

# ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831

## GRAFFITI GODDESS

The writing's on the wall—sophomore Savannah diBenedetto's elegant colors ignite feminism and destroy stigma—read more about her graffiti below!

Compiled by Coco Gong, **FEATURE EDITOR**, article by Mary Kim, **STAFF WRITER**, cartoon by Kirsten Dingson, **CARTOON**, and photos courtesy of Savannah diBenedetto

Painting hope and portraying culture with carefully placed spritzes of a can, sophomore graffiti artist Savannah diBenedetto forges breathtaking masterpieces. For her, graffiti is a powerful link for self-expression and a tool for artists to unite communities with carefully thought out images, shining light on local and social issues. Under a banner of building a brighter community, diBenedetto's graffiti highlights not damage and brokenness, but harmony and love.

First exposed to art at age seven, diBenedetto reflects on her uncle's influence as he imparted the first grains of inspiration for her future in graffiti. Three years later, diBenedetto enthusiastically paints billboards and backyards, even completing her first mural for female-feature artists, providing an outlet to create purposeful, beautiful paintings. The mural, featured in an event called "Ladies Get Down," showcases imaginative blue and lustrous gold decorating the canvas of a pink woman with flowing hair and golden eyes. The beauty of graffiti for diBenedetto is that of its freeing powers, an escape and refuge for life's busy times and an avenue for expression through diverse techniques and styles.

"It's really about creativity, I'm still learning myself," diBenedetto said. "I want [people to see] my art and to think that it's beautiful, not that it shouldn't be here."

diBenedetto erases the stereotype that graffiti consists simply of tagging, gang violence and late nights in a dark alley as the stigma suggests. Many often forget that graffiti is legitimate art, as complicated and precise as painting with just a brush and easel. As diBenedetto explains, when it comes down to the details, graffiti is complex, juggling can sizes to different caps to priming walls. Though the past may be tainted, there is bright intelligence and sparks of beauty,

culture and color waiting to be shown. Without words, the true nature of graffiti is unleashed through complex layers of paint.

"[Paintings] make the community brighter than it can be," diBenedetto said. "Graffiti used in the right way can bring people up and share point of view[s]. You can make it beautiful."

Looking to the near future, diBenedetto hopes to expand her art to designing murals on schools, malls and communities, and even becoming a graphic designer. This world of animated colors and vivid tints is a glimpse into diBenedetto's overflowing imagination, hopefully becoming reality someday. Gaining inspiration, diBenedetto's passion for social issues like feminism and stereotypes as well as her culture meld into an infectious enthusiasm for graffiti. She believes that the depth of art culture for centuries brings modern day healing and light. Her Mexican heritage points to art delving deep in connecting with family as she draws inspiration from Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. Just as Kahlo broke down boundaries and feminist stereotypes in her art, diBenedetto is doing the same. In her mind, female artists can do both the wilder styles of graffiti in addition to ladylike ideals of painting flowers and portraits. She believes that women wield their art in a powerful cry for equality, their graffiti demonstrating that there is more to a woman than her looks.

diBenedetto sincerely hopes to bring healing and positivity to all who see the

magical paintings she passionately creates.

"Women want to help communities, [to] bring feminism to the walls and streets," diBenedetto said.

"And we can show it through art. Art is not vandalism."



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Have you heard about the new Texas legislation? Read more about the citizens' enforcement of the abortion laws.

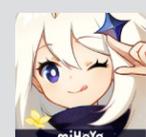
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Welcome to Teyvat!—Check out Genshin Impact's diverse cultural portrayals and the controversies surrounding them.

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# Outdoor classroom open for student use after various upgrades

Teachers and clubs can reserve the outdoor classroom for class-time activities and meetings.

By Jamie Lee  
STAFF WRITER

Providing an interactive space for Warriors, the outdoor classroom welcomed various clubs and classes to actively engage with the classroom.

Located outside of the 900's building, the outdoor classroom has undergone multiple upgrades to its features and overall structure. The staff held a personalized brick fundraiser to raise money for further improvements to the classroom.

In order to give students an opportunity for an interactive science experience, the outdoor classroom has a pond and a variety of plants that the students can observe. The pond has different species of fish and a waterfall. The jasmine and other vine growing plants planted along the fences provide privacy for the students and staff working in the area.

Built in 2017, the classroom is open for all students throughout the school day. For many years, Warriors used the previously empty classroom as a snack and lunch space. Many students also visited the classroom before and after school to communicate with their peers.

After the improvements



PHOTO BY ISAIAH PRO

**A BREATH OF FRESH AIR:** Complete with a personalized brick pathway and a fish pond with different species, the outdoor classroom offers an area for students to eat lunch, interact with peers and collaborate on club and school activities.

made to the classroom, the staff hopes that the area can now be used as a collaborative learning space where teachers and clubs can hold their classes and meetings, Kirkpatrick said.

"Starting this year, teachers can now sign-up online to reserve the classroom during their class time. A lot of teachers like to let their students go outside to work so this classroom would be the perfect place to do so," Kirkpatrick said. "It is an orga-

nized space in which the teachers can effectively monitor their students and let the student get some fresh air during class time."

Throughout the years, administration encouraged students, parents and staff to contribute to the construction efforts of the outdoor classroom. Multiple players from the Warrior basketball and football teams volunteered their time to help with the construction process. In addition, Kirkpatrick enlisted stu-

dents from the Botany club to fill the space with various plants.

After the return to in-person instruction, the outdoor classroom will provide Warriors with volunteer activities and new scientific experiences. Kirkpatrick hopes that students will sign up to water the plants or clean up the tables for volunteer hours in the future.

As the classroom grew both in size and function over the years, the staff hoped to add more educational aspects to the

classroom, Kirkpatrick said.

"To incorporate more educational features into the classroom, I installed a wifi router and purchased new benches last year. Students can now form tables out of the transforming benches and study with free wifi access any time of the school day," Kirkpatrick said. "At the outdoor classroom, students can study in a refreshing environment with the breeze and the sound of the waterfall at the pond."

## ASB Note Grams

By Neya Jakan  
STAFF WRITER

Warrior Associated Student Body hosted a note grams activity and created posters in observance of suicide prevention week Sept. 5-11.

With a stand stationed in the quad, ASB members conducted a note grams activity in which students wrote brief messages to their friends. Along with the note grams, members also delivered wristbands to students during their second period.

In order to promote positive thinking, ASB displayed posters with words of encouragement around campus. With mental health awareness in mind, members collaborated to brainstorm impactful and motivational statements for the posters and created note gram slips for the activity.

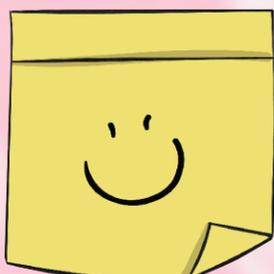
According to ASB director of student services Kamila Portero, the board hopes that students feel more confident about themselves through the conducted activities. The purpose

of the week was to show students they are surrounded with people who will support them, Portero said.

"Our point in making suicide prevention such a important issue is to show people that although school can be stressful and students feel alone at times, you are truly not alone," Portero said. "We want students to know there are people who care, and the note grams was a more personal way of conveying that."

In an effort to encourage students to take the time to self-reflect, ASB members strive to help Warriors feel loved and appreciated, Portero said.

"The purpose of the note grams event was mainly to spread awareness and for students to know that they have a community of people around them that care," Portero said. "We hope it impacted students in a positive manner and made them feel loved and welcomed."



COURTESY OF GOOGLE

## On Board with ViewBoards

By Erin Jang  
STAFF WRITER

Developing interactive opportunities in the classroom, the administration plans to provide Education ViewBoards for all teachers by October.

In contrast to old projectors, ViewBoards produced by ViewSonic are advanced touchscreen displays with whiteboard and sharing features. Teachers can write directly on the boards with the attached pens and share saved notes to all students. Students and teachers can also screencast their computers onto the ViewBoards for presentations and lectures.

Prior to the recent investment, the school owned 10 smart boards available to a limited number of teachers. The school decided to purchase 30 ViewBoards in January with last year's surplus from the Fullerton Joint Union High School district. In light of the pandemic, the district offered boards to all the schools in April, and the Warrior administration requested 60 additional boards to fill each classroom.

According to Assistant Principal

Lance Bletscher, ViewBoards will save thousands of dollars over time as yearly replacements for projectors and speakers decrease. In order to maximize new technology, teachers learned about the fundamentals of the boards during their training Aug. 13, Bletscher said.

"The teachers were excited, and within minutes, they saw the impact of how [the boards] could help students learn," Bletscher said. "Every week, teachers ask when they would be able to receive one for their classroom."

With more diverse usages, the ViewBoards help present a clear view of websites, assignments and films to the students, French teacher William Fritz said. "The ViewSonic board allows me to be mobile and not tied down to the projector and computer," Fritz said. "I can easily flip between different applications in front of the students, and [the boards] are also a nice focal point in the classroom."

# US health agencies approve Pfizer booster shot rollout

Booster shots are available for immunocompromised individuals, senior citizens and front-line workers.

By Kaelyn Kwon  
STAFF WRITER

In response to new research on vaccine efficacy, the United States Department of Health and Human Services prepared to offer vaccine booster shots for high-risk individuals Sept. 20.

According to a study published by Kaiser Permanente Division of Research, vaccine efficacy diminishes over time due to the immune system's natural responses to foreign substances. As new COVID variants emerge, additional doses of the vaccine will attempt to provide persistent protection. With hospitals approaching maximum capacity again, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention aims to minimize cases of severe disease, hospitalization and death in the future.

Subsequent to an evaluation conducted by the Food and Drug Administration, the CDC reviewed the safety and effectiveness of third vaccine shots to determine booster dosages. The FDA vaccine advisers authorized emergency use of the Pfizer booster vaccine to individuals with compromised immune systems, are 65 and older or are at risk of exposure at their workplace and have received the second shot six months prior. As for the Moderna and Johnson

GRAPHIC BY DAVID LEE

and Johnson booster shots, the organization will continue to review Moderna's application for additional shots and J&J's study on second vaccine doses.

As research on the vaccine boosters continues, the Biden administration recommends individuals obtain a booster of the same vaccine they originally received. In the future, the administration will release data on the effect of vaccines from different manufacturers to help ensure public safety. With about 54% of the US population fully vaccinated in September, the government will

continue to offer first and second doses at clinics, pharmacies, local health departments and other vaccination sites.

In order to make an appointment for the booster, individuals will only need a vaccine card as other forms of identification such as insurance and state registry are not required. After the booster vaccine plan takes effect, the first groups to receive the booster shot will include health care providers, seniors and other individuals at high risk of severe COVID.

During the booster shot rollout, HHS strives to emphasize the fact that unvaccinated individuals

contribute to the majority of hospitalizations. The department hope to increase vaccinations in the US and promote reliable sources with accurate vaccine information, CDC Director Rochell Walensky said.

"Our top priority remains protecting the American people from COVID with safe, effective and long-lasting vaccines especially in the context of a constantly changing virus and epidemiologic landscape," Walensky said. "We will continue to follow the science on a daily basis, and we are prepared to modify this plan should new data emerge that requires it."

# California State University to build an immersive hub

The science immersive hub will be open to all college, high school and middle school students.

By Brianna Vu  
STAFF WRITER

Promoting careers within various Science Technology Engineering and Math careers, California State Universities announced their plan to build an immersive technology hub for college, high school and middle school students Sept. 1.

Expected to open in 2024, the technology hub will be an interactive environment designed to welcome all students from all 23 CSU campuses as well as from local high schools. Future features of the hub include online programming labs, research facilities, creator-spaces and student showcase areas. Located at CSU Northridge, the creators of the new STEM-focused structure hope to draw

Latinos and underserved students to science and engineering.

According to CSUN Special Assistant to the President Amanda Quintero, the hub is similar to an immersive museum experience for the school community. Through this project, creators aim to build a technology-focused building for the future, Quintero said.

"When families enter the space, we want them to be inspired by the technological advancements that they see," Quintero said. "That could mean entering the building to view images of Latino STEM leaders and scanning a QR code for further information or experiencing an exhibit entirely through a mobile device."

From the 2021-2022 California state budget, the project received a \$25 million grant alongside a \$25 million donation from Apple to build the hub. CSU aims to support students' learning and graduation rates through the hub, particularly CSU Class of 2025. The project will offer multiple ac-

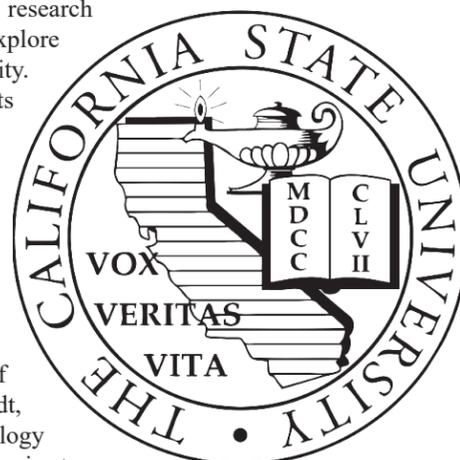
cesses to school research through virtual sources of education programs, mentorship opportunities and connections to leaders.

In partnership with Apple, the university equipped the immersive hub with various technological devices in hopes to narrow the digital divide among students. With technology hubs offered at CSU, all students from middle to high school to college are free to use the equipment within the structure to research school projects and explore the STEM community. High school students interested in a STEM career may improve their skills and experiences through immersive technologies like AR, VR and hubs and sample pilot projects.

According to Associate Professor of Education Jill Leafstedt, the goal of technology and education together is to create a more stimulating and

collaborative environment for student's learning.

"We are on the edge of knowing the true impact AR/VR may have on learning and are confident this is a worthy endeavor," Leafstedt said. "By experimenting with technology in education, CSU is demonstrating not only a willingness to move toward innovative approaches to education, but also the power of collaboration across different campuses."



COURTESY OF CSU

## CLUB CORNER

### Junior State of America

In order to promote democracy for future young leaders, Junior State of America plans to give students an opportunity to discuss current politics and global news. As a national student-run organization, the club will encourage voter registrations and plan for national conventions such as the Winter Congress. With meetings every Wednesday at lunch in room 529, participants will be able to share different perspectives with the student body on current events, learn civil debate and strengthen their engagement through activism.

### Paper Bridges

Supporting foster youth and orphans around the world, Paper Bridges club strive to advocate for youth empowerment for children with their educational resources. As a part of 108 chapters across the nation, the club is dedicated to help orphans through their club activities, which include writing letters, creating educational material and assembling care packages during club meetings. Through letters and care packages, students can provide encouragement, love and connections for orphans. Meetings are held every other Tuesday in room 308.

### Badminton Club

As a new organization on campus, Badminton Club welcomes all students who are interested in participating in the sport. The board holds informational meetings every Wednesday in room 328. Club members aim to build a team of students passionate about playing badminton and to participate in various district-wide competitions.

### No Barriers

Encouraging students to give back to the community, No Barriers club aims to teach students about the environment. The club holds meetings every two weeks on Tuesdays in room 325. During club meetings, the board hosts games that educate students on the ecosystem. Club members plan fundraisers and supply drives for various eco-related causes. During the pandemic, the club raised over 3000 dollars for tour guides in Peru.

# CHUTES & LADDERS: CLUB RUSH EDITION

Chute your shot with these clubs. Don't wait until ladder, make sure to sign up now!

Compiled by Amber Wang and Kathleen Zhang, EDITORS-IN-CHIEF



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**Andre Gonzalez**  
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*management*

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*ads & business*

2200 E. Dorothy Lane  
Fullerton, CA 92831

Phone: (714) 626-4518  
Email: oracle.troy@gmail.com  
Website: www.troyoracle.com  
Instagram: @troyoracle  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/oracle.troy/

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# A Spiced Season

Are you ready to spice your mornings up? Fall into the new season with the latest autumn drinks in mind. Read more to get a taste of Oracle's favorite fall drinks.

Compiled by Isabelle Liang, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, article by Jade Bahng, MANAGING EDITOR, and Kira Chen, STAFF WRITER, cartoons by Kaila Perlas, CARTOON



Sweaters, Uggs and crunchy leaves mark the start of Autumn, but the season is never complete until a Pumpkin Spice Latte falls into your hands. Our favorite coffee chains are known to draw in large crowds with “limited edition” fall drinks, but often disappoint people when they realize there’s nothing limited at all. For Starbucks enthusiasts the Pumpkin Spice Latte is on brand with the caffeinated creations that Starbucks is known for. But to the average consumer, the bold coffee masks the pumpkin flavor; harvesting dismay for the so-called covergirl of autumn menus. Catering to the American sweet-toothed crowd, the drinks are brimming with sweetness attempting to compensate for the noticeable lack of pumpkin flavor. Pumpkin spice lattes from the Coffee Bean do not bring much spice to the competition.

Though Coffee Bean’s lattes waft a stronger pumpkin aroma, they are far less decadent and almost medicinal in flavoring, bringing back painful childhood flavors of bitter herbal teas. For drinks that are meant to symbolize the serene start of autumn, the stinging taste leaves customers questioning what flavor they even ordered in the first place. Thanks to the overrated popularity of the Pumpkin Spice Latte, other seasonal drinks that are perhaps more deserving of recognition have been pushed to the sidelines. Spicing up an average Troy student’s best friend—ice coffee—the Pumpkin Cream Cold Brew from Starbucks features a generous dollop of pumpkin spiced whipped cream to enhance the rich flavor of the seasonal drink. Though less indulgent, the subtle pumpkin infusion is perfect for those who crave a nice balance.

The Coffee Bean’s Pumpkin Spiced Chai Tea may seem like a sensational attraction for tea aficionados, but its unique blend of cardamom and nutmeg is ultimately drowned out by the overbearing sweetness of the Chai tea base. While many of the fall menu items rely on “pumpkin spice” as their trademark, they all seem to fall short of satisfying our cravings. Of course, the idea of these drinks will always remain close to the core of the fall aesthetic, but for now, our verdict remains: pumpkin spice is not so nice.

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 TROY TECH MENTORS

Compiled by Amber Wang and Kathleen Zhang, EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

52 Hike Challenge	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	Evolve Skincare	LA Healthcare Federal Credit Union	Pegasus One Software	The Retreat Medical Spa
Advance Onto College	Chino Pediatric Medical Group	Family Care Pharmacy	LA Natural History Museum	Peraton	Thryv
Advertising, Design & Solutions	City Line Pet Clinic	Fastsigns	Lariz's Furniture Manufacturing	PiorSoft	TKS Martial Arts
Affinity Healthcare Clinic	City of Anaheim Public Works	FNS Merchandising	Leonardo DRS	Placentia Library Friends Foundation	Tqoon
Aidtree	City of Hope	Focus Vision	Let's Code	Playable Media	Trang Ton DDS
All Smiles of Laguna	City of La Habra	Fountain Valley Regional Hospital	Magnificat Medical Clinic	Promeli Videoworks	Triple N, LLC dba UV Care
Alliance Shippers	Clement & Ho	Fullerton Collaborative	Marketplace Physical Therapy	ProtoDepot	Troy High School Cyber Camp
Alona Vet Hospital	Code the Spectrum	Fullerton Eyes Optometry	Mass Mutual	Ray America	Troy High School Math
Amada Weld Tech	Coldwell Banker	Fullerton Oral Surgery	Maximon Behavioral Health	RDC-S111	Troy High School Media
Anglin's Instrument Repair	Comic Book Hideout	Fullerton Physical Therapy	Mehta Dental Group	RedHot Printing LLC	Troy High School Soccer
Art Electric	CompTIA Creating IT Futures	Fun Outside Aviation Academy	MHG Capital, Manhattan Hotel Group	Reverge Studios Incorporated	Trutec Engineering
Athletes in Motion	CORE Physical Therapy	Gamelore	Miles & Hatcher LLP	Riverside Medical Clinic	TTC4Success
Attain Law Corp	Courageous Academy	Gamescribes	Minaie Law Group	SailTime	Tuxton Home
Auto Motive Power	Crane Real Estate	General Pediatrics Clinic	MIT Computational Physiology Lab	Sam Lutz Physical Therapy	TXC Technology
Bach Diagnostics	Crittenton Services	Genesys Integrated Indonesia	Mixed-Signal Devices	ScholarOne Education	UCI Informatics
Basilur Tea and Coffee	CSUF Computer Engineering	George Pinnell Golf Academy	Monterey Park City Hall	Senga Engineering	UCI Biomedical Engineering
Becton Dickinson	CSUF Computer Science	Gilligan, Frisco, Trutanich, LLP	Music Addict	Shenzhen University	UCI Down Syndrome Program
Bellyloaders Productions	CSUF Finance	Glass Lizzard	NewFilmmakers Los Angeles	Sing2Learn	UCI Electrical Engineering Dept
Better Together	CSUF Information Systems & Decision Sciences	Glendora Pediatrics	Nikkei Progressives	Skin Nirvana Medspa	UCI Neurology
Bloom	CSULA Mechanical Engineering	Global Badminton Academy	NKGen Biotech	SmartAxiom	UCI Neuroscience
Blunt Wealth Services	CSULB Geography	Google	NOC Selpa	Smile Design	UCI Neurosurgery
Boaz Rhythm Center	Dan Choi Real Estate Group	Green Light Go	Northern Arizona University Engineering	Smilegate	UCI Physics & Astronomy
Boeing	Dasion AI	Hacienda Country Club	Nutramins	SoCal Gas	UCI Read Engineering Lab
Boys & Girls Clubs of Fullerton	Delta One Software	Hi-Lustre Products	NuVation Pain Group	Softscapes Corporation	UCI School of Law
Brigham Young University	Discovery World Montessori	Honeywell	OC Coastkeepers	South Baylo University	UCLA Biology
Bruce Park MD	Doosan Machine Tools	Hoops Chiropractic	OC Elder Law	Sreedhar Chava MD	University of Chicago, Booth Business School
BVC Therapy Group/Allcare Med Group	Dr. Chwa's Clinic	Hydraflow	OC United	St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare	UR History
Cal Poly Pomona Aerospace Engineering	Dr. Ravindra Alapati MD	Icon Capital Partners	OC Goodwill and Computer Works	St. Jude Medical Center	USC Information Sciences Institute
Cal Poly Pomona Computer Science	Dr. So Optometry	Imperial Animal Hospital	Office of the LA County Public Defender	Stanford Aeronautics & Astronautics	USC Marshall School of Business
Cal Poly Pomona Cyber Security	Dr. Tony T. Chi DMD	Infinite Consulting Services	Oldham Architects	Stanford AI Camp	USC School of Medicine Keck
Cal Poly Pomona Materials Engineering	Draw and Shoot Films	InkQ Rare Books and Collectibles	Optum Medical Group	Stanford Byers Center for Biodesign	Vandyck USA
Caltech Aerospace	Dreamworks	Inn of Long Beach	Orange County Department of Education	Stanford Radio Glaciology Lab	Veritone
Caltech Chemistry, Materials Science & Applied Physics	Drive Music Publishing	Ivy Analytics LLC	Orange County Lung Center	Starship Worldwide	Veterans Legal Institute
Caltech Greer Group	Drive Shop	J CAT Beauty Enterprise	Orangethorpe Animal Hospital	Strom Living	Viewsonic
Caltech Space Radiation Lab	Earth Village Pharmacy	Jampro Antennas	Orlando Spring	Sun Yat Sen University Engineering Lab	Vistam
Canyon Composites	ECE Consulting	Jenny B Floral Design	OSD Audio/Aquatop	SunJen Medical	VM Pharmacy
Caretech Home Health	Eclectic Associates	Jesus Hands Montessori Preschool	OWC Asia	Tekniton	Wayne State University Linguistics
Carson Toastmasters	EcoAlianza	Ji Y. Park DDS, MS	Pacific Elite Management Group	Tessa Corp	Whiting-Turner
Catholic Education Through Media	Ei Square	JJPs Auto Repair	Pacific Sequoia	Thai Community Development Center	Whittier Hospital Medical Center
Century 21 Citrus Realty	Ekergey Energy	Junghoonoh CPA	Palm Canyon School	The Coder School	Yane David Levy DDS
Century Precision Engineering	El Rodeo Equestrian Center	Kaddy's Computer Repair	Palm Village Residential Rehabilitation	The Dance Spot	Yauhana LLC
Charipay	EMET Lending Group	Kaiser Permanente	Patty's Cakes and Desserts	The Laptop Experts	Young's Art Studio
Chest & Critical Care Anaheim	Encino Place Pain Management	Keris			Your Home Sold Guaranteed
	Essex Bio-Technology	Ketchum Health			Zahra Pictures LLC
	Evava VR	KGBC Radio			Zedeq LLC
	Evil Manufacturing	Kit Yee Certified Public Accountant			Zymer LLC
		La Habra Music Center			

# The structure of Texas' new law threatens our constitutional rights

The law allows for any Texan to sue another citizen who may, in any way, have helped or aided a woman terminate her pregnancy. If plaintiffs are successful they may be awarded up to \$10,000. As a result, the law sets a new precedent of using individuals to execute the law that encroaches upon the constitutional rights of all Americans.

By far, the most alarming part of this law is that anyone who is linked to an abortion in the slightest way can be sued. Even someone as loosely associated as her driver to the abortion appointment can be sued. In reaction to this, Uber and Lyft stated that they would cover the legal fees if their drivers are charged. While the law protects women who receive abortions, it is effortless for individuals to exploit anyone else involved.

While these companies are willing to cover their drivers' legal fees, the U.S. government should also be concerned with how this law puts many people unnecessarily at risk. The U.S. government should exceed the effort demonstrated by these private companies and take action to stop this attempt at vigilante justice.

In 1973, the Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* that the Constitution of the United States protects a pregnant woman's liberty to choose to have an abortion

without excessive government restriction. This law is intended to weaken or strike down the precedent established in the *Roe v. Wade* ruling. However, by empowering citizens to enforce the ban, the Texas state government indirectly violates the *Roe v. Wade* ruling. Since the state itself is not enforcing the ban, they cannot be sued by citizens for passing this law. The ease with which Texas circumvented the long-standing *Roe v. Wade* may set a precedent for other states to follow suit. Thus, states may be able to exploit this legal loophole with other issues in the future.

Issues such as gun control could also be subject to change allowing private citizens to sue others for violating certain laws. For example, in Missouri, a law was passed in September that would allow citizens to sue any local law enforcement that knowingly enforces federal gun laws. Under this law, police and sheriff's departments can face up to \$50,000 of fines per occurrence. Whether it be about abortion or gun control, it is up to the government to enforce its own laws and prevent an imbalance of power. Normal U.S. citizens are not properly equipped to the ethical judgments required to enforce these laws. The government must be cautious as this law potentially paves the way for many more violations of individuals' rights in the future.

The Texas abortion law also incites division among citizens. Because people are able to sue anyone connected to an abortion, this law promotes an environment of distrust among individuals.

This policy goes against the very values of privacy and liberty that Americans have established as basic human rights in this country. Historically, America has championed individual freedoms through a united body of people; however, this law only promises to further divide the people.

The Texas abortion law is unconstitutional and sets dangerous precedents for the future of individual rights in America. The manner in which this new law is enforced is a clear abuse of federal power and thus jeopardizes the very foundation of this nation. It is inappropriate to monetarily incentivize individuals to turn against one another, and this sets a dangerous precedent for other similar legislation across America. American citizens must stand up and fight against the future that this law will create.

By Mai Omoto  
STAFF WRITER

Private citizens are not law enforcers. Texas passed a new law Sept. 1, which bans abortion after six weeks of pregnancy or once a heartbeat can be detected in the fetus. However, unlike a traditional law that is enforced by the state, this law instead incentivizes private citizens to seek out punishment for anyone who aids an abortion.

State	Number of Clinics
AK	6
AL	3
AZ	8
CA	152
CO	21
CT	1
DC	1
DE	1
FL	65
GA	3
HI	1
IA	1
IL	25
IN	9
KS	1
KY	1
LA	1
MA	20
MD	3
ME	6
MI	23
MN	5
MO	3
MS	1
MT	1
NC	15
ND	1
NH	6
NJ	17
NM	2
NV	1
OH	11
OK	4
OR	12
PA	3
RI	1
SC	15
SD	1
TN	3
TX	21
UT	5
VA	15
VT	3
WA	34
WI	6
WV	3
WY	1

GRAPHIC BY DANIELA KRISTEN HERRERA

GRAPHIC BY DAVID LEE  
PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE



# Take outdoor dining off the menu. Let citizens keep their public space

By Manal Ahmed  
STAFF WRITER



The lack of equity in our government rules will cause damage to both our communities and businesses. Fullerton City Council members convened Sept. 21 to debate the role that public roads may have for restaurants and decided on Sept. 23 to extend the deadline for outdoor dining for six more months. In the past year, the pandemic halted indoor dining, prompting restaurants to set up large canopy tents on streets for outdoor dining. The extension

reignites the current controversy centered on the recent increase of businesses on the streets, but the focus instead should be on prioritizing local communities' public spaces.

Local communities often feel reluctant over government-sponsored outdoor dining programs, as governments have continuously ignored issues surrounding local citizens in public places. An example of narrowing public roads for the sole use of public businesses is New York City's "Open Initiative" approach. New York attempted to reopen restaurants by reinstating several streets exclusively for outdoor dining. Their plan was to set up small structures or canopies for dining on nearby sidewalks. At the time, the structures caused

ire from neighboring residents over the increased noise and violation of COVID-19 protocols, but many organizations such as the New York City Office of Nightlife and the New York City Office of Small Business Services have turned a blind eye to most of the complaints. Considering the magnitude of such criticisms, there's no doubt that residents feel apathetic to plans of reopening restaurants.

**"In the government's haste to support local communities and businesses, they've neglected to see how their very programs end up harming the citizens they claim to serve first."**

The hasty response that the government implemented in order to save jobs and support businesses backfired as local residents were reluctant to dine outdoors. Governments pushing for restaurants to open faster to save profits end up harming local consumers who dislike the blocking of public streets and the additional issues that outdoor dining has brought. The blockage of streets affects commute times and prevents public access to communal property, both of which are important to nearby communities. When cities are negligent of the violations of regulations, local residents are far less likely to dine outside and enjoy their experiences. In the government's haste to support local communities and businesses, they've neglected to see how their very programs end up harming the citizens they claim to serve first.

Restaurants in lower-income neighborhoods are often unable to afford the rigorous

investments in outdoor dining regulations that richer neighborhoods can, widening the wealth gap in minority communities. The issue lies in the fact that lower-income

neighborhoods don't even have the chance to experiment with outdoor dining. Setting up canopies and finding space for structures requires time and money, isolating poorer districts. This is especially problematic when

considering that cities often won't provide equitable funds to support them, as they are tossed in the wayside in order to help more profitable restaurants in richer districts. Due to a lack of money necessary to make the initial change towards outdoor dining, poorer districts fall behind and currently don't have the means to support themselves. More than 60% of restaurant workers are minorities and are in a more perilous situation regarding the regulations. Small restaurants aren't able to keep up with the changing rules, and the lack of equity towards underprivileged restaurants may be the downfall of already suffering communities.

Government efforts in restabilizing the economy and helping businesses are ultimately creating adverse reactions in their communities. Citizens should have the right to public property, and not have to suffer because of their under-prioritization by the government.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

# Game over? China should stop its unnecessary restrictions on young gamers

By Brian Woo  
STAFF WRITER



Suffocating an industry is not the move. As a way to inhibit gaming addiction, China announced a new restriction Aug. 30 that would limit gaming time to three hours a week for people under the age of 18. Due to the increasing popularity of online games, professional gaming has recently appeared as a core part of the entertainment industry. With millions of viewers watching, many professional teams are able to compete against each other for fame and money. As this new regulation comes forth, China is harming an economically prosperous industry and detracts from the opportunities and enjoyment of its teenagers.

China's decision is a rash reaction to video games, and this decision has had a negative financial impact on the economy. China's esports market, which is valued at around \$25.5 billion, generates money from games, tournaments and merchandising. Just last year, China saw an increase of 26 million esports players from the previous 400 million for its entire population. With so many people

involved in its industry as well as the money generated, it is clear that China should not harm its prosperous economy and the increasing revenue generated.

Restricting the growth of rising stars would greatly harm the industry that solely focuses on the ability of such players. For many within the global esports scene, talent starts at a young age. If the mandates are put into place, China would not see the dominance and economic value it sees today. According to Financial Times, players for League of Legends have sev-

enty hours of gameplay for practice per week. With China's new mandates, players under 18 years old would lose much of their practice time, falling behind other global competitors. Not only would this affect the viewership of Chinese video games, but would also lead to less revenue as the population would be less keen to watch a team that constantly loses.

For those in the United States, if similar regulations were to be adopted, talented players, such as 17-year-old gaming prodigy Peter "Asuna" Mazuryk, would not reach world-level talent at Valorant, a recent addition to esports. Any limitations on video games would prove to be harmful to the new generations of talent since it would bar talented

players from finding their passion and their capabilities. American talent has been all the more on the rise as the average gamer plays eight hours and twenty-seven minutes per week. For the growth of both American esports and the gaming in the entertainment industry, China should not adopt the new policy, and the US should not attempt a similar policy.

If China's video game policies were brought to the U.S., the country would see a similar impact in its own industry. Adopting a policy like China's would risk losing the revenue made from the

current 25.4 million viewers of online gaming. Cutting down an entire industry would cause the U.S. to take away its own economy. China's ruling over under 18-year-olds does not seem reasonable enough to affect an entire global industry.

One thing is for certain: the new three-hour weekly time limit does not do justice to those affected by it. If similar regulations were put in place in the U.S., the results would be horrendous. Indeed, China's new restrictions are not the path any country should be taking to protect its teens from gaming addiction.

**"China's new restrictions are not the path any country should be taking to protect its teens from gaming addiction."**



GRAPHIC BY DAVID LEE

# mark my words

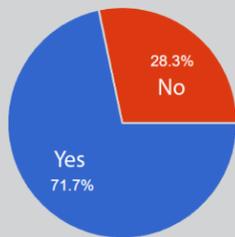
Warriors speak out on campus issues

Read what the Warrior population has to say about the “devious licks” trend on TikTok.

“There is really no positive outcome to the mindless wreckage of school property.”

- Joey Kelly, Freshman

Has the “devious licks” trend on gone too far on TikTok?



See the full list of responses here!



“TikTok acknowledges that this trend is illegal, and the glorification of [devious licks] is a detriment to society.”

- Tay Han, Senior

“I think that in the pursuit of getting clout or just trying to get attention, people are legitimately stealing valuable school property and equipment. After the hardships endured during the pandemic, schools definitely can’t afford having their smart boards stolen or their urinals ripped from the walls; its definitely crossed a line.”

- Anonymous Senior

“People vandalizing the school and even stealing entire toilets is unethical and also confusing. Wouldn’t people want another toilet to use?”

- Christopher Jung, Sophomore

“I think the devious licks trend got so viral just because of how bold and shocking it is.”

- Anonymous Junior

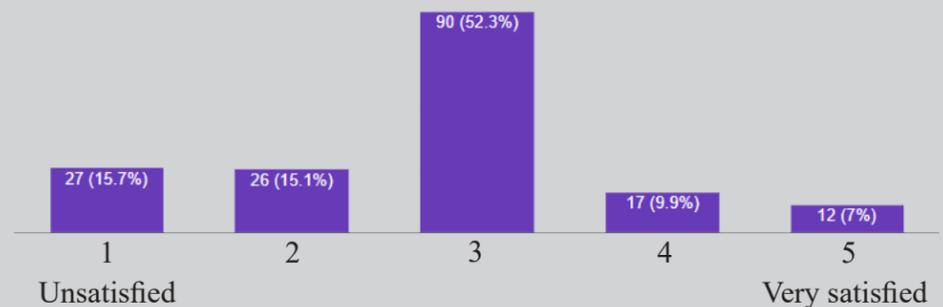
“The new angelic yields trend was a good rebound from the devious licks which influence people to do the opposite of devious licks and leave new soap bottle, gum, or money in public restrooms.”

- Ethan Chang, Junior

“It has gone too far since it has started. It’s stealing. it’s not okay, no matter the location.”

- Anonymous Freshman

How do you feel about schools’ responses to the “Devious Licks” trend?



## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Students and school administration must work together when it comes to COVID

The school and the student body must work together when dealing with COVID-19.

Since the start of in-person instruction nearly two months ago, our school has been affected by several cases of COVID-19. Within a population of nearly 2,790 students and staff at Troy High School, there have been six positive cases as of Sept. 28 according to the FJUHS COVID-19 dashboard—and that only includes the self-reported ones. While in-person learning is a refreshing aspect of

the new school year, both the student body and the school administration must cooperate to better enforce COVID-19 protocols and be more mindful of everyone’s safety. Although Troy did move the rally outdoors in accordance to current health guidelines, administration should implement alternate solutions, such as decreasing audience sizes or increasing the number of rallies.

While transparency from the school is crucial to students’ safety, it often comes at the expense of peace; it’s no surprise that a new confirmed case can cause panic

or unease within our community. As a result, it is commendable that the school notifies only the students in a COVID-positive students class, as it finds a good balance between minimizing panic and ensuring an adequate amount of transparency. Currently, the school only requires unvaccinated students who are potentially exposed to the virus to take the COVID test; however, any student who sits within a seat from the COVID-positive student should be required to test in order to prevent the virus from transmitting further.

It is also important to note that the current Qualtrics survey is not always an accurate indicator of the number of COVID-19 cases at school. Because students fill out the survey themselves, it is difficult to empirically measure the validity of the survey. It is easy for a number of students to lie on the Qualtrics survey or not be fully transparent about their conditions—especially when there are not as many accommodations for those who must quarantine at home.

Therefore, the school should be more accommodating to students who need to miss school due to COVID. As of right now, missing up to 10 days of school for a COVID test can be detrimental to a student’s education, as it will put them far behind the rest



of their peers. Although it is the responsibility of the student to honestly report if they test positive, the school should ensure that the educational environment is one where a student will feel comfortable speaking up. Moreover, the school should emphasize the importance of speaking up, as coming to school with the virus can jeopardize the safety of other students.

As Troy continues to navigate in-person school, it’s critical for everyone to realize that the responsibility of ensuring the safety of all students and staff do not fall into the hands of the school administration alone. Both the school and the student body need to work together in order to make this new school year productive, enjoyable, and, most importantly, safe.



PHOTO BY ISALAH PRO

# The Girls Volleyball team dominates the court in their first league match

The Lady Warrior volleyball team triumphs against Buena Park Coyotes.

By Jacob Ballon  
STAFF WRITER

The Warrior girls volleyball team (9-3) made their league debut in epic fashion, triumphing over the Buena Park Coyotes (2-6) Sept. 13. The girls won three consecutive sets and dominated the court all night.

The team started with an early lead from a strong serve by co-captain Myla Domingo, who smashed the ball into the Coyote barrier and deflected out of bounds. Their lead grew as Senior Mia Gamez and Domingo worked with fluid teamwork, with Gamez swiftly tipped the ball over the net just out of Coyote reach. The Warriors ended their opponents' chances as Gamez issued a strong serve that the Coyotes returned back to the hands of Domingo. Domingo sent the ball soaring to co-captain Kaleigh Beachler who forcefully spiked the ball over the

net. Momentum kept building for the Warriors as they maintained a lead the entire set. Set one ended with a score of 25-10.

The Warriors began set two strong with co-captain Kaitlyn Mickle securing three consecutive points off of her skillful serves. They capitalized offensively from the opposing team's serving and volleying errors. Furthermore, the Warriors performed well defensively, giving up only six points. Set two ended swiftly as co-captain Grace Seeseman shot a bullet of a serve which bounced off of a Coyotes into the floor allowing the girls to win set two.

Though the Coyotes briefly held a lead in set three, the team quickly recovered as Mickle sent over two well-placed serves to put them up 2-1. Despite playing catch up all night, the Coyotes finally applied some pressure, and managed to score four consecutive points. The Warriors answered, and as the enemy gained some footing, senior Krystal Small immediately shut them down as she edged the ball over the net, ending the match for the Warriors 3-0.

Energy and team chemistry



PHOTO BY ISAIAH PRO

**READY FOR ATTACK:** *The Lady Warriors work in sync to prepare their next play.*

were key to the Warriors' success against the Coyotes. With every point came an eruption of cheers from the sideline. Everyone on the court was engaged and focused.

"This year we have the best chemistry because most of us have played together for at least two or three years," said Beachler.

"The energy we have is so important because it helps us feel comfortable on the court and stay

positive in pressured situations."

The Coyotes scored many of their points from poor Warrior serves and volleying errors. To prevent making the same mistakes in the Freeway League, the Warriors are training rigorously to eliminate them now to ensure their success.

"We need to improve on moving our feet to deep shots in the corners and being more consis-

tent with our serves," said Mickle.

As the Warriors continue to address their weaknesses through steady practice, they have their hopes set on winning CIF.

"I am very excited for League and CIF," said Beachler. "We have high expectations for this team, and I know that we will have a successful season as long as we continue working hard and improving."



# No Foiling Around



En garde! Read all about junior Ellie Shum's fabulous fencing career.

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By William Song, STAFF WRITER, photo courtesy of Elizabeth Shum

Eyes narrowed and adrenaline coursing through her veins, junior Elizabeth Shum intently gauges the distance from her opponent. Her mind is clear and focused, working on overdrive for her next plan of attack. She is ready. At the word "fence", she lunges forward and hits her mark.

Shum was first introduced to fencing when her mother took her to a fencing club near their home in a spur-of-the-moment decision. Interested in the sport, she began attending the Orange County Fencing Center on a regular basis and is now approaching five years of fencing.

Shum's event of choice is foil, one of three fencing disciplines. Foil's defining characteristics include its light weight, target area of the torso and its use as a thrusting weapon.

"Of the three types I have to say I like foil the best," said Shum.

"Foil is a lot faster, which makes it more fun compared to the others."

Her expertise in foil is displayed through her achievements and participation in elite competitions. Shum has competed in national tournaments three times and has also attended the Junior Olympic Championships freshman year. In addition to her prowess on the fencing piste, she excels academically

and was named a final member of the 2019-2020 USA Fencing High School All-American Team.

Shum recalls her experience at the Junior Olympic Championships with great fondness. The competition allowed her to connect with dozens of student athletes across the nation and exposed her to a great variety of fencing styles and techniques.

"It was really good experience-wise because you meet all these new people and how they fence," said Shum. "It's always exciting to be around people with the same interest as you."

Shum devotes several hours each week to practicing and preparing for such competitions. Her training consists of conditioning, footwork, hand-eye coordination and mock competitions with other fencers. She spends a majority of her time focusing on footwork because it is an essential aspect of foil fencing.

Fencing has its own fair share of challenges. Shum recalls encountering periods of time when she was stagnant in her growth as a fencer. Her moves were

not as effective and it was difficult to react to opponents in matches. However, Shum persevered, spurred on by her love for the sport.

"Fencing makes me feel alive," said Shum.

"There is so much adrenaline during the competition that everything else fades away and you just focus on the moment."

In addition to being a great source of exercise and entertainment, fencing has taught Shum several important lessons about life. As bouts can be determined in a matter of seconds, Shum has learned how to assess, adapt and think ahead. These lessons will be essential to her goal of reaching nationals this year.

"Fencing is like real life chess, where if you make the right moves, you win the bout," said Shum. "It taught me a lot about strategy, strategic thinking and having confidence in myself."

**Elizabeth Shum**  
*junior*



# CULTURAL CRISIS

Influenced by several distinct cultures, Genshin Impact's stunning designs redefine traditional role-playing games. Yet, waves of controversy have plagued the game's supposed glory. Read further to learn more.

Compiled by Sean Warren, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, article by Jessica Chin, STAFF WRITER, and photos courtesy of Google



Experience

Commissions

Domains

Enemies

With exhilarating battles, adventures and three uniquely beautiful regions of the world to explore, Genshin Impact is bursting at the seams with possibilities. Developed by Chinese game company, miHoYo, Genshin Impact draws inspiration from a multitude of cultures to create its action-packed, role-playing-world. Yet, don't be fooled by this video game's gorgeous landscapes and exciting quests—a number of controversial issues have arisen that threaten the glories of the Genshin world.

Rising to popularity at the beginning of 2021, Genshin Impact blends different cultural aspects into its landscape, music, architecture and language. Liyue, Monstadt and Inazuma are the current playable regions, but four more are in the works for future updates. Taking inspiration from Germany, Monstadt mirrors this country's archaic roofing designs and oval-shaped cities, while the houses feature traditional timbered German architecture. Liyue's Chinese influence is most notably recognized through language, with Zhongli's, the elemental god who presides over this region, splash art and constellations referencing Chinese poems. A yellow and red dragon also roams throughout Liyue's intricate landmarks, serving as a beacon of good fortune. Inazuma, the newest of the regions to be added, takes inspiration from Japanese culture,

with an abundance of bright red torii gates scattered about. Blooming cherry blossoms and festive lighting help to illuminate the environment, forming close parallels to the beauties of Japan. Creating complex worlds that draw from real-life locations, Genshin Impact crafts a story of exploration and highlights the portrayal of different cultures.

Despite all of the thoughtful research used to create the game, players have found controversial issues that contrast Genshin Impact's awe-inspiring appearance. Although unconfirmed by miHoYo, critics claim that the Hilichurls, monsters all over Teyvat, are based on indigenous people. These characters are described by the game as wandering inhabitants who have lost their human intelligence, and developers have even been caught using clips of indigenous people dancing as a reference for Hilichurl animations. The issues worsen with potential colorism intertwined in the gameplay. Two playable characters of darker skin, Xinyan and Kaeya, are described as scary and exotic, although players note that they still appear pale. This type of in-game dialogue reinforces the incorrect portrayal of marginalized ethnic groups with darker skin tones. Genshin Impact further faces accusations of pedophilia when a non-playable-character professes their love for Flora, a child in the game. The inclusion of a relationship which is quite obviously

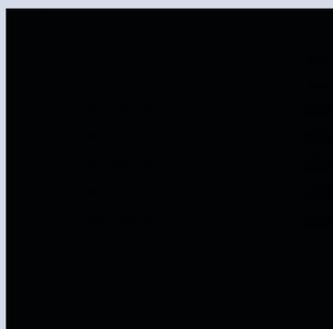
wrong exposes the questionable decisions that developers at miHoYo have decided to implement into their game's storyline.

On top of the already immense number of issues within Genshin Impact, players have additionally noticed the palpable cultural tension between Mondstadt and Liyue. Mondstadt is designed as the weakest of all regions within the game, while Liyue's bustling economy full of trade and commerce displays a clear contrast between the two locations. Coincidentally, the supremacy of Liyue draws ties to China's communist regime, which has historically tried to overpower Western democracies that promote freedom, the latter being represented by Mondstadt.

Through all the controversy, Genshin Impact has received praise for its uniquely-crafted storyline. With the depiction of various cultures from around the world, the game represents a world of players in its overarching plot. Yet, when combining real-life and imaginary story lines, there should be a limit placed on developers' artistic liberties. Maybe it's time for Genshin to reconsider its heavy reliance on different cultures before its reputation is further impacted.

## FOR THE RECORD

By Sean Warren, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR



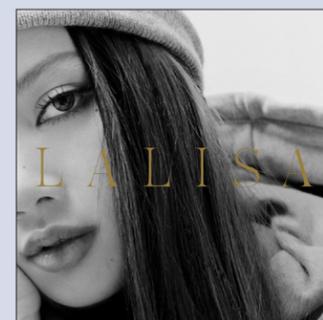
"Donda" ▲ Kanye West

Following several delays and strange listening parties, the unexpected release of Kanye West's "Donda" sure had fans thrilled to see if it was worth the wait. In an ode to West's late mother, impressive production immerses listeners into each track, yet the artist's lyrical delivery is subpar at best. Exciting features bring the album back to life, but Kanye's latest album still fails to live up to his previous projects.

Still trying to balance fame and insecurity, Drake takes listeners on a familiar journey with his sixth studio album, "Certified Lover Boy." While tracks like "Pipe Down" portray the artist's history of toxic relationships, rather ridiculous rhythms on "Way Too Sexy" are sure to have listeners feeling pumped up. Drake's lyrical work carefully crafts a sense of nostalgia that exudes a timelessness like no other.



"Certified Lover Boy" ▲ Drake



"LALISA" ▲ LISA

The next BLACKPINK member has finally made their solo debut, this time with Lisa's "LALISA." Though the tracks "LALISA" and "MONEY" are filled with riveting lyrics and bold beat drops, the repetition of lines eventually becomes almost unbearable. In a debut that was supposed to pay tribute to Lisa's heritage and journey to fame, her over-the-top tracks ultimately fall flat.