

THE PLATINUM PRESS



Volume 9 - Issue 2

Chaparral High School

Temecula, CA 92591

October 29, 2021

The PLATINUM PREVIEW

SCHOOL NEWS



**NJROTC
Impresses at
Multiple Events**
Page 2

EDITORIALS



**Labor Shortage
Continuing to
Impact Students**
Page 5

A & E



**Advanced
Drama Students
Win Big at This
Year's RoleAbout**
Page 7

SPORTS



**Boys Water
Polo: Shooting
for Victory**
Page 11

Pumas Dress in Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness

Reagan Delahunty '25
Copy Editor

As the 2021-2022 school year progresses, October brought out school spirit through the annual Pink Out Games, supporting Breast Cancer Awareness. Chaparral athletics showed their support all month long through their continuous school spirit and promotion of pink, Breast Cancer Awareness color by wearing pink, decorating the gym, and urging fans to get involved.

The Varsity Girls Volleyball team was completely invested in the cause and continued to share their spirit and support through their games where all players dress in pink jerseys, hair pins, socks and more. The color pink surrounded the gym as the girls played, giving the team a chance to take part in a cause they believe in. The Varsity Girls Volleyball team had their annual Pink Out Game on October 7, and though they suffered a loss, the team was still proud to have supported the cause. Senior Sage Rivera, a player on the Varsity Girls Volleyball team said, "[I was] excited to play for a good cause and I've had a lot of people in my life have cancer, so it's just like, getting to play for someone." During the month of October, the games are fashioned with special jerseys, a decorated gym, and the piece of mind



On Friday, October 22, students attended the football game in pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness, as well as to celebrate the seniors.

they were playing for those in need. This "makes the team play better," according to Rivera. Volleyball goes all-out to make sure the games are a success and make a difference.

Alongside volleyball, the Varsity Football team also participated in the Pink Out Games with pink socks, cleats, gloves, or athletic tape to show their support. Varsity Football played their Pink Out Game on October 22, and celebrated a victorious game promoting cancer awareness and senior night. After previous years of not

being able to participate, the players were eager to get back on the field to support cancer awareness. The teams recognize cancer's impact in one way or another during the month of October.

Not only do the athletic teams participate in the Pink Out Games, but students do as well. Around campus, or sporting events, students were found supporting the cause with their colored bandanas, ribbons, socks, accessories, and more. Students crowded the student section at football and volleyball games to show

their spirit. They supported the Pink Out Games with a passion in hopes of making a difference, no matter how small that difference may be. Going to the games, dressing up, and supporting the cause is something most students look forward to each year.

Though the Pink Out Games were familiar to most students, there are some who did not know of or had never played in the games and were looking forward to the new opportunity. New to the games, Sophomore Sara Garcia on the Varsity Girls Volleyball team said,

"[I was] excited for the decorations. . . and for the crowd and just being able to play [in the games]." Garcia said she was thrilled at the idea of playing her first Pink Out Games "with all the support of students."

After sharing the importance of Breast Cancer Awareness around school, students, players, and fans continued giving their support in hopes of affecting the cause in a positive way. Playing for the cause or cheering alongside the games, Pumas made a difference in promoting cancer awareness.

IMPACT Shines at the Special Olympic Games

Madison Hudson '22
Staff Writer

The Unified Special Olympic Games are held annually to give people with intellectual disabilities

the opportunity to participate in competitive games. On October 22, the games were held at Murrieta Valley High School and the students' main sport was competing in Cornhole with six teams of two players. Bringing together students of a

variety of disabilities was a beautiful experience as students made new friends while playing games. There were many options including Big Jenga, Connect Four, Ping Pong, Hula Hoop, Bocce Ball, and Mini Cornhole as they waited for their turn to compete. The Special Olympic Games were co-hosted by IMPACT, a club dedicated to spending time with students who have special needs and giving them a chance to build connections with students on campus. The IMPACT President, Sophomore Madison Galat, exclaimed her excitement for the games as this was the first hosted in two years. "I thought that the Special Olympic Games was [sic] a huge success as many students participated in the activity and branched out to new students as well. Mostly every athlete participated within [sic] one or more activities and jumped up and down with joy when they won," she said. Being the new president of the club put into perspective how amazing the opportunity was to volunteer. These games were branched out to the Associated Student Body (ASB) and leadership students were given the choice to help cheer on

these students or even participate in the games alongside them.

Twelve teams of two participated in the cornhole games, and after an eventful five hours of intense and exciting cornhole, the winners were announced. Fellow Pumas took home the top three spots and the three teams were awarded ribbons, applause and celebration. Sophomore Natalie Evans was awarded the first place award alongside Sophomore Nathan Feduniw. "I had so much fun playing cornhole and meeting new people. I had fun playing games with my friends and winning the cornhole game with Nathan," Evans stated. Alongside these amazing students, Special Education Specialist Mrs. Cynthia Salazar was beyond excited for this event and looked forward to watching her students gain new experiences. Salazar stated that they "are all looking forward to our [soccer] competition that will take place in November." The goal is to have enough participation to create two teams.

With such a positive and successful event, both students and volunteers look forward to the future and the next Special Olympic Games.



Sophomores Natalie Evans and Nathan Feduniw (middle) were awarded first place.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Principal Tina Miller



Pumas,

We are well into the first semester of the 21/22 school year, and I continue to be inspired by the PRIDE our students and staff demonstrate everyday. It has been great to see everyone back in person this year and to host many of our traditional activities and events on campus again for students. One thing that the past two years has taught me is to not take things for granted and to enjoy and be grateful for the opportunities that are available in the present. It is so amazing to see our students back on campus and getting connected and involved with extracurricular activities that they are passionate about. It is also great to see students and teachers making in person connections while teaching and learning in the classroom.

We are halfway through the semester, and progress report grades have been completed. Students, if you are doing well in your classes, keep up the great work and do not lose focus. If you need to improve your grades, do not give up. You still have time to improve your grades. Remember to frequently check your grades on Infinite Campus and access Canvas for each of your classes for assignments and other information. Do not forget to check out other important school news and events on the main CHS social media links. You can find these links on the Get Connected handout on the CHS website. Have a safe and wonderful holiday break in November.

Go Pumas!

NJROTC Impresses at Multiple Events

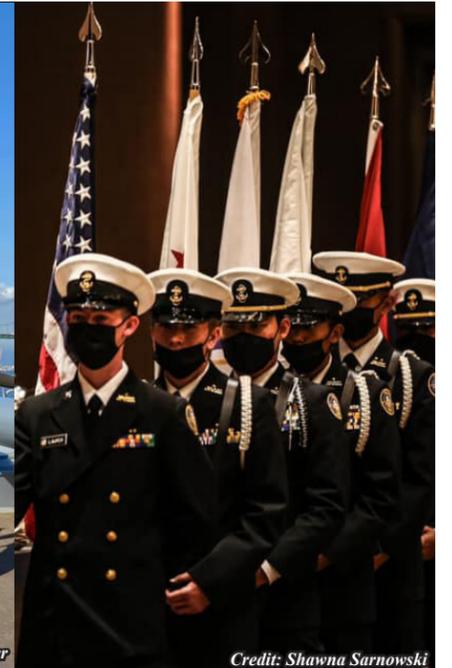
Josiah Lee '22
Staff Writer

During the month of October, Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC), has planned multiple performances for different kinds of events. Already, NJROTC has completed multiple national-level events and still has many more planned for the future.

NJROTC is a rigorous course provided in many schools across the nation emphasizing citizenship and leadership development, with many physical and academic education options. Retired Navy officer and NJROTC teacher on campus Mr. William Lauper put it best when he stated, "ROTC is a great opportunity for cadets to show off their talents and skills while representing the high school." Many cadets within the class also show hard-working mindsets. Lauper elaborated, "Cadets have been practicing diligently [for their performances]." The performances that NJROTC execute require a lot of practice and long hours of learning, for their exhibition at these events, with students putting in many hours of extra work along the way. NJROTC members are at the forefront of many events, examples being escorting the rifleman, holding an American flag, California state flag, the City of Temecula flag, as well as hold flags for each military



Credit: William Lauper



Credit: Shawna Sarnowski

NJROTC at the inaugural Freedom of the Seas Award Ceremony and the State of the City Address.

service, (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Space Force). Students in NJROTC are especially liked by officials in the community and organizations, with the impressive performance at Temecula Cares leaving many "asking if they can also perform for other events," according to Lauper.

The Temecula Cares event that NJROTC represented was a major success, with many people including mayor Maryann Edwards, community leaders, and organization officials pleased with the outcome. "[They] were so impressed with our cadets and color guard," Lauper commented. In all, the event was a great success for NJROTC, with high

praise from many different members of the community. On and off-campus, students in NJROTC always perform to the best of their abilities while representing the school. Within school grounds, members of the group also perform for sports events such as the final football game of the season. However, besides the final football game, NJROTC participated in a high-level national event, which took place on Battleship Iowa, October 23. Cadets during the event had undertaken the color guard, and presented the colors during the opening ceremony as described by Senior Terry Han, the commanding officer, a high-level student position at NJROTC. Many high-level

personnel also attended, according to Lauper. These important guests and organizations include Retired Admiral Mrs. Michelle Howard, the first African American female four-star admiral, White House chef Mr. Andre Rush, former national security advisor Mr. Robert O'Brian, Los Angeles Mayor Mr. Eric Garcetti, and the United Parcel Service (UPS) corporation. This major event allows students to give their all, with Lauper saying it is "a great opportunity for cadets to show off their talents and skills while representing the high school." Looking towards the future, NJROTC shows even stronger ambition and hard work as they continue putting in their best effort.

The Contestants in the Puma Games Fight to the Finish Line

Catie Mitchell '22
Staff Writer

The Puma Games, previously known as Senior Assassins, is a large game of tag that seniors play every year. The Puma Games are meant to be a fun activity that all seniors participate in. Each person who is participating in the game is assigned a target that they must eliminate by tagging them on the shoulder and saying, "You are eliminated."

Students are contacted through direct messages on Instagram. When they receive their target, they are able to search for their target's Instagram to find a photo of them for a better understanding of what they look like as an advantage. When they eliminate their target



Credit: @thepumagames2022

Students carried items in anything but a backpack in order to be safe.

must take a photo with that person and send it to the Puma Games official Instagram, @thepumagames2022, to confirm the elimination. They are then responsible for eliminating that student's target. Every participant must eliminate their assigned target within two weeks to remain safe from elimination. This game takes place during all hours of the day but recommended to remain active during school hours to prevent any complications or unfair activity. There are rules that have been applied to everyone participating such as that no one can be tagged in restrooms, classrooms, homes, jobs or in the parking lot "immediately before and after school so, like [7AM to 7:30AM] and [2:30PM to 3PM]," said Senior Kaitlyn Sequeria, co-director of The Puma Games. "The exception to classrooms is

like during passing period or during lunch if you're in the classroom you can be tagged but you have to make sure you have the teacher's permission otherwise it won't count," Senior Mariah Querequencia, co-director of The Puma Games added.

When outside, in order to be safe, one must perform a specific dance assigned each week. The current dance being the YMCA. If someone attempts to tag their target while they are doing the specific dance they remain safe. There will be "safe days" announced via Instagram the night before in which those who are still in the game must participate in order to continue playing. These safe days can vary between needing to do something highly embarrassing during the school day or wear something unusual.

The Puma Games official Instagram answers questions students have about the rules through direct messaging and by replying to comments on their posts. The answers were informative to help students understand what is and is not fair. The most important rule of the game is to avoid the school parking lot. It can be dangerous to be running around while cars are actively driving through. Another important rule focused on is not showing up at someone's home. It is off limits for students to intrude on properties, although if the elimination is set-up and members of the household invite the player in, they have the right to fairly tag their target.

The overall winner of The Puma Games will receive a free Prom ticket, which is worth \$80. If the winner had already purchased a package that came with a ticket, they will be refunded the money. The second-place winner will get a \$50 Amazon gift card, and the student



Credit: @thepumagames2022

Senior Matthew McGrody on the Swim Day safe day.

with the coolest elimination a \$30 Amazon gift card. The game is estimated to last into the second semester. Beginning this week, revivals will start in the game. Fifteen tickets will be hidden around campus, one at a time, and whoever finds one will be 'revived' and entered back into the game. As of October 27, forty-seven students remain in the Puma Games as seniors continue fighting in hopes of winning.

ASB and SADD Hold Red Ribbon Week for a Drug-Free Life

Madelyn Swearingen '25
Staff Writer

Red Ribbon Week is known across America for encouraging students to stand up to drugs and have the strength to say 'no.' From October 25-29, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and Associated Student Body (ASB) has hosted Red Ribbon Week on campus. Red Ribbon Week is held annually to inspire people to live their lives drug free. The official Red Ribbon campaign holds a competition each year based on that year's theme. The concept for 2021 is "Drug Free Looks Like Me." Anti-drug weeks are commonly celebrated in schools, each with their own themes and spirit days. Each day holds a different idea relating to the year's theme. Monday was crazy hat day, representing how drugs mess up

one's head. Tuesday, students wore their class distinction shirts or colors following the school's motto of 'keep it classy.' Wednesday, students wore college or business attire to show a bright future. Jersey day was held on Thursday, to represent teaming up against drugs. Friday is Puma Pride or Halloween spirit to scare drugs away. SADD and ASB member Junior Jaydin Villegas said, "It's basically about being drug free and... substance abuse, and, like, bringing awareness to [the effect of drugs]." The message was to say that drugs are not a good option, that they can ruin one's life. "Drug usage and being drug free is something that we do promote, that's why SADD is mainly managing this because our [sic] kind of our topics that we shed light on is drug abuse and how to be drug free and the importance of it," Villegas stated. There are many facts that prove

being drug free leads a better life. It has been scientifically proven that drugs lead to many problems, as they are poisonous to the human body. Taking a drug such as marijuana can damage one's lungs and can cause changes similar to that of schizophrenia, a chronic brain disorder. Many drugs affect the brain, lungs, and nervous system, and can increase the risk of death. Drug use also negatively affects relationships and substances can make the people who take them act abnormally. This is shown typically through aggressive behavior, anxiety, paranoia, and other symptoms of personality change. People will no longer want connections with someone who is affected in this way by drugs, and their life will continue in a downward fall. Turning to drugs as a way to resolve issues is never a good option. Red Ribbon Week was created to



Credit: Madelyn Swearingen

On Monday, students wore crazy hats to symbolize putting a lid on the idea of drugs.

spread more awareness about drug usage and abuse. Schools hold spirit days to inspire students and teachers alike that there are other possible ways to solve problems in

life rather than turning down that path. It encourages people to seek help if they need it, and that saying 'no' is the best choice they can make when a situation presents itself.

WiSTEM Founder Empowers Others

Amy Pham '25
Staff Writer

With an extensive participation record in extracurricular activities and numerous Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Junior Leah Baluyot is currently anticipating what the future holds for her. Her passion for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) has challenged her to be involved around campus from joining clubs to playing sports. With this, she has truly demonstrated high levels of academic achievement throughout her high school years, and continues to follow her road to success.

Although Baluyot is challenged with balancing school work and extracurricular activities, she continues to move forward one step at a time with her family and friends' support at her side. Baluyot has her schedule filled with advanced courses, such as AP Physics, AP Calculus, AP United States History, AP Statistics, AP Environmental Science, and AP Seminar. Outside of her academic classes, she has been a member of Women in STEM (WiSTEM), Science Olympiad, Key Club, California Scholarship Federation (CSF), and Mock Trial. In addition to partaking in these clubs, Baluyot also holds numerous leadership positions as the founder of WiSTEM and Vice President of Science Olympiad, while also taking part in Varsity Cheer. With a schedule as busy as hers, she aims to empower young girls to take on a STEM pathway. Baluyot stated, "I'm hoping to have a meaningful and memorable high school experience by making the most of my academics and participating in school activities, clubs, and athletics as well." Although Baluyot faces challenges, she continues to balance her classes and



Credit: Leah Baluyot

Baluyot often involves herself in Biomedical Cancer Research.

extracurriculars with the time she has throughout the school year and accepts the opportunities she is being given.

With the activities and courses Baluyot has participated in, she has taken an interest in applying towards a biology major in college in which she hopes to take on medicine or research as her future career. She has been involving herself in working towards the community, and has gained over 800 community service hours while being elected as the commissioner for the third district Youth Advisory Council and the chairmen for the Youth Commission for Riverside County. During her work as a chairmen, she gathers with others in meetings that are hosted monthly with the five districts in Riverside County in which she has the chance to share a variety of ideas with the community. Baluyot also explained, "The advice I would provide to the students on campus would be to make the most of the time that you have during high school and try to be successful as you can in whatever area you value most." From empowering students to research opportunities, she looks forward to continuing her STEM pathway in college and not letting anything stop her despite the challenges she may face.

Baluyot continues to thrive and work toward a STEM pathway with the involvement of her extracurriculars and AP courses. Through endless nights, she relentlessly pursues her path using her abilities and knowledge to accomplish her goals in helping the community one step at a time. Baluyot has a bright future ahead of her and is determined to not let anything stop her from pursuing what she loves.



Credit: Riverside County

Leah Baluyot is the Youth Commissioner for the third district.

NEWS BRIEFS



Yasmin Saenz-Espinoza '22
October Student of the Month



Hunter Roddy '22
ASB Athlete of the Week
October 4-8



Madison Hudson '22
ASB Athlete of the Week
October 10-15



Hailey Peters '22
ASB Athlete of the Week
October 18-22



Jack Pavlovsky '22
ASB Athlete of the Week
October 25-29

Mrs. Kristan Morales Voted Finalist for Teacher of the Year

Morales advanced to the top eleven out of over 300,000 teachers in California for Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Puma Application

Mr. Puma applications for regular contestants are due Friday, November 26. Applications for the special opening and closing acts are due Thursday, December 16.

Fallgiving Dates

The toy drive will begin collections on Monday, November 1, and the final collection day will be Friday, December 3. Additionally, the canned food drive will finish collections on Wednesday, November 10. Finally, the final box collection for Operation Christmas Child will be on Friday, November 5.

Senior Portrait Sitings

The deadline for senior portrait sitings has been extended to Tuesday, November 30. They must be taken by Studio 94 as ID photos will not be used in the yearbook.

ROTC Brainbrawl

The team placed fifth out of sixteen teams and although they did not place as high they wanted, they were still able to bring home a trophy.

Chaparral High School - The Platinum Press - October 29, 2021

Emerald Guard Prepares a Message of “A Captured Moment”

Madelyn Swearingen '25
Staff Writer

Emerald Guard is a group of talented students on campus who perform complicated routines during sporting events and compete in competitions against other schools. Emerald Guard is a combination of Platinum Sound and color guard. Platinum Sound is a band that performs with the color guard. Color guard is a combination of dance and interpretive movements with the use of equipment such as sabers, flags, rifles, and more. In the fall marching band, color guard, and drum line participate in events. In winter only the color guard is active for competitions.

Emerald Guard Captain and Junior Cadence Sullivan stated, “When I joined I was surrounded by people who were confident in themselves so they taught me how to be confident and to be loving towards myself. . .and now I embrace others to support them and their love and support.” The environment they have created is extremely supportive and positive. They collaborate to build each other up and support

one another. Being a part of color guard is a big commitment on top of regular school responsibilities. They have long practices for about

three hours after school. “We have to learn new routines, we have to learn rifles. . .you have to learn dancing, you have to learn acting,”

color guard member and Freshman Siena Christopher said. It takes hard work, and those on the team do an outstanding job. For each event they

execute a new routine that takes hours to learn. The event is called ‘A Captured Moment,’ a theme based off of photography. “I have a lot of goals and expectations for my team at least and I would love to go this for fall [sic], I’d love to win championships and then for winter I would love to get gold.” The bar is set high for those on the team, having expectations to do well during a competition, and not messing up their routines, but with the dedication they have, they are able to pull it off. The way competitions work is there are six or seven different judges. One of the judges scores how well the advisor, Mrs. Krystal Hamlet, made the concept for the show. Then all of the judges score on visuals, the cohesiveness of the team, the amount of tossing of equipment, and how well it is handled.

“It’s a safe place,” said Sullivan, feeling accepted by other people who “love me for me.” The work that is put in by all the sections in Emerald Guard is astounding, and it pays off whenever they perform. Being able to perform well under pressure is no easy feat, and seeing people do what they love in a secure place can be inspiring for others to watch.



Members of the Emerald Guard prepare to accompany Platinum Sound at the Homecoming football game on September 24.

The Freshman Assignment

Alexa Neal '22
Editor-in-Chief

In order to help the Associated Student Body (ASB) freshmen learn about various staff and administrators on campus, Sophomore Class President Jasmin Fathi and Sophomore Class Vice President Brooklyn Anderson gave them a task called “CHS Involvement Assignment.” The freshmen will have until November 19 to get signatures from various staff members completely on their own so they can become better leaders by involving themselves more on campus.

The only guidance the freshmen were given was a list of staff members they have to introduce themselves to. They do not know what their position on campus is or which room they are located in, so students will have to use their resources in order to find the staff they must talk to. Fathi and Anderson chose teachers and administration who are involved in strengthening and supporting ASB in one way or another. “We want them to see that all of these people are the reason that ASB is running,” stated Fathi. In order to complete the assignment, freshmen

will have to introduce themselves to each of the staff members and obtain their signature. However, some guidelines were set stating that they must go by themselves, they cannot get a teacher’s signature during their class periods, and they must remain respectful and polite during all interactions.

Overall, the “CHS Involvement Assignment” is meant to teach the ASB freshmen how to communicate as leaders on campus. “Our freshmen haven’t really had the opportunity to really, like, perfect their leadership skills and like one of the main strengths you need of a leader is being able to talk to adults and reach out to them and know our campus well and unfortunately because they haven’t been on campus they just haven’t had the chance to do that,” explained Fathi. However, with this assignment, they may be able to better understand the layout of the campus and the people essential to it. Additionally, both Fathi and Anderson hope that the freshmen will take away other important skills aside from good communication. “This assignment is important because it teaches them how to talk to adults properly, how to use

time management skills, and how to appreciate what people do for you,” Anderson explained, “these are skills you use your entire life, not just in high school.” By building their respect and appreciation for others through strengthening communication skills, the freshmen are one step closer to becoming more effective leaders.

Although the “CHS Involvement Assignment” is only extended to ASB freshmen, all freshmen are encouraged to do the same. This way, they can “get more involved in campus,” Fathi said. “We do that all the time through clubs . . .and just introducing yourself and being open and being ready for talking and engagement.”

At the end of this assignment, the ASB freshmen should have more of an understanding of how to properly talk to staff members, and be comfortable with the layout of the school. Since the freshmen are the future of ASB, Anderson hopes they will take away “that manners and a good attitude can take you very far.” Having an assignment with such independence will allow ASB freshmen to grow into their role as leaders not just on campus, but throughout their lives.

CyberPatriot Competes for Gold

Dallin Grey '24
Copy Editor

For the past two months, the CyberPatriot club on campus has been training five teams to compete in an international cybersecurity competition called CyberPatriot XIV, and they were able to test their work on October 23 in the first round. The competition took place from 8AM to 2PM, and though scores are yet to be released, the teams are confident in their performance.

CyberPatriot is a part of the National Youth Cyber Education Program, backed by the Air Force Association. It was created to inspire the rising generations into pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. Competitions are held between teams across the globe, ending with national finalists for every country involved. Junior Trinity Martinez, the club president, explained how the competition works. She said, “The competition; it’s taking different operating systems (OS) of computers. . .You make [that OS] more secure. . .it’s kind of like an [information technology] simulator.” There are three different OSs that are used in the competitions;

Windows, Linux, and Cisco. Each team consists of six students, with two team mates pairing up to be their team’s specialists in a particular OS. When the competition arrives, these pairs work together to complete

tasks based on their OS and earn team points. In preparation for these competitions, the club held presentations during CAT 30 for members regarding each OS with the help of

Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC). Martinez said, “[NJROTC] actually did all of the presentations. . .[They have] brought in people that have experience with that stuff, and so they’re helping us out. . .They have, like, a lot more experience in certain aspects of it than we do.” The club has also been training after school to allow members to get used to working with their OSs and become familiar with their teammates. Teamwork and cohesion are important to CyberPatriot, Junior Liam Rosen and Cisco specialist explained. “It may not. . .seem important because we’re on our computers but, really, team chemistry is also really important,” he said. “That’s another great thing about CyberPatriots as a club; it does actually really feel like a family. . .We all have this great passion for what we’re doing. . .it does feel like a very natural and healthy bond that we have as a team and a club.”

As the school year continues, so will CyberPatriot XIV; the second round, state round, semifinals, and national finals are scheduled for November, December, January, and March, respectively. Both Martinez and Rosen are confident that their teams will perform well throughout the competition. “I feel like we’ve



Mrs. Walker leads her CyberPatriot team in preparation for competitions.

got the practice, we’ve been meeting up after school Friday the past few weeks,” Rosen remarked. “I think the club as a whole, CyberPatriots here at [school], will do pretty good.” Rosen encourages those interested in cybersecurity to join the club as it will introduce them to a critical area of daily life. CyberPatriot will continue practicing throughout the school year, hoping to make a deep run in the competition.



The ideas expressed in the Editorials section do not reflect the views of *The Platinum Press* as a staff, but rather those of the journalist who wrote them.

If readers desire to respond to an editorial, *The Platinum Press* values all opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. Just as *The Platinum Press* respects each individual's right to a differing opinion, we ask the same of our readers. Each journalist is well within their rights to express their opinion on any given topic, no matter how controversial that topic may be. This is the intent of an editorial, not only to provide journalists with a medium to express an opinion, but to allow the editorial to be a catalyst for further discussion of a given topic.

All letters must be signed and submitted to Mr. Leonhardi in Room 413 or left in his mailbox. They will also be accepted via school email at rleonhardi@tvusd.us

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Labor Shortage Continuing to Impact Students

Bella Martinez '22
Staff Writer

The current labor shortage sweeping across the U.S. is starting to take its toll on high school students who are currently employed. Businesses everywhere are searching for people to fill vacant positions. However, the current scarcity of labor forces such businesses to spread their staff too thin. Teenagers who are still in school are working up to thirty hours per week while juggling their academic and social lives. Despite this struggle, students are still expected to perform their best every single day at work. Long work weeks on top of loads of homework weathers the mental health of teens all over the nation, and even on campus. Over the past year due to the coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19), the unemployment rate in the U.S. has been at an all time high. People everywhere have been receiving government assistance and benefits over the past eighteen months to get them through this difficult time. With this newfound sense of security, people have gone so far as to impulsively quit their jobs and not look for other employment. Because so many people have been quitting their jobs, there are only

so many people left to fill these vacant positions. Not to mention the plethora of people who are in and out of their jobs due to contracting COVID-19 or being exposed to it. Oftentimes, people will be exposed multiple times and need to stay home for much longer than normal, which makes it even harder for places to function while already understaffed. This leads to businesses overworking

week. Businesses should not be overextending teenagers' working limits in order to compensate for being short staffed. Companies are giving teenagers as many work hours as they can without getting in any legal trouble, taking advantage of every technicality in the book. This is causing students not only on campus, but everywhere, to become subject to an unreasonable amount of stress. Many of these students

the world. The workplace and its general treatment of its employees plays an important role in mental health. It can be difficult for one to perform their best under stress and the expectation for students to be constantly overworking themselves leads directly to a poor mental state. High school students are new working members of society that should not be mistreated, or overworked



The lack of staff at places of business is causing teenagers to be overworked around the country, which can lead to massive stress for them.

their staff to a gross extent. This is especially concerning when teenaged employees are involved, seeing as they have so many other responsibilities. Even though teenagers need to make enough money to be self-sufficient, they cannot be overworked throughout the

are even developing mental illnesses due to the overwhelming stress and pressure they are under at school as well as work. Today in America, there is an all-time peak in the amount of teenagers suffering from severe mental illness; this troubling statistic is only becoming worse due to the current climate of

within their place of employment. Although becoming a functioning member of society is important, there is a fine line between working in an efficient manner and working under an unacceptable amount of stress. Places of business should not be pushing teens to their limit if they want effective employees.

home economics classes from their schools; the subsequent devaluation of such classes continues to harm students to this day. Instead of learning valuable skills such as how to cook and how to pay taxes, students have been left to regurgitate useless information to fulfill a common core that overlooks the actual needs of adolescents. Home economics classes need to be brought back to schools and given the platform they deserve in order to build actual life skills within teenagers as they mature into adulthood. One odd trend among modern

School Curriculums Need to Include Life Skills

Sophie Hall-Schorn '22
Copy Editor

Students have often pointed out that they will never use the skills taught in their high school classes throughout their real life. This continues to be a recurring issue throughout high schools due to students' unfamiliarity with a certain subset of classes that have long been wiped out of the curriculum: home economics classes. Public schools have made a bizarre choice by phasing out

home economics classes from their schools; the subsequent devaluation of such classes continues to harm students to this day. Instead of learning valuable skills such as how to cook and how to pay taxes, students have been left to regurgitate useless information to fulfill a common core that overlooks the actual needs of adolescents. Home economics classes need to be brought back to schools and given the platform they deserve in order to build actual life skills within teenagers as they mature into adulthood. One odd trend among modern

day teenagers is the increasing percentage of students who do not know any basic life skills. A study published in the Journal of Public Health found that, out of a sample of forty teenagers aged sixteen to twenty years old, most of the group described their cooking as "jar-based," with the microwave being the most popular cooking appliance among the participants. This should frighten teenagers; not knowing how to cook a proper meal and relying on heavily processed food leads to a poor diet and thus a poor physical condition. The Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America reported that heavily processed foods, such as ones that are "jar-based," have too much sugar, too many fats, and are chock full of artificial ingredients that make the food addicting. It was found that such foods, because of their addicting nature, are consumed at a more frequent rate, which spells trouble for teenagers who survive off of such foods. So what is the solution to such a pressing issue? The answer is simple: teach teenagers how to cook. Not many adolescents have an outlet available to learn such skills. By providing these classes in school, students have a platform to build the cooking skills needed to feed themselves properly and avoid unnecessary health risks. Along with cooking,

teenagers also learn about money management in home economics classes, which is an undeniable benefit to this subset of classes. Students who may not understand how to set a budget for themselves or pay taxes are granted an instructor or teacher to assist them in how to organize their finances. Now that home economics classes have been tossed aside, this valuable skill of money management has also disappeared from most of the school curriculum. While there may be certain math classes that begin to teach the basics of managing one's finances, it ultimately is not enough. Home economics classes are vital for the instruction of money management, as it is often focused on as a unit rather than an afterthought. Students must be assured that their finances and the management of their funds is not simply an irrelevant task; it is an important part of organizing one's adult life. Not only do home economics classes teach skills such as cooking and money management, but they also teach sewing, gardening, home maintenance, and housekeeping. These are valuable skills that students need to learn from a platform that is easily accessible. Schools must bring back at least a semblance of these classes; they teach teenagers how to be functioning adults.



Topics focused on in school leave students unprepared to live in the real world.

Chaparral High School - The Platinum Press - October 29, 2021

The Need for MMIW Justice

Bella Martinez '22
Staff Writer

The U.S.' early history as a nation has been known to consist of the displacement and the disregard of Indigenous peoples who have rightful claim to the land. Though the U.S. has made many improvements in its treatment of minorities the issue continues to persist throughout the country in many different ways such as representation in the media, unequal treatment and discrimination. Indigenous women in particular have gone missing and been murdered within the country, and unfortunately, such cases usually go with little coverage or investigation. Even though this issue persists on a large scale, there have been very minimal efforts made to solve or cover these disturbing occurrences. Working toward preventing these disappearances is the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) movement. This movement advocates against the cruelty towards the treatment of missing and murdered Native people, women in particular.

In the last month there was an ongoing search for a young woman named Gabby Petito who had gone missing in Wyoming while on a road trip with her fiancé. This has attracted much of the media's attention for weeks, whereas other cases regarding Indigenous women are not covered. One example of this is the case of Mary Johnson, an Indigenous woman who went missing in November of last year. The national eye

is focused on the Petito case even when there are very high numbers of missing Indigenous women such as Johnson that have not been investigated or covered in the media. According to a Wyoming state report, only



The MMIW movement fights for the women who have been forgotten.

eighteen percent of female Indigenous homicide victims get coverage, whereas fifty-one percent of white females and males get coverage. This is an unacceptable difference and the obvious contrast in the way humans are treated based on who they are is unbelievable.

Not only do Native women tend to get less coverage, but cases involving them are often portrayed negatively in reports. In circumstances where the victim is a person of color, reporters tend to write about them in a more negative tone. This is not just limited to Native people; this also applies to any person who belongs to any minority group. The media will invalidate many people of color even when they are the real victims. Native Americans are faced with a murder rate at ten times the national average.

This may be a shocking piece of information, but what is even more surprising is that while 5,712 Native girls were reported missing in 2016, only 116 were registered in the Department of Justice database. The simple fact

that less than three percent of these cases were actually registered is disturbing.

There needs to be more attention on these missing women. Most of the attention in the media is focused on disappearances of white people rather than people of color. In today's climate, especially over the past year with the resurgence in movements, there needs to be more recognition for Indigenous people, who are often forgotten. In the world today, people need to look out for each other more than ever. With prejudice everywhere, it is not uncommon for people of color to be looked down upon or not looked at at all. More coverage in the media is needed for tragic situations like this and Indigenous women's disappearances need to be a higher priority.

UBI Presents Prevalent Flaws

Nathan Ayala '22
Staff Writer

In the last few years, the idea of Universal Basic Income (UBI) has become more mainstream. The proposition is that the government would send in a sizable check each month that would cover the necessities of an individual. Supporters would say that the benefits will lead to overall better quality of life. However, UBI if how it is currently proposed is flawed, and even if it were to be altered, there are still multiple questions that need to be asked.

The stimulus checks passed out recently were not unlike the propositions for UBI. While good, they did shine a light on the complications of UBI. Some banks withheld the checks on overdrawn accounts. If a UBI system was to be established, the question of what methods would be put in to prevent the same situation with mortgages, rent, and everything else? A Capitalist economy will see landlords, manufacturers, and loaners increase their prices to receive the influx. During the pandemic, landlords in New York dictated an increase of as much as seventy percent. The widespread vision of UBI brings treacherous policies. The intent in many of these plans involves the cutting of funding to social programs, which is likely why the likes of Bezos and Friedman, have spoken out in favor of UBI. With current trends in the United States, UBI can be a tool to push austerity. UBI is said to cost

a substantial amount, and the question of funding for more efficient programs needs to be taken into consideration. Would programs such as that for a decent public transit system be seen as necessary if the majority of the public would likely just hire a Lyft with that extra money, would the impoverished, with their increased costs, get unemployment benefits? Proposals for many forms of UBI are simply extra money without benefits that one may already accrue.

Raised prices, reduced social spending, and security in favor of a system that barely covers the base monthly expenses sounds undesirable. However, this is not to say UBI is entirely useless, it can be good if proposals were to be further contextualized. UBI which would be sufficient enough to live off of would be preferable as it would ensure that workers can agitate for improvement minus the dread of being fired. A UBI with a working class that can maintain social programs sounds promising. Currently, in a Capitalist society, UBI sounds suitable if the workers

have already achieved aims that would improve quality of life. However, if this was to be obtained, why stop there? Why not gain full control and ensure a system where these policies can continue, instead of leaving it at the control of the ruling class which will dismantle these concessions the moment the labor movement shows a sign of weakness? Reformist means will always simply result in concessions that can be taken away. Social programs will never be given and later not defunded. The only way to keep the concessions given to the proletariat is via systematic changes.

UBI is not a horrible idea in itself, but its current proposals are dangerous to the well-being of the proletariat, and it brings many questions. Vladimir Lenin once said, "stronger reformist influence is among the workers the weaker they are, the greater their dependence on the bourgeoisie, and the easier it is for the bourgeoisie to nullify reforms by various subterfuge". In truth, the solution for the workers is not simply reforms but complete systemic alterations



UBI often fails to address the root of the problems that come with it.

A Student's Personal Choice of Refusing to Stand for the Flag

Alex Tupala Horwood '22
Editorials Editor

The American flag is a symbol of freedom and sacrifice to some, but it is important to accept that not all Americans view this piece of cloth with the same significance. The excessive nationalism that surrounds the flag is largely unique to the U.S. Every day, children stand up in school to pledge their allegiance to the nation under the flag, the national anthem is played before even the smallest sporting events, and it is common to wear the flag on clothing day to day. Citizens who openly and frequently display their patriotism in this way are not the problem; however, the expectation of every single citizen to uphold this piece of cloth in this same way undermines our rights guaranteed by the first amendment. Not standing for the flag is a valid form of protest, speech, or, in my case, of practicing one's religious beliefs.

My choice not to stand for the flag centers around my Jewish identity. It is stated in the Ten Commandments: "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me" (Exodus 20:2). This is to assert our devotion to only our G-d. This commandment extends to uplifting false idols. This is why we do not bow to any sort of figure or statue when praying, but rather the Torah (the word of G-d). While standing for the flag may not fit this literally, I believe that the American flag has been made into a false idol. This deification is why I do not stand for the American flag or the flag of any nation. They may represent the triumphs of their respected nations, but they also symbolize the atrocities

committed under them. Even if I saw the US as a truly just and perfect nation, I would not stand as I feel that no flag should evoke the same response from me as when I am called to rise in prayer. In fact, under a just nation, no

one would be expected to stand. While not all Jewish people express their values in this way, not standing for the pledge of allegiance or the national anthem is how I uphold my beliefs.

At the Homecoming football game this year,

I continued to sit during the national anthem. This was met with harassment from a few of those around me, yelling to "stand for the flag" and even going as far as to yell ableist and homophobic slurs. It was not the pestering that bothered me, but the reason for it. Rather than considering the true meaning behind my sitting, they wrote it off as blatant disrespect. We must recognize that there are other ways to be patriotic. One can be patriotic by being an active participant in our democracy by acting in the best interest of others. Citizens can work to better their country through community service as well. Finally, one can even be patriotic by simply exercising the personal freedoms they have been granted. There are a magnitude of different, more impactful ways to support one's country other than standing at a high school football game. Although some may view this display as offensive and anti-patriotic, it is the exact opposite.

While I am grateful that, as a spectator, I had the freedom not to stand for the national anthem, it is important to acknowledge this is not a right enjoyed by all. Athletes who kneel in protest often risk their career by doing so. In some classes, teachers will punish students for not standing for the pledge of allegiance rather than recognizing that they have every right to do so. Being coerced into displaying false acts of patriotism is arguably more offensive than being true to one's principles. Patriotism should come from genuine devotion and not forced compliance. Instead of reacting with anger when one does not stand, we should instead appreciate that we as Americans have the freedom to sit.



By being forced to stand up for the American flag, students' individual freedoms are being undermined.

Chaparral High School - The Platinum Press - October 29, 2021

Advanced Drama Students Win Big at This Year's RoleAbout

Jillian Flack '22
Editor-in-Chief

For the first time in over a year, the talented Advanced Drama students on campus were given the opportunity to compete against skilled actors and actresses from various high schools in the Orange County RoleAbout Theatre Festival. This annual event, which was held on Saturday, October 16 at Woodbridge High School, required students to perform scenes in front of judges in order to place against other schools. Despite the challenges that came from it, these students were able to prove their strong acting skills and dedication by winning and performing well in many of the different categories.

Throughout the event, the Advanced Drama students certainly came out strong despite being put up against 400 other talented actors from twenty different high schools. In the Contemporary Dramatic Monologue category, Senior

Christina DuChene placed first overall as did Seniors Brady Hill and Amy Wong for their performance in the Film Scene section. Furthermore, many others received second place in their sections as well, including Hill in the Film Monologue portion, Senior Ruben Renteria in the Contemporary Comedic Monologue section, Senior Noah Hansen for Original Monologue and some of the members of the school's Improvisation (Improv) team in the Improv category. Though it was challenging to compete against so many other people, these students pulled through and were able to show they are some of the top actors in the vicinity. Hansen, who wrote his monologue about a therapist who became tired of listening to people's problems, explained, "I wasn't expecting to make it as far as I did. . .Something I really liked though was. . .just how supportive everyone was. It felt really nice." After their original presentation of their



Advanced Drama was able to come back from the competition with two first place awards, four second place awards and three third place awards.

scenes, many of these drama students were called back for the final round and at its conclusion, they figured out how well they placed. During this process, Senior Cayla Munoz discovered that she placed third along with members of the Improv team for the Improv category and DuChene and Senior Angelo Cabugas for the Musical Group/Duet portion.

Through their hard work, these actors were able to

bring a surge of energy into the theater as they performed to the best of their abilities. Not only were they able to show off their strong skills, but they were also able to fully embody their roles and make the audience feel that their performance was real. Hill, who performed a part of *Revolutionary Road* with Wong, expressed, "I have never felt that way about a scene in my life [when I was performing the part from

Revolutionary Road]. . .I was so into it. . .I don't want to act like, you know, I lost myself in the role, but I did, like, I was out of breath. . .after I finished it. I was shaking the whole time. . .Before I went for finals. . .I was just running over the lines for it in my head, like, just to get it done and I got to the table and I sit down [to begin the scene] and all that practice. . .just went out the window. . .It was a feeling unlike anything I've ever felt."

After months of practicing, Hill and many others were able to bring their performances together by allowing their instincts to take over.

Overall, these Advanced Drama students were able to dominate at the RoleAbout despite the difficulties of the event. If students or staff would like to see more from the drama department, they can go to their first play of the year, *Silent Laughter*, which will be showing November 4, 5 and 6.



Jillian's Top Netflix Picks for October

Jillian Flack '22
Editor-in-Chief

After releasing a myriad of Halloween-related content, Netflix is setting forth new, original titles before the transition into the winter season. Three specific pieces of content, a movie entitled *The Harder They Fall*, a show called *The Unlikely Murderer* and a documentary, *Lords of Scam*, are expected to be big hits among Netflix watchers.

Released on Netflix on October 22, *The Harder They Fall* is a western-themed film and it follows an outlaw who is seeking revenge on an old enemy. He then must reunite his old gang in order to be successful in this dangerous and difficult task. Overall, this movie has gotten fairly decent reviews and certainly is an interesting one to watch. If students enjoy a classic western film, this certainly would be something they would enjoy.

Along with this exciting title, *The Unlikely Murderer* is a limited series that is expected to be a hit among viewers. This show is a fictional interpretation of how the man who was expected to have killed Sweden's prime minister could have avoided being captured. This will be released on November 5 and is perfect for students who are interested in historical events. Even those who are not will likely be intrigued by the ups and downs of the show and how the various characters are portrayed throughout it.

Lords of Scam depicts the successes and failures of scammers who were able to defraud the European Union (EU) carbon quota system. They stole millions of dollars before they eventually turned on one another, which greatly contributed to their downfall. On November 3, this interesting documentary will be coming to Netflix and is sure to be a shocking and fascinating tale. Many students who enjoy content about catching criminals will not be disappointed after checking out this title.

All in all, this new content is sure to be interesting to students and if it does not pique their interest, Netflix frequently adds new titles to satisfy each and every viewer. This will ensure that everyone can find something enjoyable to watch even if they are having some difficulties with finding it. In December, new titles, such as *The Power of the Dog* and *The Unforgivable*, will be releasing as well and are sure to be hits among Netflix viewers.

Dance Helping Children with Disabilities

Skylyn Roman '24
A&E/Lifestyles Editor

The art of dancing is not only a great form of entertainment but also a way to leave a positive message, just like the one that the Varsity Dance

team on campus intends to do. Today, the dance teams will not only be performing but also teaching dance to children with disabilities. This event will be hosted by the non-profit organization, "A Place for all Pieces". This performance aims to bring the community

together, by uniting them with an exciting performance with a thrilling Halloween theme. The Varsity Dance team had been reached out by the organization, asking if they could perform and also teach the dance at their event. The event will have many games, candy, and other forms of

its popularity amongst people of all ages but also perfect for a performance taking place around Halloween. There will be some interesting moves that fit well with the theme of the song, making it a fun performance to watch. Not only that, but they will be teaching a part of the dance

enjoyable. . . Or just trying new things on the artistic side is super cool." Dancing is a way to bring many people together, while also helping them to try something new.

Though the organization was not known to the team before, when they reached out to Gallegos, she knew this would be the perfect opportunity for her students to use their skills in dancing to connect with others, and bring support for individuals with disabilities. "It kind of hits home for me as their teacher because my little sister has Down syndrome. . . so by giving back to our community I want to bring joy to them." Gallegos expressed. Dance is a passion of hers, but it is also clear that supporting her community is also important, which is what will make the performance today memorable for the families attending but also the dancers.

Considering that there are many in the community that are neurodivergent or have family and friends that are, the event is sure to leave a lasting impression on members of the community. The children will have an opportunity to learn that there is a place for anyone no matter how they choose to express their artistic side, and the Varsity dance team will connect with those children in a way that they are passionate about.



Varsity Dance practicing their routine to *Thriller* that they will teach and perform during tonight's event.

entertainment for the children and their families to enjoy. A big part of this exciting day is the dance Choreographed by the dance director, Mrs. Alyssa Gallegos. The Varsity Dance team will perform a dance for the hit song *Thriller*, the perfect song chosen because of

to the children as well. This is in hopes of teaching them that anyone can dance, regardless of having a disability, and it can be fun for all people. Senior Sasha Brown, a member of the Varsity team expressed, "I just hope that they see that, [dancing] is really fun and

to the children as well. This is in hopes of teaching them that anyone can dance, regardless of having a disability, and it can be fun for all people. Senior Sasha Brown, a member of the Varsity team expressed, "I just hope that they see that, [dancing] is really fun and

Inside Choir's Impressive Performance at Masquerade Show

Svetlana Hohol '25
School News Editor

Choir groups on campus have made a thrilling comeback this school year with their recent performance at the Masquerade show, which was held on October 14 and 15. The show included multiple choir groups on campus, including Platinum FX (PFX), Dynamics, Team Tone, Camerata, Chamber Choir and Women's Acapella. The dynamic groups entertained the crowd with a variety of catchy songs from The Nightmare Before Christmas, songs from the Disney franchise, and Broadway musicals such as *Little Shop of Horrors*. With the past few months of preparation, the choir groups gave a performance to remember.

Since the beginning of the school year, the choir teams have been dedicated to the preparation of this show, practicing daily during class and after school. The teams focused deeply on perfecting their choreography, singing

and improving their ability to work as a team. As the performance crept closer, choir students were excitedly anticipating the day to come. Freshman Samantha Littrel, a member of Chamber Choir, said, "Personally, I wasn't nervous, but I know a lot of other people were nervous, I think it was more exciting than nervous." This is the second in-person show since the disruption of the coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19). Although there were some concerns from students on how the choir would get back on track, the groups ultimately proved they could return with a reignited passion for choir. After the performance, PFX member Senior Amanda Sandoval stated, "I felt like the Masquerade performance went really well, even after we had to pick up all the pieces after quarantine. It did have some challenges, but in the end we did pull through." Even with the long break, the teams still managed to deliver a grand performance. Overall, the nights of the shows were a big success with



During the show, Platinum FX skillfully performed songs from the hit-Broadway musical *Little Shop of Horrors* at the recent Masquerade show.

rousing performances from all the choir groups, leaving them with a memorable night. Freshman Avary Guge, who viewed the performance, expressed her enjoyment

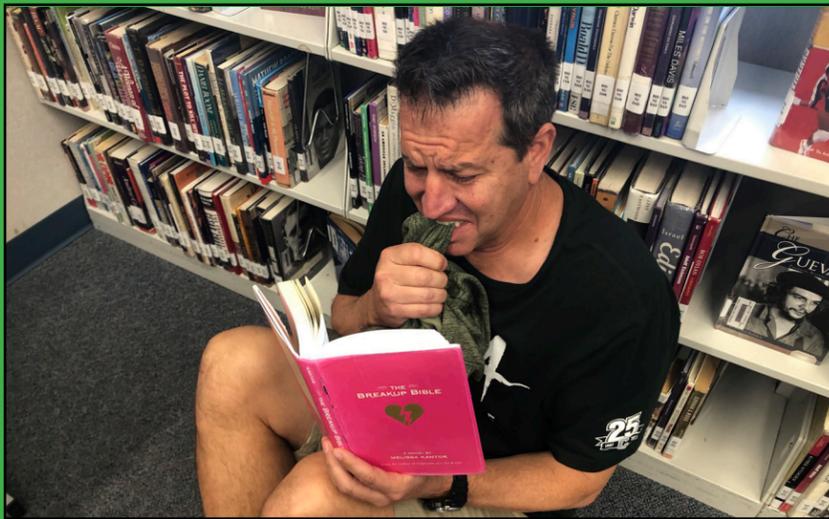
with the show when stating, "It was really fun, I wasn't expecting it to be that fun, and we all had fun. Some of the really good parts were the solos." Throughout the event,

the choir groups were met with much applause from the audience for all performances. With this show being such a success, students can expect many more exciting

performances held by the choir groups. They have already begun preparations for their upcoming Holiday Show, which will take place at the end of the semester.

Advice from Mr. Rossi

A Request for Dating Tips



A request for dating tips from Rossi. . . How desperate are you? Yes, this was actually a request. I'll do my best but I am somewhat reluctant in this task. First of all, who labeled me as an expert in this area? Who says I have all the answers? I don't, but I'll give it a go! I should start by saying that I met my wife when I was thirty-three. So, when I look back at my many years of dating, I could refer to them as research to figure out what kind of person with whom I would like to spend the rest of my life. About a month after I started dating my future wife, I literally said out loud to myself, "I'm going to marry that girl." After so many years of dating, I knew what I was looking for and I was lucky that I was also what SHE was looking for! Please don't expect to find the secrets of love in this article. Those are out there for you to discover on your own. What I did worked

for me, but I'll try to give you a kick in the right direction.
 •Guys - Be gentlemen!
 •Ladies - Be classy!
 •Be yourself. If you're not, at some point the facade will crumble and you will be exposed.
 •Take "No" for an answer. Be graceful in defeat.
 •Resist the urge to post something about someone who either broke up with you or turned you down. Do you realize that you look like a giant jerk when you do this?
 •Never EVER send intimate pictures of yourself. If you do, expect that EVERYONE will see them.
 •Break up. If you grow apart, lose interest, or are being treated poorly, end the relationship.
 •Askapersonout...INPERSON!
 •Break up with a person. . . IN PERSON!
 •Don't play games. Be upfront and honest.
 •Expect a time - maybe many - when your heart will be broken.

•Expect a time when YOU will have to break someone's heart. Don't let the fear of doing this stop you from breaking up if the relationship is not right for you!
 •Be picky. Never settle.
 •Don't let guilt be a reason to date someone.
 •No one should ever feel pressured into doing something in a relationship.
 •What's the rush? If you're not ready, don't date!
 •Be a strong, independent person. Having a boyfriend or girlfriend does not make you whole!
 To help you fully understand the last bullet, I would like you to read *The Missing Piece Meets the Big O* by Shel Silverstein ((Don't worry. It is short and has pictures and you can find it on YouTube). Everyone will experience the highs and lows of dating at some point, but there is no need to rush into it. Date only when you are ready to date. Good luck and enjoy the process!

New Scary Halloween Movies

Skylyn Roman '24
A&E/Lifestyles Editor

As Halloween quickly approaches, many will find themselves looking for ways to get in the spirit of this holiday. Although there are various activities and events that students can get involved in, there are also ways to celebrate Halloween from the comfort of one's home. Students can watch the newest movies released this month such as *Halloween Kills* and *There's Someone Inside Your House*, as well as classics that are perfect to watch during Halloween.

During this month, there have been a few movies that have been released that many can enjoy. A popular and terrifying new release, *Halloween Kills*, came out on October 15. This scary new slasher film is part of the Halloween franchise, a long-standing run of horror movies that have frightened viewers for decades. In the newest movie, it is revealed that Michael Myers managed to survive when Laurie Strode, who is Myers' sister, and her daughter set the house on fire while he was locked in the basement during the last movie. Although Laurie thought it was over, Myers proves otherwise. As shown in the trailer, two kids claim to have seen him in hiding since the fire. Laurie, as well as others who have survived Michael's attacks, decide that they need to act before Myers targets anyone else. Many in the audience have grown fond of Laurie, someone who has been a target of Michaels' throughout many of the films, so plenty are anticipating

whether or not she will finally be successful in defeating the masked killer. Although he is yet to watch many of the nine movies in the franchise, the buzz around the movie has certainly piqued the interest of avid horror movie watcher Freshman Sebastian Tellez, who stated, "I have seen so much about it, I might as well watch it, for a new experience." *Halloween Kills* is sure to keep many entertained, and may get their hearts racing as they anticipate Michael's next moves.

Another slasher movie that those who have Netflix can watch is *There's Someone Inside Your House*. This Netflix original was adapted by the book of the same name, and is highly anticipated by fans of the novel. This movie centers around a serial killer who is targeting teenagers in a small town. Makani Young, a teenager who just moved into town, has a dark secret that could potentially make her a suspect as the killings around town continue to increase. This thriller is sure

to keep many interested as they try to discover who the killer is. There are a few other horror movies that have been released, such as *Paranormal Activity: Next of Kin*, *Demigod*, and *Late Night in Soho*. These movies are worth checking out if students are looking for something new and different. It also never hurts to check out a few classics that many have grown to love. Older movies such as *It*, *Scream*, *Annabelle* and others are popular horror movies that many like to watch during October. Tellez stated, "*The Conjuring* is definitely a favorite, there is always that one jump scare that gets me." The love for these movies is consistent, especially through the Halloween season.

Whether it be new movies or older ones, there are many different options for students to choose from. The films mentioned are all beloved by many, or have been highly anticipated for a while. Watching these movies will surely be a perfect way to capture both the eeriness and the fun of Halloween.



Halloween Kills is the newest addition to the popular Halloween series.

Chaparral High School - The Platinum Press - October 29, 2021

Fashion Trends Change With the Weather

Sofia Cisneros '25
Staff Writer

The fall season is finally here, giving fashion lovers the opportunity to come up with new outfit inspiration for the changing weather. It is evident that fashion has changed over the years, especially since quarantine. Many teenagers have decided to adopt an aesthetic of their own to bring uniqueness to their attire for this season. This year, fashionable people around the world are eager to see what different clothing stores will be bringing out to let everyone know that fall looks are back.

As the temperature begins to drop, people are starting to leave their old summer outfits behind to bring in new, warmer outfits. Autumn is the easiest season to be fashionable for many because, as Freshman Violet Ulsh said, "When people layer [clothing], it brings a lot to an outfit. . . People feel more confident because it's [cooler]." This type of weather allows a person to look stylish in just a pair of baggy jeans and a flannel jacket that will keep them warm. At the same time, wearing basic fashion items, such as necklaces or rings, adds sparkle to a casual outfit. Additionally, trying different color combinations in clothing often helps people find what suits them best and makes them have a good feeling of what they have on, and as Ulsh said, this can "definitely boost someone's self-

esteem." While it is true that people should wear what makes them feel good with themselves, summer, spring, and winter do not always allow people who like to create unique outfits to try everything they would like to, as during the other seasons it is often too hot or too cold, which ruins planned outfits.

Fall is the perfect time to begin wearing bold colors to combine with new fashion trends, such as colored pants, which are now very popular currently. This piece of clothing has become more and more popular, as it can be used in a variety of ways that makes people feel great in their



clothes and, at the same time, look stylish. Using solid colored pants in a monochromatic combination is another example of the different ways this trendy article of clothing can be worn. Color matching is something that has been around for quite some time now, although during quarantine people started to "dive more [into] themselves," which caused color matching in outfits to become a trend again. Typically, autumnal colors are incorporated into various outfits in order to create a seasonal look that celebrates the warm tones of fall. Fashion has changed drastically throughout the years, as people are always looking for fresh inventions that can be bold during a particular time or season. With the cooler weather, new autumn clothing trends have begun to arrive and many people are already beginning to fall in love with them.

Credit: Violet Ulsh
Violet Ulsh shows off her fall clothing.

As Seasons Shift, Emotions are Swaying

Isobel Sierleja '25
Staff Writer

As the air grows colder and the days begin to shorten, many people experience a sudden gloom in their spirit. This is a common and very normal feeling referred to as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). SAD affects a good portion of younger people and may be prominent in some students on campus. Luckily there are ways to cope and improve how one is feeling during this period of changing seasons.

SAD is just like any other type of depression. The only

difference is that it usually only affects people in Fall and Winter. Senior Sofia Boenzi shared her thoughts on how this disorder differentiates from other forms of depression. She voiced that this form of depression "is different because you do not know why it hits you. With other kinds of depression you can kind of figure out where it is coming from, however with SAD you cannot always tell when the seasons are starting to change so it can definitely come out of nowhere." Having the ability to notice the different forms of depression as they arise is a helpful strength to have.

However, SAD does not afford individuals the opportunity to see it before it arrives. One unfortunate detail about this disorder is that it most commonly starts in adolescents. This can be a terrible setback when it comes to students' motivation or performance in school. According to Nemours Teen Health, some symptoms teens might experience include negative thinking, mood alterations, loss of interest, low energy, changes in sleep, eating, and trouble concentrating. Lyness mentions how this disorder can make it difficult for students

to focus on schoolwork; leading to dropping grades. Luckily, there are ways to cope with this SAD. Senior Anastasia Nechay shared that students can improve their mood by "prioritizing their studies. I know that it is so easy to fall behind on that endless cycle, however staying on track will help you out in the long run." Some other things one can do to get through this tough time are spending time with friends and family, exercising, staying well rested, and asking for help. It is important to remember that there may be someone

Tutoring Helping Students to Improve Academic Performance

Sofia Cisneros '25
Staff Writer

When it comes to academics, it is very important for students to have a clear understanding of each subject in order to perform well. This can be difficult for some learners as there is great pressure on them and at times the subject matter is too difficult for them to understand. Although there are many benefits to receiving one-on-one tutoring, many students in need of tutoring do not often seek help because of embarrassment, resulting in poor school performance. Getting tutored is a great way to maintain good grades and it aids the academic success of students who are struggling in school by way of improved study habits and a more critical understanding of any subject matter.

It is clear that getting help when dealing with comprehension problems definitely improves

grades, as well as the overall mindset about education. With one-on-one tutoring, students may feel more accommodating when meeting with a peer who may have had a similar problem years before or also needs support with another subject. That said, when there is a student-to-student teaching technique, a "special bond," as Junior Liam Rosen, a tutor, said, is created, meaning peer tutoring encourages learners to feel free to ask for assistance, especially when it is truly needed. There are many positive outcomes of receiving help for difficult topics, such as learning new skills at each tutoring session; for example, when asked about the impact tutoring can have on a person, Rosen stated that "[It is definitely knowing] that you are putting in the effort to improve and gain more knowledge by using a tool that is there and will help you get better." In addition, each teacher has different teaching techniques to offer and all learners have diverse

learning methods, so getting one-on-one tutoring is a great way to expand on note-taking and various learning styles. Students are able to gain unique learning of a particular subject as they develop more skills that will prepare them for future exams and papers. Enhanced insight also leads to higher self-esteem and a better view of education, both of which are factors that make it easier for peers to solve problems on their own. Many students in school have tutors, and even the tutors themselves have other mentors who provide help with difficult subjects. Asking for help in school can bring about feelings of embarrassment to some students; however, tutors focus on understanding what the student is stuck on rather than their grades. Sophomore Mia Ron, a tutor, said, "I don't think people should be ashamed to ask for help because a lot of people are smart and just need other help." There are many reasons why students may need assistance with certain

subject matter: for example, they may not have the option to get help within their home or they might struggle with the way in which the material is presented in class. Tutors are simply there to help students improve and achieve success in school through successful learning methods that are created to set them on the right path.

Tutors are only meant to improve students' performance inside the classroom so that they feel at ease with their grades and the effort they put into each of their classes. Tutors are also great helpers in preparing for future classes as they work with students and the different study habits that can be practiced to get excellent grades.



Credit: Liam Rosen
Junior Liam Rosen provides tutoring to students that need of academic assistance.

Mandich's Message

Let's Talk Anxiety



Elyce Mandich
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Anxiety- we all experience the feeling of anxiety at some point or another. You hear the word and you're probably like OH YES MANDICH, I KNOW EXACTLY what that is. It can be an overwhelming feeling, AND, it is important to understand the biology behind anxiety. Anxiety in and of itself is not "out to get you"- it's actually your body's natural response system to keep you safe. The issue is that sometimes our body perceives something to be threatening that isn't and we still have a reaction as though we aren't safe. If this is happening to you more frequently or intensely, it is possible you are not just experiencing the feeling of anxiety, but rather, may have an anxiety disorder. The only way to truly determine that is to talk to a licensed mental health professional, and no, diagnosing yourself from TikTok videos does not count (sorry). So how do we manage and cope with anxiety? Well, that looks different for everyone, but some great places to start are grounding techniques, mindfulness, fidgets, breathing exercises, etc. The important thing is to engage in those coping skills consistently and not just in the moment where your anxiety is heightened.

going through the same thoughts and feelings they just have not voiced it yet. This illness is one that can easily creep up on teens.

Looking to loved ones for support and comfort will never fail to improve the cold feeling this disorder may leave one feeling.

Chaparral High School - The Platinum Press - October 29, 2021

Girls Golf Swings for Success



Credit: Kristiana Dinsbacher

Team Captain Junior Kristiana Dinsbacher sends the ball down the fairway during a match this season.

Dallin Grey '24
Copy Editor

The Varsity Girls Golf team had not been on the fairway for a normal season in the past year and half, and after a short season in April and May of the 2020-2021 school year, the Pumas came out swinging this August. Head Coach Mr. Kyle Warren had high hopes for the team this year and was excited to compete once again, their diligence and cohesiveness playing a large role in their performance.

Prior to the start of the season, the team practiced independently over the offseason and began practicing together a few weeks before the start of the school year. "The girls are working hard to have a better tempo swing. . . and balance is the key to a good swing," Coach Warren explained. "Also. . . chipping and putting are a huge part of the game we work on a lot. We do a lot of putting drills that help with confidence. The more you put in good practice the more it will happen in a game time situation." Despite not always winning as a whole, each golfer had their own personal success. Team Captain Junior Kristiana Dinsbacher stated, "As individual players, there's been a lot of improvement; everybody is significantly reducing their scores from what they were last year. . . We haven't really been winning a lot, but we've

been winning in the sense that everybody's doing great." The team had hopes to make scores in the forties and fifties commonplace on the scoreboard and score under 250. Dinsbacher and Freshman Bella Frye often scored in the forties, and though the team was unable to score under 250, they came close in a league match against Vista Murrieta with 252.

Golf is a very independent sport, but there is an important team facet to it. Coach Warren said, "They all root each other on while trying to do their best too." Interpersonal relationships were also a key factor on the team. Throughout the school day the teammates met up and talked to each other, whether it be about golf, school, or life in general. "I think that's the biggest thing," Dinsbacher remarked. "If you're not comfortable with who you're playing with, you're not going to do well." The team was brought together over the past two months, unified over the common goals to win league matches, get a combined score less than 250, and send three athletes to the second day of league finals. Unfortunately, however, they were unable to send any athletes into the postseason, but Coach Warren was proud of their diligence. "The harder they work and learn how to play the game of golf smarter will help them reach any goal," Coach Warren expressed. "Watching the team succeed is. . . what motivates me."

Cross Country Finishes Strong

Julian Stanfield '24
Staff Writer

Becoming a strong-willed team is not an easy feat, making it incredible that the Varsity Cross Country Boys and Girls teams have been such a threatening force in their meets despite the obstacles they have faced. This year, the coaches have mainly been focused on getting the newcomers adjusted and sending some of the runners into the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) tournament.

Although running is mainly a single-person activity, the bonds between the runners have played a major role in the teams' success. The runners on the teams have been encouraging and driving others to keep running during practices in order for the them to have a stronger mentality. Fortunately, both teams have strong chemistry. The team is recovering well from the effects of the pandemic and the new runners are doing well at adjusting, considering that the coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19) pandemic has caused many to stay indoors and not get as much exercise. Sadly, that is not to say that the pandemic had not created nor amplified problems.

The Varsity Girls team tends to be separated by the newcomers and returning runners, and the issue has become more prominent this year. Despite this separation, however, everyone still has a good relationship with each other. Varsity Girls Captain and Junior Morgan Smith stated, "It's a little more separated this year than it has in past years but I think that the girls, we all pretty much get along pretty well." The new runners on both teams have been looking up to the older runners, and returning runners have been giving advice and motivation to them in return. On the boy's team, Senior Braxton Havard and Varsity Captain and Senior Michael Martinez have been major leaders and motivators. On the girl's team, Sophomore Avery Gonzalez and Smith have been exceptionally supportive and incredible runners, pushing the team to keep working hard.

The recent race times in the league and invitational meets were not as great as the team was hoping for but that was the case for every school in the district. These slower times

are most likely another impact of COVID-19 since the pandemic caused many to not stay as physically fit. "I wouldn't be surprised if [COVID-19 played] a role [in these times] . . . especially since like across the board, it's not just Chaparral, but it's all the schools [that] were a little bit slower than expected," Varsity Girls and Boys Head Coach Martin Dinsbacher shared. Thankfully, this is only a minor issue and both teams have been working to overcome this by running over hills and running eight mile runs. "I think we just need to work on keeping pace. . . not letting the hills intimidate us and not getting discouraged. That's a very important factor because if you get discouraged, you think you're slow," explained Senior Alec Santana. Lately, the team has shortened these runs to make sure that the team is well rested in preparation for the upcoming league finals.

The teams have proven to be a hard opponent for any challenge that comes their way and are looking to truly be an amazing next generation of Cross Country runners. With the effort they have put in, the team can be entrusted with the hope that these runners will be the best to their abilities.



Credit: Marianne Sheldon

Martinez sprinting to the end at the invitational.

Athlete Spotlights



Photos and Spotlights by
Julian Stanfield '24
Staff Writer



Ella Duvauchelle '22

Varsity Girls Basketball



Dribbling past opponents and scoring points for the Varsity Girls Basketball team, Senior Ella Duvauchelle is going into her fourth year of playing and being a remarkable player on the court. Duvauchelle initially got into the sport in the sixth grade after she wanted to beat some boys in a game of basketball during recess. Since then, she has been working hard towards becoming a better athlete and a successful student. Duvauchelle is versatile and

can play almost any position but mainly plays as a small forward for the Varsity Girls team, which is a position that is responsible for both scoring points and defending. Being a team captain, she has become a strong leader as well. She stated, "I've comforted [the new] girls to be on the team. . . [and] I bring them in with open arms." A major influence whom Duvauchelle claims to have helped her growth as a basketball player has been former Head Basketball Coach Mr. Jerry Blanco. "The coach, Coach Blanco, he kinda brought me [to the team] under his wing," she mentioned. "He's been like a second father to me." After graduating from high school, Duvauchelle plans on enlisting in the Air Force for four years or going to a nearby college such as California State University San Marcos and Southern California State University.

Riley Finch '22

Varsity Girls Lacrosse



Lacrosse player and Senior Riley Finch is going into her fourth year of playing and conquering teams for the Varsity Girls Lacrosse team. During her time playing, Finch grew into the attack position that she currently plays and became a strong motivator for her teammates. Finch originally played soccer but later went on to play lacrosse after her friends introduced her to it. Finch decided to join the school team as a way to keep herself physically fit during the off-season for

soccer. After getting into and enjoying the lacrosse program, she started playing every year since and does not play soccer anymore. Finch does extremely well at passing and communicating with her team. She is also a motivator on the team, encouraging others to keep playing strong. According to her, opening up and connecting with the other players has helped her to improve greatly. Finch is motivated to keep playing with her teammates and the possible offer of a scholarship. She is also inspired by her mother. "She's a real inspiration cause she's like a single mom. . . she just motivates me to be. . . hard working and dedicated," she stated. As of now, Finch aspires to be a forensics photographer and plans on going to college on a scholarship to continue playing lacrosse and to get a degree in criminal justice.

Braxton Harvard '22

Varsity Cross Country



Since joining the Varsity Cross Country team in his freshman year, Senior Braxton Harvard has been sprinting past the competition for years and has become a notable runner on the team. After being influenced by his friend to join, Harvard pushed himself to be an outstanding athlete and become one of the leaders on the team. "I'm always striving to get faster and faster at every meet so that I can get a new PR [personal record]," Harvard stated. "I always make sure

to bring [my determination] to practice. . . [and to be an] inspiration for the lower classmen." He credits his motivation and determination as key factors as to how he has become a runner. According to him, his motivation is what pushes him to be better every day as he does not like to quit. Harvard is also influenced and inspired to do better by other star Cross Country runners like Senior Micheal "Mikey" Martinez and previous star runner Alumnus Jacob Bustamante, who graduated previously. "[Martinez] works harder than anyone else and he's a big inspiration. . . last year there was Bustamante. . . whose just even more so," Harvard mentioned. After high school, Harvard plans on going to college and to continue his passion of running for any teams the college he attends presents. Currently, he has no specific colleges in mind.

Girls Field Hockey Ended Postitive Despite Their Many Losses

Milyn Francis '25
Staff Writer

Since the start of the season, the Girls Field Hockey team has been dealing with improvements through teamwork. The team has many new varsity players, but that does not stop each of the girls from playing their best and having a good season. They are 9th League on Sunset Field Hockey Standings. This year, the Girls Field Hockey team has twenty-four girls, majority of the girls being sophomores, making



Credit: www.pumagirlsfieldhockey.com

Senior Laylah Higinio dribbles past her opponents.

them the most prominent part of the team.

In the pre-season, the girls started off rough. They were crushed by San Marcos, 0-9. After that defeat, they lost to Glendora, 1-5. Another defeat was against Fallbrook Union High School, 2-5. Instead of giving up, the girls observed mistakes to work on for future games. "San Marcos did really good at switching fields and Glendora had good communication. . . We are just taking what all of the teams had to become successful and develop our skills," stated Sophomore Holly Handler. This strategy is helping the team improve overall. Each team member is working hard, as seen by the game they played against Carlsbad. They then went against Sage Creek with the score of 5-0, Chaparral, proving the hard work from strategizing and observing really helped the team win.

Each girl always has something to improve on rather it be shooting quicker, passing stronger, or hitting harder. Their communication has always been on top, and at practices, they worked on passing and faster movements. Lately, they have been conditioning more often since they've started their first league season. Yet, that doesn't stop their teamwork nor communication from improving. The girls are one big support system for each other and have worked hard to get where they are now. Their goal for this season is to be city champions, meaning they have to beat Great Oak High School. The girls are going against Huntington Beach High School, Edison High School, and multiple private schools. The new players on Girls Field Hockey are unfamiliar with the program, so their goal is starting off small.

Furthermore, they had a game between Temecula Valley High School (TVHS) on Friday, September 17. The score was 1-2, TVHS,



Credit: www.pumagirlsfieldhockey.com

From left to right, Sophomore Holly Handler, Senior Audrey Grey, and Senior Mary Handler, play hard.

a close game between the schools. Even if the girls lost, they still had that positive attitude. It was their first game in the League, and they just wanted to have fun. They all worked their hardes and held their heads up high no matter what. They came out of that game with a smile and something to improve on. The Girls Field Hockey head coach, Kathy Jurgensen, also played field hockey when she was in college. Coach Jurgensen is very encouraging and

keeps the team in a good mood. She loves her players and sees potential in all of them.

The girls have learned so much from this season. They are more than a sport's team, they are a family. Sophomore Handler states, "When you walk on the field, there is nothing intimidating about it. . . it's more of a 'Oh, cool! Can you teach me that?'" Each of their positive attitude, determination, and teamwork pays off every game.

Boys Water Polo: Shooting for Victory

Jackson Gamero '24
Staff Writer

As the 2021-22 school year carries on, sports have now become a regular part of life for many students. Water polo has not been an exception. As of October 27, the Varsity Boys Water Polo team is preparing to beat Murietta Valley High School (MVHS) at the Southwestern League (SWL) playoffs so that they can be SWL Champions.

Despite an opening win, the team followed up with losses to other schools. Varsity Boys Water Polo Head Coach Josh Stone stated that to improve on their losses, the team has to work on not turning the ball over to the other team. Practicing is a key component to fixing those mistakes and getting better both as individuals and as a team. Coach Stone described that at practices they have "been doing a lot of defensive



Credit: @chaparralwaterpolo

Varsity Boys Water Polo placed second in the Diamond Bar Tournament after many victories.

fundamentals like body positioning and just general team concepts with defense . . .we're kind of conditioning." Although it is obvious that every team wants

of see where we are and see what we need to work on." As for the team's success, Senior Jack Pavlovsky attributed it to the team chemistry that is present amongst the guys on the team, which has allowed the boys to play well together.

Without team chemistry, it is difficult for a team to play, but the boys all work very well together and are extremely cohesive in their performances. "[The team chemistry is] really good, we're all best friends, we all hang out a lot. . .our team chemistry [is] off the charts," explained Sophomore Jack Houglund. The team has participated in activities together such as "pasta parties," as described by Coach Stone, camping trips, and competitions as a team that are held every week. Despite their strong team chemistry, Pavlovsky would still like to work on building it even more and creating an even greater trust in each other.

As the team attempts to take down MVHS and win the league championship, they will need "good defense and no mistakes on offense," Houglund explained. However, the guys are up to the task in order to accomplish and fulfill their ambitions and have a successful season.



Credit: Jack Pavlovsky

Senior Jack Pavlovsky protects the ball from the opposing team during a game.

Sophomore Standouts

Information gathered by
Nerissa Moore '23
Sports Editor

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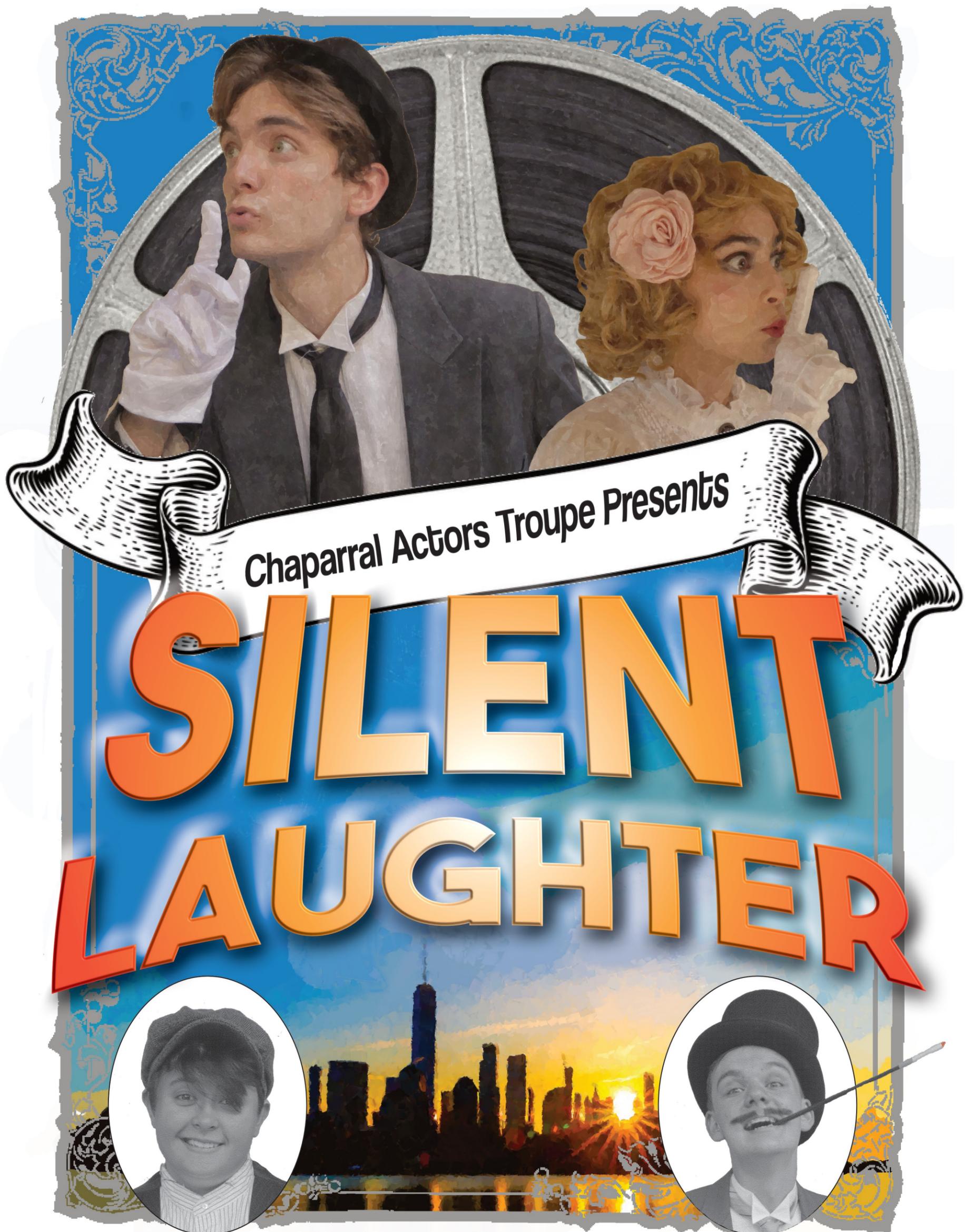
With Sophomore Sara Garcia's love for volleyball starting as early as the first grade, there is no surprise Garcia is one of the Varsity Volleyball team's shining stars. Garcia began playing at the recreation center close to her house after watching her older sister play. "My sister is my inspiration. She was an amazing player and played here at Chaparral. . . all credit goes to her." Garcia stated. After high school, Garcia plans to continue her career in volleyball at a collegiate level in California. Garcia attributes all her success to her parents due to their continuous support and her coaches for pushing her to be the best she can be.

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As Sophomore Joseph Luedtke approaches his tenth year playing football, the Varsity Football team has become a second home. Luedtke got into football with the inspiration of his father. "My inspiration would probably be my dad. . . Whenever I look through his high school yearbooks and see him playing it always motivates me to keep working." Luedtke shared. After high school, Luedtke dreams of playing college ball at the University of Southern California.



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