

# EAGLE ERA



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## Living by Luck: The Holocaust Through the Eyes of a Survivor

*Guest speaker George J. Elbaum reiterates the lessons learned from his childhood during the Holocaust*

**Sandra Resurreccion**

*Staff Writer*

Born into one of the most dangerous fragments of time, his identity made him vulnerable to all the evils that mankind was capable of. His survival relied on one thing, and one thing only—luck. The place: Warsaw, Poland. The time: September, 1939. His name: George J. Elbaum, a Jewish boy.

“It was not a very good place to live, and it was not a very good place to die,” he explained.

We all learn about the ravages of the Holocaust through our history and literature classes. We know



*Picture by Neither Yesterdays Nor Tomorrows*

that 6 million Jews and 5 million separate minority groups were mercilessly murdered and persecuted at the hands of the Nazi Party. We know about the concentration camps, about Auschwitz, about how their victims faced humanity’s darkest evils and endured them. But what our studies have failed to teach us is how the survivors of the Holocaust continued to live in a world that vitiated their value as human beings.

For George J. Elbaum, living by the motto “Neither Yesterdays Nor Tomorrows” (which is also the title of his

*See “Holocaust” on page 6*

## Save Money, Live Better, Prom

*Tips and tricks to have the perfect night without spending a fortune*

**Karen Supandi**

*Staff Writer*

Let’s be real: prom isn’t cheap. First, you pay for your ticket, which is currently \$90 with ASB and \$95 without. Once you get that out of the way, you spend more money on the perfect dress or suit. Finally, you take care of the many smaller things for the day of: you buy a corsage and boutonniere, arrange hair and makeup, book transportation, hire a professional photographer. The list goes on, and by the end of the night, you’re hundreds of dollars poorer.

You may think that it’s worth it, but you really don’t have to spend all of your parents’ money and donate both of your kidneys in order to afford everything

and have the perfect night.

First, I’m going to target you girls who haven’t already gotten your dresses yet and advise you to shop at the right place. Dresses from online retailers, such as jjshouse.com or dressesof-girl.com, are definitely cheaper than the ones in stores, especially those in shops like Group USA at Great Mall that specialize in formal gowns. If you’re concerned about the sizing and would much rather see the dress in person, you can find dresses with similar, even prettier models in department stores like Windsor or Macy’s.



These are definitely much easier on the wallet, and the stores typically have a more reasonable return policy than formal-specific shops should you find another better-looking dress closer to the big day. The same concept also applies to guys and their suits. Places like Men’s Wearhouse easily rent tuxedos for up to \$200, mostly because the store sells very high-end brands, such as Calvin Klein and Kenneth Cole. In reality, though, you can just wear an off-brand suit. If you’re not looking to drop a couple hundred dollars on attire,

any fitted tuxedo looks the same in photos. In addition, buying is often cheaper than renting—the difference is usually less than \$100, and if you purchase it, you can still wear the suit at another time.

The floral department—namely corsages and boutonnieres—is also an area that you can save on. The Newark Flower Shoppe here in Fremont sells corsages with real roses for \$19.99, which is honestly teetering on the more expensive side. Other, more high-end florists could sell them even for up to \$50! Therefore, an alternative is to buy ones with fake flowers that cost less from online retailers (the aforementioned jjshouse.com sells them for \$3.99

*See “Prom” on page 7*

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## Aleesha Kashif and Sandra Resurreccion

### Staff Writers

On the night of Tuesday, April 11, 2017, FUSD Superintendent Jim Morris held a community meeting with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and FUSD parents to discuss racial harassment and the role it plays in learning environments at Fremont schools.

The meeting occurred in response to multiple unidentified violations of Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which include cases of harassment based on student ethnicity. Two representatives of the OCR were present to inform concerned parents about the approach that FUSD is taking to alleviate such harassment to

provide safe and equal learning spaces for their students.

Initially, the OCR wanted to be very specific about the difference between bullying and harassment. While often thought to be synonymous to one another, the two terms used interchangeably lead on very different meanings. Although bullying is a prominent topic when discussing school safety, the night's discussion harbored around racial harassment—the discrimination of someone based on race, color, or national origin—and the different forms of it: labels, stereotyping, name-calling, accent-mimicking, making fun of someone's appearance based on their origin, etc.

Regardless of initial intentions, the content of ethnic harassment spreads de-

rogatory and condescending ideas upon its victims, and thus, will not be tolerated by school officials. In an attempt to eradicate such harassment among FUSD communities, the school board aims to tackle harassment from the bottom up, starting with elementary schools. The key is to instill more fairness, kindness, respect, courage, and compassion into elementary school children.

The board wants to teach students to express and accept cultural diversity, not suppress it. Members of various cultural backgrounds will be arranged to speak to children about their beliefs, values, and principles. The board only hopes these measures will be enough to prevent future harassment.

# A Reflex Race: Badminton is More Than a Backyard Sport

*The sharp skills needed to compete in this sport largely dispel its leisurely reputation*

## Karen Supandi

Staff Writer

Before you disagree with me, think about it. Where did you last see a badminton match?

You'll probably say on television, filmed as a casual sport played outside somewhere sunny. The manner in which badminton is portrayed in media contributes a whole lot to the prestige of the sport, so it makes sense if you think badminton is meant for the backyard.

But there's a reason for that, you say. Badminton isn't portrayed as a fierce sport because it doesn't need the physical intensity required of other sports.

Well, if you think covering as much as four miles in a span of a single match isn't physically intense, then I guess you're right.

Badminton is the fastest racket sport in the world, and in a competitive game, you have to be alert. Always. The shuttlecock, the ob-

ject that players hit over the net, is pretty small and, according to Canada's official Olympic team website, it could reach speeds of up to 306 miles per hour (almost one and a half times faster than the speed of a golf ball).

"It's a hard game," American High badminton team captain April Gong (12) said. "You need really good strategy because you always have to predict your opponent's shots."

In fact, in a competitive match, predicting is probably the only way you can even get to the bird early enough to set up a good offense. The goal is to ultimately get the opponent out of position so that he or she will deliver a shot easy for you to kill.

As a player, though, you



have to keep track of your opponent's approximate location on the court at any given time. This will determine not only the type of shot you want to execute, but also its direction, whether it be a straight or cross.

"You don't want to hit to where your opponent is," member of the American High badminton team, Catherine Lin (11), said. "You have to make them run, so they won't have time to smash to you. You'll also tire them out."

This highlights the main challenge of all badminton players, which lies in physical stamina. According to a study from Baylor University, the pulse of badminton players sharply increased from 72 to 125 beats per

minute following a three-game match. This means one thing: badminton is highly conditioning and you exert periodic bursts of energy throughout the game. This is primarily why badminton is such an intense sport: a 21-point reflex race between you and your opponent, it's a sport where both speed and physical endurance are especially essential for you to win.

Sure, badminton is not as popular here in the United States in comparison to basketball or football. It's understandable that you memorized every single one of Stephen Curry's shot percentages but don't know who Lee Chong Wei is. But never underestimate a badminton player's physical capacity, for a world-champion in this sport has to be in prime condition to compete well.

And if you still don't believe me, it's okay. I'll just put you on a court to play a singles match so you can see for yourself.

# Campus Life

## Flipping to the Next Chapter

*Junior Kevin Chang yearns to be a prodigy as he dedicates his days and nights to his passion: Martial Arts*



**Aleesha Kashif**

*Staff Writer*

He walks amongst AHS students camouflaged, using his mask of an ordinary and overworked Junior. Monday to Friday, he's just another face entering the 500 wing as brunch ends, the brilliant kid in AP Physics, or one of the hundred something track kids waiting for their ride to Tak-Fudenna for a track meet. On the weekends, he's someone completely different.

He is Kevin Chang (11): an artist, martial artist, fighter, and performer.

Saturdays and Sundays are sacred to him; every minute he trains to become the Grand Champion of The San Jose Tiger Claw—a gateway to his yearning desire of representing the U.S. this year in the Seventh World Traditional Wushu Championship Competition in China's Sichuan Province.

For Chang, martial arts goes beyond his own skill. "I really hope to inspire others to start doing martial arts and spread the knowledge of it," Chang stated. "I would like to one day change the way martial arts is viewed

in today's society—I want people to respect it as a sport and recognize it as an art, not just a self defense essential."

Chang's mission—which seems to have existed forever—started only a few years ago when his parents enrolled him into Shaolin Kung Fu, the first step in Chang's Kung-Fu career.

"I was really small, so my parents thought martial arts would benefit me," Chang stated. "They made the right decision."

*See "Kevin Chang" on page 6*

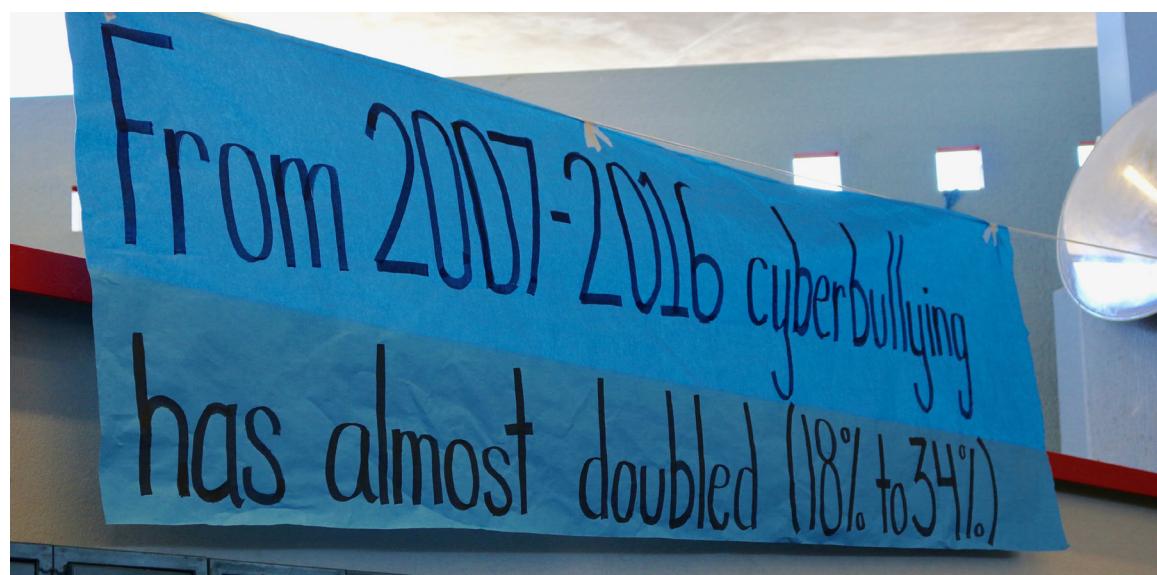
## Students Spread Love and Positivity Through Anti-Bullying Week

**Allan Sainz**  
*Staff Writer*

In the midst of the increasingly popular Netflix series, "13 Reasons Why" and concurrent high school drama, anti-bullying week at AHS brought to light what really matters within a new age of cyber and social bullying.

Posters reading statistics regarding the severity of bullying were posted around the rotunda on Monday, April 3rd. Best of all, therapy dogs were available for petting in front of gateway on Wednesday and Thursday. The week ended with students throwing confetti on Friday as a way of symbolically spreading kindness. Students from all around the campus participated in a hashtag online to show their gratitude.

"This year we're really promoting being a positive environment," Ashley Liu (10) said. "We want students to know that if they need assistance or help with how they feel [or] if they are be-



ing bullied, that they can talk with counselors, staff members, and other students."

Anti-bullying week used social media to fight against cyberbullying with the hashtag "#onlypositivityatAHS." Students used Facebook and Twitter to spread love and appreciation of other students.

"I like the idea of spreading positivity, especially through social media, because it lessens the negative stigma around the topic of

[bullying]," Bella Rivera (11) said. "The hashtags make people feel good, which is always nice since school tends to be stressful."

Anti-bullying week brought to light an issue that often becomes lost among other exciting school events like Spring Fest or March Madness. This campaign helped many students with the new challenges they face in a social-media-dominated society.

"I've been a victim of bul-

lying before, and this week made me realize that I'm not alone," a student, who has asked to be kept anonymous,

said. "Although American isn't bully free, it's definitely good to see that they're trying to make this campus a safe place. I think anti-bullying week was a real success."

The purpose of anti-bullying week was to try to unite American High and display the effects of bullying so that no student feels left out or unsafe.

"We wanted the students to understand that we may have our differences, but at the end of the day, we are all Eagles," Riya Gill (12) said. "We are all people, and that kindness starts at home."

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I knew music before I knew how to count to ten. Music is my escape, my time to let out my emotions or just let my mind wander. I've played piano since I was 3, but when I discovered dan tranh (the Vietnamese zither) when I was 10, my life changed.

Dan tranh is like a portal to the past. Playing everything from centuries-old imperial court music to country-side folk songs to pop songs with a traditional twist, I find myself reconnecting with my roots. My teacher, Vanessa Vo, has taught me far beyond the notes and shaped me into the person I am today. After winning a grant from the state of California, I travelled and performed with her and other professional artists across the US as her official apprentice.

The only thing I love more than performing is teaching. I feel so much joy and pride when I see others embracing the traditional music and learning about its history. My students, ranging from ages 7 to 68, have shown me that it's never too early or late to start appreciating your culture. I hope I can continue to inspire the next generation of musicians and keep the beauty of our heritage alive.



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## Audrey Do



Ms. Do

I had a student once a little while back. He was kind of awkward and shy and kept to himself. I think by being Asian-American, he felt compelled to do what his parents encouraged him to do instead of doing who he is. He was very artistic and creative, but his family wanted to persuade him to do what Asians typically should be doing -- [being] doctors, engineers, lawyers, and to be high-performing in AP classes. I saw so much potential in him, and it pained me that he could not be who he was. He could not actualize his potential and gifts in front of the people who he loved. Interacting with him made me want to reignite my creative side. He made me want to paint again and do watercolor and acrylic [paintings]. He pulled out the artistic side of me that I don't always get to do because of the nature of my job, which is curriculum, working with admin, working with teachers, and working on solving problems.

We talked a lot since he would come by every lunch. By his senior year, he kind of told me that these teeny tiny interactions went for miles. I'll never forget him.

## Jenna Mack

A while back, I would make a "halloween locker" around that holiday because I just love spooky spirit! I would take a mannequin head, decorate it with scary features, and put it in a locker along with tiny pumpkins. Then, I would put a pumpkin sticker on the locker so people would open it. And then the day before Halloween, someone stole the head, and I didn't think much of it so I let it go. A while later, I was told it was seen being carried into the locker room in a plastic bag, but I still didn't really think it was a big deal. Funny enough, a year later, my friend Tori got called into the Principal's office and she saw it on his bookcase!



Human  
A

## Ms. Sorensen



My journey to becoming a counselor was met with my own school counselor telling me that it would be unlikely for me to pursue the same career, as it would require a masters degree. I grew up in a low income family and college seemed more like a dream than a reality. I had the grades, but lacked the guidance. Until Mr. Neiman, my Econ teacher helped me complete two college applications- he believed in me, and I landed at CSU, Monterey Bay. This experience defines me as a counselor and my passion working with students.

of a student deciding to talk to their parents about a struggle they're going through. A counselor gets to be here for it all-and it's what I'm most proud of. I want students to know that there is always someone to turn to if you need help. Lead with kindness and integrity, celebrate your unique and amazing self, and make decisions that are best for you-like a full night's sleep! You are important!

They inspire me daily - AHS students, you inspire me! I've had many moments over my years as a counselor that stand out- it's so hard to pinpoint one. I love celebrating successes with students, from the A on a tough exam, to making up credits for graduation, or being accepted to a dream college. Sometimes it's the bravery

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# Mr. Howard

are some interesting stories from your travels around the world?

"I traveled in Asia, I didn't make any reservations for hotels. I just showed up because that seemed like the more adventurous thing. And eventually I ran into a situation where there was no room in [the hotel]. So to speak, and so I just went back to the train station and I just sat on a bench for two hours. When the train station opened, they had McDonalds in there, so I slept in there for three hours and then when I was surrounded by dozens of Japanese business men in suits and it was very strange."

# Friends of AHS

How would you describe your friendship in a sentence?



Sachin's a cutie.

# Sachin & Sid



## Ms. Barrington

Did you have any memorable moments from living in Dubai?

There are a thousand memorable moments after living in Dubai for three years. I loved having the opportunity to travel and volunteer with students. I led two ten-day global Habitat for Humanity trips; one to Romania and one to Cambodia. They were completely different trips both because students are unique and the goal of each project was vastly different. Also one trip required wearing parkas and the other required constantly drinking fluids to prevent heat exhaustion.

In Romania we traveled with twenty students (primarily juniors and seniors) to work in an orphanage that had fallen into disrepair. Had Habitat not stepped in to repair the facility, the city was planning to reclaim the valuable land and the children would have lost their homes. I never had to remind these students to work hard or follow safety rules. My major concern was that they occasionally ate a vegetable.

In Cambodia we traveled with sixteen freshman and sophomores to work on a Clean Water project. Since a major cause of disease in third world countries is lack of access to clean drinking water, we worked to build wells and latrines. It was evident when our ground crew met us at the airport that they were skeptical about the abilities of our group - most ninth and tenth graders are not inherently tall or muscular. Luckily by the end of the first five days we proved our skills by not just meeting our work goals, but doubling them. Exposing students to ten days of life in a remote Cambodian village also gave everyone a new perspective on being thankful for what we have.



## James Robertson

What sparked your interest in making music?

I started making music in 8th grade after I met someone online over a video game claiming he made music. I checked out his SoundCloud and his music was the genre I listened to, and I thought it mustn't be hard if someone just like me is doing it. I downloaded the program FL Studio, and have been using it everyday since. An early inspiration [of mine] was a Dutch artist, Martin Garrix, because he was only 17 when he released his successful song "Animals." After three years, my current inspirations are now Misogi and Oliver Francis. Misogi is only one year older than me, and he has produced for artists like Lil Yachty, Bones, and Night Lovell. Oliver Francis used to play guitar and sing pop punk, but now he produces his own instrumentals, raps over them, and films a music video; [the whole process is] done with his friends in his bedroom. Both are inspirations for not only music, but fashion too, which I am heavily involved with as well. I make music because I love the freedom of creating something and finishing with a product. There's unlimited possibilities with sound and ideas, and there's no right or wrong when making music.



## Mrs. Sharma

What is it like being a new teacher at AHS?

I'm new to American, but I am not new to Fremont Unified since I used to teach at Ardenwood Elementary. The best part here is meeting your former students in a totally different environment. When I walk [through] the halls, I know some kids from their Kindergarten and first grade years, and I'll see them as juniors and seniors now. Of course they've changed! They've grown into young adults, but it's always nice to meet the students again. As far as American is concerned, I really love the spirit of the students. The students are so polite and helpful. Everytime I'm pushing my computer cart outside, there's always somebody who says "I'll hold the door for you," or "Do you need any help?" It's just a really nice school environment. Students are very friendly, the staff is awesome, and everyone's really helpful.

# A Closer Look

## “Kevin Chang”

Unlike the other kids in his class, Chang had a different reason for starting: a lung problem that follows him till this day.

“I had issues with my health,” Chang stated. “I used to have shortness of breath due to lung conditions, and as a result I was not able to inhale enough oxygen for my body.”

Despite his health issues, the burden of his extra-curriculars, and his heavy academic workload, Chang has gained incredible ground in the past five years following his true passion. In school he’s the friend, the class clown, and the calm guy that

sits in the back of the class, but on competition days he doesn’t hesitate to unleash the beast and amaze crowds with the Nine-Section Whip swirling the chain around with marvelous handiwork, doing helicopters under his torso all while obtaining no injuries whatsoever.

“I have 24 medals and more counting,” Chang exclaimed as he recalled the competitions he has participated in. “These competitions include the competitions in Berkeley CMAT, San Jose Tiger Claw, Intramural, and the Shaolin Temple Cultural festival in L.A.”

In a pool of marvelous

stages, Chang favors one the most: the AHS gymnasium. “The spirit week rally was a big accomplishment for me because I was able to break out some moves this school has never seen before,” Chang exclaimed.

Meanwhile Chang continues to awe American High school at every rally with his favorite move: the backflip. At one point, merely a few months ago, they did not come so easy to Chang.

“Getting a backflip down was actually tough,” Chang told. “There was a struggle. I started staying after class to practice my flips, usually [doing] thirty backflips

after class. It was all about the dedication and being focused, and within a week my backflip got way better.”

Chang continues to face these struggles each day as he goes beyond the back-

flip, dedicating his weekends to practicing Kung-Fu—the art that changed his life—in hope that one day he will represent his country and take his talents to a whole new level.



## “Holocaust”

book) is his way of persevering through life in spite of his unfortunate upbringing.

“I live in the present,” he expressed. “Neither yesterdays nor tomorrow. I’m an optimist, and I don’t [focus] on the Holocaust. I focus on today. Sometimes, when things are serious, ignorance is bliss.”

Despite this optimism, Elbaum’s experiences with the Holocaust have elicited a pessimistic view toward the growth of humanity throughout time.

“I’m an optimist about all things other than humanity,” he said. “[In regards to] society or humanity in general, I am not so optimistic because our 5000+ years of recorded history show that human character hardly changed during this period. While we can invent airplanes and computers and nuclear bombs, basic human character changes only on the evolutionary timescale. That’s why, even after all the horrors of the Holocaust, genocides continue to happen, as in Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur, etc.”

While the trauma of the



Picture by Neither Yesterdays Nor Tomorrows

Holocaust negatively impacted several aspects of his mindset and his life, other moments in his childhood inspired his future. Elbaum distinctly remembers the moment in which he discovered his interest in airplanes, which later led to his career in aeronautical engineering. After escaping Warsaw, Elbaum and his mother remained hidden in a Polish-Catholic couple’s shed for a short period of time, where he first spotted a German plane.

“There was a big hole in the shed’s roof [through] which I watched white

clouds on the blue sky,” he said, as he read an excerpt from his book. “Once, I saw an airplane with black crosses on its wings flying across the sky. At the time, I didn’t know that it was a German airplane, and I didn’t know that the black crosses were [Swastikas]. It looked so beautiful to me against the blue sky, not constrained in a dark shed as I was, and I felt strangely drawn to it, wanted to be in it, wanted to be with it. I’ve never lost that feeling nor my interest in airplanes.”

Due to numerous near-death experiences both throughout his childhood in

the Holocaust and his adulthood in America, Elbaum believes that his current life is a product of pure luck. From escaping the Warsaw ghettos at just the right time, to being inches away from a grenade explosion, to surviving a plane crash in his adulthood, he believes that he is simply lucky.

“My mother survived by luck, strength, and wits. I only survived by luck,” he said. “I feel that there’s such a thing as random luck, such as when Leon [my Polish-Catholic guardian at the time] called me just in time so that I threw away a

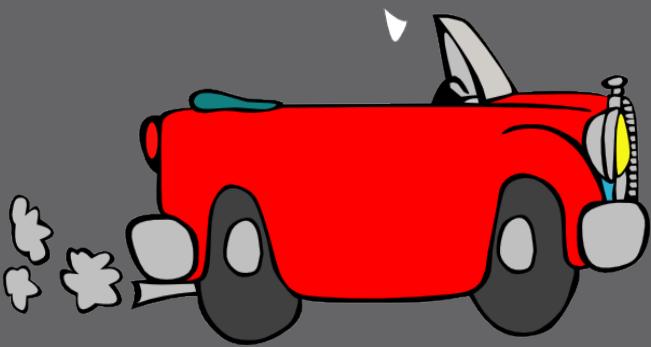
live grenade which landed in a ditch. It just happens. During the Holocaust, I survived by random luck, and as an adult some of my life happened by luck, and some by taking a risk and responding to an opportunity.”

By sharing his life with students at American as well as the rest of the world, Elbaum hopes to evoke deep thought from his audiences regarding the reality of the world which we live in and the pivotal choice that lies within each of us.

“You are old enough to understand what I lived through, what I survived,” Elbaum expressed. “Yet, you are young enough to still have an open mind and decide for yourselves, as you go through life, whether you want to be on the side of truth and fairness and justice, or the side of hatred and intolerance. By the time most people reach adulthood, their minds are no longer open to major, life-steering ideas. I feel that by talking to students about the Holocaust, I am giving back for having survived it, and giving back is very gratifying.”

# Campus Life

## Just Keep Driving: An Insight into College Rejections



*Still crying over what you found in your application portal? Don't.*

**Karen Supandi**

Staff Writer

"They made a mistake." "It's their loss." "It's not meant to be."

Your friends and family tell you these exact words, but they don't lessen the harshness of reality: rejection sucks. No matter how many times you try to convince yourself that you'll probably do better in a college that did accept you, you know deep inside that someone out there doesn't think you're good enough. You start to think back to all those times you studied until two in the morning to save your dying A. Yet, it all boiled down to a single sentence:

"It is with my sincerest regrets that we were unable to admit you for the fall of 2017."

If you think about it, though, there's a certain

kind of beauty that lies in understanding and eventually healing from college rejection. The words "it's not meant to be" are things that you don't want to hear, but they're true. Optimistic thinking is not a phony attempt at self-validation. You hear stories all the time about highly qualified individuals who didn't get accepted to a top-tier school just as much as stories about under-qualified individuals who did, and this all demonstrates one simple truth: acceptances are never guaranteed. You didn't get into a school because you weren't good enough. You didn't get in because you weren't lucky enough.

The one mantra my dad has been repeating to me this past month that I now

find has extremely profound meaning is this: college is not a destination, but a vehicle. Some people ride in silky black BMWs while others roll around in a rickshaw, but they all have the same ability of reaching the same place.

"Where you go [to college] doesn't determine your potential," Pranav Munjal (12) said. "It's all about how much work you put in and what you make of it."

It's not the end of the world if you didn't get in anyway, since there are ways to change your admission decision. Although the chances are very low, you can appeal and ask for the admission officers to reconsider you as an applicant if you present a valid reason. Waitlists should also be taken advantage of, since

several students who were accepted to a college don't actually choose to go there.

If none of those work, though, you still shouldn't worry. Every school will always have advantages and opportunities that you wouldn't be able to get elsewhere.

"Take it in stride," American High School counselor Mrs. Ronkainen said. "Students wind up at the school they're meant to be at."

Don't think that this concept is redundant. It is possibly one of the truest statements you will ever encounter during acceptance season. Trust me when I say you'll be happy no matter what, for you are intelligent enough, good enough, and will achieve great things and meet great people wherever you go.

## "Prom"

each), which are pretty much identical to the real thing. If you're adamant on authentic flowers, though, you can always make your own.

Hair and makeup are also easy things you girls can save money on. Salons and professional makeup artists can charge you anywhere between \$65 to \$110, so save this money by going to a YouTube-loving relative or friend who has even the slightest skill in doing makeup. If you don't know (or trust) anyone, though, visit the cosmetics counter in places like Macy's or Sephora. The people there would do your makeup for free, but be aware that they will expect you to buy some of their products afterwards.

Regardless, it is a cheaper alternative because you bring home a product that you can use at a later time.

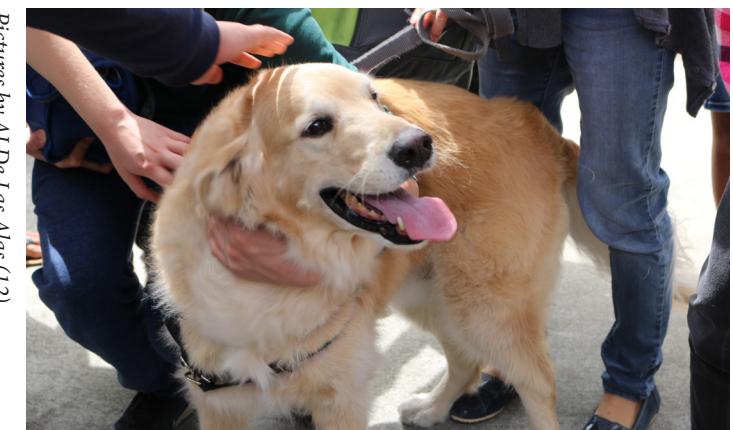
Save by skipping the professional photographer, as well, for some of these companies charge very high rates to take photos that will pretty much only end up as your Facebook profile picture for three months. Honestly, all it takes to have quality pre-prom photographs is a friend who owns a nice DSLR camera (those big, fancy ones with interchangeable lens). No one will ever know or care to find the difference—and to tell you the truth, they'll probably only see the picture long enough to hit the "like" button before scrolling farther down their Facebook feeds.

People often believe that going big on what is considered the pinnacle event of junior and senior year is worth it, but why not save money when you can? Prom is undeniably an exciting time, yet it'd probably be more fun without the mental weight of your parents' stacked-up bills.



Comic by Megan Chan (10) and Sophia Du (10)

# DAWG, DON T STRESS

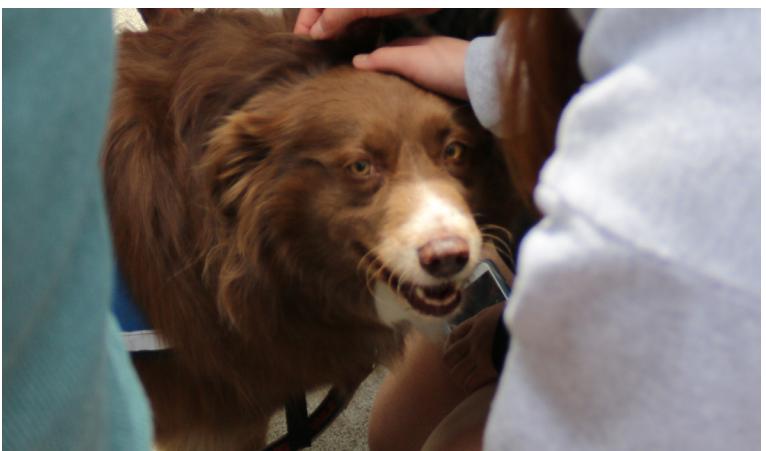


As soon as the lunch bell rang on Wednesday April 5 and Thursday April 6, herds of students power-walked to the front of gateway with one goal in mind: petting dogs.

As a part of American High's Anti-Bullying Week, the leadership class invited Ohlone Humane Society volunteers and their therapy dogs to the school in an attempt to destress the students on campus.

The dogs are part of the Society's Animal Assisted Therapy program that serves to enhance the emotional and physical health of its patients. The organization is based in Fremont and volunteers typically visit schools, retirement facilities and hospitals around the tri-city.

"I'm basically retired, and I needed something for myself and [my dog] Sophie to do," Volunteer Noel LaBerge said. "Both of us had the time to do something, and she loves it, as you can tell.



Volunteers from the Ohlone Humane Society visited AHS with their therapy dogs during Anti-Bullying Week. Sophie, the 6-year-old Australian Shepherd shown above, came with her owner Noel LaBerge to help students feel relieved from the stresses of high school.

She helps you feel relieved from any stress."

With AP tests just around the corner, the visit from the therapy dogs came at an ideal time in the school year.

"We specifically chose [this week] because of all the testing we have at this time

of year and since students are stressed about grades," Assistant Principal Mrs. Melsby said. "We would definitely like to continue at least once a year or so to have an opportunity for people to come out and provide their support and love."

## 2017 AP Testing Schedule

**Morning 8:00 AM**

**Afternoon 12:00 PM**

**MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY**

Chemistry  
Environmental  
Science  
Psychology

Computer  
Science A  
Spanish  
Language and  
Culture  
Physics 1:  
Algebra-Based

English  
Literature and  
Composition  
Physics 2:  
Algebra-Based

U.S.  
Government and  
Politics  
Chinese  
Language and  
Culture

U.S. History

**MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY**

Biology  
Physics C:  
Mechanics  
Physics C:  
Electricity and  
Magnetism

Calculus AB  
Calculus BC  
French Language  
and Culture

English  
Language and  
Composition  
Macro-  
economics

Statistics

European  
History

**Week 2**