



Olympian



Page 2:
Administration
goes too far
in pursuit of
vapers



Page 4:
ASB Rep.
Alex Kwan
helps
homeless



Page 6:
Pearmund
unfies
volleyball
team

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 10

MAY 10, 2019

WE ARE BORN TO SEEK THE TRUTH!

WWW.CVHSOLYMPIAN.COM

Seniors improve school SBAC scores

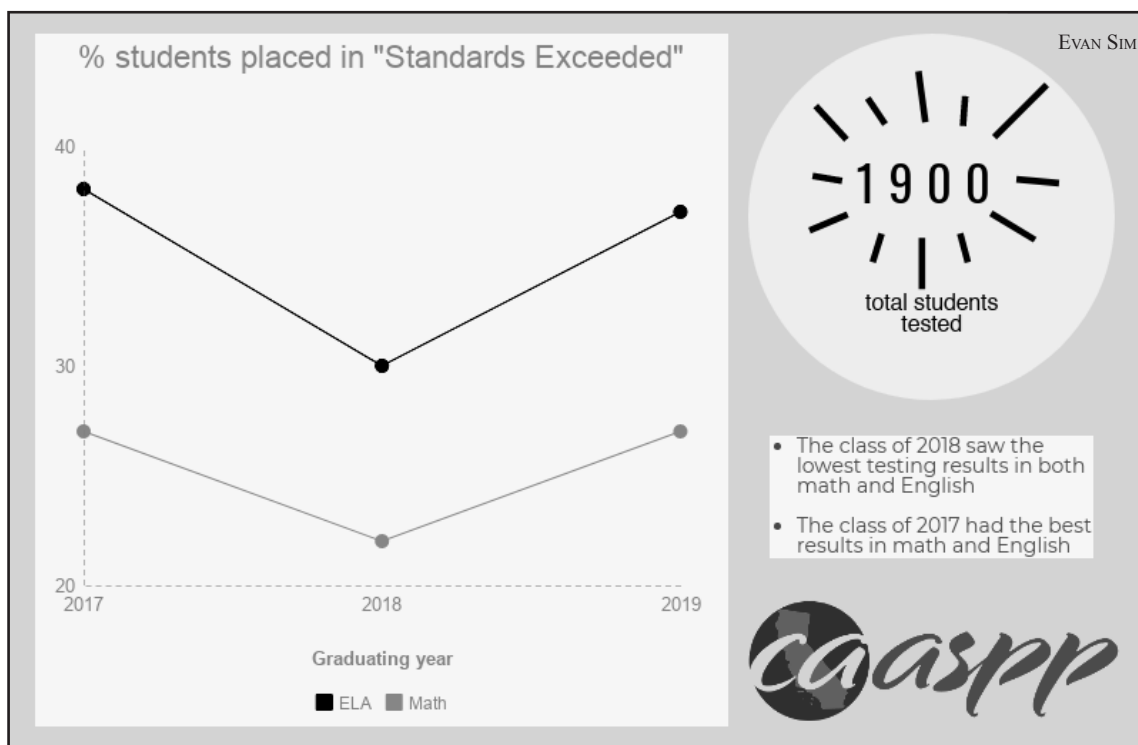
By Myla Ogle
STAFF WRITER

Members of the class of 2019 improved the CVHS scores on the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) which they took in 2018.

SBAC is a standardized test that is mainly given to juniors in the high school grades. It is based on Common Core state standards.

Overall the juniors from the class of 2019, the current seniors, have the highest CVHS scores for the past three years. The "standards met and exceeded levels" have improved as well.

SBAC performance data provides important information to determine whether students are on track to pursue college and a career by the time they graduate from



As for math the class of 2019 scored 34.2 percent for "Standard Exceeded," 25.7 percent

"I would choose the SBAC over STAR test any day."

Juliette Torres
Junior

for "Standards Met" and 21.7 percent for "Not met."

This test is important for students to take because "it helps our school ranking, and overall academic success that we can share with the community." See **SBAC: page 8**

Swalwell makes bid for presidency

By Natalie Costello
STAFF WRITER

Congressman Eric Swalwell announced he was running for president on April 8 after several months hinting about the possibility.

As the first person to go to college in his family, he has indicated that he is doing what his parents taught him by fighting for those who haven't had their voices heard. He wants to fight for those who haven't had the same opportunity as he has had in America.

Swalwell has built his campaign around challenging the country to "go big on the issues we take on, be bold in the solutions we offer and do good again in the way that we govern."

On April 14, Swalwell held a rally at Dublin High School, which was the same school that he attended.

"I saw houses with two new cars and I saw houses with none," he reflected during his rally. He saw the disparities in America at the young age of 9 on his paper route

high school.

"This is important for kids that are trying to go to college because their scores can help them with their entry. It also

helps with placement in college," said Assistant Principal Chris Fortenberry.

The current seniors scored 41.7 percent in the "Standards



which inspired him to fight for America.

Swalwell has been in Congress since 2013 and has fought hard for many Democratic issues. He calls for a program to buy back all assault weapons and for no guns to be sold to people with criminal records to help put an end to gun violence in

America.

"I want to be the first campaign to make ending gun violence the top priority," he stated at his hometown rally.

Swalwell also believes in individual activism, advocating CVHS students on the Close Up Washington D.C. trip to take a stance and fight for the See **PRES: page 8**

Reparations for slavery proposed

By Talaya Francois
STAFF WRITER

Many African American students at CVHS are in favor of reparations for slave descendants, which is one of the topics presidential candidates are discussing for the 2020 election.

Democratic candidate Marianne Williamson proposed a plan to pay \$200 billion in reparations to slave descendants. Other candidates have been vague as to what reparations would exactly mean if they were president.

Currently, there is a bill introduced to Congress called H.R. 40, which calls for the investigation of reparation proposals, however it does not pose any action for paying reparations.

"I am glad that it's been introduced. But I hope it goes beyond the point of introduction. I hope the bill sparks a lot of discussion and reaches

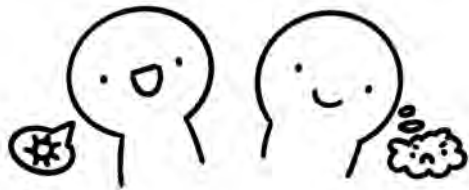
preliminary agreement for what reparations should be," said Phyllis Thomas, an instructional aide at CVHS.

A reparations bill was introduced to Congress 30 years ago, however Congress never moved the bill past introduction.

"I am not in favor of monetary reparations, but I would take 40 acres of land. Money is fleeting. It has no intrinsic value whatsoever except for the paper it's printed on, while land rarely loses its value. Land endures," said former state house reporter and national radio host Valerie Evans.

Evans explained that her husband's family owns land in Mississippi. On this land, they grow their own food, hunt meat, have a well for fresh water, and an independent source for electricity.

"The lack of land keeps us hooked to buying our needs" See **SLAVERY: page 8**



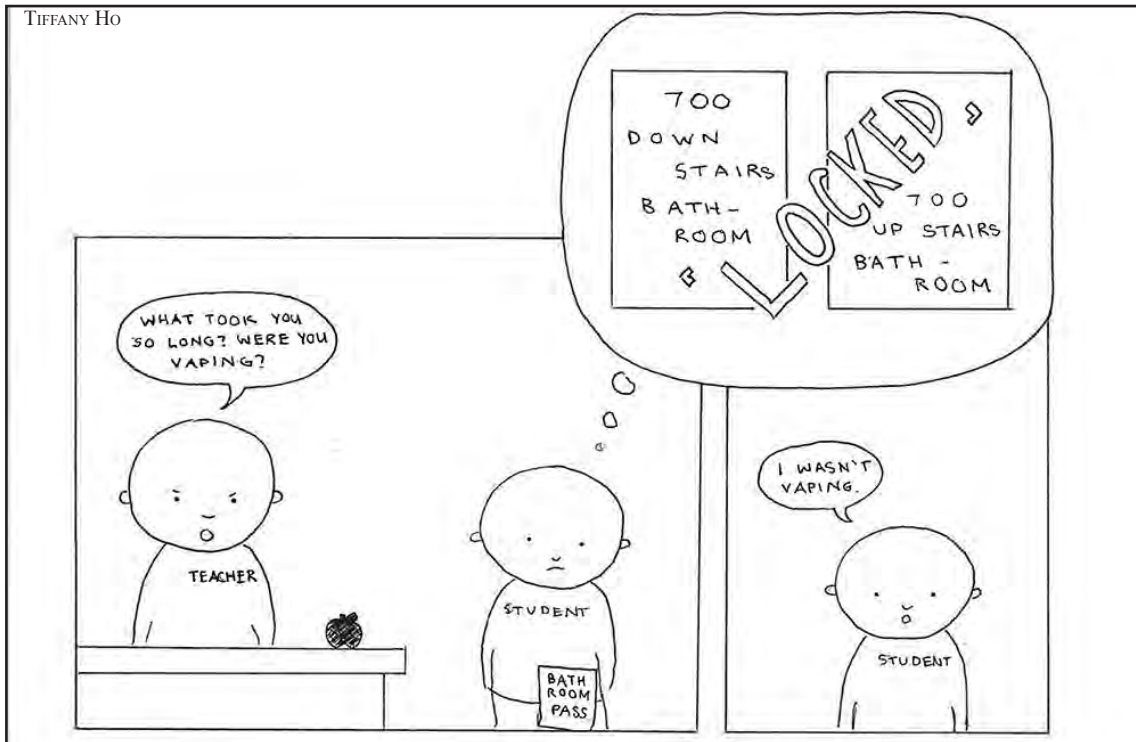
Education and time will stop vaping

Editorial:

In recent years, the rise of vaping amongst students hasn't gone unnoticed, and the school administration has certainly taken efforts to curb this. But are these methods truly effective, or even worth the consequences?

Over the past few years, the administration's attempts to stop vaping on campus have centered around the school bathrooms. These measures include locking doors to restrooms to in an effort to supplement the routes taken by staff patrolling the campus, as a way of reducing the number of unwatched areas. This sometimes results in a mere one open bathroom after school to serve the 3,000+ student body.

The Olympian believes these, and the majority of the other measures taken to stop vapers on campus, are largely ineffective. Locked doors may prevent potential vapers from polluting the air in these public restrooms, but it also prevents the rest of the school's students, a far larger in number than the relatively low amounts of vapers, from utilizing them for their actual purpose. This forces students to find other



restrooms and lengthens already long lines. Ordinary students on their way to the restroom are trailed and scrutinized like vandals by supervising staff members. It might be possible to allow more open restrooms if more staff were patrolling, or if sensors were installed to detect vaping, but that would

not only be costly, but brings us to another, more pressing issue.

If offenders know that the bathrooms are protected by locks and patrols, there is little to stop them from simply finding another quiet, isolated spot where they can't be caught as easily. Some have even taken to vaping in classrooms, where a

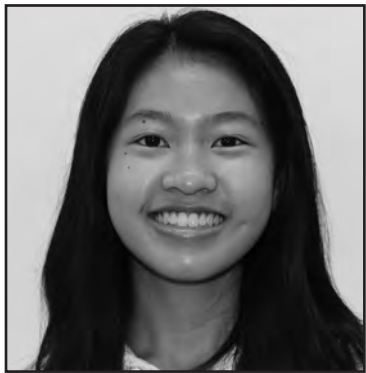
number of faculty are unable to recognize its scent. But perhaps we're looking at this issue the wrong way. The Olympian believes that it may be more effective to tackle this problem not as a criminal issue, but as a health issue.

Instead of hunting the halls for students vaping, when they

can easily hide their contraband and actions at a moment's notice, The Olympian suggests a greater effort should be taken by the school to notify students of the dangers involved in vaping, that it's not just a harmless vice, as is commonly believed, whether this be through announcements, fliers, or whatever other methods the administration sees fit. Despite recent efforts to raise awareness, few know of the Wellness Center's offered intervention for substance use, let alone the fact that one exists for students on campus at all.

This is something which simply cannot be enforced effectively. While we cannot force many students to stop vaping, we can help them make the choice not to do so. It took generations to bring tobacco to where it stands now, and it may take years before we bring vaping to the same place. By stigmatizing this behavior, we aid the process. When more take a stance against it, more will report it, and more still will actively choose not to vape. We believe students will realize the detriments with time and awareness, not with force.

Stop preying on innocent animals through hunting



By Tiffany Ho
STAFF WRITER

Behind the bushes in the grassy open plains of Zimbabwe, a man stands with a gun pointed towards a beautiful lion. His mane golden and head held high, he walks

through the grasslands like a king, completely unaware of what is about to occur. The man positions his gun, and in an instant and shoots the lion dead. He walks triumphantly towards the animal; it's his trophy now.

Trophy hunting has always been a controversial topic. Trophy hunting has been a part of American history since 1892. In California, kids as young as 12 years old can obtain a hunting license to hunt big game species (bobcats, deer, bear, etc.).

Trophy hunting is considered a hunting sport that helps wildlife conservation. It does bring in a lot of money that could then be spent on nature reserves and to help conservation, but if there

are no more animals left to conserve, there is no use for this conservation money. Instead of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to hunt animals, people could donate directly to wildlife reservations if they want to help the conservation effort.

Climate change and animal poaching have been harming the diverse species we have here on Earth. The African Wildlife Foundation stated that by 2050, there will be no more lions left on this planet if nothing changes. Everyone should try and increase the population of these animals, not decrease it.

Several weeks ago, a video of a man shooting a sleeping lion went viral on the internet. Even though

it was stated that the video that it was filmed in 2011, it was only recently leaked out onto different social media platforms. The man was later identified as Guy Gorney, a trophy hunter from Illinois who has killed over 70 animals.

The lion was sleeping peacefully in Zimbabwe before Gorney came up and shot him several times. The lion woke up quickly in pain from the bullet, but Gorney didn't stop there. He shot two more bullets before he was told to stop. His guide praised him for his "spectacular catch" and like all trophy hunters, Gorney even posed for a picture with his newfound trophy. Many people, including me, were outraged. How can you praise someone for taking

the lives of innocent animals?

In an interview in 2015, Gorney said, "You can say, why'd you shoot a lion? I love zebras, so shooting a lion probably saves 70 zebras a year, give or take. There are all these kinds of balances in nature." The food chain exists on Earth for a reason, predators eat their prey and it moves in a cycle. Killing off a predator throws off the food chain and causes many different problems for the ecosystem.

Hunting an already critically endangered animal doesn't help with conservation, it only causes it to become more endangered than it already is. Conservation begins with increasing populations, not the other way around.

PHOTOpinions

What do you think about the administration's efforts against vaping?



“ I think they're putting in good effort, but locking doors could affect other people that need to go to the bathroom who aren't vaping. ”
Caleb Bogdanov
Freshman



“ I don't think locking the doors is the best way to handle it. A better way might be just having someone stand outside the doors. ”
Tyler Morgan
Sophomore



“ Locking the doors isn't really effective because people still vape anyways. Having campus patrolers walk into the bathrooms probably works better. ”
Kyla Frias
Junior



“ It's still not good enough, I think they should start having more dogs on campus to sniff out drugs. ”
Chris Bzowski
Senior



“ I think they're taking the step in the right direction, but if they just lock the bathroom doors then I still think people will find other ways. ”
Vickie Gilmour

Anti-vaccinators are causing a crisis



By Arya Emadi

STAFF WRITER

Anti-vaccinators are becoming more and more common these days and this is causing a crisis. The movement gained steam when former doctor Andrew Wakefield released a proven-false study linking several vaccines to autism (view-able on “The Lancet,” albeit retracted), but it was and is the general fear about the contents of vaccines that power the movement. The leadership of anti-vaxxers consists mainly of such dis-

graced medical professionals, and its base is mostly concerned parents. Some of you all, dear readers, may be these parents’ daughters and sons. Some of you may choose not to think about vaccines because they hurt, or you may avoid them actively wondering if those people just might be onto something. Don’t be like that. Just go to the doctor’s office, or a seasonal clinic held at a local elementary school, or wherever to get your shots. Our school’s nurse has some good news, however. “99% of the students are vaccinated,” said nurse Sandee Velasquez. She does not see the school as being in any danger. So yay! Just make sure that you guys continue to get your vaccinations when it is up to you to remember to go to that clinic every year. Talk to your parents and make sure your younger siblings are vaccinated to help prevent a crisis such as the CDC verified Minnesota 2017 measles out-

break (which affected Somali immigrants influenced by anti-vax rhetoric) from happening in our Castro Valley and, for that matter, any other place we go off to. The principle of herd immunity (supported as fact by the US Department of Health and Human Services) states that the more immunized people there are in a population, the more resistant the population itself is to viruses. This means that your shiver-inducing flu can ripple out to literally kill a baby. Young children are more vulnerable to viruses, and the herd immunity is what protects them from death by disease. Meaning that every person in this school, this community, this world relies on others to keep them safe. So, if you don’t feel like you’re doing anything positive for yourself, then treat it like charity or civic duty, because one vulnerable person can make the difference between the life and death of a child (and not anything to do with autism.)

Buttigieg is an exciting new presidential candidate



By Emily O’Dwyer

STAFF WRITER

Presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg is being compared to President Barack Obama in his ideology, but I doubt you have even heard his name, let alone pronounced it. The Washington Post referred to him as “the most interesting mayor you’ve never heard of.” Elected mayor of South Bend Indiana at only 29 years old, Buttigieg was re-elected with 80 percent of the votes in 2015 despite the fact that he came out as gay in the middle of the election. Buttigieg was a U.S Navy lieutenant and speaks seven languages including Norwegian, not to mention he is also an author. At 37, he would be the first millennial president and the youngest president in history by five years. When asked why he wouldn’t wait a couple more years before running he responded “I don’t think you do this because you want to do it someday, I think you run for any office because you think the needs of the office meet the moment and what you bring to the table.” Being a millennial, Buttigieg was a part of the first school shooting generation, a generation that supplied the most troops after the 9/11 attacks. He believes millennials “will be on the business end of climate change.” Millennials

are also currently on track to make less than the generation before, which has never before happened. He believes that his generation and younger have the most at stake. Buttigieg was the first Democratic presidential candidate to appear on Fox News. When asked about climate change and his stance on the Green New Deal, he said he believes that it’s more of a “goal than a plan” and that “scientifically, the right year to do that was yesterday, we have got to do this.” When talking about restoring manufacturing jobs and getting votes in the Midwest, he is being realistic about the fact that we cannot travel back in time and have the same type of manufacturing jobs as we did in the 50s. Technology and the economy have changed, and we must change with it. He also wants to make some changes to the Supreme Court. At the moment, when a justice steps down, the current president rushes to get a judge who is from his party. “We’ve got to make some type of structural form to depoliticize the Supreme Court,” said Buttigieg. I have to be honest that I am worried about the 2020 election. I personally do not support President Donald Trump’s ideology because I find that it is filled with hatred, unrealistic, and going in the wrong direction for the nation. I do not believe there has been a strong Republican candidate for president in some time. People are currently more focused on labels, such as political parties, when we should be focused on the ideas and values of candidates. I believe our nation is at a turning point, and as of now I think Buttigieg will be the one to bring our country to a new age.

California schools need funding



By Natalie Costello

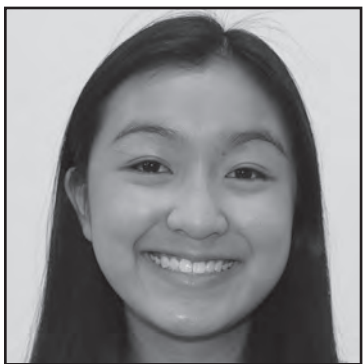
STAFF WRITER

It’s not shocking anymore to hear about how California’s public schools are underfunded. We all know that. According to former State Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin, California came out as 41st in the nation for education spending per student, putting us in the bottom ten states. In a nation where we rank near the top in many categories, why is our education funding so low? Children are the future and we aren’t spending enough money

in California. Our public schools desperately need more funding. We have teachers, custodians and most of the staff working multiple jobs just to make ends meet. That is not okay. When the people who are keeping the schools running functionally and the people who take care of our students are struggling we must come together to support them. It is no secret that teachers ask for simple necessities that students use everyday in the classroom at the beginning of the year, such as tissues, paper reams, and much more. But yet the funding given to teachers each year isn’t enough. They constantly have to go into their own wallets to get necessary supplies. California public schools need more funding. Teachers shouldn’t have to work multiple jobs on top of taking care of students and grading; it is too much. We must come together to get more funding for California public schools.

On Wednesday, April 23, a number of students and teachers from the East Bay for Public Education went to Sacramento capitol building to protest the lack of funding. A mass of people wore red for education. It was incredible to see so many people come out to support education and funding for students. As a student, I don’t always feel supported at school because the teachers are too busy to talk to us. They are busy providing for their family because our state does not provide enough funding. This isn’t okay and we need to do something about it. Coming together to support education was a phenomenal experience and made me feel like maybe a change was gonna come. Children are our future and we must put money into supporting them. We must fight for our teachers, janitors, and mental health care providers. We need to do something about this. It starts with you and me.

Net neutrality shows lack of bipartisanship



By Brittany Bin

STAFF WRITER

Democrats have attempted to pass a bill to save net neutrality once and for all. The bill, Save the Internet Act, has been anything but successful. I find it disheartening to know that our government can’t come to a bipartisan decision about anything. If they can’t solve problems about the internet, how will other future problems get solved? The net neutrality debate has been going around the government for 15 years now. There has to be

a more effective way to make decisions in the government. House Majority Leader, Steny Hoyer, announced on March 15 that the House will be voting on the bill on the week of April 8. Many Democrats believe that the internet is free and should open to all citizens for free. I agree with that statement. The internet is used for so many reasons: to communicate with others, to work, or to research. The internet is not something anyone can take away from the whole country. Democrats have finally stepped up and wrote their own bill. They have been waiting for the Republicans to come to the table and negotiate a net neutrality bill. Since Republicans are no longer the majority of the House, Democrats decided to take matters in their own hand and construct a bill. I think that the only way to

solve the conflict about net neutrality is for both parties to sit down and construct a bill together. If both parties write their own bill, without collaboration, then no conclusion will ever be met. Fighting and arguing will not help the House come to a decision both parties are happy with. Many say that even if the Save the Internet Act is passed in the House, passing the Senate will be even harder. The House has a Democratic majority and getting the bill passed will be a lot easier. The Senate has a Republican majority and most Republicans won’t support the bill. If net neutrality keeps being an issue in the government, no decision will ever be with due to the two disagreeing parties. Will the government ever come to agreement with each other. I believe we need to find a more effective way to make decisions.



THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Olympian

The Olympian is a publication of the journalism class at Castro Valley High School, 19400 Santa Maria Ave., Castro Valley, California 94546. © 2019

Editors-in-Chief.....Nathanial Ortiz
Ria Panjwani

News Editor.....Derek Neyer

Opinion Editor.....Andrew Watanabe

Feature Editor.....Jenny Pham

Sports Editor.....Thomas Vergara

Arts and Entertainment Editor.....EmmaYin

Photo Editor.....Hayate Moro

Video Editor.....Mara Moysen

Business Managers.....Audrey Manzano
Milagros Aquino

Online Editors.....Katelyn Wong
Evan Sim

Copy Editor.....Rachel Stein

Staff Writers: Brittany Bin, Natalie Costello, Kayla Craft-Williams, Andrew Craig, Arya Emadi, Kimia Emadi, Talaya Francois, Eyzid Hadi, Tiffany Ho, Joshua Levy, Elena Lottich, Emily O’Dwyer, Myla Ogle, Rachel Schoenfeld, Katrina Siler, Nikita Thomas, Jeanette Wallis

Advisor.....Matt Johanson

Pops shares “big love” with CV community



EYZID HADI

Shannon Small (left), Megan Kelly (middle), and Anabelle Fung (right) perform “Born This Way” by Lady Gaga.



EYZID HADI

Vocal ensemble sings and dances to “Get On Your Feet,” a cheerful song about getting up and having a fun time.



EYZID HADI

Audrey Soohoo and Kimberly Boakye sing “Human” by Christina Perri about the strength and fragility of humans.

By Eyzid Hadi
STAFF WRITER

Pops 2019 just completed its 2019 run with a message of big love!

Pops is an annual student-led pops-themed concert brought to us by the CVHS choir program, led by conductor Laryssa Sadoway and accompanist Allier Manahan. Pops is the only concert each year that is creatively, musically, and administratively led by student leaders.

This year’s theme was “Big Love.” The theme was created by Pops creative director and senior choir student Grachelle Jean-Philippe, who wanted to not only put on an entertaining concert but use the choir program’s influence and reach to promote acceptance and love.

“So, Pops this year has definitely broadened a lot from the original theme that I presented back last year. But honestly, after watching it come together

and seeing how hard everybody in the choir program had worked with the songs that were sung, I feel great about the show,” said Jean-Philippe.

This year’s Pops showcased songs such as “Born This Way” by Lady Gaga, “Who You Are” by Jessie J, and “Imagine” by John Lennon. Each song conveyed a positive message that choir wanted to promote.

Pops “showcased a bunch of different talent with the choir students, anywhere from solos, duos, trios, small groups and big groups; but they all came together to perform a show based on a theme,” said director and senior choir student Teresa Le.

The first show was last Friday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m., followed by a matinee on Saturday April 13 at 2:00 p.m., and an evening show at 7:00 p.m. In-school teasers were on Friday, April 12 from second to fifth periods and included songs by A Capella and Madrigals.

Alex Kwan isn’t afraid of honesty



Alex Kwan advocates for better funding (middle) and poses with an awarded student (right).

By Rachel Stein
COPY EDITOR

Having a Snapchat streak with Congressman and presidential candidate Eric Swalwell is extremely on brand for CVHS senior and ASB School Board Representative Alex Kwan.

From helping the homeless and refugees through an organization called Kaleo, representing students here at CVHS, and more, Kwan does it all.

As ASB school board representative, he helped pass a district-wide dress code that made the dress code much less strict for middle schoolers. He is currently working on the district grading policy as well.

He is also not afraid of speaking the truth at CVUSD board

meetings, shedding light on the major unhappiness of students regarding Trojan Time during first semester.

“I spoke out against first semester Trojan Time at a district board meeting because I knew that it was not benefiting the students in ways that it could be. I knew there was widespread discontent and something needed to be said. It would’ve been wrong of me to not speak up for the students,” he said.

Part of Kwan’s platform as ASB school board representative involved creating an Esports, or video gaming, club at CVHS. He’s now the club’s president.

“As Esports is becoming more popular worldwide I saw that

there was a large group of people at CVHS that had similar interests, but there was not a real cohesive community on campus. By creating the club it gave students a place and platform to share their shared passion of esports while also giving them the opportunity to compete on a national level against other high schoolers and possibly win scholarships,” he said.

As ASB school board representative, he was invited to speak at the East Bay Coalition for Public Education rally in Sacramento, in which he advocated for better funding for public education.

“By properly funding public education we’re investing in our future,” he stated.

Band showcase rocks CVHS



KIMIA EMADI

Deadeye Adeline captivates the audience with edge, electric riffs and stylized vocals.

By Kimia Emadi
STAFF WRITER

CVHS students Haejin Lee and Michael Creekbaum, dual talents behind the band Citrus Dream, won the rock band showcase hosted by the Wellness Center in partnership with the mental health charity A Brighter Day. Their success has earned them a free personal concert of 60 guests and recording time in a professional studio.

The Bay Area based charity A Brighter Day brings showcases like ours to various schools as a tool to not only relieve stress among teens, but bring awareness and attention to resources available for those dealing with depression and anxiety.

Bags containing helpful information about support centers and crisis lines were distributed after the showcase by a team lead by the charity founder and president Elliot Kallen.

Kallen and his wife lost their 19 year old son to suicide in 2013, and have since been on a mission to prevent other teens from facing the same path.

In the cafeteria, Lee’s powerfully soft vocals and Creekbaum’s “tasty” guitar riffs, as put by one of the judges, blew away the crowd. When the ultimate votes were cast by the audience and the judges chose their personal picks, the results were extremely close between the three bands.

In second place came Skyler Bowersmith, Alex Lai, Joanna Curpene, and Olivia Gilman-Chun of Deadeye Adeline. The band M.E.S.S. composed of Steven Gil, Evan Sim, and Steven Uyeda came in third.

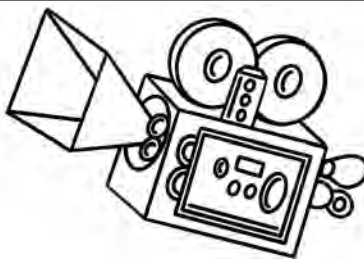
Each band showed skill and talent, their promising individual styles captivating the audience. Filled with electric riffs, unique and stylized vocals, and classic rock edge, the bands were artistic and engaging.

Both original and cover songs were performed, with everything from “Old Town Road” by Lil Nas X to Frank Sinatra classics making an appearance.

Ideally, the future will bring the stage, atmosphere, and equipment worthy of the stellar performances by our student bands. The rich music was put off by full-room lighting and a strangely cluttered stage featuring a confused backdrop of partial curtains and unused clutter. “It feels more real when the lights are off,” says junior Nayeli Silva about the confused environment.

Still, there is hope for the future of the showcase, as the Wellness Center hopes to make it an annual CVHS tradition and bring the event to new heights in coming years.

As the showcase grows, so will the reach of mental health services to the student body and the stress relief of creative expression.



“Endgame” embodies the MCU excitement

By Emma Yin

A&E EDITOR

Sitting in a theater for three hours and one minute may seem like an ordeal, but for Marvel fans, it was over in a snap. MCU ended its epic saga with “Avengers: Endgame” on April 24, starring heroes Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, Black Widow, The Incredible Hulk, and Hawkeye.

After a 21-movie build up over the course of 11 years, “Avengers: Endgame” delivered an exciting, sorrowful, and hopeful ending to the journeys of all our favorite heroes. This film works as an absolutely amazing blockbuster movie experience. If you're at all invested in the plight the remaining Avengers face after the events leading up to and including “Avengers: Infinity War,” you will feel satisfied with this movie.

“Avengers: Endgame” was extremely humorous and serious all at once. There are a ton of plot twists and turns, and at every stage this film will turn your expectations upside-down. Characters you thought would live will die, and characters you never expected to see again will reappear where and when you least anticipate it. It really



is the movie where everything from the MCU comes together all at once.

“Infinity War” was a movie any would balk at following, however “Endgame” lives up to the challenge and exceeds all hopes of Marvel fans around the world. All loose threads and tentative questions left by the other 21 movies in the MCU were wrapped

up neatly.

After much anticipation, I felt content with the way the Russo brothers chose to end this chapter of storytelling and eagerly anticipate the next movies the MCU is sure to produce. We will all miss the core characters who established our love of superheros, but their successors have already proven their ability to meet all expectations.

This movie has broken the record for the highest-grossing Marvel movie over all its predecessors, making a stunning \$257.7 million domestically within the first week of release and has projected more profits to come. Globally, “Endgame” has made roughly \$1.2 billion. To put this into context, “Endgame” has made more in one week than “Captain America: Civil

War” made in total.

Rated PG-13, this is a family-friendly movie that will also provide the desired explosions and conflict that excite people everywhere. Including a tribute to the late Stan Lee, “Endgame” really thought to include the entirety of memorabilia Marvel fans were hoping for. I would definitely recommend this movie to people of all ages, but be sure to bring a box of tissues to share with your neighbor because “Endgame” will tug at your heartstrings more than any other movie Marvel has ever made.

Though Dr. Strange claimed we had a 1 in 14,000,605 chance of winning the war against Thanos, I have no doubt we're going to spend the coming weeks picking and pulling apart “Endgame” until we've over-analyzed every single aspect imaginable. But right now, in the aftermath, it feels like a win.

This movie was one of the favorites for families all over America. Definately go see it. I would rate this movie higher if I could, but seeing as I don't have infinity stones to carry out my wishes, I give “Avengers: Endgame” five stars.

“Beach Blanket” delivers last laughs

Musical comedy ending 45-year run

By Rachel Schoenfeld

STAFF WRITER

You wouldn't think you'd be able to watch Trump and a bunch of Russians singing while Kim Jong Un dances, nor see Star Wars clones, Michael Jackson, and Snow White all on the same stage. However, at “Beach Blanket Babylon,” all this happens and more.

“Beach Blanket Babylon” is the longest running musical, premiering in 1977 in San Francisco. The show follows around Snow White in her search to find her Prince Charming. Along the way she encounters figures from pop culture, especially people from politics.

Currently in their line up is the Trump family, Bernie Sanders, Kim Kardashian, and more. The show is constantly changing and adding new characters

“Beach Blanket Babylon” is a very eccentric show and almost feels like a drag show, especially with the big costumes and hats which they are famous for. They perform eight shows a week: one

show every day for people ages 21 and over, and a Sunday matinee for anyone to see. Ticket prices range anywhere between \$30 to \$155.

Sadly, this is the musical's last year. The producer felt that it was the musicals time to close, after 45 years. Many people are devastated, and the show will be missed. If you want to see the show before it closes for good, tickets are available on their website, though they are selling fast, so get them while you can. I recommend this show for anyone looking for a fun Sunday afternoon.

“Beach Blanket Babylon,” the world's longest running musical revue and one of the most popular San Francisco attractions, is a high energy pop culture satire and the perfect night.

Celebrating nearly 17,000 performances, “Beach Blanket Babylon” has become a world renowned record-breaking success.

Seen by 6.5 million people from around the world, this internationally acclaimed musical revue continues to delight audiences at Club Fugazi in the City's North Beach district with its hilarious spoofs of pop culture, spectacular costumes and outrageously gigantic hats! For San Francisco things to do, choose “Beach Blanket Babylon.”

I would rate this musical a cool 4.5 out of 5 stars for its wonderful music and clear talent.

VOLUNTEER HOURS!



Did you find out you need volunteer hours this summer?



Check out the CVSan Green Hearts Program.

We have resources and events to plug into so that you can make a difference this summer!



Questions?

Contact CVSan Zero Waste Specialist Jordan Figueiredo at 510-537-0757 ext. 112 or at jordan@cvsan.org

CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT

Effective Environmental Services since 1939

510-537-0757 | www.cvsan.org

This ad was paid for by Measure D





Ladies flag football engages the crowd



KATRINA SILER

Olivia Gilman-Chun drives down the field with the ball, aiming to get yards for the sophomore/senior team.

By Thomas Vergara
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2019 annual CVHS Ladies Flag Football game was a hit. The girls on both teams showed both their spirit and prowess on the field.

The game was off to a fast start with senior Sydney Burnama giving a 30-yard pass to her teammate on the sophomore/senior side. With two minutes left in the first quarter, Burnama scored a touchdown for the sophomore/senior team. Senior Terra Finnegan-Canepa scored two extra points, making the score 8-0 going into the second quarter.

Most of the second quarter was fiercely contested, with both sides gaining few yards. In the last seventeen seconds of the first half, the freshman/junior team scored a touchdown but missed the extra

point. With only seconds to go until halftime it was expected that the half would end 8-6, but with less than five seconds left Burnama scored another touchdown, giving the sophomore/senior team a 14-6 lead.

The spirit boys performed at halftime led by choreographers Lindsay Lavine, Makena Rutishauser, Janelle Vallortigara, and Karisa Vallortigara. The boys performed numbers instantly recognizable as those done by cheerleaders many times while also including many of their own unique performances. Winner of most spirited spirit boy, Michael Patterson thanked all of the choreographers, saying that they “couldn’t have done it without them.” He went on to say, “I think it is a really good opportunity

to bring our school together and hopefully learn that everything is not so serious all the time and that it’s just fun.”

The second half was without scoring but nonetheless it kept spectators attentive. In the last quarter, the sophomore/senior team had an interception, and within a minute, Lauren Green intercepted it back for the freshman/junior team. The game ended with the sophomore/senior team victory of 14-6.

“I got to learn how to play football so that was interesting. I also got to meet girls that I wouldn’t have met otherwise” remarked senior Nadia Morando-Hernandez after the game.

She also rejoiced around the fact that playing for the team was “a nice break from school and homework.”

Athletes of the Month

Pearmund unifies volleyball team

By Elena Lottich

STAFF WRITER

A huge chest bump and some intricate handshakes followed by the team huddle is how Spencer Pearmund starts every volleyball game as the varsity team captain. A senior closing out his final season, Pearmund shines on the court not only as the team spirit but with his extreme effort and dedication to the sport.

“I’ve done the handshakes since sophomore year with Hayate and with Devin since freshman year. It’s just with the guys that I’m on the court with the most and that I can trust them that we’re all on the same page. It also makes us feel more confident and that we’re all together,” explained Pearmund about his pregame handshakes with the team.

Not only does Pearmund shine with his handshakes but he also shines on the court mainly playing outside hitter

and defense. He can be seen running the hardest on the court diving for the ball, a player that exhibits tons of effort. As captain Pearmund has taken on the role of a team player making sure none of his teammates become discouraged or give up.

“The hardest part of volleyball is getting out of a slump. If we win a set then lose a set by maybe 10 or 12 point it can be really hard to pick the team up, especially if it’s a game that we’re expected to win. Just making sure the team comes back better and stronger after the slump and making sure the team is always trying is really important,” added Pearmund on how he leads his team.

Pearmund has been part of the CVHS volleyball program since freshman year, a program he says he has grown to love and appreciate.

“I like this team because of our team effort. It’s not an

individual sport like many others in high school so everyone has to be in sync and playing well. I’ve also been playing with these guys for four years now so I really enjoy this team,” said Pearmund.

“He’s really goofy and a fun guy to be around. He generally lightens up the mood and plays with a lot of heart and emotion. He’s a great overall person to have on the team,” said teammate senior Hao Tran on what Pearmund brings to the team.

Dedicating his time to sports and academics Pearmund shows great leadership and a positive enthusiasm to volleyball. He is able to encourage and sway his team to work harder and better even in between breaks and during the points.

The CVHS volleyball team is lucky to have Pearmund as a strong influence on the volleyball program to come.



ELENA LOTTICH

Spencer Pearmund serves the ball to the opposing team.

Siopack is a reliable teammate

By Jeanette Wallis

STAFF WRITER

Not many people can juggle hard classes, clubs, a social life, and sports, but sophomore Sophia Siopack makes it look easy. Siopack started playing badminton her freshman year, because “it sounded fun” and she “wanted to try something new.” Last year she was on junior varsity, but this year she moved up to varsity.

She plays doubles with sophomore Hilary Lui. “Sophia is very reliable,” Lui said. “She’s enthusiastic, always has a great attitude, and, most importantly, a growth mindset.”

“She’s a wonderful team player and she is always ready to help,” said teammate Samuel Lu.

“I think sportsmanship and buoyant energy are important

characteristics of badminton, and all other sports,” Siopack said. “Badminton players are also supposed to be very powerful. When we play, games can go really quickly so you need quick reflexes. Since I don’t really excel at that it’s difficult for me. Sometimes the whole match is a game of ‘think fast,’” she added. During games or while on the court, Siopack explains she is constantly thinking “Don’t ruin this, don’t die, don’t lose, and have fun!”

One of the most frustrating things Siopack deals with is the common stigma that badminton and tennis are the same thing.

“Badminton is not tennis,” she stressed. “A lot of people assume that it’s basically the same thing but it isn’t. There are a lot of badminton players who also play tennis, but they

are different sports. It’s kind of the same idea with playing singles and doubles, and how the court lines are drawn, but that’s really it.”

The CVHS badminton team has had a successful year so far, having been on a winning streak since the beginning of the season. The team practices every day for two and a half hours. Although it is a very time consuming sport, Siopack believes it is worth the effort because she has made many valuable friendships on the team.

Looking forward to next year, Siopack plans on returning to the team. “I like my teammates and it’s really cool meeting new people and being part of a team dynamic. My goals are to have fun, improve, and meet new people!”



JEANETTE WALLIS

Sophia Siopack reflects on her pregame routine and how she keeps a cool head during the game.

Trojan athletes spring into action



ANDREW CRAIG

Edward Wang soars.



ELENA LOTTICH

Hayate Moro flies to the top.



BRITTANY BIN

Tristan Cristobal vaults to success.



JEANETTE WALLIS

Kaylee Yang serves up a storm.



KAYLA CRAFT-WILLIAMS

Nyah Paulding hops, skips, jumps to victory.



KAYLA CRAFT-WILLIAMS

Jacklyn Scheberies and Kathryn Scheberies dive with gusto.



I'ALAYA FRANCOIS

Justin Hernandez prepares a pitch.

► **SLAVERY:** *from page 1*

from others. But the land can sustain. You don't have to go to a corporation to feed you. If everybody did something, then we would have a move toward a self sustaining community," explained Evans.

Other students had varying ideas of what reparations would look like.

"A mule won't do. That'd be weird to see," said senior Major Greene.

"There are a lot of poor African Americans due to slavery so monetary reparations would be better. We need more than that. They need to take down all these systems that keep us down. They need to take down and transform the jail system," said Greene.

Senior Azura Butler had a different view on what reparations would be.

"We need radical change through law. Laws built on the precedent of the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act. There needs to be things set into place prevent racial profiling, especially by police officers or anyone who is white and has authority. It's never too late. We were promised something a very long time ago to shut us up. Now we're complacent. We were never given what we were promised," said Butler.

► **SBAC:** *from page 1*

munity," said Fortenberry.

This test has replaced Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading (STAR) which was a hand written, scantron exam.

"I remember taking the STAR test in elementary school and I personally think that the SBAC is more efficient. I would choose the SBAC over STAR test any day," said junior Juliette Torres.

The test is also important for the teachers to evaluate their progress on teaching.

"It helps the teachers and staff to test our knowledge of how well we are teaching our students," said Fortenberry.

"I think the students have taken more of an interest in taking the test and we have expressed to the students the importance of it and students have accepted that," said Fortenberry.

► **PRES:** *from page 1*

issues they are passionate about.

There have been mixed emotions surrounding Swallow's announcement of candidacy but there is a community pride surrounding the 15th District that our congressman is running for president.

Vaping crackdown causes unrest

Bathrooms have become a battleground

By *Nathanial Ortiz*
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

What's that, the smell of burnt marshmallows or just someone "Juuling" in the stall next to you? It is likely the latter in a modern American high school.

Vaping has especially become a problem on campus and in bathrooms, as many students find it easy to hide their contraband from the disciplinary eyes of the staff.

Students have been noticing bathrooms being closed more frequently, assumingly to prevent others from vaping in them.

"Yes, it sucks! We should not be punished and ambushed in the bathroom by staff members when we are trying to pee as a result of the actions of a few people," said senior Amika Singh.

Singh claims that the 700 hall bathrooms are often closed, inconveniencing her as she has to go straight work after school. She also shared a story about how one of her friends was questioned by a staff member for vaping after she was only applying perfume.

Throughout this year, the administration at CVHS has conducted multiple measures against vaping. Last year during the school's WASC evaluation for their educational accreditation, the board conducted a survey revealing that a majority of students at CVHS felt as if vaping was a significant problem facing students at school.

Although this was not the school's first indication of the vaping problem on campus, it brought the issue to the forefront of the administration's goals coming into the 2018-2019 school year.

"We have posted some security guards near certain bathrooms at certain times when we've had particular problems. We have posted warnings. We are doing some vaping education, in terms of assemblies," explained Assistant Principal Jesse Hansen.

Hansen also mentioned that the school has put counseling programs in place for first-offenders of vaping to help them re-consider their choices. He explained that the issue with vaping has become a priority for the CVHS administration, and they will go to any reasonable means to tackle the problem.

While the administration claims to be taking as much action as it can to aid the issue, many students believe that the school's efforts have been ineffective.

"I see the posters around school that say 'don't vape in the bathrooms,' but I don't really think they do anything," said junior Sofia Vasconcelos.

It is not just the bathrooms where students are vaping, but even in classrooms under teachers' very noses.

"Honestly, I don't notice it much in the bathrooms; I notice it mostly in classrooms," said freshman Abby Chiu.

Because of the size and look of vape devices, it is difficult for teachers and staff to discern whether or not something is a commonplace item such as a flash drive or an actual vape device.

While students and staff may not be on the same page about how vaping can be prevented on campus, they can agree on one thing--something must be done.

"I know a lot of people who are really addicted to vaping and it's kind of young to be addicted to something like that," said Vasconcelos.

Many students are concerned for their peers' health and well-being, while others are concerned for themselves as they no longer feel comfortable on campus or in bathrooms.

"Another goal is to make sure everyone feels comfortable on campus that they can go into a bathroom without feeling like they could be going into a negative situation," said Hansen.

Students rally in Sacramento

By *Katrina Siler*
STAFF WRITER

CVHS students took their grievances with the public education system to the state Capitol at a Rally for Education on April 3. The rally was organized by the East Bay Coalition for Public Education.

"Most often what you find is different groups talking about the same thing, but kind of muted in their own division. This is really important to us because today you have teachers, superintendents, board members, and families all together, saying the same thing, sharing the same message," said Castro Valley schools Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi.

The crowd was composed of a diverse group, ranging from students to state lawmakers.

Students played a remarkably large role in the rally, being the most spirited audience members as well as actually presenting at the rally.

ASB School Board Representative Alex Kwan was given the opportunity to give a brief speech at the rally.

"Right now our funding is in the bottom ten states, and we want our funding to be in the average by 2020, and by



HAYATE MORO

Students from CVHS and other schools in the East Bay rally in Sacramento on April 3.

2025 be in the top ten states," said Kwan.

People from all over East Bay participated in the rally. Multiple school districts interacted with each other over a shared goal of a better funded education. Multiple school board members, superintendents, and student representatives participated.

"I feel like the educational system needs to improve by any means necessary. We have to improve our schools if its public, home, or whatever," said senior Shelby

Sullivan.

The protest proved to be eye-opening to many participants, as California's per-student educational funding ranks poorly among other states.

The rally was a collaborative effort between multiple school districts and teachers unions. CVHS gave more than 60 students the opportunity to get their first taste of organized protest. Student participation in the rally demonstrates a bright future for education.



GO-GREEN
DRIVING SCHOOL
Goflessons.com
510-432-8873

FREE Online Drivers Ed when you mention The Olympian



Go Trojans!



BAY AREA DRIVING SCHOOL

Driver's Education & Training



License #2559

Tel. 510-886-1016

www.BayAreaDriving.com

*** ONLINE Driver's Ed ***

First 25% of Online Driver's Ed is **FREE**

Free Pick-up & Return for Driver's Training

Rita's Italian Ice

3200 Castro Valley Blvd.



Buy any treat and receive a free treat!