

The Lariat

Chino High School

First Academic Rally Kicks Off the New School Year

By Samantha Sandoval

On November 17th, Renaissance hosted the first academic rally of this school year.

The week opened with a spirit week. The theme of this rally and spirit week was based on the beloved movie "The Nightmare Before Christmas."

During this rally, the top 25 students from each grade celebrated their achievements. Performances from Folklorico, dance, and a surprising performance from Theatre occurred as well.

The next part of the rally was a wonderful performance brought



Chino Theater Company performing during the rally.



Athletic Trainer, Kevin Sells, playing in one of the games during the rally.

on by the dance team, leading to a game of musical chairs against the CHS teachers.

The next part of the rally was a wonderful performance brought on by Folklorico. Following this performance, another competition game was played, which was wrapping the teachers as presents by the students. Students from the crowd were then able to vote on who their favorite "present" was. The winner of this contest was Mr. Hinkle.

After these show stopping dances and fun games, wrestling

got a standing ovation for becoming CIF champions. They were presented by our principal Mr. Miller and Coach Hinkle to recognize them for their hard work this past season. A new banner was hung up in the new gym which shined light on the CHS Wrestling Team.

After their recognition, an exciting but surprising performance was given by Theater students. This group had never performed at a rally before, so seeing them was an experience that nobody will forget.

The Nightmare Before Christmas-Themed Rally Spirit Week

By Mirage Ballesteros and Rylie Alarcon

From November 13th-17th, Renaissance held a spirit week for the upcoming academic rally themed "The Nightmare Before Christmas."



To kick off the spirit week, renaissance held a fan favorite spirit day, Crocs, Socks, or Birkenstocks. Many people were excited for it, just like Isabella Panduro, 9th grader, who said, "I am most excited for Monday's spirit week!"

Tuesday's theme was Character Day. Students were allowed to dress up as any character they'd like from movies, to book characters.

Wednesday's theme was Rhyme Without a Reason. This spirit day was between two or more people. You would dress up as two or more things that rhyme

with each other. When asked "What spirit day are you most excited for?" Megan Villafana, 9th grader said, "I am most excited for Rhyme Without a Reason because my friend and I are going to be Post Malone and a traffic cone."

On Thursday's it was everyone's favorite, Pajama Day. Students were able to wear

Christmas or Halloween pajamas. When asked "what do you plan on wearing for Pajama Day?". Sophia Vazquez, 9th grader said, "I plan on wearing my pjs because I love being comfy and showing off my cute pjs."

On Friday, it was rally day. The spirit day was divided between the grades. Seniors and freshmen wore black and orange, and Juniors and Sophomores wore red and green to the rally.

NHS's San Diego College Tours

By Rachel Gomez and Lizette Ruelas

On November 14th, the National Honors Society took a trip to visit San Diego for the purpose of touring the campuses. NHS also opened the trip to non-members who signed up early enough to go, many people were excited and grateful for the opportunity to go on the trip and learn about the campuses.

First, they visited San Diego State University, while there they were given a tour around the campus and then given about an hour to roam the campus and see what the campus was like. SDSU was a fan favorite for some students on the trip, some people who were on the trip wore their college attire and some even bought gear at the shops they had at the campus.

Students were taught a lot about the campus from the tour including how SDSU is known for its strong programs in business, engineering, and the sciences, providing students with excellent academic resources and research opportunities.

After they left SDSU they traveled to The University of

(Continued on page 4)

MPR Bee Swarm Alarms Students

By Presley Penman and Mia Cardin

At the beginning of October, students noticed the rise of a bee infestation surrounding the tables in front of the MPR. Although many did not seem too bothered by the bees, there were a few students around the school that were concerned with the situation at hand.

The bees are surely attracted to all the left-over food and trash piling in the trash cans, leaving many bees to gather there after school in search of sugary treats for them to consume. However, unlucky students who stay after school for activities have suffered the effects of these fuzzy little friends.

Lacie Salas, a senior describes her encounter with a bee whilst waiting for theater rehearsal to start after school. "When I got my food before rehearsals, I tried to sit away from the table where the bees were swarming. Right when I sat down to talk to someone, one

of the bees shot right towards my finger and stung me. My finger was throbbing so painfully to the point you could feel it course through your body,"

Salas added. "However, since the nurse's office was closed after school, I resorted to finding my own ice to place on the burning sensation. Now waiting there after school for rehearsal is like some sort of PTSD attack."

Many students have had fears that they would end up in the same situation, leaving the lunch tables to be a rather dangerous place to wait at after school. Some have resorted to the grassy areas by the band room or even just simply going home rather than spending their time waiting there.

Many fear the consequences of being stung, considering few suffer from allergies that are caused by the sting of a bee.

A single sting can cause a person to go into shock, a nauseous state, or even into anaphylactic shock; which certainly be life threatening.

Will anything be done to prevent or execute the problem? Our principal, Mr. Miller, has shared some insight on what is being done to help and prevent the situation.

"We are aware of the position at hand. We are presently trying to increase the number of times we pull the bags and toss them. This week we are asking during our break on Friday if we can wash out our cans with a pressure washer to push off whatever is attracting them. We are hoping that once we continue to consistently switch and toss out the trash more often, the situation will dim down, and our student's safety will be secured."



Layout of trashcans surrounding the lunch tables.

2023-2024 Lariat Staff

Editor-in-Chief	Alyssa Candelaria
Managing Editor	Samantha Sandoval
News Editor	Jessica Hernandez Custodio
Sports Editor	Evan Gray
Opinion Editor	Jazmine Valderrama
Photo Editor	Natalia Castillo Cortes and Presley Penman
Business Manager	Lizette Ruelas
Advisor	Mr. Ottman

The Lariat is the source for news, entertainment, and sports for Chino High School

For back issues, comment, or concerns please contact peter_ottman@chino.k12.ca.us

77th Calvary Holds 51st Invitational



By Evelyn Alva and Giada Sacchi.

Photo Courtesy of the 77th Calvary.

Chino hosted the 77th Calvary competitions on the football field this November 4th.

77th Calvary has marched in the 113th annual tournament of roses parade and has won the tournament of champions 4 times. This year commemorates the 51st anniversary of the 77th calvary competitions, which some of the most successful marching bands in Southern California have attended.

The concert groups in the competition were the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Tour

Choir. There were also guest bands from top colleges such as, UCLA, USC, and San Diego State University) who gave a beautiful performance.

At this year's competitions the winner of the show was Arcadia's marching band getting the most sweepstakes. Arroyo's high school marching band also got a couple of sweepstakes, but it was Arcadia who took the show.

"It was fun but at the same time tiring" said Harmony King who attended the competitions and helped with the event.

(Continued from page 2)

California San Diego. When they arrived, they were given a virtual presentation about the campus and were urged more to go out and learn about the campus for themselves. UCSD is an exceptionally large campus with many wonderful things to enjoy. The group was given most of the day to explore and even eat with college students in the food court.

The experience at UCSD also taught about how the campus offers a more intimate and close-knit community, with a focus on liberal arts education. The students also learned that USC is renowned for its programs in law, business, and international relations, providing students with a well-rounded education and a global perspective.

The Beautiful Art of Water Conservation Contest

By Valerie Jimenez

In the month of November, Mr. Cahill had his Draw/Paint and Art Design class, do a poster for a water conservation contest. Students were free to draw the poster however they liked, as long as it sent the message that water needs to be conserved. This was a graded project despite being a contest.

The contest will ended on December 1st, 2023, and the

winner will be announced during the NACD's (National Association of Conservative Districts) annual meeting next year in February. The contest was open to all students. The first-place winner of the contest will receive \$200, second place \$150, and third \$100. There was also a photo contest open for those who would like to participate but prefer photography over drawing.

Mr. Cahill was asked if he thought someone from the school would win, "I don't know, we've won before but it's not about the skill of the art as much as it is the message, they decide the winners weirdly."

Cowboys Celebrate El Dia de Los Muertos

By Jessica Hernandez Custodio

On November 2nd, Chino High School celebrated El Dia de Los Muertos by creating an event during lunch which was prepared by the Spanish club, Folklorico club and with the help of ASB. The event was to celebrate and honor El Dia de Los Muertos which included an Altar which is to remember your loved ones.

The altar was filled with many altars done by the Spanish classes honoring Latin artists who made history and have passed away. Not only were there artists present but also students' loved ones who had passed away. "It is beautiful that students feel comfortable bringing pictures of their family members who have passed

away." Marilyn Bojorquez (Folklorico president) said.

Many students participated in the event; the Folklorico Club painted their faces as Catrina's/Catrine's which is when people paint their face to represent the dead ones. Many teachers wore flower head bands which Catrina's use to also help with the Dia de Los Muertos event. "I think it's good that people outside the event participated in the celebration of El Dia de Los Muertos." Bojorquez said.

The folklorico club danced in a way to honor the death ones by dancing to "Un poco loco" by Gael García Bernal and Anthony Gonzalez. The folklorico dance is traditional Mexican dance which was perfect

to celebrate El Dia de Los Muertos since it is a Mexican Tradition as well. "It's a Mexican dance it relates to the culture." Bojorquez said.

Four-day Week Gaining Popularity

By Victoria Banuelos

Nine hundred school districts in the United States currently use a four-day weekly academic schedule. That number rose from 650 districts in 2020 to 876 districts, across 26 states, in 2023.

While smaller, rural districts have been more likely to favor the schedule, larger districts are now shortening their school weeks to recruit and retain teachers. It is a selling point in an era when schools are facing a national teacher shortage.

A four-day school week argues that it offers several benefits, including cost savings, improved student attendance and increased teacher morale. By reducing the number of school days, schools can save money on transportation, food, and energy costs.

When teachers are asked their opinion, they can agree saying "a four-day school week can help to boost teacher morale."



The wonderful Folklorico club by the altar before their performance.

AVID Helps Seniors Ace College Application Process

By Jessica Hernandez Custodio

AVID focuses on making sure students are prepared for college and guides you all year to prepare for the day they submit your application. On November 22nd, AVID hosted a college application day to help all seniors apply for college even if not in the AVID program. During their English, Economics, And Government classes senior were allowed to go to the school gym and apply for college while receiving help from the AVID team.

AVID encouraged students to apply by handing out raffle

tickets for every application submitted. The raffle tickets included baskets with college dorm products, school supplies, and a coffee maker. All the things in the baskets were donated by different people, which made it an even more heartwarming experience.

AVID was successful and got many seniors to submit their applications. Seniors were then walked to a carpet where they were cheered on by the AVID team for completing their college applications. "I like the fact that we cele-

brated them I think it made them feel proud." AVID senior Paige Newkirk said.



Students in the process of applying at the AVID Application Day.

The Important Discussions on Drug Use

By Samantha Sandoval

On December 5th, a drug presentation assembly was held in the Chino High gym. All grades attended this event in periods 1-4, each period with a different grade level.

Speaker Lynn Reimer, president of ACT on Drugs, ran this presentation and discussed the importance of staying off drugs. ACT on Drugs, Inc, is a non-profit organization created to educate not only students, but parents as well about addictive drug substances.

Reimer has been an advocate of speaking out on the issues of substance abuse for over 20

years now and has been speaking to high school students for 17 years.

When asked about what she hopes students get out of these talks, she says "I hope they understand how dangerous they are (drugs), and if we can just get kids to stop and pause and just think for a minute when something's offered to him/her or if they're in a situation where they feel uncomfortable that they actually make a better decision."

When asked about the importance of being informed on drug use, Reimer said, "Drugs

are so different today, and there's so many more out there than when I was a kid.... We had a few drugs, but nothing like today. I think to get the information out to parents, kids will understand not only the harm, but to recognize what's out there and to help someone if they're struggling and have resources for their help."

During 3rd period, the junior presentation, it was interrupted by students who connected their phones to the Bluetooth speaker to play inappropriate music, which cut the assembly short.



Undefeated: Cowboys Dominate the Competition

By Alyssa Candelaria

The Chino Cowboys had an incredible end to their 2023 regular season. They ended the season 10-0 making them undefeated league champions and coming first in their division. This has been their best record since 1997 when the Cowboys won the CIF championship. Now 26 years later the Cowboys are back and hoping to win the title once again.

In the season opener Chino defeated Laguna Beach, 27-26 in a close game that gave the Cowboys a win in overtime. Week 2 did not end in the Cowboys favor as Diamond Bar won 43-36. After the bye, the Cowboys had an easy win against Valley Christian winning 33-0. The annual Milk-Can game against Don Lugo had come in Chino's favor for the third year in a row.

The next 3 games, Chino had the Victory against El Dorado, Cerritos, and Claremont, respectively. The next series of

games were all league games, and Chino again won against Covina and Rowland. In a shocking turn of events Diamond Bar had to forfeit 4 games due to them using an ineligible player, this gave the Cowboys another win making them 9-0.

The last game of the regular season against Pomona, the cowboys were on the line of having a perfect season, and eventually lived up to their dreams and ended the season 10-0.

The Lariat sat down with Varsity head coach Joey Larosa, and he said, "It is a huge accomplishment for the school, the program, especially for the boys." The leader in the most rushing yards per game and most touchdowns was Running Back, Nathan Blanco, and the leader for most receiving yards per game was Wide Receiver Sebastian Alvarado. Quarterback Diego Ogata was rated

#56 in the whole southern section for rushing yards. Larosa said "The Cowboys had only been undefended about three times over the past twenty-five years"

Girls' Soccer Slides into Season

By Kira Finneran

The Chino High school girls' soccer team has been out and about on campus practicing and conditioning for tryouts on November 6th.



Senior Mikani Telles working on footwork drills at tryouts.

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

Try outs will be held at the new soccer fields. The first day is November 6th-9th and November 13th-16th. New and returning players are welcomed. Players do ask to bring cleats, shin guards, and plenty of water.

Girls Soccer usually meet up Infront of the locker rooms before 4pm for weight room and at the new soccer fields by 4pm for practice.

Most practices/workouts are held by the main Coach, Jessica Parrel, who is also a teacher here at Chino, and their varsity coach, Alberto Vasquez, who comes out with the team twice a week.

Monday and Wednesdays, these girls are in the weight room from 4:00pm till 5:30pm working out and building muscle. Tuesdays and Thursdays, the girls go out to the new soccer fields from 4pm-5pm with Coach Albert doing soccer drills and conditioning before 4pm for weight room and at the new soccer fields by 4pm for practice.



Senior Mikani Telles doing footwork drills at tryouts



Girls Soccer in the middle of tryouts for the upcoming season.

Chino Prepares to TAKEDOWN the Competition this Season

By Evan Gray

The returning CIF Champions, the Chino wrestling team, is in full swing right now preparing for season. Head coach Alex Angulo has been training his team year-round to ensure that his team stays in peak physical shape. Angulo takes his team to tournaments throughout the year to keep wrestlers ready to compete. They compete against wrestlers from every state like at the "D-DAY ON BROADWAY" and "FREAKSHOW" tournaments.

This seasons wrestling team captain is senior Nathaniel Gonzalez. He will be competing at the 138-pound weight class and was able to make it past CIF all the way to the regional Masters meet. To make it to that tournament,

he fought hard to take 4th in his weight class at CIF. The Lariat asked Gonzalez how he thinks his team will do this season, his response "I think we'll take the championship again this year".

Although Chino graduated many great wrestlers last year,



Senior team captain, Nathaniel Gonzalez, getting hand raised after his win at the "D-DAY ON BROADWAY" tournament.

(continued on page 9)

(continued from page 8)

including former senior team captains Julius Soria and Jordan Mallo, Chino still has a very strong roster this year, including 2 state qualifiers, 3 Masters placers, and 6 CIF placers. Chino also has many wrestlers that have improved from the previous season that did not place at CIF.



The Lariat asked Angulo about how he thinks his team will do this year at CIF Duals, and if he believes they can take home back-to-back championships, he answered "I think now that we know we have the ability to win a championship we just have to come back and revisit and build upon the potential we created". The future of Chino Wrestling is looking up with many promising underclassmen ready to takeover in the following years.

Chino's Spectacular Senior Night

By Alyssa Candelaria & Evan Gray



Chino Cheers Class of 2024 Seniors.

Chino football, band, cheer, team managers, and Color Guard celebrated their senior nights at the last Guaranteed home football game in October. Seniors from all five groups got the experience of having loved ones walk them down the red carpet on the football field for what could have been potentially the last time.

The senior night was before the game while football was warming up to go against Pomona High School. The band was the first group to go up followed by color guard, then cheer, followed by team managers, and ending with football. Band members performed an amazing halftime show for the crowd conducted by award-winning band director Mr. Bowden.

Cheer was able to put on amazing performances and stunts that showed just how talented they are. Liana Lopez,

a four-year member of the cheer team "Senior Night was amazing, and it was definitely the highlight of my senior year"

The football seniors got to end their night on an amazing moment of going undefeated (10-0) this season. After the game, the team let their friends and families celebrate their incredible achievement.



Chino Footballs Class of 2024 Seniors.

Senior Quarterback Diego Ogata shared "Senior night went pretty well, a lot of emotions flowing through the seniors and to come out with the win it really made the night" The cowboys' senior night was definitely one to remember.

Girls Basketball Dribbles Their Way Back into League

By Evan Gray

Girls Basketball heads into their league off of a 4 game winning streak. The Cowgirls begin league away against Chaffey High School on December 12th after their dominant 66-44 victory over Silverado High School. The cowgirls are looking to extend their streak of winning league to three years in a row this year after back to back undefeated league champion seasons.

Leading the cowgirls in points per game this season is number 32, freshman, Tess Oldenburg who averages 17.9 points per game according to MaxPreps.



Number 32, Freshman, Tess Oldenburg blocking opponents shot.
Photo Courtesy of Rhianna Valverde.



Number 2, Senior, Lyndsey Valverde posing for media day.
Photo Courtesy of Rhianna Valverde.

Other offensive threats on the cowgirls team include number 2, senior, Lyndsey Valverde who averages 15.5 points per game and number 12, freshman Calise Gibson who averages 13.8 points per game according to MaxPreps.

The cowgirls are also proving to be an issue for teams with their defense. They are averaging 18.9 defensive rebounds per game, 9.8 steals per game, 6.1 blocks per game, and 9.7 turnovers per game. The cowgirls are sure to have a successful season if they keep playing with a commanding offense and ruthless defense.

Last season the cowgirls had an unforgettable 24-7 season where they made it to the CIF Finals. This season they are aiming even higher and aren't just shooting to be in the finals, but to win it.

Chino Takes on CIF

By Alyssa Candelaria

The Cowboys started off their 2023 CIF playoff run with a home game against Jordan High School. The Cowboys took the victory, winning 22-42. Key players for Chino were Diego Ogata with 154 rushing yards and two touchdowns and Nathan Blanco with 131 rushing yards and one touchdown.

Junior CJ Gibson got athlete of the week because of his pick 6 that secured the lead for Chino.

Round 2 against Mayfair High was an away game for the Cowboys. Nathan Blanco had 48-yard touchdowns that gave the cowboys a 7-0 lead. In the second quarter, Blanco made a 2-yard touchdown which tied the game 14-14. Unfortunately, the Cowboys suffered a loss 45-14 which caused them to exit the championships. Chino ended the season 11-1.

Pockets Empty Tickets Ready

By Presley Penman

Back towards the '50s and '60s, concerts were becoming a huge hit. With the rise of more musicians and creativity, concerts had become almost the hit hangout activity for many groups alike. Music venues would swarm in with customers coming to see their favorite musicians perform. Tickets for these shows would often be around \$2.50 or even as high as \$6.00; much cheaper than what we see today.

As the decades passed, tickets were in much higher demand as new artists began to rise such as Prince, Michael Jackson, The Cure, Mötley Crüe, and many more familiar names to us all. With the higher demand for tickets, prices were in need of a price range. What once cost people just a couple of dollars, now ended rounding up all the way to \$15.13.

Ticket prices however have reached an average of \$125 dollars as of 2019, increasing much more this year. Then again, artists are now more innovative with their performances, having much more detailing with things such as costumes or set designs. However, sometimes these prices can grow extreme for the average music enjoyer.

Take for example Taylor Swift, a familiar name to many. Taylor recently set launch on her "Eras Tour," exciting fans across the globe with her announcement. However, fear struck many fans when it came to the price of her tickets; ranging from \$49 to \$499. Yet, it is not to blame on Taylor's part.

The biggest issue when it comes to ticket prices is the overall service fees. Service fees could bring a huge toll on the price of any concert ticket. Jason Penman, an employee at both the Fox theatre and Glasshouse in Pomona states "Back then there never used to be all those service fees when it came to our concerts, yet now there seems to be all sorts of additional service fees." Service fees had a rising income around the early 2000's, adding on top of artists and promoters setting up their prices at a higher range to gain more income.

To solve the issue of such high service fees, a feasible way to escape the raging debt in your pocket could be to just pay for your ticket at the box office the day of the event. But

be wary, service fees can come in different varieties of names such as commission, transaction fees, and processing fees. Although it can be hard to avoid, you do have a chance at enjoying a show without having to go home with a penny or two left in those pockets of yours.

Your Favorite Movies Might Be Killing Cinema

By Landen Doyle

As of recent, the movie theater experience has been on a steady decline, with some of the biggest films reaching the big screen, being made under the same exact formula. On October 12th, after a tense bidding war with film company A24, famed film and television company Miramax (Pulp Fiction, Kill Bill, Good Will Hunting) acquired the rights for the "Halloween" Film Franchise, starring the infamous pale-faced killer, Michael Myers. Horror Fanatics might recall after a 9-year hiatus, Michael Myers returning to the big screen in 2018, followed up in 2021 and 2022, creating a new Hal-

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

loween trilogy to very mixed reviews. This is the second time that this series has been rebooted, and as of the Miramax purchase, it is coming up on a third.

This is just one example of the soulless creation and unoriginality currently being pumped out of Hollywood, along with the commercialization of products into movies. As 2023 wraps up, Marvel has been set to release 6 Movies and TV shows the entire year, with an annual revenue of \$115.7 Million. This has created a sort of commonplace in cinema. Most of the Marvel films coming out in the modern day have been Manufactured using big teams thinking of big money-making ideas so they can spend as little as possible and make the best possible income. Marvel is currently one of the biggest offenders of the downfall of Passion Project Cinema

The two highest grossing films of 2023 have currently been "Barbie" and "The Super Mario Bros. Movie", Both of which are commercialization for two companies, Mattel and Nintendo. The third highest is "Oppenheimer." Directed by famed film director Christopher Nolan, who is highly regarded as one of the best current directors. Going down the list is; Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3, Fast X, Spi-

der-Man: Across the Spiderverse, The Little Mermaid, and Mission Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part 1. A noticeable pattern occurs here. Three of these films are coming from Disney, two of which are from Marvel. The rest of the films are Sequels and remakes of already successful films, with the exception of Oppenheimer.

This formula has been plaguing Cinema for Years. The past 5 years highest grossing films have met his quota of be-

"I feel like movies now are being put out faster than they're supposed to be worked on"

ing either a remake, sequel, or part of a major series such as the MCU. This has created a standard for a lot of people, many of which who begin to see other films as "boring." "I feel like movies now are being put out faster than they're supposed to be worked on, like companies try to create cheap production movies for a cash grab," said Chino High junior Mason Mcgowan.

Marvel is currently owned by Disney, thus making most Marvel movies eligible, and heavily likely to be put on Disney's streaming service "Disney+." Although this is part

of the problem, Disney is not the only offender. Some of the biggest streaming service companies include Amazon Prime Video, Max (Formerly known as HBO Max), and Netflix. All the companies combined make an annual revenue of over 78 billion dollars. In 2023 Movie theaters across the U.S. collectively sold 825.2 million tickets, with an estimated revenue of \$10.2 billion, which is 31% less than Netflix makes yearly.

This is the effect that streaming had on the traditional movie theater post-Covid. Disney+ had been created on the brink of the Covid outbreak, and HBO max being created amid the Covid Pandemic. Understandably, people were unable to go to the theater, so they had to watch it at home. This eventually became not the substitute, but the replacement of local theaters.

As of now, this is still a remaining issue, which isn't being fixed due to writers and actors being off the big screen because of the use of AI to think of new film ideas to make more money for more companies. Until this is resolved, and originality is brought back to the big screen, film will stay at a decline, as well as the movie theater experience, consequently killing cinema.

Taking the PSAT'S? Is It Really Worth It?

By Samantha Sandoval

Since 2022, there is now questioning amongst students wanting to take the PSAT. On October 25th, the yearly PSAT test was taken by students at Chino High. This year, the test was changed to be taken digitally, which changed the future of test taking.

So, what is the PSAT? The PSAT is a pre-SAT test that prepares students (specifically 10th and 11th graders) for the actual SAT exam that you can now optionally take in the spring of your junior year, or senior year.

In the past year, it was announced that colleges would not be requiring students to take and even use SAT or ACT scores when applying to colleges. Although, some private ivy league universities like Cornell University and Rice University still require students to submit their scores.

For this reason, would taking the PSAT even be worth it if the SAT is optional now?

Since most if not all colleges do not require the SAT, most students will not need to worry about SAT or ACT exam scores and just focus on the other requirements when applying to different schools. Junior

Edgar Soto says, "it also takes away some stress and anxiety from the requirements for college."

This new option for taking the SAT can be viewed in

separate ways. Some may think that it will advance their applications, while others might say that it will be easier to get into a school. Junior Emma Sandoval says, "If a college requires it (the SAT), it will just make it look better that I took it."

If students apply to schools out of state, you must still input SAT scores, meaning you would need to take it to apply to an out-of-state school.

Ms. Davis, who advised this year's PSAT exam said, "It will be interesting to see the effect on students and whether they feel that it is important for college admissions."

Something else that should also be noted is that 11th grade students who



score high on the PSAT will be qualified for the NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship). "If you are an 11th grade student, there is also that added benefit that you could qualify for scholarships and other recognition that are really coveted. Not many students get those..." says Ms. Davis.

Since this new update was just given a little over a year ago, it is still early to see a difference in students' views towards taking the PSAT and SAT exams.

Ms. Davis says she still encourages students to take the PSAT because of the benefits of practice that they will have before taking the SAT if they do decide to take it.

This year's PSAT scores were announced and given to students on November 16th.

Dress Code in Public Schools

By Jackeline Lopez

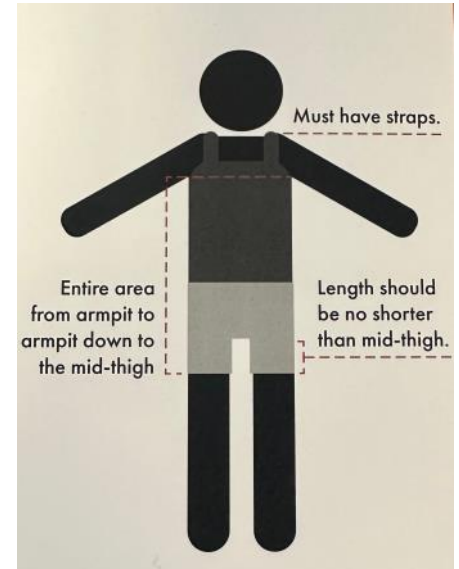
Dress code has been going on for many years and it's been a controversial issue everywhere. This dress code is mostly targeted towards women. This happens all the time where women feel like they're being sexualized. Sometimes these dress codes can be exaggerated. A famous quote is "The joy of dressing is an art". There is so much behind this quote it has a big meaning behind it. It says you should be able to dress how you want because how you dress is a part of you, of your own person. Why would someone want to dress the same as everyone else, is it not boring and plain? Many students have wanted free expression and individuality.

Cole Bourn stated in an article 20% of public schools required students to wear uniforms and 44% had an extremely strict dress code. The dress code prohibits sandals, leggings, crop tops, skirts, shorts, halter tops, spaghetti straps, etc. A student from USH in Jersey stated, "these policies tend to sexualize women". Teachers should not feel distracted by a child. Sometimes some people wear clothing that is too revealing which is

understandable to get dress coded, but if you are wearing shorts, skirts, a little bit of stomach, off the shoulder, etc. there should not be a problem.

Women should have the freedom to dress and express themselves how they want. A student from Chino High School Neveah Ojeda stated that "girls feel comfortable in what they are wearing, people should not be sexualizing girls because on the clothes they have on and most of the time they are showing their belly button, you should not be feeling distracted by a belly button we all have one. Also no one should shame girls for what they are wearing and make them feel less." Another student from Chino High School Litzy Medina stated, "dress code isn't right; dress code is somewhat bringing you down because they are shaming you and why would you want to wear the same thing as everybody else when you can have your own wardrobe and express yourself through fashion". Some people argue that dress codes are important to maintain a professional and important environment, while others feel it can be restrictive and limit personal expression. Dress codes should maintain reasonable standards and al-

low personal style. Most of the time these dress codes are reaching. What do these schools want girls to wear when it is so hot sweaters and sweats?



Picture of dress code requirements at Chino High

Should Uniforms Be Required?

By Addison Hunter

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees that all individuals have the right to express themselves freely, and when they don't there can be consequences. School uniforms are one area where the goal doesn't lead to expected outcomes.

A study by Texas Southern University reported a jump of around 12% in discipline incidents after uniforms were

(continued On Page 15)

(continue From Page 14)

mandated. In Florida, one district noted that fights in middle schools were twice what they were the year before after requiring uniforms.

Although not required at Chino High, students have many reasons disliking the idea of uniforms. Sophomore, Mercedes Hernandez told the *Lariat*, "School uniforms are bad, because people aren't able to have their own style and express their personality with the way they dress."

Sophomore Shelby Scott explained, "I feel like there had because personally I would want to wear clothes I would want to because people have different taste in clothes, and you should be able to show off what type of clothes you wear and like. Also I feel like it kind of shows what kind of a person you are too."

People should have the right to express themselves at school. Marley Garcia agrees saying, "It doesn't let them show their individuality. They can't express themselves."

The Horrible Side of Social Media

By Melanie Plascencia

The well-being of teenagers is at an all time low due to the excessive use of social media apps.

Since the development of social media teens have been introduced to adverse effects such as anxiety, depression, insecurities, poor sleep schedules, and the list goes on. With the help of research we've discovered that children starting from the age of 12 to age 17 report depression and 32% of them report anxiety.

Sadly, this issue affects more than just older people, children as young as 12 are being allowed on apps they technically aren't even supposed to use. With the improper use of these apps they've been faced with cyber bullying and it has been found that those under the age of 25 are more likely to engage in self harm and suicidal behaviors.

If that wasn't enough for the young users, their addiction to social media also promotes the idea of an unattainable beauty standard. They're constantly being fed pictures and videos of what they think they're supposed to look, dress, and act like, leaving no room for originality and creativity.

"Thanks to airbrushing and filters, social media often portrays appearances that are difficult or unrealistic to obtain." "This can make teenag-

ers feel insecure about their looks, and many agree that social media has affected their self-esteem. In extreme cases, this can lead to problems such as eating disorders." according to Lessonbee.

Obviously social media can be used as a positive, resourceful tool but there was an ability to function fine before it. The negative statistics of social media were once low.

The well-being of teens will only continue to plummet if we don't cut down our screen time and realize there is much more to life than what we see on that screen.

Workers United Stand With Palestine

By Lizette Ruelas

Starbucks has found itself in controversy and is experiencing boycotts from supporters of Palestine. The reason behind this movement lies in the company's decision to fire and sue their employees who are speaking up. While Starbucks has clarified its stance on the issue as none, the boycotts highlight a call for solidarity with Palestinian.

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is a complex and deeply rooted issue, marked by dec-

(continued on page 16)

(Continued From Page 15)

1,700 Israelis have died. Over 8,000 Palestinians have died, children being 40% of total casualties. With all of this, it is essential to understand that the movement is not anti-Israel but rather pro-Palestinian. Those supporting the boycott do so out of concern for the Palestinian people and their suffrage. The intention is to put economic pressure on companies that may be connected to Israel, hoping to bring a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Boycotts have a long history as a non-violent form of protest and advocacy. They can serve as a way for people to voice their concerns and ex-



press support for oppressed communities. In the case of the Starbucks boycott, it represents

a call for change, emphasizing the need for a peaceful end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that respects the rights of both parties.

The Starbucks boycott is not about a coffee chain; it is a way to show support to the Palestinian people in their struggle for justice. The boycott seeks to draw attention to the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict and emphasize the importance of peaceful resolution. The focus should remain on a better future for both Israelis and Palestinians through international cooperation and end this cycle of conflict.

What Are You Thankful For?

By Addison Ortiz and Jezzarai Bugarin



Mrs. Morris (biology teacher)

"I'm thankful for Jesus Christ because I'm going to spend eternity with him, so I don't have to worry about anything."



Paola Ramos, (9th grade)

"I'm thankful for my friends, my family, my dog, and all the time I get to spend with them."



Sophia Vazquez (9th Grade)

"I'm thankful for my best friend Amanda, my family, and shopping."

Kurtis The Fish : The Secret to Chino's Success

Elena Alvarado and Dominic Jimenez

September 9th, 2022, Kurtis became the team's pet. Kurtis was found outside of the locker room by Daniel Nakashima during halftime of the Valley Christian game. At the start of the game the Chino Cowboys were not doing so great, and by halftime we were down by 12 points.

While entering the locker room during halftime there was a random goldfish in a clear container. It was unexpected, but the players handed the fish to Coach La Rosa, and from there the Team Manager held onto it for the rest of the game.

About 10 minutes into the 3rd quarter the Cowboys scored touchdowns and they were in the lead. It was like magic, no one expected that to happen since they were losing and some of the players lost hope thinking

Valley Christian would win that game.

The Chino Cowboys won 17-14, everyone was jumping up and down celebrating. Some of the coaches and players thought the fish was what brought them good luck since the team was losing before they found him.

Coach Blackburn's thoughts on Kurtis were, "He was sad at first because Kurtis was left alone, but when the game ended, and we won everyone declared Kurtis is our good luck charm after that game."

Ever since the Valley Christian game, Kurtis has been on the sideline for every varsity game. He is usually in Blackburn's classroom on Friday's during the day.

"Kurtis brings a lot of excitement to Blackburn's class-

room and students want to feed him and take pictures of him, and they love to hear stories about him."

As the season ends Kurtis will still be swimming watching his boys in blue do what they do best, be a team. Tyler Donovan (9) says, "It feels cool to know how significant a fish is to Chino's achievements"



Kurtis The Famous Football Fish Jamming Out to Music.

Foreign Exchange Student Achieves Title of Student of the Year

By Shawn Nelms & Nathan Herrera

Giada Sacchi, a current foreign exchange student, has been named international student of the year. She received this achievement from San Carlos Moratorium, a school located in

Modena, Italy.

Originally from Italy herself, Sacchi came to the school as part of San Carlos Moratorium's foreign exchange program. She has been an at-

tendant of the school since August 2nd of this year.

She received the news of her accomplishment about two weeks ago. When asked about her reaction to this news, Sacchi

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

**Giada Sacchi, Student Of The Year**

said, "I was happy. I was proud of myself."

"It is about how you did during the school year," said Sacchi regarding what being named International Student of the Year meant. When asked about why she was chosen for this achievement, Sacchi said, "They told me that I was always at school without absences and that I used all my strength for school. I studied a lot, and my behavior was good."

Sacchi will receive an award along with her achievement, although it is not yet known what the reward will be. When asked if she had any other thoughts that she wanted to express, Sacchi said, "They all told me I won because I can create a balance between my life with friends. That I can have fun, but also be good in school."

The Origins of Dia De Los Muertos

By Anette Vega and Deja Hernandez

Dia de Los Muertos can be traced back about 3,000 years from indigenous people in Mexico like the Olmecs, Aztecs, Maya, and Toltecs. It is said that the festivities were guided by the goddess Mictecacihuatl. The Aztecs' intentions were to guide the deceased to the after-life by placing useful objects on their burial sites.

They celebrated a whole month dedicating ofrendas to the dead, unlike today where we only celebrate for two days. Today, we celebrate the first two days of November. The first is spent honoring the children who were taken from us too soon, while the second day is spent honoring and remembering the adults.

To many people, Dia de Los Muertos is commonly thought as the Mexican equivalent to Halloween, as it is not. Although the two holidays do in fact have similarities like dressing up in costumes and parades, Dia de Los Muertos is believed to be the day when the border between the spirit world and real-world dissolves.

During this day, the souls of the dead awaken and return to the living world to feast, drink,

dance, and play music with their loved ones. In return the living relatives treat their deceased family members as honored guests in their celebration with favorite foods, offering at their graves, or on ofrendas built at their home.

Ofrendas can be decorated with candles, marigolds, skeletons, skulls, alongside foods like stacks of tortillas, fruit, or pan de muerto. During the Day of the Dead festivities, people mostly wear skull masks, or dressing as a Calavera Catrina. The outfit is paired with a long, flowing dress - preferably in a bright colored lace with the appropriate makeup and a crown of flowers.



Chino Theater's Frozen Junior STORMS the Mainstage

Photos Courtesy of Alyssa Hampton (class of 2027)

