

BASEBALL ROLLS INTO CIF • LIBRARY IN DEEP WATER • MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA



# SHAMROCK

May 6, 2019

Volume 48, Issue 4



## UNSUNG HEROES

Meet the brave men & women who keep our campus safe (and clean)!

Handwritten signature or initials.

## THE SHAMROCK

Volume 48

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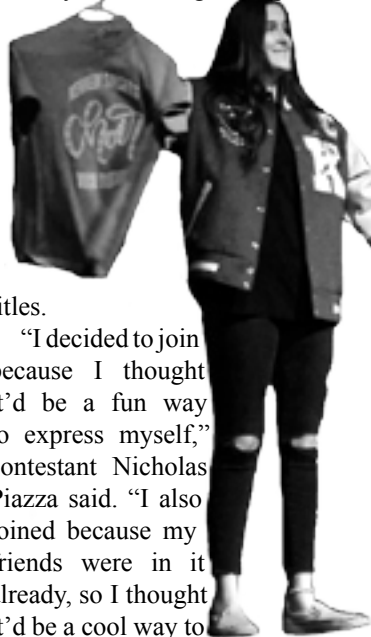
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# Mr. & Ms. K: Kennedy Gala

JENNIFER LIM

Staff Reporter

On Friday, April 5, Kennedy's annual Mr. and Ms. K competition took place in the Kennedy Performing Arts Center (KPAC). 13 contestants battled for the titles of Mr. and Ms. K. with Nonso Ikeji and Alivia Garcia ultimately winning the grand



titles.

"I decided to join because I thought it'd be a fun way to express myself," contestant Nicholas Piazza said. "I also joined because my friends were in it already, so I thought it'd be a cool way to

spend time with them (*sic*)."

The show started with a brief introduction by the MCs, Maham Memon and Elizabeth Ochei. Afterward, the contestants showed great teamwork and dance skills in a group performance to "I Lived" by OneRepublic. The show continued with personality acts and talent showcases of each contestant.

Many showed their musical talents, such as Nonso Ikeji who sang an Elton John medley on the piano, Marcus Bognot who sang "Sunflower" by Rex Orange County, and Adrian Manuel who performed a drum cover to "24k Magic" by Bruno Mars. In addition to that, Juan Castro executed a Spanish and Korean mashup, Savannah Spradley performed a Taylor Swift medley, Caitlin McCann sang "Love on the Brain" by Rihanna, and Lauren Hinrichs tap-danced and sang to a song from the musical "Anything Goes."

The contestants also expressed their unique skills. Nick Piazza showcased his talent of solving five Rubix Cubes in five minutes and

Alivia Garcia performed stand-up comedy. Hailey Thomas had a combined performance of singing and using sign language to perform "Scars to Your Beautiful" by Alessia Cara. Meanwhile, Sarah Ito jump roped to "Animal" by Neon Trees. Contestants Darien Rorick and Kylie Matthews also showcased their exceptional talent in dance, as Rorick completed a ballroom dance while Matthews danced to "Grow as We Go" by Ben Platt.

"My favorite performance was Juan's talent," senior Erin Park said. "I really enjoyed how he tried to incorporate parts of his culture through his song choice."

After the talent and personality acts, contestants participated in a formal wear segment with an escort of their choice. Following the formal wear was the presentation of the People's Choice Award which was awarded to Sarah Ito.

Towards the end, the judges decided on the top three con-

tants. Spradley and Hinrichs won third and second place, respectively. Third place for Mr. K was Piazza while second place was Rorick.

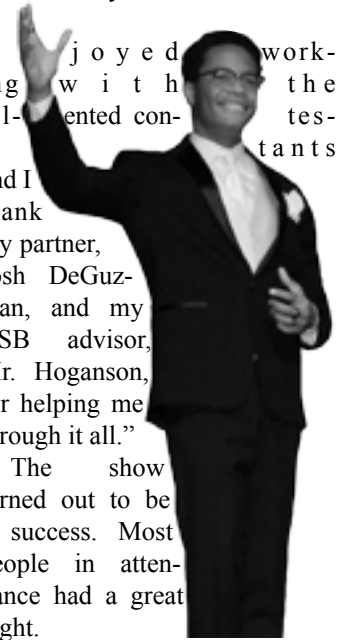
"Although the job was stressful, I am grateful to have been a part of the show," IOC commissioner Kaitlyn Soto said. "I en-

joyed working with the talented contestants and I

thank my partner, Josh DeGuzman, and my ASB advisor, Mr. Hoganson, for helping me through it all."

The show turned out to be a success. Most people in attendance had a great night.

Photos Courtesy of CRYSTAL DIAZ



# Construction on Campus IV

MAHAM MEMON

Photo Editor

After months of work, the construction has almost finally come to an end. This brings the Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) one step closer to upgrading its facilities. The district-wide \$249 million campus beautification project for Kennedy is soon to be completed after roughly 11 months.

"I'm excited that the project is nearing completion. We've endured quite a bit of dust, noise, and general mayhem," teacher Christie Bettendorf said. "But we have an improved entrance that ensures our safety and modernizes the look of the campus."

The improvements to the campus include a variety of different projects. According to the AUHSD website, the projects include, "site and parking lot improvements, new entry canopies, a new digital marquee, drought

tolerant landscaping, and security fencing."

AUHSD's website anticipated the construction to be completed by February 2019. However, the rain delayed a lot of the work. The construction caused the first choir



MAHAM MEMON/The Shamrock  
Construction workers working at the front of campus during the final phase.

show to be cancelled, as well as the "Every 15 Minutes" event, which was supposed to take place this year as usual.

Getting used to the new campus

will take time. With the entirety of campus surrounded by fencing, it is harder to leave and come into campus at any location. This affects athletes and P.E. students, as well as teacher aids trying to get to certain parts of campus.

"There was this one time during basketball season where I had to walk around the whole school to find an opening just to see that the gates surrounding the

gym were closed as well," sophomore Sean Jusi said.

The construction has brought a lot of changes to campus. The new structures make the campus look more modern and renovated throughout. The digital marquee also makes the campus look updated. It also makes it easier to publicize events. The old marquee required a lot of physical labor and this makes it much easier on the publicity commissioners.

"I'm looking forward to the digital marquee because it'll allow for an easier and more effective way to publicize information," junior and publicity commissioner Anthony Farias said.

The campus is near finished and there will be no more distractions during class with loud construction noises. On top of that, students will have an easier time walking in and out of campus when all of the temporary construction fences are gone.



# Kennedy Library in Deep Water

**GLORIA CHANG**  
News Editor

On Tuesday, April 23, the Kennedy High library flooded, causing disastrous implications. This led to the library, career center, and counseling center closing for the remainder of the school year.

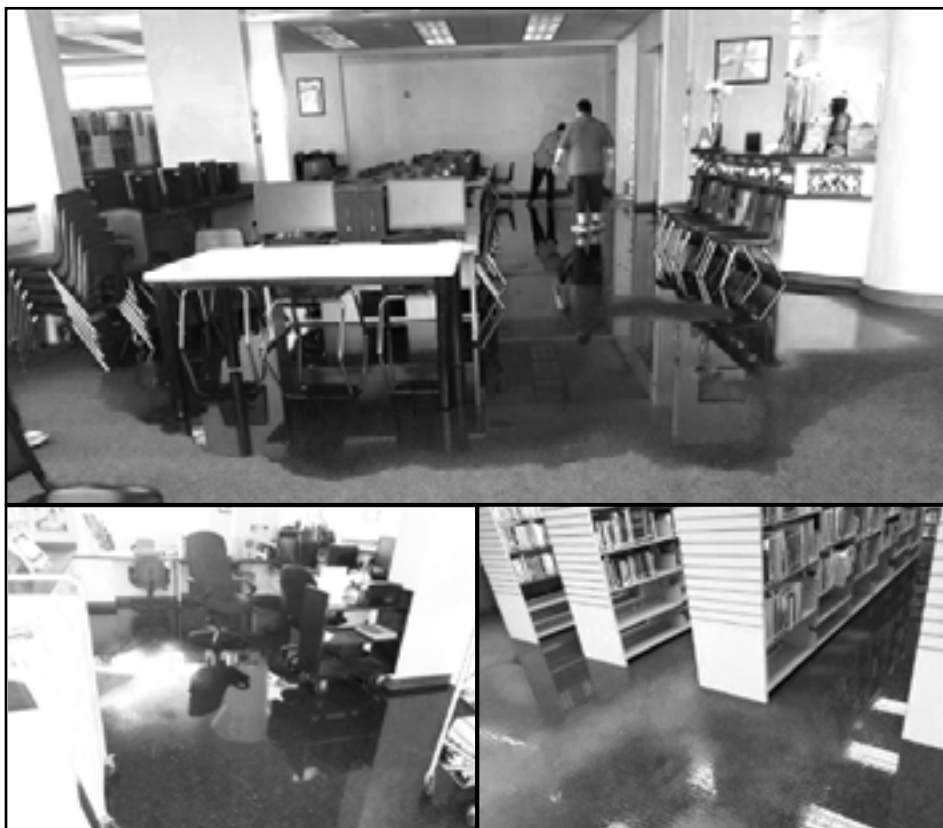
At approximately 4:45 p.m., custodians were setting up the library for a financial health seminar when a pipe embedded inside of the wall near the entrance of the library suddenly broke causing water to gush into the building from underneath the wall through the cracks and the cinderblock.

The custodians attempted to squeegee the water out of the library, but the water was entering at an uncontrollable rate.

School technician John Lowe and physics teacher Caylin Ledterman were also at the scene. Lowe and Ledterman promptly leaped on top of the computer tables, unplugging all of the electronic devices, and carried them away to safety.

"I was walking by and trying to find the custodians," Ledterman said. "We rushed into action. The water went everywhere, and it got so deep that it was flowing."

Clean-up crews arrived around 45 minutes later and were able to turn off the malfunctioning water pipe. By the time the pipe came under control, however, the water levels had already reached an inch deep and traveled far into the library, as well as into the career center and counseling of-



*All Photos Courtesy of Alexis Baltazar  
The great flood of 2019 leaves students with no place to study for AP testing and finals.*

the. Water was also trapped inside of the wall where the broken pipe was located.

Contrary to rumors circulating around campus, not a single piece of electronic equipment nor book has been damaged. In order to prevent damage from moisture, American Technologies Inc. (ATI) has stored all of the books and items from the entire building in boxes.

This accident occurred at a very crucial time as the day after the incident, seniors had to submit their multimedia projects and AP/IB students can no longer test in the library. Instead, AP/IB students will be shifting their testing locations to other classrooms.

There is no longer an accessibility for the use of a free printer, computers, books, or a study space for students who have finals at the end of the year. This has caused problems for students who rely on the quiet space after school.

"My family is super loud and energetic, so during finals and AP season I normally study in the library after school," junior Alexis Aguilera said. "Without it I haven't been studying as much as I should."

Canopies are available, however, for students who stay on campus after school, and students may also contact their counselors in their temporary office in MP-1.

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*Warning: Discussions of sexual assault and/or violence in both articles*

## THE BURNING SUN GATE HAS OPENED

**GLORIA CHANG**

News Editor

On Jan. 28, 2019, security camera footage of a young man known as “Mr. Kim” being assaulted by security guards outside of the Burning Sun nightclub went viral among the South Korean online community. The incident received national attention when Seungri, a member of popular boy band BIGBANG, was rumored to be an executive director of the club.

“Since I’m a celebrity, I was in charge of publicly promoting the club,” Seungri said. “Operating the club were not my roles (sic).”

Contrary to his claim, it was later revealed by prosecutors that Seungri had indeed been involved in the club’s management.

Often misinterpreted by the Western media as “the K-POP scandal,” the outbreak of events after Jan. 28 has been dubbed as the “Burning Sun Gate.” No one expected this case would unveil numerous criminal activities including prostitution mediation, circulation of illegal camera footage, drug usage, police bribery, gambling, shell corporations, and tax evasion. Such crimes are being revealed to have been going on for years, involving well-known celebrities,

police, and powerful officials.

On Feb. 26, SBS funE, a South Korean news channel, began to share screenshots of text messages exchanged between Seungri, Lee Jong Hyun (of CNBLUE), Yoo In Suk (co-CEO of Yuri Holdings with Seungri), and Burning Sun employee “Kim.” The group chat suggested that Seungri lobbied investors and offered sexual favors as bribes.



*Courtesy of ABC NEWS*

*Former BIGBANG member “Seungri” apologizes to the public before his police investigation.*

The whistleblower who had procured them had not sent it directly to the police because the messages suggested deep connections with high-ranking officials in the police force to cover up crimes, which the

Commissioner-General of the Korean National Police Agency has confirmed.

On March 11, SBS funE released another shocking slew of messages where the members of the chatroom had exchanged hidden camera footage of a man raping an intoxicated woman. One of the celebrities was revealed to be singer Jung Joon Young, who seemed to brag that he had se-

real life too, you know.”

Seungri and Jung have since then retired from the entertainment industry and canceled all of their schedules. Both of their agencies have also terminated their exclusive contracts.

“As though it was a habit, Jung Joon Young filmed women and treated them as objects,” SBS said. “Despite knowing that these actions were crimes, he showed that he enjoyed filming illegal videos.”

Jung admitted to all accusations, released a public apology, and was arrested. Seungri admitted to sharing the illegal footage but denies the accusations about conducting sexual escort services. Since then, multiple people have also been found to be members of the chatroom, such as singers Roy Kim, Eddy Kim, and Yong Junhyung (of HIGHLIGHT).

The snowball effect that ensued has opened up important conversations in South Korea, especially since this erupted less than a year after the South Korean women’s movement against illegal hidden camera filming. Because it involves famous Korean celebrities, the scandal is in the spotlight of an international audience, but people have yet to see if this Pandora’s Box situation will reveal more crimes that have been kept in the dark.

## MUSLIM INTERNMENT CAMPS

**KARL HAYS**

Arts Editor

In August 2018, a United Nations (U.N.) human rights committee learned from several credible reports that China has turned the autonomous region of Xinjiang into what some many consider a massive internment camp for Uyghur Muslims. Xinjiang is in the far west of China and is currently the country’s biggest region. Similar to Tibet, it is an autonomous region in which there is a degree of self-governance away from China’s capital, Beijing. However, in practice, both regions face major restrictions from the central government.

The Uyghurs are mostly Muslim with approximately 11 million living in Xinjiang. They see themselves as culturally and ethnically close to Central Asian nations and speak a language similar to Turkish.

The media is almost completely banned from the region of Xinjiang, so obtaining first hand reports are very difficult. The British Broadcasting Channel (BBC) traveled to the region several times and discovered evidence of these camps, as well as an intense police presence. At any time, the

police may confiscate cell phones if needed in order to carry out checks for sensitive information. Approximately one million Uyghurs are in these camps at any given time.

One Uyghur man, Ablet Tursun Tohti,



*Courtesy of GOOGLE EARTH*

*China has been revealed to be hiding internment camps in the Desert where they are imprisoning Muslims.*

told BBC of a punishing schedule that was set for the camp prisoners. He said those detained would be woken up before dawn and forced to learn laws and sing a song titled, “Without the Communist Party, There Can Be No New China.”

“They wouldn’t let me sleep, they

would hang me up for hours and would beat me. They had thick wooden and rubber batons, whips made from twisted wire, needles to pierce the skin, pliers for pulling out the nails,” Tohti said. “All these tools

were displayed on the table in front of me, ready to use at any time. And I could hear other people screaming as well.”

China is receiving threats from separatist Islamist groups, and while some Uyghur Muslims have joined the Islamic State militant group, human rights groups

say violence in Xinjiang stems from China’s oppression of the people there. The latest government crackdown began after five people were killed in a knife attack in Xinjiang in February 2017. At the time, Xinjiang’s Communist Party boss Chen Quanguo urged government forces to “bury the corpses of terrorists in the vast sea of a people’s war.”

At a U.N. meeting in Geneva in August 2018, Chinese official Hu Lianhe said reports of a million Uyghurs being held in re-education centers were “completely untrue.” However, in October 2018, the top official in Xinjiang, Shohrat Zakir said “vocational education” centers have been set up and were proving effective in staving off terrorism.

The new U.N. Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet has also demanded that monitors be allowed access to survey Xinjiang, a request that drew an angry response from Beijing. There is indeed growing international criticism of China’s treatment of Uyghur Muslims, but no country has taken any action yet beyond issuing critical statements.



# CUSTODIANS: THE UNSUNG HEROES

**JONATHAN GAD**

Staff Reporter

The custodial crew: perhaps the most important component to running an institution. A group of hard working individuals who provide the essential yet subtle service for the campus. This team of stewards are the guardians of Kennedy's security and keepers of cleanliness, bolts that sustain the stability of the ship, and seemingly minor cogs that serve more of a purpose than perceived. Without their selfless acts and benevolent responsibility, Kennedy would not be able to function as efficiently as it does. They're the very essence of The Fighting Irish who deserve to be recognized for their effort and rewarded for their work.

Beginning with Mic Vincenti, who first began his career as a printer, working for a multi-million dollar magazine company with publications ranging from "The Times," "Sunset," and "People" magazine. Prior to applying for the job at Kennedy, Vincenti began helping the school with numerous tasks.

At six every morning, Vincenti is the first one on campus to open the school's facilities, gates, bathrooms, and to double-check security before anyone arrives.

Starting as a night employee, Vincenti later became Kennedy's day custodian in December of 2014. Since his first day working as the main operative during the day, he has greatly enjoyed his experience.

"My favorite part of the job is working with people and the kids," Vincenti said. "I like helping people."

Jesse McIntosh is considered as the most spirited worker since his official employment was bestowed upon him on Aug. 8, 2014.

He first began sweeping and cleaning Kennedy's halls and walls as a substitute custodian. After a one year leave, McIntosh returned to interview for a full-time position.

For McIntosh, physical labor is merely a factor in the satisfaction received from fulfilling his duties. The psychological satisfaction that results from the effort he puts into his job make the long term strain from work endurable.

"I'm very grateful to have landed here out of anywhere else in the district. I've interviewed for other schools where I didn't even want the interview, but only because I needed the job," McIntosh said. "I'm proud to be at Kennedy."

Alexis Baltazar is the sole female on Kennedy's custodial team and is well known for her comedic character.

Baltazar was first commissioned at Anaheim High working security. After transferring to Brookhurst Junior High four years later, she was relocated to Kennedy as a night custodian in 2013. Baltazar has created many memorable moments entering her fifth year of work.

During her time serving at Anaheim, she also coached sports teams ranging from girls volleyball to boys soccer. Although only having experience as a softball player, she volunteered to coach students who wanted to play sports outside of her expertise.

"I think from all the schools that I've been at [...] I've enjoyed this side of town (the most)," Baltazar said. "I enjoy the people I work with."

Moving here four years ago from Sterling, Illinois, Nigel Collins is the newest member of the Kennedy crew.

After graduating from Penn University with a degree in physiology with an emphasis in criminology, Collins worked as a social worker at Lutheran Social Services of Illinois: a nonprofit that assists teens with behavioral disorders and oppositional defiance problems. Although Collins found it rewarding, bearing the weight of each crisis presented made him long for a job that was less emotionally strenuous.

Moving to California, Collins saw a future within the school district for upward mobility. After applying to police departments and juvenile correction centers, he received an offer as a juvenile officer and an opening at Kennedy on the same day. By fortune, he chose to serve the school since it was closer to his home.

While he continues to help the school, he seeks to possibly become a teacher or a counselor, as well as contribute to the athletic department with his coaching potential.

"Just because you think you're trash doesn't mean you can't do great things, it's called a garbage can not a garbage can't," Collins said.

Last but not least is the most experienced custodian of the gang: Frank Ureno.

Ureno first discovered his intrigue in the profession at Loara High. He began training early on. Ureno's youthfulness at the time aided him in developing skills that soon flourished into the techniques that he uses today.

His experience attending training at such an early age gave him the knowledge to work as a substitute for Kennedy before moving to Oxford Academy. After two years, Ureno returned to Kennedy and has not considered leaving due to the comradery he feels here.

"I love my job," Ureno said. "Great personalities that you meet here. The students are great. The faculty are great."

Although the average night custodian works year round, the team never fails to provide a helping hand when it's needed. By assisting each other, they're able to accomplish more in the process as well as be an encouragement to one another. As more long work awaits them, they seek to project this kind of uplifting attitude towards Kennedy's students.



JONATHAN GAD / *The Shamrock*

## A Simple Request

**PATRICK CAMPBELL**

Guest Columnist

To whom it may concern,

My name is Patrick. I'm only a simple man from the hills of Ireland. (Not a simpleton) I ran my first business when I was 15-years-old. I know what hard work is. I want to thank you for allowing me to recycle at JFK High for the past 11 or 12 years. My question to the board or school is who should benefit from the recycled materials? I only collect a portion of them. We could help at risk youth, homeless, drill wells in Africa, etc. I plan to cut back and take some time off. I would be willing to help students or clubs organize a program for the school in order to take over the system moving forward.

Sincerely,  
 Patrick



# MUST SEE NETFLIX SHOWS

## THE HAUNTING — OF HILL HOUSE —

This modern take on the Shirley Jackson novel “The Haunting of Hill House” is a definite must-see for horror movie lovers. The 10-episode season of the show has been highly rated by sites like IMDb, which has given the show a rating of 8.7/10. The story follows the lives of five siblings who grew up together in a large mansion called Hill House. With flashbacks of the past helping to tell their story, the siblings are forced to confront the secrets their childhood home held that led to their family’s demise.



MADISON FREMBLING  
Staff Reporter



All photos courtesy of NETFLIX

The Netflix original comedy-drama “One Day at a Time” follows the lives of a Cuban-American family as they tackle the ups and downs of life. The show takes on topics such as the struggles of single parent families, the rejection of LGBT children,

and the hardships of being a woman in the military all the while still providing humor that relates to viewers of all ages. The show now has three full seasons on Netflix. Despite Netflix cancelling its fourth season, the show is definitely worth the binge.

## ON MY BLOCK

On March 16, 2018, Netflix released its first season of their original show “On My Block.” This coming-of-age story is about a group of friends growing up in South Central, Los Angeles who all try to navigate their way through high school. There are currently two running seasons of the show with a 95 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes. “On My Block” talks about issues like poverty, race, and gang violence, which has opened the eyes of many about the reality of growing up in an inner city neighborhood of Los Angeles.



# Search for Summer Sayings

N S E L T S A C D N A S  
 E G N I P M A C O I G Q  
 E T F D Z S J L H N S N  
 R E S I R E E K I P O L  
 C S S E R M T M N I P G  
 S N L I R E M W T Q S K  
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 S A F S T A R F R S U A  
 W M P L V L I A Z K K C  
 F I I S O N X D P P S H  
 I Z M Y G S S V F E Z L

- SWIMMING
- FIREWORKS
- CAMPING
- PARADISE
- SANDCASTLES
- SUNSET
- SURFING
- WATERMELON
- VACATION
- BEACH
- SUNSCREEN



# College Admissions



**Gladys Venegas: Yale**



**Anh Tran: UCLA**



**Katherine Byun: UCI**



**Samantha Ferguson: U of I**



**Russell Legaspi: CSDH**



**Ethan Hsaio: UCR**

## PREPARING FOR YOUR FUTURE

**JENNIFER LIM**

Staff Reporter

**Freshmen → Sophomore summer**

Start volunteering during summer break! Volunteer hours are required to graduate, so in order to get ahead start and complete this requirement, this is the best summer to complete it before you get busier later on in school. Also, community service hours and extracurriculars are an important factor to include on your college apps. Even if college applications seem so far away, it's good to start thinking about planning the path you'll take in high school right now. Ask upperclassmen about AP classes, school clubs, and anything else to help you during the rest of your time in high school.

**Sophomore → Junior summer**

Junior year is the time that most people take their SAT or ACT, so this summer is the best time to start studying for these tests as they require more long-term studying. Buy an SAT or ACT prep book, take summer prep classes, or use online resources like Khan Academy to start getting familiar with test questions. These tests are different than any others you have taken. Practice tests are available on numerous websites online, so make sure to use those to practice your time management, as timing is one of the most important aspects of completing tests successfully!

**Junior → Senior summer**

First semester of senior year is a stressful season of college applications, so it's good to start preparing during the summer. Most colleges require essays in order to apply, and these essays are a key factor in determining who is granted admission. Lots of universities release their essay prompts during the summer, so make sure to start looking at which colleges you're interested in and whether they released their essays or not! Starting your essays during the summer reduces the workload of trying to complete essays and school work once school starts.

**After graduation**

Relax! It's been four years of stress, so it's time to finally chill over the summer now that you've decided on a college. Take a road trip with friends or go to the beach! If you really want to prepare for your next stage of life, then you can look into possible internships available in your area of interest. You can even start applying for different jobs to save up to cover college finances. If you're planning on dorming, you can start going dorm shopping to make sure you have all the essentials before going off to college.



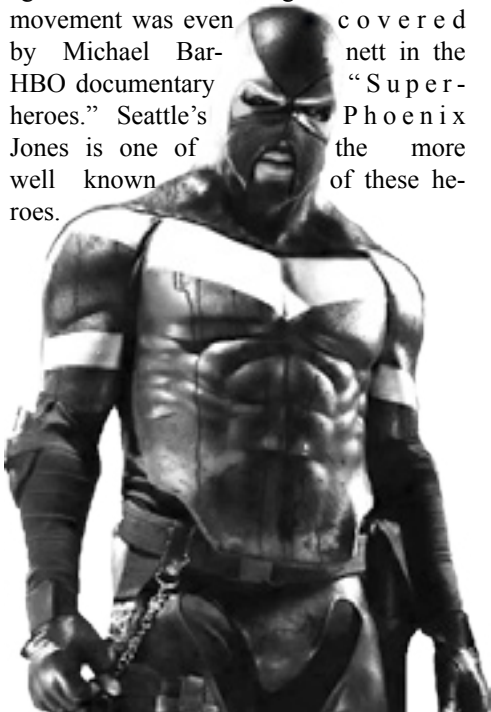
# REAL LIFE SUPERHEROES

**FRANCIS MUNOZ**

Guest Columnist

People join the police or military to keep our nation protected and our citizens safe, earning the title of a hero. A few individuals, however, take a different approach and call themselves Real Life Superheroes (RLSH). Superheroes are interpreted as figures that we look up to and aspire to become. However, these very RLSH pose a threat to themselves and people they claim to protect.

A RLSH is someone who devotes their time, money, and skills to fight crime in their cities. The movement started to gain steam around the early 2000's when more organizations started to pop up in densely populated areas such as San Diego's Xtreme Justice League in 2006. The movement was even covered by Michael Barnett in the HBO documentary "Superheroes." Seattle's Phoenix Jones is one of the more well known of these heroes.



Founder of the Rain City Superhero Movement, Ben Fodor, is a superhero by day and a protector of the streets by night. Jones's primary focus is to stop crime in the streets of Seattle, WA. He fights crime solo and occasionally has a group follow him. Videos on the internet have surfaced of Fodor and company chasing criminals, stopping drunk fights outside of bars, and even chasing gunmen.

Despite the good intentions that some RLSH have, police are reluctant to allow not just Jones but all RLSH to fight crime in their communities.

"Our concern is that if it goes badly, then we end up getting called anyway, and we may have additional victims," officer Mark Jameson said.

The main concern to the officers is that other RLSH's will get injured in the process of halting a crime, which is a risk that police now have to take into consideration.

"Perhaps they're not using the most clear judgement, or the most common sense," Lt. Andrea Brown said on the HBO documentary. "They're not trained. They don't have protocols or procedures,

guidelines the way police officers do to ensure that people's constitutional rights are protected."

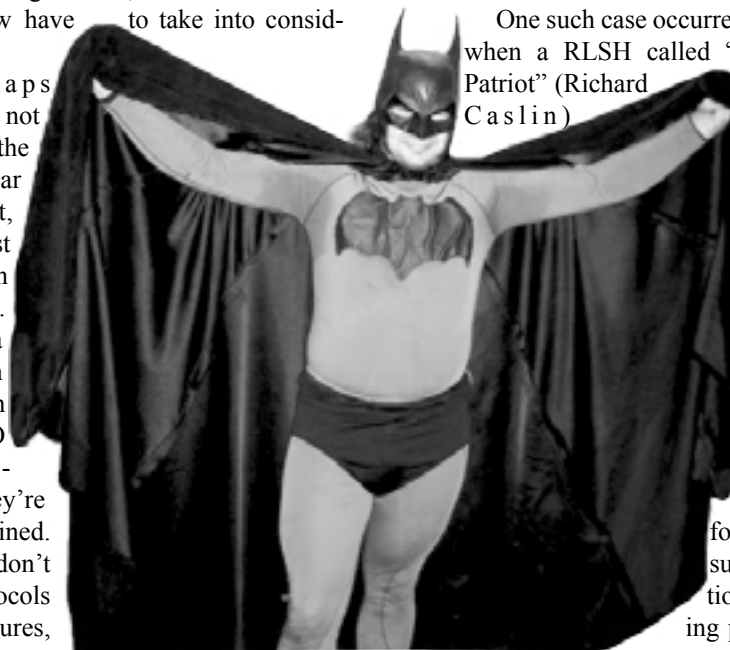
The Rain City Superhero Movement that Jones created back in 2011 was disbanded in 2014.

"It takes a certain type of person to do this job correctly," Fodor said. "Unfortunately, I have inspired, worked with, and even taught some of the wrong kinds of people."

The truth is that RLSH's shouldn't go out with the mindset of fighting crime. They put themselves in danger and are a risk that police must account for. They are not well supervised or equipped with the proper training to handle these types of situations.

RLSH members have been caught breaking laws and arrested before for a multitude of reasons.

One such case occurred in 2002 when a RLSH called "Phantom Patriot" (Richard Caslin)



McCaslin had suspected the Bohemian Club of conducting human sacrifices and cult-like rituals. He found no such actions taking place and

ended up burning the mess hall. McCaslin eventually sentenced to six years in jail for his transgressions.

Another violent act was committed by a RLSH member named "Bee Sting." In 2012, a RLSH took the law into their own hands in Michigan. A confrontation between "Bee Sting" (Adam Besso) and Tom Carter over Carter's overly loud motorcycle led Bee Sting to fire a shotgun. Thankfully no one was injured and Besso was immediately arrested that day.

"I couldn't hear him, so I started to approach him and that's when the gun came out," Carter said. "As soon as I saw the gun I was thinking I didn't want my kids to get shot."

Other events have occurred like this where RLSH's were a threat to the others around them and themselves. Other cases of RLSH's harboring illegal weapons and climbing up walls like Batman have been found. They perform dangerous stunts and break the laws that states have set in place so that no one would get hurt, injured, or possibly die. Yet RLSH continue to break them and have the audacity to call themselves a hero. These people are not heroes, but instead pose a true threat.

Images Courtesy of GOOGLE

# LIFE OF A TEACHER

**GLORIA CHANG**

News Editor

Most students at Kennedy High are able to see their teachers for only one period a day. It's rare to see teachers participating in activities other than grading papers or lecturing. In reality, however, they enjoy hobbies, have their own commitments to their families, and lead interesting lives outside of campus.

AP Government teacher Steven Singley, for instance, is not only knowledgeable about politics and economics but also construction. The house he is currently residing in with his family was almost entirely

planned and built by himself. In his free time, Singley also enjoys surfing with his friends at beaches like Huntington and as far away as Ireland.

"I have traveled and surfed all over the world," Singley said. "Sometimes, I have traveled specifically to surf."

In order to balance their personal lives with their responsibilities as members of the Kennedy staff, teachers must establish tight schedules. English teacher Marlene Wu makes sure that she wakes up at the crack of dawn to make breakfast for her family, get her children ready for school, and arrive to work on time.

"To be honest, it is certainly a challenge because I always aim to be both a good teacher and a good mother," Wu said. "But in the end, it is still very rewarding."

Even though teachers have packed schedules, they still enjoy hobbies. ASB Director John Hoganson is in charge of overseeing the largest student organization on campus on top of his job as an English teacher. Yet he still manages to dedicate time to performing with his bass guitar as well as mixing audio for recording bands to live stream, which he has been doing ever since he was 15. He works to limit the amount of stress he deals with. This has en-

abled him to lead a busy, yet fulfilling life.

"My biggest advice is to worry about the things that you can control, but the things that you can't affect, make note of it," Hoganson said. "You can deal with them later, but at the moment, you can't do anything about it anyway, so why worry?"

Kennedy teachers all lead interesting lives outside of their careers while teaching subjects that they're passionate about. It is truly an honor to have such well-rounded people representing our campus. If you ever have time, ask your own teachers what they do outside of the classroom; you may be surprised.





# THE DISTRICT IS WATCHING YOU



**ORLANDO CABALO**

Copy Editor

Rain clouds are gathering over a monotonous day at the Blarney Stone. An ominous vehicle comes traveling on its regular route as it hurtles towards room 101. The assailants tear you from your seat as the other students look on, dumbfounded. It turns out you've been disloyal, and they've been watching...

Although this dystopian future hasn't yet occurred, its foundations have certainly surfaced. From installing cameras to spying on our online activity, our school is (and others) becoming nothing short of a nightmare.

"We have a content filter in place. Content filters have technology that looks at the words and makes a best guess as to how they should be categorized," AUHSD Chief Tech officer Erik Greenwood said. "The security system was approved through Measure H. The imaging goes

from the school site to the district office."

Although cameras spying on pupils seem like the most prevalent threat to privacy, the far more insidious plot is the monitoring of student Internet use for the sake of "safety." These tactics attacking students' rights even extends to off-campus hours, which is in blatant disregard of the right of privacy implied in the Constitution. Unfortunately, though the right to privacy and the rights of students have been protected by key cases like *Tinker v. Des Moines* and *Griswold v. Connecticut*, the onslaught of authoritarians will never cease. This newest invasion has been in the name of cyberbully prevention.

"There's a lot of cyberbullying that I've seen, so I think if the school gets involved that's wonderful. It's a win-win (sic)," parent of the Glendale school district Michelle Wright said.

Although online bullying can be disgusting, instilling fear of retribution will only amplify this adolescent rage. This "solu-

tion" of wholesale espionage on whatever the district perceives to be a threat restricts our rights while clamoring to kill an issue by unsuccessfully destroying the result of a drastically deep-rooted problem.

According to a study conducted by the Yale School of Medicine, "many of the children who may act as bullies ... are often rooted in difficulties in their lives or mental health challenges such as ADHD." Simply cracking down on this speech will not address the issues that push adolescents to bully. In short, attempting to stop bullying by punishing hard-to-trace online activity through mass surveillance is a disservice to the distraught bully and the beaten-down victim.

However, as many school administrators would argue, this incursion into civil liberties is not just to slash the rise of cyberbullying, but is a way to crack down on the reality of school massacres.

"The whole purpose of this is student safety... basically it just monitors for key-



words, where, if a student is considering harming themselves, harming someone else," superintendent of Glendale school district, Richard Sheehan said.

Unfortunately, this misleading response made by Big Brother is still struggling to tackle the deep-rooted issues of widespread abuse. Vigorously beating down these activities after intense emotional distress has grown is like fighting a fierce wildfire after years of neglecting forest management; it's incredibly idiotic.

Administrators have missed the clear fact that if students have no expectation of privacy, it's impossible to truly learn our rights. Among an array of other injustices our nation must correct, it is crucial that the preservation of our right to privacy be added to that list.

## GUN REFORM



**DOMINIQUE LARSON**

Editor-in-Chief

On March 15, two mosques in New Zealand underwent a terrorist attack; within the very same day, gun reform was discussed. New Zealand's gun laws were known to be on par with the ones in America. After 50 people lost their lives, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern called for legitimate change in legislation.

There have been over 1,600 mass shootings since Sandy Hook in 2012. This is a complete embarrassment as America is not the land of the free when it is frequently being terrorized by gunmen. We need to take legislative action.

America is the laughing stock of the free world; people look at our gun policy and they see a joke. New Zealand's Police Association President Chris Cahil, shares these views.

"We have seen what happens in the United States when gun radicals are involved. Nothing. That is not good enough for New Zealand," Cahil said.

People who come into gun stores with "good intentions" are leaving to commit murder. The killer had a licence for his weapons. Licence requirements are not enough for gun regulation.

"While work is being done as to the chain of events that lead to both the holding of this gun license and the possession of these weapons, I can tell you one thing right now. Our gun laws will change," Ardern said.

New Zealand went 30 years without a mass shooting and still their leadership better understands gun regulation than America's.

New Zealand's current policy is that a gun owner must pass a background check and be over the age of 16. In the U.S., one must be 18 and have a permit; some states require a safety test. Every month in 2018 saw at least one shooting; this should cause panic. The right to live is more important than the right to kill.

"Assault rifles are designed to kill. Hunters don't need them unless they hunt people. Virtually all of the horrific slaughter has been accomplished via the use of AR-15 assault rifles," Minnesota resident Marian Severt said. "No one needs to own this killing machine."

Everyone who is capable of empathy and complex emotion can recognize that what happened in New Zealand is evidence of the need for legitimate change. Thoughts and prayers will never be enough.

## The Core of the Problem



**SHAYLA PARKER**

Staff Reporter

After previously having 20 states participate, Common Core is nearing its end, as only four states are using it now. Students will no longer have to suffer under the weight of its overly high standards.

According to the Common Core website, it is a set of high-quality academic standards in mathematics and English Language Arts. High-quality is just an appropriate way to put it.

"Ever since Common Core was first introduced when we were still in elementary school, it made a lot of people dislike school more than they would have without it," junior Ian Bell said. "It caused some of us to not enjoy activities like learning and reading because of our experiences in certain aspects of Common Core."

With many students, this has been the case. Students began thinking of school

with disgust. Perhaps the standards weren't the problem; maybe it was the fact that everyone had been thrown into it. There wasn't much preparation. As with any new thing, it should first be put into use through trial and error.

"Math 3, 4, 5, for example blends math together in an incohesive way which makes it confusing to understand what you're actually doing," junior Taylor Palomino said.

Teachers could have been better trained for Common Core. Because it was so new for the teachers, it felt as if the students were learning about it with them. As such, there was unnecessary stress put on students having to figure things out just as their teacher was.

However, Common Core does have its benefits. It better prepares students for life after high school. Common Core relates subjects like math to real life. This puts to rest the "when am I ever going to use this?" dilemma.

"Common Core is good because the goal is to teach work skills to students," teacher Catarina Bañales said. "It's an effort to change the curriculum so that students are able to use learned skills at school in the workforce."

Common Core is meeting its end. Hopefully the good parts of it can be learned from. For example, relevant curriculum can be implemented without throwing students into extreme standards.

*Images Courtesy of GOOGLE*



# THE STIGMA WITH MENTAL ILLNESS



**GLORIA CHANG**

News Editor

In 1999, the United States Surgeon General's report identified stigma as one of the greatest barriers in seeking treatment for patients suffering from mental illnesses. Stigma causes individuals who live with mental illnesses to feel guilty or ashamed for something that they cannot control.

Most people struggling with mental illness have at some point, been blamed for their condition. They are told to "go get a breath of fresh air," "get over yourself," "it's just a phase," or that they "are not trying hard enough." The reality is, no one can overcome a mental illness on their own. They need full, unconditional love and support from their family, friends, and

loved ones.

Whenever you hear the word "psychopath," "sociopath," "bipolar," or "schizophrenia," what is the first thought that comes into your head? Hollywood and the mainstream media has trumped an image of creepy, murderous criminals in relation to these terminologies, which has furthered this general fear surrounding mental illnesses. In reality, most people suffering from such illnesses are not at all violent or dangerous. It is time to stop letting the media connect fear to these individuals.

Navigating life with a mental health condition can be tough; the isolation, blame, and secrecy that is often encouraged by stigma can create huge challenges in reaching out, getting needed support, and living well. People afflicted by mental health conditions often face rejection, bullying, and discrimination. This can make their journey to recovery longer and more difficult. Even though most people can be successfully treated, less than half of the adults in the U.S. who need services and treatment actually get the help they need.

There are several misconceptions about

mental illnesses that cause it to become such a taboo subject. We all experience emotional ups and downs from time to time, but mental health conditions go beyond these emotional reactions and are long lasting. It is very important to never self-diagnose ourselves with such conditions. As a result of the self-diagnosis phenomenon that is becoming increasingly popular, individuals have started to turn such conditions into "aesthetics" and have been diminishing the actual effect such conditions have on patients.

Mental illnesses are not the result of personal weakness, lack of character, or poor upbringing. Research suggests multiple, linking causes. Genetics, environment, and lifestyle influence whether someone develops a mental health condition. A stressful job or home life makes some people more susceptible, as do traumatic life events like being a victim of crime. Biochemical processes, circuits, and basic brain structure may play a role as well.

The school district must acknowledge that there is a growing crisis, especially with the advent of social media, of students

suffering from these conditions. Kennedy High currently has only one social worker and one psychiatrist on campus, but this is not enough. We need to have annual presentations during class time to educate both staff and students and to stop making discussions about mental illnesses such a taboo subject.

If you yourself are going through a diagnosed mental illness or suspect that you do suffer from one, do not harbor self stigma.

Your suffering within is not your fault, and it is not that you are not trying hard enough. Even if you feel weak and do not feel like you are getting any better, it is not your fault then, either.

It is necessary that you find help and treatment right away, and there are resources on campus for you. Make sure to reach out to your guidance counselor and they will direct you to wherever and whomever they know can help you the best. Recovery is possible, especially when you start treatment early, acknowledge that you need a helping hand, and are active in your own recovery process.

# THE PROBLEMATIC FAVE

## *Why You Can't Separate the Art From the Artist*



**JORDAN DUCREE**

Guest Columnist

The spectacle of a public figure falling from grace is something that we witness regularly. It feels like every other day a new superstar is forced into the spotlight of shame as a shocking tweet or allegation is revealed. Recently, powerful movements like #Time'sUp and #MeToo have demanded that no crime or misconduct go unanswered. It's easy to dismiss the celebrities, influencers, and politicians we dislike as "canceled" when they are exposed to be just as repulsive as we believed. After all, if the person being shamed is someone everyone can agree deserves to be sent to the gallows, the job of executing justice is simple and satisfying.

The waters become a bit more muddy, however, when the person on the chopping block is the artist nearest to our hearts. Maybe it's the popular makeup guru who might be a racist. Maybe it's the television darling of America who also happens to be a sexual predator. Maybe it's the upcoming celebrity from SoundCloud who has a strong liking to abusing women. At the end of it all, there is a difficult issue at hand: how we deal with our problematic favorites, those talented creators we admire, who have suddenly fallen from grace.

Finding out that your idol might just be a terrible person is already an unpleasant experience. In addition to this, there is also a new burden of whether or not it's excusable to continue enjoying their work.

"Ethical consumers struggle to reconcile disheartening revelations about creators with their genuinely entrenched positive feelings about the art," culture editor of The Outline Jeremy Gordon said.

Facing such a calamity, many find solace in the familiar expression, "separate the art from the artist!"

This way one can publicly condemn the

distasteful acts in question while still enjoying their works in private. Such a conclusion feels like an adequate solution to the moral dilemma while allowing us to move on from the issue at hand with minimal effect on our personal lives. However, this solution denies responsibility and has some unfortunate side effects as well. On the consumer end, the societal double standard that rewards privileged abusers for the same crimes that any other person would be torn apart for, is reinforced. Oprah Winfrey has made it clear where she stands regarding why Michael Jackson's abuse allegations haven't affected his reputation.

"Celebrity supersedes criminality," Winfrey said.

Affording predators tolerance for bad behavior, just because their art is impressive, allows unsafe working conditions for those already disenfranchised within the creative industry to fester.

It's unpalatable to think that we are somehow complicit in someone else's mistakes and wrongdoings even distantly. After all, you should be able to appreciate someone's work without completely agree-

ing with everything they do. Despite this, the artist and their art remain inextricably bound.

"Personal guilt is not a useful part of [evaluating the work of] artists who have done reprehensible things, but the idea that a work must only be evaluated based on its direct content is trickier... The artists themselves don't separate themselves from their work," Stanford Daily's Jacob Kupperman said.

Even if the content of the art is as far removed from an artist's personal life as possible, they are still connected by virtue of who it benefits – its creator. There's no work of art worth compromising your values. That is not to say that there is not forgiveness to go around in some circumstances; the YouTuber who said some edgy things as a teen shouldn't be condemned with the same brush as the esteemed musician who also beats his wife. Don't let forgiveness come without cost, lest the transgressor forget past judgements. When you use both your voice and your wallet to decry the unthinkable, you create a precedent of accountability.



## GIRLS MAKE HISTORY

**DEVYN GOMEZ**  
Guest Columnist

Women's wrestling is said to be the fastest growing sport in the nation. As women's wrestling continues to grow, the Kennedy girls wrestling program grows with it. They are undefeated Empire League Champions. Many students do not know that they are among some of the greatest women athletes that they will ever know.

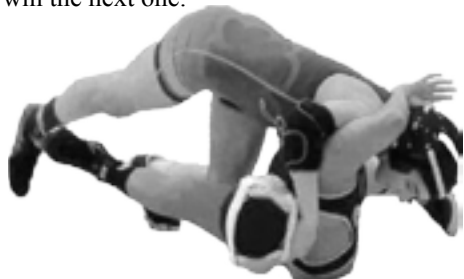
"Trained fighting machines," junior boys wrestler Uriel Melero said.

"The Kennedy girls wrestling team isn't like any other high school team, it doesn't matter if you've wrestled for years or just started. You could've gone to Kennedy all 4 years or just transferred your senior year. We make each season a family that supports each other doubtlessly, as we all battle. Our ups and downs together, doing the sport we all love," senior girls wrestling captain Kiana Hatfield said.

Finishing off league duals this season against rival high school Cypress with a score of 72-six, with a bye from the 189 pound weight class, as the other team did not have a weight class.

On Feb. 9, the Lady Irish made history. They became the first ever girls wrestling team to be CIF Regional Team Champions of Kennedy High School. All girls on the team made it to the next round of CIF, which is CIF Masters. They took the biggest team of the CIF Southern Section to compete at the CIF State Tournament on Feb. 21-23 in Bakersfield.

On March 31, eight out of 18 of the girls wrestlers made their way to the next level of high school girls wrestling: Nationals, which were held in Virginia Beach, VA this year. Six out of eight wrestlers became All-Americans. Although the season has come to a close, the team is ready to win the next one.



Courtesy of MOST VALUABLE PHOTOGRAPHERS, INC.

Junior Devyn Gomez helped lead the girls wrestling team to nationals this year.

## BRINGING UP BIRDIE

**JENNIFER LIM**  
Staff Reporter

Unfortunately, even with over 40 people, the Kennedy badminton team's accomplishments are still unrecognized. Their games happen without anyone knowing and their wins go unnoticed. People often don't take badminton seriously like they do with other school sports. However, the reality is it is a sport which requires great skill and precision.

So far, Kennedy badminton has had a successful season, winning five out of seven games. Badminton practices happen every day after school and occasionally on Saturdays. It's important for badminton players to remain conditioned.

Contrary to what many may think, it's actually a sport that requires a lot of fitness.

"Our practices start with conditioning where we'll do sprints and jumps," sophomore Isaac Kim said. "After we stretch,

we'll do drills on the court for 30 to 40 minutes, and after that we'll play mock games to see how skilled we are."

Their season began in mid-Feb., and since then they have had games against schools like Loara, Fairmont Prep, and Whitney, all of which resulted in wins for Kennedy. The team also played against the school down the street, beating them with a score of 14 to seven.

"I'm really surprised at the growth of our team," senior Ashley Kuwahara said. "I've been in badminton since my freshman year, and this is definitely the best season we've had so far."

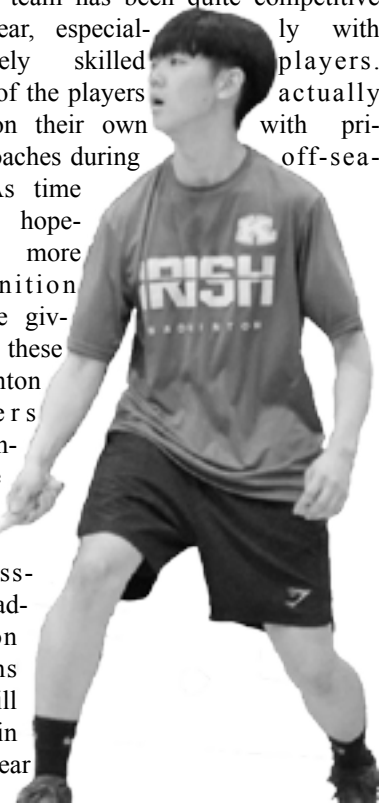
Although badminton has had such a successful season, news of their accomplishments aren't as publicized compared to other sports. Badminton games do take up the whole big gym, leaving little room for an audience. Despite that, their wins shouldn't go unrecognized.

"It's only recently that badminton has become a CIF sport again, so I think that more publicity will come with time," badminton coach

Jose Alvarez said.

The team has been quite competitive this year, especially with extremely skilled players. Many of the players actually train on their own with private coaches during off-season.

As time passes, hopefully more recognition will be given to these badminton players that contribute to successful badminton seasons that will come in the near future.



MAHAM MEMON/The Shamrock Seniors Ashley Kuwahara (left) and Donnie Kim (right) lead a stellar badminton team.

## SWINGING FOR THE FENCES

**MAHAM MEMON**  
Photo Editor

On Friday, May 3, varsity baseball defeated Mayfair High 16-4 in their first round CIF playoff game at home.

Winning pitcher Wyatt Johnson pitched a strong game, striking out seven over 5 1/3 innings.

The Fighting Irish were led by senior outfielder Evan Anderson who went 1-for-2 with a walk, a double, and a hit by pitch. Senior Albert Munoz reached base safely three times with a big double in the sixth inning.

Senior Jaelyn Edds added four hits and junior pitcher Sam Moctezuma closed the game to secure the first round CIF win for the Irish.

"It felt great being able to win a big playoff game in front of our home crowd," Anderson said. "Especially those who have witnessed us through our

ups and downs."

The team has had an amazing season, going 22-9 overall with a league record of 6-4.

On April 23, their win against Pacifica secured their ranking as second place in Empire League.

Overall, this has been a successful season for the boys. They worked hard to get to where they are today, and their coach could not be more proud the team and the fact that they made it to CIF.

"The boys all play well together, support each other, and have worked super hard in off-season," coach Tom Monahan said. "They are just hungry to win. They want to win."

The team practices until 5 p.m. every day (excluding game days). Their practice consists of countless conditioning including sprints, running, and repetition of batting and pitching.

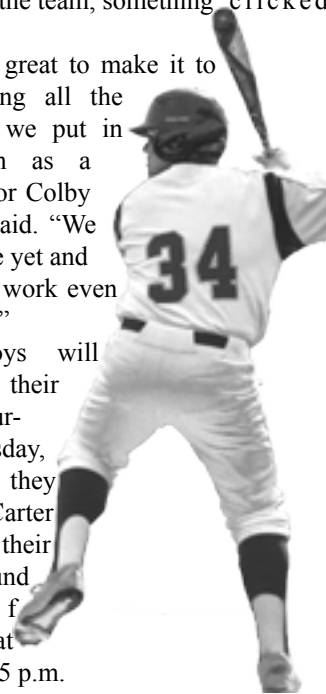
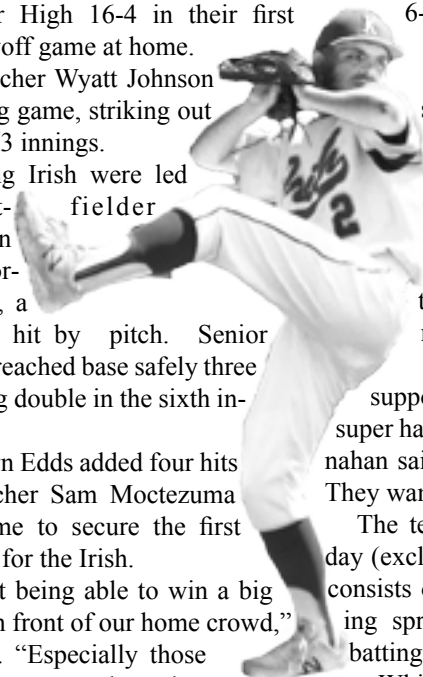
While the past few years have not been

the best for the team, something clicked this season.

"It feels great to make it to CIF knowing all the hard work we put in this season as a team," senior Colby Deterding said. "We are not done yet and we have to work even harder now."

The boys will continue their playoff journey on Tuesday, May 7, as they take on Carter High in their second round playoff match-up at home at 3:15 p.m.

MAHAM MEMON/The Shamrock Seniors Travis Wilson (left) and Albert Munoz (right) compete in their last league game.



# Frozen Yogurt VS Ice Cream

SHAYLA PARKER

Staff Reporter

You're getting dessert on a hot summer day, your choices are: ice cream from a tub at home in your air conditioned room or frozen yogurt at the mall with friends.

Ice cream and frozen yogurt are almost identical in ingredients. Since both are dairy products, there's not too much of a difference when it comes to what they're made of.

"I like frozen yogurt more because of its texture," senior Sergio Licea said.

The texture is a major difference. Ice cream has a thicker and creamier consistency than frozen yogurt which has more of a slick iced feel to it.

However, there are other ways to separate the two. For instance, frozen yogurt has a unique consistency that can go with practically anything.

"I prefer frozen yogurt, it's more compatible with different types of toppings," senior Jenny Flores said.

When going to a frozen yogurt shop, it's typically self-serve. However, when it comes to ice cream, most people purchase it at a store.

"I like ice cream, because it's more convenient since you can just buy it at the store," junior Valerie Mendoza said.

While both are great, ice cream is a classic and hard to deny.

"I see no point in eating frozen yogurt when ice cream is so good," teacher Christie Bettendorf said.

However, even though some acknowledge that ice cream is good, many believe that frozen yogurt is the way to go.

"Ben and Jerry's is the best ice cream, but Yogurtland tops everything else," junior Joseph Garcia said.

Both frozen yogurt and ice cream are great and there are more than a few ways to distinguish the two, however, that may not matter. What does matter, though, is that you remain cool on those hot summer days to come.



Ashley Chastine and Shayla Parker/The Shamrock

# TikTok is the New Vine

MELISSA PERALTA

Staff Reporter

Social media has been an important part of teenage life as far back as Myspace and Facebook.

Since the creation of these platforms, there have been countless variations throughout the internet. Vine was an extremely popular six-second video-based platform. When it shut down, there wasn't anything quite like it. TikTok, however, has now changed the game.

Vine was beloved by people everywhere before its death in 2017. Its content, although meant only for sharing videos, became a source of comedy unlike anywhere else. The clips on Vine have become legendary among teens, with compilations on YouTube archiving the most beloved of them.

"I remember when Vine first started; the first Viner I watched was Brandon Rogers. Being able to watch video clips on repeat without it ever getting boring was amazing," junior Saif Majali said.

Following its shutdown, creators had no choice but to move to YouTube where it was a gamble whether or not they would flourish in the same way they had on Vine. The transition from a six-second video platform to one where the most popular creators often post longer than ten-minute

videos was not easy, and most creators who tried to transition fell through the cracks.

Vine was the birthplace for many jokes and memes that are still present. Based on how TikTok grew, it is likely to be the same way. It may even surpass Vine in regards to popularity because of the hole left by Vine's demise. The trends and jokes, from "Softboiszn" to the song "Old Town Road," that gained popularity on TikTok have begun to make their way into the everyday humor of teenagers just like Vine's famous memes such as the traffic sign Road Work Ahead and the Peanut Butter Baby. The way TikTok has grown in popularity with small references as a single lyric or dance move could trigger a wave of familiarity among teens. Compilations of TikTok videos have even begun to appear on YouTube, something that was unheard of until Vine's shutdown.

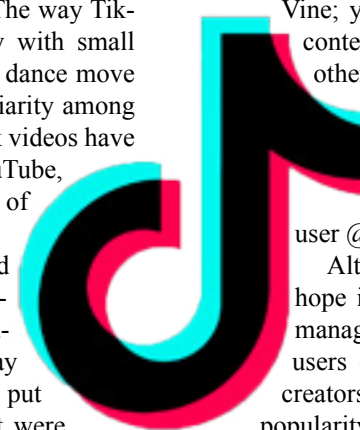
Many people downloaded TikTok initially as a joke. Before TikTok had become popular in the western world the way it is now, compilations were put onto YouTube with clips that were designated cringey by whomever created the compilation. Many people, though, through these compilations found an interest in the comedy of it and eventually grew to love it the way they had Vine.

"I downloaded TikTok because I missed Vine and hoped to experience similar comedic style with it," Sapphire Brilliant, a user on the app, said.

It doesn't just stop at comedy either. Cosplayers, artists, musicians, and dancers have all found their own place in the TikTok community to share their passion for what they do with their audience. Although Vine creators were able to do all of these things, the longer video allowance lets creators spread more content within the app.

"TikTok is definitely a similar app to Vine; you can post appropriate content of yourself and/or others – but TikTok has the ability to record more than 6 seconds, which I consider an advantage to vine," Tik Tok user @wamplii said.

Although Vine is gone, hope is still alive. TikTok has managed to reach the former users of Vine and allow new creators to flourish. TikTok's popularity is due in part to Vine, but like all things born of old ideas, TikTok is flourishing into an amazing new platform for all social media users.



Matt Badal/IconFinder

# SUMMER GETAWAYS

ALIVIA GARCIA

Staff Reporter



Many people take a trip down to the Santa Monica Pier for the carnival games, giant ferris wheel, roller coaster, and famous ice cream. The pier is over 100 years old and has been used in many famous films such as "Iron Man," "Forrest Gump," and "Her." You too can enjoy the joyful atmosphere and thrilling rides.

Courtesy of SCOTT TRENTO



From bonfires, to surfing, to great food, Huntington Beach (HB) is the home to both tourists and SoCal locals. HB is one of SoCal's most populated beaches. It also hosts Vans' US Open of Surfing in late July. If you want to get a tan, take a dip in the ocean, or plan a bonfire with some friends, HB is the place for you.

Courtesy of JORIE BANDAUSKI



Located in coastal Los Angeles, Sunken City is a hidden concrete jungle overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Sunken City was created on a cliff after a landslide. Countless people have covered the crumbled concrete with colorful graffiti. Sunken city makes for the perfect place for photoshoots or a scenic picnic with friends.

Eeka Cupcake/eeekacupcake

