

Olympian

THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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Unity March unifies community



EYZID HADI

Castro Valley members participate in a Unity March to protest hate on Nov. 18.

Bryce Turner won the battle

By Katrina Siler
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At a football game early in the year, every student in the Trojan Den wore the same black T-shirt with orange lettering that spelled out “Trojans for Bryce, #battleforbryce.” At half time they threw a burst of orange baby powder in the air and rejoiced in celebration. They were celebrating the recent announcement that CVHS junior Bryce Turner beat acute myeloid leukemia.

“I’m doing fine, feeling a lot better, back to normal,” said Turner.

Turner was diagnosed in February, struggling with the disease and for seven months and undergoing multiple rounds of chemotherapy. After battling with cancer for over half a year, Turner is finally well enough to return to CVHS.

The experience “brought friends and family closer,” said Turner. He was obviously negatively impacted by the disease, but his loved ones were a break in the clouds.

The entire student body took action to help Turner through his struggle by consistently wearing orange (the color for leukemia awareness), posting with the



KAYLA CRAFT-WILLIAMS

Bryce Turner (center) poses for a picture with his friends.

#battleforbryce tag on Instagram, donating to his GoFundMe campaign, and buying custom T-shirts. Fundraising raised an astonishing total of \$51,740.

“It felt real good knowing I had the whole school’s support, you know the T-shirts and all that,” Turner said.

CVHS certainly took initiative to help the Turner family with their overwhelming medical bills. The PE staff designed and sold custom Bryce Turner shirts, and all profits went to the Turner family.

Turner shared that the biggest lesson he learned from his months-long battle with the disease is, “Don’t take life for granted.” Before his diagnosis, Turner was a devoted athlete, playing both basketball and football. He hopes to resume his athletic career as soon as possible, although he does not plan on playing basketball this season.

Despite his challenges, Turner has not lost his spirit. He jokingly stated that he is “single and ready to mingle.”

Most students want Trump impeached

By Baron Begier
STAFF WRITER

A strong majority of 71 percent of CVHS students support President Donald Trump’s impeachment, according to an *Olympian* survey of 200 students.

“This president has brought negative attention and distrust to our country,” said junior Colby Bettis.

“We should build bridges to connect each other instead of walls to keep people out,” said junior Frank Andrade.

But 29 percent opposed impeachment, like senior Jacob Fong. “Trump has done very well in fulfilling his promises... stopping terrorism, improving the economy, and creating jobs. He shouldn’t be impeached,” Fong said.

Trump allegedly pressured President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, to investigate possible corruption of Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and his son. The White House released records of the July 25 phone call. “I would like you to do us a favor,” said Trump when asking for investigations into possible corruption by the Bidens. The Trump administration had earlier put a hold on \$400 million in military aid to Ukraine.

House of Representatives Democrats call that “bribery” and started impeachment proceedings.

Experts say removal of the president is unlikely. A majority of House representatives must vote to impeach the president. Then, two thirds of the Senate must vote to remove him, or else Trump would keep his office. This is improbable because 53 out of 100 Senate members are Republicans.

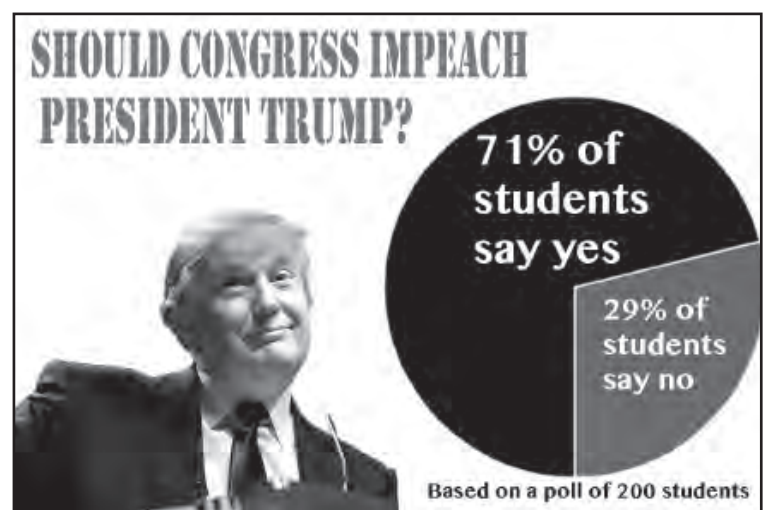
“It would be hard to impeach Trump because the system is so divided between the two parties,” said social studies teacher Nicole Andrews.

In the transcript of the call, Trump started off congratulating Zelensky with his success in his elections. “We all watched from the United States and you did a terrific job,” said Trump. But he also asked Zelensky to investigate the Bidens eight times.

“President Trump should still be impeached, even if the senate will vote to keep him in office for the rest of his term. He needs to be tried and found responsible for the crimes he’s committed,” said Blair Stephenson, senior.

“He shouldn’t be impeached because he has done nothing wrong... Trump is a great president who has prioritized the American people,” said Ian Hurtado, a junior.

“The man has taken actions that can be accounted as treason ... He should be impeached because it’s what our country deserves,” said Kausar Raniwala, a junior.



ASHLEY TANG

Trump should resign to avoid impeachment

Editorial:

Hearings for the impeachment of President Donald Trump have recently began. Members of the House of Representatives are investigating whether he abused his power to force Ukraine to investigate Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden. *The Olympian* staff is divided on the question of whether or not Congress should impeach Trump, but we have suggestions for how Trump and CVHS students can respond to the situation.

On one side of this argument, the US should not impeach Trump because Vice President Mike Pence has considerably worse policies than Trump. Because of this, the impeachment would be pointless, as an equally problematic president would be put in office. Since the 2020 election is coming up, the government should let the people decide.

Impeachment might also be doing the opposite of what its proponents want. *The*



Olympian believes that the news coverage on the impeachment brings more attention to Trump and could possibly win him more votes in the upcoming

election.

If the House of Representatives decides to impeach Trump, the hearing will move to the Senate; However, the

Senate is dominated by Republicans. The chances of the Senate removing a member of their party is unlikely. Because of this potential result, *The*

Olympian points out there are much larger issues that should be focused on.

On the other hand, there are strong reasons to impeach our president. First, there is a lot of evidence that proves that Trump did withhold aid and pressure Ukraine to hurt Biden and help Trump in the 2020 election. As a country, we should not let people in office be above the law. It is irresponsible for our government to keep him in office for so long. The United States is supposed to be a beacon of excellence to other countries, so we should lead by example. If Trump committed a crime, he should have to face the consequences.

Trump should resign. That would end the entire impeachment process and let the country move on. But since he won't, the voters should remove him in 2020. Students can help make that happen by registering to vote, spreading awareness, and staying educated on current events.

Old-fashioned modesty in the modern world



By Katrina Siler
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A grammatically inept Direct Message (DM) was the first time I encountered fully fledged slut-shaming; I received it directly after posting

a picture of me in the fatal combination of a low-cut top and a pushup bra. After reading it, it took me a few weeks to wear anything but baggy t-shirts and sweatshirts in an effort to desexualize myself.

A hateful DM quickly turned into a rude awakening. From then on, comments I had previously viewed as harmless gained importance. I realized that my wardrobe impacted my reputation—people gathered that my revealing clothing meant that I was, for lack of a better word, a loose woman.

“Your shorts are too short” took on a whole new meaning.

Similar comments surfaced more and more frequently, to the point where attempting to dress myself felt like a mission predestined for failure. My clothes now caught attention from not only from horny pubescent boys, but judgmental women of all ages, sizes, and races. It seemed as if the one thing that the world could unanimously agree on was the fact that Katy Siler was showing far too much cleavage. I know it sounds arrogant to say that everybody was talking about my clothing, or lack thereof, but it's hard to ignore when people have started

referring to you solely as “girl with boobs.”

It sounds unrealistic that in liberal 2019 people could guiltlessly comment on the amount of skin that I was showing. I had a hard time believing it at first, too. It's almost as if all of the Saturday specials we watched on Disney Channel about acceptance and diversity had no impact on this generation. By this point, I made it a point not to change my wardrobe. Gloria Steinem, Malala Yousafzai, and Angela Davis hadn't fought their epic feminist battles just for me to submit to an outdated patri-

archal value.

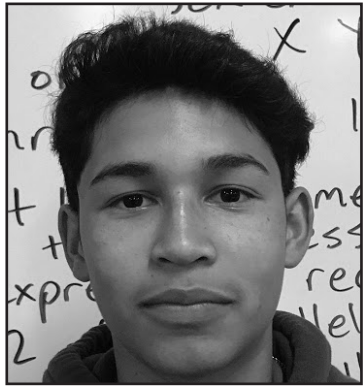
I saw no end in sight to these subtle slut-shames. Somehow, as a society, modesty is still viewed as a priority. The female body is so deeply sexualized that even straight women can't refrain from commenting on another girl's outfit simply because of a plunging neckline. As a budding feminist, I have yet to come up with a solution to the deep rooted misogynistic views of women's modesty. The best I can do is call for others to help; question your own views on what others wear instead of questioning why they wear it.

PHOTOpinions

Should President Trump be impeached?



“ Yes, because he is a racist, sexist, and he's corrupt. ”
Owen Maxwell
freshman



“ Yes, because he is not a good president; there were much better leaders from past times. ”
Mykael Suju
sophomore



“ There is no point, because the election is coming up anyway and he will be replaced soon. ”
Mateo Hancock
junior



“ Regardless of your opinion on President Trump's policies, the road to impeachment will set a new precedent. ”
Sebastian Escobedo
senior



“ I really think that people should be held accountable for their actions. ”
Jo Sutton
staff

Diverse media needs to reach children



By Alex Tam
STAFF WRITER

When I heard the news that the Disney show “Andi Mack” was going to end after its third season, I was disappointed. The show had been the focus of several articles due to its progressive, diverse, and inclusive cast, characters, and episodes. Disney announced the show’s end in the spring of 2019, despite it being Disney’s most-watched and highest rated series at the time. It was even nominated for the 2019 British Academy of Film and Television Arts in the International Live Action section to honor the best of children’s media!

The cast was also unhappy with the cancelation of the show.

“Obviously we were disappointed. I think that it was really important and just as important for the cast of Andi Mack’s to show that we were

all really proud to be a part of this groundbreaking show,” said Lilan Bowden, a CVHS graduate who played Andi Mack’s mom.

As an Asian-American girl growing up, I never saw Asian representation on TV or in movies and “Andi Mack” featured an Asian-American teen as the lead. If there were any Asian characters, they were usually racist and stereotypical representations of Asian culture.

After watching the first few episodes, it became clear to me and many others that “Andi Mack” was no average Disney Channel show. “Andi Mack” opened the door to a new conversation about representation in children’s media and received a huge positive response from the audience.

“I was so impressed with the international positive response. It made me feel like, ‘oh we we needed a show like this for a really long time.’ Andi Mack wasn’t groundbreaking, it was long overdue,” said Bowden.

The children’s show dealt with many plot lines that parallel the lives of minorities who are not represented or rather misrepresented on screen: teen pregnancies, learning disabilities, anxiety, gun safety, peer pressure, sexual orientations, and military families,

just to name a few. The show’s progressive storylines sparked controversy because of its intended young audience.

Accurate and representative media allows the audience to relate more to the characters, shows, and movies. Viewers will be represented on screen and will see their own life mirrored. Children should grow up getting to watch shows and movies that include characters that are similar to their own lives and other people’s lives.

“I think it’s really important to expose children to diversity and many different storylines as possible,” said Bowden. “I think if we start teaching empathy from the ground up, we start feeling these ideals that everyone is valuable no matter what you look like or what your orientation is and that creates a more empathetic society when these children grow up.”

It is now the 21st century; our generation possesses the power to change the lack of representation in all media.

Bowden believes that it is up to each individual to take the initiative to tell their story and diversify media.

“My first response is ‘sorry that media has failed you,’ but my gut reaction is to say ‘tell your story, make your own material because that’s the only way this industry will see it,’” said Bowden.

Pink ribbons support businesses not survivors



By Hannah Pilgrim
STAFF WRITER

Since 1985, October has been dubbed Breast Cancer Awareness month, where nonprofits partner with big corporations to fund walk-a-thons and fundraising events to inspire survivors of breast cancer.

Every October big money companies spend tons of money in damage control producing commercial goods to show off their support of the cause, usually any action plans to help survivors.

“Even the NFL has gotten into the breast cancer business, eager to distract us from their sexual assault and concussion problems,” claims Karuna Jaggar, executive director of the group Breast Cancer Action. Big organizations like the NFL exploit good programs like breast cancer awareness to solve their PR problems.

Most organizations for breast cancer awareness are ploys to create sympathy for survivors, but don’t point out the real issue for survivors: generalization. Generalization in the most common form is assuming the breast cancer survivors should be fully recovered since they already “beat cancer.”

In most cases, even after remission survivors have a higher possibility of getting recurrent

cancer and heart attacks.

Cancer, and especially breast cancer, have become such pop culture topics which have assumed that all survivors are strong women who much stand up to cancer. Viewing survivors as invincible only leads to women feeling bad if they don’t have a smile on their face or if they don’t feel inspiration. The product of pink ribbons in the breast cancer community is the same way big corporations sell sex.

Cancer should not be treated as another logo on a t-shirt to wear one day in October. Supporting survivors of cancer is

“ Cancer should not be treated as another logo...”

important, but as a society it is our responsibility to not make generalizations about those who survived and instead allow them to tell us how they really feel.

Bringing awareness to a disease that is already well known is not working. Maybe it is time for survivors to take over and tell us what they need and thinks will help them best.



RACHEL SCHOENFELD

Growing up multiracial



By Jeanette Wallis
COPY EDITOR

Censuses show that the number of multiracial children has been increasing rapidly, with numbers increasing almost 50 percent from 2000 to 2015. According to the New York Times, it’s the fastest growing group in the U.S.

Coming from a multiracial background certainly has benefits. Immersion into multiple cultures from a young age has allowed me to learn first-hand about different ethnicities. However, it also comes with challenges.

Growing up, I was the only multiracial child I knew. It didn’t bother me that I didn’t look like either of my parents. However, as I grew older, small things like this started to affect my thinking more. When I was little, people would tell my mom she looked more like

my babysitter than my parent. Often, people either quickly assumed I was fully white, or didn’t bother to ask my ethnicity. The amount of times random strangers have given me a weird look simply because I was speaking Mandarin to my mom will feel strange.

When people discover that I am half-white and half-Asian, it usually evokes the response, “Really?! Wow, I would’ve never guessed!” At times like this, I would often wonder what I could do to make myself appear either more Asian and less white, or vice versa.

Someone I once went to school with was so sure there was no possible way I could be Asian, he was willing to bet money that my mom wasn’t Chinese. On standardized tests or questionnaires, I never knew what to put: was I white, or was I Asian? I usually answered “Other,” because the option to select multiple wasn’t always offered.

Race, by definition, refers to the physical characteristics of a person. While race can include skin color, eye shape, or hair type, ethnicity deals with language and customs. People use these words interchangeably, but there’s an important difference.

With race being such a sensitive topic in our society, even by talking about this I feel as if I

have somehow violated some unspoken rules. This shouldn’t be the case. Everyone should be able to talk about themselves without fearing judgment.

White people have the stereotype of being easy-going, even lazy at times. They might not be motivated to push themselves as much academically as some say Asians would. On the other hand, Asians have the stereotype of being smart. I’ve never fit into either of these areas. I find that I challenge myself too much to be fully understood by the white side of my family, but I’m not smart enough to be considered really “Asian” by some friends. Sometimes I’ll ask a question and classmates will go “Jeanette, that’s so obvious, everyone knows that!” Whether these social stereotypes are right or wrong is to be debated another time, but it is instances like this that only add to my internal struggle.

I, and other multiracial kids, shouldn’t have to struggle to squeeze ourselves into an imaginary box. As a society we should work towards being more open and aware, so that we can make everyone feel comfortable, no matter their background. America is a country built upon the shoulders of immigrants, so we should embrace the blend of different cultures. We’re all just human beings after all.

THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Olympian

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Dia de los Muertos celebrates passed loved ones

By Miguel Bernas
STAFF WRITER

The CVHS Latinos Unidos club and the Puente class held their second annual Día de los Muertos event on Nov. 1. The event featured food, art from Spanish classes, games, music, and an ofrenda altar to remember loved ones.

"I think it's a really good opening event to make our club known and lets us express our culture," says junior Joanne Hernandez.

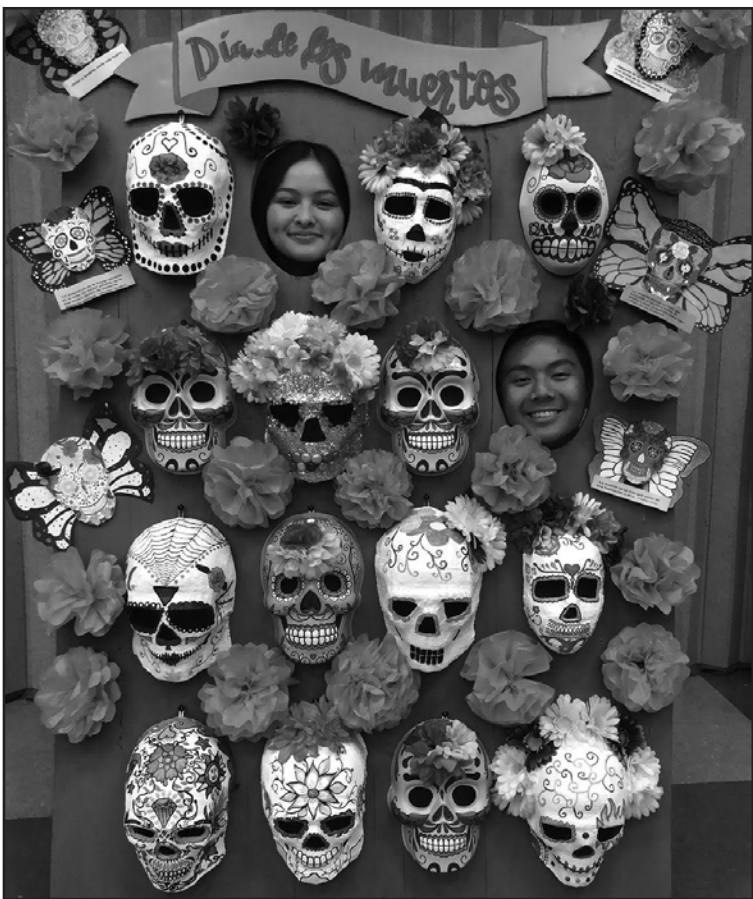
Día de los Muertos, which translates to "Day of the Dead" is widely celebrated each year in Mexico from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2. Families cook favorite dishes and treats of their passed loved ones and decorate altars filled with flowers and ceramic skulls. The event was free for all visitors to celebrate and share the

culture of the widely known Mexican holiday.

"It's a great place to meet people from other communities because it's not just Latinos who come to this event and celebrate this holiday," said Latinos Unidos president Georgina Cortez.

In many other countries, families celebrate their family and friends who have passed away during All Saints Day which is celebrated every year on Nov. 1. Families of many different backgrounds attended the event, bringing an opportunity to share and connect with different cultures. Throughout the event, people welcomed and played games, talked, and observed Mexican art made especially for the occasion.

"I think it's an amazing way to meet other people and we can all come together and celebrate," says Cortez.



MIGUEL BERNAS

A Dia de Los Muertos festival features creative decorations.

Parade lights up the boulevard just in time for the holidays



ELENA LOTTICH

Castro Valley shows off its lights at the Light Parade on Nov. 9.

Castro Valley community unites for the light parade

By Elena Lottich
ONLINE EDITOR

Dancing Christmas trees, a couple of hot rods, and lit up decorations were quite the way to kick off the holiday season as Castro Valley held its annual Light Parade on Saturday Nov. 9.

The annual parade held on Castro Valley Boulevard started with the Castro Valley Market Place and Fusion Dance Proj-

ect's "The Nutcracker," as each team rolled down the boulevard decked out in their holiday spirit. Noise makers and Christmas lights galore, the Castro Valley community showed up, packing the streets to view each team walk the parade.

Next the Castro Valley elementary schools strolled down. Featuring Chabot Elementary with a "United" theme, the Tigers were lit up in red, white, and blue lights as they chanted in unison during the parade.

Other students from Canyon Middle School, Marshall Elementary, Vannoy Elementary, and Redwood Christian showed their spirit as they walked with banners and decorated signs as they lit up the streets.

As each float strolled down

with paraders honking horns and waving to viewers, the ever anticipated tap dancing Christmas Trees turned the corner, beginning their routine in their bright green costumes. As the crowds cheered for the tree dancers, the spirit of Christmas and the holiday season was bright.

"The best part was seeing all the happy children in their lights and getting spirited for the holiday season when the floats pass by. I liked seeing the cars roll down in the lights and the dogs dressed up," said junior Evan Ouki.

The annual Light Parade has been months in the making and was a success, with a large turnout and decorated floats for the upcoming holiday season.

Enjoy a movie with film club

By Alice Tang
STAFF WRITER

Every Friday, movie fanatics or anyone who enjoys a good movie and craves to analyze them should join the film club in room 917 during lunch to watch and discuss movies like "Spider-man into the Spideverse," and many more.

Students like to chill and eat their lunch while enjoying the cinematic experience of the club.

"It's a respite from the regular school day and you can relax and watch movies and discuss them with like minded peers," said club treasurer Paul Friesen.

Club advisor and English teacher Trent Logan, president Banoo Afkhami, and treasurer Paul Friesen had the idea to start the club when they were watch-

ing a YouTube series, "Every Frame a Painting," in class.

"It's a YouTube series that analyzes films that also inspired us to watch films and analyze them ourselves," said Logan.

Additionally, Logan also loves showing films in his class and thought he would help start the club with Afkhami, Friesen,

and club Vice President Miles Bardin.

Movies are currently decided based on popular votes, but will eventually have a set criteria to see the evolution of cinema throughout the years.

"It's just a matter of finding old films that are interesting," said Afkhami.

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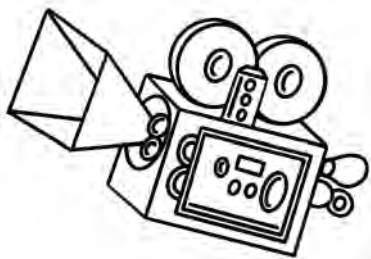
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“Maleficent” sequel storms theaters

By Alex Tam
STAFF WRITER

Maleficent bursts out of the window after a tense showdown between her and Queen Ingrid of Ulstead. As she flies away with her powerful wings and right hand man, Diaval, she is shot by Gerda, the queen’s servant. The iron bullet pierces Maleficent’s side, for iron burns fairies. Wounded Maleficent falls into the rushing waterfall and sinks deep into the river below. Diaval turns back into a human without Maleficent’s magic keeping him a raven. A mysterious winged figure plunges into the water, grabs Maleficent, and flies away with her.

“Maleficent the Mistress of Evil” came out into theaters on Oct. 18. The movie is a sequel to “Maleficent,” which told the story of Maleficent and Princess Aurora. The sequel follows several plot lines including a wedding, a war, and the idea of family and love.

The movie itself was entertaining and engaging with a story that captivates the audience. However, the many storylines that were shoved into the two hour movie were too ambitious and chaotic. The plots were not hard to follow along with, but for younger audience, the many plots may be hard to keep track of. I believe that the movie tried to do so much in one movie that all the plot lines fell short.

I was thoroughly surprised by how much I actually enjoyed the movie. I had gone into the theater not very excited about it. I did not see the need for a sequel to “Maleficent,” because the

first one had done such a good job at wrapping up loose ends. Disney had also replaced the actor who played Prince Philip in the first film with another guy. While watching the movie, I was amazed at how intrigued I was. I was actually very interested and focused during most of the movie.

Unfortunately, towards the end of the movie, I began to be distracted and actually felt like face-palming myself multiple times. It became a mix of “Avengers: Infinity War” and “Tangled.” The Dark Fey disintegrated into black ashes when they were hit with the bombs that were meant to kill all magical fairy life, similar to how the heros from “Avengers: Infinity War” dusted away.

When this happened to Maleficent, I was definitely confused as to how they could kill off the title character of the movie. It took all my strength to not bury my face in my hands as Princess Aurora began to cry, her tears splashing golden on the ashes, reviving Maleficent, just like how Rapunzel’s tears brought Flynn Ryder back to life. I was shocked that Disney would use two concepts from two of its other beloved movies.

Despite my not-so-fond and highly critical review, I still recommend seeing the movie. It has received mixed reviews from critics and audience members, so although I was not the biggest fan of the movie, someone else might be.

“Maleficent the Mistress of Evil” may not have been needed and was far from perfect, but it still was an entertaining movie with beautiful visuals.

“Let it Snow” delivers fun holiday fluff

By Josie de la Torre
STAFF WRITER

From shaving a nipple to a party at Waffle House, Netflix’s newest teen movie, “Let it Snow,” premiered on Nov. 8. A diverse cast of Isabel Moner, Kiernan Shipka, Liv Hewson, Odeya Rush, Shameik Moore, Mitchell Hope, Anna Akana and Jacob Batalon starred together as a group of high school students facing their feelings of friendship and love colliding during a snowstorm.

Originally the film was adapted from “Let it Snow: Three Holiday Romances,” written by John Green, Lauren Myracle, and Maureen Johnson.

The film starts off with three separate situations on Christmas Eve. Moner and Moore play as Julie and Stuart who meet on a train, while Shipka and Hope star as the Duke and Tobin. Rush and Hewson depict Dorrie and Addie, who are best friends but get in a disagreement. Some

parts were cliché, for example your guy best friend becoming jealous while hanging out with another guy, or when your friend is paranoid her boyfriend will cheat and runs back to you.

But the highlights in the movie were the LGBTQ representation and the emotion and realness portrayed through Julie and Stuart’s development.

The flow of “Let it Snow” was acceptable for a cheesy Hallmark-like Christmas movie. Jumping from one situation to another didn’t help at the beginning, but all three affairs wove nicely together. There wasn’t really a need to add unnecessary scenes like the Tin Foil Woman or the party that Batalon’s character tries to and successfully throws.

Julie and Stuart’s development was relatable and quite touching throughout the movie, as they both express their insecurities and problems. Julie, whom was accepted into a university, doesn’t

want to attend as she fears growing up and leaving her mother, who recently became ill. Stuart, who is a pop star, expresses his loneliness and unhappiness during stardom and the holidays.

“Things happen in life. Bad things. Sickness, divorce. It’s scary. And it’s survival to retreat. But if you retreat, you also miss the good things,” said Julie’s mom.

As the film came to a closure, it ended like a typical Hallmark happy ending, but with the surprise of LGBTQ representation!

Cannot really say much, as it is a Christmas movie. It was cute and cliché. Overall, the movie gave a heartwarming feeling but it was hard to get into the Christmas spirit, as it was premiered way before Thanksgiving. If Netflix released “Let it Snow” during December, it would have been more enjoyable to watch during the Christmas Season.

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Kia's kick caps Trojans triumph

By Myla Ogle
SPORTS EDITOR

In the final moments of the varsity football team's game on Nov. 2, the Trojans were determined to defeat the Highlanders in the last game of the season. A wild game had gone into overtime and came down to a 28-yard field goal attempt by kicker Leikela Lunt.

"If we are being honest, I didn't know the distance at all, I didn't know the score, I was kind of just in my own element trying to calm myself down," said Lunt.

The crowd was roaring, increasing the pressure even more. Lunt took her place on the field, focused for the next moment.

"I just tried to zone out everything and I just remember it getting super quiet all of a sudden," said Lunt. She kicked the ball and it flew toward the goal post.



Leikela Lunt played on the varsity football team for two years.

MYLA OGLE

Hours earlier, energy was high as the Trojans rode their bus to Piedmont. Because a JV player was injured and hospitalized in a game against the Highlanders last year, the Trojans were eager for revenge on Piedmont's senior night.

"Usually the team will do chants and I will be in the back because I don't have the same testosterone as them, but we were all crazy with a positive energy from everyone," Lunt.

The game began evenly matched, the ball constantly going back and forth.

"It was a hard fought game that was full of ups and downs with lots of amazing plays from all number of kids," said coach Denny Molzen.

Zach Sandoval ran 22 times for 133 yards and two touchdowns, and caught four passes

for 69 more yards and another touchdown. Cameron Calvillo ran a touchdown in from eight yards out.

On defense, Marcus Miller and Sandoval had eight tackles each, Vincent Rivera and Milad Siddiqi recovered fumbles and Colin Thompson intercepted a pass.

"Scary kick" and overtime

Towards the end of the fourth quarter, the Trojans were down by seven points with time running out. Suddenly they scored a touchdown, bringing up a point after touchdown (PAT) kick which Lunt had to make to keep the Trojans alive.

"That was the first scary kick I had to make because I had to tie it, so if I would've missed, which I had earlier in the game, we would have lost," she said.

After Lunt kicked the ball through the goal posts, the team congratulated her with hugs and high fives. "I thought that was going to be the scariest kick of the night but then I was like 'Oh shoot we are going into overtime!'" said Lunt.

As the Trojans started on offense, Cavillo threw a touchdown to Sandoval, setting up another kick from Lunt. "I was super nervous the entire time, and then we scored and I had to make the next PAT to keep us in the game," she said.

Lunt made another successful kick and was quickly congratulated again. The Trojans led by seven, but the drama wasn't over.

Piedmont went on offense, with the Trojan defense almost making a stop, but the Highlanders too were determined, scoring

a touchdown and extra point to tie the game, 28-28. The Trojans would need to score again to win.

"My coach tried to calm me down because he could tell I was pretty nervous," Lunt said. "My toes were numb, like how am I going to kick if my toes are numb?"

As the Trojans drove to the Piedmont 11-yard line, Lunt kept practicing on the sideline. Then it was time. Lunt took the field, feeling the pressure.

"One of the guys"

Lunt has been the varsity kicker for two years, has loved being part of the program and has tremendous appreciation for her fellow players.

"I was so much more comfortable this year. Last year I was kind of like shy, but this year I

was with the team all the time, I would get breakfast with them after summer practice, I would go out with them to be their wingwoman, just stuff like that. I was like one of the guys kinda so I was so much more comfortable," exclaimed Lunt.

Lunt followed the same conditioning and expectations has any other player on the team. She went to film, weightlifting, trainings, and bonding events. She would ultimately walk into the locker room as one of the guys.

"Being a female in very male dominant sport, overcoming breaking a barrier which I'm sure hasn't been easy at times for her, all added to the moment," Molzen said.

Lunt ran up to the field with her game face on zoning out the loud cheers of the stadium. The next moment she would remember forever after the ball left her foot. The ball gracefully went through the goal posts followed by screams from the crowd and a mosh pit of congratulatory hugs. The Trojans had won, 31-28.

"All of a sudden I got taken by the football mosh and they were picking me up and handing me to different people and being like 'THANK YOU WE LOVE YOU!' It was insane," said Lunt.

"That will be a memory our players and Leikela will cherish for the rest of their lives," said Molzen. "All the hard work, sacrifice and time is well worth moments like we had. The tears of joy, smiles, hugs, well wishes, display of love and affection for each other were just amazing."

Molzen expressed pride in Lunt and his whole team. "It was a total team win with lots of players stepping up" he said.

Athlete of the Month

Captain Chacon takes the court

By Kimia Emadi
A&E EDITOR

Tie-dye t-shirts kicked off the season for the varsity volleyball team thanks to their captain, senior Ashley Chacon, who got the team together for a day of making shirts and joking around to ease their nerves about the upcoming season.

"I've taught them not to stress over the game," said Chacon, who helps hold the team together and mentor the younger members.

"It all just falls into place when you're enjoying the game," she said, knowing that a good team

doesn't have to be a distressed one.

Chacon is a firm believer in stress relief, even if it involves minute-long meditation sessions that are thrown off by laughter and jokes.

Now, as the team captain, she's become a mentor for her teammates. Especially for the underclassmen on the team, she's been a guiding force.

Kaitlyn Chihoui had tears in her eyes when she gave her senior night speech about Chacon, saying,

"She's the most caring, helpful person I know. I couldn't have made it through freshman year

without her."

Chacon's volleyball career has been impressive to say the least, having made varsity as only a freshman and holding almost a decade of experience under her belt.

She uses her role as captain to mentor and comfort others, saying, "I don't think being captain is a title or a job, it just means that people look up to you for direction."

Volleyball is anything but dull with her. The athletes often have pregame lunches, bonding events, and even dress-up days where themes like Disney, gender swap, and college gear bring laughter and joy to the team.

Chacon plans to take her skills and bright spirit to college and continue her volleyball career, although no plans are set in stone at the moment.



KIMIA EMADI

Ashley Chacon (22) is ready to destroy her opponent.

Freshman phenoms lead Trojans' charge

By Tiffany Ho
NEWS EDITOR

Two freshmen led the CVHS cross country teams this year for the first time in at least 40 years during the WACC Championship at Hayward High on Nov. 9. Despite the weather conditions that day, everybody pushed themselves to run their hardest. Their hard work paid off as almost everyone achieved a new personal record (PR).

Freshman Cameron Huynh cut through the fog with long strides, placing fifth in the girls varsity championship out of 60 girls. Being a freshman on varsity, she has done incredibly during practice and at meets. She looks forward to improving her time for future seasons.

On the boys varsity team, freshman Jacob Bull placed 12th, but was the first freshman and the first Trojan to cross the finish line.

Bull ran extraordinarily during this race and was the only freshman to place in the top 30;

the next freshman finished 40th, 45 seconds behind him. Bull was happy with how the meet went and set a new PR by 15 seconds.

"I've been having a good season and I hope I can keep it up throughout other years," said Bull.

The Trojans have been working hard since the start of the school year, running miles and miles to prepare themselves for their championship.

"I'm really proud of the team, both the girls and boys, because I see how hard they work every day since August," said senior Josephine Taylor. "I think it's finally starting to pay off."

As a team captain and a senior, Taylor has been supporting her team since the very beginning, seeing all the ups and downs. As the season is coming to an end with their last meet on Nov. 23, everyone has improved so much.

"The season went great. Our team is very young, so we have everybody that is going to return next year," said coach Dino Cardiasmenos.



TIFFANY HO

Freshmen Cameron Huynh (left) and Jacob Bull (right) led the Trojans at the league meet.

Athletes of the Month



TIFFANY HO

Tobias Taylor races toward the finish line.

Taylor's dedication is outstanding

By Brittany Bin
FEATURE EDITOR

"Eat, sleep, run, repeat" is the life of junior Tobias Taylor. Taylor, an exceptional runner, has been breaking personal records and making history since his freshman year.

A popular goal of many runners is to run a mile under five minutes. Taylor met this goal when he was only in his freshman year, but his improvements did not stop there.

He trains rigorously every day to improve his times. His current goals include earning a mile time better than four

minutes and 30 seconds and getting under 16 minutes and 30 seconds for his three mile run.

To help himself train, Taylor usually focuses on improving his speed. He does specific workouts on the track to improve which are typically shorter distances. He prefers track over cross country, because track is faster and quicker. It is easier for him to improve his times in track and field.

Taylor's biggest supporter would have to be his mom because she constantly supports him by going to all of his meets.

In the future, he hopes to

earn a college scholarship for running. Taylor has dedicated a good part of his life to running. He started running track in the sixth grade and he started running cross country in the seventh grade. In middle school, he was part of a team outside of school called the Mount Diablo Heat.

Taylor's favorite part of being a part of the cross country team is not only improving his time, but also watching his teammates improve their times.

"It's also great to see other people meet their goals," Taylor said.

Sophomore Sierra strives to greatness

By Tiffany Ho
NEWS EDITOR

As the fog settled around the field, the students were ready to run. Hundreds of students from around the bay were meeting on a chilly Saturday morning for their championship. At the sound of the gun, 60 varsity runners began surging ahead for their three-mile race. Feet pounding fast on the ground, one particular runner stood out among the sea of multicolor jerseys.

Sophomore Sierra Kasl-Godley has been running ever since

she was in the fourth grade as a sprinter. Now, she is on the cross country and track teams, doing long distance for both.

She joined the team her freshman year and hopes to continue running on the team for the rest of her high school years.

A typical warm-up for her and the other girls on the team is a mile.

While some people may grow horrified at the thought of running a mile, Kasl-Godley finds it fun to run with the support of her team.

"Our team is pretty small. There's only 14 of us," said

Kasl-Godley.

At the WACC Championship on Nov. 9, Kasl-Godley ran her all-time best for three miles at Hayward High, setting a new personal record.

All this wouldn't be possible without the amazing support of her coaches.

"The coaches are really good. They make us run hard which is good, but they are also really nice," said Kasl-Godley.

Running long distances is no easy feat. What motivates Kasl-Godley is the thoughts of improving her time.

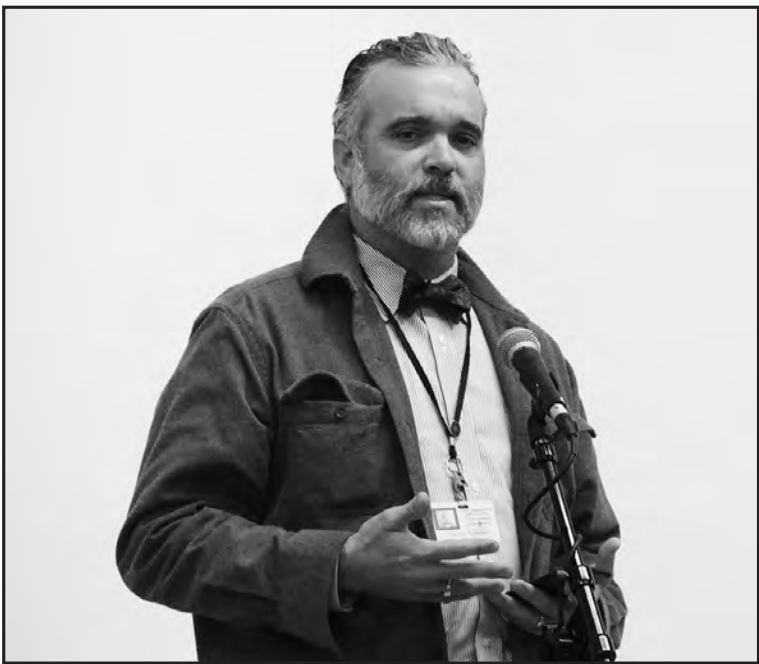
Though she is only a sophomore, she is doing well on the varsity team and hopes to do even better in the future.

"Sierra is one of the most dedicated and responsible people I know," said junior Sophia Siopack. "The team is really lucky to have her."



TIFFANY HO

Sierra Kasl-Godley runs a determined race.



KIMIA EMADI

Principal Blaine Torpey reads a moving poem and Chano Tizon of the Mosaic Project sings campfire songs at a Poetry Slam on Nov. 20.

Local activist arrested at protest

By Megan Baldwin
STAFF WRITER

Local activist Billy Bradford participated in a rally at the Supreme Court about LGBTQ+ protections in the workplace on Oct. 8. At the rally, Bradford was arrested, alongside 130 others.

“I didn’t plan on getting arrested, it just turned out that way,” he said.

It started as a peaceful demonstration, but after the cases were heard, the press arrived, and officials came to shut it down. Police declared that if protesters didn’t clear the street, they would be arrested.

In the US, it’s illegal to fire employees based on gender, race, or religion; however, it is legal to fire someone based on sexual orientation in most states. Three cases were being heard that day over LGBTQ+ employment protections, surrounding the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Bradford came to the rally to be a visible presence. Having hundreds of thousands of people at a rally clearly indicates that it’s

an issue people care about.

Bradford was arrested on charges of crowding and obstructing. Bradford said that he knew exactly what would happen following his arrest: being held for a few hours, and a background check. Officials also took mugshots and fingerprints, and the arrest was put on his record.

The day following his arrest, he appeared in federal court to pay a fine of \$50. Bradford was happy to pay the fine, because it would showed people care about LGBTQ+ rights.

“Many religious people think they can discriminate because they have a Bible in their hands, thinking that their religious beliefs trump everything,” said Bradford.

If people find it illegal to fire someone based on gender, race, or religion, why shouldn’t it be illegal to fire someone based on sexuality, he asks.

“If you feel strongly about something, you need to get up out of your chair, up from behind your keyboard, and get out on the streets,” said Bradford.

World kindness day brightens CV

By Josie de la Torre
STAFF WRITER

From school supplies, health supplies, and treats like hot chocolate or popcorn given out to students, the first annual World Kindness Day celebrated at CVHS on Nov. 13 was a huge success.

World Kindness Day was organized by textbook room clerk Jennifer Oliver as she was researching kindness projects to do for CVHS. The idea was to give students tiny, kind gifts while showing the importance of kindness.

The Wellness Center, Leadership, DECA, the health office, front office, library and textbook room all participated in handing out treats,

supplies, and fun items like wild flower seeds or wrist key chains to wear.

“The overall goal is to show that kindness is important, and needs to be part of who we are and what we do on a daily basis. There have been many things happening in our world and country that have not been kind, so it is up to us as intelligent thinking human beings to try and do what we can in a positive manner to change that,” said Oliver.

CVHS would not have been able to celebrate a day of kindness without the donations given from UC Berkeley Events and Conferences, Pete’s Ace Hardware, Walgreens, and private donors. Organized in three weeks, Oliver and the participants did

an excellent job putting together World Kindness Day in a short amount of time. They reported that between 40-200 items or treats were given away from each location.

“We gave out pencils at the front desk and our lunch crowd was busier than usual as people were getting pencils,” said library assistant Melissa Bateatte.

Next year, they plan on having more small items and treats to give away and have giveaway locations closer for easier distribution.

“We are planning on an event next year Friday, Nov. 23, 2020,” said Oliver. “The hope is being kind can help to grow more kindness towards all, humans, animals and our world.”

Power outages plague the state

By Michael Tam
STAFF WRITER

Power outages implemented by PG&E to prevent fires affected hundreds of CVHS students through October. Despite this, the Kincade fire began in Sonoma County, sending smoky air to the CVHS campus while many students had no power.

The first wave of outages began Wednesday, Oct. 9 and were mostly over by the end of the next day.

The second wave of outages began Saturday, Oct. 26 and were over by Monday, Oct. 28. A third wave of outages was scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 29, but was canceled after the weather improved.

PG&E began its policy of shutting off power in bad weather conditions after poor maintenance of PG&E electrical equipment caused many fires in recent years, including last year’s fatal Camp Fire that forced many students to wear masks at school.

Many have criticized PG&E

for its handling of the outages, including Governor Gavin Newsom, who has called for those whose power was shut off to receive compensation.

One student, Junior Monica Lu, reported how power outages at her home have been affecting her. “Oh, it’s been great [not having power]. Doing homework with a candle and flashlight, taking cold showers, brushing your teeth with a flashlight, and not being able to cook, it’s fun,” said Lu, sarcastically.

Others, like Junior Christine Xu, were lucky enough to not have their power shut off. “It’s okay,” said Xu about the outages, “because teachers are giving extensions to assignments that require electricity.”

Although CVHS was not affected by either power outage, the poor air quality caused by the Kincade fire led some to hope that school would be canceled.

Four other schools in the district: Jensen Ranch, Palomares, Proctor, and Canyon, closed during the outages

because they were directly affected.

However, as teacher Kathleen Cassidy explained, cancelling school may not be desirable. “If we can’t justify to the state government why we shouldn’t have school and we cancel it then we will come back in June to make that day up,” said Cassidy. “If we have power at school we are expected to be here.”

Cassidy also said that air quality was not bad enough to cancel school. “I live in Oakland and it was bad. When I woke up, [smoke] was in the house; it was everywhere.” But at CVHS, explained Cassidy, “in general, if you keep the doors and windows closed, it is not too bad.”

Xu agreed. “I think the air quality is not bad enough to cancel school for us at least. Even though other schools are affected by it because they are closer to the fires,” said Xu.

Because the outages are based on weather conditions, it is unclear if or when the next outage affecting Castro Valley will occur.



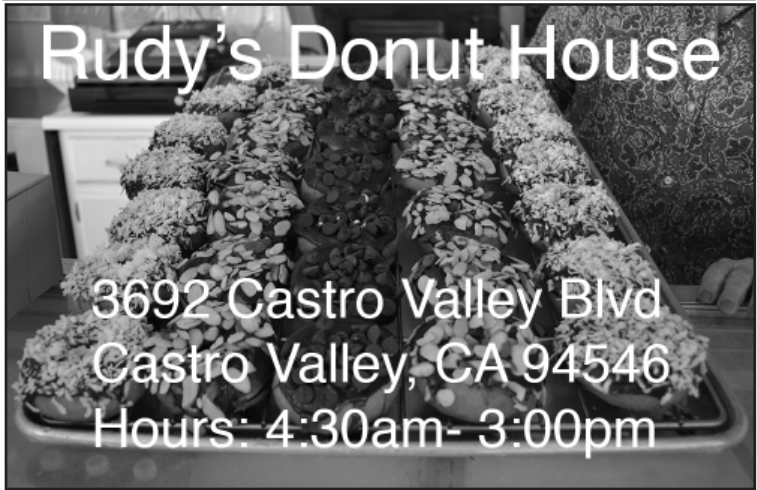
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