

## Fashion and Philanthropy

### Student starts charity fashion brand during pandemic...

By Emma Coleman

Amidst a busy school year and a global pandemic, junior Chloe Lee finds the time to run her own clothing shop, Bohm Boutique.

On Jan. 1, 2021, Lee launched her business, featuring trendy and long lasting clothing pieces, from various vendors, that are set at an affordable price. Lee utilizes her platform to promote and donate 10% of all proceeds to a monthly, customer chosen organization that addresses racial equality or mental health.

"I was inspired to create a clothing brand when the pandemic hit because I saw an opportunity to bring awareness to racial equality and mental health, and also support organizations that address these issues." Lee said.

Bohm Boutique's chosen donation commitment for the month of March was Mind Charity, an organization that provides resources and support to empower anyone that is struggling with mental health. This is an issue Lee and her customers, felt were prevalent amongst today's teens and important to address.

"As the pandemic was exacerbated, mental illness only became more severe. I personally have struggled with my mental health and have known others who were affected by this." Lee said.

These initiatives regarding mental health and racial equality, are taken seriously and are a large part of the Bohm Boutique mission.

"Unlike other brands, Chloe makes sure this is one of her top priorities which makes the brand stand out from others." junior and model for the company, Angelica Pedrero said.

Lee also ensures that customers at Bohm Boutique are informed that she is aware of the social, ethical and environmental consequences of fast fashion. This business model has been on the rise over the past few years and is hard to avoid, but Lee states that she is working to eventually become a 100% sustainable brand.

"What's unfortunate is that ethical and sustainable manufacturers are incredibly expensive," Lee said. "I searched for months and spent hundreds before I found some that were ethical and fit for my brand."

As she continues to work tirelessly and efficiently to run and better her successful business, Lee has gotten a lot of support from customers who are enthusiastic about the clothing products, as well as the initiatives Bohm Boutique stands for.

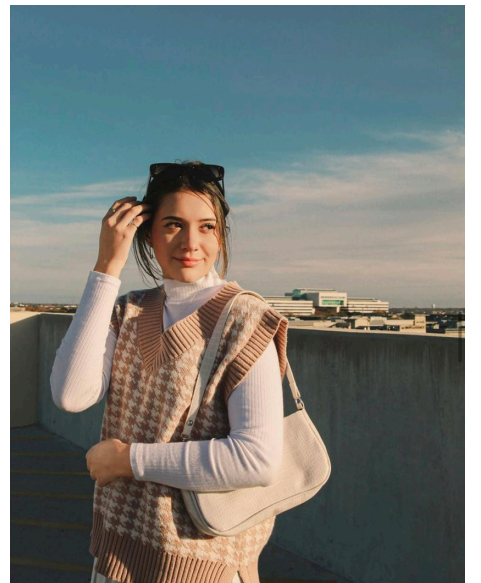
"I got the beige sweater vest and white purse," junior and customer Bethany Chow said. "Those caught my attention because I had seen them a lot on Pinterest before and always thought they were super cute."

Customers are not only enthusiastic about the clothing, but also the mental health and racial equality initiatives that Chloe Lee's Bohm Boutique stands for and supports.

"I really appreciate Bohm Boutique's goal in promoting support for these issues and I think it's such a good model for small businesses to take up," Chow said.

Lee's business continues to surpass its expectations and spread awareness about real world issues, whilst providing trendy clothing for everyone to feel confident in.

"Having this platform, it's important to me that I do my part in raising awareness of these issues and support organizations that align with these causes," said Lee.



Model Angelica Pedrero shows off the shop's clothes on the Instagram @thebohmboutique

## Celebrating Women's History Month

By Abby Carroll

The month of March is globally recognized as Women's History Month to help honor important women as well as educate the world on issues women have faced in the past and continue to face daily.

Women's History Month first began as a single day. Originally celebrated as Women's History day since 1911, Mar. 8 served as a day to recognize all women and educate those on the struggles of being a female in a male-dominated society.

From there, nations like the UK, US and Australia saw the need for such an important topic to be expressed through more than a day. The single day eventually became a whole week taken to acknowledge the great accomplishments of women throughout history.

Women's History Appreciation remained only a week up until the 1970's. It was in 1978 when then president, Jimmy Carter announced that the month of March should be set aside to honor women's contributions in society.

Following in America's lead, many other countries also took to extending the once week into a month of celebrating women.

Although Canada celebrates this occasion in October, Women's History Month is mostly globally celebrated and acknowledged as an important and informative time of the year. Canada celebrates their Women's History Month much like we do it here in America.

Schools often build lesson plans around important topics featuring the roles of women. Sports channels honor those who paved the way for girls everywhere by sharing their stories, and the media takes to expressing appreciation for the founding women in Hollywood.

Although Mother's day is another special time of the year in which we carve out time to recognize those women who mean the most to us, it differs from that of Women's History Month. There are more things a woman can accomplish other than to simply have children, and the month of March helps to celebrate this fact.

This month, we celebrate the minds of every woman out there who has every inspiration. From the athletic endeavors of Wilma Rudolph, to the creative talents of Maya Angelo, little girls everywhere are in awe of smart and courageous minds like Amelia Earheart and the political possibilities presented by Jacqueline Kennedy as they picture themselves growing up into the capabilities like Marie Curie, every girl has a woman to look up to, and that is the beauty of Women's History Month.

"My mother told me to be a lady. And for her, that meant be your own person, be independent."

— Ruth Bader Ginsberg

"I raise up my voice—not so I can shout but so that those without a voice can be heard... We cannot succeed when half of us are held back."

— Malala Yousafzai

"I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear."

"I don't have a feeling of inferiority. Never had. I'm as good as anybody, but no better."

— Katherine Johnson

"You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas."

— Shirley Chisholm

"You can waste your lives drawing lines. Or you can live your life crossing them."

Shonda Rhimes

*This Issue...*

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## Women's sports face undue sexualization

*Women athletes face problems when their image is prioritized...*

By Elizabeth Guevara

In the rapidly progressing world of women's rights and gender activism, the sexualization of women's sports has no reason to exist.

Everyone has a right to feel comfortable in what they do and how they are perceived. While it is impossible to control how an entire population thinks, bringing awareness to the problems a misogynistic mindset brings up shows respect to female athletes who have had to face years of ridicule and belittling.

The trend of sexualizing women's sports started with the first sport women played professionally - baseball. Even here they were made to wear an impractical skirt to play.

From there, women's sports have grown and become more respected, especially with Title IX, which ruled that schools cannot discriminate in sports due to sex. However, there is still a double standard with the male and female genders when playing sports.

Comparing women and men's uniforms shows exactly the double standard between the two genders. More often than not, women's uniforms are more revealing and less functional than men's. Even if the women feel uncomfortable in their uniforms assigned to them, they are pressured into wearing them.

There is an important distinction to make, as the problem does not lie with women who feel comfortable in these garments, it lies in the expectation or enforcement of them for all female athletes. Women should not be forced into following a certain beauty standard to be respected in their sport.



Women at a Title IX panel discussing gender bias in sports

Photo Courtesy of Women's ENews

This problem especially trickles down to women of color, who have to face the consequences when they are forced to straighten or tie down their hair to "look uniform" with their teammates. When dancers are only given one skin color of tights or shoes to wear, it can make them feel insecure that they do not match their uniform.

The sexualization and enforcement of the Westernized beauty standard makes girls insecure in their own bodies and can deter them from playing a sport. If women athletes are forced to fit into that certain look they may try to force their body to be like that, even if it is at the expense of their performance.

To look slimmer they may skip meals or skip weights which are detrimental to being an athlete. In promotional photos, women feel the need to pose in a suggestive manner or look completely different than how they would play.

For example, women athletes who have noticeable upper torso muscle often get comments on how "un-ladylike" and unattractive it is. This is irrelevant to them because their body is not for a pleasurable view or to fit into an outdated stereotype, but to be the best athlete they can be.

In addition, this can make women who are young athletes or not athletes at all feel insecure about their own bodies, if they think that they need to look a certain way to be an athlete, it could deter them from being in a sport.

Women athletes are putting their bodies on the line, working just as hard as men to do improbable things with their bodies. They are already putting themselves in these intrusive situations, so they should be able to choose how they want to dress.

When a woman athlete is only seen for her sex appeal, and not her strength or athletic ability, problems arise. No matter what women do, many people seem to focus on other parts of their life instead of their athletic accomplishments.

There is little respect left for female athletes, both from men and even from other women, and it has to do with the sexualization of their sport. Due to this, many women have felt pressured to sexualize themselves to gain attention for their athletic accomplishments. However, when they did that, they received backlash. It seems women athletes cannot win: if they sexualize themselves, people do not respect them as an athlete, but if they do not they are criticized for not doing what they can to help their sport.

The problem stems from the lack of respect women get in society and the only value they seem to have is for sex. There needs to be a serious discussion about this problematic issue that continues to haunt women athletes throughout their whole career.

## COVID causes problems for students

*COVID and testing...*

By Maya Pragji

The world as a whole has finally come to accept that COVID-19 is the new reality, as we approach year two of social distancing new technology has arisen to help accommodate learning and working environments; however the group suffering from the greater collateral damage is the student body of America.

Students everywhere are dealing with new adjustments and technology, however they are still required to take nationwide tests in order to receive an education further than that of high school. The SAT, ACT, and AP testing are all tests that will be changed in order for students to gain credits and apply to colleges in the midst of the pandemic.

The formats of the tests this year have changed drastically as most tests given will either be just a written portion or a simple multiple choice exam. For many students this news has brought great relief as they now only have to study for one format of testing. This has devalued the education and skills surrounding these tests and students are beginning to lose their AP skill set which is one of high value and importance when entering college.

Most institutions dropped the requirement of the SAT for the class of 2021, due to lack of preparation time and resources. The class 2022 however will be required by most schools to report an SAT score, despite few changes in the learning environment from last year.

This year students have been taught to just know the material well enough to test, rather than just for the sake of learning as education should be. The failure rate at most high schools has been greater this school year than any other. Kids are lacking motivation and personal connections with their classmates and teachers which instills a great amount of motivation as friends push each other to compete academically.

It is more common this year for students to view assignments as an 11:59 pressing due time, rather than an assignment they must learn and understand. This has made school as a whole less enjoyable and more mandatory for students, as they are being tested bi-weekly on the material they are given.

*Texas Mask Mandate...*

By Emma Coleman

On Mar. 10, the Governor of Texas Greg Abbott lifted the state mask mandate and capacity restrictions on all businesses, this could be dangerous for the whole state, and slow the progress in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), mask mandates were associated with the significant decrease in county-level COVID-19 case and death rates. In contrast, the reopening of 100% restaurant dining and the absence of masks is associated with increases in county-level COVID cases and death rates only 40-80 days after reopening.

"It is clear from the recoveries, vaccinations, reduced hospitalizations, and safe practices that Texans are using that state mandates are no longer needed," Governor Abbott said in his statement to the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce.

Abbott stated that vaccinations are a sure sign that Texas is safe from the virus and should open, yet out of 28 million Texans, only 2.9 million, or 10% of the population have been fully vaccinated as of Mar. 17.

"With this executive order, we are ensuring that all businesses and families in Texas have the freedom to determine their own destiny," Abbott said.

The mask and capacity limitations were implemented for the sake of protecting people, instead of depriving citizens of the freedom to determine their own destiny.

The proven, scientific truth is that wearing a mask is effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19, and is a crucial step in returning to some state of normalcy.

There is no doubt that family owned businesses are suffering, that individuals are suffering financially and emotionally. However, it is our job as individuals, as a society, to be conscious of others and reduce the spread of COVID as efficiently as possible so that we are able to reach some sense of normalcy sooner.

Wearing masks and socially distancing has been proven to work in the past. By working together as a community to fight this health crisis can then tackle the obstacle of restoring economy, on a local, state and national level.



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### Mission Statement:

Wildcat Tales is a student produced publication that serves to educate, inform and entertain the student body in a professional manner which will provoke thought while upholding the principles of a free press. The publication is a forum for the students of Plano Senior High School. Any opinions expressed in Wildcat Tales are the opinion of the writer and of the writer only.

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## Chaos Walking excites Sci-Fi fans

*New movie has all the hallmarks for a great science-fiction movie...*

By Drake Chambless

On Mar. 5, the new sci-fi thriller Chaos Walking was released; featuring Spiderman: Homecoming star Tom Holland and Star Wars: The Force Awakens lead Daisy Ridley, this energetic and engaging movie does not disappoint

The movie is based on the first book, titled “The Knives of Never Letting Go,” of a sci-fi book trilogy named Chaos Walking. Fans are hoping for more movies to complete the trilogy, however this may be unlikely due to the problems the movie is having in the box office currently.

The plot is about a society where all women have been killed off by a germ released into the earth’s atmosphere, which the characters refer to as the “spackle,” and it is left for the men to survive alone on the planet. With this, the men also have the ability to share their thoughts through a cloud that they call “noise.”

While exploring a swamp land, one of the main characters, Todd played by Tom Holland, discovers a crashed craft with a girl of similar age named Viola played by actress Daisy Ridley. After his finding, he is shocked and frightened, and is told by his adoptive parents to run as he is now in danger due to his discovery of a girl. Todd is determined to keep himself and Viola safe from those who are hunting her.

Chaos Walking was created and directed by Doug Liman. The movie was rated at 21% by Rotten Tomatoes, in which they explained “Chaos Walking sets out on a potentially interesting path, but this dystopian adventure badly bungles its premise and limps toward the finish.”

While the major review groups may not have enjoyed the movie, Sci-Fi enthusiasts and regular moviegoers alike have left many reviews, with as much as 91% of the audience liking the movie.

This reassurance helps those who listen to critics more than those who have watched and enjoyed the movie get to the theater to watch it for themselves. Judging on those who have watched the movie, it seems like a well liked action packed movie for all those who watch.

If interested, the movie is available in theaters across the nation. Even with COVID-19, as long as a mask is worn, Chaos Walking is most definitely a must watch with the great cast, setting, and storyline for all.



Photo courtesy [https://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficheiro:Chaos\\_Walking.jpg](https://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficheiro:Chaos_Walking.jpg)

## Disney movie brings light to Asian cultures

*New movie “Raya and the Last Dragon” finally focuses on Asian cultures...*

By Kai Kuntz

Disney has released its newest movie by presenting Raya and the Last Dragon, with a blend between fantasy and Asian culture, the film has brought much success for the megacorporation.

The character development shown throughout the duration of the movie, is something that really resonated with those that have watched it. The heartfelt story of the lead character, Raya, played by Star Wars: The Last Jedi star Kelly Marie Tran, appeals to audiences everywhere with her relatable turmoil.

The story itself does not take inspiration from any older books or poems and is just inspired by the elements of Southeast Asian culture. The production team even made two trips to Laos, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, and Singapore before starting the movie. In addition, the cast and crew are majority Asian and Asian-American, and the enthusiasm for their shared culture is beautifully shown in the movie.

However, there has been criticism on part of the generalization of Southeast Asian culture that the movie presents. For example, there is no specific regional culture tied to the film, or significant place that the movie is set in.

Despite these oversights, what captivated eyes everywhere is the astounding graphic design and animation. People have commented on how beautiful life, like the characters and animals, appear.



Photo courtesy AllEars.net

The scenery is rendered magically, as some of the plot unfolds up in the sky, it’s like the viewer is in the movie seeing things from their perspective.

Disney’s creation of the plot was genius, the storyline is as old as time and centers around the pressure of one person who has to save the human race, however that may be. The protagonist, Raya, is in charge of finding the last remaining dragon on earth to stop the Druun, the antagonists, from destroying all of humanity. Of course, there is tons of trial and error, but it keeps the audience well on their feet.

Another brilliant thing about this movie is the incorporation of Asian culture. From the clothes, to the architecture, even the dragons themselves. It’s clear what Disney’s influence for the film is. No doubt the movie holds significant Asian representation for all of the children who will see the movie.

Raya and the Last Dragon is definitely another out-of-the-park homerun for Disney and its ambitious filmmaking attempts. Between the amazing animation, the loveable characters and moving plot, Raya and the Last Dragon is sure to be beloved by all audiences for decades to come.

## What movies are Plano Students excited to see?

As COVID restrictions are lifting and the possibility of going out is on the horizon, what movies are students excited to see in theaters? Students were asked on Instagram (@wildcattales) what movie releases they are most excited for.



@bellagortana:  
“The release of any Marvel Movie”

@hat\_doob:  
“Kong vs. Godzilla”

@cadengc410:  
“A Quiet Place II”

@shayan.bangash:  
“Black Widow”





# Lady Wildcats Softball Persevere

*Even with many changes to the program Plano softball has yet to give up....*

By Brooke Burnett

The Plano Wildcat’s softball team started off an exciting year with scrimmages on Feb. 13 and have held onto that energy as they begin to finish a promising 2021 season.

Joining the softball program this year are head coach Brittney Welch and assistant coach Kieren Stevens. This is both of their first years coaching at the school, and they are looking to accomplish a lot in their first season.

“My favorite part about coaching softball is getting to be around the game that I love in a different atmosphere than as a player,” said Welch.

The players go through an intense training schedule during practices to perfect their performance for each game, including arm work, dynamic exercises, offensive and defensive training, and lifting weights twice a week.

“I get to help a future generation of softball players keep playing, improve their game and eventually go on to play college if that’s what they want,” said Welch. “That’s really exciting to be a part of.”

Even though the pandemic has made it challenging for the players and coaches, they will do anything in order to play the game they love.

“For me being on a softball field will always be the most comfortable place to be, I really love being around the kids and watching them improve,” said Stevens. “Practice is an absolute joy to watch.”

Softball takes a lot of time and dedication, with hours of practice and training, but both the players and the coaches say that it is worth it in the end.

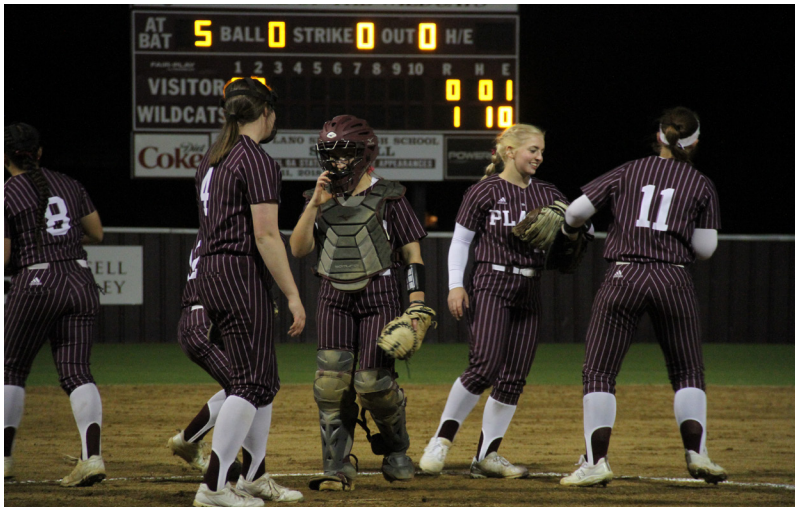
“You’re going to work really hard, and there are going to be days where coach will push you mentally and physically,” said senior Sadie Weiner. “Those days will make the good days matter and make them better.”

The Lady Wildcats have traveled outside the district for tournaments, and have many memories together on and off the field, bringing them closer as friends and as a team. Although many events, such as out of district tournaments where the girls get a chance to bond as they stay in a hotel together have been cancelled, this group has still found fellowship together.

“I love the girls that I play with. The past four years I’ve made some of the best friends I will probably make in my whole life,” said Weiner. “Those friendships I would not have made otherwise, so it’s really great that I got to meet these people and take on this sport with them.”

The team has a history of winning seasons, making them District Champions six times. They are currently 6-3 in District and are shooting for playoffs and State Championships.

“You just have to push and give it everything you’ve got because the program is worth it,” said Weiner.



Plano softball players celebrate a play  
Photo courtesy Lauryn Clemons

# Successful Swim Season

*Plano Swim proudly finished a season of hard work...*

By Kai Kuntz

The Plano Senior High swim team has always been a hardworking group, but they have really shined through this year as the team had to put in extra work this season.

Their strive to earn some achievements has worked in their favor. Sumedh Thopte, swim team captain, has expressed his pride towards the team’s success.

“At the beginning we had our problems, but as the season progressed we bonded and had quite a few wins,” Thopte said.

No matter how good of a team, there is always room for improvement, but this season practices were limited due to the COVID pandemic, so there were some shortages in the team’s potential.

“I feel like having more practice time would have made us more successful because that extra practice time would’ve given us more time to solidify techniques,” Thopte said.

These issues were quickly resolved as the team earned quite a bit of victories throughout the season. The girl’s team ended district in 2nd and the boy’s in 8th in addition to many individual wins in UIL Region 2-6A Championships. Thopte was pleased with their tenacity, it truly did pay off.

“The team definitely improved,” Thopte said. “We saw a drop in times in everyone’s main events and had fun being around each other.”

With the typical swim season comes regionals, this means the competition is high, and the Plano swim team did not disappoint as their time to shine finally came.

“I had fun this year at regionals since it was my last swim season ever,” Thopte said.

Through it all, the Plano Senior swim team shined through, and brought back some amazing victories this season. With all the team members ending with results they were pleased with, it is safe to say this was an exciting season.

“I’m proud of what the team accomplished, the times were very nice,” Thopte said.



Girls line up for the meet against Plano East  
Photo courtesy Sophia Baldwin



Plano soccer plays against Coppell  
Photo courtesy Jessica Torrez

# Plano Boy’s Soccer Fight

*In a changed season soccer still shows up....*

By Drake Chambless

This season has been eventful for Planos boy’s soccer team, which has received new players, coaches, and protocols.

Plano boys soccer has a JV and Varsity roster of 27 players. The players competing had a great season and are eager to get back for next year. Even the injured players like junior Reed Sincclair enjoyed the season and team.

“It was a lot of fun even though I couldn’t play too much this year,” Sincclair said.

The team enjoyed this year even with restrictions from COVID-19. This year, there are two new JV coaches for this 2021 season. Coach Micah Knorr and Coach Wes Pippard are the newest coaching additions to the PSHS academic program. Wes Pippard has been a teacher at Plano Senior for quite some time while Micah Knorr is completely new to the Plano School system. The boy’s soccer team’s overall season was filled with the struggles of Covid-19, where all the players easily adapted to the changes and overcame the struggles caused by the pandemic.

“The boys have worked extremely hard conditioning themselves, improving technically and tactically throughout the start of the year,” head coach Tex McCollough said..

With constant improvement of the players, Plano boys soccer will only improve with time. Athletes will be welcomed in for next year’s season to strengthen the team even more. This year, both teams made it to the playoffs but were both sadly beaten, with varsity ending their overall year going with 13 wins, nine losses, and one draw.

“One thing I am going to take away from this season, is to cherish the memories we make,” said senior Jackson Booth.