The Torrance High School Newspaper Torrance T News Torch

Lighting the Way to Torrance High School Since 1922

RS COMING HOME 2019

COMING HOME

BY KAYLA COLLINS

Homecoming of 2019 was held in the main gym at Torrance High School on Saturday, October 5. Homecoming is the unofficial opening of the school year. The festivities included dancing, socializing, and conversing. Our Homecoming had all that and more!

The dance featured semi formal wear such as glitter dresses and bowties, andcads of color. A plethora of students attended, dancing, socializing, and enjoying their first or last homecoming of the year. Sophomore Camile Martinez said,

"This year was great. I enjoyed it." The tickets were a reasonable \$12.00 and \$10.00 if you have ASB.

The Homecoming game was on Friday evening, October 4, and the maroon was turned up! Our

varsity football team played

North High School, delivering an outstanding effort but lost 69 to 6. This did not nullify the students' exuberance for Homecoming.

Not all was bright. Senior Daezsa Pasion opined not all students enjoyed the dance. Daezsa said, "In my opinion, the dance mainly

appealed the Freshmen and Sophomores."

It seems many of her Senior peers were found in the foyer of the gym waiting to leave, but were not allowed by the faculty to exit the building until 9:30.

Daezsa added she enjoyed seeing her friends and classmates dressed in their best dancing attire.

The dance was well put together and enjoyable for the most part, but she felt as if it did not reach its "high expectations." Nevertheless, some dance beats no dance!

SPIRIT THE WEEK AWAY

BY MIKI IGNACIO

Torrance High School's first spirit week of the 2019-2020 year came and went like a "spirit." From September 30 through October 4, the Tartars excavated the deepest parts of their closets to flaunt their school spirit.

Monday was Maroon and Gray Day. Students and faculty proudly wore their school's colors, representing Torrance High School and what it means to be a true Tartar. The two colors overflowed each classroom and the entire campus, displaying the unity comprising this glorious institution.On Tuesday, students got classy with their fancy duds for Dress Up Day.

Through elegance and sophistication, he Tartars attended school with alluring dresses and luxurious neckties and, of course, the most beautiful, charming accessory everyone owns - a smile!

On Way Back Wednesday, students went back into the past and strolled into school with retro fashion. Students had the choice of wearing trendy styles from previous decades or wearing their old middle or elementary

Nostalgia rang throughout the Breezeway, and even though it might have brought back out some unwanted memories, the day was filled with laughter and smiles.

Thursday was Pink Out Day, and the campus was brimming with the color. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Tartars spread awareness through attire and attraction. It is a very honorable act of Tartars to publicize a worldwide health issue, showing others we care about the victims of breast cancer.

Lastly, Friday was Class Color Day, where students went absolutely bonkers with dressing in their class color.

The seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen dressed in red, green, blue, and yellow (respectively).

With tacky face paint, intricate make-up, and fluffy tutus, the possibilities



Kids enjoying homecomming

UP THE STUDENTS RALLYING

BY MIKI IGNACIO AND DAZEA PASION



Seniors Ryan Sylvester, Reina Flores, Alyssa Kayla Marquez, & Cami Tom

Photo Courtesy of: Austin Bunuan

Torrance High School students "rallied" for the first time this year in the main gym on Friday, October 4. Students filled the spaces representing their classes with cords of red, blue, green, and yellow. The school spirit was energiz-

The "Homecoming Rally" prepared the students for the dance on Saturday night, entitled "A Sunset in Paris." Each class had the chance to showcase their creativity on murals encircling the bleachers. Teachers like Mrs. Siadek judged the banners based on neatness, creativity,

As usual, ASB planned many engaging activities along with the banner and scream contests, including "Meatball Madness," "Busy Waiter," and "Trouble Tower Nation Ball." The volume erupted the walls as students cheered for their classmates.

We were so loud, Paris picked us up on a seismograph!

The rally showcased dazzling performances from the Drill, Cheer, and Song

ending with a great dance number from the Homecoming Top 30.

The Commissioner of Academics, Kurumi Miyaza i, announced the Students of the Month for September, which were Grace Chun and Austin Bunuan. Congratulations on your great achieve-

The rally concluded with the final "Spirit Meter" ranking, namely: Seniors, fourth place; Sophomores, third; Juniors, second, and first place goes to...the Freshmen? The Freshmen were ecstatic in winning their first all-school rally. Their win had every grade with their jaws gaping on the floor. The win was certainly a surprise to all! Never a dull moment.

Once again, the Homecoming Rally proved to be a delight for all students staff. Junior Chelsea Fernandez said, "The rally got my school spirit up and got me excited."Good feelings reigned as the Alma Mater was sung by the involved school body. This rally has all students eager for the next!

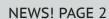




Above: the Senior Class section Below: Four freshamns playing Triuble Tower

Photo Courtesy of: Austin Bunuan

TURN THE PAGE!



Wildfires devastate California landscape again! Read all about it, page 2.

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 4

Looking for a freind? They are fuzzy, furry and fourlegged. Check out Adopt a Pet on page 4!

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 3

Looking for fun way to make up on Halloween? **Check out Page 2!**

FUNDRAISER

Stop by B building after school today and get a bag of chips to your liking for a dollar!



flowers for all occasions

Forever 21 Goes BK

BY USHNA ANWAR

Forever 21, a well known fashion store, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Sunday, September 29. Forever 21 is known for resonating with their primary audience, teenagers and young adults, because of their abundance of trendy and affordable clothing. However, reports show the thing they believed would bring them sales proved to do the exact opposite.

The store started a reduction in sales in 2015 because of competition with H&M, another popular brand known for its "fast fashion." Nevertheless, one of the main reasons for Forever 21's decline had to do with Generation Z. Gen Z is the most recent generation and are known for their desire to create their own style of aesthetic clothing.

Along with wanting to create their own identity, many shoppers felt Forever 21's clothing was too out of touch. According to Alexandra Capps, manager at Vanderbilt Costume Shop, her students felt their "individuality was taken away with fast fashion." Ano-

ther one of Gen Z's concerns is sustainability, which is the clothing's ability to last.

The younger generation's preference of thrifting clothes rather than partaking in fast fashion aids their issue of sustainability, but also contributes to Forever 21's decline in sales. Marketing Professor, Barbara Khan believes "the clothes aren't necessarily supposed to hold up for a while. There's a lot of headwind for sustainability efforts...and not making clothes that get thrown away."

Forever 21 started downsizing in 2018 and closed stores in Europe, Amsterdam, Dublin, the UK, and North America in hopes of recovering their losses. However, the scaling down was not effective and the company had to take drastic steps to maintain their business. There were 794 stores worldwide, and they announced they would close about 178 stores in the US and 350 globally. The management of Forever 21 is currently making decisions for the betterment of their stockholders. We'll see how it goes.



Photo courtesy of:
(Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

Registration, Difficult as Exams

BY DAEZSA PASION

New CollegeBoard Advanced Placement Exam registration policies came with the new school year. AP students and teachers alike faced various complications when attempting to register and pay for the exams.

Before, the CollegeBoard required AP students to register for their AP exams around March, ample time before the exams in May. However, this year policy shifted to have students register by September, and pay for their AP exams by October 3. What's the rush?

Because of this drastic change in dates, students had to assimilate while teachers tried to navigate through the tricky system. Torrance High School AP Coordinator Don Glavich had students bombarding his classroom and teachers calling him at all hours with questions. Although the change has been difficult, the CollegeBoard believes the prompting of the Fall Exam

Registration will increase success. "Schools that ask students to sign up for the exam in the fall boost their students' chances of earning a score that translates to college credit," according to the CollegeBoard website. "That's why more than half of schools offering AP already do it." A little late to get this kind of feedback.

Many teachers believe this is a good way to motivate students to achieve higher scores. AP Calculus A/B teacher Mr. Devin Kushi agrees the CollegeBoard decision definitely has some merit to it, despite the oddity of students having to pay months before the exams.

Overall, this change, with its complexity, is seen to be advantageous to students and teachers in reducing the stress of registering close to the testing dates.

However, only time will tell if this new policy proves to increase students' scores.





California fire out of control

Photo courtesy of: CNN

Fiery Fatal Flames BY MIKI IGNACIO

With California's scorching temperatures, dry conditions, and windy weather, flames were bound to erupt and burn everything in its path. On Monday, October 21, two wildfires threatened to devour homes in Pacific Palisades and San Bernardino.

Two days later, on Wednesday, October 23, the Kincade fire ignited in the Sonoma County and caused fatal damages.

A few days prior to the blazes, the National Weather Service reported strong Santa Ana winds, predicting an "extreme Red Flag Warning event" to effect sections of Southern California.

It brought the possibility of a "very rapid fire spread and extreme fire behavior" to threaten life and property.

Before the gusts picked up at Pacific Palisades, firefighters fought the blaze, which already consumed 40 acres.

According to KBAK-CBS, "A family of two adults and two children were treated for smoke inhalation and minor

burns,"while"two firefighters were treated for injuries" and were released from hospitals

The authorities of San Bernardino reported the fire burned about 20 acres, and "heavily damaged three homes and six others had minor to moderate damage."

Thankfully, out of the 628 houses in Pacific Palisades, none were seriously damaged or destroyed. The Kincade fire started on Wednesday night, as USA TODAY reported: "The blaze, only 5% contained on Friday, quickly swelled to 34 square miles, burned 290 buildings and forced the evacuation of 2,000 people."

More than 150,000 acres were lost, and 85 people were killed from the Kincade fire.

The actual source of the fire is unknown, but the Pacific Gas & Electric utility might be to blame. However, it is too soon to make accusations, and CAL FIRE states the cause of the fire is "under investigation"

Falling Into the Trends BY DAEZSA PASION

"Fall" into Fall with the seasons coziest trends! Out with Summer and its hot temperatures, and in with Fall and its crisp, cool air.

Excitement sparked as the season of Halloween and Thanksgiving approached. Fall arrived with its dried leaves falling from deciduous trees, pumpkin spiced everything, and spontaneous appearances of pumpkin patches throughout the area.

Speaking of pumpkin spice, many popular food and drink franchises, such as Starbucks, McDonalds, and Coffee Bean, have released their take on the seasonal classic Pumpkin Spiced Latte.

According to USA Today, Starbucks' "PSL" is "the top-selling seasonal beverage of all time, revealing the craze over the refreshment. More than 424 million units have been sold in the U.S. since its release in 2003."

With cool breezes comes sweater weather. It is time to break out hoodies, jackets, and sweaters as the days get colder.

Several clothing stores have begun

selling warm outer garments to fulfil the demand for seasonal wear, so Summer apparel has gone on sale to make room for the new collections.

Fall is also a time for seasonal fun. Pumpkin patches are one of the most popular activities of the season. A small pumpkin patch has opened this past week at Del Amo Mall in Torrance, featuring a petting zoo, pony rides, and bouncers for children to make great family fun.

And what is Fall without Halloween! Attractions such as "Universal Studios' Halloween Horror Nights" and the "L.A. Haunted Hayride" attract "kids" of all ages seeking the spookiest entertainment Los Angeles has to offer. The attraction prices are scarily pricey, especially on weekends, but the feeling of stepping into a real-life horror movie is an adrenaline-rushing experience you'll never forget.

Fall is a great time to cozy up in a warm blanket and be thankful for everything you have in life. So get out there this Fall season and smell the pumpkin spice!









Spidey Swinging Back

BY JOSH FLORES

With Spider-Man: Far from Home, your friendly neighborhood web slinger has returned to the MCU after some extraordinary events. Sony and Disney struck a new agreement allowing them to create a new film together. This will also allow Marvel studios to feature Tom Holland, who is responsible for the new deal. Holland said the companies will unveil the upcoming film soon.

According to Adam Holmes, a shift editor for Cinemablend.com, Tom Holland started taking matters into his own hands after his appearance at D23 in late August. There he told fans that he loved them 3,000. Holland was able to convince Sony film chairman Tom Rothman to re-engage with Disney. Holland also reached out to Disney's CEO Bob Iger to discuss a new agreement.

In an article by Kevin Burwick with Movieweb, MCU stars are happy to see Holland return with Zendaya "simply

post[ing] a gif of a dancing Spider-Man." Mark Ruffalo, delighted by Holland's return, comments, "[We] had a feeling we would see you again." Even stars that are not part of the MCU are excited about the news. According to Dave McNary with Variety, "[The film]" grossed \$1 billion worldwide "becoming the 40th title to do so." This makes it Sony's second highest grossing movie, out-grossing Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle at \$963 million." This means the Spidey flick surpassed Spider-Man: Homecoming, which only made \$880 million globally.

The new agreement for the jointly produced film, according to Holmes, "sees Disney's stake being increased to 25% of net gross, meaning the Mouse House will also chip in on 25% of the budget." This will allow Disney to get money for its efforts along with Sony paying 75% of the budget and getting 75% of the profit. Fans will be excited to hear of the return of Spider-Man.





STEM or Swim

BY ANDREW GERGES

The fourth annual TUSD cardboard regatta took place at the Torrance Aquatics Center on Friday, October 4, involving many Torrance high and middle schools. The event's purpose is to inspire Torrance girls into the many fields of STEM, so the event is limited to girls.

The regatta was divided between middle and high schoolers and boasted record attendance numbers this year. The regatta would not have been possible without the sponsorship of Torrance refinery and the work of those like Torrance High School's Ms. Nazia Rashid.

The event lasted from 7:30 to 2:00 and required each group to build a small boat out of cardboard and duct tape in under two hours. Two girls from each group then had to row the boat across the pool. The surviving boat making it across in the least amount of time won.

Unlike previous years, participants were required to build their paddles also out of cardboard, making the challenge even more difficult. If a boat sunk, the group was disqualified and after separate individual races, the times were compared and a winner was declared.

For the high school competition, Tor-

rance placed first and third while North placed second. The two other high schools did not place.

Representative Apurva Mandal of the group "Fruit Salad," who placed fifth, stated the task seemed daunting at first, but "it was fun...to find a solution to the task." While the high school competition was very demanding, the middle school portion of the competition was naturally less competitive and no single school stood out.

The feminine exclusivity of the event may seem controversial to some. Junior Nathan O'Brien has been taking engineering classes since middle school, agreed the females deserve their own event but wished he could participate because it sounds like "a lot of fun." Regardless, many THS girls participated in this challenging, lesson-filled event and made their school proud.

Ms. Rashid was one of the main coordinators of the event and responsible for the staunch participation. She added, "the girls really outdid themselves this year."

The Torrance High School STEM participants were the most successful than the previous four years of the regatta. The event was beneficial to the girls and marked another trophy in Torrance High School's history.

Creepy and Kooky

BY EDWARDO BENTEZ

You'll screa-um when you watch The Addams Family. Directed by Conrad Vernon and Greg Tieran, the animated movie centers around the creepiest and weirdest family as they attempt to settle into the most horrifying place imaginable, New Jersey. Far from their scary abode, the Addams family must make do with their bright and happy go lucky neighbors while also going against a reality TV show host.

The movie itself is beaming with potential but does nothing with it. Most of the humor in the film revolves around tasteless puns that do not land properly. The message itself is nothing new or spectacular. Simply put, it is another "Be unique and be yourself" movie message. Ironically, the movie itself does not seem to be trying to pull off anything special. What is interesting is the various references scattered around the film relating back to the original Addams Family comic strips from the 1930s.

Ed Potton, from the Times (UK), said, "If it ultimately feels a bit thin - more stylish pastiche than full-blooded reanimation - it should still distract your little terrors for an hour and a half." Philip De Semlyen, from Time Out, shared: "It is a celebration of misunderstood outsidership and is too generic to amount to much more than a bargain-basement 'Despicable Me'."

The movie is a mixed bag for the season. For me, it was just a nice, simple treat to see something as dark and twisted as the Addams family return as opposed to another happy-go- lucky Disney film. It adds up to harmless Halloween fare.



Tips or Treats

BY KAYLA COLLINS

It's Halloween time! Now you can take all your creativity and make the scariest or the cutest makeup looks ever! Here's how you can still achieve cute or scary look with home makeup products or with affordable materials you can find anywhere.

You can use wool if you want to pronounce an open wound, cut, or any other gory special effects. Powdah, a popular youtuber, explains, "Gluing down wool or yarn is an easy way to create veins and capillaries in your makeup."

Wool can be used for the veins around the fake wound, making it look swollen or extremely infected. Yuck!

Also, you can use fishnet stockings to create realistic fish scales. Sabeeha Tabassum

"Just pull the fishnet across a part of your face, and press the shadows on your skin until you're happy with the look. These easy and simple steps allow you to use multiple colors to give it that iridescent or a fading feel. Lastly, you can use red lipstick gloss to create bloody or fresh wounds.

Fake blood from a halloween store is tricky to apply. Instead, use lipstick or gloss of any red shade to achieve your look. Miki Hayes with Bustle.com says, "Shades of red and purple are great for applying [naturally] or even mix ng together to achieve your ideal, bloodywound effect."

Follow these simple tips to insure your gory look to be a hit on All Saints' Eve.

Mario Kart Kraze

Trends come and go, but this exhilarating app is on top of the market. Ready your engines for this brand new installment in the Mario Kart franchise, Mario Kart Tour. Compete head to head on familiar tracks from previous games as well as new ones.

The app is free to play from the Google Play Store or the App store, but it has slight problems with microtransactions because rare and exclusive karts are blocked by a paywall known as the Gold Pass. Thankfully, fans can enjoy the game while participating in friendly competition. No betting is allowed!

THS students know this game

petitive aspect of the game/app, but he also mentioned a flaw. He said it's fun but also very repetitive so it "gets boring quickly." No matter how exciting this app is, students would never be caught playing it during class, right? Senior Natalia Corrales said the

well. Junior Jeremy Sarmiento like the com-

Senior Natalia Corrales said the game/app revitalized an interest in games for her, which made her feel like "I'm in elementary school all over again." With several scheduled updates arriving soon, this game will stay longer than your typical click and play app. The only way Mario Kart Tour will go is





Student at Arms

BY KAYLA COLLINS Johnathan E. Seto (2018) receives miltary award.





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By Kayla Collins



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Adopt a Pet!



By Kayla Collins



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Onward to College

On October 16, all Torrance High School students participated in College and Career Day with a plethora of exciting events to prepare Tartars for post-graduate readiness while taking small steps to a brighter future.

sophomores took Pre-American College Testing, or the Pre-ACT. The Pre-ACT is a multiple-choice summative assessment, parroting the actual ACT testing experience. The disciplines concerned include English, reading, mathematics, and science. In order to do well their tests in the future, the Pre-ACT become mandatory for tenth graders.

The juniors took the PSAT/NMS-QT, or the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. (Wheh!) Emulating the Pre-ACT, the PSAT is a multiple choice practice test in the subjects of mathematics, reading, and writing of the real SAT. Students with the highest PSAT scores have the chance of winning scholarship money by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

All freshmen and seniors engaged in their respective grade level activities. The freshmen partook in a Q&A about Torrance High School with ASB, the Identity Activity, and the Career Exploration Presentations. The seniors attended workshops centered around life after high school. Students from all grades listened to a motivational and inspirational speech by Murphy Su'a, head baseball coach for the CSDUH Toros. The speech centered on creating pathways for life.

Jenna Mendoza, one of the College and Career Day organizers, had much to say about this year's event. Ms. Mendoza stated the activities "ran smoother" this year, but the testing was greatly impaired because the College Board do not send enough "testing materials." Who watches the watchers?

During sixth period, the College and Career Fair opened up on the breezeway of our beautiful campus. Institutions from all over the country and from all genres were present, including Sacramento State University, UC Merced, the University of Hawaii, Syracuse State University, and Johns Hopkins University. These and many others shared their information with potential their supportive and

Cross Country Captures Competition

BY JOE SHMOOGAH

The 72nd Annual Mt. SAC Cross Country Invitational "ran" through October 18, 25, and 26 at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, CA. The website boasts it is the largest cross country invitational in the world, and the Torrance High School XC team dominated the field.

THS placed famously in the followingh three-mile races: Boys Varsity, 1st Place Girls Varsity, 1st Place Boys Junior Varsity, 1st Place Girls Junior Varsity, 1st Place Boys Freshman, 1st Place Girls Freshmen, 1st Place Sophomore Boys, 5th Place Sophomore Girls, 2nd Place

Hard work and perseverance attributed to the team's performance.

Runners' times of significance include Danel Dorantes (BV, 16:42), Angela Arellano (GV, 19:28), Gil Bothwell (BJV, 17:37), and Muriel Alejandrino (GJV, 22:21). Our Tartars have both speed and endurance.

Junior Kassie Cochran said the Mt. SAC course is historic, making it "an honor for my team and I to participate." Junior Alyssa Kim opined: "Everyone attacked the hills and used the downgrades to their advantage."

Junior Erin Kaku said, "It was really hard, but with your surrounding friends and family cheering for you, it makes it worth the while to push through the pain." Junior Joey Rynski said, "While I was racing, I knew I had to stick with my team, as this sport requires us to run together as a unit, and I couldn't have been more proud and grateful to be able to run with this amazing band of brothers."

There's a trick to cross country racing, and it appears our Tartars have got that trick down!

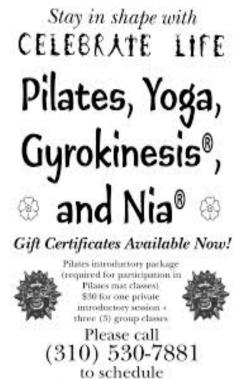






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