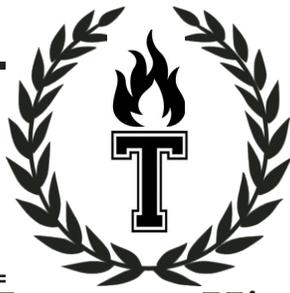


News



Torch

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THS CELEBRATES IN COLOR

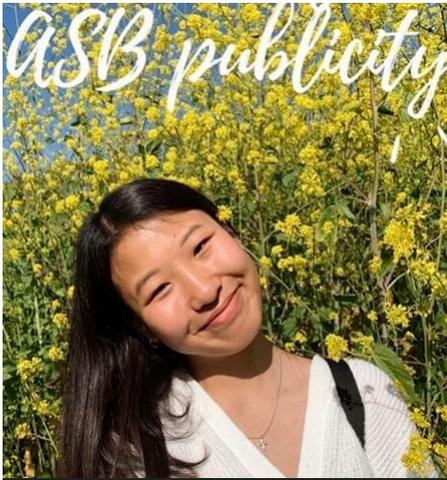


Photo Courtesy of:
Chelsea Yeo

YOU VOTED FOR WHOM?

BY ALICE LEE

"If you vote for me..." Sound familiar? The Associated Student Body elections and speeches waxed reminiscent in the auditorium on April 26. Many positions were filled by default because they ran unopposed.

The tallies leaned toward: Lois Kim as Vice President, Molly Yamamoto as Secretary, Alyssa Kim as Treasurer, Reyna Flores as Inter-Club Council Representative, and Ryan Sylvester as Commissioner of Activities.

Campaigning for ASB is like going into battle: the speeches are marching orders, the giveaways are propaganda, and the students are the casualties. The same implements were used as from times past with two major differences: Junior Jee Eun Yoon vied for the Commissioner of Arts and Spirit job by passing out scrunchies, a fabric covered elastic hair tie;

and Junior Katie Mendoza, trying for ASB President, passed out small pineapple keychains that were warmly received.

The speeches are the mainstay of campaigning, the scale by which the candidate will be weighed. The speeches resounded during 3rd Period assembly. Students unhesitatingly etched their votes on Naviance. The results were posted April 30 on the ASB door, reminiscent of Martin Luther at Wittenberg circa 1517.

And the winners are: Katie Mendoza, ASB President; Kurumi Miyazaki, Commissioner of Academics; Gil Bothwell, Commissioner of Athletics; Cami Tom, Arts and Spirits, and; Chelsea Yeo, Commissioner of Publicity. Your work is cut out for you, so do your best!

ASB PRESIDENT



Photo Courtesy of:
Katie Mendoza

SOOTHES THE SAVAGE BEAST

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ AND MARGAUX ESCUDIER

Students with an interest in music at Torrance High School have many class choices, like band, choir, and colorguard. These classes and more require a commitment of time because of the events they have each year, but they are still fun and profitable.

The THS choir, "conducted" by Mr. Wright, features talented students who often give wonderful performances during the rallies and events. Junior Meu Iwamoto describes the class as a real family. "We have a dynamic family," Meu says. "We never fail to cheer each other up." The choir classes will be performing at the Disney Concert Hall in May along with 1,000 other students.

They started practicing their six songs in January and cancelled their Choir House promotion to focus on rehearsals. The choir students also sang at the world famous Carnegie Hall in New York City during a field trip, April 4-9.

Band, "directed" by Mr. Anwandter, kindles the fiery musical spirit in any student. Junior Trilbee Vargas says she feels band is "really a family." We treat each other very well." This has been a really good year for band. They performed admirably at the Friends and Family event on April 25, where all the Torrance schools played for their kith and kin. Also,

they appeared at the Central Area Festival, an opportunity to share band experiences and musical expression with the local middle school students. This made good promotion for recruitment.

And colorguard, "coached" by Magaly Ortega, had no idea what to expect during the winter, but the more rigid fall practices were entertaining and enjoyable, with much emphasis on character and personality.

Color guard members also bonded during their hours of intimidating practice with rifles, sabres, and flags spent mostly indoors. No injuries occurred during practice. The Friends and Family Night performance was bittersweet because it was their last but best endeavor.

Next for colorguard is Wicked Paradise, a performance of songs from the Postmodern Jukebox, a group who rearranges pop songs into big band jazz style compositions. Tryouts and recruitment will be held at middle schools for several weeks. The Winter Guard Association of Southern California Championships were on April 13.

THS is not lacking when it comes to musical performances. Support our student musicians and band faculty all the "time."



Photo Courtesy of: Alice Lee



Photo Courtesy of:
Trilbee Vargas

FESTIVAL OF COLORS

BY MOEEZ QUERESHI

Torrance High School's lower field was decorated with streaks of blue and shades of green as South Asian Culture Club held their fourth annual Holi festival on March 22. The event attracted many members of the student body and spread joy through colors throughout the campus.

Holi is a festival celebrated in the Hindu religion. It welcomes the season of spring and celebrates the positivity and energy of the event by throwing colorful powder in the air and smearing paint on the faces and bodies of beloved family and friends.

The South Asian Culture Club worked tirelessly to prepare for the festivities. Packaging the powder after school was messy, but the clean-up process was even worse. Baby wipes were then employed and students were able to enjoy the event mess-free.

From the annex cafeteria to the B-building, the colorful smoke and powdery wind swept throughout the location and was visible to everyone. People frolicked, laughing and giggling, as their clothes, faces, and hair were permeated with varying bright

colors.

Sophomore Samantha Aguilera, a member in the South Asian Culture Club, reported: "I think the event is awesome. It's a nice way for people to see some of the culture, and it's really fun to be with people and make new friends."

Holi gives students the opportunity to socialize with their peers. It symbolizes unity and acknowledges the new friendships made from the participation.

Physics teacher and advisor for the South Asian Culture Club, Ms. Nazia Rashid, discussed her thoughts on the event: "It's amazing to see students who are strangers at the beginning of lunch become friends at the end, and all they are doing is running around and throwing colored powder at each other."

The event is one of the most prominent among the South Asian Culture Club's history because it is a school wide event that involves everyone to partake in fun and games. The main goal is to spread love and cheer among those who may not be feeling it.

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TURN THE PAGE!

NEWS! PAGE 2

Did you watch the movie Endgame? Read a review of the movie on Page 2!

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 3

Our baseball team made it to CIF! Read about it on Page 3!

ENTERTAINMENT

Are you interested in AP Test tips? Look on Page 4 to learn more!

ENTERING THE ENDGAME

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ

The Avengers have finally made it to the endgame with their conclusion to Infinity War. Avengers Endgame, directed by Anthony and Joe Russo, initially takes place after Thanos (played by Josh Brolin) had snapped his fingers, eliminating 50% of all known life, period.

Five years later, the Avengers do exactly what their name implies. They go back in time to retrieve all six infinity stones before they have a chance to fall into Thanos' grasp.

The movie itself is a marvel to behold. The structure of the story is well-paced and dynamic, moments of tension feel strong and impactful, and the action scenes are very well choreographed you can feel every punch.

The writing is much better than the previous

installments although it had plot flaws that only true comic fans would perceive.

Most professional reviewers had difficulty identifying any foibles in the film. Matthew Norman, from *The London Evening Standard*, said, "The only complaint about Avengers: Endgame is that it raises the bar so high that there may well never be a superhero movie to match it."

And, *The San Diego Reader's* Matthew Lickona, opined: "The MCU will go on and on, but this chapter - and the American pragmatism vs. American ideals bromance that drove it - have well and truly come to their "Excelsior! Nuff said!" moment."

Avengers: Endgame is the movie of the year, so don't hesitate to experience it.



Photo courtesy of: CNET.com



Photo courtesy of: WPTV.com

ANCIENT CATHEDRAL ABLAZE

BY MARGAUX ESCUDIER

On April 15, a terrible fire started atop the iconic Notre Dame de Paris which, according to *Les Echos*, is the most visited historic site in Europe. At 6.50 PM French time, or 9:50 AM Los Angeles time, a fire broke out in the attic of the cathedral.

The city deployed 400 firemen to battle the blaze. They had to take the water directly from the Seine, a famous river only a few meters away. The world could follow the event on YouTube or local news channels and could hear the people applauding the firefighters.

One hour after the beginning of the fire, *la flèche* (the spire) of the cathedral toppled the burning roof, crumbling a large part of it.

The 800-year-old frame totally disappeared and destroyed part of the vault of the cathedral. Thankfully, the organ, relics, and the stained glass windows were untouched.

As soon as the fire began, the Paris city prosecutor opened an investigation for "involuntary destruction by fire." The investigators are recurrently following a lead of an accidental

eruption during renovation. During the night, the police interrogated the workers who stated, "The security procedures were always respected." No workers were on site at the time the fire started.

The reactions from governments all over the world were generally supportive. French President Emmanuel Macron went to the cathedral that evening and said, "We will rebuild this cathedral." American President Donald Trump called Emmanuel Macron to share his empathy to the French people and this catastrophe.

To honor the president's promise of rebuilding the cathedral, several organizations started fundraising for donations. After 1 billion dollars were collected, scoffers from around the world declared the money should be used towards global warming.

The Notre Dame de Paris is synonymous with French culture and faith. We must do what we can to restore the real star of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* for the future.

CELEBRITIES GET SCHOOLED

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA

In early March, approximately 50 people were arrested for their alleged involvement in a college admissions bribery scandal, including millionaire parents and people employed at universities as coaches. Actresses Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman were among the people charged. William Rick Singer, a native of California, was the apparent "mastermind" of the scheme, according to court documents in Boston.

Fox News reported the schools students were admitted to were prestigious universities such as Georgetown, Stanford, Yale, UCLA, University of Southern California, and the University of Texas, with parents paying up to \$6.5 million to have their children enrolled, leaving less space for qualified applicants.

Although at least ten of the students knew about the bribery offenses, *Mercury News* reported Olivia Jade is the most prevalently reported. Loughlin's daughters, Olivia Jade Giannulli and Isabella Giannulli, were admitted into USC by claiming they were competitive rowers on a sports team, despite neither of them having played the sport.

Jade, who has her own YouTube account, has reportedly been furious with her parents after the scandal because she lost endorsement deals with popular cosmetics brands such as Sephora, TRESemme, and Estee Lauder, according to *Deseret News*.

Additionally, she has received criticism for saying she was not passionate about attending college in one of her YouTube videos, only going for the "college experience," such as partying instead of going to class. As of this publication, both girls are still enrolled at USC and are not allowed to withdraw from the university.

The college scandal, nicknamed "Operation Varsity Blues" by the FBI, is ongoing with 13 of the parents charged agreeing to plead guilty. Ultimately, whether or not the students get their acceptances revoked or the parents earn jail time, it is unclear what legal consequences they will face.



Photo courtesy of: E Online

ASPIRING RAPPER SHOT DEAD

BY LITZY TOLEDO

Nipsey Hussle, 33, was shot and killed outside The Marathon Clothing store in South Los Angeles on March 31. The artist focused on improving his community. He vigorously supported the underprivileged, the indigent, and the victims of gang-related violence.

Hussle was previously affiliated with The Rolling 60's, an LA gang connected to the Crips. A three-month visit to Africa and his family inspired Hussle to change his lifestyle.

These improvements included real estate investments, donations, and job referrals for the homeless. One of the few accomplishments included Hussle partnering up with Puma to donate \$10,000 to 59th street.

Hussle was planning to attend an anti-gang violence meeting with the LAPD to discuss gang violence on the day he was killed. Hussle will be remembered as the man who helped better the conditions of his community in South Los Angeles.

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Photo courtesy of: Mr. Bostwick

FIRST AMENDMENT EMPLOYED OR IGNORED

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA AND MR. BOSTWICK

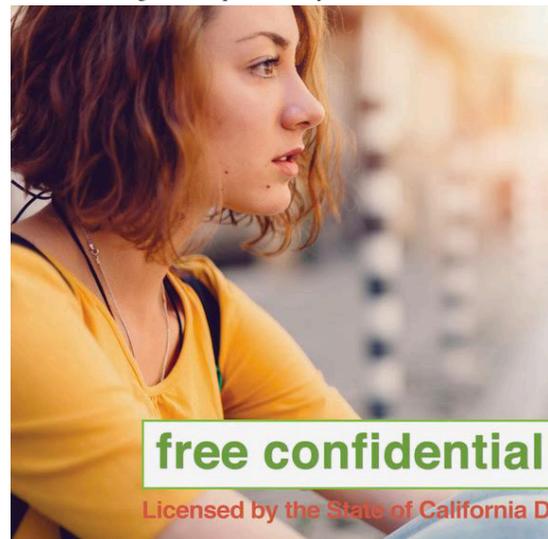
The JEA/NSPA Spring National High School Journalism Convention convened at the Anaheim Hilton April 25-27. The Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association joint venture officially opened Thursday evening with a recognition of Pacemaker and Journalist of the Year finalists as well as the winners of the First Amendment Press Freedom and Student Journalist Impact Awards. Approximately 3,500 students representing 441 schools from 21 states, Canada, and China attended.

Award winning journalist and author of *Enrique's Journey*, Sonia Nazario, delivered the keynote address. Her topic, and passion, are immigration, and her comments sparked interest to action from the student audience. Her writing has produced much awareness and change. Nazario said advocacy comes with risk.

Although Nazario receives "flack" from both sides of the political aisle, she unequivocally stated immigration problems should be handled in the country of origin, describing Central American countries, like Honduras, as "the most dangerous place on Earth." Nazario also stated journalists do their jobs best as "a fly on the wall."

Nazario spends months on the road in Latin America, following her subjects and putting her life in

Continued on Page 3



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Continued from Page 2

jeopardy, to write her books. After alluding robbery and rape, Nazario underwent six months of psychotherapy to deal with those memories. Strangely, Nazario raised her voice when saying, "I hate writing!" She was referring to the natural proclivity to procrastinate. Her words to the wise: "Show, not Tell."

JEA Director-at-Large Mike Malcom-Bjorklund teaches journalism at Columbia High School in Lake City, Florida. Formerly a reporter and designer for the Chicago Sun Times, Malcom-Bjorklund brings real-life experience to the classroom, but he opined teaching and reporting are two different things. "Journalism is a passion," he denotes, and he enjoys "watching the next wave" of journalists. "You have to give back to the students," Malcom-Bjorklund stated. "They are the next gate-keepers."

Torrance High School journalism students are being given "the keys." Anaheim is the home of Disneyland, the Angels, and the Ducks. The Hilton Hotel boasts 150,000 square feet of service space with 1,576 guest rooms expertly managed by conscientious, motivated employees. The rooms are quiet, and the service is spectacular. The Bostwick Experience jazz combo entertained the advisors at a reception Friday evening.



Photo Courtesy of: Mr. Bostwick

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

BY CHARLENE CAVE

The Torrance High School Varsity Baseball Team won the Pioneer League Champions title on April 25. The team has played 26 games since February, and all their hard work paid off when they won their last game of the League season against West HS, 4-2.

The game was intense and emotional because this is the Seniors' last season. The team is made up of seven Seniors, nine Juniors, two Sophomores, and two Freshmen, and they practice three hours a day with most of that time devoted to "the game."

Senior and pitcher Neil Feist was instrumental in much of the team's success, with a 20 RBI, a .324 batting average, 54 strikeouts, and a 1.07 ERA. The team is preparing for the upcoming California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) game on May 2. Coach DeWan said the team spent some "invisible hours" batting when no one was watching.

"The hay needs to be in the barn," DeWan said. The Tartars won the CIF in 2014. SoCal is a hotbed for baseball, and the team will face 32 demanding teams during the CIF playoffs. "Thirty-two teams, one survives," Coach DeWan said. His goal for the future is unifying the team both on and off season.

Time spent in different events, watching college baseball, bowling, study halls, and managing a camp for little league are some of the techniques DeWan will be using. "It's a holistic development approach," he said.

The enrollment for Tartar baseball averages 60 players annually divided into three teams; Freshmen, JV (coached by Ryan Burnett), and Varsity. The teams practice year round with two weeks off in August. Students interested in joining baseball can try out in November or get more information from Coach DeWan in Room A230. The work "spins on itself."



Photo Courtesy of: @Tartars_baseball on Instagram

CALLING TARTAR SERVICE

BY MARGAUX ESCUDIER

As my year in the United States comes to a close, I would like to remember how it felt on my first day in this country and at Torrance High School. The commitment the students had for their community was the first thing that caught my attention.

Many clubs contribute to the life on campus, but they also mobilize themselves to help the community. Red Cross Club and Make-A-Wish Club are a few examples that make a difference in our school and community.

We all remember the canned food drive of November, the water walk for KIWIN'S in September, or the sweet notes on our locker from Randoms Acts of Kindness in November.

The two most elite clubs at THS are the Tartar Knights and Tartar Ladies. Together, they help the teachers during the year, aid in graduation set up, and serve co-

mestibles during the Achievement Awards.

Miss Brown, the advisor of Tartar Ladies, says, "Being part of Tartar Ladies looks good on your application for college, because this club [was established in] the 40s. The people know what it is when they see it in your application." To apply for this club, the students must not have a U in citizenship and must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Regardless of the club action, there are individuals on campus who are involved. On average, 25.3 percent of Americans volunteer, according to the Corporation for National Community Service, which is 62.8 million volunteers. I witnessed several students taking part in benevolent causes with their faith-based organizations.

Volunteering will always be important in our life, and anyone can easily spread joy and happiness just by being active in their community.

Left Photo Courtesy of: ThsTf.com

TRACK, ITS OWN FIELD

BY ALICE LEE

The Torrance High School Track and Field team dominated the Pioneer League Preliminaries at West High School on April 22. Five girls and two boys made it into the 2019 California Interscholastic Federation Division 2 Finals.

Mr. Kyle Irvine has been the head coach for track 21 years and plans to stay for another five. "Coaching is enjoyment," Coach Irvine said, "and my success is wholly based on seeing student/athletes become better human beings through the rigors of athletic training." It was a rebuilding season for the track team, and all of the students were successful in some way.

Coach Irvine opined, "Not one student stands out, but the entire team stands out because they all improved. That is success." Coach Irvine will be announc-

ing the female athlete of the year at the Achievement Night Awards Ceremony on May 22.

Senior and pole vaulter Patrick Gidaya suggested the Pioneer tournament was a huge success. "Many of the team players reached personal best records," Patrick said, "and won in their categories." Gidaya is close to breaking the school pole vault record of 15 feet.

Patrick has been in track since his sophomore year. This was his personal best season, and the track team has given him great memories throughout high school. Patrick is graduating, and with sadness, he stated, "I will always remember my team." The Track and Field Team epitomizes the three D's: Desire, Dedication, and Determination. They plan to keep the success on track. Lace up, THS trackers!



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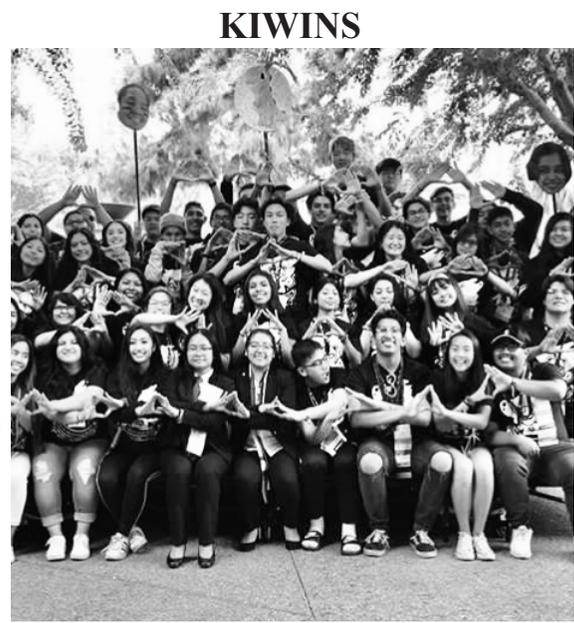


Photo Courtesy of: ThsTf.com

NO WAY!

By Natalia Corrales & Eduardo Benitez



MAY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Spring Concert	11
12	13	14	15 Talent Show	16 Spring Play	17 Spring Play	18 Spring Play
19	20	21	22 Achievement Awards	23	24 Class Elections	25
26	27	28	29 Night of The Arts	30 Film Festival	31 Festival of One Acts	

JUNE						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30						1
2	3	4 Senior Presentations	5 Senior Presentations	6 Senior Presentations	7 Jazz Concert Senior Brunch	8 Prom
9	10 Yearbook Distribution	11 Senior Finals	12	13 Senior Clearance	14 Cap & Gown Distrib. Baccalaureate Practice	15 Baccalaureate
16	17	18 Finals	19 Graduation at 4:30 pm @ ZAMP Finals	20 Last Day Finals	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

AP TEST TIPS

BY KAMILLE MOSQUEDA

Although April has turned into May, students must endure one major obstacle before the sweet release of the summer: the Advanced Placement Tests. These summative assessments can injure the confidence of certain students. AP Tests study and completion seem arduous and stressful, but the whole ordeal is entirely manageable. Teachers are reviewing pertinent material and have devised helpful strategies for the student in peril.

The AP English tests have the same structure, with multiple choice questions and writing responsive essays. Ms. Gonzales, the AP English Literature and Composition teacher, denotes the following: "Read the [essay] prompts carefully and underline what the prompt is asking you to do... jot down all ideas in the margins. Breathe. Relax. You've got this." Ms. Gonzales recommends annotating the passage and composing with detailed, sophisticated vocabulary.

Synthesis essays in AP Language and Composition can be perplexing. However, Mr. Bostwick has a few tips to remedy any student's fears and doubts. "Use the sources and your observations, readings, and experiences to support your thesis. Use [them] as springboards or buttresses for your argument. Do not let the sources drive your essay." He also lists common errors in essay writing, such as taking an unclear position or slipping out of focus by discussing imagery in general.

AP Macroeconomics is a senior class with one of the shortest test times. Ms. Gasset tells students they need to "go into the test with a positive attitude. You know more than you think, so have faith." Students will be able to recall the information because they have been studying it all year. "[Your first instinct] is usually right," she opined. "Don't make it too complicated." It's always best to go with their gut.

AP Biology teacher, Ms. Dwyer, recommends the review tools on her eTUSD page such as study guides, PowerPoints, and videos, and also encourages students to buy an AP Biology review book to practice their content knowledge. She also holds her own review sessions after school with College Board released practice exams, giving between four to five tests between February and April.

There are many strategies available for the anxious AP student, and the AP teachers have provided much to secure success. The AP Exam dates for 2019 are from May 6-10 for the first week, and May 13-17 for the second week. Good luck, Tartars!

Adopt a pet!

By Alice Lee



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Daisy (3 yrs old) Husky Mix
19-02690 -Female
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