

TEMPLE CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Rampage

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PHOTOS: (top row) A. Hernandez, J. Su



PHOTO/ Elizabeth Liu

Senior Anthony Degravina learned how serious driving under the influence could be when he acted as a victim who was killed by a drunk driver. This reenactment demonstrated how innocent lives can be lost in an instant from one mistake.

Every 15 Minutes sobers up students

By Elizabeth Liu
Staff Writer

Every 15 minutes, on Thursday, April 7, students experienced what it would be like to lose a classmate to a drunk driver.

The Every 15 Minutes program raises awareness about the consequences that can come from driving under the influence or being in a vehicle with an impaired driver. The program is based on the concept that someone in the U.S., at a previous point in time, is killed every 15 minutes due to a DUI.

"With the dance and the prom coming up, hopefully that will make students think twice about what they're doing when they

go out with their friends," Principal Ms. Mary Jo Fosselman-King said. "It's a good program, very meaningful, and I hope it has a big impact on our students."

On the first day, the Grim Reaper removed selected students, who played victims of drunk driving accidents, from class every 15 minutes, and a deputy read their fake obituaries in class, while a description of their death was read on the loudspeaker.

"The atmosphere in the class was silent and really heavy," Senior Nathan Wong said. "Being talked about in the past tense made me really reflective and suddenly conscious of the things I still wanted to do. Everyone's eyes were on me and all I could do was stare at the ground because it was too

difficult to meet their surprised faces."

Juniors and seniors experienced a simulated traffic collision and got first-hand experience of the aftermath and consequences of DUIs. Law enforcement was at the scene to arrest a student portraying a drunk driver while medical personnel assisted students who were acting as victims and they took away Senior Colin Cardenaz, who acted as a dead student.

Participating students stayed overnight at Embassy Suites and wrote letters to their families about their experience. The next day, parents and students read their emotional letters aloud and showed students how serious the consequences of drunk driving can be.

April/May Ram Calendar

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21

April 21-22: Advanced Drama's "Galactic Orbs"

April 22: End of Grading Period

April 25: Science CST for sophomores

April 26: College Signing Day

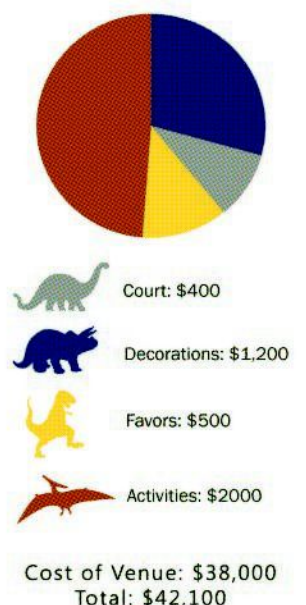
April 28: National College Fair in Pasadena

May 2-13: AP Testing

May 16-20: CAASPP Testing

Digging up prom

This year, prom committee will bring to us "The Night Before Dawn" on May 14 at the National History Museum. Early tickets are \$90 with ASB and \$100 without. Late prices are \$105 with ASB and \$115 without.



INFOGRAPHIC/ Gracie Chen

NEWS BRIEFS

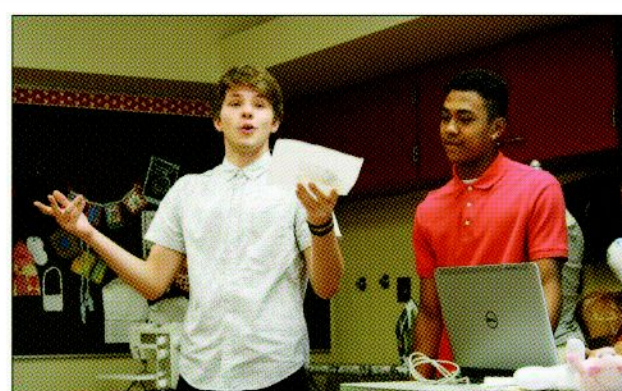
By Aaron Ding & Jennifer Siu
Staff Writers

Football Field Gets A New Look

TCUSD redesigned the area around the football field. Flowers, separated by paths and arranged to resemble the TC logo and the word "Rams," and newly planted trees now decorate the space alongside the track.

The Maintenance Department of Facilities and Services initiated and funded the project, with funds directly from a budget set aside for campus improvement.

"We thought it would be nice to put some drought tolerant foliage in, as well as a reflection of TCHS Rams," Superintendent Ms. Kathryn Perini said. "Our new Facility Services and Maintenance Director, Mr. Tony



PHOTO/ Kimberly Calderon

Senior Nichan Dakramanjan shares his group's restaurant proposal for a Shark Tank-like small business class project.

Alfano has landscaping experience, so he developed the design concept."

Chiou Strikes Gold With Major Scholarship

Senior Brian Chiou was pleasantly surprised when he unexpectedly received a \$40,000 scholarship from Southern California Edison on April 13 during second period. He is one of 30 students from Edison International's service area who were granted this honor.

Since 2006, Edison has been annually selecting 30 high school seniors from Southern California who plan to study science, technology, engineering and math. Along with their scholarships, Edison Scholars also are entitled to apply for summer internships at SCE after their sophomore year of college.

Spring forward with fashion

By Jennifer Siu
Staff Writer

For many, fashion is a form of self expression and individuality. Junior Gary Guan and Sophomore Hailey Wada express their personality through their one-of-a-kind but trendy ensembles.

Guan's outfits revolve around a street-inspired vibe. One of Guan's favorite outfits consists of a classic plaid button down, dark tapered pants and ankle leather boots to accessorize. Guan has been stemming his fashion statements from style icons such as YouTubers Luca Fersko and JairWoo.

Wada caters her style around what ever she feels comfortable in. Regardless of which outfit she wears, comfort is Wada's main priority. She enjoys a wide variety of styles and often adds her own twist to current fashion trends. Wada finds inspiration everywhere, from magazines to a classmate's outfit, and she tailors to a variety of trends.

Guan's spiffy leather boots pull the look together by adding a earthy undertone to the mix. "I think the main thing that sets mine apart is the hint of a gentlemenlike appearance," Guan said. "I like how my style can be classy yet very casual."

PHOTOS/ Jennifer Siu



Guan styles his hair in a simple yet fashionable way, putting his hair up in a quiff. To maintain his voluminous hairstyle, Guan chooses to use Gold Digger hairwax from the company By Vilains

Guan introduces color to his outfit by pairing a simple white-shirt with a bright red plaid flannel. "My outfits are usually decided by the weather," Guan said. "I love how you can layer different pieces together so the cold days are when I actually wear the outfits I really like."

Guan keeps his outfit fashionable and simple by wearing signature black skinny jeans. The darker tones of his pants allow for his shirt to be the center of attention. "Fashion to me is like a gateway to creativity," Guan said. "A plus side to it is feeling hella fresh when your outfit is on point."



As a statement piece, Wada wears a polka dot button up that greatly stands out from the rest of her outfit. "A lot of the times I tend to switch up my style," Wada said. "One day I'd be wearing something super fancy and the next I'd be in sweatpants and jeans."

Wada adores adding pops of vivid color to her outfit by pairing her darker colored clothes with brightly hued pants.

To keep her outfit casual and comfortable, Wada chooses to wear sandals. "A big thing for me with fashion is wearing whatever you feel good in," Wada said. "Any of my favorite outfits are pieces I genuinely like and it doesn't matter that much to me whether people like it or not."

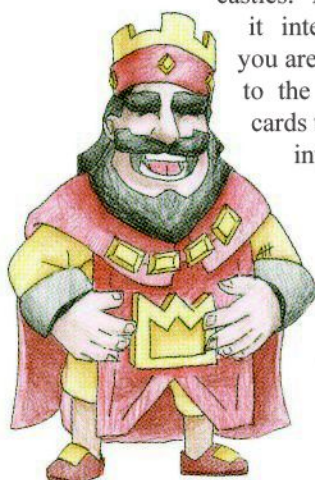
Royale release besieges free time

By David Brackbill
Opinion Editor

Clash Royale, Supercell's successor to Clash of Clans, is a tower defense deck game that blends League of Legends laning and Hearthstone card-drawing mechanics into an addicting tug-of-war battle.

Despite the checklist nature of the feature list, Clash Royale is an appealing and gratifying tower defense game that kept me queuing even after I had maxed out my rewards for the day.

The game's logistics are basic: two lanes, three castles and three minutes to send your minions down either lane to destroy your enemy's castles. To keep it interesting, you are limited to the minion cards that pop into your hand.



ILLUSTRATION/ Alisha Hernandez

The combat revolves a lot around rock paper scissors counters to your opponent's choices. The baby dragon will destroy the knight, but is itself vulnerable to the musketeer. Strategy revolves a lot around identifying trade situations that result in a mana advantage over the opponent.

Managing the two lanes between offense and defense is a blast, and as time ticks down, mana regenerates faster and faster to create a thrilling endgame. In the last minute, the game progresses at a breakneck speed as you try to defend your crumbling castle from defeat or make a last-ditch assault on your opponent's stronghold and claim your victory.

The game's deck-building component, inspired by popular mobile game Hearthstone, gives it even more depth. Although certain meta-viable decks have emerged and a few cards are clearly dominant choices, there is a lot of room to craft your own strategy, at least at the sub-1000 crown level. I ended up forming a bond with my Prince rush deck that I'll likely take to the grave.

Unboxing victory chests gives free-to-play players a chance to get gold and cards, but unfortunately this game is mostly pay-to-win when it comes to building decks. A ridiculous time limit on unboxing chests bars free-to-players from improving their cards quickly. Having to play the game on the developer's terms was frankly annoying, but I guess that's the point.

Unfortunately for AP season, it's a terrible classtime killer, as even a few seconds of hiding the phone from a teacher's view can result in a horde of enemy goblins at your gates.

As a game of trendy distraction and serious strategy, Clash Royale is a winner in Supercell's portfolio.

Pop open a trendy drink

By Janeth Inatomi
Staff Writer

Today's businesses are turning to popular trends in hopes of drawing in attention. Some are using adorably designed mason jars to create lots of social media hype.

MILK + T

Many boba shops only offer a basic variety of drinks. However, Milk + T, a self-serve boba truck, allows you to customize everything from toppings to the tea. The staff was happy to teach me the ropes but I was surprised the line grew rather quickly. If you are unsure what to order, their menu showcases popular drinks and each has a cute name like Best Friend. The truck's monochrome color scheme contrasts with the bright toppings displayed and they incorporated their glass bottles into their logo. All drinks are \$5, no matter what combination. However, not all customers will be able to buy a bottle since it functions on a first come first serve basis.

The Milk + T truck can usually be found in Little Tokyo on weekends, Eagle Rock on Tuesdays and San Gabriel on Wednesdays. I suggest following them on Instagram (@milkandt) since they post updates on their locations and promotions.



PHOTO/ Janeth Inatomi
The Milk + T truck uses fresh fruits, sugars and lactose-free milk in order to make their drinks.



PHOTO/ Janeth Inatomi
Although the tasty drinks come in adorable jars, Bearology does not serve boba on Saturdays.

Bearology

In comparison to Milk + T, Bearology is an expensive experience since they charge \$5 to \$6 for miniature drinks. Despite the price, I honestly enjoyed trying their refreshing teas and slushies. I ordered the Mango Green Tea and my initial impression was conflicting. At first the drink came off as watered down but I did enjoy how natural the aftertaste was and how the small cuts of fruit inside tasted extremely fresh.

Located on the second floor of the Westfield Santa Anita Mall, next to Potato Corner and the NYX storefront, the counter can be hard to locate for newcomers. Just be aware that their stall is completely free of any signs or any logos on their outer walls. You can bring a jar back and instantly receive 10% off your purchase since they do allow you to reuse your container.

Inbox: DDSLC responses

COMIC/ Eva Baudler

Dear Max Clark,
I have recently entered into Temple City School District. My first school I attended was Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center. In my short time at this school I have got quite acquainted with my peers and the facility. The article that you have written about this school is completely inaccurate; the students are some of the most hard working, intelligent people I have had the pleasure to meet.

I feel I am outside looking in on this whole discussion for I have only been living in the city and the community for a couple of months. Nonetheless this discrimination against the students at CLC is unethical.

Most of these students actually attended high school before attending CLC. So they are the product of the environment your high school has provided. Students here are no different than that of the high school. WE all feel, WE all care, WE all bleed red, and WE all love. TCHS has engraved a label into your perspective of this school: it is unsafe for us to attend grad night- this is wrong on the school's behalf. We are all equal and all have a right to this special occasion.



ILLUSTRATION/ Pamela Pan

Sincerely,
Daniel Lopez
Daniel Lopez

Dear Mr. Clark,
It has come to my attention that some students at the high and mighty Temple City High School think they are better than us. Max Clark, the author of a rather accusatory article in the Rampage, TCHS's school newspaper talks about Gradnite and how the students at the Dr. Doug Sears Learning center (also known as CLC) should not be able to attend Grad Nite because we are unruly criminals that do not contribute to society. Even if the incendiary stereotype of CLC students is true, who benefits from banning these student from Grad Nite? Even if they do not contribute anything to the environment of Temple City what are the benefits of banning these students? Segregating any schools' students does not fix anything. That is tribalism and eats away at the foundation of free liberal society. In a meritocracy each individual is to be judged by their merits and not by the group they belong.

If I were to address Mr. Clark's fictitious points I would say most students at the DDSLC do not even have driver's license or access to alcohol. It is clear that not only does Clark not know anything about the DDSLC, he is clearly demonstrating a bigoted bias towards the students at the CLC. At no given point did Mr. Clark mention a single way the high school would benefit from the exclusion of the students at CLC. Basing policies off of ignorant assumptions and emotional bias is not rational or ethical. Allowing this type of segregation to become policy will send a clear message to the entire Temple City School District that discrimination based on a student's school is acceptable. I would like to end this by thanking Charlie Dodge and the editor of the Rampage for her defense of the DDSLC in her article that she submitted to the Rampage.

Sincerely,
Lancer Durden
Lancer Durden



PERSPECTIVE: Pros and Cons of Every 15 Minutes



Eva Baudler
Staff Writer

Under a cloudy sky, the sirens of a police car sounded down a familiar, flare-covered boulevard, followed closely by the wail of a fire engine, the slice of a helicopter and the click of a stretcher. For some students, the reenactment of a drunk-driving accident merely provided entertainment and a chance to escape class, but for those like me, the fake blood on the pavement served as a real reminder of loss.

Contrary to popular belief, the Every 15 Minutes program is more than just receiving a T-Shirt and sitting through bulletin announcements. It brings teenagers, particularly high school upperclassmen, a brief glimpse of the consequences of drunk driving. Whilst freshmen and sophomores tuned into guest speaker Godfrey Moyer, juniors and seniors were exposed to not only a simulated traffic collision, but an additional guest speaker, hypothetical family letters and a film containing footage

acted out in the homes of victims, a hospital and on campus. On a daily basis, the loudspeakers would inform the school population about the absence of life and how preventable every casualty was.

However, I am not alone in having

multiple concerns about the program's procedures. For one, I think many people noticed that the designated Grim Reaper's jeans and sneakers were peeking out from beneath his robes. Additionally, during the reenactment, there were teachers sipping

on coffee and chatting on the sidewalk, who took attention away from firefighters prying apart cars and retrieving bodies. On top of all that, the handmade tombstones and pixilated photos on the memorial wall further stole from the realism of driving under the influence and added a cartoon element to the experience.

By no means am I trying to antagonize this emotionally-driven program with the issues I presented. Students, parents, teachers and authorities alike worked hard to construct the simulation with good intentions.

However, this type of workshop rarely challenges young minds to think about the bigger picture. Less money should've been spent on the presentation of the program and more on bringing reflection into individual classrooms.

Nonetheless, I reiterate that despite the setbacks, I was reminded of a friend I lost to a similar accident. This program may have been far from my ideal, but it made that small difference in two days that I may have spent forgetting about the things in life to be grateful for.



ILLUSTRATION/ Charlie Dodge

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The articles published on the Opinion page reflect only the views of their respective writers. In the case of an unsigned editorial, the article reflects the views of the staff as a whole. Articles do not reflect the views of the student body or the administration. Letters to the Editor are welcome, but Rampage reserves the right to publish these at the discretion of the staff. They may also be edited in regard to space.



Wong and Zhao fly to new heights

By Michelle Zhang
Staff Writer

Many dream of viewing the world from the sky, while providing an enjoyable, safe trip for the passengers. For Senior Lok Yiu Wong, it has always been one of her aspirations in life to become a flight attendant.

Her inspiration began at the age of four when Wong went on her first airplane trip to Hong Kong. As she got on, a tall, young lady helped her and her family find their seats. She saw flight attendants pushing carts of food up and down the aisle, helping passengers feel at ease.

After graduating high school, Wong hopes to dive straight into her passion by getting chosen by an airline company, specifically her dream airline Cathay Pacific.

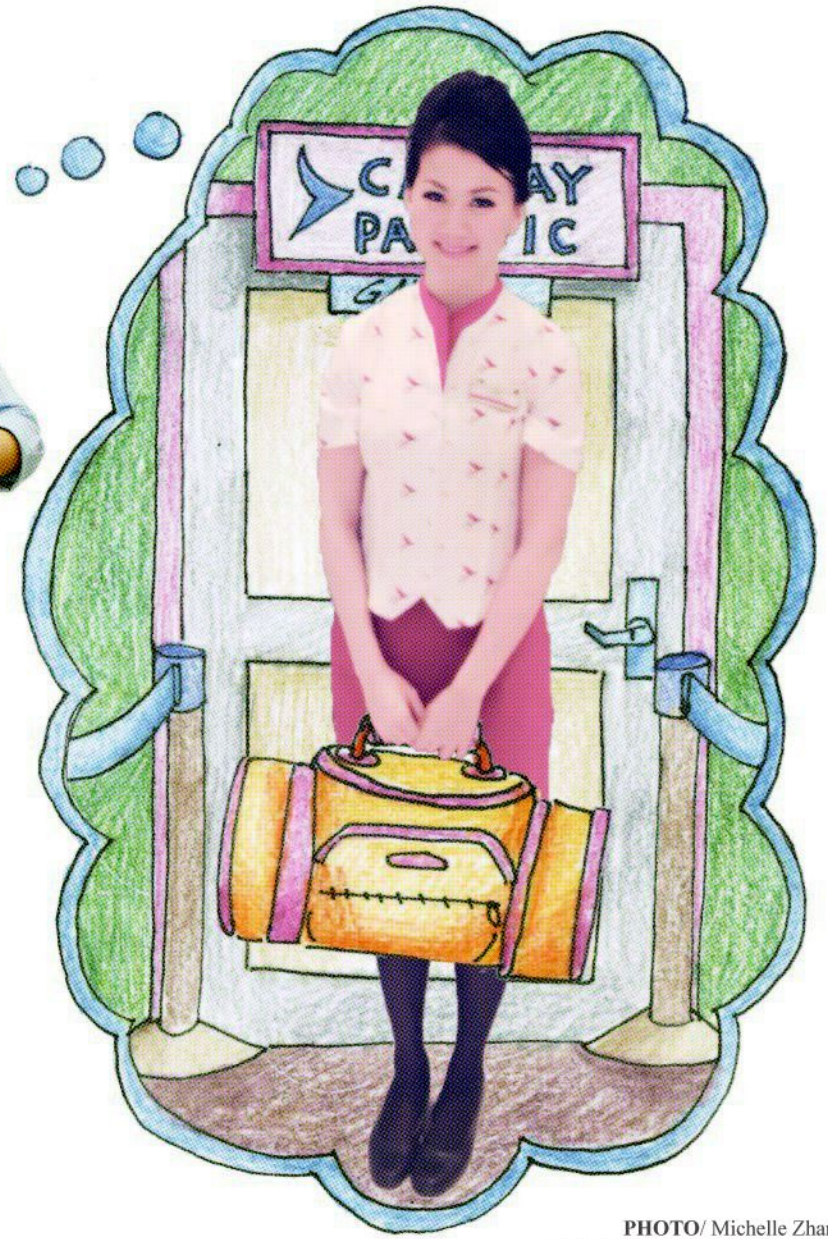
Wong's major obstacle to achieving her dream is not her parents, but her height. Only five feet tall, Wong does not meet the standard height requirement of 5'6" for many major airlines, including Cathay Pacific. If all fails, she plans to work for a private airline, which is less strict on height requirements.

"I do feel I have an advantage from other applicants because I am trilingual and many companies look for that," Wong said. "Hopefully, they will see that I have the characteristics, abilities and passion to become a flight attendant."

While Wong dreams of becoming a flight attendant for Cathay Pacific, Alumnus Linda Zhao dedicates much of her time to providing a smooth and pleasant trip for every passenger as a flight attendant for Cathay Pacific. Due to her childhood dream and passion of traveling and meeting new people from around the world, Zhao decided to become a flight attendant after leaving high school.

Once becoming a flight attendant, Zhao needed to gain knowledge through experience and training. As a part of the cabin crew, she must have thorough knowledge on safety, security and service procedures. Her role also involves acquiring skills in child care, first aid and fire fighting. Zhao's major obstacle during the beginning of her career was her fear of heights.

"During my flight attendant training we had to practice one of our evacuation duties by jumping off the slide from the aircraft," Zhao said. "I was afraid to jump off but I knew I had to step out of my comfort zone."



PHOTO/ Michelle Zhang
PHOTO COURTESY/ Linda Zhao
ILLUSTRATIONS/ Eva Baulder & Alisha Hernandez



LOTFlies from rejections

By Charlie Dodge
Staff Writer

Every year when college acceptance/rejection season rolls around, life can feel like a battle for survival. But don't go wild! The college that accepts you by no means dictates the rest of your life.

Temple City trolley man flies away

By Max Clark
Exchange Editor

In recent years, a number of new pieces of public art have seemed to pop up all over Temple City. These new pieces of art are part of Temple City's Art in Public Places Program and Public Arts Commission, which was created in June 2011. Arguably the most notable are the two statues on Rosemead Boulevard depicting a man and a woman hopping on a trolley car.

The two statues are referred to as Red Car Man and Woman, but are officially titled "Jump On" and "Helping Hand," respectively. Artist Daniel Stern created these bronze sculptures in 2014.

Rumor has it that the artist's intentions behind the pose of the statues are meant to portray the inhabitants of Temple City as a city flying into the future with optimism. While it is also rumored that these statues are meant to depict the founders, the artist intended for these statues to be random citizens.



PHOTO/ Max Clark
Red Car man flies away next to the bus stop on Rosemead Blvd. and Las Tunas Drive.

Stern shows the person in each sculpture hopping on a Red Car trolley, part of the Pacific Electric Line that connected Temple City to Los Angeles and ran through much of Southern California. This trolley system operated in the early 1900's and began to rapidly decline in the 1920's.

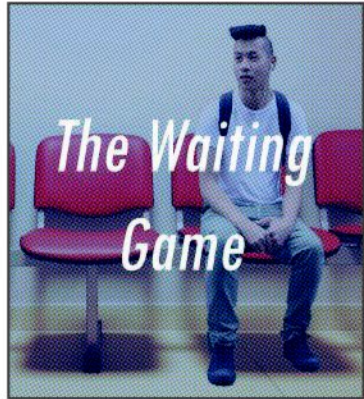
The two pieces of art help to connect the city to its rich history, but also symbolize that like the trolley car, Temple City is always moving forward.



ILLUSTRATION/ J. Inatomi & P. Pan

Fly sky-high with tunes

By Catherine Tran
Web Editor



Before Flight

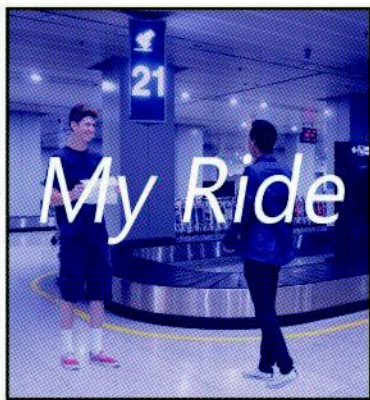
When you're stuck at the airport because your flight has been delayed again, pick up your earphones because these upbeat jams can help time pass much more quickly.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. "Inside Out" by The Chainsmokers ft. Charlee | 5. "Don't Let Me Down" by The Chainsmokers (Illenium Remix) |
| 2. "Colors" by Halsey | 6. "Until You Were Gone" by The Chainsmokers and Tritonal ft. Emily Warren |
| 3. "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey | |
| 4. "Adventure of a Lifetime" by Coldplay (Audien Remix) | |

During Flight

You watch the city lights blur into an expanse of clouds and sigh because you know it's going to be a long flight. Good thing you still have your earphones!

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. "Paradise" by Coldplay | 7. "High For This" by The Weeknd |
| 2. "Planes" by Jeremiah ft. J. Cole | 8. "High" by Vanic & Zella Day |
| 3. "Faded" by Alan Walker | 9. "Make Me Fade" by Vanic & K. Flay |
| 4. "Airplanes" by B.o.B. ft. Hayley Williams | 10. "Growing Up (Sloane's Song)" by Macklemore & Ryan Lewis ft. Ed Sheeran |
| 5. "Fly" by GOT7 | |
| 6. "Airplane" by iKON | |



After Flight

Don't put those earphones away just yet! Take a listen to these songs as you stretch your legs and make your way to the baggage claim.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. "Wake Me Up" by Avicii | 5. "Take Me Home" by Cash Cash ft. Babe Rexha |
| 2. "Way Back Home" by Mako | 6. "Where My Baes At?" by Miranda Sings |
| 3. "Home We'll Go" (Take My Hand) by Steve Aoki & Walk Off the Earth | 7. "The Only Way Is Up" by Martin Garrix & Tiësto |
| 4. "Home" by Gabrielle Aplin | |

PHOTOS/ Catherine Tran

Liu's Clues

Flying on cloud nine

Alex Liu

Editor-in-Chief



They say time flies when you're having fun. Time can also feel like it is being dragged by a tortoise across the desert, and that's how I feel about the two months I have left of high school.

Three years ago, I envied my senior football teammates who were flying high during the second semesters of their senior year. They told me that senior year meant going off campus everyday for lunch, excusing your own absences and cruising through classes because college acceptances had already been announced. Now, as a second semester senior, I do enjoy many of these special privileges that my older friends raved about, but I don't find myself flying as high on cloud nine as I thought I would be.

Maybe it's my fault. I signed myself up to have zero through seventh. I volunteered to take four AP classes, two electives and play two sports. Sleeping at three and waking up at 6:30 has definitely not helped decrease the number of white hairs on my head, but I thought seniority would allow me to fly through high school. Boy was I wrong.

Maybe second semester senior year isn't living up to the hype because I'm excited for what the future has in store. College is just around the corner and for a kid who has lived in tiny Temple City for my entire life, a change in scenery has been long overdue. I'm pumped to spread my wings and fly out of this nest that I have called home for nearly 18 years, so I guess it's no surprise that I can't wait to pack my bags and go explore the world. Slow and steady might win the race, but I am ready to sprint like the hare and leave the tortoise and high school life in the dust.

Although I am excited for the thrill of flying away from home, I am also afraid of falling. Temple City has been my home for so long and I can't wait to leave, but it is also all that I've ever known. My final two months in high school seem to be passing by slower than a snail, yet when I stop to think about it, I realize that I only have two months left at a school that I have called home for the past four years. All the things that I have grown to love and enjoy, including writing for Rampage, putting on a green and gold football jersey or painting posters for ASB will soon be a memory of the past, making me hesitate before I make a leap and attempt to fly off towards the rest of my life.

As I'm now perched on the side of my nest, ready to make a leap, looking down and seeing how far I am off the ground shows me how much I've enjoyed in my life, but looking up, I see the endless possibilities that the world has to offer and I can't wait to spread my wings and fly.

Atticus fishes out a fly hobby

By Alisha Hernandez
Photo Editor

Splash! The river's quiet vanishes with the sound of an unsuspecting fish being caught by Senior Atticus Ige's tempting bait and hook. For the past six years, Ige has gone fishing almost every week, improving his skills and exploring the numerous fishing spots in and around California. However, the knowledge he had accumulated was tested once he decided to learn a new angling method during freshman year: fly fishing.

"Fly fishing redefines how you fish and requires you to learn completely new tactics," Ige said. "I took a few classes separate from my current club, and from then, it was just a matter of practicing whenever I could to retain all that I learned."

Instead of using heavier lures and rods, a fly fisherman uses lightweight flies as bait to catch fish. These can be made from hair, fur and even feathers, and imitate a fish's prey in order to disguise the sharp hook. Ige makes his own flies, constructing unique creations that can take up to 15 minutes to complete.

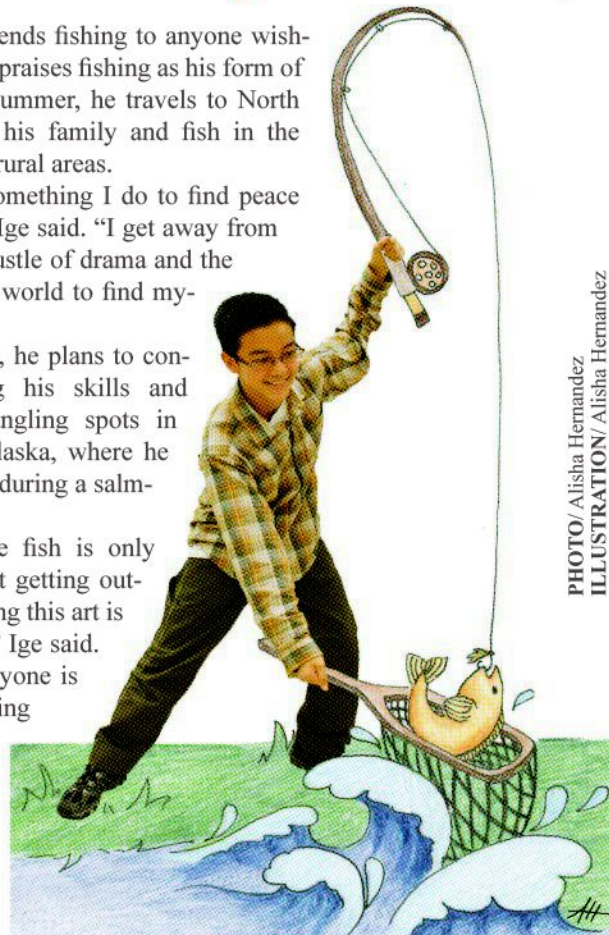
As a member of The Daniel Hernandez Youth Foundation fishing club, Ige volunteers as a teacher for new recruits, helping them learn the basics of fishing. Outside of teaching, he

happily recommends fishing to anyone wishing to learn, and praises fishing as his form of therapy. Every summer, he travels to North Dakota to visit his family and fish in the state's secluded rural areas.

"Fishing is something I do to find peace within myself," Ige said. "I get away from the hustle and bustle of drama and the pressures of the world to find myself again."

In the future, he plans to continue improving his skills and discover new angling spots in the waters of Alaska, where he hopes to fly fish during a salmon run.

"Catching the fish is only half the fun; just getting outside and mastering this art is the real reward," Ige said. "In the end everyone is an angler waiting for a bite."



PHOTO/ Alisha Hernandez
ILLUSTRATION/ Alisha Hernandez

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Drumline marches towards finals

By Katie Burke
Staff Writer

Drumline forms the backbone of the Pride of Temple City, providing the band with the steady and strong beats that create the rhythm of whatever piece they play.

Senior Jonathan Alvarado and Junior Christine Liu are part of the award winning team.

Jonathan Alvarado

A four year member of drumline, Alvarado, plays the snare drum. Alvarado joined drumline his freshman year because he wanted to try something new. He chose his instrument because he felt it was a higher end instrument and it seemed very interesting.

"Drumline has been the biggest part of my high school career. Past the educational side of school, it's the only extracurricular activity I take part in," Alvarado said. "The instructors, staff and leadership position I have been given has shaped me into the person I am today. I am proud to see how far this program has come since my freshman year."

After preliminaries, Alvarado felt pretty confident about finals because he felt that, since the last time they had competed in this competition, their team had improved greatly and been more competitive. Although they did not make the top three, Alvarado feels lucky to have been able to take part in this competition during his last year on drumline.

"I'm proud of watching this program grow substantially throughout my four years here and I'm glad I was able to help lead the students and point them into the right direction," Alvarado said. "I just hope they take what I say seriously in terms of how to carry themselves, otherwise the next couple years will be rough for them."



Christine Liu

Liu is a first year member of drumline and joined because she wanted to step out of her comfort zone and challenge herself musically and mentally.

"Drumline has really taught me to be more social and open," Liu said. "I've met so many new friends and I'm always excited to go to practice because it means more bonding time. There isn't a single moment that I don't want to be with them."

Drumline competed in the Southern California Percussion Alliance, or SCPA, preliminaries, at California State University San Bernardino, and came in first for their round and third place overall, out of 48 groups on April 2.

In their excellent performance in the preliminaries, held at the Citizens Bank Arena in Ontario, they

came in fifth out of 12 schools.

"We got fifth place, and I was kind of bummed out at first because I was hoping we would get into the top three, but I reminded myself it doesn't matter what place we got because in the end we all had fun as a family and we all performed our hearts out," Liu said. "I've really grown to appreciate the people I perform with and whether we win some medal or not, our bond is better than any award."

Members, like Liu and Alvarado, practice three days each week: Tuesday and Friday from 6-9 p.m. and Saturdays from 9-4 p.m. However, when they have a competition, they practice Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. -4 p.m.

Whether this is their first or last year participating in drumline, both Liu and Alvarado have been positively affected by being a part of this activity. The program has taught them to work hard and has given them a family that will have their backs.

PHOTOS/ Katie Burke
ILLUSTRATIONS/ Eva Baudler

Alumni leave home for Chicago, East Coast

By Kimberly Calderon
Staff Writer

As college is just around the corner for seniors, some grow anxious at the thought of leaving California. Last year's graduates, Catherine Wei, who attends Chicago's Wheaton College, and Kristy Hsi, who attends University of Pennsylvania, give a look on what it's like to be away from home.



PHOTO COURTESY/ Catherine Wei
While in Temple City, Wei volunteered at the Arcadia Methodist Hospital.

Q & A with Catherine Wei

Rampage: What were some of the factors you were considering while debating whether or not you should study out of state?

Wei: At first I really didn't want to go out of state. It wasn't even an option for me at the time, but then I realized that it would be a good experience to get out of California and experience something new on my own. The school I chose was a great Christian school and that was the main reason why I went.

I was really hesitant leaving my

friends and family, and scared to be on my own, not having home close by. But ultimately I'm beyond grateful that I picked this school.

Rampage: What advice would you give current seniors, who are planning to go out of state themselves?

Wei: Don't let going out of state scare you, it's a really great life experience. Prepare to be homesick, miss California weather and miss your friends but it's not that hard to keep in contact. Also prepare to go through an actual winter. It also makes coming home more memorable and meaningful with family.

Rampage: How is the experience at your college or simply being away from your parents?

Wei: I love it! I'm finally experiencing season changes. The winter was terribly cold but a good experience. I call my parents about once a week so it's not too bad.

Rampage: Did you visit your college beforehand? If not, did it make starting college more memorable?

Wei: I viewed images online. Coming here when school started was my first time on campus.

Q & A with Kristy Hsi

Rampage: How did your parents react to your plan on going out of state?

Hsi: I've loved English ever since I was a kid, so I knew since around fifth grade when I tried to write my own book, this was where I was going to go.

I introduced the idea to my parents and they were a little stunned at first and asked the typical questions like, "Are you going to be a teacher?" or "Are you going to make any money that way?" This led me really to begin to explore everything an English major could offer me and I included my parents in the process, so together, we realized all of these things: how I could do publishing or law.

As they began to see what I was seeing, they supported me more and more, and they knew I was happy this way. At the end of the day, I think that's what really mattered to them.

Rampage: How is the experience at UPenn? What is it like without your parents?

Hsi: It has been so much more than I thought it'd be. I was scared of being homesick, but when I arrived, I was swept up in the commotion of being here. I found my community and new friends. They have made all the difference in keeping me sane and reminding me why I came here in the first place.

There's not a day that goes by that's ever the same, and there's not a day that goes by that I don't look around me and think "Wow, I'm really here," feeling grateful inside. The classes, of course, are more difficult, but I love my professors and the curriculum.

Also, not having parents around really

provides a lot of freedom and independence, but I'd say that you have to realize how much freedom you want for yourself. There are people who get lost and that's fine for a semester or two, but you don't want to lose everything and forget what's important to you. Communication with your parents when you're out of state is so important. They're going to worry no matter what.

Rampage: What advice would you give current seniors who are planning to go out of state themselves?

Hsi: If you're scared of leaving home, don't be. You're ready to embrace it. All of the people I know who have gone out-of-state are so happy with their choice. Try new things, even the things you didn't know you wanted to do.

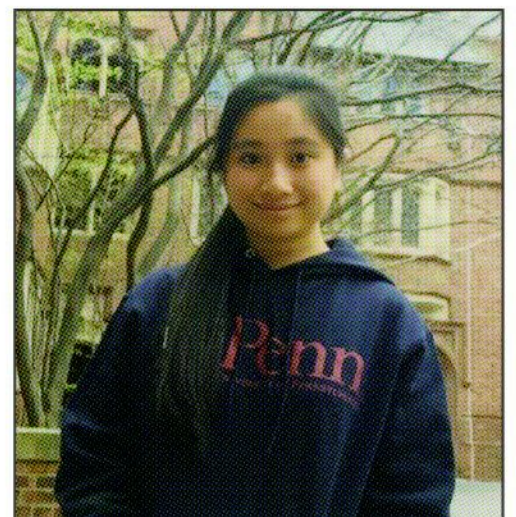


PHOTO COURTESY/ Kristy Hsi
Hsi plans to pursue a major in English and Criminology while at UPenn.

Boys tennis sets up for success

By Samuel Kim
Staff Writer

With their latest victories against the Pasadena Bulldogs and the Monrovia Wildcats and their most recent loss to the La Cañada Spartans, the Boys Varsity Tennis team currently maintains an overall record of 9-5 and a 1-3 record in league play. The team hopes to build on their strong 8-2 preseason record. As the season progresses, players are constantly looking for improvements in technique and gameplay.

"In terms of strengths, our team is strong in the doubles category and we have better net play than most other teams," Freshman Justin Jia said. "Some of our weaknesses are that we tend to give the other team easy points, specifically in our returns and double faults; we also have a hard time if the opposing team has strong singles players."

In the most recent home game, which was postponed due to heavy rain, the Rams suffered a defeat to the La Cañada Spartans. The majority of the Spartans' score came from their victories in their singles matches.

At the home game against Pasadena, the Rams beat the Bulldogs 17-1 on March 25. The Rams began the game with a strong start, performing well in both the doubles and singles matchups, and were able to build their lead against the Bulldogs from there.

The Rams also lost 17-1 to the San Marino Titans on March 22. The game did not go as expected, which resulted in a slow start for the Rams which eventually cost them the game.

"San Marino has a really strong team in general," Jia said. "They are among one of the top teams in our league. Most of their players started played tennis at a young age, so they have more skill and more experience than us in terms of tennis."

In hopes of improving upon their 9-5 record throughout the season, the Rams train to strengthen their gameplay, building on footwork and team chemistry. A normal practice includes many drills and exercises that help the Rams



PHOTO/ Samuel Kim

Jia prepares to return the ball in a singles match against the Pasadena Bulldogs on April 6. The Rams' next game is against the Monrovia Wildcats on April 22. The following game is on April 26 against the South Pasadena Tigers.

maintain their concentration and endurance.

"At the beginning of practice, we practice serves and do drills," Sophomore Ryan Wang said. "Towards the end, we play sets against one another."

The Rams have high hopes for this season; one common goal shared among teammates is to be able to participate in the C.I.F. playoffs.

Many of the team members have personal goals as well, like improving their techniques, such as footwork and strokes, in order to perform better both in tournaments and overall matches.

"For me, one of my personal goals is to play my best

during each and every one of my tennis matches," Wang said. "We have a stronger team this year than last year, so I want to take advantage of that and use it to ensure that we have a good season this year."

In order for the Rams to move onward to the C.I.F. playoffs, the Rams have to be placed among one of the top positions in the Rio Hondo League. These positions are highly contested for between multiple teams, particularly the San Marino Titans and the La Cañada Spartans. The Rams are vying for a spot and are working towards it with every game they play. The Rams' next games are against the Monrovia Wildcats and the South Pasadena Tigers.

Sicat scores MVP

By Pamela Pan
Staff Writer

During the crucial semi-final game against the Los Altos Conquerors, Junior Gabriella Sicat splashed into the water and attacked the rival team, enabling her teammate to snatch the ball from an opponent. Within moments, the Lady Rams harvested another goal.

As a member of the Girls Varsity Water Polo team since freshman year, Sicat is a versatile attacker and utility player. This season, she had 80 goals, 45 assists and 34 steals.

With a strong performance, Sicat was named the Rio Hondo League MVP of Girls Water Polo.

"When I first started playing Water Polo at the age of eight

with my older brothers, it was an activity in which we could release our energy," Sicat said. "Now I enjoy the physicality of the sport as well as the combination of strategy and competition."

Before being named the MVP, Sicat had to overcome an injury. During the middle of the season, Sicat experienced a severe car accident in January. She suffered from multiple lacerations across her face and received over 40 stitches. This injury disrupted her normal school schedule as well as her team's game lineups.

Consequently, she went on to miss three league games. Nevertheless, Sicat got back to school after two weeks of recovery, and returned to the water in the subsequent week.

"I was glad to return to school because I just needed to get back to work," Sicat said. "So much had happened and it felt good to be back in the classroom with my peers that were ready to learn."

Over the years, Sicat established firm bonds with all her teammates. Though it's a challenge for the Lady Rams to adapt to their positions, the special chemistry among the team members became key to winning numerous games.

"Gabi brought us motivation and positivity," Senior Katrina Chang said. "Win or lose, she always has a smile on her face, telling us everything is okay and that we will work even harder next time."

In water polo, an attacker needs to be quick in movement and smart in strategies. Knowing that her average height isn't advantageous compared to taller players, Sicat strives to find different ways to compete at a higher level. Days of practice and years of game experience helped Sicat acquire faster reactions, as well as better instinct and anticipation.

"The goal is to be great or die trying," Sicat said. "Life hits hard sometimes and situations don't go as planned, but they offer me a chance to improve and make myself better."

Sicat was also named the Player of the Year in the Pasadena Region along with the Temple City High School Girls Water Polo MVP.

As a fourth year player, Sicat hopes to lead the team to another playoff run next year.

Madness in March



By Andrew Rhee
Staff Writer

As March Madness drew to a close on April 8, with the Villanova Wildcats beating the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Tar Heels to become the victors, I began to wonder why the NCAA even bothered to televise and broadcast every game. The NCAA college basketball tournament features 68 of the nation's top college basketball teams in a single elimination bracket.

While many people see the event as the main highlight of the college sports world, it should be viewed as a waste of money and time.

Out of the 68 teams in the tournament, it was clear that only 10 of those teams had any chance of taking home the championship this year. Division 1 basketball is made up of 32 conferences, yet only six of the leagues hold most of the top teams and players.

It was to almost no one's surprise that out of the last 16 teams standing, 15 of the teams were from one of the six major conferences. The only outlier to this list was Gonzaga University which plays two future NBA players.

The first three rounds before the Sweet 16 is unnecessary and delays the games people actually want to watch. No one really cares about University of North Carolina Wilmington's backcourt play or Chattanooga's wonderful ability to get to the free throw line. The ca-

sual fan never watched Tulane basketball in action and I highly doubt they will start caring about them when March rolls around. It seems like a waste of time and money to showcase teams that don't have a chance at winning the whole tournament.

In fact some teams that play in the tournament lose money from the travel expenses. According to International Business Times, 27 out of the 68 teams from last year's tournament made zero dollars or less. Amazingly, Butler University made a grand total of one dollar from last year's tournament.

Many people argue that the first few rounds give smaller schools a chance to make a Cinderella run. I feel that the tournament should be used for the exact opposite reason and that it should be used to showcase the big schools with the big players.

The tournament should showcase future NBA players duking it out with other talented stars, not small programs with players that skip classes to play an extra game. It is mind boggling to think that the tournament will not feature a future top three pick in Ben Simmons, but is willing to showcase Holy Cross take an unholy 40 point beating to Oregon.

The NCAA should limit the amount of teams in the tournament and only showcase players and teams that the casual fan cares about.

The only madness about March is the ridiculous number of teams that get to participate in it.



PHOTO COURTESY/ Sydney Airitam

Sicat was able to overcome her injuries and play in all the playoff games. She was also named the team's MVP.

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