

# The Wolf Howl



Chandler High School || September 2023

## CHS students, parents frustrated by traffic congestion around campus

By Bella Dana, Staff Reporter



Photo by Bella Dana

Chandler High has always had a problem with traffic before and after school. Students and parents want some change to happen to the drop-off routes in the mornings and afternoons sooner than later to avoid congestion by the school. The heavy traffic at Chandler High School impedes many parents from dropping off their students and getting to class on time.

In more recent years, parents and students themselves have had more problems with traffic because of the number of students attending Chandler High; although the Chandler High administration tried to diminish this issue, it is still a problem to this day. Busy traffic in the morning is causing students to not get to class on time which can affect their attendance, possibly sending students to in-school suspension (I.S.S.) or lunch detention. Lots of students agree that

the morning drop-off routes can get hectic for new drivers which can cause anxiety and possible accidents on the road. We spoke to 11th-grade students, Dominic D’Amico and Julianna Ortiz, who shared their experiences and suggested some changes. In the first week of school, D’Amico and his parents found it hard to find enough time in temporary parking spots to be dropped off at. D’Amico has tried several spots in the front of the school and back of Chandler Center for the Arts, but very rarely did those spots work.

D’Amico explained that the morning routes “gets crowded very easily and then I’m late to class, even the front of the CCA gets crowded easily and it’s a long walk.” D’Amico has even left his house earlier than he regularly does to arrive on time for class but still ends up late to class because of traffic.

On the other hand, Julianna drives herself to school and parks at the Junior parking lot by K Building. In the first week of school, Ortiz found herself waiting up to 10 extra minutes because of parents who parked in students’ parking spots and then walked their kids to class. Ortiz explained her experiences with the Junior parking lot: “After the first week of school, it got better because sometimes security will help guide traffic. But the first day of school was messy because all the parking spots were filled with parents.” Ortiz did comment that the security guards are doing a good job controlling traffic in the mornings, but in the afternoons it’s every man for himself.

Both Dominic and Julianna agreed that Chandler High should make changes to the parent drop-off routes and even made suggestions such as new routes for parents to drop off

students or more public transportation access for students. According to Yellow Live, some helpful tips to reduce traffic congestion around school areas are using the bus system more often, staggering the drop-off times by 15 minutes or less, more separated routes to separate clusters of parents, managing traffic zones with authorities, and implementing temporary parking zones. Of course, Chandler High is already implementing some ideas like separate parking lots for different grades, trying to encourage students to use the bus system, and different routes for parents to drop off children. Although Chandler High has these traffic rules in place, there can always be more improvements made to benefit students and parents, including more security/staff to help guide traffic, more temporary parking spots for parents, and separate routes for parents and students.

## Provisions on Demand relocates to north campus

By Victoria Montenegro, Staff Reporter

Over the summer, the Provisions On Demand convenience store transferred from the JSU Media Center to the former ACP Oakland Campus. This store offers a wide variety of food, from corn dogs and burritos to Caesar salads and parfaits. You can find many convenient grab-and-go options like juice, soda, chips, fruit, and more.

POD was relocated to make it easier for students who have classes in the K building or Oakland Campus. The school hopes to provide meals to students without requiring them to walk across the campus and parking lot. This improves efficiency by allowing students to receive breakfast and lunch in several locations throughout the school, and might even save lunch time for those who previously walked all the way to the cafeteria.

Has POD benefited from its new location? Leal said, “I was really surprised about how many kids were coming through... It’s doing pretty good for just starting out.” Many students have already started buying here, and POD has been busy, especially during A lunch. Some of its most popular foods are the spicy chicken sandwiches, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and pizza.

To raise awareness of POD’s new location,

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photo by Victoria Montenegro

## Provisions On Demand

Provisions On Demand, from Page 1

signs have been placed in the area around the K building and the gate to exit campus. The school also sent out an email shortly before classes started in July to notify students of the change.

CUSD partnered with Aramark Education to provide nutritional food to its students. According to operating vendor Aramark's website, POD "puts fresh, quality food and beverage items consumers crave within reach." Holly Leal, an employee in the POD store, expressed how practical POD is for students: "If they do an actual lunch, they get fruit with it and they get juice and milk all together for one price."

According to reporting by trade publication Food-Management.com, "positive results have been obtained with Chandler High School, which has an open campus environment, seeing a 12% participation increase (in its meal program) off a \$65,000 investment on the space." Aramark is committed to offering healthy and delicious meal choices to students and does this by surveying students annually to gain insight into food preferences and satisfaction. They also ensure that "students eligible for free or reduced-price meals through the USDA National School Lunch Program access the venue as regularly as the cash students" by making sure all items are food-related. So don't hesitate to explore and try out the great variety of food at the POD store.

# Biden launches new student loan repayment plan after Supreme Court block

By Lexi Moreno, Features Editor

Since the beginning of his presidency, President Biden has put student loan forgiveness at the forefront of his administration's platform. Education plays a crucial role in shaping the future of a nation, enabling individuals to attain their potential and contribute to society. However, the rising cost of higher education has led to a staggering amount of student loan debt in the United States. With student loan debt soaring to unprecedented levels, surpassing \$1.7 trillion, President Biden's plan comes as a response to the urgent need for reform in the nation's education financing system. The ballooning debt burden has hindered economic progress for many Americans and raised concerns about equitable access to quality education.

In June, the Supreme Court halted President Biden's student loan forgiveness program. Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) was enacted after the President announced that his administration would explore another route to deliver some student debt relief, revamping the existing Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) plan to adjust monthly payments based on income

levels. It also offers the lowest monthly price of any Income-Driven Replacement plan available, ensuring greater accessibility and effectiveness. A percentage of your discretionary income, currently 10%, determines monthly payments for the SAVE plan, just as with REPAYE.

President Biden also aims to enhance the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, encouraging individuals to work in public service jobs. The plan calls for expanding the program's scope and simplifying the application process, addressing concerns that have led to the denial of forgiveness for many eligible applicants. On August 14th, the White House announced that 804,000 borrowers who have been in repayment for over 20 years begin to see their student debt canceled. Over 614,000 will have their remaining federal student loan debt canceled once this action is complete.

The President's student loan plan has sparked a range of reactions from various quarters. Supporters, including California Governor Gavin Newsome, hail the proposal as a much-needed step toward

addressing the crippling student debt crisis and improving the accessibility of higher education for all Americans. Newsome previously called for the California State Legislature to not mandate state income tax on up to \$20,000 in federal debt forgiveness. Advocates argue that the plan could have far-reaching positive effects on the economy, allowing graduates to invest in homes, businesses, and other market areas.

However, critics express concerns over the potential financial implications of the plan, questioning its feasibility and impact on the federal budget. Just two weeks after the supreme court's decision, The Cato Institute and Mackinac Center for Public Policy filed a lawsuit against the Biden administration, citing a violation of federal law by avoiding the traditional process for forgiveness policy. Additionally, some skeptics worry about the possible consequences of large-scale debt forgiveness on borrowers' sense of personal responsibility.

"Today's celebration of counting no payments as payments is just the latest example of the ongoing

delusion at the White House," said Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) chairwoman of the House Education and Workforce Committee, in a statement. "The Biden administration's blatantly political attempt to circumvent the Supreme Court is shameful. The Biden administration is trampling the rule of law, hurting borrowers, and abusing taxpayers to chase headlines."

As President Biden's student loan plan takes center stage in the national conversation, it marks a significant effort to transform how Americans access and finance higher education. The proposal's multi-pronged approach holds the potential to alleviate the student loan debt burden and foster a more equitable educational landscape. As the plan advanced through the legislative and judicial process, individuals, policymakers, and academic stakeholders have closely watched its outcomes nationwide. As of August, the Biden administration has canceled more than \$116 billion in student loans for 3.4 million Americans, according to the Education Department.

## Chandler students feel impact of Maui fires

By Kiley Jacobson, Staff Reporter

Maui will never be the same again.

The blaze burned through over 735 square miles of land on the island of Maui but did the most damage to the town of Lahaina located on the western peninsula of Maui. According to CBS, over 800 people are still missing. This will become known as one of the world's deadliest fires. After the fire in Lahaina, the flames unfortunately made their way over to other parts of the Hawaiian islands.

Students at Chandler High School in the Pacific Is-

landers Club talked about what the fires meant for them and their families. Molot Luis, a junior at Chandler, said, "It hurt to see the amount of people that were affected by the fires and seeing how much the island was changed." These fires are not only affecting the people on the islands but people all around the world. Homes that now have to be rebuilt, travel plans between families, families that now have no place to go, and so much more.

Natalie Ahoia, another member of the Pacific Is-

landers Club, described what her family is having to do because of the fires. This includes housing numerous people because her relatives' house is still standing. So, they had to greet strangers with open arms and support them through this tragic time.

What can people all over the world can do to help those in Hawaii now? Natalie said, "it's to spread awareness about the fires. The more information we get out, the more people can get the help they need."



photo by Kiley Jacobson

Natalie Ahoia is a member of Chandler's Pacific Islanders Club.



## Closed campus gates create questions for students, staff

by Perrin Ball, Staff Reporter

Have you ever been late to class because of a locked gate on campus? Closed gates and fences around our school can slow students down and cause a lot of frustration when you're rushing to English or Chemistry. Sophomore student Mell said that closed gates around campus forced him to take longer routes around campus more than twice last year.

Why are all these gates closed when open gates would make for more convenient travel?

Officer Stephen Dieu of the Chandler Police Department is Chandler High School's School Resource Officer, meaning he works with our school administration and campus security to make these decisions. He has been a police officer for 19 years and a school policing officer for 16. Officer Dieu said that the first year he was at Chandler,

all of the gates were open. This was a problem because the limited number of security guards meant that it was easy for a person to enter or exit campus from anywhere along the perimeter. That year, the school had 21 unwanted guests, and 5 of them ended up being arrested by Officer Dieu. Officer Dieu said, "There are two principles when securing a facility: first, secure the perimeter, and second, control the flow."

Dieu has worked very hard to balance safety and convenience, determining which gates need to be opened and which gates need to be closed. On a normal day, Chandler High School only has seven security guards who need to cover 73 acres of our school campus. Chandler High School is unique because we have historic buildings, use city property for classes, and have combined multiple buildings and campuses into

our own. These factors make keeping our students and staff safe a particular challenge. "Safety and security are not convenient," Officer Dieu reminded us.

Our school administration and district officials say that keeping our campus safe is an ongoing process. Mr. Milbrandt and district leaders toured our campus two weeks ago to survey security issues and discussed the possibility of adding more fencing and gates on the north part of campus.

Officer Dieu is open to any student's suggestions for improving campus safety while keeping it possible to move around campus. He can be reached by email at [dieu.stephen@cusd80.com](mailto:dieu.stephen@cusd80.com) and by text at (480) 572-6720, and don't be afraid to say hello when you see him on campus.

## Physics C cancelled due to low enrollment: What's next?

by Emily Dominguez, Staff Reporter

At the beginning of the 2023 school year, AP Physics C was dropped from course registration. Physics is a science course available for one of the three required science credits for graduation. The class studies matter, energy, space, and time. After deciding not enough students were enrolled, it was removed from the class registry. This choice took away the opportunity for AP Physics 1 students to expand their knowledge and elevate their education.

Dr. Wang is the new AP Physics 1 teacher on campus this year. She stated most students have the potential to go further into Physics C, the second year

of AP Physics. Wang explained why Physics is crucial: "It is applicable to the real world and helps further students in their STEM career." Having upper-level classes lets students get ahead of schooling after high school. According to the College Board, 48,000 students took the Physics C test last year for college credit.

Physics wasn't the only class to be removed due to lack of interest, Multivariable Calculus also fell victim to under-enrollment. One student, Andrew Phillips, was disappointed knowing classes he had planned to take were no longer available. Phillips, a current senior who plans on furthering his STEM career past high school, stated, "I didn't feel supported in my

academic adventures by the school." At the beginning of last year, he thought he would enter his senior year enrolled in Physics C and 1st-hour Multivariable Calc. Fortunately, the third year of calculus was scheduled as a last-minute 7th hour after almost being fully taken away, though it only holds 4 people. The class takes place Monday and Thursday after school for 2 hours, giving Phillips a 7-period schedule. The removal of higher-level courses has caused many students to change their academic plans.



photo by Sif Woolf

## Birds worth watching: Species to see this season

by Sif Woolf, Staff Reporter

As a birdwatcher, the fall and winter seasons are my favorite. Everything is cooling down, and migration season opens up a lot of opportunities to spot non-native species. It's really easy to catch different kinds of water birds and wood warblers. Cormorants, Herons, Egrets, and Pelicans have already been seen on the Riparian Preserve in Gilbert, one of the biggest hotspots for bird watchers. Not to mention the sights of Turkey Vultures, Osprey, and Harris' Hawks.

But by birding standards, fall doesn't start until late September. Currently, Arizona is in the midst of its rainy or monsoon season. Many Mexican species fly up during this time, and the blooming environment is good for nesting. You can also see a lot of northern migrants flying down to the desert because of the greenery. Along with Lazuli Buntings, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, and American Avocets, an abundance of hummingbirds come with the wildflowers, and insectivores follow suit as the population of butterflies and pollinators grows. Only more species fly in as Arizona cools down further, as we are already starting to see.

However, this year, there have been more issues affecting the environment, which in turn affects migration patterns and bird populations. There haven't been many monsoons this year. At most, there has been humidity, but there is not much rain to cool Arizona down. This has the potential to be dangerous for the birds flying in and native species alike.

The rising temperature and altered weather patterns have shifted the availability of food and water. Not only does this interrupt mating season, but it also forces native birds to find more suitable habitats. Even with just a single degree difference, birds of every species lose out on the range they're most suited for. The record-breaking heat has also been causing plants to flower early. The early blooming also means early wilting, the food sources of many species diminishing in the same fell swoop. Droughts and urbanization are also some of the most common problems plaguing the bird population, both kicking many species out of their natural homes.

These problems are almost entirely manmade. The heat, false springs, and droughts are all caused by pollution.

The carbon being blasted into the environment has been allowing more UV rays from the sun into the atmosphere, while also trapping the heat coming off those rays like a sort of greenhouse. Urbanization, on the other hand, is the act of demolishing habitats as a means of expanding our cities and urban areas (hence the name urbanization). With the attention brought to these problems through film, like the Blue Sky animated film Rio's portrayal of the Spix Macaw and their extinction, movements, and protests, you would think that more has been done to protect the natural world around us. But that is not the case. Temperatures continue to climb, even outside of Arizona. Despite all the awareness we have of the environment, not much has been done.

My theory is that the internet has hurt our perception of the world around us—and our relationship with the natural world has suffered as well. Our modern comforts have made a space where few people need to go outside for an extended period. The pandemic has only exasperated this, with the use of technology skyrocketing, in children especially.

## Travel Troubles: Students share about their daily commute

by Ethan Quezada, Staff Reporter

Isn't that long drive to school in the morning annoying? Lots of students at Chandler High School think the same. Chandler High is an open enrollment school, meaning that students from all over the valley can attend. Many students do not fall into the city of Chandler boundaries, forcing them to find their own transportation to school. We interviewed several Chandler High School students asking, "How long do you travel to school each morning?" Based on a survey, the average drive for a student at Chandler is around 9 to 10 minutes. Students' drive times vary widely, though. Senior Rodolfo Lizarraga takes only one minute to get to school, while Senior Sebastian Washkevich stated he drives about 30 minutes each way. Sebastian said, "I've been late because of traffic, red lights, and even my car breaking down... I would prefer to live closer." He said he is able to prevent being late by "leaving on time or earlier, making it more convenient of a drive."

Although a longer drive may sound unappealing, we also heard about the downsides of living about a minute away from school after talking with Rodolfo Lizarraga. He stated while there are benefits to living close by, such as being able to "wake up later than others and arriving to school on time," he sometimes doesn't enjoy living close. "Everyone knows where I live and sometimes people beep at me and it's noisy, especially in the mornings and football game nights," Lizarraga explained.

While there are both positives and drawbacks to living near or far, many students from outside the City of Chandler come to our school. Chandler High School unites young people across Phoenix through sports and education. Driving is just a small sacrifice each day to end up being a part of the Wolf Pack.

Faith Barnes, a corporate trainer for caretakers and an addiction specialist, stated that she viewed our use of technology today as "a way to check out, or numb out, and not have to deal with uncomfortable situations or feelings in the present moment."

It seems we are at a point where our devices are actively impairing our ability to perceive the world around us effectively. However, it doesn't take any insane, life-altering change to be more connected with the world around us. You don't need to swear off modern devices either—it can still be a great tool to connect with other people. Birdwatching is included in that.

It is a simple hobby to pick up and continue with. All you have to do is take the time to watch the trees, the bushes, and the sky around you. It is incredibly easy and flexible to do, even if you have a strict schedule to maintain. Not just that, it can improve your perception of the current state of the environment, and see more closely the need to protect it.



# CHANDLER 2023



## Chandler Wolves Hungry for Another Homecoming Win

Story and photos by Ethan Quezada and Leo Cazares  
*Staff Reporters*



As the fall football season continues, players and students are ready for that special Friday Homecoming game. The Wolves are striving for their tenth consecutive Homecoming game win (not including the canceled 2020 season). As Chandler Football prepares for the Chandler vs. Highland face-off, we get in on some details from coaches and players about this season.



This year's starting quarterback, Senior Blake Heffron explained that camaraderie is a strength for the team this season, "Last year we were kind of separated. This year we are really trying to be together as one." Heffron said their coaches have an impact on and off the field. Heffron said, "Our coaches are very good and they're very influential. They're teaching the team to become men outside of football and in the real world and how to face adversity, how to overcome adversity and get through everyday life outside of football." In addition to great hands-on leadership from the coaches, the Wolves have implemented a leadership council program every Thursday. Senior tight end Kaden Anderson commented, "Leadership is great. We have lots of leaders. Lots of guys being vocal. I feel good about how Coach Underwood and the rest of the coaches are leading us." Senior defensive end Jeremiah Young, who is a part of the leadership team added, "It feels like we are doing a good job in making sure everyone is on track with what they're supposed to be doing. We are making stronger brotherhoods and obviously striving for a championship."

Head Coach Garretson thinks the whole team is in great shape and feels positive about the season. He stated, "They put in a lot of time in

the off season, in the summertime, in the weight room, and it eventually gets time to play ball and I have been very happy with their performance." Senior wide receiver Justice Spann added, "Not a lot of teams are doing what we are doing. We do what everyone else doesn't do. We are working harder than everyone else."

Coach Garretson said fans should pay special attention to the Wolves defense this year. "We got a new defensive coordinator, Coach DeRosa. He brings a different type of defensive package than what we've run in the past. It's a very complicated format to attack offensively. It fits our personnel really well," he said. Coach Garretson is already happy with the season so far and every aspect the players bring to the table. He said that overall the team isn't the largest it has been before, but is maintaining the ability to play well with lots of great players. Only time will tell as the season unfolds to see this year's team capability. Coach Garretson and multiple players all agreed that the heat at afternoon practices only makes them stronger and more prepared for upcoming games as they bear the blazing Arizona sun together. He embraces the importance of keeping players safe by giving them breaks in the shade and having Mr. Deer and the sports medicine team around to keep players hydrated and healthy.

So what does the season look like for the Chandler Wolves leading up to the Homecoming game? Chandler Football has not faced Highland since 2021, so many questions can arise about what the outcome will be. Heffron is looking forward to an exciting match-up against a strong opponent; "I'd say it's gonna be a great game. Last year Highland


won the 6A State Championship, so they're gonna be no joke. They're actually really good, so it's gonna be a great Homecoming game." Young said, "We feel good, working everyday, getting the little things fixed. So when it comes to game time, we will be a step ahead of everybody. The little details matter." Young explains that despite the increased hype for a Homecoming game, the Wolves will prepare and play like any other game of the season; "Yes, it's a Homecoming game, but we don't really think about that stuff. We go into every week preparing hard. We don't underestimate anybody. We feel the same way about every other game."

With an exciting Homecoming game coming up and positive feedback from players and the head coach, the Wolves shoot not just for a Homecoming win but the overall season goal. Heffron made that end goal clear, "The team would like to leave a legacy and obviously hold up that State Championship trophy at the end of the year."





# HOMECOMING



## What to Expect for Homecoming 2023

By Sophia Medal  
Staff Reporter









The wait is almost over, Wolves! Homecoming Week, from September 18th through September 23rd, is almost here! This momentous tradition provides fun with every passing day, all leading up to the homecoming dance! With each passing day, our very own campus lights up with school spirit during this wonderful season.

It all starts with spirit days, which are meticulously planned by the student council. With our lovely theme of Enchanted Bayou, these spirit days are sure to bring excitement to our campus. Sophomore class president Mars Haffey says, “I’m looking forward to planning and participating in this spirit week. I think the student body will like this one a lot.”

As the week continues, Friday, September 22nd, provides the most school spirit of the week. The school day ends with the Homecoming Pa-

rade, an event that brings together all unique groups from not just our campus, but our community. Firefighters, police officers, clubs, cultural groups, and many others join together to march and ride on astounding and even homemade floats, bringing school spirit to an all time high. As the sun sets, people from all corners of Chandler come to the homecoming game, which will be a riveting face-off against Highland High School. This year’s game will be sure to continue Chandler’s streak of homecoming game wins, making it their 10th consecutive win.



And finally, the homecoming dance happens on Saturday, September 23rd. From 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm, step into the fantastical world of Enchanted Bayou. The last event of homecoming season is the highlight that brings together every type of Chandler High student for an enchanting dance.












### Homecoming Game

Chandler vs Highland

# BLACK OUT



Wear Black and show off your support for Chandler!



# Florida’s attack on higher education only hurts its students



Andrew Phillips, News Editor

Florida is in a state of turmoil. Amid political strife, education has been weaponized by the current leadership to promote personal gain. Which class is the subject of this attack? Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology. Florida’s Parental Rights in Education bill was signed into law a year ago, disparagingly referred to as the ‘Don’t Say Gay Bill’ by its dissidents. This piece of policy was designed to limit the mentioning of

LGBTQ+ topics in an educational environment, and it’s now being applied to ban AP Psychology, a class taken by over 300,000 students. The problem doesn’t arise from the entire Psychology course, however. Specifically, unit 6.7, Gender and Sexual Orientation, is being scrutinized by Florida’s leadership. The class itself isn’t being completely banned. though. Matt Lavietes of NBC reported that “Florida will allow superintendents to offer the college-level psychology class for high schoolers if they exclude LGBTQ topics.” The College Board responded by instructing Florida that any course excluding this unit could no longer call itself AP, a tactical move that hits Florida where it hurts: its wallet. Teachers’ salaries and bonuses would be impacted by the removal of the AP designation, and the effects of College Board’s

statement were felt immediately. Florida’s Education Commissioner Manny Diaz Jr. quickly back-pedaled in a statement made on August 9 instructing all Florida schools that they could, in fact, teach AP Psychology in its entirety, saying that the course “can be taught consistent with Florida law.” I can’t help but view this as a political move designed to draw attention to Florida’s governor, Ron DeSantis. As the presidential election is quickly approaching, gaining publicity is crucial to beating out Trump as the Republican Party frontrunner. Playing off of conservatives’ fears regarding issues relating to gender and sexuality, Governor DeSantis can both improve his standing with his political party while simultaneously giving himself enough plausible deniability to

claim it was all a misunderstanding when the backlash really starts to hit. Ron DeSantis is a fencesitter of the highest degree, and his underhanded political games are insultingly obvious. The consequences of almost banning this course can be felt in more states than Florida. Here at Chandler High, our own IB Psychology teacher Mrs. Courtney Kemp understands the far-reaching implications this move can have, saying, “When we go through and filter education we are setting ourselves up for failure.” Watering down what we teach the next generation will never yield beneficial results, and ignoring fundamental aspects of human existence for the purposes of not offending the delicate sensibilities of a few people will undoubtedly end poorly.

# The winner of the GOP debate? President Biden



Lexi Moreno, Features Editor

On Wednesday, August 23, President Biden was met with a flock of reporters after his pilates class. When asked if he had any expectations for the debate, he laughed, saying he had none. The first Republican primary debate occurred that night, proving President Biden’s expectations true. It was undoubtedly disappointing but not surprising. The current state of the GOP is plagued by moral decay, out-of-touchness, and fear-mongering, and if it wasn’t obvious before, it certainly is now. The debate potentially promoted some candidates previously drowned out by others, like Vivek Ramaswamy, while effectively

displaying the weaknesses of others, such as Ron DeSantis. No matter the outcome, all candidates pale compared to Trump, the apparent frontrunner. Former President Donald Trump was absent, which is not as unusual as others may think. No former president has ever appeared in a re-election primary debate, even when challenged as strongly as Gerald Ford was by Ronald Reagan in 1976. Despite his lack of attendance, candidates found a way to promote an excessive focus on sensationalism and personal attacks rather than substantive policy discussions. It brought us some misleading or outright false claims, such as Ramaswamy, the center of attention, and his claim that the Constitution won us the American Revolution. It’s pretty jarring to think that a presidential candidate would fail a relatively simple US history test, considering the Constitution was written in 1787, and the American Revolution took place in 1776. Candidates ignored the claim, focusing mainly on

Ramaswamy’s mirroring of Trump. Even without the front runner, candidates declined to attack the second frontrunner after him, Ron DeSantis, who only made his presence known when necessary. DeSantis has been plummeting in the polls since May, his campaign attempting to make him seem more folksy, yet failing. Perceptions of a candidate’s personality are often influenced by media portrayals, public speaking styles, and campaign strategies, something highlighted in 2000 with Democratic presidential nominee Al Gore. DeSantis mirrors Gore, who was often criticized for his stiff and formal demeanor, which led to perceptions of him as lacking warmth and relatability. Yet, somehow, DeSantis is worse than Gore. Halfway through the debate, moderator Brett Baier asked, “If former President Trump is convicted in a court of law, would you still support him as your party’s choice? Please raise your hand if you would.” Governor DeSantis looked to see the other candidates answers before meekly raising his hand.

In addition to awkward mannerisms, Republicans continued to reject science. When asked if they believe humans cause climate change, Asa Hutchinson was the only candidate to say yes before Ramaswamy called it entirely a hoax. As bizarre as that reaction is, some Americans will continue to believe both parties are the same, while the Democratic platform emphasizes the urgency of addressing the issue. Though it’s only the first debate, a clear pathway exists for a Biden re-election. Anyone who says otherwise simply doesn’t understand the state of the electoral, or is plain ignoring it. His qualifications exceed beyond any of the Republican candidates, and his administration continues to own the playing field with its digital presence and voter outreach. This will only continue into the election year as the Republicans deal with their inevitably convicted nominee. After all the hurly-burly, the clear winner of the debate was President Biden, who will undoubtedly serve a second term.

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# How to Spend a Day at Andersen Fiesta Shopping Center

by Sophia Medal, Staff Reporter



Photo by Sophia Medal

Do you enjoy unique varieties of foods and stores? Are you looking for a local weekend spot? The Andersen Fiesta Shopping Center is the right place for your next outing!

For those with a sweet tooth, 85°C Bakery is an affordable place with seemingly endless baked goods as far as the eye can see! In a buffet-style line, you can select as many sweet and savory items as you like, with options ranging from spicy sausages to taro buns. In addition, their menu pro-

vides refreshing coffee, tea, and smoothies that can go with whatever pastry you select.

For those who don't have a sweet tooth, Kura Revolving Sushi should be next on your bucket list! This popular sushi spot is most well known for its delicious sushi and prizes that come with each plate that you eat. If you come with an appetite, you can leave with a free keychain or tote bag depending on how many plates you finish. Should you come before the end of August, you can try some of their

seasonal items, such as Sockeye Salmon and Tuna Sashimi.

Don't have an appetite? There's still plenty of fun that can be had, such as in the popular Japanese dollar store, Daiso! Daiso is mostly known for its affordable stationary and lifestyle items all designed with their own cute flair. With unique selections of items for low prices, there's something cute for everyone.

85°C Bakery Cafe 1912 W Chandler Blvd Chandler, AZ 85224 85cbakerycafe.com	Kura Revolving Sushi Bar 1928 W Chandler Blvd Chandler, AZ 85224 kurasushi.com	Daiso 1860 W Chandler Blvd Chandler, AZ 85224 daisous.com
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# Barbenheimer: The Silliest Event of the Summer

by Sif Woolf, Staff Reporter

With a combined revenue of \$244.4 million opening weekend, as reported by CNN, Greta Gerwig's Barbie and Christopher Nolan's Oppenheimer have shared a staggeringly effective spotlight in viewership. That spotlight started as a meme, but has quickly gone full-swing into the silliest event of the summer.

If you've been in the movie corner of the internet—namely TikTok—you've likely seen something related to "Barbenheimer". Whether it be videos of someone editing the posters together, dressing up for a double feature of each movie, or stitching similar moments together, the relationship these two movies have despite their very obvious aesthetic differences has turned the internet on its head. The impact this meme has made on the box office is nothing to sneeze at.

But what kicked off the Barbenheimer craze?

It was the release date of all things. Both Barbie and Oppenheimer were released on July 21st of this year. Normally, studios avoid this. Showing off two major blockbusters on the same weekend is bound to create intense competition, at the risk of either movie not performing well. But the internet did what it does best: turn the accident into a widespread joke. When the movies did finally release, Tom Cruise made a comment about seeing both movies, one after the other. Soon enough, that's what everyone was doing! The craze only grew as Greta Gerwig and Margot Robbie (lead actress of Barbie) posted a photo of their tickets to Oppenheimer, Cillian Murphy (the titular Oppenheimer) doing the same with his ticket to Barbie.

This, of course, led the masses to grow the meme past the internet, earning both movies a much higher grossing opening weekend than what anyone

# Fall Play Preview: Welcome to 'Bethel Park Falls'

by Bella Dana, Staff Reporter

Every year at Chandler High, the theater department has a fall play and a spring musical. This year the fall play is called *Bethel Park Falls* and Ms. Likes, the director for the theater department, is very excited for all students and families to come and experience the show. The opening dates for *Bethel Park Falls* are September 14th, 15th, and 16th. The show on September 16th starts at 2 p.m., but the other two shows start at 7 p.m.

Ms. Likes is very hopeful for the students she has chosen for this show because they are already working hard. The actors have been practicing for this fall play since August 9th and 10th. On the audition days, there were a total of about 45 people who wanted to audition for about 20 characters. The actors have been rehearsing and memorizing lines from 2:30 p.m. after school to 5:00 p.m. In the last week of rehearsals, the actors and crew members will stay at the school practicing from 2:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Riely Foerst, a junior, plays the character named Lily. Each character who is played is very unique and each has a different experience in the park that is closing down. Riely also mentions that she practices her lines for 1-2 hours to memorize lines. She is very hopeful for this play because of how intricate this play is. For example, Riely's character Lily has a unique ex-

perience because she is a single mother and her husband is deployed, so she often finds herself at the park talking to other parents about raising their children. Lily finds herself waiting for her husband for 11 months and often doubts if they can still be connected as they were before her husband was deployed.

Ms. Likes thought of choosing this play because of how connected each character is to each other. For instance, Lily and her husband Reed don't meet face to face but still, they both have a strong connection to one another throughout the play. One of the reasons Ms. Likes chose this play is because the Chandler Center of the Arts dressing rooms and restrooms are being remodeled throughout rehearsals and shows. The play costumes and scene props are minimalistic because the setting of the play is taking place in a park. Ms. Likes chose this play because when she was deciding which show to do for the annual fall play, she had always had the story in the back of her mind. She thought the characters and story could be easily displayed by the students here at CHS.

Ms. Likes encourages any students to experience *Bethel Park Falls* at Chandler Center for Arts at a price for \$10 at the door. You can find a QR code on the posters around school, or you can buy tickets at the bookstore on CHS Campus.

overseas, and foreign moviegoers are criticizing Barbenheimer for making light of the country's traumatizing history with the nuclear bomb. Many citizens of Japan find the juxtaposition of horrifying attacks, such as Hiroshima and Nagasaki, with the cutesy pink aesthetic of a kid's toy distasteful. The hashtag #NoBarbenheimer spread among the critics. The discord between international moviegoers sparked controversy within Hollywood itself. Warner Brothers released a statement in an attempt to control the backlash coming down on Barbie, stating the studio "regrets its recent insensitive social media engagement," then took down several "Barbenheimer" posts. Though, it doesn't seem like the apology was incredibly effective.

With the rise of internet trends engaging with the real world, many wonder whether Barbenheimer jokes will reflect on other movies that release at the same



# Swimmer, CHS Grad Breaks Swim Records at Chandler High

by Kiley Jacobson, Staff Reporter

Trey Hesser, a 2023 graduate, reminisced about breaking Chandler High's Swim Team records and gave great advice to all aspiring athletes.

Trey started swimming at the age of five in Japan. At six years old, Trey and his family moved to California where Trey joined his first club team. Hesser said his favorite part about swimming has always been being able to make new friends and swim both with and against his amazing teammates. In high school, Trey took his classes at home but was able to continue swimming by joining the swim team at Chandler. He was on the team for all four years and completed incredible races. He broke the 500-Freestyle record which for all of the non-swimmers,

that's twenty laps of a 25-meter pool, during his senior year.

According to AZCentral, Hesser swam the race in 4 minutes and 31 seconds. Trey said the 500-Freestyle is his favorite event: "It's not over super quickly plus it's also more fun to watch." While he was on the Chandler Swim Team, he was also a part of Gold Medal Swim, a competitive club team, where he will be swimming all of this year before heading to college. Through this team, he had the opportunity to swim in the Olympic Trial Cuts where he would go to beat his records in the 800-Freestyle event earning sixth place. Trey never expected to beat any of these records; in fact, the first time he broke a record, he thought he didn't swim well at all. Turns out, it was one of the best swims Chandler has ever seen.

Coach Shannon Moxley, head girls' swim coach, said that some years there are numerous records broken, while others there are none. Breaking a swim record may seem easy, but it is a very daunting task indeed.

Trey said that the morning practices are hard, but if the forty other people on his team can do it, so can he, and that's what inspires him to get up and go every day. Trey said, "My parents, coaches, teammates, and God have all helped me get to the point I am today."

Trey also had the opportunity to advise beginning swimmers; he said to trust both the process and your coaches, especially your coaches because they are the ones that know best and will help you get to the point you need to be at. One of his



courtesy of Trey Hesser

favorite strategies to grow as a swimmer that he highly recommended is to watch Olympic Swimmers do the races you will be completing and apply their techniques to your own.

Trey said to never give up and to keep going — after all, that's how you'll grow as a person and as an athlete.

## Fall Sports Assembly

Photos by Bella Dana



## fall 2023 sports schedule

FOOTBALL	FLAG FOOTBALL	VOLLEYBALL	BADMINTON	SWIM & DIVE	GIRLS' GOLF	BOYS' GOLF	CROSS COUNTRY
9/15 @ Corona del Sol	9/19 vs West Pointe	9/19 vs Dobson	9/19 @ Skyline	9/21 vs Mountain Pointe	9/18 Gilbert	9/19 Paradise Valley/ Poston Butte	9/15 Ojo Rojo
9/22 vs Highland	9/21 @ Highland	9/20 @ Hamilton	9/21 vs Mesa	9/30 Saturday Night Fever	9/20 Casteel/ Queen Creek	9/21 Casa Grande/ Dobson	10/18 Chandler City Meet
9/29 vs Casteel	9/28 @ Casteel	9/26 vs Xavier	9/26 @ Liberty	10/19 vs Corona del Sol	9/25 Campo Verde/ Mountain Pointe	9/26 Coronado/Gilbert/ Apache Junction	
10/6 vs Centennial	10/3 @ Perry	9/28 vs Basha	9/28 @ Hamilton	10/20 Puma Invitational @ Perry	9/27 Saguaro/ Corona del Sol	9/28 Poston Butte	
10/20 @ Basha	10/4 @ Skyline	10/12 vs Hamilton	10/12 @ Xavier	10/24 @ Perry	10/20 CUSD Invitational	10/20 CUSD Invitational	
10/27 @ Perry	10/17 vs Hamilton	10/17 @ Xavier	10/17 vs Basha	10/25 CUSD City Meet			
11/3 vs Hamilton	10/19 vs Basha	10/23 @ Basha					
		10/25 vs Perry					