

The Torrance High

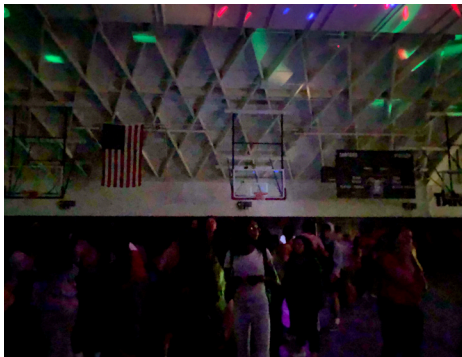
School Newspaper

News

Torch

Lighting the Way to Torrance High School Since 1922

HOWDY TO THE NEW YEAR



Howdy Dance

Photo Courtesy of:
Alice Lee

FUN DAY AT CLUB DAY

BY EDUARDO BENITEZ

Another Club Info Day graced Torrance High School with its presence as students flocked to join several clubs involving volunteer hours or interests and hobbies. KIWIN’S, Maroon Monsoon, and others actively recruit new members for opportunities from “fresh” applicants. Other clubs like Chess Club, Club Theatre, and Random Acts of Kindness Club gained notoriety through the experience. Members passed out flyers, hoping to elicit new members. Some members

showed a certain perspicacity in their recruiting skills. Kitzia Lopez, President of Nurturing Future Generation Club, said, “I hope everyone finds what is best suited for them.” Inter-Club-Council Representative, Reyna Flores, opined, “Club Info Day is important because all clubs are represented and the students are exposed to organizations.” It is great to hear so many positive thoughts on this very popular event. Club Info Day was beneficial for spreading solidarity and good cheer among the ranks of the enrolled student body.



Seniors Jett Hayes and Mihir Menon

Photo Courtesy of:
Austin Bunuan

GIDDY UP WITH THE TARTARS

BY ALICE LEE

The Howdy Dance “giddied” in the main gym of Torrance High School on September 13. The first dance of the school year is normally different from the rest. Associated Student Body Director, Mr. Nathan Jones, says the howdy dance doesn’t have a theme. It’s a “welcome back to school” dance occurring after the first football home game. The idea is to spend time with fellow classmates and dance. The dance featured casual attire, like tank tops and jeans. Attendance was good because the admittance was a reasonable \$5.00. The Maroon Monsoon club made a theme for that night: USA! The football team played against Santa Paula High School. The varsity team put forth an amazing effort but lost by forty-two points.



Regardless, the students put on a smile and took their energy to the gym and gyrated. Mosh pits ensued and students were jumping into each other to every song. DJ Emerson played songs like “Go Loko” by YG, “My Type” by Saweetie, and lots of others. Freshman Sophia Zepeda attended her first dance and said, “It was definitely different from middle school.” Zepeda preferred different song choices, but enjoyed her experience regardless. She plans to attend other school dances as the howdy dance was memorable. The first dance was a success with good attendance. THS is confident the next football games and dances will be successes!

Photo Courtesy of:
Austin Bunuan & Alex Simon

Sophia Baik (9), Keri Tanaka (12), and Irish Spellacy (9)



RED MEETS YELLOW

BY DAEZSA PASION

Welcome, class of 2023, to Torrance High School! THS has given you a spirited introduction through the annual Senior/Freshman Buddy Week, which occurred September 9 through 13 in various venues on campus. Anticipation rose and excitement soared during the weeks between registration and the end of the second week of school. Vincent Cabrera, Senior Class President, said he and Keala Fitisemanu, Senior Class Activities, paired up the buddies using answers to an interest survey asking about places students general questions of interest. On September 9, the buddies gathered in the main gym for a meet and greet. The Freshmen were elated to be paired with their Senior buddies, eager to meet someone who can help guide them through the inner workings of high school life. The Freshmen outnumbered the Seniors, and a few kind Seniors took more than one

buddy under their wing. The gym was packed, but ASB and the Senior Class Council helped to make the meet and greet a smooth operation. The week was filled with fun activities coordinated by the Senior Class Council. These activities included “bring your Freshman buddy to lunch” and “match with your buddy” day. This gave Senior and Freshman buddies a chance to get to know one another while giving the Class of 2023 a warm welcome. As a Senior buddy myself, I look back on my Freshman year, wishing I had participated in this event. Freshman year is daunting for many people, so having someone who has more experience on your side is more comforting than facing the first year alone. So, Juniors, by the time Senior registration arrives, please don’t miss the opportunity to sign up for Senior/Freshman Buddy Week!

FRIENDS



Sarah Kim (9) and Lois Kim (12)

Photo Courtesy of:
Austin Bunuan & Alex Simon



TURN THE PAGE!

NEWS! PAGE 2

Have you talked to any of the foreign exchange students yet? Hear about what they think about THS on Page 2!

STUDENT LIFE PAGE 3

Did you see the Chase Bank fire? Read more about it on Page 3!

ENTERTAINMENT

Have you seen the VMA's? Go check out our VMA's Best Looks column on Page 4!

Take a look at our first comic of this year on the same page!

OPENING GAME PROVES IMPROVEMENT

BY DAEZSA PASION

Lights illuminated the Zamperini Stadium field as Torrance High School “kicked off” the football season on Friday, September 6 against Leuzinger High School.

Students, faculty, and avid football supporters gathered to watch the first home game of the 2019-2020 season.

The Maroon Monsoon supplied much of the energy. Sporting their themed Hawaiian shirts, the group cheered throughout the night with gusto.

Sparkling performances from the Drill Team, Pep Squad, Color Guard, and Concert Band went buzzing with energy all evening. The crowd was electrified as the Varsity Football Team ran onto the home field for the premier time this season. Pandamonium!

THS Varsity Football Coach Rock Hollis said: “We were, and still are, [excited] that we finally got the opportunity to play in front of the home crowd.”

Coach Hollis and the team were eager on the field, hoping for a good game.

Junior Mat McComas led the team as quarterback. He made various and sundry plays throughout the game, mainly consisting of throws to the team’s receivers. His throwing arm was challenged that night.

In the second quarter, both teams took a knee because THS fullback Senior Mouhammed Ndoeye was injured and became unconscious. Paramedics were called to transport Ndoeye to the hospital. We are confident Ndoeye will return quickly.

With two minutes and nineteen seconds left in the fourth quarter, Leuzinger scored the final touchdown. The 0-48 loss was a real disappointment, but despite the loss, the Tartar Nation was still in good spirits for the rest of the game.

“We are looking forward to improving our play,” Coach Hollis said, “and showing what the true Tartar Spirit is all about.” Go, Tartars!



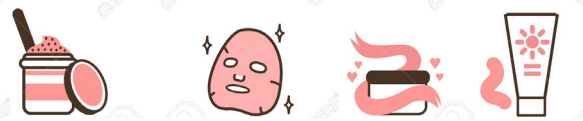
Photo courtesy of: Daezsa Pasion
Home Football game vs. Leuzinger



Photo courtesy of:
Urban Outfitters
Mario Badescu Drying Lotion

FACE TO FACE

BY KAYLA COLLINS



Blemishes and pimples are a common occurrence with high school students. These products will help relieve you of those breakouts. Let’s start with a clay mask, especially the Aztec secret Indian Bentonite healing clay.

Clay masks are fast acting masks to help dry out and alleviate of your blemishes and balance out the natural oils on your face, leaving your skin fresh and clean.

According to Gloria from Buzzfeed, this healing clay is a “great product.” Gloria added: “After the facial, my pores are totally clean, and they seem to disappear.

My skin also tightens and takes on a youthful glow. The results last for about a week or a little longer.” You can find this product on Amazon for \$10. This is recommended for oily to combo skin.

At times we are too busy and we can’t wait 10-20 minutes for the clay masks to dry. That’s okay. Drying lotions are effective in applying to an irritated

pimple or blemish directly. Then you can sleep and - boom - it’s like it was never there. Here’s a reassuring review from M.Ksmith from Buzzfeed: “Usually it takes days to [reduce the blemish], but this literally took one night.” The reviewer suggested trying a fast-acting drying lotion. This is recommended for acne prone skin. It can be found at your local drugstore at a range of \$10-\$20.

Another great product is La Roche Posay multi-purpose balm. It is used for the entire body. It’s great for very dry skin because it leaves your skin hydrated.

Sarah K. on Buzzfeed had to say, “I usually can’t wear balms because they affect my extremely acne-prone, oily skin... a night of this balm recovers my skin back to normal.”

It’s a great product because it’s easily accessible and can be found at your local Target for \$15. All of these products are fast acting and have great results. They are affordable and great for everyday use.



Photo Courtesy of: Jessica Tang
Seniors enjoying brunch at the senior patio

SENIOR BRUNCH MUNCH

BY JESSICA TANG

Torrance High School organized its annual Senior Brunch at the Senior Patio on September 13 to start off the Seniors’ final year. The Brunch went from 7 AM to the morning bell.

ASB served bagels, donuts, and pastries of every type to satisfy varied tastes. Lemonade, SunnyD, and iced tea were offered to assuage any thirst. ASB students worked diligently while Seniors multi-tasked - talking, laughing, and eating all at the same time!

ASB started planning the event in July writing letters and making calls to local businesses for donations. Typically, Torrance Bakery, Ralph’s, and King’s Hawaiian donated the pastries and goodies served.

Senior News Torch Editor Alice Lee stated, “We are very grateful and we couldn’t have done it without them.” There were leftovers because of the generous amount of food donated.

This year’s Senior class is one of the smallest in five years.

Activities Director Nathan Jones stated, “The turn out is solid, with lots of smiles. High school will be fun if you put in the work. You will remember these events when you’re older.” Over 100 students gathered around the fountain to enjoy the free breakfast and to spend time with friends and freshmen buddies.

Senior Madison Albers said, “It’s nice to eat tasty desserts and joke around with your friends...and it’s free food!” Similarly, Senior Natalia Corrales, with a bagel in her hand, added, “I had fun today and this cinnamon bagel is awesome.” The atmosphere was filled with joy and excitement.

As the Seniors’ final year begins, feelings of nostalgia come to mind. As a senior, I feel we will remember this year the most tenor twenty years later, so the memories we make now are the most important. The next event is Homecoming, so watch out for those tickets. It’s your last year!

INTERNATIONAL TARTARS

BY ANDREW GERGES

The Torrance High School Foreign Exchange Student Program was created in 2015 to attract international students to study on our campus. Students have the option to attend any school, but often choose THS because of its location, beautiful campus, and high academic standards. Seniors Giulia Borzatta and Rebecca Toto have come to THS to engage in American lifestyle.

Mr. Nathan Jones has always believed the program gives the students and the school “exposure.” The program allows students to share their cultures.

This year, THS has enrolled twenty-one international students from Italy to Norway to Brazil. Students stay in America for at least a year to immerse themselves in American culture. Most find it enriching and cherish it as a lifetime memory despite being away from home.

Giulia Borzatta came from Italy and she constantly finds new experiences and culture-shocks even though she has been to the States before. Her homeschool schedule runs Monday to Saturday from 8 to 1 in the afternoon. The teachers switch classes instead of the students.

Italian students remain in one classroom everyday for a whole year. Giulia believes changing classrooms every period “makes the day seem to go by faster.” She thinks it is worth it because “[she] gets to meet new people and make more friends.” Giulia has high hopes for this year and has already started off very well.

Rebecca Toto is also from Italy and has been eagerly anticipating this year. She in Italy, “when a person turns 14, they must choose a particular field to pursue...” It is similar in terms of deciding a major for high school as Americans do in college.

Rebecca prefers the American system because it allows her to create new friendships from different grades. She is very excited about being on “the beautiful Torrance campus.” She needs to follow a routine and find people to help with her imperfect English proficiency.

The Exchange Program has allowed hundreds from across the world to come to California and experience the “THS lifestyle.” It has been beneficial to the students and a feather in our school’s cap.


Foreign Exchange Student



Giulia Borzatta (12)



Photo courtesy of: Giulia Borzatta & Vector Stock



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CHASING THE FIRE

BY MIKI IGNACIO

The Chase bank at the Hawthorne Boulevard and Carson Street in Torrance erupted in flames the evening of August 23. According to Torrance Police Department, a driver lost control, ran a red light, and crashed into the bank. The passenger and driver were rushed to the hospital, but the driver’s condition is still unknown. However, Assistant Fire Chief Jon Henderson has reported minor injuries. NBC4 reported the car was a Honda sedan. “When [we] got to the scene, the vehicle was completely encased in the structure with two occupants inside,” Torrance Assistant Fire Chief Steve Treskes stated. Causes of the accident is currently unknown. It is reported by TPD Sgt. Paul Kranke the driver was not suspected of DUI (Driving Under the Influence), or “drunk driving.” The speed of the car is also unknown.

Officers were dispatched at around 11:44 pm. The fire spread in a short amount of time. Firefighters called for assistance from many government agencies, including Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Los Angeles County fire departments. Treskes added the fire lasted “about three to four hours,” and it took 46 firefighters to extinguish the blaze. Assistant Fire Chief Jon Henderson told KTLA-TV at the scene (according to The Beach Reporter), “It had a rubberized roof and façade around it made of combustible metal, so it provided for a very challenging firefight.” Thankfully, firefighters suffered no injuries or casualties. Currently, the Chase bank location is uninhabitable. Current status of the safe deposit boxes and bank vaults are unknown. Fortunately, there are other Chase locations to serve you. You can bank on it.



Photo Courtesy of: Daily Breeze
Chase Bank Fire Being Contained



Photo Courtesy of: Photo Fest
The cast of Friends in their original season.

FRIENDS ON THE BIG SCREEN

BY USHNA ANWAR

Fathom Events showcases Friends on September 23, 28, and October 3 in theaters throughout the country. Chances are you have heard someone talk about the show Friends or seen individuals walking around in attire with the word ‘Friends’ written on its iconic logo. This show was immensely popular in the 90’s and is as beloved to the following generations who have rediscovered it and its six adorable characters. According to the Netflix twitter, “We’re sorry to see Friends go to Warner’s streaming service at the beginning of 2020 (in The US).” The 25th Anniversary of Friends which happened on September 22 was an excellent way to honor the show before it left its most enterprising streaming service.

Fathom Events announced a three-day marathon called Friends: The One With The Anniversary consisting of twelve episodes. Ray Nutt, the CEO of Fathom Events said, “Fans will have the opportunity to come together and look back on some of the most hilarious and emotional scenes from the acclaimed comedy — this time in theaters.” Get your tickets pronto! The marathon incorporated a special feature for the fans which was extra footage. According to CNET Writer Katie Conner, “Each night will include four different episodes, never-before-seen content and exclusive interviews...all in 4K high definition.” Fortunately, there was still unseen footage after twenty-five years. This event will bring friends and family together in a brand new way.

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SPIDER MAN HOMELESS

BY JOSHUA FLORES AND EDUARDO BENITEZ

Despite grossing over \$1.1 billion worldwide, Spider Man is forced to return to Sony as negotiations between the company and Disney dissolved. Sony had arranged an agreement with the Disney owned Marvel-Studios in 2015 to share the character, allowing the studio to create their version of Spider Man as well as two stand-alone movies. Negotiations between the companies seemed unclear as news outlets like Newsweek, Digital Spy, and BuzzFeedNews state both companies have organized a 50/50 split but neither would agree to the deal. Fans quickly accused Sony of stealing proprietary material. Kevin Fiege and Tom Holland

took time to address the Spider Man deal during a recent Disney convention. Both were disappointed but were glad they had managed to include the web slinging hero in five movies, three of which appeared alongside the Avengers. Actors like Jeff Goldblum were upset by this news, while others like Jon Favreau held a positive outlook regarding the future. Though one actress, Elizebeth Olsen, couldn’t bring herself to be quite so upbeat. “It really is sad. I mean, Tom [Holland] was...the greatest Spider-Man to me.” The departure of Spider Man has left fans bewildered. Fans can only hope the movies will retain the same great quality the Marvel Studios produced.



Photo Courtesy of: Foundation for Economic Education
Amazon Forest Fires Out of Control

AMAZON FOREST FIRES

BY JOSHUA FLORES

For the past month the Amazon rainforest has been on fire. Caitlan O’Kane of CBS News reports: “Smoke ...is being blamed for an increase in respiratory problems in Brazil.” O’Kane also reported these health problems “are particularly affecting children and the elderly.”The Amazon is significant because it houses over ten million different species. It’s often referred to as “The lungs of the Earth.” In a report to the EPA, Dr. Christie Klimas, an assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Studies at DePaul University, noted: “The Amazon Basin contains more than half the world’s remaining tropical rainforest, and is facing unprecedented changes [having] major impacts on biodiversity, regional hydrology, and the global carbon cycle.”

Justine Calma with the Verge says there are many explanations for the Amazon being on fire: “Experts say deforestation and a practice called slash-and-burn are to blame for most of the flames.” Companies and governments cut down patches of forest, allow the area to dry, then set the area on fire ablaze to accommodate development or other concerns. Many efforts are taking place to combat the fires. Calma adds: “After weeks of international and internal pressure, [Brazilian President Jair] Bolsonaro deployed the military to help battle the fires on August 24, sending 44,000 troops to six states.” Countries like France and the UK have offered to send financial aid, but so far President Bolsonaro has only accepted aid from the UK.

EVERY SUMMER EVER



BY NATALIA CORRALES



SUMMER'S BOILING HOT TRENDS



BY ALICE LEE

Social media creates trends continuously. Torrance High School students followed these on-going trends, like metal straws, disposable cameras, crocs, and the Tik Tok app. The plastic straws proved harmful to the environment, getting stuck in the noses sea turtles and the consumption other sea animals. So, metal straws were purchased to help the environmental movement. Ultimately, the Starbucks Corporation created new lids for cold beverages to eliminate the need for straws and cut down on plastic waste.

Disposable cameras grew in recognition from teens once Youtuber David Dobrik started to use them constantly. His influence on his 13.8 million subscribers increased the interest of the cameras. The "vintage" style from last year continued. Disposable cameras became trendy because of the vintage filters attached to them.

Crocs are foam clog shoes which eventually became popular recently. CNBC writer Jasmine Wu wrote the article "Ugly as in: Crocs have taken over teen footwear, and boosted its stock," said, "...Consumers

are moving away from the conventional idea of beauty, and investing in products that are comfortable to wear." Wu included results from a survey by Senior Analyst Piper Jaffray. Wu continued; "Crocs [are] the 13th most popular footwear brand among average-income female teenagers." It ranked from 30 in 2017 to 12 just last year. The demure reputation of crocs have decreased further.

The social media video app Tik Tok grew because of the increase in comedy skits and talent videos created by teenagers. CNN Business writer Sherisse Pham wrote: "The company that owns TikTok now has one billion users and many are outside China."

Pham continued, "As of March, TikTok was the most downloaded app in Apple's App Store for five consecutive quarters, according to market research firm Sensor Tower." Their purpose is to entertain and have fun. While many of the summer trends were interesting, these trends caught the attention of many millennials worldwide. The content and trend creators influenced THS students as well. Stay cool, there are hotter trends coming in!

Adopt a pet!

By Alice Lee

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VMA'S BEST LOOKS

BY USHNA ANWAR

The 36th Annual Video Music Awards (VMA), hosted by Sebastian Maniscalco, aired on August 26 on MTV from New Jersey. Viewers experienced their favorite artists perform on stage and display their outfits on the red carpet. Fans tuned into the show via cable and streamed it on the internet.

The carpet exposed many celebrities and their intriguing sense of fashion. There were many looks that night; however, the fans thought some were more eye-catching than others.

The audience loved seeing their favorite new musician, Lil Nas X, at the show for the first time. He definitely surprised the crowd by arriving in a glittery ensemble that screamed western style.

According to Teen Vogue, "In just a few short months, the artist has breathed fresh air into the fashion scene and made fans want to celebrate themselves just as they are, simply by choosing to rock clothing that makes them happy." It's all about the apparel.

Taylor Swift made a grand entrance. The singer walked the carpet in a Versace rainbow rhinestone blazer accompanied by black over-the-knee boots by Christain Louboutin.

Taylor Swift was one of the first out on the carpet as she previously released her album, *Lover*, three days before.

According to Popculture writer, Kyle Phillippi, "The record quickly became the top-selling album of the year after just two days." The public especially loves the previously mentioned look as it closely resembles what Swift wore to the Teen

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23706 Crenshaw, #105A&B, across from Hof's Hut, Torrance, CA

Choice Awards on August 11.

The 2019 VMA's was one for the books concerning talent and style. We cannot wait to see what these artists come up with next year!



Photo Courtesy of:
Bryan Bedder



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