

COUNTS

IN THE HOWL
IN 2023



SOUTHWEST CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY
Las Vegas, Nevada

the
HOWL
2023
vol. 14

COUNT

US

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20
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SOUTHWEST CAREER
AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY

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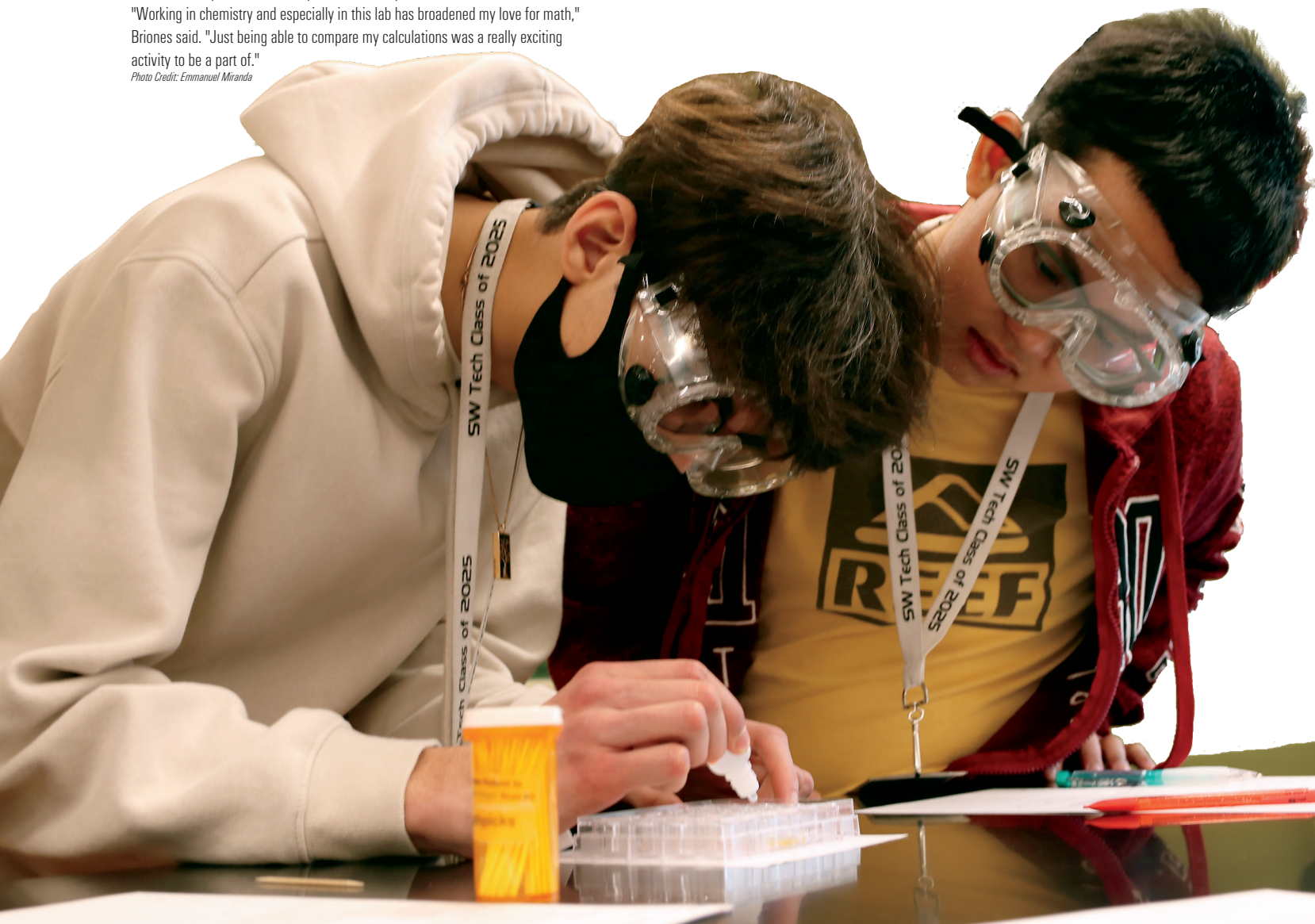
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423 FRESHMEN
422 SOPHOMORES
336 JUNIORS
362 SENIORS
35 SUPPORT
5 ADMINISTRATORS
83 LICENSED

LET ME GET THAT FOR YOU. After making her payment, Eloisa Valelo ('25) pies Teaching and Training instructor Vincent Thur. The Pie Palooza was a fundraiser for the sophomore class. "The moment I found out about this event was the moment I knew that I would be dedicating a pie to one of my favorite teachers, Mr. Thur," Valelo said. "This will definitely be such a fun memory to look back on." *Photo Credit: Emily Jian*



NEW SOLUTION. Hands steady, sophomores Jared Briones and Brian Price ('25) gain experience working with chemicals. Utilizing the different mixtures of chemicals, they observed and reported what they saw in the chemical reaction. "Working in chemistry and especially in this lab has broadened my love for math," Briones said. "Just being able to compare my calculations was a really exciting activity to be a part of!"
Photo Credit: Emmanuel Miranda



IT ALL ADDS UP. Marker in hand, student Ayman Jemal ('25) experiments with new ways to solve problems in Math 120. During this time, instructor Tawanna Ervin watched Jemal demonstrate his method of solving the problem. "Ms. Ervin and her Nearpods help a lot since she usually does those almost every class," Jemal said. "When she introduces a new topic, it helps a lot with the understanding and getting to know a new concept whether its functions or fractions."
Photo Credit: Alexa Rios



NEW NEIGHBORHOOD. NEWSCHOOL. AWKWARD.

Until **Adrienne Vera-Perez** says, "Did you want to sit with us at lunch?" and then, **Eliza Pangilinan ('26)** is in.

SELF-EYES DOUBT. WATCHING. FRUSTRATION.

For **Kyle Nuno ('24)**, struggling with social anxiety is a difficult hurdle to overcome. "I solely wanted to get out of my comfort zone with my social anxiety and prove to others that I was capable of doing the best." **Nuno** lands his first job.

MOTIVATED. EXCITED. ASPIRING TO DO MORE.

Waiting for the perfect opportunity to test her leadership skills, **Samantha Wingco ('23)** asks, "Why don't you join STUCO?" **Mya Brown ('26)** takes the chance.

STRETCH OUT. To represent the Culinary program, **Mark Rafidy ('26)** makes homemade taffy to distribute at Open House. During his time there, Rafidy learned several knife skills, cooking methods, and how to make homemade taffy. "It was the first time I was cooking something with any heat source in the kitchen, but I'm glad I did because my overall goal was to inspire the younger students to want to come here next year and to enjoy their path the same way I'm enjoying mine," Rafidy said.
Photo Credit: Kevin Yuen



HEAVY METAL. Working together, students **Jayden Ta ('25)**, **Joey Connolly ('24)**, and **Connor Wiggins ('25)** learn how to construct a claw-robot. In order to prepare for the upcoming robotics competition, the three high school students put their finishing touches to make the perfect robot. "I'm more confident this year because last year we were having issues with the amount of people in the club," Wiggins said. "but now I'm really confident in the amount of people we have now."
Photo Credit: Kevin Yuen



HISTORICAL CONTEXT. Looking around, **Chinelo Umeh ('26)** reads through the gallery walk on the Asian-American experience. As students moved from station to station, they formulated questions they would later use for research. "What I took away from this assignment, is how Asian Americans were treated in the past and how their situation was viewed in different ways," Umeh said. "It widened my own perspective of the world around us which made me excited for our next book."
Photo Credit: Hannah Paine

DON'T WORRY, YOU CAN

COUNT US IN

INTO ACTION

ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. Nailing down the basics, Joshua Aguilar ('25) works to set up video equipment. "We pick up steps along the way that are better technique-wise or steps that will make things go more efficiently," Aguilar said. "I'd say taking this class might help you find a new hobby, maybe something in interest for a new career." *Photo Credit: Eavan Abao*



REFRESH. RECHARGE. SCHOOL IS

definitely on pause ... well, for most. Justice Sydney ('24) keeps waking up early so she can attend summer acceleration for Fashion. "I want to take this time to improve, I want to get ahead," which means working to better her skills in sewing and crafting.

CLOSER. ALMOST. IT'S HERE.

The first day of school isn't so scary until we make a senior friend during summer like Jacob Gallardo ('23). "Bonding with freshmen and being a figure to look up to is fulfilling." Whenever advice is needed, count on Jacob to be there.

SIGHTSEEING. LIVING. VISITING

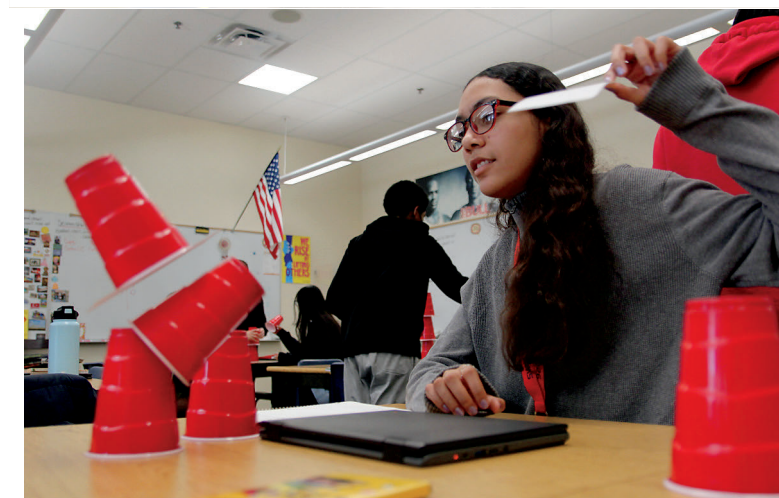
the happiest place on Earth. For Janelle Castillo ('23), traveling with her family means "donating food to over 11 different families" to give to a community in need.

75 days of summer vacation might only feel like 7, so make

EVERY MOMENT COUNT



MY KINDA RIDE. To keep tidy, Junior Cade Parson details his truck in school. Students in the automotive program are free to bring in their own vehicles to work on. "I bought my '77 Chevy C10 off Facebook marketplace and have had it for about a year now, in total I believe I've spent about fifty or sixty thousand on customizations," Parson said. "I got into cars at about age 7 or 8 thanks to my dad, he's taught me a lot and helped me with my first modifications." *Photo Credit: Paizley Swaney*



CAN'T HANDLE THE HEAT. Keeping track, Easton Smith ('26) works with his group mates to complete a chicken recipe on time. Students in foods work in groups to divide and conquer using communication skills to perfect a dish in an efficient manner. "I was worried and panicking because one of my group members messed up with the recipe and it worried us a little bit, we had two other people in our group, but one was absent that day," Smith said. "I think our group did really well, we were like the first ones to finish. I believe maybe we could have added more breading because it was a little less crispier than the other groups but it still came out really good." *Photo Credit: Shayna Dennet Migalung*

AND THEY ALL FALL DOWN. As part of a teamwork activity, Olivia Orme ('26) works in Freshman Studies to stack cups. Underclassmen worked in a partnership to complete the task. "For me and my partner, it wasn't too difficult for us, but for certain parts like getting the cups to fall down quick enough, we had to be synchronized," Orme said. *Photo Credit: Jacob Walczak*



GRAB THEM WHILE THEY'RE FRESH. As part of being in SkillsUSA, member Coral Brayman ('23) passes out doughnuts exclusively for teachers. Members in the club handed out doughnuts as part of the Week of Respect. "I thought it was really heartwarming to give these to teachers and make their day a little bit happier," Brayman said. "It was really interesting to see all the new teachers on this campus that I didn't know about and having the chance to meet them." *Photo Credit: Arcadia Encarnacion*



WOW, FOR ME? As part of the C122 traditions, Ellie Lakatos ('24) participates in the program's white elephant Christmas party. Each student was responsible for bringing in a practical or a gag gift for journalists to receive. "I was going to choose what I thought was one gift only to be told it was a whole set of four. So to my surprise, as I opened the gift I saw chocolate," Lakatos said. "I made sure to slowly slide the gift behind me to prevent anyone else from choosing it. I may have also threatened any of my friends that wanted it." *Photo Credit: Annie Lin*



CRUNCH TIME. Mise en placing ingredients, Christian Qualls ('25) prepares to compete in a Pro-Start competition. An important skill for Culinary students to know was preparing their ingredients prior to starting. "We're good to go for the most part, but we're still anxious because the competition is so huge," Qualls said. "A simple mistake could mess it up for us." *Photo Credit: Alexis Rivera*

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN. Displaying her ofrenda, Neah Izabele Tablit ('24) unveils her carefully crafted piece to the class. In honor of Day of the Dead, students in Spanish III created an ofrenda, or altar, to celebrate the occasion. "I dedicated my ofrenda to my mom's grandma," Tablit said. "Our teacher had a group of us present to Ms. Hartwich in the library which was kind of scary, but it wasn't that bad in the end." *Photo Credit: Yanizza Montenegro*



REGULAR. HONORS. AP.

Contrary to popular belief, AP classes aren't... so hard. For scholars like Ashely Oh ('23), "it opens my eyes to both art and history at the same time, it's such a unique experience." Despite the workload, it's all worth it for Oh.

DONATING. VOLUNTEERING. HELPING OUT

one donation at a time. For Ella Abilar ('25), joining Key Club means, "giving back to the community that always raised me," and growing closer as board members with her sister, Aanja Abilar ('24).

BOBA. ICE CREAM. ON REPEAT.

Allyson Flores ('23) is busy with "12 hour work days that get stressful juggling school and work simultaneously." It's exhausting but hey, that's just part of the routine.

It may take a few weeks to readjust, but you can find us getting right back

ON SCHEDULE

BACK ON TRACK



WHO ARE YOU WEARING? To complete her garment, Angelene Jurado ('23) works on draping fabric. Designers were assigned different patterns and designs to experiment with. "I like creating looks that fit my personal aesthetic," Jurado said. "It shows who I am in the final product after the process." *Photo Credit: Kayden Padillas*

JUST ONE SECOND

CAUTION. Working on a LS v8 engine, Kai Tate ('23) welds a nut to a broken bolt. Tate had been working on this personal project in the auto shop. "Disassembling all the car parts was easy, but actually designing everything was difficult," Tate said. "Getting a non-original engine to fit into a truck is not easy."
Photo Credit: Kaitie Sicolo



NEW PROJECT. INSPIRING. TAKING NOTES.

With Game Design's lamp animation project, Jaxon McCoy ('24) has made it his goal to showcase the skills learned throughout the years. "Starting from freshman year, we've worked with simple modeling techniques, but now we have advanced to more complex ways of design. It can be a bit overwhelming at certain points, but once you actually see the completed product, you never think back on it."

TENSE. READY. 125 HOURS

played and counting. To Devlin Crews ('26), practicing daily for a shot at the "Splatoon 3" state championship and watching the game day slowly approaching "was a nervous yet exciting feeling, especially after considering how terrifyingly last minute we were with the formation of our teams. But seeing one of our teams actually winning made it all worthwhile in the end."

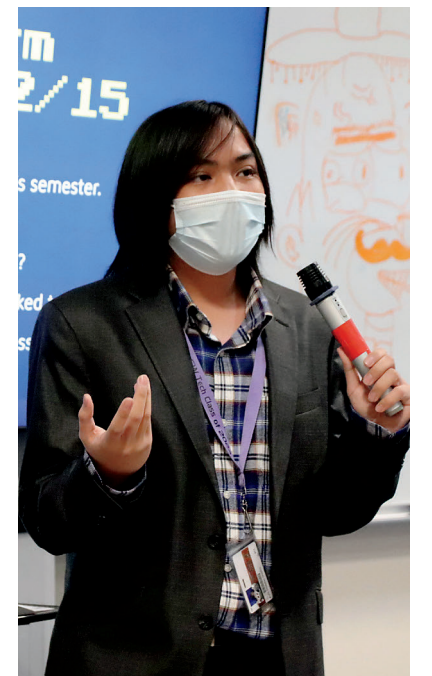
CONSISTENCY. COMMITMENT. LIFE

all planned out? For Liban Tuni ('23), taking the extra step to invest time into his studies and research has made his future endeavors all worth it. "I've at times felt overworked and stressed which is completely normal. But after keeping my goal in mind and actually coming closer to achieving it at a top college of mine, I have learned to look past that and live in the present."

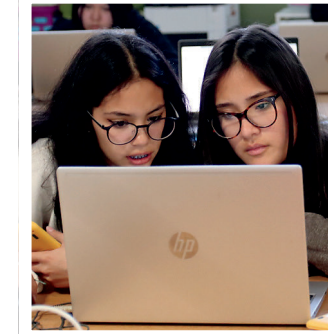
Despite the end of the year fast approaching, we'll always find something to

LOOK FORWARD TO

WE GOT THIS. Speaking in front of his esports teammates, Arvin Omolon ('24) presents his COM 101 speech. Students were tasked with writing and presenting a speech of their own outside of class as their midterm final. "My speech was mainly about how esports impacted me since I was originally nervous to join it," Omolon said. "While the speech was easy to present, we had to play our first match for the semi-finals right after. In a way I presented my speech to motivate my teammates."
Photo Credit: Philipos Alebachew



IN THE MAKING. Working on their AP Human Geography presentation, Christopher Ferrel gets wrapped in toilet paper by Kainalu Ceniza and Kailey De Le Reyes ('25). Students were given the task of creating dresses and other clothing items out of toilet paper. "My group was trying to make me a dress to represent Katy Perry and Kim Kardashian," Ferrel said. "This whole project was very fun and helped me understand how Hollywood became a thing."
Photo Credit: Eloisa Velez

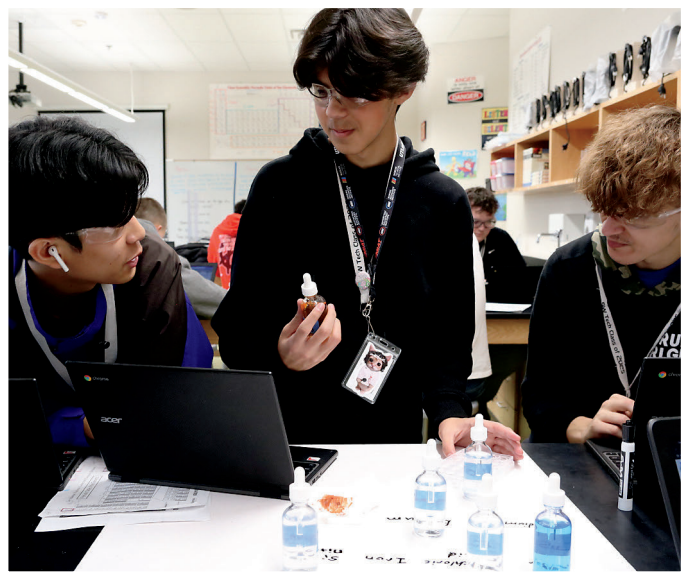


CODING 101. Sharing a computer, Rachel Zenkell and Melina Casco Gonzalez ('26) help each other better understand the lesson. Students in AP Computer Science worked on Delta Math to learn more about bits. "With our midterm coming up we decided to help each other solve the math problems," Zenkell said. "A bit is either a zero or a one, but depending on the placement, it would mean a different thing."
Photo Credit: Shayna Danner Migalang



THE OLD FASHIONED WAY. Waiting to get tested, Elizabeth Fakoya let's Tanya Selcetaj and Chloe Singidas ('24) practice their manual blood pressure skills. While most medical tests are done electronically, Nursing students are still required to learn how to use a manual blood pressure in case of emergencies. "I have a faint pulse so most of my class would practice on me since we need to know how to find the systolic and diastolic for all sorts of people," Fakoya said. "Everyone is irregular so there is no one way to find a pulse."
Photo Credit: Carmen Ruiz

ONE DROP, TWO DROPS. Combining different elements, Andres Sanchez, Ethan Whitten and Ryce Santos ('25) conduct a chemical lab. Students in Chemistry conducted multiple experiments to learn more about chemical reactions. "Being a hands-on learner, I would say this lab did help me understand the lessons better," Sanchez said. "Turning the equations into the proper chemical name was kind of difficult since it was not just the regular base elements we would see on the periodic table. There were a lot of things that made it more complicated, like the coefficients and subscripts." *Photo Credit: Arcadia Encarnacion*



SEW IT UP. Adjusting the sewing machine setting, Allyson Santana ('25) makes the final stitches to her clothing project. Fashion Design students were tasked with creating their own button up shirts. "This was definitely one of the harder clothing items I made," Santana said. "Making the collar, hemming, and serging the bottom up was the hardest part." *Photo Credit: Pauley Swaney*



ONE BY ONE. Looking through different stickers, Dyanna Sanchez and Paulina Sanchez ('25) decorate crowns. To celebrate Día de los Reyes Magos o Epifanía, students in Spanish III were tasked with creating their own crowns to represent the Three Kings. "It was really fun to decorate and learn about other traditions that come with this holiday," Sanchez said. "Some traditions involved cutting rosca, and for some kids, putting shoes outside to get presents." *Photo Credit: Ashley Harris*

HIGHS & LOWS. GRATEFUL. READY TO FACE

reality. From being a clueless freshman, to an opportunistic senior. For Arely Cardenas-Silva ('23), "I was completely unsure of my future at first, but being at SWCTA has helped me understand what it was that I truly loved doing," and in Cardenas-Silva's case, it was a newfound love for graphic design.

RELIEF. TEAM BONDING. PERSONAL

growth. In Isaiah-Filos Diaz Escamilla's ('24) time in Teaching and Training, it was spent working with fellow classmates, building off of mistakes, educating each other, and reflecting on what they experienced. "We all think so much alike, which makes it interesting to see where all of us may end up in life. We all have struggled together, but we have also grown together, which makes me feel at peace."

NERVOUSNESS. EXCITEMENT. FIRST YEAR

of nursing to the last. Dannielle Lucas ('24) thought "the Nursing program was scary at the beginning, but during our last year, everyone has connected so well with each other." And now? She has made the choice to pursue this as a career.

Whether it is our last year of high school or final year in a program, we can finally say...

WE DID THAT

THAT'S A WRAP

PH MADNESS. Blowing bubbles, Gavin Sera Josef ('24) attempts to change the pH levels of the water. Students in Geoscience conducted a pH lab to begin their new unit. "I found this lab fun and interesting since we got to see how different things made the pH levels change," Sera Josef said. "Since it was the first experiment in the unit, it helped me understand the lessons better." *Photo Credit: Caitlin Walczak*



DETERMINED. MUTUALS. MEMORIES MADE.

By connecting with a new friend, **Eliza Pangilinan ('26)** converged with a group of friends that shared the same interests. "People should get out of their comfort zone because who knows what's ahead. Just because you had a bad experience in the past, doesn't mean things will be the same in the future."

FIRST DAY. COMFORTABLE.

PRO MOTED. From cashier to a manager, **Kyle Nuno ('24)** fought the internal battles of social anxiety by pushing and motivating himself mentally. "After my first day, I became much more comfortable with myself and my environment; I got into my own groove and created a schedule for myself that allowed me to be more at ease with everything around me."

CHANCE TAKEN. DEDICATED. ALL SET.

After joining Student Council, indulging in communicative and leadership challenges was everything **Mya Brown ('26)** hoped for. "I was not a social person at all, but I wanted to make a difference, so looking back now, I can hardly remember myself being that way. It was a scary experience challenging myself, but you're never going to know the outcome until you actually try it."

YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO

COUNT US OUT

THE HOWL 2023

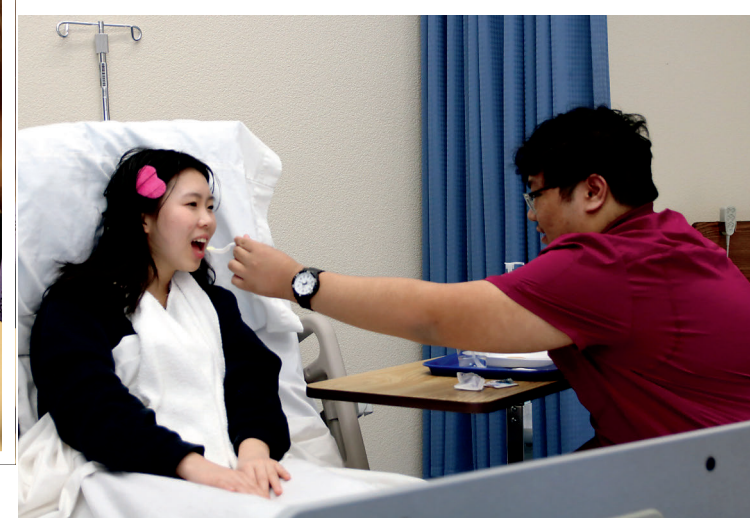
THE BIG PICTURE. In order to finish up the project, **Peyton Miller ('25)** outlines and traces the final product. Students in Drawing I were tasked with using different pieces of magazines to create a cohesive collage. "The idea behind it was to have a couch: one side of it was broken, the other side more put together," Miller said. "I used it to symbolize the world, although it was mainly centered around the fact I wanted to include Garfield in my piece. Once I saw the couch, I was like I can kind of make something out of this." Photo Credit: Alexa Ronder



FIRST TRY. After threading the bobbin, **Demetrios West ('25)** starts to thread a shirt. After learning different stitches on different fabrics, West started the first major project. "I have never made a shirt before, so it was pretty hard following the instructions," West said. "I had to perfect the stitches, but in the end I figured it out and got a nice looking shirt." Photo Credit: Jessica Cabanang



BETA MODE. As progress continues, **Jaxson McCoy ('24)** continues to create his group's game. This process required trial and error. "The hardest part was actually getting it to work," McCoy said. "A lot of times it didn't get to work and it was because of how the faces of the objects looked." Photo credit: Emmanuel Miranda



HANDLE WITH CARE. Pretending to be an elderly citizen, **Dwyane Lloyd Deuz** practices feeding **Christine Wu ('24)** pudding. Nursing students prepared for clinicals by practicing on one another. "I liked the pudding I ate," Wu said. "It was awkward between my group and I though because I didn't want to make eye contact with them while they were feeding me." Photo Credit: Paigley Swaney



HALF MEASURE. Dropping different types of materials into a beaker, **Liana Durante ('26)** measures the volume of the water. Students in Engineering learned about volume and mass for their next unit. "I was able to communicate more and do a group project," Durante said, "which was really helpful because whenever I got a measurement wrong, my groupmate revised it and helped me fix it." Photo Credit: Philipos Alebachew



POINTS

POINTS THE HOWL 20 23

GOOD SPORT. Rushing towards the opponent's basketball hoop, Ethan Natanel ('26) attempts to make a shot to earn a point for his team. P.E. started their unit on basketball, where teams try and make it to the playoffs. "It was pretty bad. My team lost every game," Natanel said. "I made some baskets and it made me feel more confident in winning. And then eventually we kept losing, and I knew we were going to have to run an extra mile."

Photo Credit: Clyde Louis Hao