During this widespread outage, the company is diligently working to restore the power, DWP General Manager and Chief Engineer Marty Adams said. "We are doing everything we can to get everyone dealt with," Adams said. "We hope that we will make significant progress today and get everyone back in power as quickly as we can." According to Southern California Edison spokesman David Song, California can expect more power outages as the heat continues. California's electricity companies continue to adjust to a greener form of energy in conjunction with a high energy reserve requirement, Song said. "We are encouraging all of our customers to conserve," Song said. "We really just need to shave the peak of demand off. That can mean things like shutting off a light [customers] are not using or keeping air conditioning at 78 degrees."

TROY TODAY

Upcoming Warrior Virtual Events

With social-distancing enforced until October 3, Associated Student Body (ASB) and Warrior Clubs turned to online platforms to host their events.

ASB releases videos to introduce Warrior staff

Conducted through the ASB Instagram page, the videos provide students with a more personal look into the lives of various teachers. Each week, ASB posts clips to encourage Warriors to get to know all the teachers in specific departments and connect with the staff as a whole. In the video clips, faculty members share facts about themselves, such as the classes they teach and personal anecdotes.

Explore new clubs at virtual club rush

Promoted through their social media platforms, ASB arranged club rush to be conducted through a Google Slide presentation Sept. 17-18. In order to recruit new members, each club president will be allowed to make one slide for their club and can add links, pictures and Quick Response Codes for accessibility. The final presentation will also be emailed to students for reference.

Warriors tutor to fund charities

Supporting regional organizations throughout the pandemic, Tutors of Tomorrow (TOTS) club members tutor elementary and middle school aged children virtually and donate the fees to charity monthly. In an effort to offer accessible lessons, members charge on average \$10 per hour for the tutoring service. Over the course of the summer, TOTS donated \$3090 to Black Lives Matter Los Angeles and Save the Children.

Concert donates funds to Yemen Crisis

In collaboration with Mounds View High School, St. Cloud State and Drexel University, the Warrior United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) club organized a virtual live concert on Zoom for UNICEF Unite's Yemen Crisis campaign Aug. 29. Directed to UNICEF Unite, donations will provide the children of Yemen with health care, nutrition, sanitation and education. Participants will be granted volunteer hours based on their contributions.

zoomer ZOMBIES

When the nation is still under lockdown from the pandemic, the education of high school students can't stop. But is online school actually doing more harm than good? Read more below.

Compiled by Jade Bahng, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, article by Sean Warren, STAFF WRITER, graphics by Cassidy Chang, GRAPHICS EDITOR, cartoons by Ella Moon, CARTOON EDITOR

Zoom Hacks

Touch Up Appearance

On the homepage, click the gear icon in the upper right corner. Select Video, then find My Video and click "Touch Up My Appearance."

Suppress Background Noise

On the homepage, click the gear icon in the upper right corner. Select Audio, then use the dropdown menu next to "Suppress background noise" to choose between Auto, Low, Medium, or High.

Virtual Backgrounds

On the homepage, click the gear icon in the upper right corner. Select Background & Filters to choose a background, or click the "+" button to upload your own background.

To: **Everyone**

Type Message Here...

The #1 distraction for students is bad internet connection at home!



Students spend an average of 10 hours on their electronic devices for school every day.



Peer tutoring and Student Support are the most popular ways to get help.



83% of students find it difficult to make new friends on Zoom.



Untitled document

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Add-ons Help

Share

The annual Target Back-to-School section that once signified the countdown to the first day of school has all but turned into a barren ghost town. With the persistence of coronavirus cases that has stifled our hopes for a glowing return to school, students have logged onto the new year through the digital conferencing app Zoom. With highly intuitive features that allow even the tech-rookie teachers to quickly adapt, Zoom has spearheaded the nation's transition into distance learning. Don't be fooled by Zoom's user friendliness though—with the health and learning complications that come with online learning, students are starting to realize why their parents berate their excessive use of technology.

When they sit through hours of Zoom lectures every day, students are bound to feel the repercussions of bathing in blue light. In fact, several students across the virtual campus report symptoms of computer-eye-syndrome: dry, strained eyes which cause fatigue and in worse cases: headache. Not to mention, online lectures force students into sedentary lifestyles with barely enough time to stretch or even grab a snack—activities that were the norm during passing periods. It's no surprise that we feel more energy depleted when our backs are hunched over and our eyes are weary from being confined within a tiny Zoom video screen all day. While Zoom may be a temporary solution to continuing education during the pandemic, its consequences on our health and wellbeing are here to stay.


As if draining our energy and motivation isn't enough, Zoom also disappoints us with realities that fall far below our expecta-

tions. Initially, administration was hopeful for an app that recreates interactive learning environments through lectures, polls, sharing screens and group discussions. Breakout rooms, a feature allowing students to converse in small groups, is one of the unexpected disappointments of the Zoom classroom. Not surprisingly, angsty teens are reluctant to break the silence; the minutes leading up to one's first brave "hey" are filled with unbearable silence. But don't put the blame of communication issues entirely on socially awkward teens. The app itself has awful audio feedback, which means only one person can be heard at a time. The fast-paced, passionate discussions of the classroom are virtually extinct.


When natural conversation is obstructed by the screen, it's almost impossible to make new friends, let alone keep in touch with old ones. This difficulty compels students to try communicating through iMessage, social media or FaceTime calls—opening up a separate screen full of new distractions. Teenagers are naturally awkward, and the limitations of Zoom learning do more to accentuate the awkwardness than to create a learning environment that encourages collaboration and teamwork, which are essential skills needed to survive the real world.

Whether students love learning from the comfort of their beds, or hope for any type of return to physical school, they'll have to adapt to Zoom learning and bear the burden of an unstable virtual education plan. For now, those burning eyes, ceaseless headaches and perpetual fatigue are more foes to fend off in the battle called the pandemic.


Protect your eyes from fatigue and strain with blue light glasses.




Chromebooks don't have the best sound system, but a headset with microphone may bring some extra presentation points!



Never miss a deadline! Planning your day on a planner can help you stay organized.



Keeping track of seven zoom codes can get confusing. Scan the QR code for a Zoom Link Organizer!





SPOILER ALERT!

Ever since Netflix released “Avatar: The Last Airbender,” the love for this childhood classic has been rekindled by teenagers revisiting the four kingdoms of Avatar. On August 14, Netflix finally released its sequel, “The Legend of Korra.” Forging a new path, the long-awaited addition focuses on a new Avatar born as a waterbender, rather than an Air Nomad: Korra. As Aang’s successor, she masters waterbending, earthbending and firebending at the mere age of four. The production tackles this newest installment to the Avatar universe from her 17-year-old perspective, thus illuminating her ascent into adulthood as she embarks on a rigorous journey to discover her identity.

Consequently, “The Legend of Korra” features more mature themes for the audience to relate to. Despite being the hero, Korra reveals her deepest vulnerabilities by addressing her PTSD and depression. By highlighting Korra’s personal struggles, the show emphasizes the importance of mental health awareness, even in an industry traditionally geared towards entertainment. This sequel also serves as an avenue for the representation of the historically marginalized and underrepresented LGBTQ community. Instead of merely dancing around the possibility of a same-sex relationship as a cruel marketing technique, the creators directly place Korra’s romance with Asami at the forefront of the show, thus normalizing modern day relationships. By spotlighting a non-heterosexual protagonist in a show initially catered towards children, “The Legend of Korra” addresses a topic customarily deemed as taboo for younger audiences. The show’s realistic portrayal of failure also works to dispel the harmful notion that heroes must always reign victorious. The writers for this sequel purposely flip the script in every season by creating a different enemy for Korra, thus giving rise to numerous opportunities for her to experience a diverse array of defeats. The countless setbacks Korra endures may parallel the diversity of challenges that viewers face in their own lives. Thus, the protagonist’s occasional failures serve as a comforting reminder that even the most powerful of heroes shouldn’t be expected to overcome every unrelenting obstacle they encounter. The unprecedented success of the Avatar universe on Netflix can partially be

With the arrival of Nickelodeon’s “The Legend of Korra” on Netflix, teenagers are embarking on yet another adventure into the Avatar universe. Read further to explore how it’s redefining animation.

Compiled by Amy Kim, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, article by Brianna Vu, STAFF WRITER, and photos courtesy of Google

attributed towards the heartfelt exploration of these mature themes, which can reinvigorate a love for animations in older audiences. Undoubtedly, nostalgic recollections of their childhood attempts to bend water like Katara or their heart-stopping crushes on Zuko may have initially implored teenagers and millennials to rewatch the series. However, the emotional rollercoaster that “The Legend of Korra” takes viewers on is what ultimately prevents them from clicking out after the first episode. In fact, the reintroduction of Avatar to Netflix allows for the audience to now engage in this series with a newfound emotional maturity that only time and age can bring. The same characters and storylines may be on screen, but a viewer’s transformed perspective can translate the show into an entirely new experience. The simultaneously skyrocketing popularity of Japanese anime—not to be confused with the genre of animation—can likewise be accredited to an older audience. Although Netflix continues to expand its collection of animes through the addition of more recent works like “Drifting Dragons,” older classics like “Naruto” have kept teenagers captivated for years. Both anime and animation creators have capitalized on the unbridled potential of cartoons to breathe life into characters that wield physics-defying powers or mythical creatures from the deepest crevices of one’s imagination. By combining the inherent power of this medium with developed character arcs and convoluted storylines that are traditionally characteristic of shows outside the realm of animated works, these two genres have grown to dominate streaming services. In particular, their respective introductions to Netflix have not only streamlined access to these genres for avid fans or interested rewatchers, but they’ve also broadened the scope of their audiences by even reaching those previously unfamiliar with animated television. With teenagers spearheading the resurgence in popularity of “The Legend of Korra” and similar works, animations are shedding the connotations traditionally associated with them. No longer are they condescendingly deemed as childish, nor are they targeted towards a younger demographic. Perhaps the Avatars’ true power isn’t their mastery over the four elements—it’s their ability to redefine animation for generations to come.

STUDENTS 4 CHANGE

What are your favorite hobbies? Reading, watching TV—sleeping? Meet Laura Park, Iana Lin and Carol Jin, three student entrepreneurs who turned their hobbies into online nonprofit businesses.

Compiled by Hannah Adams, **FEATURE EDITOR**, articles by Coco Gong, **STAFF WRITER**, cartoons by Ella Moon, **CARTOON EDITOR**, and Pearl Yoon, **CARTOON**. Photos courtesy of featured students



Aan Bakery

As the delicate cream puff was revealed, a candied scent drifted into the air. The sweet chocolate layer on the top of the Choux au Craquelin glowed under the sunlight. Armed with delicious sweets, junior Iana Lin joins the fight against social injustice and opens personal exploration for herself.

A little short of two months ago, Lin and her sister launched an online business, @aanbakery. While looking for a new hobby to explore, the Lin sisters thought it would be wonderful to start a business and combat social injustice at the same time. The bakery features items such as the Pistachio Lemon Loaf, the Blueberry Cream Cheese Danish and Lin's personal favorite, Purple Sweet Potato Buns. All of the shop's profits are donated to nonprofit organizations and advocacies for racial equality and environmental

justice. Each month, the bakery donates to a new organization, like the Conscious Kid and the League of Conservation Voters for this month.

The bakery does more than make the world a brighter place; it's something that gave back to Lin herself as well. As a former competitive figure skater and a slime shop owner, Lin had been looking to start something new with her free time. Her sister shared the same idea, with a goal of social change in mind. The baking, and the enthusiasm to see others enjoying her pastries, have always been things that were greatly satisfying to Lin, and this sweet passion put a delicious spin on the business fighting social injustice.

"I enjoy the baking part, but I also enjoy fulfilling orders," Lin said. "It made me really happy that other people could enjoy the food."



Check out @aanbakeshop on Instagram!

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Check it out @ www.u-turntheearth.com!

U-Turn The Earth

The endless rows of shows, movies, and other films seemed plain on the Netflix homepage, lacking their usual luster. It was much more appealing to imagine a little bee hovering over flourishing pink blossoms, two dolphins frolicking amongst tropical fish and the elegant waves that formed the ravine walls of a canyon. With these mental inspirations, senior Carol Jin created a website that educates the general public about environmental issues while cultivating her love for life on earth.

On Jul. 9, Jin launched her website, U-Turn the Earth, with articles covering everything from biodiversity to oil pollution. Unlike scientific articles forged by experiments and discussion in a lab, Jin's blog is written with an informal, casual style that flows smoothly. Also, an art gallery featuring pieces ranging from photography to paintings, depicts the vivid colorfulness of nature and accompanies her words.

Fueled by pure fascination the website has since gained numerous readers, writers and artists. With this, Jin hopes to create her own niche in the environment of the world and further her career as an environmental engineer. For others who also hope to set foot in the ecosystem of blogging, Jin emphasizes a seed of imagination that sparks a strong beginning and grows into flowering reality.

"The hardest part often is starting," Jin said. "What's most rewarding is that I know, okay, at least that heaviest part is behind me. And now we're just going, we're just going forward."

Stickers for Yemen

Syrupy peach milk, chubby bumblebee and snow-covered mountain range... these things are all similar-sized and two-dimensional. They are handmade stickers! Amongst them is the image of a happy little turtle duck. However, behind the smile of the adorable Avatar creature, are the smiles of young children in Yemen. Determined to aid the greatest humanitarian crisis, senior Laura Park began a sticker business that taught her the importance of perseverance and a communication network. On July 20, Park's business was officially launched. Since then, she has achieved seven times her original goal. The motivation behind Park's unwavering persistence is the aspiration to provide her customers with products of the best quality and the children of Yemen with her growing profits. As she arranged her business with her sister and interacted with other sticker makers on the internet, Park quickly learned the significance of partnering with connections. Although each individual sticker is small, the business as a whole expanded exponentially, with orders flying in from across the country in Alaska and Hawaii. "I realized how important communication

and networking is, as well as thanking all your supporters because your supporters helped you go to the places you reached," Park said.

Although Park's process of creation is supported by others, she also adds a touch of her own character. Each sticker, from Chick-Fil-A fries to a purple Croc, is a reflection of her own personality and interest. Park pours her heart into the crafts as she personally draws out the designs and cuts them out by hand, with the assistance of her sister. Behind the scenes of vibrant stickers were many late nights of working until 3 a.m. while listening to Christmas music.

"My advice would be to just never, ever, ever give up," Park said. "You are going to face so many different challenges, and you just have to know that despite these challenges and despite these obstacles, you will only grow from those experiences."



Check out @stickersforyemen on Instagram!



A four-panel comic strip illustrating a woman's experience with VR. In the first panel, she is yawning and looking bored. In the second panel, a pair of hands straps a VR headset onto her head. In the third panel, she is wearing the headset and looking focused. In the fourth panel, she is in a virtual world, waving at a 'WELCOME!' sign.

President Trump, you are responsible for protecting our valued democracy

By Cage Hawley
STAFF WRITER

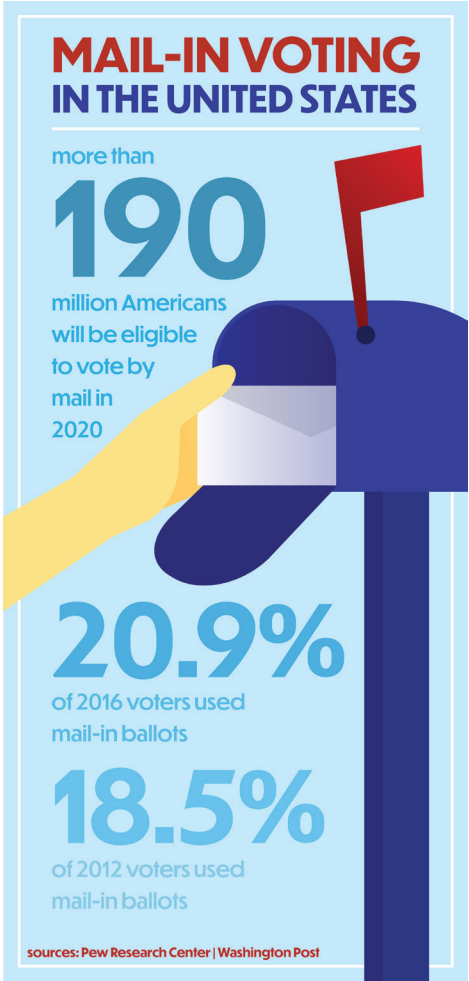


The United States Postal Service (USPS) is a key component of a democratic election. During his White House briefing Aug. 12, President Donald Trump announced his intention to limit access to mail-in voting by rejecting the recent stimulus proposal with a \$25 billion bailout for the USPS. While Trump claimed that he is trying to eliminate rampant voter fraud, his opposition to mail-in voting may ironically cement Americans in a very undemocratic election. When mail-in voting usage is expected to increase due to the pandemic, Trump’s threat to block funding for USPS is not only an attack on public service, but also on democracy. Examination of proper data debunks Trump’s baseless claim that mail voting contributes to voter fraud. According to the Heritage Foundation, a public policy think tank, cases of mail-in voter fraud amounted to about three cases per state in the past 20 years. In contrast, there were nearly 139 million voters in the 2016 presidential election, which shows that the influence of voter fraud on actual polling outcomes is very minimal. Furthermore, independent studies, including the one commissioned by the Trump administration regarding the 2016 election, from the Brennan Center for

Justice have shown that most voter fraud allegations are usually proven false. With the facts laid out clearly on the table, Trump and his allies need to stop using the excuse of the non-existent voter fraud to prevent people from voting safely. Moreover, voting by mail is a trusted practice used across party lines and especially by older age groups. According to the Cooperative Congressional Election Study which surveyed both Democrat and Republican voters, 31 percent of individuals aged 65 or older voted by mail in the 2016 election compared to 22 to 23 percent among younger age ranges. If mail voting becomes unreliable due to lack of preparation for increased number of mail-in ballots, elderly voters would be impacted the most. They would need to choose between sending in a vote that may not be counted or risking their lives to vote in-person. By refusing financial aid for the USPS, Trump has imposed an unfair dilemma upon senior citizens. Trump’s administration should focus on ensuring that voting by mail can handle larger volumes, allowing elderly citizens and those concerned about voting in person to safely participate in democracy. As demand for voting by mail will likely increase, the federal government must aid the overwhelmed USPS in making sure all eligible votes are delivered on time and counted. In New York’s June 23 Democratic presidential primary, over 80,000 mailed votes—about 21 percent—were disqualified, which shows the in-

fluence a vulnerable USPS can have on polling. Furthermore, 46 states received letters directly from the Postal Service, warning that mailed-in votes simply can’t be processed by election day as it stands. In the fateful Aug. 12 White House briefing, Trump senselessly framed USPS mishandling of votes as another reason not to expand mail voting. That takeaway proves counterintuitive, though. Lack of USPS funding directly contributed to uncertain election results in states such as New York, which the federal government should have prevented in the first place. The president’s insinuation of USPS’s incompetence harkens to a recent, common talking point: the USPS isn’t profitable, necessitating the cuts in its operational costs. However, the USPS isn’t meant to be profitable. It’s not a business—it’s a public service much like education or the military. In contrast to the military, which receives about 25 percent of every citizen’s income tax for its budget, USPS is funded only by revenue from package delivery and product sales. In that light, a one-time financial aid from Congress for the USPS to deal with a surge in mail-in voting ballots due to the upcoming presidential election is necessary. Trump’s misinformed attacks on the USPS mark a failure to act in the interest of his citizens. Making American citizens vulnerable to the possibility of contracting COVID-19 to reliably receive representation is unacceptable. Trump and his allies must help USPS to secure its

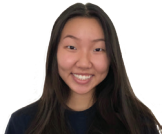
operations for the most trustworthy and efficient election possible during these uncertain times. For the sake of America’s democracy, our USPS must prevail.



GRAPHIC BY CASSIDY CHANG

Concerns about TikTok’s American user data are inflated and unfair

By Vivian Lee
STAFF WRITER



TikTok, a social media app that allows users to share short videos about their interests, has recently become popular among people of all ages. Sensor Tower, an app analytics platform, reported that TikTok was the most downloaded app this year with 165 million installs in the United States alone. However, because TikTok is owned by a Chinese company ByteDance, there have been concerns regarding user data protection. Citing these concerns, President Donald Trump issued an executive order Aug. 14 that required the video-sharing platform’s parent company to sell its US assets to a US-based company in 90 days. In reality, the data privacy issue is not as severe as the Trump administration claims, and therefore, TikTok should not be banned. The main concern that TikTok’s user data could be used by the Chinese government for blackmail

or espionage has not been proven valid. The US government has not been able to provide concrete evidence that ByteDance has intimate ties to the Chinese military, which has a history of hacking American companies like the credit agency Equifax in 2017. Without any solid evidence, TikTok’s potential risk to the US’s national security is purely hypothetical. According to Senior Vice President James Lewis at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, there is no evidence to suggest that American users’ data is being compromised by Chinese intelligence through TikTok. Furthermore, TikTok stores its data on American users only at servers located in the US and Singapore, which cannot be easily accessed by the Chinese government. The primary reason for banning TikTok is not a rational concern and, without a logical ground, there is no reason to get rid of the app. Data collection practices are loosely regulated for



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

all social media platforms, not just TikTok. However, Trump seems only fixated on banning TikTok because of its Chinese origin. If the Trump administration and its allies are concerned about data privacy, then they should implement a nationwide system that obligates social media apps to ensure anonymity and security of their users’ data. Rather than singling out and going after just one company, Trump should regulate the widespread sales of user information to third-party companies. Trump’s decision to ban the app from the country was an impulsive and unwarranted use of presidential power. In response, TikTok filed a federal lawsuit Aug. 24 insisting that the US government hastily accused the company of exploiting user data without clear evidence. TikTok officials said that they were shocked by the Aug. 14 executive order because “there has

been a reliance on unnamed ‘reports’ with no citations [and] fears that the app ‘may be’ used for misinformation campaigns with no substantiation of such fears.” These statements strongly imply that Trump irresponsibly gave the order with little proof. The company will be arguing the violation of due process clause in the Constitution because it was not given enough time to properly refute those claims. Trump unfairly took away TikTok’s opportunity to prove the security of American user data from Chinese military’s exploitation and threatened the app’s future at the peak of its popularity. The data privacy concerns for Tiktok are too similar to those regarding other social media companies like Facebook and Instagram. Therefore, the US government should withdraw its targeted order on TikTok and allow millions of American users to enjoy the fun platform.

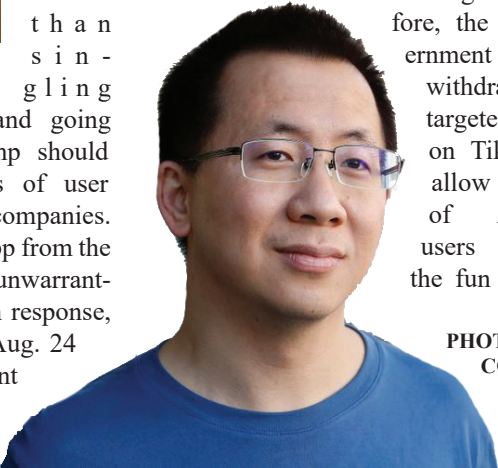


PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO UK



PHOTO COURTESY OF WFLA

CRACKING DOWN: President Trump asserted Aug. 14 that the Chinese-owned TikTok could be a threat to national security.

FIGHTING BACK: ByteDance CEO Zhang Yiming criticized Trump’s Aug. 14 executive order and argued that TikTok was unfairly targeted.

mark my words

Warriors speak out on campus issues

Read what the Warrior population has to say about hybrid learning.

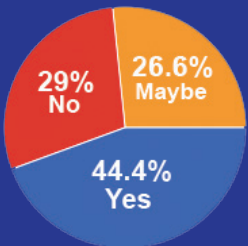
“Implementing cohorts risks the **safety** of both staff and students.”

- *Concerned about safety, Senior*

“The school shouldn’t reopen fully if there is any **doubt** that students will not follow the rules to keep others safe.”

- *Reasonable Freshman*

Are you planning to return to school during hybrid schedule?



“As much as I would like to learn in-person, I don’t want to contribute to another wave of **infections**.”

- *Considerate Freshman*

“Not only are students most likely going to be forced to navigate through narrow and tight hallways, but there’s also the problem with **closed ventilation** in many of the buildings. Take the 500 building for example: few, if not one, of the classrooms have any windows, so there’s no fresh air being pumped in and all the potentially covid-contaminated air in the building is just sitting there.”

- *Logical Junior*

“I believe that the **quality** of learning is higher at school, and I will be able to interact more with my teacher and classmates.”

- *Prioritizes education, Sophomore*

“Distance learning is tiring. It is hard to concentrate, and is definitely **not healthy**.”

- *Health first, Freshman*

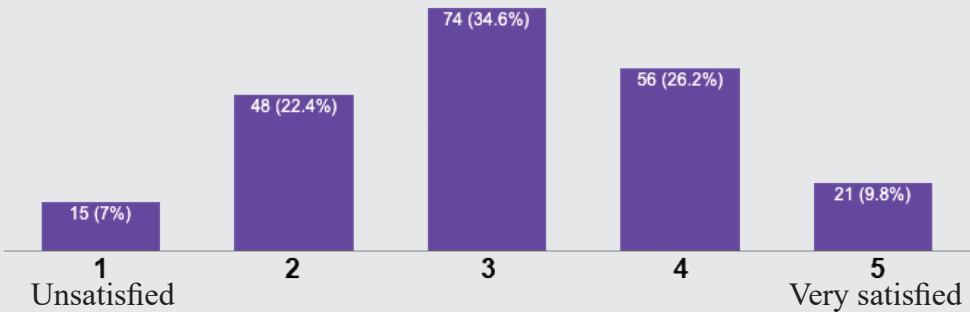
“It will help my **mental health**, and I can hopefully socialize.”

- *Mental health is important, Freshman*



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 troy-oracle.com/opinion for more editors’ favorites.

How satisfied are you with the school’s plan for hybrid learning?



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CHOOSE YOUR aesthetic

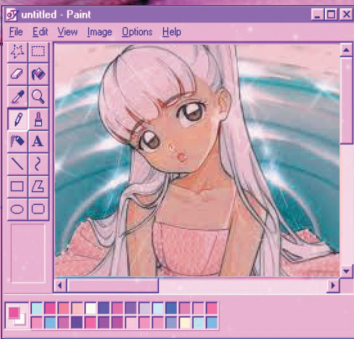


From the collection of aesthetics that are rising to fame, we picked five different ones to share! Something soft, something hip, something dark, something gothic and something chic. Ready to choose your player?

Compiled by Sky Jung, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, article by Sarah Son, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

co·ttagecore /'kɑdj / kôr/

Floral patterns, straw hats and ruffled sleeves weave the perfect image of an aesthetic that's rising to popularity—cottagecore. Heavily inspired by nature and a dreamy farm-girl aesthetic, cottagecore is the culmination of soft, summery and sweet. It embraces delicate, pastel shades that embody the lavender-colored flowers or the muted hues of greens. With a gingham dress, a light cropped cardigan and white sneakers, you'll be just about ready to become the protagonist of a modern *Anne of Green Gables*!

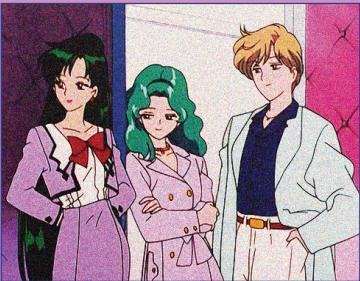


y2k /wī /too/ kâ/

Y2K is about being bold and colorful. There is no holding back when it comes to hair clips and definitely no hesitation choosing baggy jeans to pair with thick, fashion statement belts boasting a bright shade of magenta. Hop into those Nike Air Forces and be ready to dance to your favorite early 2000s beats to truly jump back twenty years!



Y2K is the ultimate throwback to the year 2000! Pink dominates the aesthetic in every which way—thin pink shades, pink cropped tops, matching pink cardigans and even a pink bubble gum to chew on (for aesthetic purposes).



ca·su·al chic /'kaZHooəl /SHĕk

ankle boots are closet essentials that juxtapose well with a black belt, lace camisole and long cardigan. Nothing can go wrong with casual chic; it's the perfect aesthetic for interviews, meetings and confident power-walks down the street! Add some sunglasses and a mini tote bag to accentuate your look and you'll be on your way to lead some business!

Casual chic is the ultimate go-to outfit. Simple, easy and effortlessly chic, the aesthetic is low-maintenance and easy to put together with what's already in your wardrobe. Some nicely-fitting jeans, white sneakers or

dark ac·a·de·mi·a /dārk / ,akə'dēmēə/

Think goth but with a librarian twist. dark academia is just that—a classy, suave look that involves a palette of dark, earthy colors and one too many plaid fabrics. With matching blazer sets back in style, dark academia shows off a powerful look that instantly makes anyone look composed and dignified. Dark academia delves into layering—dark turtle-necks juxtaposed with white collared shirts and then topped off with a long coat. So grab your plaid pants,

sweater and black boots and you'll be the best-dressed person in the library!



cy·ber punk /'sībər /pəNGk/

To embody a high-tech dystopian world's sense of fashion, the cyberpunk aesthetic incorporates both dark, midnight shades and bright, neon colors to create the look of a futuristic citizen. Contrasting from the black baggy top and buckled cargo pants, the belts work as an accent color—a pop of neon



pink or orange to the overall outfit. Chunky platform heels or combat boots pair nicely with the rest of the look. And with all of these pieces put together, you'll be ready to fight some high-tech crime in a low-life fantasy world!



Lakers vs. Clippers: can either win the NBA title representing the city of Los Angeles?

With both Los Angeles teams in the playoffs for the first time since 2013, how far can both teams progress, in the bubble?

By William Song
STAFF WRITER

The National Basketball Association (NBA) restarted its season and organized the playoffs despite having a myriad of obstacles in their way. Games are played in a completely different environment than what players are used to, and some have suffered while others have thrived. Of the 22 teams that entered the bubble in July, only eight remain. Much to the delight of Los Angeles basketball fans, both the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers are in the playoffs and are competing for the title.

The Lakers and Clippers entered the playoffs as the one and two seed in the Western Conference. The Lakers finished with a record of 52-19 while the Clippers finished with a record of 49-23. Both teams ranked in the top 10 in defensive and offensive ratings.

As the first seed, the Lakers matched up with the eighth seed Portland Blazers in the first round. Led by star point guard Damian Lillard, the Blazers started



Photo courtesy of the National Basketball Association (NBA)

CLASH OF THE TITANS: NBA superstars LeBron James of the Lakers and Kawhi Leonard of the Clippers battle it out earlier in the season.

strong and won the first game against the Lakers, but the Lakers were able to quickly come back. They went on to win four straight games and advanced to the Western Conference semifinals. LeBron James and Anthony Davis led the team, becoming the first duo to score more than 35 points in a playoff series after Shaquille O’Neal and Kobe Bryant. The Lakers are now 2-1 up on the Houston Rockets, in the second round.

The second seeded Clippers faced the seventh seeded Dallas Mavericks, who

were led by Luka Doncic and Kristaps Porzingis. Injuries were a big problem for the Mavericks as both stars sustained injuries, but they managed to win two games against the Clippers, tying the series at one point. However, the Clippers persisted and eliminated the Mavericks in six games, advancing to the second round of the playoffs. They now are up 2-1 against the Denver Nuggets.

As they advance further into the playoffs and play tougher competition, the Lakers and Clippers will need

all of their players to be locked in and playing to their maximum potentials for the rest of the playoffs.

The Clippers are in dire need of Paul George to shoot consistently. In the first four games of the first round, George shot an abysmal 21 percent from the field and 11 percent from the arc. He redeemed himself in Game 5 against the Mavericks, but the Clippers must hope that he continues to play at a high level if they want any chance at competing for the championship.

Inconsistency is also a problem for the Lakers. Starters Kentavious Caldwell-Pope and Danny Green struggled greatly in Game 1 against the Blazers with Caldwell-Pope scoring just one point on 0-of-9 shooting.

Fortunately for the Lakers, their performances improved greatly since then, but consistency remains a big issue.

With both teams considered as favorites to win it all before this season, it will be interesting to see what they can achieve in the playoffs. With NBA players competing amidst a global pandemic while also joining in support of a worldwide cry for equality and change, these playoffs are sure to be remembered well into the future.

Swinging and Winning

Delve into junior Gabby Kano’s inspiring triumph over hardship.

By Jacqueline Liu STAFF WRITER
Photo courtesy of Gabby Kano

Eyes narrowed into the bright morning sunlight, junior Gabby Kano pinpoints the exact point where she wants her ball to land on the green. After a moment of concentration, Kano swings her club with tremendous power, sending the ball soaring through the air straight towards the pin.

Kano’s initial interest in the sport began at the age of six years old when she saw her father practicing at the golf range. Since then, she has amassed much experience from playing in tournaments across the United States hosted by various golf associations, including the America Junior Golf Association, Future Champions of Golf and the Southern California Professional Golf Association’s Toyota Tour. Ranked 221 in the nation for amateur golfers, Kano plans to play Division 1 golf in college and is already in contact with five schools.

Driven by her passion for golf, Kano developed an excellent work ethic within her training. She practices three to four hours on weekdays and six hours on weekends, working to improve all aspects of her game. “I actually like practicing so that I can perfect all the shots that I need to do,” Kano said. “It’s fun to practice and make sure that I get it right. Even though I may not hit the perfect shot in a

tournament sometimes, it helps me to know what I need to work on and that’s why I like practicing.”

Despite the successes that Kano garnered thus far throughout her career, her journey to become the player she is today has not been without its fair share of challenges.

Practicing to the point of overexertion, Kano fractured her vertebra at the age of 12. Due to the seriousness of the injury, her doctor left her with

the grim possibility that she might never be able to play golf again. For the next two years, Kano stayed true to her dreams and recovered with the support of her parents and trainer. This experience changed her perspective of golf for the rest of her life and urged her to become the best player that she can be.

“I’ve had people tell me I can’t do it, or you won’t make it, it’s useless even thinking it’s worth the time,” Kano said. “These experiences taught me that no matter what other people tell you. You are the one with the goals. They don’t control your work ethic, your motivation or your life.”



EYES ON THE PRIZE: Junior Gabby Kano follows through on a swing.

WARRIOR TO WATCH | NADIA KOJONROJ

Graphic by David Lee GRAPHICS, Introduction by Jacqueline Liu, STAFF WRITER

Meet sophomore Nadia Kojonroj. Kojonroj has been playing for varsity since she was a freshman, she played the #2 spot on the team, and will continue to do so in this year’s season. Troy’s varsity tennis team is division one and she already placed third in the freeway league. She is currently at her highest, ranking at 120 in the country, 25th in California, and rounding to an 8 on the universal tennis ranking scale. At such a young age she accomplished so much in her tennis career and she is well on her way to attending a division one college with a full scholarship.



GIRLS 16 SINGLES POINTS: 1720

RANK 34

GIRLS 14 SINGLES POINTS: 2390

RANK 17