

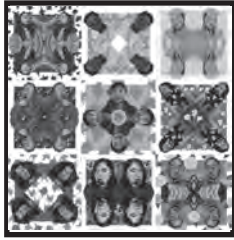


THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

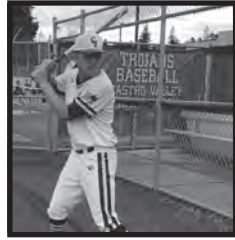
Olympian



Page 2:
College scandal
unsurprising,
but solutions
must be found



Page 5:
AP Studio Art
showcase
impresses
students



Page 7:
Matthew Aahl
passionately
leads his team
to victory

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 9

APRIL 12, 2019

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Elections decide ASB, class leaders



ANDREW WATANABE

From left, Devin Green will be ASB president, Darsh Grewal will be ASB vice president, Nadine Ratinho will be ASB secretary, Russell Marasigan will be ASB treasurer, and Grace Boyd will be ASB school board representative.

By Katrina Siler
STAFF WRITER

CVHS students had their first glimpse of democracy in voting for their peers in ASB and class officer elections.

Running unopposed, junior Devin Green was elected ASB president. Green is extremely qualified for his new position. "I have been an elected member of my school's leadership class since 6th grade. There is no other candidate with the ability to do what I can for you," said Green.

Also unopposed, junior Darsh Grewal was elected

ASB vice president. Grewal plans to make the CVHS campus more lively through implementing new activities. "I will try my best to create school activities that'll help students distract themselves from all the work for a bit and have a bit of fun," said Grewal.

Nadine Ratinho, newly elected ASB secretary, promises to devote herself to the position and bring her leadership knowledge to the position. "I am very passionate about school activities, I am very hardworking and experienced," said Ratinho.

Russell Marasigan, newly elected ASB treasurer, hopes to have a positive influence on CVHS students. "I want to be a role model on ASB that will inspire, motivate, and influence both the class and the school," said Marasigan.

Grace Boyd, newly elected ASB school board representative, aims to promote wellness and ease among CVHS students. "All 3,000 of us should look forward to and find comfort in going to school," said Boyd.

Senior class officers are Kalei Stambaugh as president, Theo Santiago as vice

president, Anita Wong as secretary, and Tommy Ryken as treasurer. Stambaugh plans on using her experience to further herself in her role as president. "I will strive to encourage my class to take part in school activities and fundraisers to benefit them," she said.

Junior class officers are Alex Ikuma as president, Rachel Chin as vice president, Paul Hansen as secretary, and Griffin Hastings as treasurer. Ikuma has many goals for the upcoming school year. "I plan to raise money for prom through many fundraisers.

I would also like to create class-specific merch to provide the class of 2021 with representation," she said.

Sophomore class officers are Lauren Green as president, Travis Orem as vice president, Jamie Fong as secretary, and Honna Nguyen as treasurer. Green plans to implement new ways to connect with her class. "I will try my best to host monthly class meetings for the whole class to hear opinions," she said.

Freshmen class officers have yet to be elected at Creekside and Canyon middle schools.

Admissions scandal creates outrage

By Elena Lottich
STAFF WRITER

The recent college admission scandal has exposed over 50 parents, coaches, and college admissions officers allegedly committing fraud to get students accepted into prestigious universities.

Many big-name universities like Yale, USC, UCLA, Georgetown, and Stanford have all taken investigative actions or fired teachers, coaches, and college admissions officers in reaction to the scandal. They have investigated and found that many of their Division I college coaches were bribed.

Since the scandal was first exposed, students have become outraged at the unfairness of the situation.

"I do not believe that it is

fair that money can get you into college especially when people put so much hard work into studying and actually studying to get good scores," said senior Lexi Kwon, an applicant to many of these competitive schools.

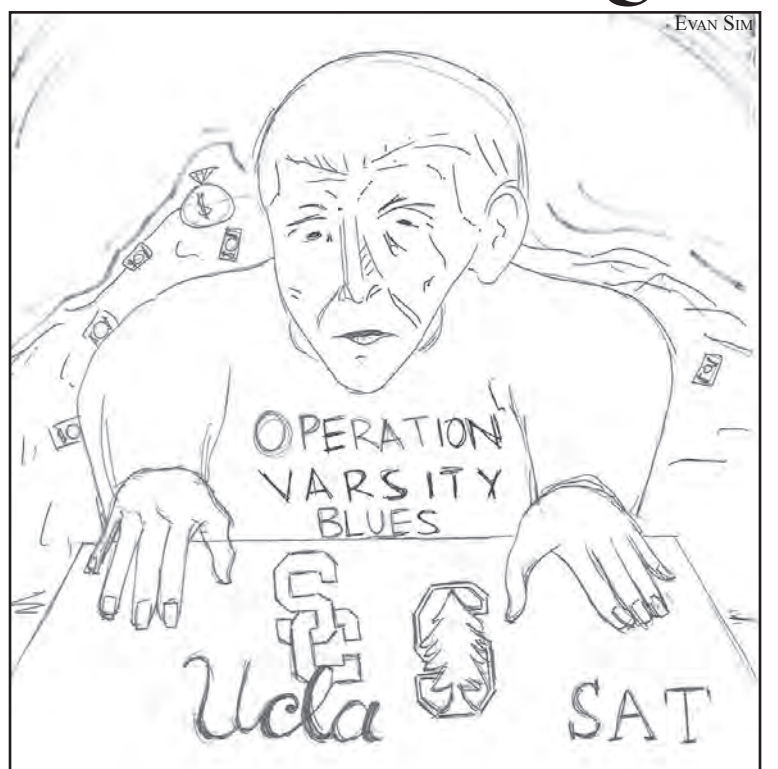
The main bribery was allegedly started by William Singer who pleaded guilty to accepting money from parents as contributions to his charity. Singer pleaded guilty to multiple felonies on March 12.

Also named in the FBI investigation were famous Hollywood actresses Lori Loughlin, Felicity Huffman and others who allegedly paid thousands of dollars in contributions to Singer in order to ensure admission for their kids through sports and bribes. Singer allegedly had

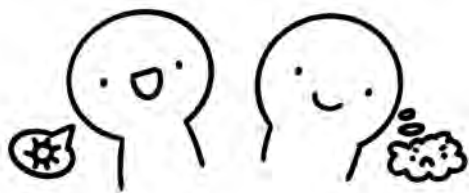
impersonators take SAT and ACT tests for the students and faked extracurricular activities and even bribed Division I coaches to accept students directly onto teams, helping them gain admission into the schools.

CVHS seniors and recent graduates who applied to these schools had to compete with circumstances like these. Much of the student body though was not surprised that people were cheating to get into college.

"It doesn't surprise me that money is influencing factor especially with private schools that like money. I believe that their money would be better used if they donated a building under their last name, at least that building could
▶See SCANDAL: page 8



EVAN SIM



College scandal is not surprising but needs fixing

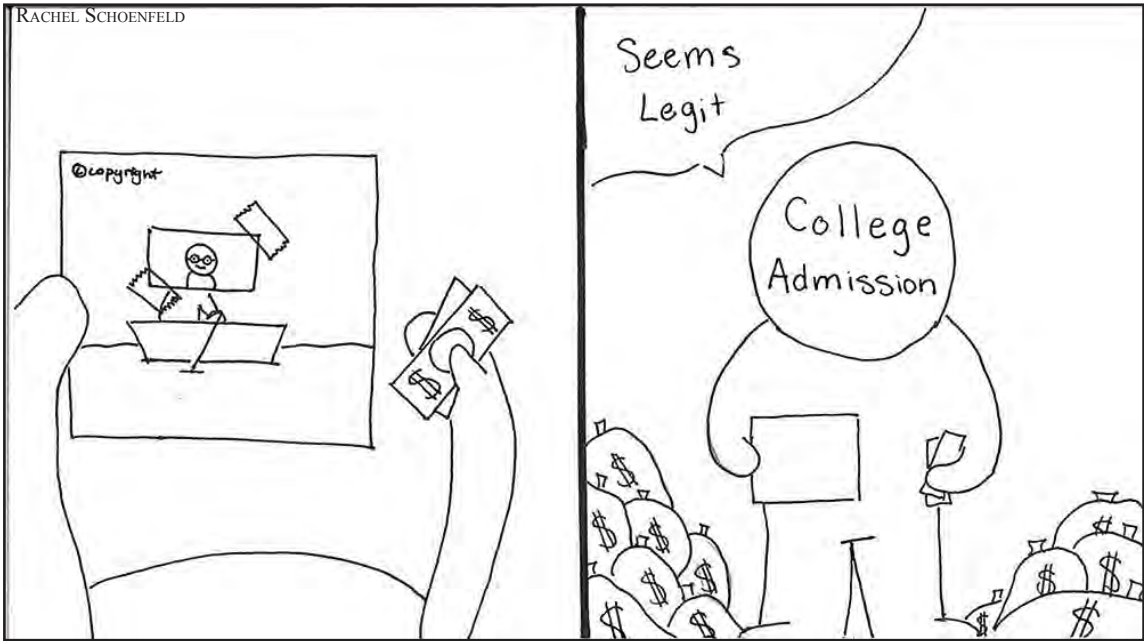
Editorial:

The recent college admissions scandal has shocked the nation, but we at *The Olympian* were surprised for different reasons.

We had always assumed it was unspoken common knowledge that tactics like these were employed, however ridiculous or strange the details of the scandal might seem. It came as no surprise to learn that the wealthy upper classes were manipulating the system to receive undeserved advantages.

It was a bigger shock to learn that others had been ignorant to such cheats than to learn of the scandal itself. In fact, none of the *Olympian* staff members were caught off guard.

Still, the topic was infuriating for many; especially seniors who have spent years of their lives attempting to make themselves attractive enough



for these elite schools only to learn that, even when their best efforts could not qualify them, there had been students admitted for nothing but their parents' money.

Admittedly, the bizarre details of the scandal were strange to hear. Stories of photoshopped pictures, faked sports careers, and artificial test scores seemed almost too ridiculous to be true.

While it is amusing, the idea that such obvious and easy to detect methods were being used was ultimately even more insulting.

Rather than continuing to seethe, we attempted a more proactive approach. We asked ourselves how we as students thought further cheating could be prevented.

Some suggested increased background checks or even a more broad societal shift in the way we value top-tier college education. Some argued that cheating in order to get into elite schools was inevitable so long as school names hold so much weight.

Others had more radical approaches. A small minority even called for socialist policies to be cemented in place in order to level the playing field.

The majority may not have been quite as intense, but they did recognize the need for fundamental change within the system. The ideas thrown around included wage-based affirmative action, which would require colleges to meet a certain quota of low income students.

Whatever solution the nation decides on, we can all agree that drastic change must be brought to the college admissions process.

Upgrading public transportation would improve traffic congestion



By Andrew Craig
STAFF WRITER

Finding parking on or near campus is a problem most seniors are all too familiar with. If you've lost the parking

pass lottery, you have to leave early in the morning to find street parking and get to class on time, taking account of the usual traffic as well. The area remains congested for a good 20 minutes at end of school too, and returning on time from lunch break can be difficult.

With narrow streets and other drivers taken into account, simply going from one point to another can take longer than it really should.

The extent of this problem is faced not only by Castro Valley but the rest of the state.

San Francisco was ranked by transportation data collector INRIX, a global transportation

analytics company, in 2013 as the third most congested city in the U.S., at 56.1 hours wasted in traffic per vehicle each year. The worst offender? Los Angeles, with 64.4 hours. Even Jakarta, Indonesia, the city notorious for miles-long traffic jams so bad that people have died in their cars, has less congested streets than either Californian city.

Since 2010, it gotten worse as Bay Area congestion rose 80 percent. Drivers spend over three days stuck in traffic annually, spending \$2,250 in wasted fuel. As a whole, the U.S. loses nearly one percent of its GDP in wasted time, at an estimated \$67.5 billion, and

5.7 billion gallons of fuel.

So what can we do? Develop and utilize public transportation. Many people, when deciding how to get somewhere or planning trips, don't even think about using anything but their cars. Options for public transportation are trapped in a cycle. Relatively few people utilize them, causing budget cuts reducing frequency, reliability, and quality, eventually resulting in even fewer passengers.

Recently, the California High-Speed Rail, or CAHSR, a line which would run from Los Angeles to San Francisco within three hours, had most of its efforts postponed indefinitely,

except for a portion running from Bakersfield to Merced. And in spite of everything already said, that's good.

The project was going way over the estimated cost and time. By focusing on a smaller portion, we can better spend our efforts and build support for public transportation. What is done in this line can be applied elsewhere in the state.

Perhaps there is a glimmer of hope in this, however. In recent years, the use of public transportation has actually been on an upwards trend. Maybe, in the near future, there'll be no rush each morning as we scramble for lights and curbs.

PHOTOpinions What do you think about the college admissions scandal?



“ The people who may not necessarily have the money but who qualify should be going to the school. ”

Madison Lady
freshman



“ I think there definitely needs to be a change in how you apply for college. ”

Victoria Ceaser
sophomore



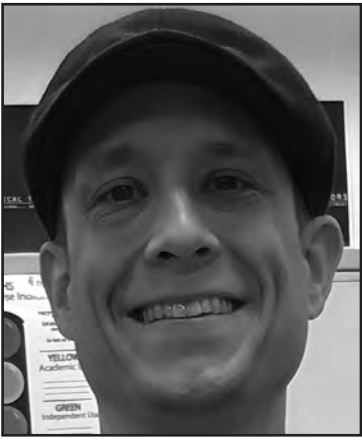
“ It's sad that it takes a couple of celebrities to do a wrong doing to bring awareness to something that everyone should have already been talking about. ”

Amiel Duncan
junior



“ It's definitely messed up and I don't think it's fair that because they have money they can get in top schools. ”

Paul Romero
senior



“ A lot of people already knew that the system was unfair. It is frustrating because it just puts so much pressure on students. ”

Ian Rodriguez
teacher



LETTERS To the Editor

I read Katy Siler's opinion piece published on March 11 with both interest and a bit of defensiveness.

I appreciate her mostly measured examination of some of the activities in the U.S. History classes. History and the teaching of history are subjects which, must by definition, be open to revision and interrogation, and Ms. Siler's critique does this.

I expect this column with provoke further discussion among students and teachers. Though there are several points in her article to which

I would like to respond, my primary objection to the column is in both the headline and the last line of the first paragraph. It is misleading and incendiary to claim that by examining events in the past that involve harmful racial and racist attitudes and actions, through certain activities, the teachers are promoting the the views under examination.

Jeffrey Goldstein, AP US History teacher



Ms. Siler's article about racism in APUSH simulations is a very interesting and intriguing piece. However, we can't scream "racism" at everything that we come across, especially in the case of these simulations.

These simulations aren't meant to be racist or hurtful in any way: in fact, they are meant to educate us on the facets of American history that were, unfortunately, racist. If "racism" is what you're taking away from these educational simulations rather than "what can we learn from this," "how did this affect the course of history," or "how can we use these lessons to change/rectify these wrongdoings so that we may never repeat them again," I honestly think you're missing the point.

Besides, we are mature young adults who have researched these topics thoroughly in preparation for these activities, and are therefore capable of understanding that bigotry and racism are inherently wrong.

I appreciate that Ms. Siler is bringing up this point though. It's important for us to share our respective views on the curriculum.

Jonathan Huang, senior

Regarding the opinion piece entitled "APUSH class simulation prone to promoting hateful racial ideas," I would like to take this opportunity to respond to the concerns brought forth by Ms. Siler.

To begin with, students in all of my classes are encouraged to voice their opinions, and I welcome thoughtful critique of my curriculum and teaching methods and am pleased that Ms. Siler has started a dialogue that will lead to my continued reflection of my practices.

I feel strongly that experiential learning, such as the simulations that take place in all of my classes, plays a valuable role in my students' level of engagement with the curriculum as well as assists in their understanding of the content.

As the teacher of this course, I do take exception to the title of the piece as it asserts that the simulations conducted in the class promote racism. In my opinion, these simulations do not promote racism but instead encourage the participants to consider these xprovide a window into the past to aid in their understanding of the time period.

The opinion piece has provided me the opportunity to reflect on how the debriefing of the simulations at the completion of the activity is handled with the students and for that, I thank Ms. Siler. In the future, more emphasis will be placed on putting the arguments into context as a part of the activity.

Kathleen Cassidy, AP US History teacher

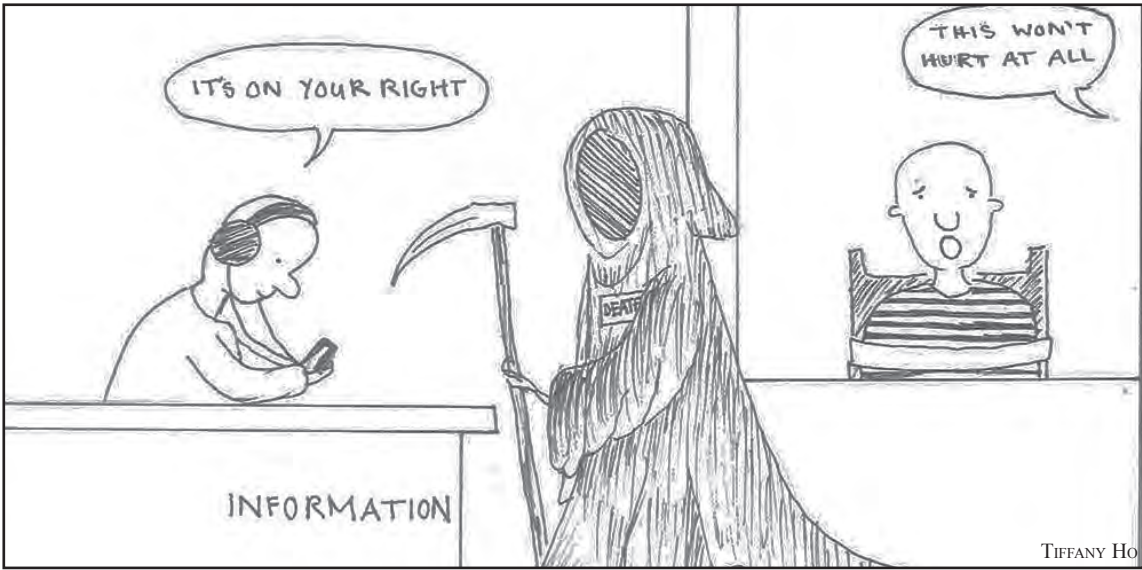


Everyone read up on the discrimination slaves faced at the time during the Constitutional Convention, sure it is racist, and you say we don't talk about it enough, but this is a fast-paced U.S. History class that you signed up for, which doesn't have time to touch on every single part about the time period.

I'm not sure about you but I've learned about the effects of racism in history last year during Modern World History, CCG, and in my American Literature class; everyone already knows how bad racism is. The point of this class is to learn about the U.S. as a whole in history, if I'm not mistaken, and you're saying you want spend more time on the racist aspects of American history when we barely have enough time to learn about the history of the U.S. as a whole?"

Brian Kinsley, junior

California should kill off the death penalty



By Tiffany Ho
STAFF WRITER

Vicente Benavides, Malcolm Alexander, Randolph Arledge, Christopher Abernathy: these names may or may not sound familiar to some people. The one thing they all have in common is that they were all wrongfully convicted under the death penalty, but were proven to be not guilty after spending decades in prison.

Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order on March 13 to halt all death penalties while he is still in office. This will affect all 737 inmates who are currently on Death Row in California. This doesn't mean that they are entirely off of death row, but executions will not be scheduled to occur.

Newsom stated that "it [the death penalty] has provided no public safety benefit or value as a deterrent. It has wasted billions of taxpayer dollars. But most of all, the death penalty is absolute, irreversible and irreparable in the event of a human error."

A research done by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

stated that "between 1973 and 2016, 156 people who had been sentenced to death were subsequently determined to be innocent."

Personally, I don't believe in "an eye for an eye"; seeing the death of a criminal won't lead to a proper closure to any case. Killing those because of crimes they did doesn't do justice to anyone, it proves that you are no different than them. Is it really worth killing someone innocent just to catch someone who has actually committed a crime?

America's death penalty dates all the way back to colonial times in the 1630s. Even then, people were advocating for the abolishment of it. Michigan was the first state to abolish the death penalty in March 1847 and Wisconsin followed shortly after in 1853. By the end of the century, other countries around the world such as Venezuela, the Netherlands, and Portugal all ended the death penalty punishment in their countries. Thirty states in the U.S. currently still have the death penalty, but 11 of those states haven't used it in over a decade.

Some people may disagree with Newsom's decision to halt

the death penalty for now. They believe that people should pay for the crimes that they have done. But while I believe that everyone should be able to obtain justice, people shouldn't have to die in order for it to be achieved. The state has always been divided upon this issue as well. Several years ago, an initiative aimed to abolish the death penalty, but it was narrowly rejected by voters at 53-47.

There is also the issue of innocent people dying because they are placed on death row and executed without adequate evidence. The 14th Amendment states that the state will not "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." This is written in our Constitution, yet some people today are not being protected by the law in any way.

A better decision would be for the state to place its 700-plus inmates on life without parole. Not only will it save the state millions of dollars per year, it will also serve as a more moral option for our broken criminal justice system.



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THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL Olympian

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4 FEATURE

Students stand out at fashion show



NATALIE COSTELLO

Senior and model Britney Fu struts a top from the Mayu Luck brand down the runway.

By Natalie Costello
STAFF WRITER

DECA held its second annual fashion show, “Empower,” to raise funds for its upcoming conferences on March 30. The show featured student made designs, past alumni of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, and spokespeople of Nordstrom from Pleasanton.

Three student designed brands were displayed during the show: Mayu Luck, Slouchszn and Ashley’s Designs. Each designer designed around five pieces and had friends model on the runway. There were many extravagant

community as their designs were cheered for by the audience.

“I had experienced something that I had not experienced before,” said model junior Carli Santiago. Each model was featured a couple times with a variety of pieces. It provided an eye-opening experience into what the modeling life was like for those individuals.

“It’s a really accomplishing feeling being able to see your vision come together the way you wanted to,” said co-creator of Slouchszn and senior Terike Dunn. The brand showed a wide variety of designs one including a man

theme was empowerment and Nordstrom helped to enforce that by promoting their size inclusive brands.

Teachers from CVHS including English teacher Michael Langella and Spanish teacher Laurel Orduña also strutted down the runway and the students had them wear outfits that made them the most confident. Langella wore a grey suit and tie and Orduña modeled a red blouse with a gold tassel skirt. It was truly empowering to show that even the adults at our school can feel confident as well.

The event also featured a “promposal” by senior Andrew Salas to junior Nadia Jamal.



NATALIE COSTELLO

Senior Ryan Cornier is outfitted in Slouchszn, created by Terike Dunn and Adhila Bukhari.

works including masks, recycled clothing, and tops.

“I was super excited to share my work with everyone. All those late nights of sewing and pulling pieces together was very worth it at the end,” said the creator of Mayu Luck, junior Amaya Villahermosa.

“The whole point of Slouchszn and why Terike created it was to build a community and for us two to bring that vision in and portray it within fashion,” said co-creator and junior Adhila Bukhari. They most certainly did build a

with a mask on denim jacket and blue jeans with white writing on them.

Two individuals from Nordstrom in Pleasanton came to speak to the guests about individualism and what Nordstrom is doing to promote individualism. They launched a brand called Good American promoted by Khloe Kardashian that ranges from size zero to twenty four to show that they acknowledge not all of their customers are a size zero or 12 but that they range in sizes. The show’s whole

He came down the runway in a black and green tuxedo and stopped the music to ask the lucky girl a question. She of course said yes and they locked hands and walked off the runway together, it was a picture perfect moment.

With all these highlights the show was magnificent. Where else can you go to watch stuents empower others in a safe place besides the fashion show. Seeing students coming together to create a name from themselves was incredible.



Musher Ryan Santiago and his dog Mustang finished running their first Iditarod in Alaska in March.

CVHS graduate races in Iditarod

Ryan Santiago placed 29th in epic sled dog race

By Joshua Levy
STAFF WRITER

Ryan Santiago, a graduate of Castro Valley High School participated in the world-famous Iditarod this year. For those who may not be familiar with the Iditarod, it is a long and challenging dog sled race in Alaska that takes place in early March. The racers starts in Anchorage and finish in Nome, which is a total distance of 938 miles and normally takes around 8-15 days.

Santiago began his days at CVHS in the late 90’s and then attended college in Santa Cruz, where he settled down after graduating to begin a career in the corporate restaurant industry. He became tired with this typical 9-5 lifestyle and wanted to start enjoying life more. That’s when he decided to pack everything up and start traveling the world. He became fascinated with the outdoors and finally realized that luxury never mattered to him.

When he came back to the U.S. one of his friends told him about a job in Michigan for a dog mushing team. He said that it sounded interesting and he figured why not, so he went to Michigan and began to learn more about

the sport. After living in Michigan for a few years he decided to move to Alaska, where he could start dog mushing himself and participating in larger races.

Santiago works with team of eight employees that house a total of 160 dogs. Each dog has their own dog house and they are free to run on the 150 acre property that Santiago’s team owns. Dog mushing takes a full team effort when they are preparing for a race, but when the day of event comes the racer is all on their own.

Santiago also participated in a few other tours over the summer this year, but devoted most of his time preparing for the Iditarod. He was the third rookie to

“ Find something that you love to do every day. ”

Ryan Santiago
CVHS alumnus

finish the race, coming in 29th place out of 52 total participants.

He loves what he’s doing and says that it’s the perfect lifestyle for him. His advice for those entering adulthood would be to “Find something that you love to do every-day,” Santiago says.

Smash Bros Finals

By Jeanette Wallis
STAFF WRITER

The CVHS Esports Club hosted its first tournament during the last few weeks of March, with the final championship match on April 5. 45 students from the club signed up to compete in a bracket style, one-on-one tournament in the game "Super Smash Bros Ultimate."

The club is new to CVHS, having just started at the beginning of this school year, founded by seniors Sam Levine and Alex Kwan.

"Esports is one of the few things I have a great interest in so I figured it'd be fun to bring it to the high school because I know there are others who share my interest," explained Levine.

"I joined because I like video games," said junior Justin Yamamoto. "But I also made new friends."

Yamamoto competed against senior David Fernandez at the final tournament. Yamamoto

eventually defeated Fernandez in a close and intense match.

"It's especially exciting when the matches are close, because people [watching] get into it," club president Levine said.

"I've been playing for about two years now, but I didn't really practice or do anything to prepare for today," Yamamoto said afterwards. "But today was really fun."

"I actually forgot this [competition] was today," Fernandez laughed. "It slipped my mind! It was supposed to happen last week but got pushed back."

Despite the delay, the competition attracted a large crowd of excited fans who were eager to see who would come out on top.

The club normally meets in room F3 during lunch on Fridays, and plans to return to CVHS next year.

"I've always wanted something like this to happen," said Fernandez. "It includes a different group of people in school activities."

CV victorious at Golden State



A Capella S/A smiles wide after placing fourth at the prestigious Women's Golden State

By Rachel Schoenfeld
STAFF WRITER

With a week left before competition and their conductor absent, the advanced A Capella soprano and alto singers had to prepare for competition on their own. It wasn't just any competition but Women's Golden State, the top Northern California choral competition for soprano alto choirs known for being extremely competitive.

The choir performed three songs, "Agimus Tibi Gratias," "Suffer No Grief," and "I have a Voice." For the week leading up to the performance, conductor and teacher Laryssa Sadoway was out sick with the flu. She was only able to

come in Friday, the day of the competition, to review all their work. Largely, they were on their own.

"This is a really nerve wracking thing to do, prepping every single day when you don't have your leader there," Sadoway said. "So the students really had to take ownership of their work and had to be very prepared."

"It was extremely intense. We really were worried that we wouldn't be prepared," said junior Emma Koslosky. "It was just a lot of running things and just praying that Sadoway would be back in time."

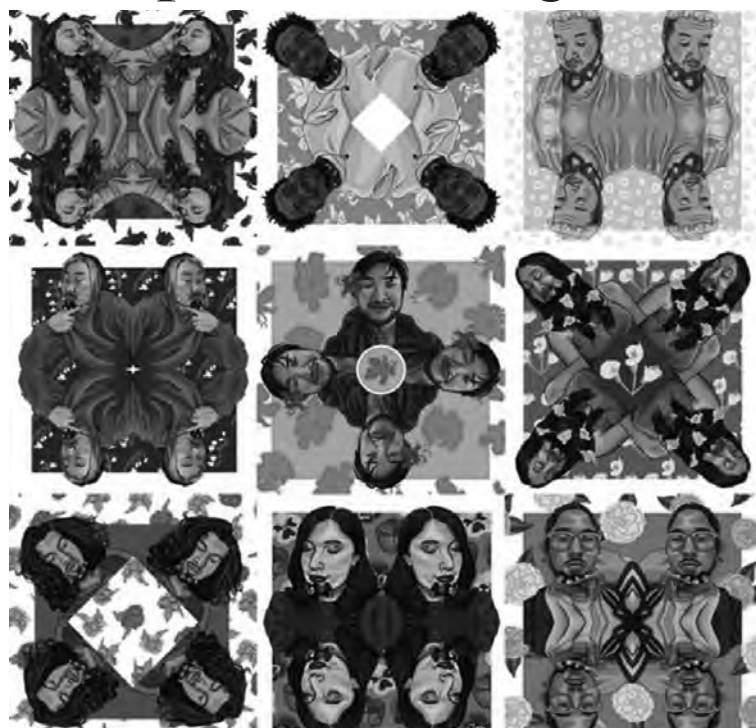
The choir bused to the competition and was first to per-

form. That meant that the singers were able to watch all the other choirs, but also had to wait the longest time to perform.

During the awards ceremony, the judges announced that CVHS Advanced Acapella SA choir won third place, beating the fourth place winners by only one point. This was the best the choir has ever done in this competition and the first time the group has ever earned a trophy.

"It ends up being a really wonderful motivational tool for the students," Sadoway continued. "I think the students grew together and bonded as a team helping this work."

AP Art displays complexities of gender



By Nikita Thomas
STAFF WRITER

As the seniors at CVHS proceed to completing their last year of high school, the seniors in the AP art class have also begun to complete their final pieces of art to showcase at the art show on Apr. 11. One of the artists who had the honor of displaying their art pieces is Vann, whose art revolves around a very interesting and controversial topic in today's society. Vann's artwork describes the complexity of gender and how femininity and masculinity is expressed in each of us.

"As a transgender man, the concept of gender has always troubled and interested me. Throughout my life, I've discovered that gender is so much more complex than the traditional gender roles presented to us by society. A history of misogyny and homophobia has lead us to develop a stigma around expressing femininity. Men are worried about being seen as gay or weak, and even women are fearful of losing respect or not being taken seriously for being seen as 'too girly' or 'too butch.'"

Vann beautifully displays the different aspects of masculinity and femininity in his art.

"I took different people and represented their femininity and

masculinity with beards and flowers, each individual and special to who they are. For example, the green square shows my friend Rebecca. I drew her with the beard so she feels like she would have if she were able to grow one."

With the help of his aunt, an award winning quilter, Vann has created a quilt of his art to showcase at the art show.

"Even the symbolism of my medium, quilting, is important to me. The women in my family have a long history of being craftspeople and seamstresses, and when I was young my grandmother taught me how to sew and crochet. One of them will be helping me make my quilt, which is such a meaningful and powerful concept to me. It's carrying on a long line of tradition in my family and at the same time defying it by being the only man to learn our ways."

Vann hopes that his art makes viewers feel conflicted and make them feel a sense of multiplicity.

"I'd like viewers to reflect on why they are conflicted, and realize that though the people in my work may look a little silly with beards and flowers, that they are happy," says Vann. "I'd like them to reflect on their own happiness and their own identities and understanding of gender and what it means to them."

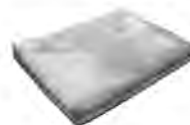
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**Saturday, April 13th
CVSan's Earth Day
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VOLUNTEER from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Volunteers are still needed at: Castro Valley High School Garden, Adobe Park, Castro Valley Creek, Cull Canyon Regional Recreation Area, Downtown Castro Valley, and Lake Chabot Regional Park.

Visit www.cvsan.org/ED for specific clean-up site information.

Free continental breakfast provided and a \$5.00 donation to one of three local charities will be made on your behalf after volunteering.

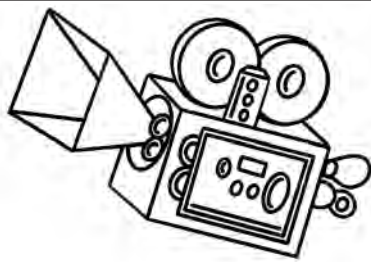
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This ad was funded by WM Collection Events





“Captain Marvel” comes to theaters



By Kayla Craft-Williams
STAFF WRITER

“Captain Marvel” stormed up to the top of the box office ratings, making \$600 million worldwide in its first week, passing up major films.

“Captain Marvel” features a Kree warrior fighting a battle against herself and her enemies. As she’s trying to save the world from Skrulls, she’s also trying to figure herself out and control her powers.

A missing piece of the puzzle to all Avenger fans, “Captain Marvel” explains the dying questions of “Avengers: Infinity War” and funny foreshadowing events. Even with a low ratings percentage of 78, “Captain Marvel” played a big part in wait for “Avengers: Endgame.”

The movie produced a good role model as a superhero. A lot of superhero movies don’t have female representation in them, but Captain Marvel gives an example

to little girls who want to look up to someone.

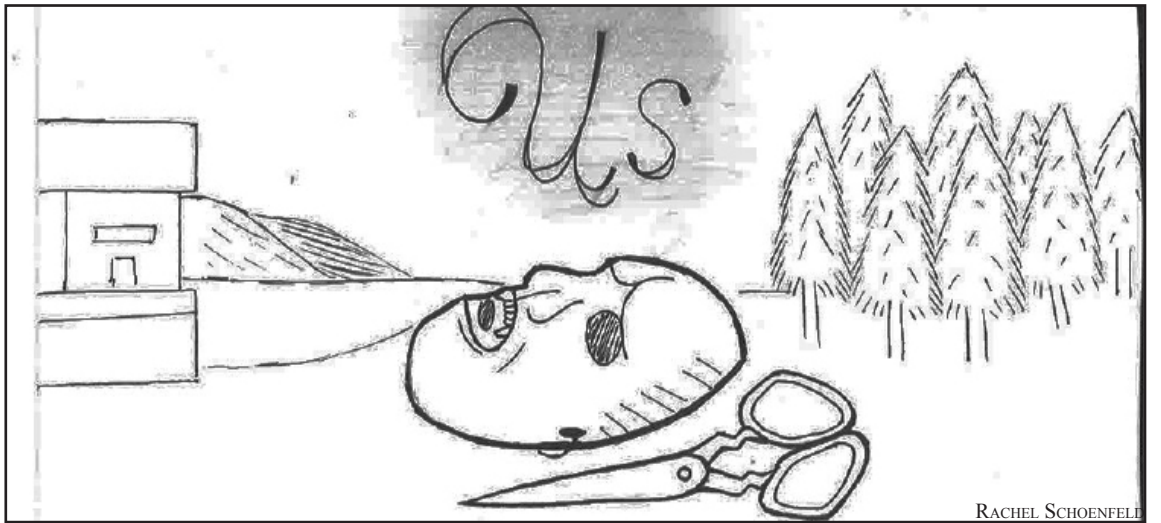
People should see this movie because it’s leading on to the next Avengers movie. It’s an action packed movie, with a ton of humor in it.

Between Captain Marvel and Fury was a undeniable friendship. They had clashing personalities, but became friends in the end. Fury was from Earth as an agent of SHIELD, and Captain Marvel was from Earth but was trained on a different planet. They had their times as a fighting duo, and a comedic ally. Captain Marvel trusted Fury, as much as Fury trusted and cared for Captain Marvel.

In the end, Captain Marvel learns that she can trust the people that she didn’t think she could. She made new friends, and fought to protect the people she loved.

I give this movie 4.5/5 stars.

“Us” alludes to enslavement



By Myla Ogle
STAFF WRITER

Jordan Peele’s new masterpiece, “Us,” was nothing but mind-boggling from start to finish. This film is rated 100 percent on Rotten Tomatoes and it is extremely clear why. If you enjoy psychological plot twists this is definitely the movie for you. Peele’s gift to combine an allusion to slavery in America, tension, and comedy is marvelous.

After Peele’s previous movie, “Get Out,” which won an Oscar for Best Screenplay, audiences couldn’t wait for his next masterpiece. “Get Out” was a fantastic movie that really set up Peele’s future success. “Us” tells a story about a family who goes on vacation

and encounters a complete cloned family who has motives to murder them. As the plot carries, it is revealed that there are millions of clones around America murdering citizens.

The ending of this movie can be seen in multiple different ways as someone individually interprets it. There are many jump scares and psychological terrors throughout the plot. Although one thing is clear, a sequel has to come soon to answer the audiences’ questions on the various plot twists.

The main concept of “Us” is to allude to the enslavement of minorities in America, such as African Americans, Native Americans and Japanese Americans. In the movie there

are two categories of people: first, the citizens above ground which are free Americans while the other is the enslaved people held underground who eventually create an uprising to gain their own freedom.

Peele touches on the sensitive subjects of genocide and slavery in this film. Although it may be hard to follow and understand, after analyzing, you are able to find the underlying symbolism and it instantly becomes your new favorite movie. Once the movie ends, and the credits begin, you are re-running the scenes to understand what the heck just happened. “Us” should be seen universally to understand America’s past and future.

“Best Pop Artist” in Omaha

By Eyzid Hadi
STAFF WRITER

“Speak Up” is the debut single from 18-year-old up and coming Omaha, Nebraska songwriter Jocelyn. The uplifting and catchy song was written in Los Angeles with the help of producer/composer Denny White who has written tracks for The Fray, Tiësto, and Danish pop band Lukas Graham. Jocelyn’s song tells the story of a personal bullying experience and how the songwriter worked to overcome it. With its simple chorus, clever guitar work, energetic bass, and addictive beat, listeners can hear traces of Jocelyn’s major music influences in her song, from Shawn Mendes and Gabrielle Aplin, to Ben Howard and Ed Sheeran.

“Speak Up is about turning negativity into positive energy instead of letting the bullies drag you down,” says Jocelyn. “It’s about realizing that you are your own individual, so speak up and live by example.”

Jocelyn’s career initially took off when a video for her song, “Just Like Everybody Else,” went viral and

brought her worldwide attention. She was soon performing on TV for Steve Harvey’s “Showcase” at the world-famous Apollo Theater and for Darius Rucker on an episode of “Celebrity Undercover Boss.”

In addition to collecting increased media attention in her hometown, Jocelyn has also become popular in her local music scene, recently winning Best Pop Artist and Artist of the Year at the Omaha Entertainment & Arts Awards. She is currently working on her first full-length album and will be releasing more music throughout the rest of the year.

Jocelyn clearly has international fame in her sights, however she is still a young, 18-year-old who wants to live life and have fun. Her messages in all of her songs are relatable to people of all ages because the things she writes about are universal truths.

It is extremely impressive to see such a young influencer make it in our now world. I hope Jocelyn finds happiness wherever she decides to go with her career.

Overall, I would rate “Speak Up” 4 stars out of 5.

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Trojans trounce Farmers and Pirates

By Kayla Craft-Williams
STAFF WRITER

The Trojans kicked off the season with a bang, grinding to the top and winning the meet against Hayward High School and San Leandro High School on March 20. The boys won 69-56 against Hayward High and 75-52 against San Leandro. The girls beat Hayward 91-30 and San Leandro 80-43.

CVHS track teams did a great

job getting to that finish line, and racking up point after point.

Nyah Paulding came out on top, after working hard for the past couple of months. She won first place in the 100 meter dash, earning her seasonal record of 12.85 seconds. She also achieved first in the 200 meter dash, with a time of 26.77 seconds. She competed in long jump and triple jump as well, and placed second in both events.

Zoe Bursch came in with the



KAYLA CRAFT-WILLIAMS

Nyah Paulding nails the long jump, one of her many events.

storm, with a striking wins. She ran the 400 meters run with a time of 1 minute and 4 seconds. She came out on top with a tremendous lead and finished the race with a powerful stamina. She also raced in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 49.8 seconds. Bursch made seasonal records in both her events.

Victoria Nelson won the long jump in 15 feet, nine inches and

the triple jump in 34 feet, 9 inches. Raegen Bennett won the high jump in 4 feet 10 inches. Olivia Davidson won the 3,200 meters in 12 minutes and 45 seconds.

For the boys team, Christopher (CJ) Conley performed his outstanding race in the 800 meter run completing the race in 2 minutes and 7 seconds. He kept ahead the whole time and at a steady pace. Conley has showed

off his aptitude in variations of running, coming from cross country to running track.

Noah Carter won the 200 in 25.6 seconds and the 400 in 56.1 seconds.

Njata Holland won the high jump in 6 feet and 1 inch, and long jump in 21 feet 1 inch. Conner Kincaid shot put with a throw of 49 feet, 4 inches.



KAYLA CRAFT-WILLIAMS

Rylan Boyd and Dean Nguyen soar over the hurdles.

Athletes of the Month

Scheberies is the friendliest swimmer

By Natalie Costello
STAFF WRITER

How many people can say they have made a majority of their friends in the same place? Jacklyn Scheberies can. She has been swimming since the young age of four and has been making friends through swimming ever since. She has been to many incredible places including San Diego because of swimming as well.

She first started swimming with her dad in a summer league, and then, switched to a year round team, for which she has been swimming

ever since.

She has made a wide variety of friends through swimming.

“All of my best friends are from swimming because I spend every day with them from going to morning practice before school then after school for practice,” Scheberies said. She has created some life long friendships through swimming since she spend so much time with them

When asked about Scheberies, her teammate junior Paige Eickmann said, “She’s a really great swimmer. She first comes off as intimidating but she’s a really

nice person and it’s been great to have her on the team.”

Scheberies looks up to her dad as her biggest inspiration. “He has inspired me to grow to the person I am today,” she said.

Her favorite part of swimming is going on travel meets with her team and seeing different places. She was actually at sectionals in San Diego when the interview was conducted.

Be sure to check her out on the CVHS swim team and the rest of the team at their next meet.



NATALIE COSTELLO

Jacklyn Scheberies is one of the most competitive swimmers on the team.

Aahl leads his team passionately

By Talaya Francois
STAFF WRITER

“Last year we had one of our worst games ever. We were playing against Bishop O’ Dowd High School. It was a cold, night game. We were losing, then, Matthew came in and tied the game. There were 14 innings total. He pitched seven of them, outstandingly,” remarked the varsity baseball coach Glen Sears.

Matthew Aahl is a senior on the varsity baseball team, and has been in the high school baseball program for four years. He has been playing

all his life, and plans to incorporate baseball into his future as well.

Aahl expressed desire to play baseball for as long as he could, definitely continuing into college.

Teammates described Aahl as a hard worker and a true, passionate leader who leads by example.

The coaches had Aahl on their radar since he was a sophomore. As a junior, his batting average hit over .350. In addition to being a skilled player, Aahl also goes the extra mile outside of practice.

“He has come down a few times with his father on his own time. He

always asks me ‘Coach is there anything I can help with?’ You know he’s going to be a success in life. It’s kids like him that make me glad I’m a coach,” said Sears.

Aahl is not only an example of hard work, but he’s also an example of perseverance.

“All the time I think about quitting,” Aahl admitted. “But what makes me stay is all that I’ve invested. All that I’ve put in.”



TALAYA FRANCOIS

Mattahew Aahl practices his batting, refining his skills in areas other than his exemplary pitching.

Youth Speaks helps students

By Andrew Craig
STAFF WRITER

CVHS students practiced public speaking in a unique offering focused on personal development and giving voices to youth. The event was conducted by Youth Speaks, a nonprofit organization dedicated to shaping young people to be strong societal activists, in the school library during Trojan Time on March 19 and 20.

Darius Simpson of Youth Speaks, who led the session on both days, started with a powerful speech utilizing many techniques important in persuasion and general speaking, demonstrating to the attendees the capabilities of expression at its purest form. “I believe Scar (from “The Lion King”) was a revolutionary...much like Moses or Malcolm X,” he said. “Scar, I too am the darker brother...

I feel you bro, I know a little brother scorned when I see it.” Throughout the periods, students worked on developing confidence and respect, and expressing themselves in several activities forcing some out of their comfort zone. Other activities involved critical thinking, and each student wrote a free-verse poem to combine these ideas.

The two ideals most strongly promoted were “there are no wrong answers” and “the standard is yourself,” with the idea behind each essentially being that anything may be different if viewed from another perspective, and that it is up to yourself to decide the status of what you have done.

Dana Adams, librarian, had taken the steps necessary for Youth Speaks to come to CVHS some time in advance. Though roughly 30 students had signed up for the event

via Teachmore, there were well over this number in attendance on both days.

The Youth Speaks slogan is “Because the next generation can speak for itself,” which reflects its overall goal to transform the classroom into a community promoting student thought, to achieve an active and inclusive culture.

When asked of how he felt of the work done by groups such as Youth Speaks, Simpson replied “I feel that it’s extremely necessary, because there’s faces that aren’t being given to young folks or people in general, so to use their voices in creative ways [is great]. I’m super appreciative to be on this side of it, providing those faces for young folk. I remember I wasn’t able to have those when I was in high school and younger, so I’m super excited to be right in with young people.”

Voting age of 17 proposed for state

Amendment introduced in state Assembly

By Talaya Francois
STAFF WRITER

More high school students would be able to vote if the voting age was lowered to 17. California Assemblyman Kevin Mullin and Assemblyman Evan Low worked with a legislative council to create a bill called Assembly Constitutional Amendment 4, which would do precisely that in California.

According to the bill text, ACA 4 “will allow individuals who are 17 years of age who will be 18 years of age by the general election” to vote in a primary election.

Mullin and Low have attempted to pass this bill twice beforehand, however it did not receive enough votes to become a proposition on the California ballot.

“Mullin wants more civic engagement for youth. Voters between ages 18 and 24 have absolute dismic turnout compared to any other age group,” explained Laura Fitzgerald, Mullin’s legislative aid.

Only 27.5 percent of youth voters voted in the 2018 California general election, as reported by the California Civic Engagement Project.

“This is because young people don’t think their vote counts,” elaborated Fitzgerald.

Youth supported the bill,

as long as voters are 18 by the time of the election. However, if youth are not 18 by the time of general election, support for the bill ran thin.

“You can wait another year. You’re not legally an adult yet,” stated senior Samantha Roberts. Another student agreed with this viewpoint.

“There’s a lot of people who think they’re competent but they’re really just inexperienced. They don’t have the world experience that it takes to vote,” said junior Konrad Raab. “Experience such as taking a job, health care, insurance, you don’t fully feel how it affects you until you’re an adult.”

Junior Thomas Brackett brought up that emancipated minors should be able to vote, if “world experience” is the inhibiting factor.

Fitzgerald explained that there are many policies that impact teenagers.

“Young people are impacted by policies on climate change, gun control with the amount of mass shootings, and student loan debt,” said Fitzgerald.

Brackett supported a lowered voter age, even if voters were not 18 by the time of the election. “The voting age should be lowered to 16,” said Brackett. “Tell me why not.”

Despite the debate over the details, there was a general agreement that the political voice of youth should be represented more.

“We’re the ones who are going to be the ones living in the world. We want to make progress for everyone else, and our future children,” said senior Jasmin Zhong.

Major Greene wins Mr. CV fundraiser

By Katrina Siler
STAFF WRITER

Spirit squad boosters hosted their annual Mr. CV fundraiser on Friday, Apr. 6 and Major Greene won the titular title of “Mr. CV.” The fundraiser is a satirical pageant show in which a select group of boys from the senior class perform talents to be judged by Castro Valley community members.

In addition to Greene, Andy Jerome, Lennart Richter, Nolan Keating, and Caleb Castaneda made it to the final round. Kyle Bales won People’s Choice award, Connor Kincaid won Mr. Congeniality, and Andy Jerome won first runner up.

“I had a blast with my fellow seniors, not stressing about school and just having a fun night. It made me get out of my comfort zone and was one of the many amazing events held at CVHS!” said Jerome.

The boys were escorted by senior girls, most being cheerleaders. Each donned a stunning gown or sharp suit. Suits were donated by Men’s Wearhouse and CasaBlanca Bridal and Tux-

edo. The night consisted of admirably choreographed dance routines, funny skits, promposals, and audience sing-alongs. The group of seniors brought incredible amounts of spirit and energy to their performances.

“Mr. CV was truly the most fun I’ve had at CVHS and an experience to remember forever,” said Keating.

The seniors rehearsed throughout the week prior to performing. Rehearsals, although purposeful, were reason for the diverse group of seniors to bond.

Emcees Alexandro Olvera and Alex Kwan kept the audience entertained between performances with hilarious bits and jokes. Kwan even brought up CVHS alumni and former Mr. CV emcee Matt Betti.

The event would not have been possible without the hard work and planning of event coordinators and spirit team moms Kelly Schroeder, Karen Johnston, and Michele Nicol.

Mr. CV is yet another demonstration of the spirit and support of the Castro Valley community.

►SCANDAL: from page 1
be used for good purposes,” concluded Kwon.

“As an educator it’s really sad to see that people are cheating their way through the system. I don’t think it’s new and it’s part of human nature. As school counselors we are ethically bound to follow the ethical codes and it’s important that everyone does that,” added CVHS counselor Anne Van Court.

“It’s really sad to see that people are cheating”
Anne Van Court
Counselor

The admission scandal reveals many flaws and shortcuts in the parental pressures to go to brand name colleges and the level of cheating that people are willing to commit. As more and more students and parents are being investigated, schools have begun to take action regarding punishments.

“The kids should be thrown out of the school because the kids who work hard are really the kids who take the tests, study, go to school, and deserve to get in the right way,” added senior Matt Tognolini.

This recent college scandal has caused quite the controversy on campus and throughout the nation. It is a prominent issue that shows a pressurized emphasis on college and corruption of the college admissions processes.

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