



THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Olympian



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WE ARE BORN TO SEEK THE TRUTH!

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NATALIE COSTELLO

Seniors enjoy the limelight at the Welcome Back Assembly on August 31.

Trojans dance back to school

By Katelyn Wong
ONLINE EDITOR

For the first time in 10 years, CVHS hosted the Back to School Dance following our welcome back assembly.

The on-campus dance took place on Friday, Aug. 31 and lasted from 7 to 10 p.m.

The aloha themed dance was very casual and ticket prices were no higher than \$10 to attend.

Incentives like free snow cones, food, and prizes for winning games were all offered at the event.

And once the sun set, the environment grew lively with

music from the professional DJ playing in the background.

"At first it was pretty slow and a little boring. But as soon as people let loose, it was pretty fun," said senior Nolan Keating.

In efforts to compensate for the removal of the traditional freshman dance and newly announced combined junior and senior prom in May, this dance was brought back to life.

Since Junior Prom is no longer on the list of dances, administration worked to add two dances to the student activities schedule: the Back to School Dance and the Spring

Fling.

Compared to other dances held on campus, however, attendance rates were fairly low. About 152 tickets were sold including pre-sale and at-the-door purchases altogether.

"While the dance didn't have the highest attendance, students still had a great time and enjoyed themselves," said activities director Michael Kentris.

Overall, the Back to School Dance is projected to become a long-lasting tradition in the coming years and this was just the beginning of something that could be even more successful in the future.

New year, new parking woes

By Nathaniel Ortiz
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The new school year has brought new issues as student parking has been minimized due to construction.

Many seniors are complaining that spots that are usually given to seniors were reserved for staff parking this year, making the parking and traffic problems worse than before.

Last year there were 237 spots saved for senior students and this year that number shrunk about 40 percent to 145 spots.

Students have already found it difficult to find parking on

the street last year when all of the designated student parking was available to them, so they are expecting and dealing with even more difficulty.

The parking spots were dis-

"I have to leave my house 20 to 40 minutes early"

Anusheh Abdullah

tributed using a lottery which took the control out of the students' hands when it came to if they were going to be able

to park on campus.

"I have to leave my house 20 to 40 minutes early to get good street parking and just sit in my car until time to leave for class," said senior Anusheh Abdullah.

Abdullah also mentioned how strenuous it was to have to make the trek back to her car after a long day of school when she could be at home resting and spending time with friends.

"Parking can be really difficult when you don't have an actual spot because every morning it's a gamble on how far you're going to have to drive. I've had to walk to the bus stop and then to the parking lot. It's a pain." See **PARKING:** page 8

Juniors and seniors to share a prom

By Andrew Watanabe
OPINION EDITOR

Due to financial circumstances and decreased student attendance, combining the two proms was a major topic of discussion in ASB for the past two years, and student leaders finally came to the decision to combine both proms.

ASB labored over this decision, weighing all options and using previous proms as a baseline.

After speaking with students on ASB as well as Michael Kentris, activities director, it became apparent that two main things were the deciding factors: finances and student attendance.

"The last two years, attendance at Junior Prom has been so low, the junior class account has gone in debt \$3,000 in 2017 and \$5,000 in 2018," according to the newsletter sent out by Kentris.

On top of this junior class debt, venues that accommodate large events like proms are decreasing while the cost of available ones increase.

The second reason was the data collected and interviews taken by Kentris and ASB.

"When students purchase tickets for prom, the software we use allows us to see how many tickets were bought and which students

bought them, through this I spoke to students I knew, and asked them why they went to Senior Prom instead of Junior Prom," said Kentris.

Through their investigation they found that attendance for Junior Prom has decreased over the past couple years.

According to the newsletter; in 2016 the Junior Prom saw the attendance of 604 students. The following year it saw 515 students and in 2018 only 429 students attended.

From the data they collected, it was found that over 100 juniors who attended Senior Ball did not attend Junior Prom. The reason: the juniors wanted to go with their senior friends.

On top of all of these factors, CVHS is the only high school in our area to have separated proms. Fremont, Monte Vista, Logan, Hayward high schools all have combined proms.

"CVHS is the one of the only high schools in our area to have separate proms, a majority of the other schools have combined them," said ASB president Michelle Terhell.

While this combining of proms may upset many students and parents, the decision was based solely on fact and necessity and not on the whim of ASB.

Trojan Time: new bell schedule

By Emma Yin
A&E EDITOR

New bell schedules have recently been introduced to CVHS for the first time during the 2018-19 school year. Classes begin at 7:08 a.m. for zero period and 8:10 a.m. for first period, two minutes later than before, and these later bells allow more time for students to get to school on time.

Traditional schedule days now feature combined lunch with freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors all eating

together. Because class begins later, these days end at 3:35 p.m. Passing periods have also been extended by one minute to accommodate the extended size of the campus that now includes the F wing of classroom portables. Break, too, has been elongated to 15 minutes from 10 minutes, allowing more time for students to eat snacks and socialize before going back into the classroom setting.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays See **PLAN:** page 8



The bright side of combined prom

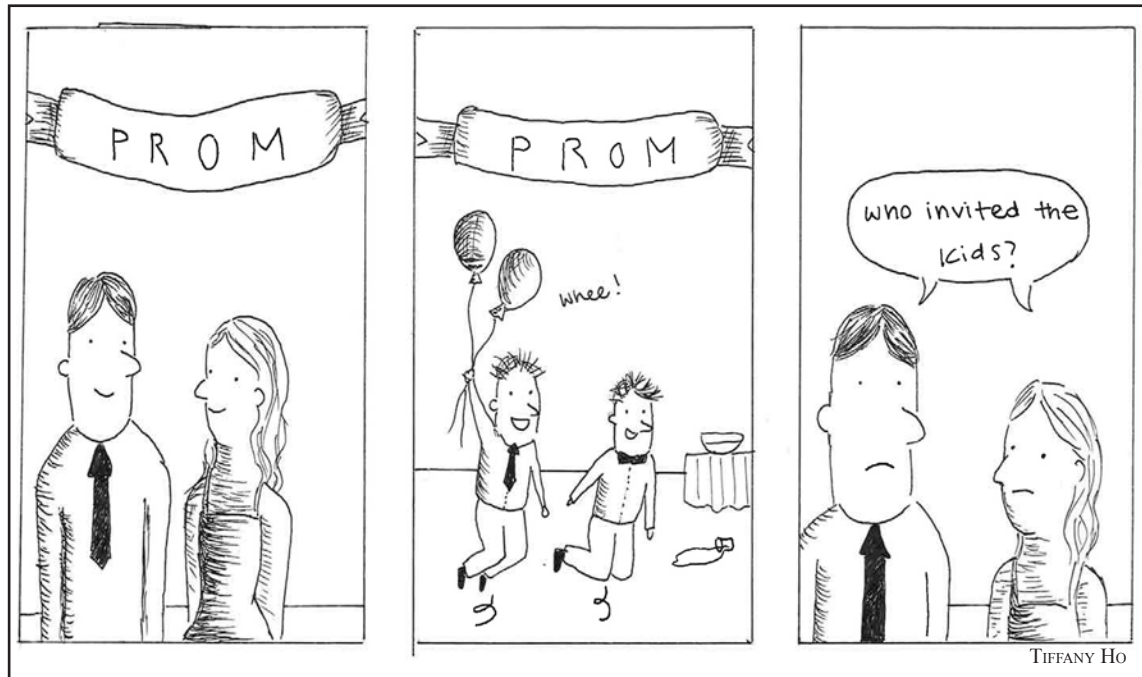
Combining
the dance
lowers cost
and raises fun

Editorial:

During school registration, a newsletter was handed out addressing the change regarding the most important dances in high school, Junior Prom and Senior Ball.

The ASB had combined the two dances, hopefully balancing the scale between the cost and attendance. We at *The Olympian* support the idea of combined prom in order to keep a little more cash in our wallets while seeing an upgrade to the venue.

Last year, Junior Prom tickets ranged from \$75 to \$85 per person while seniors paid



between \$85 and \$95 for their dance. The entire process of buying or renting dresses or tuxedos, buying corsages, tickets and renting a party bus adds up to a large amount that forces juniors to decide which prom they should attend. ASB

found a significant amount of juniors who went to Senior Ball did not take part in Junior Prom, creating a \$5,000 debt for the junior class account in 2018.

Most students can agree that a packed ballroom is bet-

ter than having spaces of awkwardness between dancers. Integrating prom also means integrating students, so we support the DJ turning the beat on stage with thousands of hands flying up in the air in front of him.

The combination of prom is not a new concept. Fremont, Monte Vista, James Logan, and Hayward high schools all have combined proms, surprisingly making CVHS an outlier in the area. In addition, creating only one option eliminates the frowns on couples of different ages who had to decide which dance to attend.

However, some believe having separated proms has been part of the school's tradition. Two took place so both the junior and the senior classes had the entire venues for themselves. Seniors may not want juniors at "their" prom and the juniors may feel unwelcome.

Despite the opposition, we at *The Olympian* are optimistic about the modification. Putting senior sense of superiority aside, lowering the price will increase attendance and lead to a more full and memorable night.

Removing cash bail promotes class equality



By Brittany Bin
STAFF WRITER

As of Oct. 1, 2019, cash bail will be eliminated in California, making it the first state in history to get rid of cash bails.

Governor Jerry Brown signed the bill Aug. 21 and to replace the cash bail, there will be risk assessments. Authorities will assess a suspect's likelihood of attending court date, chances of getting arrested again, and level of risk to public safety. California hopes to remove the enormous gap between the poor and the rich. I think signing this bill was a great move and has my full support.

"Today, California reforms its bail system so that rich and poor alike are treated fairly," said Brown.

I think this was a big improvement to the legal system. I've seen a lot of

cases in the world news where more privileged rich people were able to avoid staying in jail by paying the cash bail. Also, having risk assessment will reduce the amount of dangerous suspects being released. Abolishing cash bails will also eliminate racial disparities.

Since California is the first state to eliminate cash bail, I hope there will be more states in the future that will follow along.

One such example of a privileged person abusing cash bail is Harvey Weinstein. After charged with multiple accounts of rape, he was put

on \$1 million bail. Obviously, he could pay that and got out of jail; however, not everyone is as rich as he is. There was a woman in Oakland that was arrested named Cheryl Diston. She was given a bail but couldn't afford it.

She served 10 months in jail. While she was in jail, her grandmother died, missed her son's wedding, and her niece was murdered. She was in jail longer than Weinstein because he was able to afford the bail, while she couldn't.

Eliminating cash bail in California was a good idea and is a step towards equality between the classes.



Write us a letter!

The Olympian encourages letters from our readers. Please note that letters must be signed and no longer than 200 words. They can be e-mailed to cvhsolympian@gmail.com, delivered to Mr. Johanson's box in the office, or dropped off at our *Olympian* office in room 113. Readers can also comment on articles directly on our website found at www.cvhsolympian.com.

PHOTOpinions

What do you think of a combined junior and senior prom?

MILAGROS AQUINO / BUSINESS MANAGER



"I dislike the idea of combined prom because it doesn't allow the seniors to have a dance to celebrate their last year when joined with other juniors."

Abby Chiu
Freshman



"I don't know, it's fine because friendships can be made between grades."

Ivan Garcia Lopez
Sophomore



"Combined prom seems kind of dumb because it's supposed to be special for the seniors since it's their last school dance."

Leslie Vasquez
Junior



"I think this decision to double up the prom will make the prom overcrowded and less enjoyable."

Tori Speed
Senior



"One less dance isn't technically robbing anyone. I don't see a problem with it. It does remove a dance off the calendar and makes it a larger event."

Daren Wilkerson
Teacher

Cannabis clouds kids on campus



By Jeanette Wallis
STAFF WRITER

California law states that cannabis is legal for those 21 and older. Should an exception be made for “medical use” by those younger than 21, and should this be extended onto school campuses? What is legitimate “medical use” anyway?

A new California bill, SB-1127 by Sen. Jerry Hill, would allow medicinal cannabis on campuses. Some parents of children with medical issues have complained about having to bring their children off campus to give them the cannabis drug, then return them to class. The new law would still make parents administer the drug, but it would let them keep their students on campus instead of crossing the street.

While some parents have doctors’ notes recommending their kids take the drug for conditions like autism or seizures, the American Medical Association actually states that “Cannabis is a dangerous drug and as such is a public health concern.” Cannabis has not been ap-

proved by the Food and Drug Administration because there aren’t sufficient studies proving it has significant medical benefits. It is classified by the federal government as a Schedule I drug, the most risky classification since it’s easily abused and is shown by many studies as harmful to the developing brains of youth.

Regardless, some activists are still pushing for parents to be able to administer the drug on campus, claiming the current practice is too burdensome and disruptive. But isn’t having the parents coming on campus every day to administer the drug already disruptive? By that rationale, wouldn’t it be less disruptive for cannabis to be given by the school nurse or or just taken by the student alone?

I believe it isn’t wise to pass this bill, because the limited

studies show mixed results that have not convinced the experts of their safety and efficacy. While some parents may say that cannabis helps, there is documented evidence that this drug can harm kids in other ways.

“The use of untested drugs can have unpredictable and unintended consequences,” the FDA website states. Marijuana is often used for recreation and is often addictive. There’s also a new powerful cannabis industry strongly promoting its use for many controversial purposes, such as selling cannabis-containing gummy bears online!

Medicinal cannabis is claimed to benefit some youth with medical conditions, but it is not accepted by medical societies and government regulators, and may be causing more harm than good. We should not make it legal on school campuses.



Could the genie grant this wish?



By Kimia Emadi
STAFF WRITER

When I heard of Disney’s decision to release rebooted versions of old classics, I couldn’t help but hope it would skip its 1992 film “Aladdin” in the new lineup. It may be a favorite to some, but to me it’s always been a rude, racist caricature that I could never identify with as a Middle Eastern girl.

If I could have three wishes from Genie’s magic lamp, the first would be to force Disney to forgo its reboot in favor of a completely new story set in a Middle Eastern fantasy kingdom. Yet, despite all my wishes-upon-stars, Disney has shown no sign of backtracking. If the “Aladdin” remake must be released, then there isn’t much anyone can do but hope for the best.

The original movie is set

in the fictional kingdom of Agrabah, which was based off of modern-day Iraq, and borrows heavily from orientalist tropes that have always plagued Middle Easterners. From belly dancers to camels, parachute pants, thieves and over-sexualized women, “Aladdin” is chock-full of racist tropes that have persisted throughout history. Jasmine, the female lead, is subject to her fair share of exoticification.

Even the main characters are imbued with uncomfortable origins. Created by a nearly all-white cast and team, both characters were based off of white models and then changed ever so slightly to seem more exotic. Aladdin, the titular lead, was reportedly modeled after Tom Cruise.

The original tale of Aladdin and his magic lamp wasn’t even coined in the Middle East, but was instead written by a Frenchman and inserted into his translation of “One Thousand and One Nights.” Out of the hundreds of thousands of rich stories originating from the Middle East, Disney chose one that was written by a white man.

The new cast for the remake

is predominantly Middle Eastern and South Asian, which is promising, although the relatively light-skinned actress set to play Jasmine has raised some eyebrows on the grounds of colorism. The introduction of a completely new white character, Prince Anders, doesn’t encourage much faith either.

For “Aladdin” to be saved in my opinion, the movie needs to prove to me that it did its homework on Middle Eastern culture. No more cringe-worthy stereotypes, hook-nosed Jafar, or lyrics discussing the barbarism of the region.

There can be no room for orientalist tropes, and certainly a change in the plot that allows Jasmine to be a 16-year-old princess in love, rather than a seductress whose main purpose during the climactic showdown is to distract the enemy with a kiss.

I have no faith in Disney when it comes to delivering a poignant and likeable narrative set in the Middle East. I would love to be pleasantly surprised, though, and you can be sure to find me sitting skeptically in theaters come May of 2019.

Hate on the young is never old



By Rachel Schoenfeld
STAFF WRITER

More people are talking about generations now than ever before. For this reason I talk about it a lot with my parents, who showed confusion to when distinguishing the generations. Many people can’t seem to agree when the Millennial Generation ends, but my parents strongly agree that it was before 1999, because they couldn’t see my 19-year-old brother as a lazy Millennial like the media portrays them. I couldn’t help to think why Millennials are experiencing so much hate recently, but it turns out, they are not alone.

For as long as there have been different ages, there has been anger between the old and young. Both believe that the way they live is the right way. This usually involves the older generation hating the inventions of the younger. Even Socrates felt this hate towards the new trend, the written word. Socrates stated, “This discovery of yours will create forgetfulness in the learners’ souls, because they will not use their memories; they will trust to the external written characters and not remember of themselves.” That’s right, Socrates thought writing would make the future generations forgetful and idiotic.

That was centuries ago, and this generational anger still persists in modern times. An article

from the New York Times in 1904 complained about the new invention sweeping the nation, telephones. The article complains that people are on the phone so much that their right ears were becoming deaf from lack of use.

During the same decade another invention, the automobile, came under fire. Many people hated this new invention, calling them “speed demons” and “death cars.” Many cities tried to get them off the streets through legislative action, believing the streets belonged to the people and horse buggies, not the new metal contraptions.

That was over 100 years ago, what hate did the currently ever-angry Baby Boomers get? Baby Boomers in their time got a lot of hate about two things: their music and their political views. Many people believed that rock and roll music led to drug use. An article from the New York Times was published on this theory. The story quotes a man saying how drug-influenced music is “the real religion of young people today.”

In addition, though they seem more fragile than the average Millennial, many Baby Boomers were civil right activists for their time. They were born during the height of the civil rights movement and many took action during this time, receiving much backlash from generations before.

Older generations have always showed hate towards the younger generations. More people are aware of it now with social media bringing hateful articles to light, but it has always been here. Maybe people just get more grumpy as they get older. However, it is more likely that these people are just afraid that the world is changing and that they will be left behind, and they are trying their best to avoid that.



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Editors-in-Chief.....Nathanial Ortiz
Ria Panjwani
Copy Editors.....Layne Johnson
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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, Evan Sim, Nikita Thomas, Jeanette Wallis

Advisor.....Matt Johanson

4 Summer Sojourns: Trojans



Margarita Vinciguerra (in middle) went on an amazing trip to Jamaica with some close family and had a great time. They went to the town of Ocho Rios and climbed a popular water-fall called Dunn's River Falls.



Katie Tam (in middle) embarked on an educational excursion to San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic through the non profit organization Global Glimpse. She was able to experience the rich culture, learn more about important issues, teach English, and help execute a sustainable project for a community in need.



For eight weeks, three CVHS students performed research with Stanford faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and students on a medically-oriented project through the SIMR Program. **Sky Kim (pictured)** was in the lab working with stem cell and regenerative medicine whereas Jenny Pham and Alayna Chinn bioengineered prototypes for clinical needs.



The Yin family traveled to Sitka, Ketchikan, and Juneau in Alaska on a cruise, traveling alongside glaciers and wildlife. Together with their guide on Mendenhall Glacier, they stumbled upon an undiscovered ice cave. The experiences were, to sophomore **Linus Yin (on right)**, "one of the best vacations of my life, I got closer with my family and it feel as if a part of me will always be in Alaska."



Joseph Adkisson (in middle) had a memorable experience meeting his extended family in Colombia for the first time. He went to amusement parks and zoos, but also got to experience the culture, as he stayed with his tío.



Angela Tafur was at the Huacachina, a real desert oasis in the Ica desert of Peru. To get there, her family took a buggy because the sand is quite hard to walk on.



David Castro and his family pose for a photo at the footsteps of El Faro, a lighthouse in Mazatlán on the west coast of Mexico. The lighthouse is famous for its glass skybridge and view of the city.

Travel around the World 5



Makena Rutishauser spent a month with her family in Europe, traveling throughout Switzerland and Germany. Pictured is the Munich Residenz where Bavarian dukes, electors, and kings once lived.



Kirill Zhuze and his friends from a math camp visited a town called Priozersk. Each Russian town that participated in World War 2 has a tank commemorating the event. They visited a local park where Zhuze climbed on one of those tanks to show his patriotism.



Jenna Cooper went to pay respects to her dear departed grandpa at the Isshin-ji Temple in Osaka, Japan.



In Japan, **Britney Eng** tried wagyu beef and also went to Mount Fuji. When traveling in Taiwan, she stayed in a hot spring hotel.



Michael Karapetyan took a long 36 hour journey to visit his family in the capital of Armenia, Yerevan. He enjoyed his time and felt very connected to the past. He can't wait to go back.



Alongside her family, **Kimberly Boakye (in middle)** embarked on a month long trip to Ghana, where they visited many historical landmarks. It was an eye-opening experience, as she found out that she was part of the royal Akan Tribe!

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Go Trojans!



CVHS welcomes new staff members



Portia Atcherson
house 2 counselor

"I love being a counselor and am excited and looking forward to working with students and staff of CVHS."



Jennifer Blackmon
special education

"I came to Castro Valley High School to support student's reaching their full potential and I look forward to being part of the CVHS community."



Alma de la Rosa - Martin
counselor

"I became a counselor because I wanted to help students find their place in this world."



Nicholas DiLauro
math teacher

"I am excited to work at CVHS because it is a great school and community and the math department gives a lot of support to new teachers."



Michael Finch
special education

"I started teaching in 1999 as a full time special education teacher. I look forward to a wonderful school year."



Cameron Greenfield
graphic design

"CVHS certainly has the finest batch of professionals I've ever had the pleasure of working with."



Lisa Holmes
Project lead the way

"Instead of waiting for the storm to pass, learn how to dance in the rain."



Jeffery Foster
science teacher

"My favorite part of teaching is when you get the 'aha.' When you've been working on something and fighting to get through again and again and again and it finally clicks."



Sydney Johnson
science teacher

"I am a chemistry teacher because it is a tool to teach people of all ages how to think critically, be curious, separate fact and opinion, and question authority."



James Kramer
special education

"I am very excited to work here at Castro Valley High School. This school has so much vitality and energy; I am looking forward to getting to know the amazing students."



Michael Langella
english teacher

"I came to CVHS to shorten my commute and so far all the people here—teachers, staff, and students—are friendly and helpful. I'm so happy I made the change!"



Lata Mistry
science teacher

"I'm excited to be at CVHS and share my love for all things biological!"



Jenna Pridmore
english teacher

"I am so excited to be at CVHS! I chose to work here because of the supportive school culture."



Jessica Radon-Porter
project lead the way

"My husband is a CVHS alum, and I'm just really passionate about helping the engineering community and seeing Society of Women Engineers (SWE) grow at this school."



Jackie Stone
social studies

"I have been looking forward to being a CVHS history teacher ever since I graduated here! And it is so great to see all of my former students."



Melson Varsovia
special education

"Support students. Help those around you. Always."



Kathleen Veety Martin
science teacher

"CVHS is very big, everyone seems very nice, and it's super diverse, which I love."

Local Artist Draws for a Cause

By Audrey Manzano
BUSINESS MANAGER

Since she started drawing at the age of four, senior Jessie Ng has grown her passion for art by designing and selling t-shirts, hoodies, and crewnecks and donating profits to the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundations to benefit the Thai tigers. Ng is a talented artist who is trying to use her art to garner awareness and justice for animals treated cruelly in Thailand.

This summer, Ng went to Thailand with her family and went to the Sriracha Tiger Zoo for a

relative's birthday where she witnessed many acts of animal cruelty throughout the zoo.

"Seeing the tigers in their cages being handled so roughly and cruelly was depressing and made me so upset because I love animals so much. I couldn't stand watching them be treated that way," Ng said.

Ng describes the tigers as malnourished, abused, and living in unsanitary environments. She explained her experience to be completely unethical and different from zoos in the U.S.

Ng was inspired to make a

change for the tigers after having a conversation with her dad in which he told her she couldn't do anything to help the tigers since they were a large attraction in Thailand.

"I wanted to donate because my dad told me there was nothing I could do and after thinking about it, I realized I could put my effort into donating and raising awareness," Ng said.

Once Ng returned from her trip from Thailand and was back in the U.S., she started to research charities she could donate to. After researching, she found the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation.

Ng used her talents as an artist to design t-shirts, hoodies, and crewnecks that she is currently selling on her Instagram @jessiemines. Other art that she has made is on her art account @doodlingdiaries.



MARA MOYSEN

Jessie Ng sketching for one of her many art projects.

Jets shoot down Trojans in homecoming



Max Smith charges against the Jets.

HAYATE MORO

By Thomas Vergara
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trojans varsity football team faced off against the Encinal Jets in the highly anticipated Homecoming game on Friday, Sept. 28. Getting off to a rough start, Trojans conceded the first touchdown of the game after a punt return.

With a score of 7-0 in favor of the Jets, the Trojans become determined to get back in the game. Four minutes before the end of the first quarter, running back Payton Morgan made a touchdown run for his team. The first quarter ended with a tied score of 7-7.

Well into the second quarter the Trojans recovered a punt

at the second yard line to stop their opponents from scoring. Morgan kicked a field goal to get the Trojans their first lead of the game seven minutes into the first half with a score of 10-7.

Unfortunately, the Encinal Jets had a 29 yard pass to get them a touchdown with four minutes until halftime. Encinal then scored again before the end of the second quarter. The first half ended with the Jets leading 22-10.

Encinal got the upper hand in the third quarter, returning the Trojans' kickoff with a touchdown. The Jets scored two more touchdowns in the third quarter, leaving the score 42-10. Six minutes into the last quarter, the Jets further solidified their

lead with another touchdown.

Despite being down 39 points with less than two minutes to go, the Trojans refused to give in. Less than a minute to go until the end of the game, running back Tyree Simmons made a touchdown run, leaving the final score at 49-17.

"We worked really hard, we really played our butts off in the first half," said Morgan.

Morgan played his last Homecoming game as a Trojan and like many of his senior colleagues, he had an emotional game.

"Being a senior I got four games left, so all I'm going to do is leave it all out there, that's all I got," said Morgan. "We just got to get ready for next week."

Athletes of the Month

Lunt kicks through gender barriers

By Ria Panjwani
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Leikela Lunt is making history as the first girl to ever play and score for the CVHS varsity football team as kicker, scoring a total of 4 PATs this season so far.

This all started when Lunt or "Kia" as she is known to her friends, wanted to see how far she, a star player on the girls varsity soccer team, could kick a football. From 45 yards out, she took two big strides, cranked back her leg and WHAM. The ball whirled through the air and between the goal posts. One of Lunt's teammates grabbed her phone and recorded the kick. The clip made its way to the school's football coach.

"From day one Leikela has been a wonderful addition to our team. She's had a positive attitude and worked hard. The team has welcomed her as their teammate," said varsity football coach Denny Molzen.

While Lunt feels comfortable

on the team now, this was not the case initially.

"At first they made stupid remarks like calling me woman after any sentence I said, or if I asked why no one was listening to me, they'd say it was because I'm a woman. It was more jokingly, and never like 'you're a woman and you don't belong here,' but more like, 'we're gonna joke around because we can.' I tried never to take it personally, and instead just prove myself on the team," said Lunt.

Lunt is no stranger to athletics, as she participates in varsity soccer and track, but football requires a type of conditioning she'd never done before, such as weight lifting.

"They definitely mansplained weight lifting to me! Maybe dumbing it down for me necessary, but also... I know how to lift a weight, I'm not stupid," remarked Lunt.

Football has certainly added to her athletic repertoire, but soccer remains her primary

commitment. She hopes to commit to a university for soccer in the upcoming year. Football, she says, adds to her soccer game due to the additional conditioning and coaching she has for her technique.

However, Lunt has often questioned the value of daily football practices, as her daily routine often looks something like football after school, to soccer after football, and then getting home at around 9:30 or 10 p.m. to do homework.

On top of her crazy schedule, it's hard for Lunt not to feel isolated from the team.

"There are definitely times I feel like quitting, especially if I had a bad kicking day or if I take some of the boys' comments a little too personally, but there have been instances where I've almost cried because little girls have been waving to me when I have football jersey on, or just adults telling me how brave I am," she said.

Lunt says she gets the most support from her fellow kickers



Leikela Lunt kicks at practice.

HAYATE MORO

on the team, because being a kicker in the first place makes you seem like "the least strong," so it definitely doesn't help that she's a girl.

"Leikela is a great kicker and it has been so much fun kicking with her this year!" commented fellow kicker and senior Payton Morgan.

Lunt is still a junior, and when

asked if she would continue football next year, she is optimistic about her prospects about becoming the first string kicker.

"I think more girls should try out, and give those boys a run for their money! We are stronger than they give us credit for," she said.

Bowersmith hungry for success

By Andrew Watanabe
OPINION EDITOR

The environment's beauty and the feeling of fresh air compelled Hunter Bowersmith to run cross country.

Along with cross country, Bowersmith does track in the spring as well. The two sports, while both involve running, contrast each other.

"I like both track and cross country for different reasons. I like cross country for the atmosphere and variety of runs, and I like track for the competition and fast paced events," said Bowersmith.

Bowersmith has been involved in cross country since

his sophomore year, and has been involved in track since middle school.

Bowersmith competes in the 800 meters, 1,600 meters, and 3,200 meters events for track, and as far as cross country goes, he tries his best to compete in every run.

There is more to this student athlete than meets the eye. Bowersmith participates in Boy Scouts and in his free time he enjoys woodworking, comic collecting, and hanging out with friends.

"I grew up scouting and running. Running has always been really great because of the atmosphere of people. The team has always felt like a family and that helps

a lot in a sport," commented Bowersmith. "Scouting has been really influential in how I grew up."

Scouting and running has allowed him to build useful skills, confidence, and some of his best friendships.

"I'm really proud of Hunter. He has worked hard to build the trust and gain respect of his fellow runners become captain. He continues to make me proud every day," said fellow cross country runner Kaitlin Manning.

Bowersmith is an exemplary student and friend, a great athlete and a great example of an athlete who does not let his sport alone define who he is.



Hunter Bowersmith vigorously trains for his next race.

HAYATE MORO

► **PLAN:** from page 1

also begin at 7:08 a.m. for zero period and 8:10 a.m. for first period, and end at 2:29 p.m. Response to Intervention (RTI), or Trojan Time, has also been implemented this year during select Block Days. In order to keep the release time at 2:29 p.m., the administration will be shortening block periods by 15 minutes or more to accommodate for Trojan Time.

"Trojan Time is looking to focus on schoolwide information and Trojan STAND in the first semester. As the program expands, the goal is to coordinate students to specific areas of support," said Assistant Principal Nic McMaster.

Students seem to have varying opinions on this schedule, some for, and some against the new changes.

"I do not like combined lunches because they are too crowded," expressed senior Sophia Chan. "However in my opinion, longer breaks allow for students to be better prepared."

Lunches seem to be a point of concern for many students. However other aspects of these schedule changes appeal to the masses.

"This new schedule allows me to relax during breaks, and not rush to class during passing periods," stated junior Nathan Liu.

These newly implemented aspects of the school schedule mark the start of a new year, and the beginning of a new CVHS.

► **PARKING:** from page 1

to walk from your car," said senior Alyssa Phillips.

The lack of parking combined with the new, stricter tardy policy implemented last year can create problems for some students, since it is difficult for them to gauge how far they will have to park from campus.

This could cause more detentions as a result, because any student who obtains three tardies in one week to the same class receives one, according to the tardy policy.

It doesn't look like there will be a solution in place to appease the students who are angry about the situation since the teachers' spots, that are being replaced by the spots previously given to students, will have to be closed for construction.

However, the traffic problem does have an easier fix.

"Part of it is that there are so many people coming to school at one time," said Assistant Principal Yvonna Rogers.

Traffic will likely settle as the year goes on and students begin to learn what times are better for parking.

However until that happens, the students will likely have to deal with the traffic and with the fact that this year many seniors will not have the same parking convenience than students have had in the past.

SCOTUS decision affects CVTA

By Derek Neyer
NEWS EDITOR

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruled in June that government labor unions cannot force their members to pay dues in a blow to unions across the United States. Teachers' unions across the nation could be weakened by the decision as teachers could opt out of paying dues.

The ruling on Janus v. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees came after teacher strikes rocked states without union protections earlier in the year.

Castro Valley Teachers Association (CVTA) is the group that bargains collectively with the school district on behalf of the teachers. Members help determine the terms of teachers' contracts, including pay, benefits, and hours.

CVTA has historically been a strong union for Castro Valley teachers, bargaining for better terms than many other districts, and despite the decision, union leaders expect it to continue to maintain its strength.

"People here take a lot of pride in what CVTA has done, so I'm not too concerned about the membership with CVTA being affected by the ruling," said CVTA Vice President Ian Rodriguez. He also said that

no teachers have yet opted out of paying dues, though that could change as new staff are added.

The effects of weakened unions could be on the minds of new teachers, which could keep unionization rates high among teachers in Castro Valley.

"A lot of people who join the profession have seen what happens in states where they do not have the right to collectively bargain, where they have seen teachers unions become incredibly weakened," Rodriguez said.

CVTA President Mark Mladinich also thinks that unionization rates in Castro Valley are not in danger of falling. "My strong suspicion is that people will recognize the good work we do as a collective unit, and they will stay with their union," he said.

This positive outlook for the

CVTA is not, however, shared with the California Teachers Association (CTA), whose finances could be squeezed if many teachers across California choose not to pay union dues. CTA spends its money to support propositions and candidates for state offices on behalf of the interest of California teachers.

The weakening of the CTA is concerning to Rodriguez, but he is not worried about Castro Valley.

"On the local level, advocating for students and teachers at our site, I don't see a fundamental shift at this time," he said. Mladinich agreed, saying that everyone is benefited by union membership.

"My hope is that people recognize that the bargaining team, and CVTA leadership and everybody in the union are stronger when we are united," Mladinich said.

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Trump Watch:
Immigration

By Layne Johnson
STAFF WRITER

Since the last Trump Watch, a lot has happened. The Castro Valley Board of Education has publicly denounced President Donald Trump's "zero tolerance" policy regarding immigration in a unanimous resolution on June 28. They called for an end to the policy that separated more than 3,000 children from their parents at the US and Mexico border.

"The resolution was written to document the negative impact of separating children from their family unit. We wanted to state CVUSD's commitment to the health, welfare, and education of all students," explained Board of Education President Jo Loss. "It was important to the governance team that we took a public stance on this issue, demonstrating support for our 'All Means All' priority."

Trump's policy called for the prosecution of all individuals who enter the US illegally, leading to the separation of families. Children were placed in cages that resemble kennels at an animal shelter. The administration boasted that

policy has led to an increase of border apprehensions, but facing widespread outrage, Trump ordered an end to it on June 20.

In other Trump news, the Supreme Court upheld Trump's travel ban. The travel ban is an executive order issued by Trump to "protect the nation from foreign terrorist entry." There's an obvious message that Trump believes immigration and national security are linked. People in Iran, North Korea, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Somalia, and Venezuela are restricted from coming into the U.S. Most of those countries are Muslim-majority. The ruling was 5-4 with Chief John Roberts writing for the conservative majority.

Over the summer, Trump had another big win at the Supreme Court when Justice Anthony Kennedy resigned. Kennedy was a frequent swing voter on the bench for controversial cases and his retirement let Trump appoint Brett Kavanaugh to fill his seat. If confirmed, that would give the court five justices appointed by Republicans and a solid conservative majority.

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