



# The Nevada State Herald



## Nevada State High School Student-Run Newsletter

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### SOCIAL POINT RECAP

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Author: Jay Lundberg '22  
Editor: Charlize Chen '21

By far, the longest social point event this semester was the ACT bootcamp. The course had five sessions: Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and afternoon, and Sunday morning and afternoon. Each session was around 4 hours long, giving the participants about 20 hours of in-class time. During the Friday session, participants were asked to complete a pretest that encompassed each section of the ACT, as well as a writing section. Throughout Saturday and Sunday, students were given various study tips and tricks for individual sections before retesting on each section individually with the goal of seeing what students had retained. Alongside testing, on Sunday, there was a

**W**elcome, esteemed readers! As this is the very first issue and official debut of The Nevada State Herald, an introduction is in order.

The Nevada State Herald is the official student-run newsletter of Nevada State High School, founded by seniors Charlize Chen and Jordan-Sky Magee. The Herald aims to provide the most current news on Nevada State High School, connect the student body from each campus through diversity in thought and identity, and cultivate growth as it steps onto the journalistic stage.

Due to current circumstances, we will only be uploading monthly issues to our webpage on the Nevada State High School official website.



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### INTRO COURSE RECAP AND INTERVIEW

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Authors: Jordan-Sky Magee '21, Taylor Ward '22  
Editor: Chayil Benoit '21 (1-A)

Nevada State High School's 2020 Two Week Intro Course, held for juniors and seniors alike, was two weeks filled with many firsts. From the very beginning, it became

**(1-A)**  
**How was your experience transitioning socially during the intro course?**

Autumn: "Honestly, the group project was the only time I introduced myself to people so it was kind of hard to make friends. But, it wasn't the worst thing."

**Was your mental health affected by the transition into college and taking college courses at a young age?**

Anonymous: "At first it was hard adjusting because I already had a lot of stuff going on, so that's why I was so heavily impacted. I had to deal with school stress along with personal issues so I got sort of overwhelmed when I would think about everything; but, I learned to compartmentalize and separate my emotions."

**How was your experience transitioning?**

Autumn: "It was a big difference and a bit overwhelming at first, but only having four courses instead of the usual six or

presentation that focused on finding colleges and scholarships that are most appealing to each individual. The bootcamp brought many hours of intense study but in the end was worth it, as most people's scores went up between the first and final mock tests.

Another wonderful social event that NSHS hosted was the mentoring meetup! The meetup may sound odd at first, but hearing advice from upperclassmen can be very beneficial to juniors. Being in NSHS means taking on new responsibilities; there exists a potential for gaps in maturity and understanding when first shifting from a traditional school to a charter school.



Captured NSH Google Meets meeting  
Having second year NSHS students available to give insight on this new lifestyle is a great way to bridge the experience gap. The conversation went a few different ways: first focusing on general

clear the intro course was going to be different. Due to Covid-19 and social distancing guidelines, this intro course had to be conducted through Zoom meetings. Students and teachers had to learn how to have efficient meetings and how to interact with others, making this a huge change from last year's Two Week Intro Course at UNLV!

There were many activities held during this 14-day period; attending students were able to verse on research strategies, mock interviews, effective communications, and writing skills. Amongst all these activities, students had the opportunity to break out into discussion groups and communicate with their peers. Students were also grouped with students to perform a research project and presentation which they would then present in front of the school.

Hearing from many, these two weeks were a fun, yet stressful, time. Students could find common interest within each other but of course, challenging and informing work took place. Although this introductory course was not what many expected, the Nevada State High School administrators held everything together with the amazing students involved.

Taylor Ward, one of the writers for the NSHS Herald, conducted an interview with some of our fellow students regarding their time at the first-ever intro course to be held online. The interview is in the right-hand column.

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## THE SCHOOL BY THE OCEAN

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*Author: Charlize Chen '21*

*Editor: Michaella Gazala '20*

Outside, the stratified landscape of Taipei gave way to rolling emerald hills punctuated by flowing rivers. I took the communal train along with workers retiring home for the day, conspicuous with my bulky luggage. In order to participate in this volunteer teaching program, I had to endure a fourteen hour flight, fourteen days of government-mandated quarantine, and a week of teacher training.

Arriving after an hour, I gaped at the magnificent

eight helped ease me into it better."

### **How was the transition from traditional school to a charter school?**

Anonymous: "It was interesting because there are different rules and standards to go by [here at NSHS] and I couldn't relate to my other friends when they were talking about how they were doing stuff in [their] schools."

How was your experience in the intro to college course?

Autumn: "I wasn't very fond of it because it was such a long Zoom day. It was helpful with providing information and giving out helpful resources though."

### **Your thoughts on the Transitioning into College Research Paper?**

Anonymous: "I don't know... It was kinda funny because everyone was freaking out and sort of upset because of how vague the topic was but I was just like, 'it's not even gonna be that hard'."

### **Are you adjusting better since it's been over a month since we started at Nevada State High School?**

Anonymous: "Yes, my whole life practically revolves around it, though. I've created an organized and efficient schedule that allows me to be academically successful."

time management questions, then moving to study tips, and ending off with mental health advice. The seniors overall agreed that blocking out specific time to study and keeping things written down were the essential aspects of time management. They also concluded that finding the apps and tracking techniques that were most beneficial to oneself were the essential parts of studying, besides of course, actually sitting down with your textbook. Seniors also expressed that mental health was a huge factor to consider. Again, apps, like Forest and Calm, that help one to relieve stress are a highly recommended tool as well as the counselors and advisors at NSHS and its network of community college associates. Overall, seniors recommended to find tools that work with your individual tendencies as well as keep in mind that others are there to support you.

panoramic view of the ocean, just a bike ride away from the elementary school I'd be teaching at. Anticipation swelled within me, washing away any doubts that I had felt earlier. I carried this feeling as I found my way toward DongAo Elementary School. Surrounding nature embraced the open campus: unidentifiable insects raced in front of my face and the small classrooms had only overhead fans to cool us from the unbearable summer heat. After a night of cleaning and classroom preparation, my group of art teachers and I retired to our dorms, buzzing with anticipation for the first day of class.

The children ran and screamed at each other like uncontrollable beasts. The stronger one targeted the weaker one for their eager punches. Their skin was coated with dried sweat and patch-marked with red bruises, cuts, and miscellaneous bug bites. Colorful dust polluted the air from the chalk they'd chucked at the blackboard.



Charlize from the first day of class with 1st and 2nd grade students

Still, I wore a smile like an actress on stage, appealing to my audience of eight-year-old aboriginal Taiwanese children. I taught our first art lesson like I had a class of eight hundred instead of eight, over-enunciating and gesturing dramatically with my hands to fully demonstrate vocabulary words. When my voice began to strain, I sent unspoken commands to my assistant teachers, and we trudged on with tacit understanding. A tilt of the head signaled: "take that noisy kid outside"; a glare at the unengaged kid was "get them to pay attention." Still, even as I scrambled around with my arsenal of colored markers, passing them out at the children's call, there was a strange serenity within the small classroom. The students gathered together on the floor, drawing ornate accessories onto their paper dogs and eagerly presenting them to us teachers. Our hard-planned lesson was a success, no matter how exhausting it was. However, it didn't take long before the chaos resumed.

With strands of short hairs sticking to my forehead by the end of the day, I finally waved goodbye to the students

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## RENEGADE RECS!

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*Author: Noah Varao '21*  
*Editor: Irene Soriano '21*

Renegades, let's get real. Spooky season is here. While Trick-or-Treating has been canceled this year, that doesn't mean celebrating Halloween is no longer an option.

Personally, I can't think of a better way to celebrate Halloween than watching one of Sam Raimi's classic films, "Evil Dead 2." Keep in mind, this is an EXTREMELY gory movie complete with absurd amounts of blood, reanimated corpses, guns, and self mutilation, so watch at your own risk! The movie follows a man who is trapped in a cabin in the middle of nowhere and must fight against zombies and spirits for his survival. It's a simple plot, but a lot of fun. It's an incredibly goofy movie as well, so don't think that this movie is all doom and gloom. Oh, and I suppose it pays to mention that, in the finale, the protagonist replaces his missing hand with a chainsaw so he can cut zombies in half. If this movie doesn't sound like the definition of awesome to you, I'll wait while you come up with a better one!





*Our logo was designed by our layout editors: Kayla Roberts and Jay Lundberg*

**WE ARE ALSO RECRUITING WRITERS FOR OUR NEWSPAPER STAFF.** Please contact us through our email if you are interested in being a full-fledged member of the Herald!



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before retiring to the room that I shared with seven other girls. I was already anticipating the end of the volunteer program. To my wonder, though, the following two weeks provided me with a firsthand glance at the life of these Taiwanese children, removed from the pressures of the fast-paced world beyond the village's train station. I quickly realized what I saw inside the classroom was only a glimpse of the incredible stories each of the kids embodied. Every morning, the teachers would come down from our living quarters, immediately greeted by some of the kids an hour before the school day started. They were bright and affectionate when they stepped out of the role of "student," telling us jokes and assigning fun, at times outrageous, nicknames. I was unfortunately nicknamed "Shalalala." Although we ended each day without an ounce of energy left, us volunteer teachers still excitedly prepared for the next day of classes long into the night. It's strange how easily people can bond when they share a mutual responsibility.

On the last afternoon at DongAo, my friend agreed to explore the village with me. We walked past students at archery practice, past a group of our kids sitting on steps and munching on rolls of the chocolate wafers I've loved since I was their age. As we chatted and strolled past the dilapidated, steel sheet houses, a small boy emerged from a particularly ramshackle one with two bursting trash bags in one hand and two empty beer bottles in the other, his younger brother trailing behind. The telltale song of the garbage truck wailed in the near distance, reminding me of my own trash duties for the day.

As I returned to the school, walking backwards from the waving Willy, I couldn't help but reminisce on how much I'd come to admire the kids—able to find happiness in the immaterial, warriors when dawned in their archery gear, and caretakers of the earth as they dutifully sorted the trash and recycling or dumped the food waste out on their own. Teaching at DongAo granted me an intimate glimpse at the lives of its inhabitants. I walked away with timeless memories of hours spent racing against time to prepare the next day's materials, nights gazing up at the unobstructed starry sky, and an insurmountable love for the people who shared them with me.

The Nevada State Herald serves as the voice of Nevada State High School's student body. If you have any personal stories regarding your experience as a Nevada State High School student, whether it's a funny story, some words of advice, or a memory you'd like to share, send it to our email and it might get featured in the "Student Stories" section of our next issue! If your story is chosen, you will be rewarded two social points. Keep in mind that the **minimum** word count is 100 words. We look forward to your submissions!



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# Editorial

## About the Editor-in-Chief

Someday in the future, when I'm sipping on a boba straw, chatting with a friend, and they ask, "So who was your first love?" I will feign secrecy but eventually whisper, "writing," perhaps to their chagrin. However, this love is exclusive. Though I detest research papers, I've always loved assignments that allow me to thread stories together or relive memories through words. Whether I write on the convenient Notes app, a slick Google Doc, or on a lined college-ruled paper, my thoughts find acceptance. My Notes app is filled to the brim with ever-growing accounts of my "Most Beautiful Moments in Life": the time I saw my first snowflake up close while bathing in a hot spring in Japan, how the night when lyrics from BTS's song "Paradise" helped dry



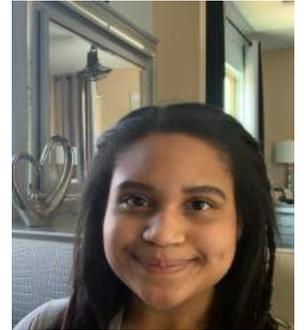
my tears, and the memory of those loose-leaf pages of lined paper, crumpled after hours of constant brainstorming and drafting of my English course assignments.

Reading written records of my thoughts is comparable to a warm embrace, understanding and reminiscent. This passion is something I wanted to express, nurture, and grow in my last year at Nevada State High School. To my peers reading these words, if you ever find yourself interested in Taiwanese culture, K-Pop, or bullet journaling, I check my email every day unfailingly. I hope to grow the Nevada State Herald into something that you all look forward to every month, and I thank you for your support!

**Charlize Chen**  
**Nevada State Herald**  
**Founder and Editor in Chief**

## About the Managing Editor

Hi, Nevada State Renegades! My name is Jordan-Sky Magee and I am the managing editor and co-founder for the first student-run Nevada State High School newspaper, the Nevada State Herald. When one of my dearest friends, Charlize Chen, discussed the idea of starting a newspaper for NSHS run by students with me, I was extremely excited and wanted to join this journey with her. I have always loved writing and sharing my stories as well as planning and management, so this was a perfect role for me. Now, after months of meetings and planning, the Nevada State Herald is finally here, ready to serve and inform all students about school issues, pop culture, outside news, and so much more.



To share a few things about me, I love theater, traveling, movies, and spending time with my family and friends. Most importantly, I love to read. Last year, I went to England, India, and many parts of the east coast, including New York, Maryland, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, with COVID-19 becoming so widespread, I can't travel anywhere except in the magical books I read. In truth, I read over seventy books during quarantine and still counting since the stay-at-home guidelines are still in place. I can't wait to travel again, and I hope to always travel more lands in both my physical reality and in my books.

I will represent this newspaper proudly, and trust my word when I say that everyone selected as members is equally amazing and talented in their works. I can't wait to share my stories and writings with all of you through our new Nevada State Herald!

**Jordan-Sky Magee**  
**Nevada State Herald**  
**Co-Founder and Managing Editor**

Layout Editors: Jay Lundberg '22 and Kayla Roberts '22