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THE HOWLER

Voice Of The pack



**HAS BASKETBALL: TOUGH
LOSS, IMPORTANT LESSONS**



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IT WAS A GOOD DAY: HAS AT LEOFOO

BY: PETER YON

The last day of school started off with a rowdy and explosive morning; Almost every single student was ecstatic about the long-awaited end of semester trip, and every classroom seemed to quake from the amount of chattering from the riled up students. As the students arrived at Lefoo Village, they were separated by their grades and given a quick briefing before they were free to roam around in the vast theme park, eager and ready to take on any ride that came into their vicinity.



All of the rides at Lefoo Village were nothing short of adrenaline-inducing, intense, and above all else, fun, but there were still a few standouts here and there. One of them was the popular Big Canyon Rapids Ride, where fun came at the expense of getting drenched, but this only added to the experience. It was also infinitely more enjoyable with friends, and many special memories seemed to be made from the ride. “We ambushed Peter when he wasn’t looking,” Said Savvy Yon, a tenth grader. “Me, David and Kerdis ripped his raincoat so that he would also get drenched. Man, that was so funny.”

However, not only did the rides stand out in Lefoo Village, the food there was impeccable as well. For example, Curly’s Hickory Hamburger Restaurant had immaculate service, as well as mouth-watering food that attracted many of the worn-out and hungry HAS students after wandering around under the hot sun. “These are the best hot dogs I’ve ever had in my life.” Isaac Luther, an eleventh grader commented. “10/10, would definitely come back again just for the food.” There were also many different food carts that sold different bite-sized snacks and ice-cold beverages that were perfect for the hot weather, making the day much more pleasant.

All in all, this experience was a treat for the HAS students, to say the least, and definitely well-deserved. This was definitely a day that will be etched into our minds for the years to come and one of the most significant events of 2023 for HAS.



WINTER ENCHANTMENT:
NEW STAGE AT CHU

BY: CHLOE LOW

The winter season has once again graced our high school with its chilly embrace, bringing with it not only frosty weather but also a burst of creativity and talent. Students and faculty alike eagerly anticipated the highlight of the season – the annual Winter Performance.



This year's Winter Performance marked a significant departure from tradition, as the new campus ushered in a fresh era of creativity and spectacle. Breaking away from the familiar confines of the old stage, students and faculty were treated to a dazzling showcase at the CHU Theater on the university grounds. This exciting change of venue added an extra layer of grandeur and sophistication to an already eagerly anticipated event.





The CHU Theater, with its expansive stage, provided the perfect canvas for our school performers to unleash their talents. The larger seating capacity accommodated a broader audience, including students, parents, and community members, creating an atmosphere of excitement and anticipation.



This Winter Performance was not just a showcase of talent. It was a celebration of the unique and diverse talents within our school community. The new stage provided the perfect opportunity for these hidden talents to shine, leaving a lasting impression on everyone. From singing, to captivating dance moves, and from theatrical performances, to the Christmas spirit exuded by the elementary students, the event was a celebration of the diverse talents that make our school community truly exceptional.





HAS BASKETBALL

BY: KERDIS PAN

From 12/25-12/27, the HAS men's basketball team embarked on a 6-man journey to play against some of the best Taiwanese local schools in Hsinchu. The Hsinchu City High School Basketball Tournament, consisting of over 10 teams from all around Hsinchu, was hosted at GuangFu High School, the HBL reigning champions. HAS was lucky enough to be able to participate in this tournament to compete with local schools. Despite only having a 6-man roster, the team was extremely eager and motivated to prove themselves.

Over the course of three days, HAS participated in a total of four games, with notable moments and key takeaways.

The first game against Saint Peter Senior High School ended with a final score of 58-34. Kerdis Pan, a senior captain on the team, led the team in scoring with 29 points, while David Kim, a junior, contributed 5. Because of the limited players on the bench, the players had to strategically conserve their energy throughout the games, making the most out of their timeouts and rotations whilst also maintaining efficiency on the court. Many of the players got tired early on in the game which resulted in poor defensive rotations due to lack of conditioning, something that the team desperately needs to work on.



The second game against Cheng De Senior High School was more of the same lackluster defense from aching fatigue, resulting in a final score of 27-80. However, it was David Kim who led the team in scoring with 13 points, shooting an astonishing 3/7 from the three-point line with Andrew Kao, a senior, crashing the boards on defense and on offense. A truly memorable moment for the team was when Erwyn Murphy, a senior who just recently joined the team's starting lineup, scored his first career points. He also relentlessly boxed out on the defensive end, ending the game with 7 rebounds. This was definitely one of the toughest matchups that the team has faced as the players struggled to keep up with the offensive pace and perimeter shooting. However, seeing others step up was truly inspiring.





The third game was against the National Hsinchu Senior Industrial Vocational School. Despite losing the game 77-47, Kerdis Pan exposed their offense by tallying a total of 3 steals as well as 3 rim-breaking dunks, finishing the game with 27 points. Another notable performance was by David Kim, continuing his barrage of three-pointers from the previous game with 4 long-distance jumpers whilst contributing 13 points. Despite the loss, the team felt more comfortable and confident during the game.



The last game against Municipal Xiangshan High School was the team's final chance to win a game. The game started out extremely competitive, with David Kim continuing his hot streak of three-pointers, shooting 3/4 in the first quarter which earned him the nickname "First Quarter Kim." Going into the 3rd quarter, HAS led 34-32, their first ever lead in the tournament. However, the tides turned as Andrew Kao, the team's most valuable rebounder, landed awkwardly, injuring his ankle. As a result, along with the fatigue, HAS lost 53-37.

Tournaments like the Hsinchu City High School Basketball Tournament provide a great opportunity for other teams, and for HAS, to test their skills against a variety of opponents and showcase their abilities. Playing against some of the best local schools in Hsinchu adds an extra level of competition and allows the team to gain valuable experience and insight to the game of basketball. The team will continue to work and get better as they reflect on the tournament.



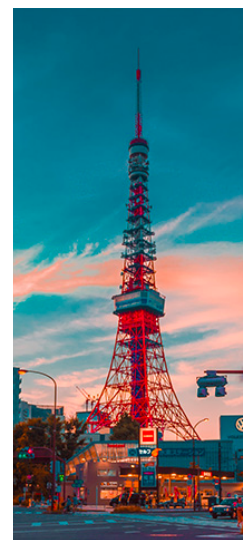


PREVIEW OF GRAD TRIP

BY: EAGLE LEE

Get ready for a super fun senior trip to Tokyo from May 19th to 26th! It's a big celebration for finishing school. Let's get excited for an awesome week full of adventures. In Tokyo, the seniors are going to have an awesome time trying yummy street snacks and delicious sushi. It's not just about food though. They'll visit cool places like ancient temples and modern skyscrapers. Tokyo has a mix of old stories and new vibes, making this trip all about great food, cool sights, and fun adventures. And there's more to the adventure! Tokyo has beautiful places, like calm beaches and stunning mountains. Each spot is perfect for making memories, taking awesome photos, and enjoying Japan's natural beauty. A super cool part of the trip is joining Tokyo's lively festivals.

Whether it's an old-style celebration or a modern party, the fun vibes will make their graduation trip even more exciting. This trip is going to be great because they're going with their best friends. They'll enjoy themselves, see new things, and create lasting memories. Everyone is really looking forward to May 19th. The seniors are all set for a fantastic week in Tokyo with their best friends.



EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN

BY: ISAAC LUTHER



In the early hours of January 1, 2024, Japan experienced a huge earthquake, causing multiple deaths as well as injuries, shocking the world. The 2024 Japan earthquake, with a magnitude of 7.2, struck off the coast of Honshu, triggering a series of events such as tsunamis. The quake originated approximately 50 kilometers off the east coast of Honshu, near the city of Sendai. Coastal areas, especially those near the epicenter, took the most impact. Reports indicated that buildings swayed, landslides occurred, and some areas experienced liquefaction.



The 2024 Japan earthquake tested the resilience of a nation that has long been accustomed to seismic activity. Japan's ability to respond swiftly, effectively, and with a focus on minimizing casualties reflects its commitment to protecting its citizens. As the recovery efforts continue, Japan is still an inspiration for other earthquake-prone regions worldwide, showing the importance of preparedness and a resilient spirit in the face of natural disasters.

The Japanese Self-Defense Forces, along with local firefighters and volunteers, worked tirelessly to rescue people trapped in collapsed buildings and provide medical aid. The rebuilding process began promptly, reflecting Japan's determination to bounce back from disasters. While the nation's preparedness measures were effective in mitigating the impact, there is an ongoing commitment to learn from each seismic event and enhance future preparedness. Investments in resilient infrastructure, public awareness campaigns, and continued research into earthquake prediction and early warning systems are among the strategies being pursued.





TAIWAN 2024 ELECTION

BY: TONY DING

In 2024, Taiwan is approaching a key presidential election, which will determine the future political direction of the island. There is strong competition between Lai Qingde, Hou You and Ke Wenzhe. This election campaign will affect Taiwan's position on the international stage, the development of cross-strait relations and the formulation of domestic policies. Let's make an in-depth analysis of the candidates and their political platforms, as well as the potential impact of the election results on the political trend in Taiwan.

Lai Qingde's election may bring more policies that emphasize social equity and environmental protection. In terms of cross-strait relations, he may seek to improve Taiwan-China relations and ease tensions through dialogue and consultation. Economic diversification and social equity will become important issues under his leadership. He began his campaign with concerns about environmental protection and emphasized his commitment to sustainable development. La Qingde said that he will promote Taiwan's environmental protection through policies and actions, strengthen international cooperation, and jointly deal with global climate change.

Hou Youyi's election may mean a focus on economic revitalization and social stability. He may promote economic reform through cooperation with industry and emphasize unity in social governance. In cross-strait relations, he may maintain his current position and seek to maintain a relatively stable state. He emphasized his achievements in governance during his tenure as Taipei Mayor and promised to bring this pragmatic leadership style to the whole of Taiwan. Hou Youyi said that he will be committed to promoting the development of Taiwan's economy and attracting more international investment through tax cuts and optimizing the business environment.

Ke Wenzhe's success may mean more political and economic reforms. He may promote the efficiency of the government through open dialogue and the integration of resources. In terms of cross-strait relations, he may adopt a flexible attitude, emphasizing dialogue and consultation. In a speech, Ke Wenzhe emphasized his commitment to the reform of Taiwanese society, including improving the efficiency of the government, promoting industrial upgrading, and improving social governance. He stressed that he would address the complex problems of modern society with new thinking and methods, while keeping the channels of dialogue open and encouraging all parties to participate in political decision-making.

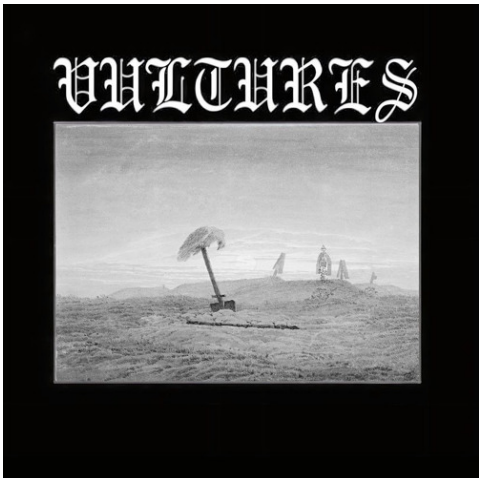




LAST SHOT AT REDEMPTION

BY: PETER YON

Throughout rapper Kanye West’s controversial and out-of-control career, he has made many infamous statements that did not sit too well with the world, both through the form of social media and speech. Although this was considered to be somewhat of a norm by the public, as they either turned a blind eye to his words and dismissed them as the incoherent ramblings of a man gone insane, or firmly believed that he was a genius and was onto something that nobody else was, in late 2022, it seemed that his career was over, with his bizarre antisemitic rants and antics making headlines. The rapper lost not only sponsorships and deal brands, but he also lost much of the faith his fans had in him throughout all these years.



With his career in smithereens, diehard fans speculated that West would drop a project sometime in the near future to redeem himself in the eyes of the public, just as he had done after the infamous 2009 VMAs incident. Much to the surprise of everyone, West would begin teasing the project in late 2023, revealing a collaboration between him and singer Ty Dolla \$ign, a frequent collaborator. He would begin the rollout from November 2023, with Ty Dolla \$ign revealing its title, “Vultures”, along with a lead single of the same name, and a tracklist for the album. However, despite all this, it seems that West is not planning on dropping the project anytime soon, as the release date has been postponed numerous times. It is well known that West has scrapped many projects before, and fans are anxious that like many other unreleased albums in his vault, West will scrap his collaborative effort “Vultures”, while some remain optimistic about this rollout being his first step towards redemption.



JENNIE OF BLACKPINK CREATES A NEW COMPANY

BY: JOCELYN YANG

Shortly after Blackpink's overall contract was renewed, one of the members, Jennie, announced her new venture, ODD ATELIER (OA), on Christmas Eve. The announcement sent Blinks (Blackpink's fans' name) all over the world flocking to the official website to check it out, which was temporarily paralyzed due to the sheer volume of visitors. ODD ATELIER, which encompasses not only music and media, but also branding, apparel, cosmetics, and other merchandise categories, seems to be a solo brand! The choice of the brand name implies a desire to create striking work that is unique, unexpected, and distinctive. This will undoubtedly give her more control and say over her own business.

Jennie's move to launch ODD ATELIER is not only a further step into European and American music and media but also symbolizes a comprehensive exploration of multiple industries. The company encompasses branding, apparel, cosmetics, and other merchandise categories, demonstrating a multi-faceted approach to the business, and Blinks' global enthusiasm, as evidenced by the rapid influx of visitors to the website which demonstrates the anticipation and support for Jennie's new endeavor. The choice of the brand name, ODD ATELIER, conveys the intention to create something unusual, unexpected, and unique, kicking off an innovative and compelling business.

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TAYLOR SWIFT PERSON OF THE YEAR

BY: GAILE AU



Since 1927, Time magazine has retained the tradition of selecting the individual or group of individuals who they believe have had the most influence on the world, for better or for worse, to be “Person of the Year”. This year, 2023, Taylor Swift was named Time’s Person of the Year—making her the first woman to appear twice on a Person of the Year cover since the franchise began in 1927. As stated in Time magazine, “Taylor Swift became the first Person of the Year to be recognized for her success in the arts, in a year when we were reawakened to questions about who makes and who owns our cultural expressions. Swift is also a symbol of generational change”.

Other than Swift’s achievements in her music career, she was recognized for her influential contributions to the world beyond the stage. According to the Washington Post, it is estimated that Swift's fans spent about \$93 million per show on tickets. Adding up merchandise, travel, hotels, food and outfits, there was approximately a \$5.7 billion boost to the country's economy by the end of the U.S. tour.

While Taylor Swift's achievements in the music industry and her contributions beyond the stage are commendable, it's important to note that not all opinions about her impact are uniformly positive. Critics argue that the commercial success of her tours and merchandise doesn't necessarily equate to substantial artistic or cultural influence. Some argue that her image and sound have evolved in a way that caters more to mainstream and commercial interests rather than pushing artistic boundaries or challenging societal norms.

Nevertheless, this recognition serves as a reminder that the power of one's voice extends far beyond the notes of a song, and it can be a catalyst for transformative action on a global scale.



RINGING IN THE LUNAR NEW YEAR WITH JOY AND TRADITION

BY: IRENE CHIN

The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year, is celebrated by most East Asian countries, including China, Korea, Vietnam, and others, during the first new moon of the lunar calendar and is one of the most significant traditional festivals in the region. During the Lunar New Year, families gather to spend time together. People try to get back home to celebrate with their families. They often work in other far away cities and have a chance to travel back to their hometowns on this special festival. Families gather for a special meal on New Year's Eve. This reunion dinner is a significant part of the celebration, and a variety of symbolic foods are provided, each representing health, wealth, or good luck.

After finishing dinner, elders give red envelopes (which are also call hongbao in Chinese) containing money (usually in even numbers) to children and unmarried individuals as a sign of good luck and blessing for the upcoming year. Before the new year, it is traditional to clean and organize homes in order to get away from bad luck and make room for good fortune. Let's talk about the red decorations. The color red is significant in Lunar New Year as it is believed to bring luck for the year and ward off evil spirits. People decorate their homes with red lanterns, banners, and other red items.

Many people choose to wear traditional clothing during the Lunar New Year. In China, this may include outfits like the qipao or hanfu, while in Korea, people might wear hanbok. Also it is common for people to visit friends and relatives during the New Year period and exchange well-wishes and gifts. Lighting fireworks and firecrackers is a traditional way to welcome the New Year. The loud sound is believed to scare away evil spirits and bring good luck.



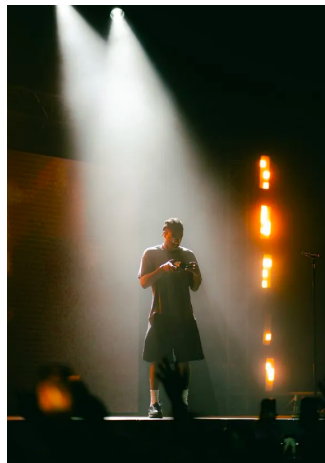
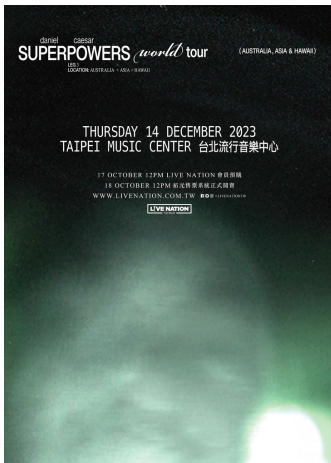


IMPACT OF TOUR CANCELLATIONS ON FAN RELATIONSHIPS

BY: IKUNO SASAKI

The enthusiasm was overwhelming as fans across Taiwan eagerly waited for Daniel Caesar's entrance for his highly anticipated Asian tour show. However, the excitement quickly changed to disappointment and frustration as the musician suddenly canceled the event with no explanation. In this article, we discuss the significance of artists accepting responsibility for such actions, as well as the impacts on their fans and their profession.

The relationship between an artist and their followers is delicate, founded on trust, admiration, and a shared love of music. Fans support their favorite musicians with not only money, but also emotion and time. When an artist cancels a show, this relationship is broken, leaving fans feeling confused and ignored.



The cancellation of Daniel Caesar's show in Taiwan serves as an important reminder of the importance of musicians embracing responsibility for their actions, especially when it comes to tour cancellations. Open communication, transparency, and responsibility are essential for preserving the trust and connection between artists and their audience, assuring the music industry's existence and life. We, as fans, are entitled to more than just the music; we are entitled to respect and consideration from the artists we passionately support.

JOKES

BY: RABY BUN

JOKE



What do pigs
use in the
shower?

Hogwash.



Why was Cinderella so
bad at soccer?

She kept running away
from the ball!



What kind of
tea is hard to
swallow?

Reality.



Why did an old man
fall in a well?

Because he couldn't see
that well!

