

CENTURION SPOTLIGHT

WINTER FORMAL: DANCING IN THE MOONLIGHT

YeJi Jong
Opinion Editor

Cypress High School's annual Winter Formal took place on February 8, 2020 at Hyatt Regency Long Beach. Sophomore class

president, Joseph Hannifin, planned the event with his committee. The theme "Dancing in the Moonlight" was chosen due to the location being near the beach. "There was a really pretty color scheme with beautiful surrounding areas. The setting was perfect. It's a cool venue with lots

of photo opportunities," Joseph Hannifin (Sophomore) commented. "The most difficult part was advertising and trying to get students to attend. The ticket prices cover the price of dances," Joseph Hannifin added.

Students were served dinner under lights and greeted with a grand lobby and stairs. Many students enjoyed the night and loved the location. Behind the scenes, ASB worked tirelessly to put together a night for many students to enjoy.

DAVID FLETCHER: MAJOR LEAGUE CENTURION

Jacob Fisk
Sports Editor

With Cypress Baseball preparing for its season as the defending CIF-SS Division 1 and National Champions, the team took a day of practice off to honor one of their most successful players in Centurion Baseball history, David Fletcher.

David Fletcher is one of six Centurions who has ever played in the big leagues, and made his MLB debut only five years after he graduated from Cypress High School.

While David Fletcher was at Cypress, he made some remarkable achievements, especially in his senior year. After the Centurions won the CIF Championship in his senior year in 2013, David Fletcher was named the 2013 Empire League MVP (Most Valuable Player) and CIF Player of the year. He also broke many Centurion records, with the 8th highest batting average in all-time at Cypress with .382, and had 52 base hits in one season with 163 base hits all-time (second most hits at Cypress all-time was 137 hits). He scored the most runs all-time, and stole 69 bases. He is also tied with his brother for most season and all-time triples (base hit to third base).

Fletcher went on to Loyola Marymount University for two years, and was drafted in the sixth round of the 2015 Major League Baseball draft by the Angels. David commented, "It was lucky for me to be drafted by the Angels and be able to play at home, not get a lot of people get drafted by their hometown team, so I am very fortunate."

For two years, Fletcher was playing single A (full) baseball, but

eventually made his way through the rankings of the minor leagues. After three seasons, David Fletcher was promoted to the Los Angeles Angels on June 12, and made his MLB debut on June 13. Fletcher said, "I just take one day at a time, and focus on the game, and everything took care of itself."

Head Coach of the Centurions Baseball team, Coach Weber, believed that those who knew Fletcher while he was at Cypress would agree that he was a really great at baseball and is an incredible young man. Especially

based on his style of play, Weber commented, "With the movement of the youth, there have been a lot of flashy or "me" moments in baseball, but David Fletcher is the complete opposite. He cares about winning, he doesn't care about stats or the spotlight. He wants to win and he wants his teammates to win, and he plays with that kind of intensity, commitment, and passion. We here at Cypress High are so proud of all his accomplishments and all that he does for our baseball program."

Currently, David Fletcher is a

member of the Los Angeles Angels and recently graduated from Cypress High School in 2013. Fletcher managed to rise through the ranks from A (full) in 2015, to his MLB debut on June 13, 2018. For his Majors career so far, he had 234 games played, 880 at bats with 173 base hits, 74 RBIs (Runs Batted In), 30 doubles, 4 triples, and 6 home runs.

The Los Angeles Angels will begin their regular season on March 26, against the Houston Astros on the road.



Along with David Fletcher, many former Centurion baseball players join in for a scrimmage vs. the Varsity team (photo courtesy of Jacob Fisk)

GSA DONATES TO CASA YOUTH SHELTER

Denise Eppinger
Copy Editor

At Cypress there are many clubs, but one of the clubs with a newer advisor is GSA (Gay Straight Alliance). One of the new advisors of the club is English teacher Ms. Stewart, (Ms. Rubio and Mr Ulrich are advisors as well) she recently became a teacher at Cypress this year. Ms. Stewart wanted to become the advisor of GSA because she was also the advisor of GSA at Lexington. Because of this she had three years of prior experience. She wanted to make and become the advisor of the club when she found out that having a GSA at your school prevents a number of suicides, not only in the Homosexual community but the Heterosexual community as well. She stated "bullying affects everyone." Ms. Stewart also wanted students to feel like they have someone to talk to if they feel like they have something going on. She talked about how GSA is a lot like a social club and how anyone can join no matter their sexual identity.

This year GSA decided that they would donate to Casa Youth Shelter. They asked for "fun reward items that could be given to

kids who got caught doing something good-like a deck of cards, or nail polish. Students brought in very thoughtful items too, like tampons. I'm pretty proud of the club for having so much empathy," she said. When asked how many donations the GSA received, Ms. Stewart stated that they got "many varieties of donations and a good hefty box."

This year GSA is helping the Casa Youth Shelter with a school drive. All of the GSA clubs around the district are also participating. Casa Youth Shelter is a nonprofit organization that's in Los Alamitos. The program provides emergency temporary shelter for the homeless, runaway and abandoned youth. They have 12 beds dedicated 24/7 for the teens. They also provide counseling not only for individuals but also family

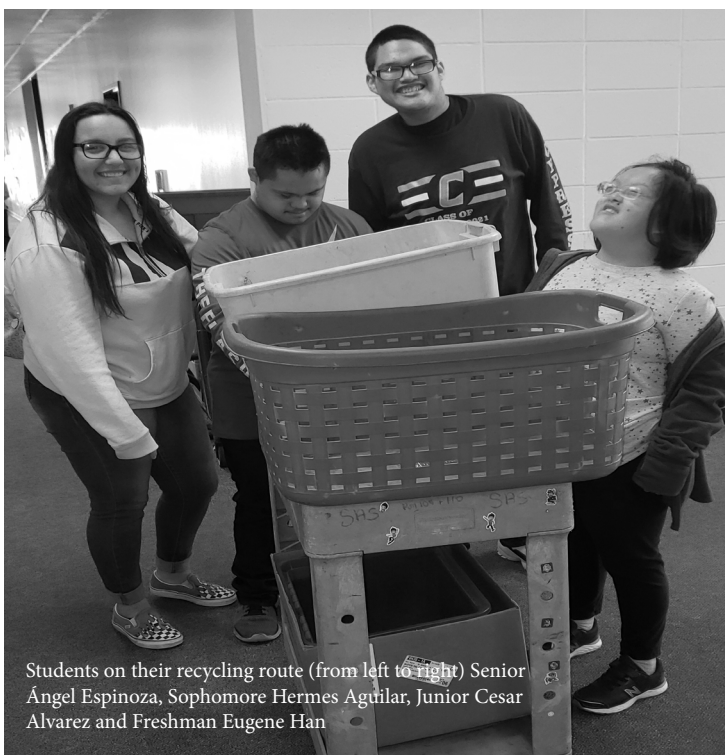
counseling. Their goal is to promote family relationships and make sure that all youth have a healthy environment to live and stay

in. The youth shelter was established on April 7, 1978 and the founder was Myldred Jones who was a retired commander for the Navy.



Casa Youth Shelter Building (photo from GreatNonProfits.org)

CAMPUS PAPER PICK-UP



Students on their recycling route (from left to right) Senior Ángel Espinoza, Sophomore Hermes Aguilar, Junior Cesar Alvarez and Freshman Eugene Han

Nickolas Biolchino
Staff Writer

On Wednesdays, you may have seen a group of students coming around during Check and Connect picking up paper for recycling. SAS students are collecting paper for the good of our environment. Once a week, three groups of three SAS students, a peer mentor, and a staff member go through the entire school collecting paper waste. The district provides two large garbage bins that are located behind the five hundred buildings. The two bins are specifically and solely for the weekly paper and cardboard collected from various packages delivered to our campus. These bins are completely full by the end of the week. By collecting the paper waste of the school, we are helping our school, our community, and the environment. Paper

and cardboard are the easiest items to recycle for the collectors and for the recycle centers.

"Recycling paper conserves natural resources saves energy reduces gas emissions and keeps landfills space free for other types of trash that can not be recycled."-www.Thoughtco.com. There are many products that we use daily that are already made from recycled paper. Office paper, toilet tissue, paper towels, greeting cards, and even this newspaper you are reading is made of recycled paper. Sometimes we do not see how our efforts of recycling actually affects our Earth, especially when it comes to paper. According to Quill.com, "One ton of recycled paper saves seventeen trees." That means if schools in America switched to use only recycled paper products then in one year roughly sixty million trees could be saved. So, here at Cypress we are making a difference.

CLUB FUNDRAISERS



ARK (Acts of Random Kindness) Club meets every Tuesday at lunch in the media center (photo courtesy of Ms. Diaz)

Audrey Sims
Distribution Chief

Right now here at Cypress we have tons of clubs. They range from special interests, religion, community, academics and cultural clubs. Most clubs meet during lunch on various days. Participating in a club here at school is one of the ways students can really get involved. "Joining a club in high school can help you make new friends, boost your extracurricular activity record and give your college application some help. Joining a club is a great way to make friends, develop leadership skills and boost your resumé," according to www.nextstepu.com.

Clubs have different events going on throughout the year and to make those events happen they need money. The clubs hold fundraisers to help cut costs.

There have been multiple fundraisers going on. Badminton was selling hot chocolate, a club was selling Chick-fil-a and French Club has been making crepes all after school. Recently the French Club had a week full of events, including a few lunch time activities. They showed a short French film and played French music in the quad for students to hear while they ate. For the Valentine's Day holiday, ASL sold candy grams. Along with the candy, a student will sing a song to the recipient. The Kindness Club sells multiple products to raise money. They have bracelets, Hydro Flask stickers and cookies. All proceeds go back to Anaheim Union High School District students. Some money raised goes towards field trips and experiences that the clubs want to participate in that students might not be able to attend otherwise. So help a club out and participate!

PIXIES

LISTEN

-Sherald Mitz

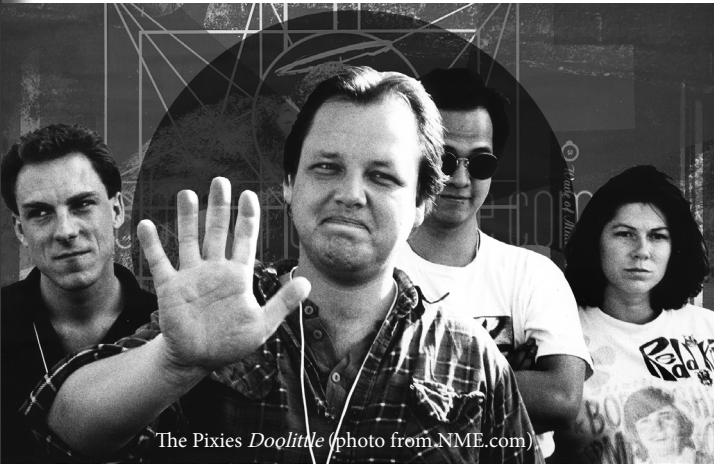
Since their debut in 1986, Pixies have been a staple in the indie alternative rock scene. With critically acclaimed songs such as "Where Is My Mind," "Debaser," and "Here Comes Your Man," Pixies have captured the audience's attention with their catchy hooks, cool guitar riffs, and unique approach to music as a general.

Pixies changed the scape of the underground music scene forever. Guitarist Joey Santiago and lead singer "Black Francis" started the band in 1986 while attending University of Massachusetts. After placing an ad in the paper looking for a female bassist, they found Kim Deal whose husband suggested they invite Dave Lovering as their

drummer. They later became Pixies after flipping through a dictionary and finding the word Pixie.

Pixies draw their sound primarily from punk and surf rock, rising to popularity in the early 90s with other acts such as Smashing Pumpkins, Nirvana, and Radiohead. Their staple is Joey Santiago's dynamics in the instrumentation, transitioning from quiet to loud abruptly and almost startlingly. They built the foundations of their sound in their debut album, *Come on Pilgrim*, in 1987 and really grew into their sound in their critically acclaimed 1989 album *Doolittle*.

Pixies have been a favorite of mine since I was first introduced to them, they've been extremely influential, inspiring bands even as prolific as Nirvana. They're a must for anyone who's a fan of indie or alternative rock.



The Pixies *Doolittle* (photo from NME.com)

CHILLING ADVENTURES OF SABRINA

-Ji Min An

Based on the Archie Comics series, *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina* is a dark coming-of-age story that traffics in horror, the occult, and witchcraft. The breakout hit tells the story of sixteen-year-old Sabrina Spellman (played by Kiernan Shipka), who must balance her dual nature as half-witch, half-mortal, all while standing against the evil forces that threaten herself, her family, and the human world. While pursuing a mortal life with her boyfriend Harvey Kinkle (played by Ross Lynch), Sabrina is pressured to fully embrace her witch-half through a dark baptism, where she will pledge her loyalty to the Church of Night, a coven of satanic witches that worship the Dark Lord, Satan.

The teen drama takes a dark twist on the original American sitcom, *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* (1996). This adaptation is satanic and disturbing at times, which is why the show might not be for everyone;

it's definitely intended for older teens and adults. The series is set in modern times, but the visual appearance has a quirky 1960's aesthetic, with the distinctive costumes that add to the old worldly charm of the show. The production overflows with gothic and sinister vibes, creating an eerie atmosphere fit for the roaming of demons.

Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, the show's creator, does a great job at keeping the audience entertained. But what makes this show so enthralling is Sabrina's story and her fierce character. Despite being a witch and a spawn of Satan, Sabrina stays true to herself and her values of love and justice. She is good-hearted and stands up fearlessly against injustice, and never backs down before a challenge.

The acting of the cast is powerful, and you find yourself engrossed in the episodes. The cinematography is crafted so that no one shot of Sabrina looks like any other TV show. CAOS Part 3 officially began streaming on January 24, and it's been confirmed that Part 4 will be released.



Kiernan Shipka plays Sabrina Spellman in the Netflix Original (photo from engadget.com)

CHILDREN OF MEN

WATCH

-Dassel Jheong

Children of Men is a 2006 dystopian film by Mexican director Alfonso Cuarón, who is responsible for classic movies of our generation such as *Roma* (2018) and *Gravity* (2013).

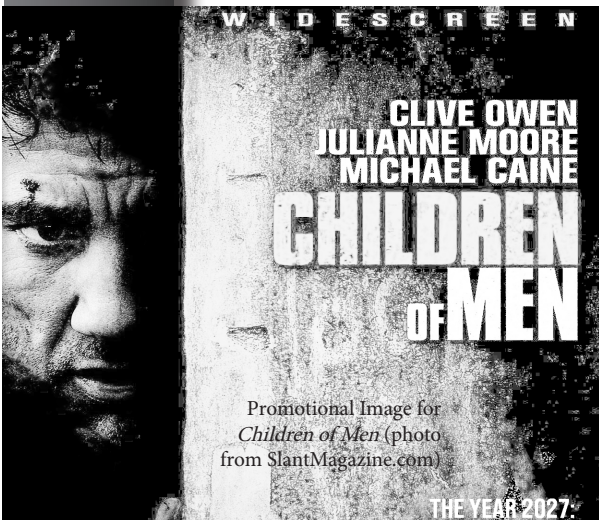
Children of Men tells the story of Theo, who lives in Britain as a government worker at a time where humankind is no longer fertile and the world is ravaged from war and disaster. As people seek shelter by immigrating to Britain, the British government imposes stricter laws, and Theo must fulfill an important task under their nose. It's an exciting journey, complete with intense shots without cuts, fascinating characterization,

and a heartbreaking and deeply moving plot. The film's technicalities are some of the best put to screen. The feat of creating a believable dystopian society is not easy with movies, but in *Children of Men*, their horrors seem so realistic, and the madness finds similarity with our own world.

Apart from the filmmaking itself, *Children of Men* is significant as a reflection of the current political turmoil of our times. In 2006, many countries began closing their borders to refugees, people became aware of issues of police brutality, and terrorism and fear struck the social climate all over the world. Over these last 15 years, the potency of these issues have arguably heightened, especially in the United States. No matter your political beliefs,

Children of Men paints an alarming portrait of where our world may very well be headed.

Children of Men has made long strides in the artistry and possibilities of film. It's a controversial and innately political piece of filmmaking that is still a really wonderful and entertaining experience for all audiences. Ultimately, the greatest feat of *Children of Men* is in how it succeeds in inspiring a little more empathy in its viewers for the human beings around them.



Promotional Image for *Children of Men* (photo from SlantMagazine.com)

STAR WARS: RISE OF THE RESISTANCE

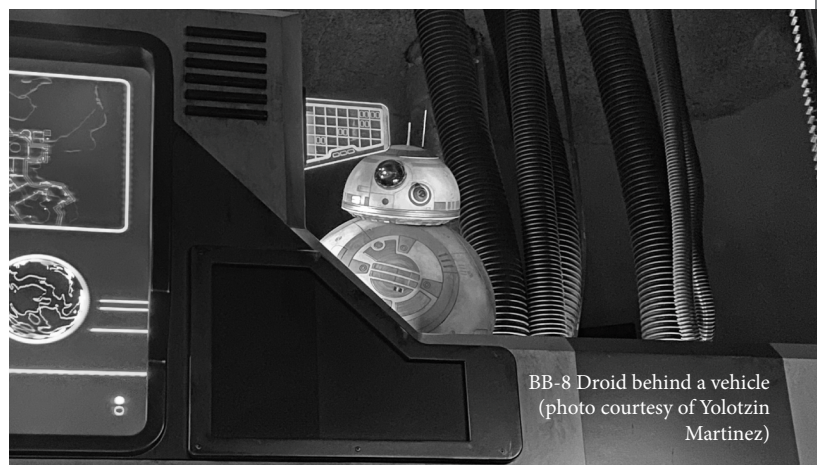
-Yolotzin Martinez

I had the amazing opportunity to preview Disneyland's newest attraction Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance over at Galaxy Edge and to say that it was amazing is an understatement. Disney has once again pushed boundaries, to create an immersive experience both in the ride and in the land itself. I can say with full certainty however long you'll have to wait will be worth it.

When you first see the front of the ride it doesn't look like much which again is due to the amazing theming and the front is meant to look like the rebel base and the riders are some new recruits. So on the way to the queue you are entertained by some rebel scenery and when you finally get to the queue the robot BB-8 rolls on out to transmit a message by Rey herself and she gives us our mission. Next a "rebel soldier" who is really a cast member will escort you

to a ship ready to transport the recruits about to take off. When in reality it is the pre-show, the simulation is basically a less intense version of Star tours down to the same "pilot" animatronic placement. After a few shakes you and the other rides get caught by Kylo Ren and his army where you are brought in to a huge impressive display of Stormtrooper animatronics. Finally after what seems to be forever you are boarded to your escape vehicle and it is revealed that the resistance has come to help you escape. Throughout the ride you come face to face with Kylo Ren but what seems to be by a hair you escape successfully.

If Mr. Walt Disney were here today he would've been so proud because the ride features a combination of different ride systems such as a trackless ride, simulations, and a drop like the one at Guardians of the Galaxy: Mission Breakout but it all works out so seemingly. So if you ever find yourself in Disneyland don't forget to stop and check out Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance.



BB-8 Droid behind a vehicle (photo courtesy of Yolotzin Martinez)

WATCH

DO

HALSEY RELEASES *MANIC*

Zac Milam
Social Media Manager

Just recently, Halsey released her highly anticipated third studio album, *Manic*. One of the first albums to be released in 2020, *Manic* is a follow-up to 2017's *hopeless fountain kingdom* and 2015's *BADLANDS*.

Her fans were very excited to hear her new sound once she dropped the lead single, "Without Me," back in 2018, which was one of the most popular songs of 2019, her first and only #1 spot on the Billboard Hot 100 chart as a lead artist (it would be her second overall considering her collaboration, "Closer," with The Chainsmokers topped the chart in 2016).

Halsey is known for her evocative songs, and this album is no different. *Manic* is one of her most personal albums, something very noticeable on first listen. According to Genius, the opening track, "Ashley," is a song that introduces her new

era in her music. Her real name is Ashley Nicolette Frangipane, it's a real life narrative about herself. This is the first album for her to change her songwriting style. She is known to use many storytelling devices in her songs to convey the feeling that she is singing of two other people when really they're herself and some other subject.



Halsey releases her third studio album, *Manic* (photo from cheatsheet.com)

Other issues discussed on the album include how she would willingly follow someone to her own death, even when she knows it's bad for her (Track 3, "Graveyard"), how she struggles with self-love so she relies on other people to pick her up in times of need (Track 8, "3am"), how she met her future boyfriend and collaborator, YUNGBLUD--who she broke up with before its release as a promotional single--(Track 10, "Finally // Beautiful Stranger").

Her most personal song comes at the end. In "929" she goes over many tragic instances that have happened to her in her life. Named to honor her birthday, she sings, "And I've stared at the sky in Milwaukee and hoped that my father would finally call me."

Additionally, Dominic Fike, Alanis Morissette, and SUGA of BTS, are featured on interludes. Halsey is someone who uses music to honor her life and cope with the beauty and sadness of it. *Manic* may be different in storytelling, but it's no different in emotion.

RIHANNA IS BACK IN THE STUDIO

Jasmine Coquia
Photo Editor

Rihanna fans have had no choice but to stay patient lately. The artist hasn't dropped her own music since her Grammy nominated album *Anti* in 2016. There's no official release date for her ninth project, supposedly titled *R9* according to her Instagram post of a clip of a dog dancing with the caption, "Update: me listening to *R9* by myself and refusing to release it." This caused many to call Rihanna petty, but she was just teasing. To reassure the worried fans, she posted again on February 13 hinting she was back in the studio. The post features a picture of a sound engineer station and text that reads, "The Neptunes"-which is music production duo Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo. Rapper

A\$AP Ferg posted the same image, hinting that he could be a possible feature on *R9* as well. Rihanna told *Vogue* that the album is very Reggae inspired/infused. It seems



Rihanna at the British Fashion Awards (photo from elle.com)

that the singer has been doing plenty of planning despite fans thinking otherwise. According to *The Cut*, Rihanna stated, "I'm so excited actually. I can't say who I'm working with, but it's somebody I've been wanting to work with for a long time."

Despite the lack of new music, Rihanna has been busy making her mark in the beauty and fashion industries. Her makeup line Fenty Beauty is now worth more than \$3 billion after just over two years of business according to *Forbes*. She also made a recent appearance at New York Fashion Week to debut her new Fenty collection. Clearly she's had no problem making money without music.

There's really no telling when one of the most anticipated albums will finally drop. Release date rumors have been all over the place. Nonetheless, the R&B legend always makes her work worth the wait.

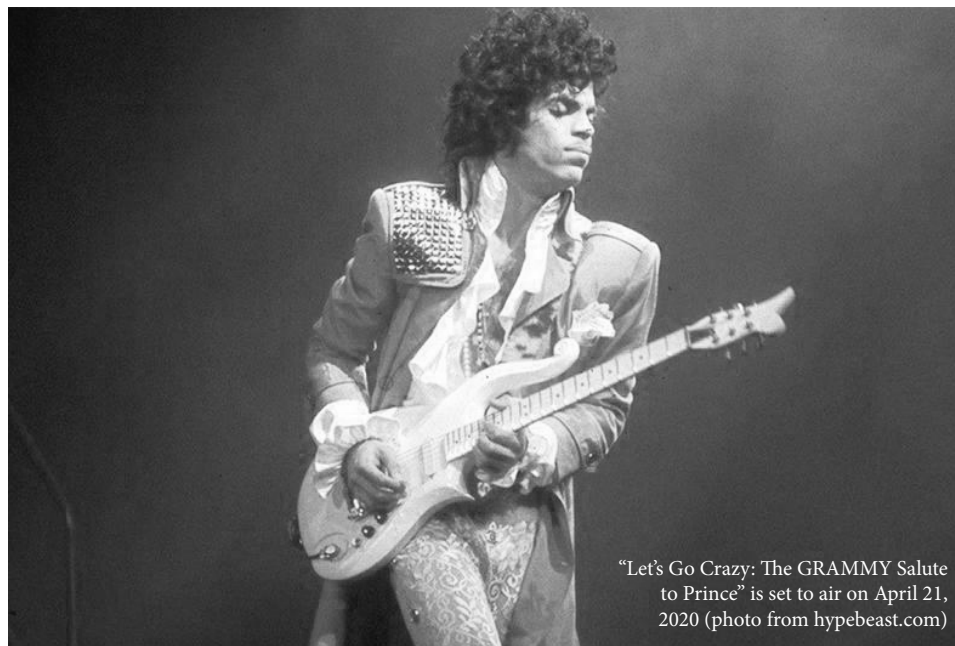
LET'S GO CRAZY: THE GRAMMY SALUTE TO PRINCE

Isabella Valdez
Entertainment Editor

"A strong spirit transcends rules," stated Prince, and if any artist bears a spirit worthy of celebrated recognition, it's him. On Tuesday, January 28, talented artists such as John Legend, the Foo Fighters, H.E.R., Alicia Keys, Usher, and many more put on a tribute performance to honor the late musician. The concert, "Let's Go Crazy: The Grammy Salute to Prince," is meant to be broadcast on April 21, 2020—the four year anniversary of Prince's death. Mikael Wood from the *Los Angeles Times* deemed the performance a "sloppy display of affection," though he noted that Prince's impact on music was prevalent throughout the concert.

Seen especially in H.E.R.'s rendition of "The Beautiful Ones," Prince inspired many artists with his expressive take on singing and performing. A successful musician and

honorable person, Prince was a seven-time Grammy award winner who was praised by former president, Barack Obama who reflected on how Prince "influenced the sound and trajectory of popular music." Arguably the most notable performance from that night was Earth, Wind, and Fire's take on Prince's 1987 ballad, "Adore." As



"Let's Go Crazy: The GRAMMY Salute to Prince" is set to air on April 21, 2020 (photo from hypebeast.com)

one of Prince's influences, Earth, Wind, and Fire's performance did not disappoint. Reaching the level of talent and genius that Prince possessed proved to be a difficult feat for some of the artists that took part in this tribute concert, but "Adore" was one of the most iconic pieces of the night. Philip Bailey, one of the lead singers of the band, hit beautiful falsettos similar to those made by Prince himself. To say that this number did its job well in honoring Prince would be an understatement.

Cypress High School junior, Kayla Valdez, believes the tribute was "pretty well done, but didn't do him justice." Understandably, Prince was a force to be reckoned with before he passed, so to produce a perfect tribute concert to show exactly how much he impacted not just music, but pop culture would be nearly impossible. Despite the number of pieces that just couldn't live up to expectations, "Let's Go Crazy: The Grammy Salute to Prince" was a respectable performance to honor the musical genius that Prince was.

FINDING LOVE IN A HOPELESS PLACE: A LOOK AT *QUEEN AND SLIM*

Jordan Sims
Staff Writer

To say the themes of the drama/thriller, *Queen & Slim*, are deep would be a disservice to the meanings and history that can be found in every scene of the ambitious film directed by Melina Matsoukas and written by Lena Waithe. Everything from the original score and soundtrack to the very angles used to shoot the film is done with a specific purpose in mind. However, what are the common people supposed to take away from this film if they can't relate to the struggles of Black Americans in an unjust society? How do they make sense of the beauty hidden within the chaos? Most importantly, is it possible for them to fall in love with a world that hates them just like our main characters?

Starting off with a plot summary, the film *Queen & Slim* follows the story of two Black Americans who are made to go on the run after an altercation with a police officer ends with the death of the corrupt cop. The story follows their impact on society with various news outlets and social media platforms following the pair's story and journey throughout America as they attempt to flee to Cuba. We see the characters of Angela "Queen" Johnson (made to represent all black women) played by Jodie Turner-Smith and

Earnest "Slim" Hines (made to represent all black men) played by Daniel Kaluuya as they fall in love with one another and become immortalized into black culture as an infamous and political power couple.

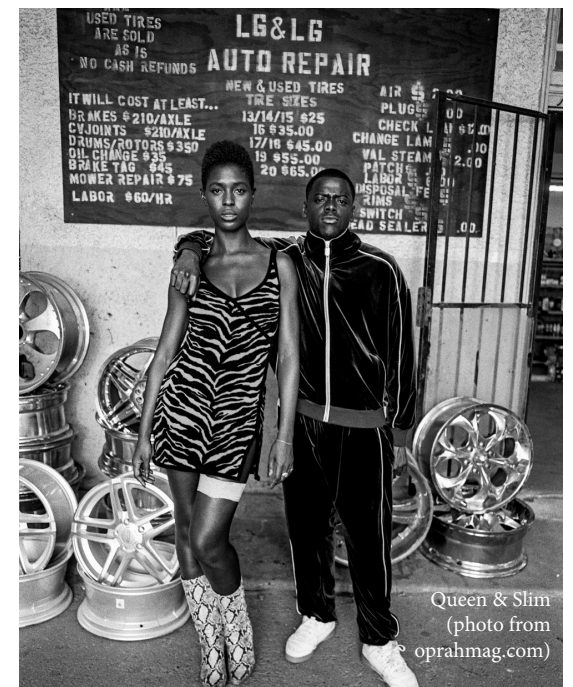
The movie prides itself on its unashamed and proud blackness. This is made explicit in the very angles of certain scenes. For example, in the scene where the titular pair meet, Junior, a teenager that is enamored with the two icons and the idea of being immortalized, we see aesthetically pleasing shots of them walking on a windy beach during a dim sunset where they talk about the ideas of living after death and the theme of legacy, which is integrated into the film. What's unique about scenes like this is first off, the score or music that is selected and the fact that these scenes are made to almost look like a montage of sorts. It feels poetic showing scenes of black love, violence, life, and nature itself. One of the song choices, "Almeda" by Solange showcased this theme best with lyrics like "- black days/ These are black-owned things/ Black faith still can't be washed away/ Not even in that Florida water." There is also a scene where they stop by a lounge owned by blacks and filled with older black couples that all know that they are fugitives but show them that they are safe in that area without even having to say a word. The way this is shot in the film is also genius. By having the camera show the discomfort and the uneasi-

ness of our two main characters in contrast to the couples covered in drops of sweat from dancing and love shown throughout their eyes.

While a lot to take in or analyze on first viewing, eagle-eyed viewers will definitely be taken aback by all the detail. From subtle references to Rosa Parks and the underground railroad, to blatant nods to other black cultural icons such as Tupac Shakur, Nipsey Hussle, Alton Sterling, etc. there is plenty of content packed into the movies' 132 minute run time. As a note from someone who has viewed the film it's better to watch this film through the lens of it being a tragedy akin to the works of Shakespeare. Watching the film from this point of view will prep you for everything the movie has to offer and hopefully make you less upset at the climax and ultimate ending of the film. While its own original body of work if you're looking for something similar, the famous story of *Romeo & Juliet* would be an okay choice. The comparisons to the infamous Bonnie & Clyde only take away the level of complexity the story has to offer. While *Queen & Slim* shows how a society can influence a couple to use force, Bonnie & Clyde show a couple that wanted to use force regardless of

the societal system.

Hopefully, this all encouraged you to view the film for yourself so that you can draw your own conclusions, discover secrets, and hopefully be changed by the film if you allow it to. Do Queen and Slim find love in a place without hope? You can decide for yourself when the film hits stores from the theater on March 3rd of this year.



CES 2020-NEW VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Joaquin Jaimes-Alvarez
Photo Editor

The Consumer Electronics Show, better known as CES, is an international technology convention where various companies show off products for the future. Though some of these products are concepts, most are real products being launched in the near future. CES usually consists of big tech companies, like Samsung, LG, and Mophie with a few smaller, lesser known companies sprinkled around the show floor, and is typically held in the Las Vegas Convention Center. This convention is mostly for the media though, as the Consumer Technology Association, or CTA, only allows attendees 18 or older, and requires the attendees to be in some way involved in the tech industry or be journalists, according to their website. Although this is a media only event, most news outlets do provide fairly detailed coverage of the event.

CES is a showcase of various types of tech-

nologies, both emerging, and existing improved technologies. While the presentations from big companies are the most anticipated parts of the convention, CES usually includes booths from smaller companies that showcase products related to health, mobile accessories, and home appliances. In the case of health, various fitness and dental products were showcased. Health was a fairly prominent subject throughout the convention this year. For example, the Y-Brush is an electric toothbrush designed to fit comfortably in a person's mouth, mimicking the design of "a sports mouthguard... [but] with nylon bristles," described CNET's Patrick Holland. The device has bristles all around the hollow side, and promises to clean a user's teeth in 10 seconds, according to its creators.

CES is known for its hype about new technology, and while some of the products shown never see the light of day, it provides some insight about what companies are doing behind closed doors. It also helps to stimulate more competition, and in turn more innovation

from companies. This helps each manufacturer improve the design, functionality and other features of a product before it goes on sale. A good example of this would be SAMSUNG's Galaxy Fold. As the name suggests, the Fold is a collapsible smartphone that has a 4.6" front display when collapsed, and a 7.3" main display when open.

According to the company's presentation, held last September (when the device was first revealed before recall), SAMSUNG executive D.J. Koh, explained "The category-defining Galaxy Fold... defies the barriers of traditional smartphone design... the Galaxy Fold's revolutionary form factor offers a bigger, more immersive screen without sacrificing portability."

The Galaxy Fold was recalled over the winter because of issues with the display. Some early adopters claimed they had received a broken or faulty unit, however, SAMSUNG explained to YouTuber Marques Brownlee (aka. MKBHD) via email, "They (SAMSUNG) seemed totally understanding of it," stated the YouTuber in

a video titled, "The Broken Galaxy Folds: Explained!'. According to Brownlee's video, the issues with the display were caused by flaws in the design of the display, like materials to prevent it wearing down, and the hinge's design to prevent the display from snagging onto the hinge.

CES is one of those events to help stimulate more innovation and competition among companies in the same markets. Smartphone manufacturers can see what their competitors are doing with their devices, and can learn from each other to improve the design, functionality, and other features of the upcoming device. Companies that are more service oriented can revise the design, functionality, and other interactive elements of their app, service, or software. From the information that news outlets provide to consumers, people can determine whether to look forward to the next generation of devices, or stick with what they have. Consumers can also determine if they need any of the accessories that manufacturers distribute, and decide if those products are worth the money.

LUNAR NEW YEAR

Nguyen Pham
Staff Writer

Lunar New Year is a holiday, also known as Chinese New Year, celebrated in many countries including China, Vietnam, Singapore, Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, and Japan. This year it's the year of the rat which is seen as hardworking and clever.

It is a holiday where family would get together and feast, with laughter in the air. As Freshmen, Jordon Vu said, "It's a time of celebration and it's a time of honor to respect those who were there before you. When Lunar New Year comes around each family gets a feel for the ancestral past and for family tradition. It's a family culture that upholds traditions that are almost forgotten each day. So it's a



Year of the Rat (photo from freepik.com)

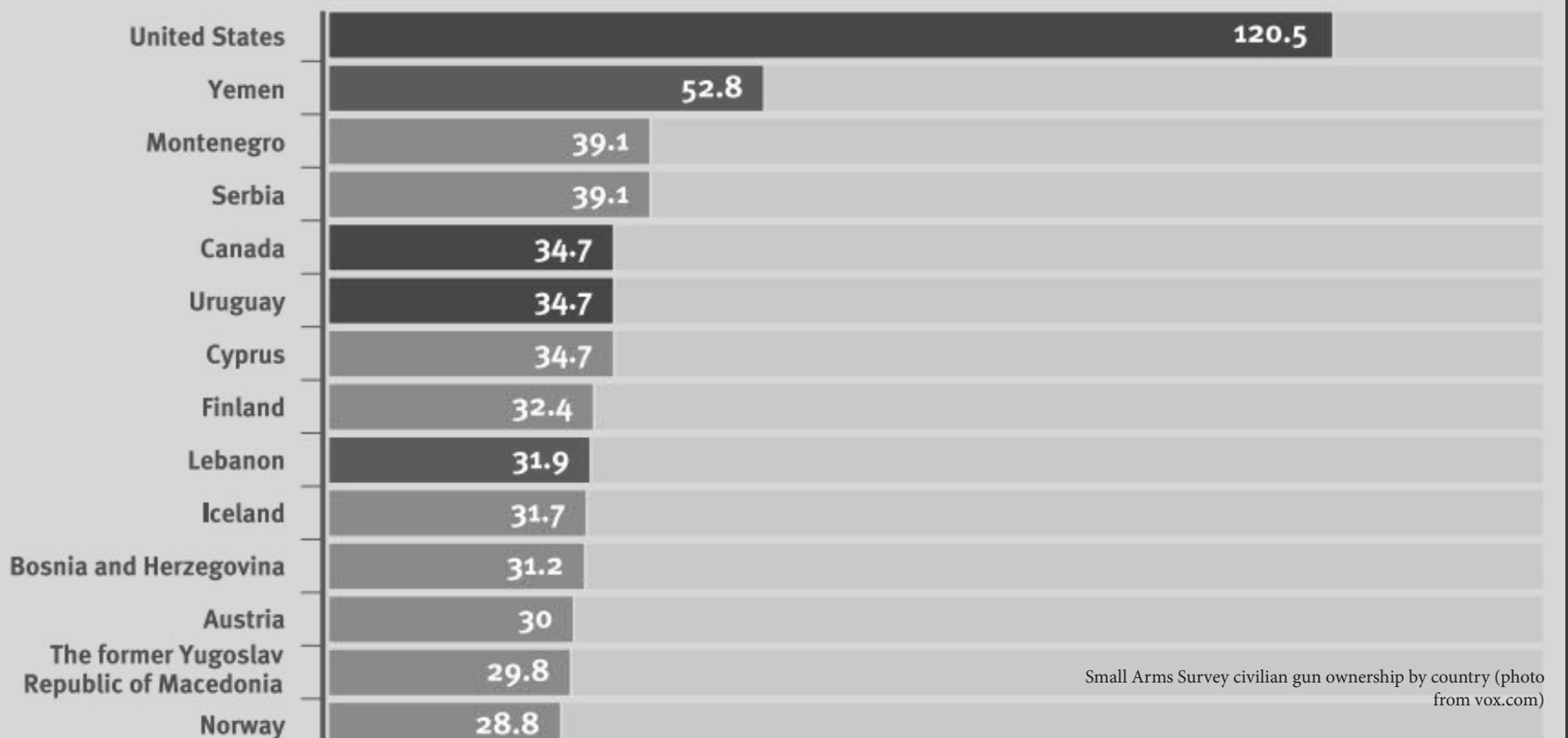
reminder of who we once were and who we will always be."

There are many different traditions for each culture, but one thing they have in common is gathering together as one giant family and remembering where they're originally from. As Lunar New Year comes close, children get excited for the annual tradition of getting the red envelopes. Since red is a lucky color symbolizing energy, happiness, and good luck, they would send new, crisp bills wrapped in a red envelope to hand to receivers to bestow your happiness and blessings to them. Hence it is impolite to open the envelope in front of the person who gave it to you.

As the children grow up, they soon realize that the amount of money they receive or the food isn't that important but spending time with the ones you love.

GUNS BLEEDING BLACK

Countries and territories with the highest numbers of civilian firearms per 100 residents



Ramya Sridhar
Student Activities Editor

According to Giffords Law Center, as of a 2017 statistic, an unarmed black individual is five times as likely to be shot than his white counterpart. He is ten times more likely to be murdered than a white person, and 14 times more likely to be injured during a firearm-involving offense. Black men comprise 52% of gun-assault injury victims, and yet are only 12.1% of the population. It is time to sit down and address this issue—to ask why these crimes are happening, and what we as American citizens can do to stop it.

When you see people wielding a gun carelessly, recklessly, and without the proper temperance, the simplest

solution would be to simply remove it from the equation. However, even attempting to do so has proved to not be simple at all. Politicians are often hesitant to bring up the topic of gun control in the aftermath of a tragedy, in fear of wounding the victims by discussing political affairs. However, the biggest and most notable influence is the NRA.

The National Rifle Association influences every branch of government legislature, executive, and judicial. The NRA spent nearly \$4 million to lobby politicians and \$50 million for political advocacy. Additionally, the NRA donated nearly \$30 million dollars for Donald Trump's presidential campaign. Possessing such a powerful position in governmental legislation, they hold great sway over political decisions.

Therefore, their advocacy for pro-gun laws creates rippling effects in our legal discourse, and thereby in our nation. In the House of Reps, there are more representatives of the rural areas with higher levels of gun ownership than there are of urban areas. Thereby, demographic-wise, gun control is less popular amongst the representatives.

For all of these reasons and more, gun control is a topic that is either quickly shot down or ignored altogether. But the effects of such ignorance are cataclysmic and instantaneously reflective in our national statistics. According to the Violence Policy Center, more than 85% of black homicides are caused by or related to guns. America, possessing less than 5% of the world's population, has 46 percent of the

world's civilian-owned guns. Black people are 500 times as likely to die by gun violence than international terrorism—the number is 128 times as likely for whites. Additionally, gun violence is most likely to ensue in urban areas—regions with poverty, inequity, and racial segregation.

Gun violence isn't just dangerous to the lives of the American people—it's also dangerous to the fundamental ideals that founded the nation in the first place. Some people believe that the idea of freedom, equality, and opportunity is cut short by the fact that black people are practically targeted in the legal system by loose gun laws and improper regulation. This time, for Black History Month, consider the possibility of an America without guns.

LOS ANGELES WOMEN'S MARCH

Eman Sharkasi
Opinion Editor

The annual Women's March this year landed on January 18, 2020, the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment for women's right to vote, which was passed back in 1920. The point of these marches is to gain political power to create transformative social changes for all kinds of women, including black women, indigenous women, poor women, immigrant

women, disabled women, Jewish women, Muslim women, Latina women, Asian and Pacific Islander women, lesbian, bi, queer, and trans women.

The marching started at Pershing Square around 9 a.m., then headed five blocks away towards City Hall at 11 a.m and then the guest speakers. The crowd was very energetic and passionate.



Los Angeles Women's March draws thousands to support of women's rights (photo from Daily Bruin)

ATHLETE SIGNING DAY

Jacob Fisk
Sports Editor

On February 5, eleven seniors signed their commitment contracts to officially become college athletes.

Isaac Hurtado, is probably one of the best running backs Cypress Football has had in a long time, and has decided on continuing his football career by playing for West Point Academy. Hurtado said, "When they talked to me about the school, it fit perfectly for what I was looking for. It's a great school, they have a great team, and all the opportunities they provide, it's all amazing." Hurtado will be playing in front of massive crowds for nearly every game, including the famous annual Army vs. Navy game that has happened every year for the pride of the two branches of the military. Hurtado said that he has never played in a crowd as massive as a college football crowd, but said he is looking forward to it.

Although some athletes can be very excited after a college reaches out to them, some were more cautious when selecting or not even interested in the college offering at first.

Sammy Diaz, who signed for softball at University of Iowa commented, "When I

first got my first email from them, I wasn't really interested until after I visited the school for the first time. After I arrived, it felt like home; the campus, the coaches, everything just felt great."

Diaz's teammate, Isabella Pardo, who committed to Siena College, is excited to continue her career, but is also sad that she will separate from her Centurion teammates. "It's really sad, because I feel like last year we really bonded, and made a lot of fun memories. I got really close with the other girls, so it's going to be sad to leave them."

Hailey Smith signed to Colorado State University for softball, but will have a unique obstacle compared to other Centurions in terms of location. Colorado has an average altitude of 6,850 feet above sea level, which is a huge gameplay changer in softball. "I have played in Colorado before, and it's really good for softball because the ball flies, but it sucks 'cause when you run, you will get super tired, so it is something I am going to have to get used to."

Brett Wozniak is currently one of the baseball pitchers on the Centurion Varsity team, signed to go to Kansas State University. Kansas State University is one of the colleges eligible to compete in the famous College World Series. He just wants to focus on playing hard and showing the

baseball world who he is. "I just want to play college baseball, and the College World Series is just a bonus for me. I am just looking forward to stepping on that field and showing everyone what I'm made of," he said.

What is impressive about being able to continue playing the sport they have passion for in college, is the odds of making it that far on a scholarship are so low.

According to the NCAA website, the odds for most of the sports can vary from 2 % to 10 % for any NCAA division to just compete in (not including a scholarship). Despite it being a very slim chance of making it to the NCAA level, these eleven seniors defied the odds and were even able to guarantee themselves four more years to their playing careers while receiving an education on a scholarship.



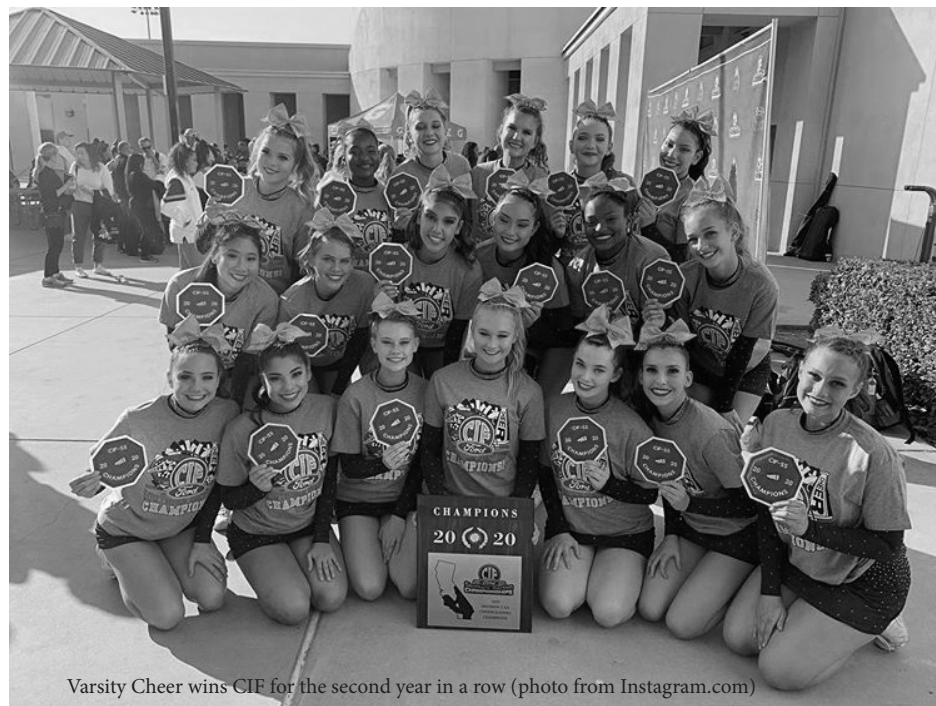
Seniors officially become college athletes (photo courtesy of Jacob Fisk)

VARSITY CHEER WINS CIF BACK-TO-BACK

Avylon Kemna-Berg
Editor in Chief

Cypress High School's Varsity Cheer competed in the CIF Championship at Martin Luther King High School in Riverside on January 11, 2020, at 11:55 a.m. After winning the CIF Championship for the 2019 competition season, Varsity Cheer was determined to take home another CIF title for Cypress High School.

The team's hard work and dedication helped them take home the CIF championship title for the 2020 competition season. Their top competitor was Portola High School, and they also competed against Mayfair High, Citrus Valley High School, and University High School. Varsity Cheer dedicates a lot of their time to after school practices to ensure that their routines are ready to be performed at competitions.



Varsity Cheer wins CIF for the second year in a row (photo from Instagram.com)

Also, the coaches closely work with the team to help them perfect the many details of their routines.

"Back to back champions is a great honor and we are extremely excited to have brought another title back to Cypress High School," said Varsity Cheer Captain, Rachel Hunt.

"When hearing our name, my first reaction was complete excitement. There is always such a rush that goes through your body when winning a competition, but CIF is much more of an experience for the athletes who won. Cheer has been underrated for a very long time and now we have the opportunity to finally be recognized for our skills," said Hunt.

On February 14th and 15th, Varsity Cheer competed in the USA Nationals, which is the biggest competition of the season. The team placed 2nd in their division out of 23 teams.

CENTURIONS GIRLS WRESTLING

Armen Gamil
Features Editor

Coach Darrin Norris has been here at Cypress coaching wrestling for eleven seasons, but has been coaching the girl's wrestling team for only six seasons. He enjoys coaching the girls because he likes "seeing the girls improve and get better." Coach Norris stated, "Cypress girls continue to amaze me every Saturday by the way they compete, because they get better and better each week. Cypress Girl's Wrestling Team is a force to be reckoned with." His goal every season is to get more girls into

the Championships.

The Cypress High School Wrestling Team, is one of the few schools in the district with a full girl's wrestling team. Usually, other schools have 1-3 girls on their team but Cypress has 20-30 girls on the team.

Rianna Gonzales is a senior at Cypress High School and has been on the girl's wrestling team for all four years. She joined wrestling because she wanted to join an active sport that she would enjoy. "Wrestling is an outlet for me after a stressful day. Being on the move helps take the weight off my shoulders, even if it's for an hour or two," Gonzales stated. She recommends freshmen to join the Girl's Wrestling Team.



The Girl's Wrestling Team poses for a photo after qualifying for the CIF Championships (photo from Instagram.com)

KOBE BRYANT: REMEMBERING AN NBA LEGEND

Luis Ortiz
Sports Editor

On the fourth Sunday of January, 2020 the tragic helicopter crash in Calabasas killed Ara Zobayan, 50, Christina Mauser, 38, John Altobelli, 56, Keri Altobelli, 46, Alyssa Altobelli, 14, Sarah Chester, 45, Payton Chester, 13, Gianna Bryant, 13, and Kobe Bryant, 41. This has been major news around the globe as the legendary Black Mamba has passed away in such a shocking fashion. "I'm not a Lakers fan but I still loved to watch him play, he was a phenomenal player and I think he has inspired us all," Yianni Roll, junior, commented. Since we are a part of the Greater Los Angeles area his death has affected us in such a way unlike any other passing. Celebrating his back to back NBA Championships in 2009 and 2010 when we were young children, left a mark

of familiarity on our minds that would last years, whether it means the young kids grew up mimicking his play style or yelling "Kobe" while sinking a crumpled piece of paper into the school trash can. Four days after the miserable incident,

Senior, Amgad Hawari, led a twenty four second silence in respect to the Legend's jersey number during lunch and gave us



Amgad Hawari holds a moment of silence in the quad during lunch in honor of the late Kobe Bryant (photo courtesy of Luis Ortiz)

a thoughtful speech reminding us about his influence. "His love and appreciation towards the game will be something I carry on to everything I have in life, and losing someone like that had such a profound impact on me and the rest of the community because we all share the same love for the game," said Junior, Jaden Ramirez. We will forever hold him in our hearts and his successes will never be forgotten. Mamba Out.

CENTURIONS BOYS BASKETBALL WINS EMPIRE LEAGUE

Luis Ortiz
Sports Editor

The Centurions have achieved yet another Empire League championship undefeated, totalling to an overall record of 30-0 in the past three years in conference contests. The title was clinched at an away game against Crean Lutheran on the 31st of January with a score of 63-57 and this is when the program was named champions for the fourth time in five years, a surreal accomplishment. "Our team this year did exactly what we set our mind to, which was to go undefeated in league for the third year in a row... looking into next year, I feel like my brothers will carry on the streak of going undefeated in league and continue that winning culture," the Senior power forward, Eddie Spencer, said.

The trolls across the street stood no

chance against the Roman conquerors as the combined score of their two meetings was 128-96 in Cypress's favor. Due to their past successes the boys were promoted to division one for the 2019/20 season and were matched up against Orange Lutheran high school from the Trinity League that includes the likes of St. John Bosco, Servite, Mater Dei, and Sierra Canyon. The team ended on top of the contest with a 61-48 scoreline as they finally accomplished the first division one playoff win in the school's history. "Everyone doubted us and we were always overlooked. We went into the game as the underdog and we pulled through. Overcoming Orange Lutheran proved that we belong in D1," asserted the Junior Shooting Guard, Kai Nagano.

Cypress was obviously not the favorite to keep on marching in the tournament especially after they lost to the same team in December in the Coyote Classic Tournament. Sadly, after attaining history

in the first round, they couldn't repeat the result against Windward in the second, losing only by nine points to the eventual semi-finalists. This season can't be de-

scribed by any other word other than historic and the very best of the Cypress boys basketball program is still yet to come.



Eddie Spencer (right) celebrates with Kai Nagano (left) (photo from OC Register)

CENTURIONS BOYS SOCCER

Luis Ortiz
Sports Editor

After back to back failed CIF qualifications the Centurion boys soccer program has achieved a postseason admission to the regional Socal tournament for the second time in four years. Cypress finished with a (6-4) record during the Empire League season and although the team finished in fourth, which is outside the standard spots for CIF eligibility, they had the most victories out of any fourth division Socal team. "Our goal for this season was to have a winning record and make it into CIF because it was our last year with our strongest class," Senior Captain, Jorge Ortiz stated. A major improvement over the 2018-2019 season where the team only managed two victories and nine defeats while finishing second to last. The boys began their campaign with a crushing, 0-5 defeat

against eventual league champs Tustin, then repeated the scoreline against Pacifica, but this time in their favor. The following test for the Roman conquerors was facing the Valencia Tigers at home in an exciting contest that needed a late goal to seal the W. The team surged into celebration after defeating the second division school for the first time in three years. "Scoring a last minute goal and beating them meant a lot to me and to the team after not defeating them for a while," expressed the Sophomore Winger, Brandon Ramos. Sadly, the boys couldn't keep the four game win streak alive, only overcoming the opposition twice more in the last four games. As a result of this run of form, both Kennedy and Valencia overtook Cypress in the Empire League standings leading them to scrape up a wildcard postseason entry. The Cypress boys soccer program starts the decade off with a great season and hopes to achieve greater successes in the following years.



The Centurion Boys Soccer Team celebrates an equalizer against league rivals Tustin (photo courtesy of Luis Ortiz)