



## CN Speech and Debate at CHSSA Championships

By Julianna Rios

From April 20 to 22, CN Speech and Debate participated at the California High

School Speech Association Championship (CHSSA) at Mountain House High School near Tracy. CHSSA, a volunteer non-profit association comprised of 300 schools throughout the state of California, aims to teach students skills in oral communication and supports speech education and competition in high schools. Among the



contestants at the competition were junior Anshul Narain (pictured left) and senior Pooja Heragu (pictured right).

Three-year speech and debate student Narain placed third in rank in Oratorical In-

terpretation, in which students essentially take another's speech that is under 10 minutes and put their own interpretation and spin on it. Narain, who has competed twice

and qualified three times, prepared with friends for championships and acknowledges that his favorite part about speech and debate has been "the environment, competing, and meeting new people."

Furthermore, Heragu, a 4-year speech and debate student, made it to quarter finals for Parliamentary



Debate and placed ninth for Original Advocacy. As a competitor in the Original Advocacy category, Heragu explains, students compose a persuasive speech about a problem they see in society and propose a solu-

tion implementing government legislation. In Parliamentary Debate, on the other hand, students must improvise, as they are given a problem to analyze on the spot. Hav-

ing had much success at championships, Heragu reveals that preparing for the event, however, required practice and year-round work with Chad Hayden, the speech coach. Beyond placing in these events, Heragu also won the prestigious 2018 Student of the Year Award for her humanitarian activity and advocacy, particularly her work as a leader of CNEC's

"No More" Club which combats domestic violence. Heragu says that to have won the award "feels pretty great" and that she is still very shocked to have received such a huge honor.

## End of year activities abound at CNEC

By Aidan Daher & Rohun Malhotra

As the school year comes to an end, CNEC is offering many end of the year activities. Some of these activities include the GR Food Fair on May 23, the CN Car Show and Food Fair on May 25, and the eighth grade class's annual trip to Wild Water Adventure Park.

Following GR's food fair on May 23, the yearly CN Car Show and food fair will take place on May 25 on the high school side.

On June 7, the eighth grade students will be going to Wild Water Adventure Park with other CUSD schools.

The end of this school year will definitely be an exciting one for CNEC.

## CNEC Robotics sending Legos to children in need

By Kayla Pablo

The CNEC Robotics team is beginning work on an annual event, Legos Around the World, that benefits children in poverty. Starting on Memorial Day and ending Winter Break 2018, the Robotics team is asking students to donate new or used Legos for children in Mexico, Haiti, Italy, Indonesia, Philippines, Denmark, and Greece.

Sophomore Brian Azali has done work similar to this in the past and is helping to lead the team on this event. CNEC students can donate their Legos to Room 187. During lunch, the Robotics team cleans and packages the Legos. Some students from Robotics are even traveling to the countries to hand deliver the toys. In addition,

crayons and coloring books will also be shipped to the children. The team's goal is to collect 100,000 Lego bricks by Memorial Day. Robotics teacher Mary Allen explains the popularity of Legos: "They're universal. It requires no specific language, it doesn't require power, it just needs your imagination."



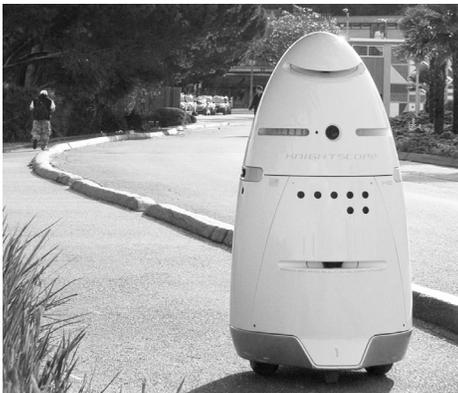
## Pros and cons of robotic security guards

Recently, CNEC won a robotic security guard free of charge for two years. These new robot guards are intended to make schools safer for students on campus. Knightscope, the company producing these robot guards, has a mission to stop crime, including school shootings. Robot guards could be an excellent, yet risky, addition to CNEC.

The robot guards do have perks, from a face ID mechanism to cameras that scan the environment. According to Technology teacher Mary Allen, "As long as we kept the human component, it would be an exhilarating addition." Allen also stated, "This could be proven to be a better alternative than humans, but it would still be a good secondary source to protect our kids." These robots can secure an area more effectively than a human security guard, while operating for less than the minimum wage in California.

On the other hand, are we sure that these will protect schools better? According to Steven Hoffer of the Huffington Post, a security robot produced by Knightscope that was employed in a California mall reportedly ran over a toddler's foot and angered the child's parents. The child received no severe injuries; however, this was not the first time a robot had ran over a young child. Knightscope robots have no method to subdue an aggressive person on campus; they can only alert authorities of danger.

In light of recent events, increased security measures are necessary, and the effects of the implementation of security robots in our school will be interesting to see.



## Are digital newspapers preferable to printed papers?

In today's world, people rely on their computers, phones, and televisions to get information. To get the latest news, one merely needs to open an app, click a link, or tune into a channel. But before modern technology, what was the primary way of spreading information? Newspapers. Journalism gave a voice to the voiceless, a way of communicating without even speaking. But in the rapidly changing world of technology, are traditional, printed-on-paper newspapers becoming obsolete? *North News* is considering a transition from a printed format to online to become more relevant in today's form of journalism.

According to the Pew Research Center, there were 11,734,536 visitors to popular online newspapers in 2016, while there were only 61,654 printed newspapers in circulation that same year. Why the dramatic difference? Well, there are benefits that come with digital newspapers. One reason is that digital newspapers are cheaper than printed

papers. For newspaper companies or clubs that have limited funds, this is a very helpful feature. They also provide free advertising, as they can be found by simply typing a few words into a search bar. Not to mention that many people new prefer reading e-books and news websites instead of books or newspapers.



They're easier to access, they're cheaper than physical books, and they're better for the environment. An online newspaper could attract more readers than a printed version. Many argue that as people's lifestyles are changing, their methods of getting news should adapt as well.

Despite the benefits that come with a digital newspaper, there are still those who prefer printed newspaper. One example is seventh grader Krizel Guansing, who believes that printed newspapers are more accessible than online versions. "It gives us a sure way

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### North News Staff

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## North Poll

*What has been your favorite memory from this school year?*

**Hunter Jenny, 8th grade:** “Sports this year were really fun. We had a good year as a school.”

**Ryan Cookingham, 9th grade:** “Making so many new friends and being part of the valley team for swim.”

**Paige Kent, 11th grade:** “Finding out that there was no more morning practices for swim season.”

**Travis Mills, Ceramics teacher:** “My last lunch with Mr. Quintana before he passed away.”

**Jorden Larsen, 12th grade:** “Winter formal with my awesome date!”

**Varun Raj, 11th grade:** “Being able to enjoy myself at the food fair.”

**Parker Bell, 11th grade:** “Going to the Valley Championship game for water polo and almost upsetting the number one seed.”

**Tyler Bartlow, 12th grade:** “Be able to go off campus with my friends every day.”

**Tatum Scarry, 10th grade:** “Going to the Valley Championship game with the girls’ basketball team!”

**Ashlyn Leath, 7th grade:** “It was the first day of school, and the big change from elementary school to middle school.”

**Max Pichon, 9th grade:** “The Great America trip with band.”

**Ryan David, 7th grade:** “The cowboys vs. surfers rally.”

**Alireza Saffarian, 8th grade:** “All the different types of people I was able to meet and build a friendship with.”

**Alyssa Gallegos, 11th grade:** “The Saucy Cross Country Twilight Meet we had in October.”

## Mural painting transforms Room 192

By Dhruv Javangula

A CNEC classroom is being converted into an under-the-sea wonderland, courtesy of three CN artists: Ivreese Tong, Sophia Gomez, and Lauren Murai. Special Education teacher Roman Gonzalez came up with the idea to add mural art to Room 192, a classroom utilized by GR and CN Special Day classes, and the three artists jumped at the chance. Gonzalez envisioned walls that would provide “color and atmosphere. We wanted something fun and flamboyant.” The activities depicted in the mural would ideally contribute to the sensory input that benefits these students.



Brainstorming how the mural should look, the biggest challenge of the project according to Tong, the artists settled on an ocean theme. They are currently about halfway through the project, and it is starting to come together. Working as a team is something new to the artists, as they usually work alone on projects. “It’s definitely helpful working as a team because it’s a really big space,” observes

Tong. “We’ve had to learn collaboration and communication skills.”

Grab your flippers and snorkel, and stop by Room 192 to experience life under the sea.

## Student reminds us that *It’s Okay to be Blue*



By Gracyn Torigian

In CN’s ROP class dealing with careers with children, an important message arose from an assignment to write a children’s book. Junior Jennifer Loomer wrote a book called *It’s Okay to be Blue* and entered it in the Educator’s Rising competition held at Fresno State. Loomer received first place at the Regional Competition and then went on to be awarded third place in the State. Her high ranking in the State competi-

tion qualified Loomer to take *It’s Okay to be Blue* to the competition in Florida this summer.

*It’s Okay to be Blue* is about a bunny who can’t figure out why he is always sad, and when consulting with others, he no longer hides his emotions but embraces that it is okay to be sad sometimes. Loomer admits, “My inspiration for the book was really my life.” When Loomer reached a point in her life when she was hiding her feelings rather than talking about them, she recalled her struggles slowly eating away at her. Through this she realized it’s better to talk about situations rather than keep them bottled up. Loomer hopes to inform other people that feeling overwhelmed is okay.

Loomer doesn’t plan on writing any other books, even though she noted how amazing the process was, because she wants to pursue a career in dance. However, she does hope for her book to someday be published to let other kids know that they are not alone and sometimes it is okay to be blue.

# Unified Sports finishes another great season as a team

By Miliiana Perez

CN Unified Sports comes to an end, and the team looks back at their season with nothing but huge smiles across their faces. This program allows students with disabilities or special needs to participate in athletics through various sports. Roman Gonzalez, Mark Tackett, and Shane Kiehlmeier are the coaches who helped bring all of the Unified teams together. With every game, the students improved more and more, giving them great amounts of confidence for the next game to come. The team played soccer, golf, tennis, basketball, track, and much more this year, always representing CN sports.

The Unified team was filled with players that were on many different levels of play. Some of the students were just learning how to dribble the ball for the first time with their team mates right by their side encouraging them. From dribbling all the way to swinging, the players were putting their best effort forward. The chemistry between all the players was obviously growing.



Cody Gruen looks to score in Unified soccer game.

“The team was working together like glue. They were awesome, selfless, and committed to the game,” Gonzalez says. This year, CN qualified in the Regional Tournament in Ripon California. This will further take them to the USA National Games for Special Olympics this summer.

The team has looked forward to every season of sports so they can reunite and play together again. “The team helps build confidence and culture within the sport. Students will high-five each other in the hallways and that truly strengthens the chemistry all around,” Gonzalez says. They were different from the other sports, because there wasn’t just one great player who does it all. The SPED team uses all the players in every game and they all contribute in their own way.

The team wishes seniors good luck on their next chapter and are also very excited for the incoming freshman to join their team in the near future. All around, the team was very thankful that CN continues to give them the opportunity to include everyone in athletics.

## DIGITAL VS. PRINTED

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of knowing that people get it,” she says. “Online, we aren’t sure if everyone has access to it.” Guansing is not alone in this mindset. A common argument is that not everyone has access to the Internet, so not everyone would have access to the newspaper. This would decrease the amount of readers. Another issue with having an all-digital newspaper is that many people still enjoy the feeling of paper in their hands as they read. Converting to an online paper would also cost many people their jobs. Delivery workers and printing presses would find themselves out of business. Yes, digi-

tal newspapers may make more financial sense, but the idea of a printed newspaper is still appealing.

In a changing world, the press must adapt to the shifting environment. As technology becomes more and more dominant over modern life, newspapers must adapt to the strengthening tides of the Internet. But should newspapers become purely digital? Or should they remain printed, which would please those who enjoy having paper in their hands? Maybe newspapers could have both an online version and a digital version. Whatever format its in, the art of journalism is far from dead.

# Boys’ track wins TRAC championship, eyes valley title

By Mathew Oaks

The CN track and field team has had an amazing season so far with the boys’ team winning the first TRAC Championship in school history. The boys have multiple events that are number one in the state including the 4x200m which has crushed both the school record and section record. CN’s top sprinters such as Kurtis Kobzeff, Christian Wood, Caleb Foster, Tyler Ximinez, and Nathen Scruggs have all helped in breaking school records in countless events in both track and field. A lot of those record-breaking times and/or marks rank very high, and in some instances are the top in the state. The boys also have the top jump program in the valley. “We have so many people doing so many great things this year and that is what I love about this team,” says Head Coach Richard Brazil.



Record-holder Christian Wood jumps in the pit.

Their ultimate goal, besides winning the TRAC title, is for them win the CIF Valley Championship. Brazil elaborates, “It is there for us to grab, and the boys know what it is going to take to get it.” The boys are hoping to clench the title this year, as they have worked extremely hard and proven themselves all season.

Brazil says that he wants all of his athletes to have a mentality where they come to practice every day ready to work and compete. He also says that one key part in the success this season is that all the athletes enjoy what they are doing and embrace the “grind” of the sport. With the hard work the team has put in, they are hoping to see big results at the valley meet.