Palisades Charter High School

Multiple Fires Devastate Pali Community

By Tommy Berman Copy Editor

The Getty Fire, which took place within mere miles of Pali, shook the community as October came to a close. The resulting school closures led administrators to modify the school schedule for the remainder of the fall semester.

The fire was first reported in the early morning hours of Monday, Oct. 28 along the west side of the I-405. Strong winds throughout the night blew the fire uphill. The fire was named the Getty Fire due to its proximity to the famed Getty Center.

Evacuations began at around 2:45 a.m. that day, with the borders of the Mandatory Evacuation Zone being Temescal Canyon Road to the west, Sunset Boulevard to the south, Mulholland Drive to the north and the I-405 Freeway to the east. As containment See Fires - page 3



A helicopter makes a water drop during the Oct. 21 fire in the Highlands area of the Pacific Palisades. PHOTO BY: Reed Saxon



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY: Daniel Scott

Hyuma Stickers: A Pali Phenomenon

By Jack Jeffers Staff Writer

Whether on laptops, phones or lockers, stickers are one of the most common ways for students to express themselves on campus. And there is one sticker in particular — an adaptation of Pali senior Hyuma Umeda's 2018-19 yearbook picture — that has risen to popularity at Pali High. "My love for Hyuma is undying," senior Matthew Polovinchik said. "A few weeks ago during the fires, I saw Hyuma at the gym, and it made my entire week. Getting a Hyuma sticker was an amazing experience. It lets me publicly display my love for Hyuma, which is a beautiful thing."

These stickers, affectionately dubbed Hyuma Stickers, have taken Pali by

storm. Senior Lenny Melamed, creator of the stickers, explained his motivations: "I love Hyuma unconditionally."

Melamed said that it all began in an AP Lang class last year when students started yelling his name. "We yelled HYUMA," Melamed said. "HYUMA has [a] yellable name." Melamed decided to capitalize on Umeda's newfound popularity by creating the stickers and using a website to print 125 of them for \$20. Melamed stated that the stickers "were immediately popular. I have seen well over 100 people with them, even on cars that I didn't recognize."

In response to the unexpected popularity, for the "new and glossy" second batch, he printed four times as many. *See* **HYUMA STICKERS** - *page* 5

Disney's Empire Strikes Back

By Eliana Feinstein Staff Writer

Luke and Leia, Iron Man and Captain America, Woody and Buzz, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves.

From a galaxy far, far away to superheroes, talking toys to princesses, Disney captures hearts around the world time and time again. The Walt Disney Company and its many subsidiaries — including LucasFilm, Marvel Entertainment and Pixar are household names that enthrall millions of fans. To many of us, Disney's wide range of exceptional content consistently exceeds our expectations and surpasses that of every other media company. For this reason, when we happily and willingly throw our cash at anything labeled "Disney," we know it's money well



ILLUSTRATION BY: Marina Caro

In today's capitalist society, Disney thrives as a mass media conglomerate with one goal: maximizing profit. The company is the "Supersize Me" of the entertainment industry, acquiring multi-billion-dollar companies from ESPN and Hulu to Fox and ABC. Now with the arrival of Disney+ — the company's new streaming service of all things Pixar, Marvel, Star Wars, National Geographic and more for \$6.99 a month the public can no longer remain oblivious to the expanse of Disney's empire. While some frustrated people complain that the company prioritizes its profit-making goals, taking advantage of its built-in fan base in order to catapult itself to further commercial success, my question is: Should we even care? We benefit from the content Disney releases too — just not financially.

To some, the convenience of having so many favorite movies and shows

accessible on a single streaming service demonstrates that, as a society, we cater to the dull indolence and instant gratification of consumer culture. However, that same human inclination toward "Easy Street" is counteracted by the lively, fervent enthusiasm demonstrated by diehard fans of Disney and its many subsidiaries. Disney+ likely serves more bright-eyed, eager fans than it does couch potatoes with credit cards, and as far as I'm concerned, the company See DISNEY - page 6

NEWS

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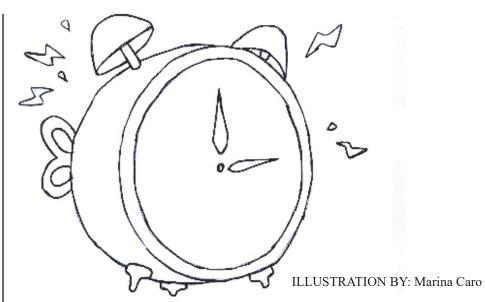
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California Law Mandates Later School Start Times

By Joey Chae Staff Writer

egislation mandating later school start times in California was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on Sunday, Oct. 13. By the 2022-23 school year, all California public high schools must start at or after 8:30 a.m. and all public middle schools will start no earlier than 8 a.m.

The bill was rejected twice by the state legislature and Governor Newsom's predecessor, Jerry Brown, before finally passing this year.

The bill was backed by numerous interest groups, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Californian Medical Association and the California State Parent Teacher Association. These groups argued that the bill would benefit students' mental and physical health.

However, Sociology and World History teacher Jeanne Saiza said, "I wholeheartedly agree that students need more sleep, but my fear is that, with LA traffic patterns, it won't really make a difference for students." She believes that students' departure will now coincide with adults heading to work, meaning that students will end up leaving for school at the same time.

The change was made in hopes of increasing attendance and the overall health of students by allowing them to get more sleep. According to state Sen. Anthony Portantino, "shifting to a later start time will improve academic performance and save lives, because it helps our children be healthier."

This new legislation will give students at Pali at least 40 extra minutes in the morning. However, school officials have not finalized a new bell schedule that reflects these legal changes.

New Year Brings ACT Test-Taking Changes

By Arielle Hatton Staff Writer

The College Board recently announced that, beginning next September, students will be allowed to retake certain sections of the American College Test (ACT).

Similar to the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), the ACT tests students in an array of different academic subjects. Many students, however, prefer the ACT, as it includes a section on science, in addition to sections on advanced math, English Language Arts and vocabulary.

For this reason, teens everywhere, like sophomore Payton Ozar, are delighted to learn of the ACT policy change. Section retests will offer students the opportunity to target and focus on their areas of weakness.

Students will only be able to retake up to three sections of the exam per sitting.

"ACT testing is extremely nerve-wracking," Ozar said. "However, enforcing limits like this will certainly reduce students' work-

load and stress, ultimately helping to produce better test results."

Moreover, the new ACT retakes will be completed digitally. This new digital format allows students to receive their results relatively quickly, in as little as two business days. Sophomore Samara Freedman took the practice ACT this year and says she is particularly excited about this new proposal.

"In recent years, I [would] have had to wait as long as eight weeks to get my results back. The wait is probably the most stressful part of the whole experience," Freedman said.

However, while many students are in support of the new digital format, some do not see the appeal. Junior Selene Lam said, "It really helps me to write and annotate on the test, which is something I wouldn't be able to do with this new digital format."

However, Lam says she is thrilled about the changes made to the testing policy. "The news helps ease my nerves," Lam said. "I can stay calm knowing that this new policy will make retaking sections super easy and efficient."

How Pali Plans for Emergency Situations

By Max Gray News Editor

In the wake of the shooting at Saugus High School in Santa Clarita on Nov. 14, I asked Pali's Director of Operations Don Parcell about the processes and safeguards that the school has in place in the event of an emergency. *Responses have been edited for clarity

Q. What precautions does Pali take to prepare students and faculty/staff for emergencies?

A. We provide information and do drills every semester for issues related to fire, earthquake, active intruder and toxic airborne exposure. All classrooms have safety supplies related to these various emergencies, and faculty and staff receive training each year on our safety protocols for these types of events. There is also an extensive School Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) with detailed guidance on how to handle these and other emergencies.

Q. Do certain faculty/staff have designated roles in an emergency event?

A. Yes, there's an extensive list of our School Emergency Response Team (SERT) and their roles/responsibilities. Things including but not limited to the following: Security/Safety and Traffic Control, First Aid, Mental Health Services, Incident Command, Public Information, Search and Rescue, Utilities and Hazardous Materials, Evacuation Management and Reunification.

Q. How does Pali plan to communicate the nature of the emergency to students, parents and law enforcement agencies while the emergency is occurring?

A. We use all communication channels available to us at the time (phone, email, text, social media, public-address system, desk phone intercom system, person-to-person communication, etc.). It all depends on what services are available at the time, the nature/extent of the emergency and whether the target audience is on-campus or off-campus.

Q. What is the system in place for parents picking students up or students leaving after the emergency?

A. There is a reunification process that is outlined on the PCHS website (www. palihigh.org) and has been communicated to all families at registration times, [along with] reminders sent during the school year and practiced during our fire and earthquake evacuation drills. The more detailed reunification process is in the SEOP.

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Wildfire Forces Four-Day School Closure

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increased in the following days, evacuations were lifted for areas in the south and west.

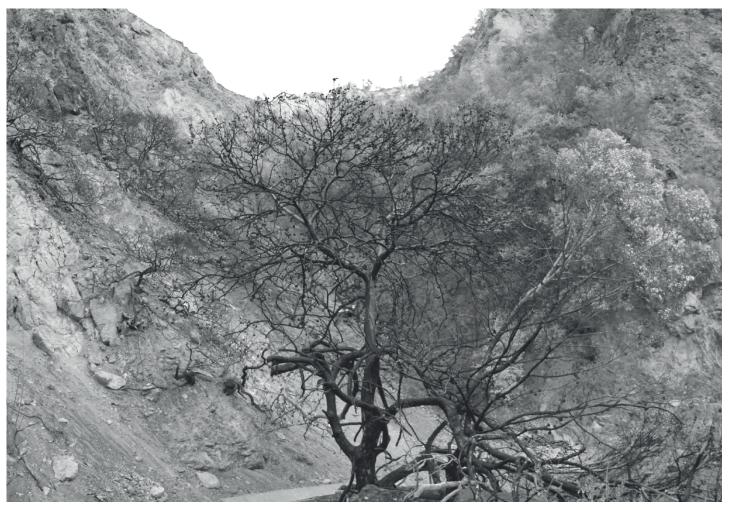
Pali remained closed from Oct. 28 to Oct. 31 due to the evacuations and the poor air quality, according to the school website. On Friday, Nov. 1, students returned to school for an All Classes Meet schedule.

Several thousand households were left without power while evacuations were taking place, according to utilities officials.

Senior Ish Chadha, a resident of Tigertail Road, one of the streets closest to the fire, said, "I didn't have a lot of time to take things [during the evacuation]." Chadha also described the sky as "bright orange," with "smoke everywhere and even embers falling from the sky."

Others were skeptical about why they had to evacuate in the first place. Senior Stu Brien, who lives on Corsica Drive, said, "Police were knocking on our doors at 2 a.m. The only things I got were some school stuff and some important family items." Brien said that his family was worried not about the fire reaching the house, but rather by the potential for looters.

According to the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), the Getty Fire was fully contained by Nov. 5, but had burnt approximately 800 acres. Faulty electrical equipment which fell during high wind



Part of the landscape burned by the Getty Fire. PHOTO BY: Tommy Berman

was determined to be the cause of the fire.

The previous week, Pali remained open in spite of a smaller fire in the Highlands.

Closer to Pali on Monday, Oct. 21, firefighters responded to a call of a brush fire near 500 Palisades Drive. The fire spread from 10 acres to 40 acres in less than an hour, prompt-

ing mandatory evacuations in adjacent streets. The streets that were evacuated were Charmel Lane, Bienvenida Avenue, Merivale Lane and Lachman Lane.

The LAFD allowed residents to return home later that same day, when the fire was sufficiently contained.

LAFD and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protec-

tion (Cal Fire) responded, mobilizing both ground and air support to protect homes and contain the fires.

The fire season is expected to last until early winter, according to Cal Fire. The LAFD encourages people to review the "Ready Set Go" program, which can be found on the LAFD website, in order to protect themselves and their families.

Teen Council Tackles Local Issues

arlier this year, the Palisades-Malibu YMCA created the Palisades Teen Council as a way for students to take leadership positions and become involved in politics and local issues.

"It gives students a safe space to voice their opinions and allows them to make a difference in their community," said Pali sophomore and member of Teen Council, Trey Buck.

Members of Teen Council went on a three-day, team-building retreat to Big Bear beginning Friday, Nov. 1. During the retreat, students participated in bonding activities and identified an area of concern they wanted to focus on. "The group bonding activities strengthened our relationships with everyone and allowed us to work well together," said sophomore Alex Denham.

Throughout the year, Teen Council has weekly meetings. During each meeting, senior Sharla Steinman, the group's chair, introduces the topics



and tasks on the council's agenda for that day. Students then move into task groups where they work with a small group of people to expand on their ideas for their projects. The areas of focus include issues pertaining to the environment, health and wellness, and finance.

According to the YMCA website, council members are taught how to "assess the needs of a community and develop action plans based on their interests and the functionality to society." Students are currently working on developing these action plans with their council committees. The end goal is to present these projects to state officials in Sacramento using the skills acquired during their time in Teen Council.

Teen Council will travel to Sacramento in March 2020. While there, members will act as lobbyists and discuss their plans and projects with state officials.

The council consists of about 50 members and meets on Tuesdays in Gilbert Hall from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Registration is closed for this year's Palisades Teen Council, but all high school students are encouraged to apply for the program in the years to come.



Teen Council members discuss issues with one another during a Tuesday meeting. PHOTO BY: Trey Buck

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Pali's Drama Department Stages Fall Play

By Arielle Hatton Staff Writer

Pali's fall play "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" premiered on Thursday, Nov. 7 in Mercer Hall. Under the direction of distinguished Pali teachers Cheri and Monique Smith, the drama department put on a total of eight shows, hosting their last show on Saturday, Nov. 16.

The play follows the wild adventures of Christopher Boone, a mathematically gifted teen who is on the autism spectrum. The action begins with Boone discovering a dead dog in his neighbor's garden. Scarred and saddened by what he has just seen, Boone makes it his mission to find the culprit and restore justice to his town. As Boone begins his investigative journey, new revelations about his past turn his world upside down.

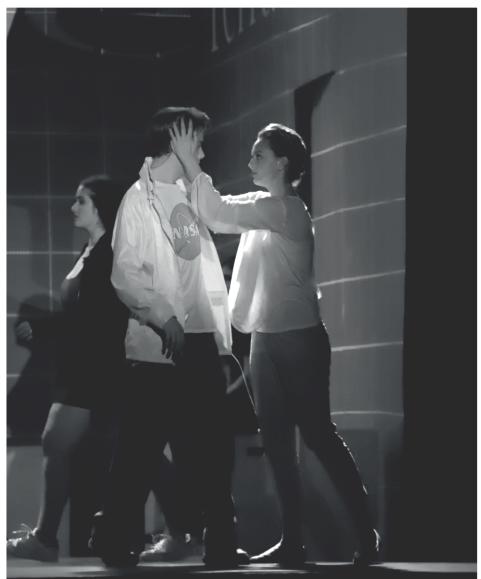
The Smith sisters have been directing plays and musicals for more than 20 years. They both agree that this year's play was, by far, one of their favorites because of the impact the show has on the audience. As Cheri said, "Having families come up [after the show] to say how much it meant to them that we were presenting this material was very fulfilling!"

"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" is Simon Stephen's 2012 adaptation of Mark Haddon's 2003 mystery novel. Upon hearing about Stephen's adaptation, the Smith sisters fell in love with the story and immediately decided to make it this year's fall play. Cheri said that she wanted to "bring light to Christopher's story."

Auditions for the play began as early as August and took place over the course of three days. After the cast was finalized, they began rehearsals, practicing every day after school until 5:30 p.m. in preparation for opening night. Sophomore Oona Fitzmaurice, who was cast as Siobhan, Christopher's teacher, said, "Preparing for the play was one of the most taxing and rewarding things in the world, and I really loved the process."

The play proved popular among Pali students. The drama department offered classes the opportunity to sit in on a sneak peak of the play during school hours. Sophomore Charlie Slan, as well as many other students, enjoyed it so much that she decided to purchase a ticket to one of the complete, night-time performances. "It was so entertaining to watch," she said. "Everyone was so talented, and it was clear that they have been really working hard at this."

Cheri said she was "thrilled with the final product" and that for her "it was extremely rewarding." Despite a few bumps in the road, the sisters are proud of what their cast and crew were able to accomplish.



Jack Essner and Oona Fitzmaurice in the play. PHOTO BY: Monique Smith

There's Lots to Love About Coffeehouse Concert

By Maya Millner Staff Writer

Pali's concert choir performed at their annual Coffeehouse Concert on Monday, Nov. 18 in Mercer Hall. This year's theme was Remember the Love and featured songs including "All You Need Is Love" by the Beatles and "Seasons of Love" from the musical "Rent."

Sophomore Jessica Jacobs said that Coffeehouse is a "laid-back" musical performance put together by the concert choir each semester. The students have been practicing all year for the songs performed by the entire ensemble. Auditions for solos, duets and small group numbers occurred in late October.

According to Jacobs, "kids who wanted to sing in small groups or solos submitted a video to our choir teacher Mr. [Jaco] Wong." Jacobs explained that Wong decided which numbers best fit the theme.

The choir typically dedicates around four to five weeks to prepare for Coffeehouse, but this year, junior Mia Ruhman stated, "We usually work on our repertoire for different shows at the same time, [so] we didn't have much time to pull Coffeehouse together."

Sophomore Desi Friedberg added: "We lost a lot of rehearsal time due to the fires... We were also rehearsing for our upcoming winter concert as well, so we kind of had to do everything all at once."

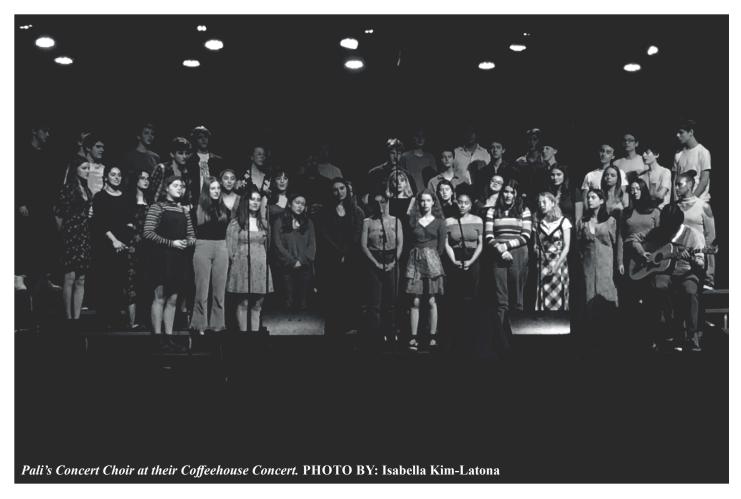
Additionally, Friedberg and Jacobs experienced some complications with their duet that further cut into their practice time. "Jess and I were singing a duet," Friedberg said. "It had already gotten in [the performance], but when we were rehearsing, it was way too high. We kept working on it and it didn't seem to work."

Friedberg said that Jacobs quickly found another song to sing, but the delay made it so they "only had two days to practice." "Although it was stressful," Friedberg said, "people like Jess and the rest of the choir pushed me through it."

Despite the chaos in the days and weeks leading up to concert night, Jacobs described the event as "cozy and intimate and wonderful."

The turnout this year was better than usual with an "insanely supportive and enthusiastic crowd," Ruhman said. "It's a very safe environment to share your voice and let it all out."

The choir students felt it was a very successful performance and reflected the hard work that was put into it. Friedberg said, "Coffeehouse is my favorite show we put on because the students have most of the power and it is fun to watch all my talented peers... I love being in concert choir because it's sort of like a small community where everyone in it supports and uplifts each other."



FEATURES

The Latest Pali Trend: Hyuma Stickers

HYUMA STICKERS, from page 1

Melamed is essentially the only vendor for the stickers. "If you see me, I'll have them," he said. "They're generally free, but I feel like I should start charging."

So what does Hyuma think? "I was impartial about it [when the stickers started circulating]," he said. "I

'Imagine the most tasty food combined with the most pragmatic food and you get potatoes.'

- Hyuma Umeda

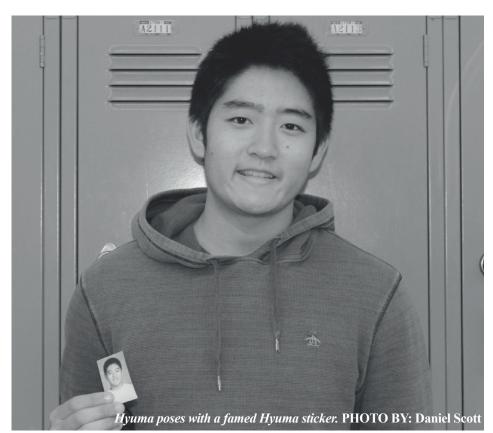
found it very funny that random people had my picture. I find it weird that people I don't know have them, but overall it's funny seeing people with it."

But who is Pali High senior Hyuma Umeda? According to Umeda, his primary interest is food, of which his favorite is potatoes. "I absolute-

ly love potatoes... Imagine the most tasty food combined with the most pragmatic food and you get potatoes," he said. Academically, Umeda intends to pursue science and math in higher education. To him, math concepts are "the building blocks we created to understand the workings of the world." He also likes history because it teaches people about who they are, and English because it provides insight into human emotions and opportunity for reflection.

Outside of school, Umeda enjoys reading books about math and history. He also loves working out, saying, "you get to get away from everything [and] focus solely on your body." Umeda frequently plays video games, describing them as similar to books, allowing one to "dive into a world different from our own and live through [it]."

Clearly, there's something special about Umeda, as Hyuma Stickers have proven to be an immensely popular trend, with more than 100



students bearing them. Bona-fide peal of the stickers, saying "they're Hyuma-Sticker-owner and senior Stefan Pietro Goy explains the ap-

just funny. That's really all there is

Page 5

First-Year Esports Club Levels Up

By Dohyun (Andy) Ju Staff Writer

ali's Esports Club has been gaining popularity in the past few months. Currently, the club has been competing in the Play-VS Esports League and will enter the High School Esports League, or HSEL, next semester. Gamers compete in League of Legends tournaments every Tuesday after school, and the members also expect to compete in Fortnite, Overwatch, Minecraft: Survival Games, Counter Strike: Global Offensive, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, Rocket League, Rainbow 6 Siege, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare - Gunfight Mode, Madden 20, Fifa 20 and NBA 2K20 matches next semester.

(a junior) and is supervised by Biology teacher John Vieira, who is passionate about being a "positive adult mentor in [the gamers'] lives." Vieira said he believes that gaming provides students an outlet to make long-lasting friendships and a chance to work with others effectively.

Vieira is an enthusiastic supporter of the rapid rise of esports, saying that it requires "a tremendous amount of critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity from players to achieve and sustain success." He further explained that the "soft skills" that are learned and developed from gaming are "many of the same skills that employers are looking for in recent [college] graduates." Vieira also said that gaming can be used as a gateway to college, pointing out that The club is run by brothers Benja- "the National Association of Colle- that he has "always loved technolo-

erning body for varsity collegiate esports, has awarded millions of dollars in esports scholarships and aid over the last five years."

Viera said he believes that "[esports] reaches beyond traditional sports to create an all-inclusive environment that breaks barriers."

The Darvishes agree with Vieira, saying that they strongly believe that esports is a legitimate sport, despite its differences from traditional sports. With these ideas in mind, the club leaders try to make the club an inclusive and positive environment, supplementing the collaborative and competitive environment of a traditional sports team.

Vieira's personal interest and passion for gaming is the main reason for his support of the club. He says min (a freshman) and Joseph Darvish giate Esports (NACE), the main gov- gy and the culture associated with it."

He says that "not all screen time is the same," and adds that "staring at your Instagram and TikTok feeds all day does not have the same impact on the human brain as using technology to engage in critical thinking activities (competitive video games in this case)."

According to Vieira, "the students at PCHS signed up in droves when we announced we were starting a club." On Club Day, gamers swarmed the table and filled room J123 at the first club meeting. After setting up a Discord server to get to know everyone's preferred games, Vieira and the Darvishes entered League of Legends teams into the PlayVS Esports League via online registration. Vieira admits that he and the Darvishes are still "learning how to fly the plane while it's in flight," as this is the first official esports club at Pali.

Like other Pali athletes, the Pali gamers who compete in the PlayVS Esports League need to practice and warm up before games. Benjamin Darvish explains that some of the gamers "use Osu!, an aim trainer," but they do not have any special activities for warm-ups, since the teams consist of friends who play for fun outside of the scheduled matches.

All of this practice and training is preparing the gamers to compete in the HSEL tournament next semester. Looking into the future of esports, Vieira asserts that "esports is here and it isn't going anywhere." The club meets every Monday in room J123.



At a Monday meeting for Pali's Esports Club, students enter League of Legends matches for practice. PHOTO BY: Daniel Scott

OPINION

Disney's New Streaming Service is a Plus

From Iron Man to Luke Skywalker, Snow White to Princess Leia, Mickey Mouse to Buzz Lightyear, Disney+ is a media success.

DISNEY, from page 1

can have its money — as long as it continues to provide the marvelous content and innovative experiences that kickstarted its success in the first place.

Disney and its fans have a symbiotic relationship. Pali alumnus and former substitute teacher Joshua Mills calls Disney+ "a win for [Disney] because they're going to get a lot of subscribers [and] a win for their fans, because we can watch all of this [content] whenever we want." Josh's sister, Jeanette Mills, is a fellow Pali graduate who works for Disney, and she said she doesn't mind that the company reaps a tremendous profit from its new streaming service, arguing that "they're making a ton of money, but it's also helping us have a really enjoyable and easy time [accessing content]."

How this relationship benefits the Walt Disney Company is easily expressed on paper, especially one with a bottom line. The media conglomerate is worth an estimated \$270 billion and owns the rights to eight of the top 10 highest-grossing movies of all time. With Pixar in 2006, Marvel Entertainment in 2009, LucasFilm in 2012 and Twenty-First Century Fox Inc. (and, subsequently, Twentieth Century Fox and National Geographic) in 2019, it seems as if Disney is constantly expanding its film and

television reservoir. Disney+ shines a spotlight on this mass accumulation of content, yet the exciting — and seemingly endless — opportunities the service offers far overshadow this potentially overwhelming load.

Self-proclaimed Star Wars enthusiast and AP World History teacher Steven Burr has already bought into the allure of Disney+ and all that it offers; he watched the first episode of "The Mandalorian," an original Star Wars series found exclusively on Disney+, almost immediately after its release. Also recognizing Disney's business ventures as win-win situations, Burr calls the company's profitable acquisition of LucasFilm "the steal of the century" that continues to provide him with Star Wars content despite George Lucas retiring from making blockbuster films.

Clearly, the Walt Disney Company chose to revive Star Wars for the same reason it acquired Marvel: the beloved franchises almost guarantee profit. In the midst of superfans jumping at the chance for more content, Disney capitalizes on their eagerness and sets itself up for even greater success in the future. As long as it supplies us with unparalleled forms of entertainment, the company will continue to secure this bright future for itself.

Disney inspires a sense of home, family and pure joy like no other



ILLUSTRATION BY: Marina Caro

entertainment provider. Some people may hear the word "Disney" and mistakenly visualize a greedy mass media conglomerate, but millions of people across the globe see beyond that image.

When asked what Disney reminds him of, Josh Mills immediately answered "family." Agreeing with her brother, Jeanette Mills added "wholesome" as her second thought, and their mother, Pali Spanish teacher Ruth Mills, responded "joy" and "happiness" without hesitation. Her son adds, "If you talk to anyone in our society, I think you'll find something Disney that they love or...some positive Disney memory." Disney gives us all of these invaluable gifts, along with true entertainment, which we need more of in today's world. So, for just \$6.99 a month, I will happily oblige.

Laughing, Ruth Mills said it best: "I'm their audience. I swallow it all, hook, line and sinker."

Satire: A Crohn's Disease Confessional

By Skylar Ball Staff Writer

t the beginning of the school year, I began to feel a great sickness within me, but I brushed it aside as I had more important things to worry about, such as earning the validation of my disgraced editor, Zade Mullin. But, as my abdominal cramping increased, I started to worry. I turned to WebMD's nifty Symptom Checker, subsequently learning that I probably have the Black Death or acute canine cancer. After about a month, I left Dr. Boris Tsap's fifth-period precalculus class and drove to the doctor.

E. coli was my pediatrician's final verdict, which was kind of lame. If I'm going to have a bacterial infection, I would rather have it be something more exotic, so that if I survived, it would be a much cooler and much funnier story to tell people.

Due to the fact that I was in much more pain than *E. coli* warranted, I ended up in the emergency room. Wait-

ing for the opportunity to discuss my symptoms with an underpaid ER nurse, someone next to me began to wheeze.

I turned my head ever so slightly and was shocked to see a suit-clad rabbi convulsing. The yarmulke on his head slid off and landed on the floor next to my foot, and I gasped.

He groaned, "ר'גני'ג הדלי יל רוזע" and that's when I had had enough. I jumped up, grabbed my mommy's arm and whispered "we need to leave." This is not anti-Semitic (I am Jewish), but I am afraid of people with serious medical problems, so we left the ER.

The next day, my stomach still felt as if it had been hit by a blue shell from Mario Kart, so I hobbled into the gastroenterology department of UCLA Medical Center. The gastroenterologist said to me, "You might have Crohn's disease, so we're going to scope you." I shuddered.

"We're also going to hospitalize you,

because you're in pretty bad condition, OK?" This was NOT OK because I needed to be back at school doing Millenniums in Mr. Burr's class, but I said OK because I had no energy and I don't really care about the feudal system in Europe anyway.

It's a shame that something so terrible has to happen to someone so sexy.

We drove across the street to the Pediatric Ward of the UCLA Medical Center. My nurses were named Anna and Elsa, which I thought was pretty cool, although my mother did not understand that reference.

Contrary to popular belief, the hospital is very fun. I named my IV pole Dave, and I must say, he was a very attractive man. Tall, dark, and obedient, he was everything that I look for in a marital partner. In fact, when I was introduced to Dave, I felt more hydrated than ever before.

My nurses were so nice even though a lot of needles were involved. FYI, I am not scared of needles. My mommy didn't raise a coward, she raised a Crohn's disease victim.

Crohn's disease cannot be cured. However, there is hope, and if you ever get Crohn's disease you may be so lucky as to have access to medications that slow its progression! I was prescribed Humira and honestly, I haven't used it yet because the version they sent me was defective. Crohn's disease acts like wildfire season in California — sometimes it is very bad and sometimes it is not that bad but still pretty bad.

Every single moment of my pain and suffering became worthwhile when I was in CVS with my good friend Maya Jeck Millner on Nov. 18, 2019. I was in the checkout line, buying a family-size bag of Chex Mix and a slightly smaller bag of Welch's Fruit Snacks.

"You kids, coming to CVS to buy candy," the senior citizen behind us scoffed. "I don't know how you stay thin!"

The answer is, indubitably, Crohn's disease.

SPORTS

Is Payday Ahead for College Athletes in State?

By Brett Abrams Staff Writer

Trevor Lawrence and James Wiseman are some of the most illustrious names in collegiate sports, with their impressive athletic ability increasing their prestige. As a result of their success and fame, they have all appeared in advertisements for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to attract viewers. Coaches, broadcasting companies and colleges have all made millions off the feats of these players and others like them.

The athletes, however, have not made a single penny off sports while in college.

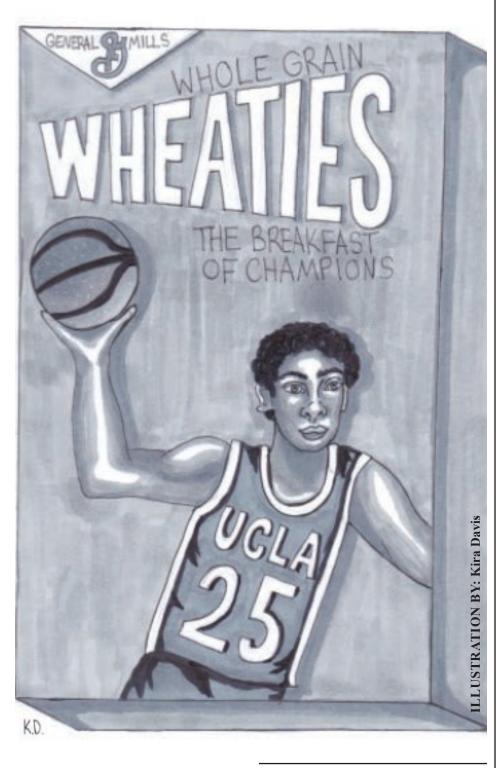
Not until former Duke University star Zion Williamson left college and joined the New Orleans Pelicans was he able to sign a \$75 million shoe deal with Jordan Brand — before even appearing in a professional game. Meanwhile, Tagovailoa, Lawrence and Wiseman are still trapped by the NCAA rules restricting players from signing contracts or accepting gifts.

Player likeness is a player's ability to profit off their name and image — appearing in commercials, signing endorsement deals and other methods of advertising. In professional sports, players like LeBron James and Aaron Rodgers earn millions annually through their endorsement deals

Recently, the California legislature passed the Fair Pay to Play Act, which goes into effect in 2023. The new law allows athletes to sign endorsement deals and profit from their name and image without repercussions from the NCAA. This act sparked debate amongst state lawmakers around the country and the NCAA, begging the question: Who really has the ability to make rules and regulations for student-athletes?

If California remains unchallenged by the NCAA as well as the only state to have passed this legislation, colleges across California may gain recruiting advantages. In a letter to California Governor Gavin Newsom, the NCAA argued, "This bill would remove that essential element of fairness and equal treatment that forms the bedrock of college sports," according to the New York Times Upfront Magazine.

If nothing else, by passing this law,



California officials thrust the issue into the national spotlight. In October, top NCAA officials unanimously voted to discuss possible rule changes.

Brendon Ayanbadejo, a former UCLA and NFL linebacker, strongly supports the push for athlete compensation. "As business changes, as commerce changes, the laws need to change," said Ayanbadejo, whose daughter is a student at Pali. The popularity of college sports has significantly increased in recent years — as has the NCAA's income. Ayanbadejo says the NCAA needs to "spread the wealth."

In addition to financial compensation, Ayanbadejo believes the NCAA should provide other benefits to the athletes. Unlike the NCAA, Ayanbadejo's company, Orange Theory Fitness, provides benefits such as healthcare and pensions to all employees. "It's just not good enough to give players an education when schools have athletic programs that are worth hundreds of millions, if not billions of dollars," Ayanbadejo said.

Pali junior and avid USC sports fan, Max Much, also believes college athletes should be able to advertise them'It's just not good enough to give players an education when schools have athletic programs that are worth hundreds of millions.'

- Brendon Ayanbadejo

selves and earn compensation. According to Much, the athletes would only be receiving the "money they deserve."

If the NCAA ultimately decides to allow student-athletes to sign endorsements, the athletes won't be the only party affected by the change. College sports fans around the country would line up to buy the merchandise of their favorite college players. Much also hopes the rules eventually change so EA Sports could "make NCAA football games again."

The NCAA has many decisions to make, problems to solve and logistics to sort out. According to Ayanbadejo, "It is something that is going to shake the NCAA, but it needs to happen."

Fall Sports Review

By Brett Abrams Staff Writer

Football

The varsity football team suffered a 35-21 loss to Banning High School in the first round of the CIF Los Angeles City Section (CIFLACS) playoffs on Friday, Nov. 15. The Dolphins finished the season with an overall record of 9-2.

Pali's junior varsity football team finished the season with a record of 7-1 after defeating Fairfax 48-12 in a regular-season game on Friday, Nov. 1.

Volleyball

After losing to Eagle Rock in the City championship game, the girls varsity volleyball team ended the season with a four-set loss to Vistamar in the first round of the Division III State Volleyball Championship on Tuesday, Nov. 12. The Lady Dolphins, who posted a stellar 12-0 record in Western League play, finished with an overall record of 37-10.

The junior varsity girls volleyball team defeated Hamilton in straight sets on Monday, Oct. 21 to finish the regular season with an overall record of 14-2.

Tennis

The girls varsity tennis team lost to Granada Hills Charter High School in the CIFLACS championship matchup on Tuesday, Nov. 5. This loss marks the team's first time in six years that they haven't been crowned CIFLACS champions.

Water Polo

The boys varsity water polo team defeated Cleveland, 16-9, in the CIFLACS championship matchup against Cleveland. On Friday, Nov. 22, the Dolphins were defeated by Vista High School, 23-12, in the first round of the CIF SoCal Boys Water Polo Championship bracket.

Cross Country

Senior Sarah Bentley and junior Lucas Shriver both participated in the CIF State Cross Country Championships on Saturday, Nov. 30. Bentley ran in the Division I Girls 5,000-meter race and finished with a time of 19 minutes, 27 seconds. Schriver competed in the Division I Boys 5,000-meter and finished with a time of 16 minutes flat.

Both teams won Western League titles in all divisions, and the boys finished third in the City championships, while the girls placed fourth.

Schriver and Bentley closed their seasons with the Footlocker West Regional championship. On the 5,000-meter course, Bentley ran a time of 18:27, while Schriver finished with a time of 16:05.



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