

CENTURION SPOTLIGHT

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Dancing the Night Away at House of Blues! Katre and Tan Crowned Prom King and Queen

By Anelina Alegre, Editor-in-Chief



Seniors Omkar Katre and Gabby Tan were crowned Prom King and Queen. Students enjoyed a night of dancing under the magical lights of House of Blues. (Photo Credit: Anelina Alegre)

Cypress's 2023 prom was held at House of Blues with the theme is *Down In New Orleans*, inspired by the Disney movie "The Princess and the Frog." Juniors and seniors had the opportunity to vote for the theme, with the other option *Down the Rabbit Hole* for the movie "Alice in Wonderland."

The prom dance took place at House of Blues, a popular concert venue in Anaheim. It's located at the Anaheim Gardenwalk, an outdoor entertainment and shopping district known for its pretty views and fascinating shops.

At 7:00, students began filing into the House of Blues, where there

was music, refreshments, and appetizers waiting for them. The venue had two floors; the first floor was the dance floor along with seating, as well as an enclosed casino room for students to gamble or hang around with food and refreshments. Some popular gambling games among students were Black Jack and roulette.

On the second floor was the House of Blues Foundation Room, where there were couches and booths to lounge in and two photo booths.

Near the end of the night, the DJ called everyone to the dance floor to announce the Prom Court winners. The nominees were **Alex Torres**, **Gabby Tan**, and **Camille Williamson** for queen, with **Matthew Morrell**, **Elijah Gomez**, and **Omkar Katre** for king. The audience on the dance floor cheered as Omkar Katre and Gabby Tan were crowned Prom King and Prom Queen, sharing a magical slow dance together. Tan says she had such a fun and wonderful experience, recalling the moment she was crowned queen. "I'm still on cloud nine. To be honest, I was really shocked because I couldn't hear my name over the cheering and thought it went to someone else... I almost had a heart attack when I turned around and I saw Mrs. Binford," she says. "It was a good kind of shock though! I'm grateful to everyone for making prom such an amazing night."

Senior **Francheska Banzil** made the most of her first and last prom by dancing with her friends and taking photos at the booths. "It fulfilled the prom experience that I always looked forward to as a kid," she said.

Prom is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many, and the students made the most of their evening by dancing the night away and making special memories with their friends.



Seniors Anelina, Megan, Ashley, and Bianca pose for a photo in the Foundation Room, where students could rest their feet and chill with their friends. (photo credit: Anelina Alegre)



Students tried their luck by gambling in the casino room. (photo credit: Gabby Tan)

Inside This Issue:



Two-Year Or A Four Year College?

Opinion, page 2



Fortnite Tournament Features,

page 2



The Wiz Musical Student Activities,

page 5



Boy's Golf, League Championships

Sports, page 7

Next Year's ASB Officers Elected; Houston Named President

By Benjamin Viveros, Staff Writer

The Cypress High School 2023-2024 ASB leaders have been chosen.

Next year's ASB president will be **Aidan Houston**. The president leads ASB weekly financial meetings, organizes and schedules CHS registration volunteer hours, and coordinates, writes and compiles all announcements for ASB events and

activities to name a few. Houston says, "As ASB president, I plan on increasing student participation and students supporting each other." He also adds, "It's going to be a great year, we are hopefully going to make it the best year."

The 2023-2024 ASB vice president is **Hailey Kim**. The Vice

president is second in command and will serve as ASB president in their absence. The Vice President takes minutes and runs financial meetings in the absence of the secretary or treasurer. They also have unique jobs like overseeing and presiding over class council meetings.

The new ASB secretary is **Sara Shigekawa** and the ASB treasurer

is **Camille Ilar**. The ASB secretary mainly focuses on documentation and note taking. They also have to take detailed and comprehensive meeting minutes. The ASB treasurer focuses on the financial side and deals a lot with money. They must provide consistent and accurate financial information...

continued on page 2

Which Is Better-A Two-Year Or A Four Year College?

By Emily Galvan, Staff Writer



Deciding whether to go to two year or four year school is a tough decision (Photo Credit: Emily Galvan)

It's almost time for graduation, and seniors know that if they intend to continue their education after high school, there are pros and cons for both a two-year community college and a four-year university. **Jennifer Hurtado**, who works in the college and career office in the library, gave some guidance regarding the matter. "With a two-year college, if you end up going to a community college, you are then able to transfer over to a four-year college, where you'll finish off your bachelor's degree. With a four-year college, you'll just go

straight from high school and you don't need to transfer at all. You just complete all the coursework there for your bachelor's degree. With a community college, you're able to explore your options, whereas, with the four-year college, you are maybe not having that opportunity to explore." Basically, the two years is to get your associate's degree and then you move to a four year to work on your bachelor's. Going straight to a four year is advisable if you have done dual enrollment and essentially have your associate's degree going

out of high school. This is because in two-year colleges, you can only get an associate's degree, and you can't go any higher.

"With a two-year college, you can get an associate's degree, which is not a bachelor's degree, as it usually takes about two years. Junior colleges also offer other programs if you don't like math," said counselor **Diane Kuramoto**, "You can only get the AA degree at a junior college, or a community college. Four-year universities are where the first degree you can get is a bachelor's degree, which usually takes about four years. For the people that know what they want to do, going straight to a university might save them a little bit of time because they are only doing the mandatory stuff."

Generally, a community college is smaller, has more starter classes for getting your foot in the door, and is more affordable than the four years. As you take entry-level classes at the colleges, there isn't a guarantee that you'll have expertise in those fields. When attending a community college, you can stay close to home because they are nearby, and still play sports. It's easier to balance jobs and school. There is financial aid, and the quality of education is the same as four years. Unfortunately, there is no campus life, unlike the four-year uni-

versities due to the students living on campus. There are also fewer networking opportunities than the four years, failing doesn't prepare you for the real world, and there is a chance that your credits won't transfer when switching schools, so make sure to keep an eye on it.

Four years are larger, have more opportunities than two years, and you can continue finishing the degree that the two years started. When attending the four years, you have a guaranteed level of expertise, campus life, a variety of sports, and a well-rounded college life that two years doesn't offer, and they usually have the course of your choice available. There are scholarships for first-time freshmen at college, and they can live on campus. However, the first years are required to live on campus. Information is easy to find in the four years if you want to research more about it.

Despite all of this, loans and debt, and the tuition costs rising, are a heavy cons to the four-year universities. On top of this, recent grads have an unemployment rate of about 7.8%, and some feel that a college degree doesn't really prepare you for the real world either.

With the information given, what choice are you making?

NEWS Continued from page 1

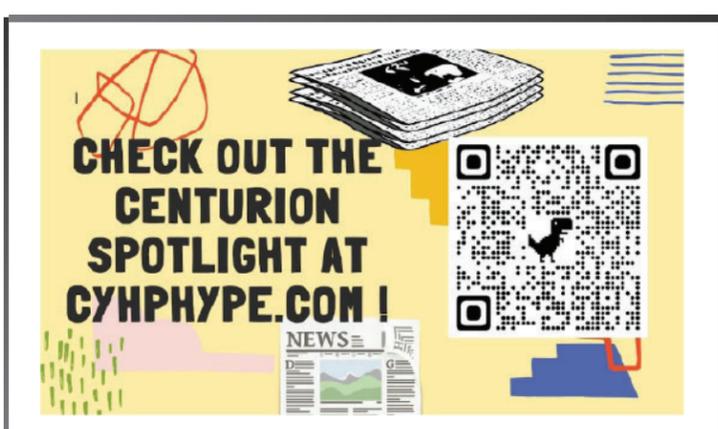
...The treasurer must also establish and monitor budgets for assemblies, Formal supplies, etc.

The class presidents are key positions in the ASB office. They help and assist in all ASB events, host and preside in their respective class councils, set up fundraisers for their respective classes, and help be role models for their class to name a few. Next year's Senior Class President is **London Coulter**. The Junior Class President is **Aimee Bunsirisert**. The Sophomore Class president is **Nikesh Patel**.

This is an exciting lineup for the year 2023-2024 and is sure to be a year full of events and activities.



Next year's officers include Aidan Houston (top left), Hailey Kim (top right), Sara Shigekawa (bottom left), and Camille Ilar (bottom right).



FEATURES

Fortnite Debuts Annual Tournament: Ch4S2

By Nicolas Vega, Staff Writer

Fortnite has been a very competitive game for a while and with a big tournament coming up, here is the information you should know. There are multiple dates for this event, for NA-West and NA-East, the first week will be taking place on 13th, 14th, and 16th of April at 5:30 PM PDT. The second week will be on 20th, 21st, 23rd of April at 5:00PM PDT. The final week will be on 27th, 28th, and 30th of April, at 5:00PM PDT. In order to participate, you have to reach the Champion Division in Chapter 4 Season 2. There are a total of three rounds for Week 1, 2, and 3. The top 200 duos from Round 1 will advance to Round 2. The top 50 duos from Round 2 will advance to the Final Round.

Each week, teams will accumulate Series Points based on each week's results, and top teams on the

Series Leaderboard after three weeks will be invited to the Grand-Finals or Surge Week depending on final ranking. Players must be at least 13 years old, have MFA enabled and an account level of 50 or greater. For the prize pool of \$10 million, BLAST and Fortnite are teaming for a third straight year to hold the 2023 Fortnite Champion Series.

There has been a complaint going around the community regarding the competitive servers switching to Central. Everyone from the East and West will have worse ping and a difference of even just 20 ping could completely change the impact of a fight in game. Student **Yunsu Kim** says, "The new change to Central servers is going to definitely affect my gameplay but I will still play the best I can to qualify."

All the Thrills with the New Scream VI Movie

By Grace Kim, Staff Writer



Scream VI comes to theaters with new characters, stories, and Ghostface. (Photo Credit: Grace Kim)

A new Ghostface made its bloody debut in New York City in the new Scream VI movie. Coming after Scream (2022), Scream VI, directed by Matt Bettinelli-Olpin and Tyler Gillett, became a worldwide success being released in theaters around

the world on March 10 and since then, making a total gross of \$163.6 million since then. The casting of rising stars like Melissa Barrera, Jenna Ortega, and Mason Gooding made the movie gain enormous attention from teen audiences, becoming a part of many students' spring bucket lists. Audiences, no doubt, were surprised by the plot twists throughout the movie.

In the movie, four survivors of the Woodsboro Massacre move to New York City for a fresh beginning after almost losing their lives to the murderer, Ghostface. However, a

new Ghostface makes an appearance with a bloody rampage, and everyone fights for survival and protect their loved ones at all costs. The survivors try to get rid of Ghostface whom they seem to never be able to escape from. With many unexpected twists and turns, the movie stimulates the audiences by guessing who the murderer is during the entire movie until Ghostface is unmasked and its motivation for murder is revealed.

Kyle Lim, a sophomore at Cypress explained, "I was hesitant at first but it was funny with friends." With many jumpscare and gory scenes, the movie is enjoyable to watch with a companion to feel the nerve-racking terror together. Tightly holding each other and having a

funny scream can tighten bonds.

Eric Lien, also a sophomore at Cypress said, "My friends and I just watched Scream VI 'cause we thought it was scary, but we never watched any of the past Scream movies. I think I would recommend it to people who've seen the earlier Scream movies so you would understand it." Since the movie is a sequel, those who watched the movie for the first time had to understand what previously happened through context.

With an average cost of \$15 in theaters, the film is worth the experience. As a movie with a good amount of horror and a solid story, it's great to watch to recollect memories with friends and family.

Daisy Jones and the Six: The New 70's-Inspired Show on Prime Video

By Mia McMurray, Staff Writer

Daisy Jones and the Six was released on March 3, 2023, on Prime Video. The show is ten episodes long and is based on the popular novel by Taylor Jenkins Reid. The show is in mockumentary style and tells the story of a fictional 1970s band's rise to fame, and their sudden decision to disband after a performance at a sold-out show in Chicago. The band members agreed to an interview 20 years later to finally explain the truth behind their decision.

The two main characters are Daisy Jones and Billy Dunne, played by Riley Keough and Sam Claflin, respectively. Riley Keough's name might sound familiar as she is the daughter of Lisa Marie Presley, Elvis

Presley's daughter. Sam Claflin was in the British romance film *Me Before You* and was also in *The Hunger Games* movie series. The two actors show amazing chemistry with each other through their performance in *Daisy Jones and the Six*.

Daisy and Billy struggle to understand their love for each other throughout the show. They fall in and out of love with each other, making working together in a band difficult. This complicates interactions with their future partners. The lyrics of their songs reflect their difficulties. Throughout the series, the other band members struggle with love affairs and addiction, which adds tension and conflict to the story and

makes for an engaging plot.

The plot of the show was heavily influenced by the story of the popular 1970s band Fleetwood Mac. The music in the show sounds very similar to Fleetwood Mac's music. The soundtrack is similar to Fleetwood Mac's pop-rock 70s sound. The band's abrupt breakup and the love affairs that occur within the fictional band are reflective of this real-life band. The show also depicts the band members' addiction habits, which are similar to those of Fleetwood Mac members.

The show is a great depiction of 1970s bands and music. The show



Daisy Jones and the Six on Prime Video (Photo Credit: Mia McMurray)

captures the energy of the 1970s so well and, through its inspiration, mirrors Fleetwood Mac's struggles. Overall, it is an entertaining series and much recommended if you love 1970s music.

Fairy Tail: 100 Years Quest Release Date Coming Soon in 2024

By Damian Kruger, Staff Writer



The new season of Fairy Tail comes out soon. (Photo Credit: Damian Kruger)

Years after "Fairy Tail" last aired in September 2019, the creator, Hiro Mashima, during a Q and A live stream, was asked about the continuation of the Fairy Tail franchise. He confirmed that there will be a sequel called "Fairy Tail: 100 Years Quest," which will be coming around early

January or spring of 2024. The sequel "Fairy Tail: 100 Years Quest" takes place where the main character Natsu Dragneel and his team embark on the 100 years quest to "seal" five potentially destructive Dragons in hiding known as the Five Dragon Gods, all equal in standing with Acnologia, the antagonist. The rest of its members at the guildhall are introduced to a new recruit named Touka. Stirring suspicions by Gajeel, Juvia and Jellal. Making for an anticipated and long awaited sequel to the Fairy Tail franchise.

For those who don't know, Fairy Tail is a Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Hiro Mashima. It was centralized in Kodansha's weekly Shonen Magazine from August 2006 to July 2017, and then adapted to an animated series, produced by A-1 Pictures and Sate light, and directed by Shinji Ishihira from 2009 to 2013. Running again on April 5 2014, to March 26 2016. Then aired from October 2018, to September 2019. The series took off, selling off to over 72 million copies in print, making it one of the best selling manga series of all time. Not only that but it had inspiring numerous spin-offs, including a prequel, Fairy Tail Zero, and the newly announced sequel, Fairy Tail: 100 Years Quest.

The plot of Fairy Tail is about a young man with pink hair

named Natsu Dragneel. Natsu was taken under a dragon, Igneel, which was adopted and raised as his own. Because Igneel was a dragon, Natsu had the abilities, skill, and mental prowess of a dragon. Becoming one of the Dragon Slayers, allowing him to do as a dragon could. But fatefully, Igneel disappeared, along with all of the dragons. And on that day, Natsu Dragneel made it his quest to find his adopted dad and all of the dragons. To bring them back and find out who or where they had vanished to. Natsu and his comrades' journey embarked for an iconic and memorable franchise, ending in July 26, 2017.

Until now. The upcoming sequel is one of the most hyped and anticipated comebacks for the series.

4 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Wonders of Culinary Help Students Work Together Mrs. Karapoulios' Class Teaches Useful Life Skills

By Alex McDevitt, Staff Writer



Culinary student James mixes the ingredients for his recipe. (photo by Alex McDevitt)

Culinary class is where you learn to make amazing food that you can share with friends and family. Each week students learn a different recipe to cook and how there are many different ways to make meals. They learn how to make delicious food with friends and get to share stuff with their team. They also do lessons on how to prepare the food, how to store it to keep it fresh, and how to use the ingredients when putting them in the bowl. Students also learn about the cooking utensils and how to make great meals with them.

They get to work in teams and do their best to make the meal that day.

There are also food drives where students help pass out soups, breads, and salads to people that show up to pick them up. This helps the students learn how to work as a team and, if they join a bakery when growing up, they will have the experience to know how to work with the other bakers.

Mrs. K, the teacher of culinary, loves her class and students. The reason she wanted to be a culinary teacher was because she “loves

to cook and help others.” So when she found a way to do both, she took that path and made many memories here at Cypress. She loves seeing her students cooking together and is proud to see them cook something amazing. She said, “I feel very proud of them and I feel good that I taught them something that they’re going to be able to use in life.” She loves her students and giving a skill to use in the future always warms her heart and she can’t wait to see what the future holds for them.

ASL Students Bring Centurion Pride To the Angel's Game

By Millie Damasceno, Staff Writer

On Tuesday April 11th, **Ms. Winterton's** ASL class went on to sign the national anthem at an Angel's game. During the national anthem it is seen as honorable if you stand at your tallest point and give attention to the symbol of American unity and freedom that our country represents. People who are hard of hearing deserve to have that same opportunity to show respect for our country, and Ms. Winterton's class provided them with just that.

Ms. Winterton said, “It went good, the only problem was that it

was not very accessible for the Deaf community because they had us really high up in the seats, we looked like ants signing, and they also didn't keep the camera on us for more than five seconds.” She also added, “Overall it was good, it looked good, my kids did great, but for me, for the actual Deaf community that we were trying to serve, it wasn't accessible.” Although the overall event didn't successfully help as it was initially planned to, Ms. Winterton's class did a great act of help for the Deaf community, keeping up Centurion pride.



Centurions getting ready to sign at the Angel's game. (Photo by: Ms. Winterton)

Flag Football Coming To Cypress High? New Sport Approved By CIF

By Lauren Kim, Staff Writer

GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL



Flag Football is coming to Cypress High! Are you ready? (Collage credit: Lauren Kim)

The lady Centurions are getting ready for the new addition that is coming to Cypress athletics and that is... Flag Football!

Flag Football is a modified version of football in which tackles are avoided and ball carriers are

brought down by removing a marker, or flag, that is loosely fastened to a belt. This sport requires speed, reflexes, and your confidence. With Flag football coming up, let's see what the possible upcoming players and athletic director Russell have to say about flag football.

CHS Athletic Director **Jeff Russell**, explained that several stages were needed in order for it to work. Flag football was approved by the California State CIF section, and the Southern Section, and the Anaheim Union High School District also has to confirm it and then it is time to prepare for the team and sport. “I think everybody at some point in time has played flag football either in Junior High, or in High School, or in elementary school, and I think that's why it's popular . . .but it has the fun portion of playing flag football.”

Administrators are looking for students who have experience with the sport, how many people are signed up, and whoever has their athletic clearance. There won't be too many games to start with, since it is fairly new to our school, but the district is planning on games and tournaments for flag football.

Mr. Russell is so excited for this new sport, and lots of female Centurions have already lined up for next year, including the upcoming freshman. It is a great addition to girl's sports, and a great opportunity for girls who don't play a sport currently.

Cypress is waiting patiently for the new sport to arrive, and Centurions are so thrilled for Flag Football to be a new addition to our athletic program.

Magical Musical Eases on Down to Cypress High School

By Benjamin Viveros, Staff Writer



The combination of Cypress Theater, Dance, and Choir performed their first 2023 musical, *The Wiz*. (Photo credit: Benjamin Viveros)

Cypress Theater, Dance, and Choir put on a visually stunning performance of the 1978 musical, *The Wiz*, on April 27 and April 28. This musical was filled with excellent performances with witty remarks and catchy musical numbers. The performers included ASL signing for deaf audience members. Along with the Theater teacher **Marianne Stewart**, there were also two student directors, **Emily Anesi** and **Miranda Chen**.

The story followed Dorothy, played by **Ysabel Niebres**, venturing across the world of Oz in search of *The Wiz* played by **Natalie Grace Cheung Uy**. Along the way, Dorothy meets new friends and companions like the Scarecrow played by **Konrad King**, the Tinman played by **Christopher Moore**, and the Lion played by **Julie Dubois**. While en route, they encounter conflicts like the evil Wicked Witch of the West, also known as Evillene, played by **Cieun Lee** and her Flying Monkeys. There were also

roadblocks like the Kalidahs and the Poppies. Dorothy and her newfound friends trekked to the Emerald City.

Making *The Wiz* was challenging. The main participants in the play were theater and dance, so they had to collaborate to make a good musical. There were practices in class and rehearsals after school too. Dance teacher **Kerri Fenton** said, "Each department worked separately; we didn't bring it together until two weeks before the show." Putting together a large show has "... a lot of

moving parts," Stewart said, "There's a lot of costumes and props, a lot of people moving around our tiny stage. I wanted to make sure that everybody had that moment where they get to be seen and heard," she shared.

The musical was full of energy and had many catchy songs like *Ease On Down The Road* and *He's the Wizard*. Overall *The Wiz* had a nice balance of story and song. Alongside the visuals of Dance, the acting of Theater, and vocals of Choir, this musical was an upbeat change of pace from the traditional *Wizard of Oz*.



Natalie Uy played the *Wiz*, stunning the crowd with her acting and vocals.. (Photo credit: Benjamin Viveros)

A New Addition for AUHSD Seniors: Capstone Showcase

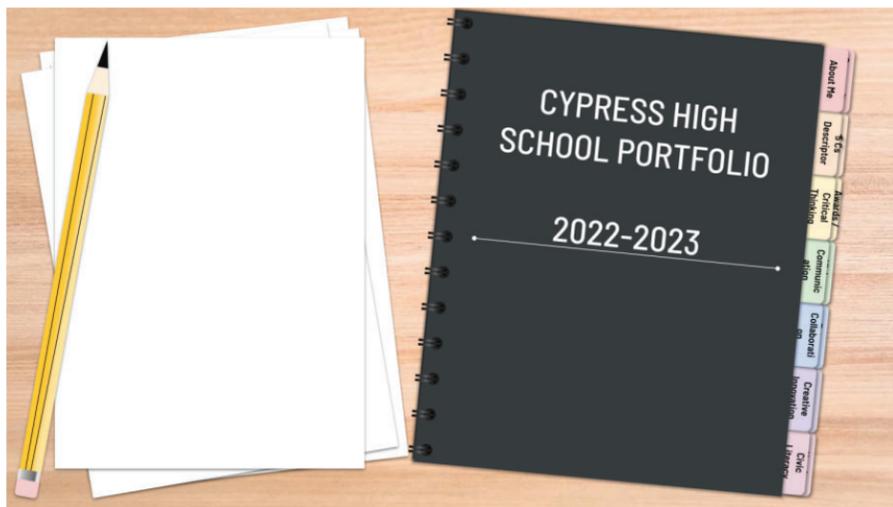
By Reid Hulst, Staff Writer

As the academic year comes to a close, the seniors of Cypress High School prepare to bid farewell to their school and embark on a new chapter in their lives. But before they do, they are tasked with the responsibility of presenting their accomplishments and memories from their high school tenure. The new edition of capstone presentations has become a final reflection and sendoff of graduating seniors, leaving a lasting impact on both the presenters and the audience.

Senior presentations are more than just a formal requirement to mark the end of high school. They are a culmination of years of hard work, personal growth, and self-reflection. It's a time for seniors to reflect on their academic achievements, extracurricular involvements, and cherished memories. It's an opportunity for them to share their stories, express their gratitude, and showcase their talents and passions to their peers, teachers, and families if possible.

Presentations followed a simple format, students arrived at their designated classrooms, delivered said presentation, and answered questions from respective panelists. Since the time the class of 2023 entered high school, talk of the capstone project was always in the background. It turned out to be for the better as the seniors of this year had the option to choose from any project, from any year of high school that related to the five C's. Students were also encouraged to link such projects or evidence of projects to the designated slide deck, allowing the selected audience to witness what the students have done throughout their tenure accompanied by said students' verbal presentation. Students were also asked to dress in formal attire, not only training them for job interviews in the future, but to make a good impression as well.

The student perspective is important too, some may argue, the cornerstone of the project to begin



Each senior created a personalized slideshow to showcase their high school achievements and experiences. (photo credit: Reid Hulst)

with. When asked about the benefits of the capstone presentations, Senior **Elliot Ko** said "It gives you a good chance to brag about yourself, something you don't often get the option to do; in other words sell yourself and your achievements to these reviewers." In other words, this showcase gives students the rare opportunity to take pride in their various academic

achievements. Senior **Alexandra Torres** also had some interesting insight. "It's a great opportunity to prepare yourself for real world events." All in all, the senior showcase presentations seem to be a worthy addition to the catalog of AUHSD seniors, giving them a platform to speak their mind, and a constructive step into their futures.

Cypress Runners Show Hard Work Can Pay Off; Vuong Chosen For Championships

By Juliana Dubois, Staff Writer

Cypress runners have been pacing through success all season! In October of 2022 cross country officially qualified to go to CIF. Most recently a selected few were chosen to compete at California's Annual Orange Track/Field Championships. **Alan Vuong** won the high jump, with the height of 6'6" and future ASB President Aidan Houston placed 2nd in the 400 meter race. Along with the girls defeating Valencia High School with the score of 64-63 on April 11th.

Sophomore **McCovey Jackson**, who has been doing track at Cypress for two years, said, "Last season was a fun and exciting intro to the sport because I was not able to

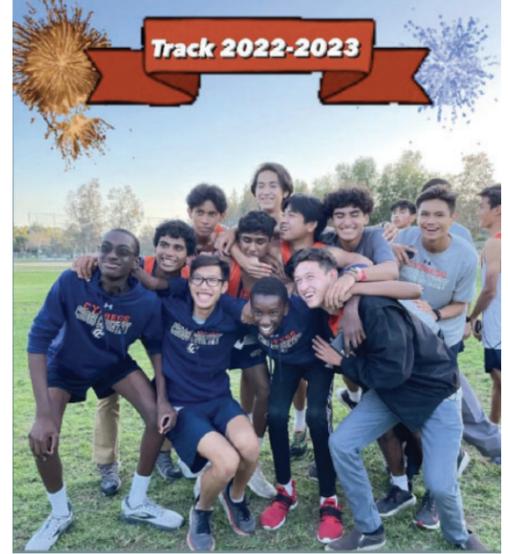
do it in middle school and I had never done it before. We also managed to win League freshman year, which was an exciting experience in itself."

"I feel like I've improved significantly from last year, just like how my mentality and my training has changed from last year," said long distance runner Sophomore **Ryan Hwang**, who has also been in track at Cypress for two years. "My favorite part about running with the distance team is that it never gets boring running with the same people." Senior **Matthew Hwang** has been in Track for four years. He recommends track because it is a sport that teaches you what hard work can accomplish, "There's no denying that running is painful,

he said but the end result is worth it and improves every aspect of your life."

Luke Grove current sophomore claims that "last season was a great victory for Cypress Track and Field. Being the Empire League champions was not an easy goal to achieve. I credit the amazing performances by our athletes and mentoring from our coaches. As the season comes to an end, Centurion Track Participants will close out with outstanding scores, hardworking participants, and the sweet speed of victory.

According to **Coach Eyman**, this Thursday April 27th there will be the League finals for the Cypress runners.



Cypress Runners rejoice after another great win! (photo credit: CypressTrack Instagram)

Cypress Badminton Ends Their Season With Success

By Zoe Chung, Staff Writer



Senior **Alex Kim** plays singles in his final game against Whitney. (Photo By: Zoe Chung)

Cypress High's Badminton team consists of hardworking and dedicated individuals, practicing daily for their games with Coach Brian, Coach Daniel, and Coach Spencer. The season began on February 28 and since then, their players have consistently proved themselves as they continued to show their efforts and success through their games. But who are the individual players behind the net?

Sophomore **Gabby Duran** shares her experience as a member of the team. "Competing on the badminton team has been a really fun experience overall. Our team is very welcoming and they are like a second family to me. I have zero regrets about joining the team, but if I were to redo one thing, it would've been to try out for the team during my

freshman year rather than my sophomore year so that I could have met everybody on the team sooner and made more memories with them."

When it comes to competing away at other schools, there were some mixed experiences, although the majority were good. "I had good and bad experiences competing at other schools, but they were mostly fun and a good learning experience." Duran added that she preferred to compete in away games because "I like the bus rides going to school and back home. The bus rides with our team range from being chaotic to peaceful. I also like exploring other schools, in general, to see what they look like."

Duran went on to describe the various ways in which badminton had impacted her life. "Badminton

has always impacted me as an individual in many ways, but the biggest change it had on me was expanding my comfort zone. I remember being scared to try out for the team because I was intimidated by all the really good players, but as time passed I started to grow more comfortable with them and they helped me improve as a player. Playing on a sports team in general was also a step out of my comfort zone, but overall I'm glad I started playing badminton because now it is like my second home."

Sophomore **Linda Taing** said her favorite games were against Westminster and Fountain Valley because "they've been the most respectful and fun to play against." When it comes to games, Taing prefers playing doubles because a partnership is always fun. "I prefer playing doubles because I enjoy having a partner who I can communicate with and have fun with, the pressure is a lot less when you know you can rely on someone else, and overall I enjoy how quick-paced it is."

If she were the coach of Cypress Badminton, Taing says she would make JV players more of a priority to see their improvement. Taing also stated that she would probably cut down on team size overall.

"If we had more funding, I'd really like us to have more equipment and better uniforms for us without us primarily do-

nating money, and maybe just spread more news and awareness for our sport. We're really small on this campus but I want us to be known too!"

As the season comes to an end, the Cypress Badminton team never fails to show their hard work and dedication through their games. The diligent individuals on this team hope to see more recognition and support as they finish their season with a win in their final game against Whitney 16-5.

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Saldana's Swimmers Power Towards Greatness; Girls Win League Finals

By Brianna Naranjo, Staff Writer

This year, the Cypress swim teams are stronger than ever. Both the girls and boys have had a great season and made the Cypress community proud. This year, both teams had people filled with lots of talent and they put in the hard work to swim the best they could.

The swim coach, **Reilhe Saldana**, said the change that they have made is impressive and she feels "really proud of what they have been able to do and what they're going to do." Her favorite part of coaching is definitely seeing how much students have progressed from the beginning of the season to the end of the season. She feels that every year the coaching techniques vary, because some students may need more discipline than others, or some may need to learn to love the sport again. Coach Saldana has done an amazing job

leading her teams this year and has not disappointed for her fourth year of coaching.

One crucial part that keeps the swim team going is the support that they receive from their friends and family. This is their main factor of motivation that keeps them swimming and encourages them to win. Before every meet, they prepare to take home a win by listening to music, taking a nap, and/or making sure they eat a healthy meal. According to some students, the best part of swimming is the relaxation that comes with it, their teammates, and/or the feeling of the water. **Julien Templanza**, sophomore, said that "the euphoria of winning and the people" are the best part of swimming.

The swim team that has made Cypress proud was the Girls varsity swim team. They have done an exceptional job this season by winning



Girl's Varsity won League Finals. (Photo Credit: Julie Dubois)

the league title this year and will be continuing to CIF Prelims. Junior varsity member, **Kaela Octavio** says, "Winning League Finals was one of the best experiences I've ever had, being around the people, all the cheering, the adrenaline of rooting for your friends has been one of the coolest things I've ever been a part of."

This was an impressive accomplishment and a great way to leave their mark. The boys varsity swim team also did a great job this season by placing 4th in league this year. Everyone is very proud of their accomplishments and hopefully next year they will be back and better than ever.

Cypress Baseball Knocks Down Mira Costa Mustangs

By Deborah Son, Features Editor



With a strong teamwork and determination, Cypress baseball won the CIF-SS Division 1 game. pc: orangecountyregister

The Cypress High School baseball team continues to make his-

tory through the years, with a record of 21-7 overall. Recently, on April 20, 2023, Cypress defeated Crean Lutheran, 7-6 at home. Then, on April 22, 2023, Cypress kept their winning streak against Crean Lutheran, with a score of 13-5 at their away conference game.

Last year, Cypress High School's baseball team won the league title and Pacifica came in second. Cypress season came to an end, unfortunately

losing in the CIF-SS 1 Quarterfinals to Villa Park. This year, although they were tied with Pacifica with a score of 9-1 in league championships, a coin flip chose Cypress as the league's number one playoff representative. Students from all over the district fight for a spot on the team and the reason for it is clearly evident. Cypress High School baseball will play against Mira Costa Mustangs for their 4th CIF title.

Coached by **John Weber**, the players are ready to claim their victory once again. "The goal is to win the league and then win CIF," he said.

In the first round of CIF, Cypress won by 3-0 difficultly because of Mustangs starter, Chris Canavan. Cypress Pitcher, Luke Matlock had six strikeouts over five innings in the CIF-SS Division 1 playoffs. **Chewy Thomas** hit a two-double in the inning, scoring for the game's first run. Justin Tiller scored next, giving Cypress a 2-0 lead. However, while **Gabe Cobian** tried to score, Thomas was hindered as he rounded third by the Mustangs third baseman. As it was called for interference, it allowed Cobian to score the Centurion's third run.

Boy's Golf Wins Empire League Championship Slevcove Named MVP and Individual Champion

By Jonathon Rice, Staff Writer

This season, boy's golf, with only one loss, won the Empire League. Golfers **Nathan Yoo**, **Kaiden Desai**, **Ryan Slevcove**, and **Taylor Reser** have progressed to league finals. The top boy's golfer, Ryan Slevcove, won the Empire League championship, earning the League MVP as the individual champion.

Slevcove says that he likes golf because "it's so versatile, like there's a lot of different shots you can hit." Slevcove also says that it is unique because

he likes "how every round's different." When Slevcove plays golf, he does good because he is so focused. He said that he just tries to "stay calm, take good shots." Slevcove was a former player for Cypress baseball and he says he "was progressing more in golf and made it pretty far during CIF," compared to baseball.

Ms. Metry, a former assistant coach, has been the head coach of boy's golf for two years at Cypress High School. Metry states that one

of the reasons she coaches golf is because she has "thoroughly enjoyed working with the kids." She also says that another reason is "Seeing the talent level we have on the team." Something special that Ms. Metry says about boy's golf is that "There's some amazing young people we have out there that play extremely well. It's amazing to see them every day."

Beginning May 8th, boy's golf is competing in the CIF Individual Regional.



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