



## ACADEC WINS FIRST PLACE IN L.A. COUNTY COMPETITION

VANESSA CERVANTES  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 15 at the LAX Sheraton Hotel, the Academic Decathlon team made history as they won first place on the county level at the 47th annual competition. The beat out sixty-three other teams for the win and will continue on to the state competition this month.

Coached by Jose Sanchez, AcaDec is a seventh period class and a club which highlights teamwork, cooperation and rigor. Its purpose is to teach strong study habits and collaboration skills. AcaDec studies for competitions on ten topics including literature, math, science, speech, interview and essay. Every year, they compete against other local schools.

Each year the AcaDec competition has a different theme. This year's theme is Humanity and Technology.

The AcaDec students are given a packet on each topic to study throughout the entire first semester and part of second semester. Their practice materials include practice tests, packets and presentations. The students then practice their packet



**ACADEC:** [Top row] Kaylee Lu, Kenneth San, Oscar Diaz, Cesar Gonzalez, Kevin San, Elsdon Wong, MD Hamza Khan, [Middle row] Westley Song, Tyr Lau, Will San, Brendan Lei, Rayna Xu, Jose Sanchez. [Bottom row] Rachelle Liu, Clarissa Diaz, Lyla Medina, Tristan Lau, Michael Ngo, Carlos Carranza.

Photo Courtesy of: Jose Sanchez

materials both in and out of class time.

AcaDec consists of two teams, Team 1 and Team 2 which each have eight members. It is a requirement for students on the AcaDec teams to have a wide range of GPAs.

tears into finally paid off," junior Medina said. "Some of my teammates were crying, I was close to crying, but it was amazing to know that something we all spent a long time on helped us get the win for Alhambra."

The team took gold which was a first in Alhambra's history. Their total Division 1 score was 43,925.

"When I heard our name being called as Academic Decathlon's LA County champions I was so excited because I knew how hard we worked," junior Clarissa Diaz said. "To see it pay off just made me really happy."

Furthermore, AcaDec student Kenneth San, from Alhambra's Team 1, had a perfect score in Speech and his brother Kevin San, also from Team 1, was the highest scorer in LA County.

"This was only possible because all of us took the time and dedication for it," Kenneth San said. "It was very relieving, as the [amount of time] practicing was not in vain."

The state competitions will be at Santa Clara this month with the essay competition taking place early on March 6.

## \$2B SETTLEMENT FOR LEARNING LOSS NEW PA SYSTEM AND EVACUATIONS RAISE CONCERNS

### \$2B SETTLEMENT FOR LEARNING LOSS

NICOLE JIAN  
Editor in Chief

Recently, California agreed to a \$2 billion settlement to help provide underserved students most affected by the pandemic with tutoring and mental health resources.

According to CNN, during the pandemic, more than \$190 billion was granted to public school districts by the federal government to help schools stay open and aid students affected by learning loss. However, many students, primarily those from low-income households, still continued to face difficulty after schools reopened. As a result, 16 students from Los Angeles and Oakland, along with Oakland REACH and the Community Coalition in Los Angeles, filed an education equity lawsuit against California on Nov. 30, 2020.

"I think it is helpful that California is providing for the affected students," junior Jenny Wu said. "I know students and friends that have been struggling due to the pandemic. It is great that they are helping us."

According to EducationWeek, evidence-based support will only be covered up until the 2027-28 school year.

"Instead of ending this funding in four years, I think mental health services should continue to be accessible," senior Stephanie Yan said.

Students need to be assessed by local education agencies in order to determine eligibility to receive these services.

JULIANNA TAPIA  
Editor in Chief

In February and March there has been a string of emergency evacuations, many of which were fire alarms during fifth period. These events have helped to test out the new PA system which went online for the first time in January.

There have been six evacuations throughout February and March, only one of which was a planned drill. The dates were Feb. 9, 13, 20, 23, 28 and March 5.

There were various reasons for the evacuations. The alarm is set off using the original fire alarm system. However, the all-clear is through the PA as well as through the use of megaphones.

The new PA system requires changes to be made to drills, lockdowns and other emergencies.

"Students, teachers and administra-

tors need to do their part," teacher Andrea Lofthouse said. "We have the resources; we are working on the planning."

The first time the new PA system was used was during a shelter-in-place on Jan. 25 during sixth period. According to principal Diana Diaz-Ferguson, a shelter-in-place is a district protocol to be followed when an incident is not critical, but students are to remain in the classroom. Before the end of sixth period, the PA system issued an all-clear signal by mistake.

"I felt very bothered because of the repeating loud noise from the PA system," sophomore Allison Liu said. "I find it very unnecessary."

The next day, a meeting was held for teachers to go over the situation and procedures. However, some teachers raised concerns about the protocols surrounding the new PA system.

"There are issues with the new PA

system in place," teacher Netza Bravo said. "District and admin have acknowledged the poor management of all this and we are, as a school community, working to set this right."

Diaz-Ferguson assures a safety plan is in place to streamline future drills and emergency situations. These plans include having more drills, updated training and improving communication and collaboration with law enforcement.

"We are going to be doing drills," Diaz-Ferguson said. "We are going to be doing simulations. It is new around our school and I want students and staff to get used to it."

In addition to the bell system, the PA will also now be used for weekly bulletin announcements. The first official announcement was on Wednesday, March 6 toward the end of advisory by ASB students junior Jason Quach and junior Marley David.

## SPRING FLING ATLANTIS-THEMED DANCE CANCELLED

NICHOLAS ZHOU  
News Editor

The annual Spring Fling has been cancelled. The dance, hosted by the junior council rather than ASB, is typically a major opportunity to raise money for other school activities and for students to indulge in a night of amusement.

During an assembly on Jan. 23, the junior class of 2025 announced that this year's Spring Fling theme would be Atlantis.

"I was excited to attend this

year—as it is my last Spring Fling with friends," senior Raymond Wang said.

In early February, however, it was announced that Spring Fling had been canceled. The dance was only supposed to be two weeks away when news of the cancellation was announced.

According to Student Services, approximately 122 Spring Fling contracts were turned in, but this did not match the number of tickets sold.

"I turned in my contract early, but I just kept forgetting to go to the Student Bank to pay for my ticket," senior Kelly Huynh said.

Others noted personal scheduling conflicts that didn't coincide with the Student Bank's hours.

"When I tried to pay for my ticket, the Student Bank wasn't open that week," junior Kelly Zhou said.

This presented an inconvenience for students who already purchased tickets.

"I was disappointed... now I have to head back [to the Student Bank] again," senior Nicole Chen said.

The full explanation for the cancellation has not been released, but juniors and seniors can still look forward to prom on April 13.

## In Other News

KALIA NGUYEN  
Staff Writer

Swiss pianist plays piano vertically suspended by a crane - Parrots with profane language draw crowds at an English Wildlife Park

Squishmallows files lawsuit against Build-a-Bear over Skooshers - Utah teen facing charges for allegedly taping fish to ATMs

Charlotte the stingray, who has not had a mate in eight years, gets pregnant - \$3.99 Carlo Scarpa vase from Goodwill auctioned off for \$100,000





**KINZA OUDEH**  
Opinions Editor

On Oct. 7, the devastating war between Hamas and Israel began. It has caused deaths on both sides, with Palestinians suffering the major blow of over 32,000 Palestinians killed in the crossfire and 10,000 of those deaths being children. The ongoing “war” in Palestine isn’t a war, but a genocide and I refuse to stand idly by without speaking out about it.

The roots of the conflict can be traced to the late 1800s, when Palestinians, including my own family, were driven from their homes, fueling tensions.

The war has had a major impact on Palestinian civilians. Israel’s constant bombardment throughout the day leaves almost no place for the 1.5 million Palestinian refugees to flee.

Israel has caused one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world within just a 25-mile strip of land. This has contributed to destroyed infrastructure, even blocking humanitarian and hospital aid. All the while, war crimes are being committed by targeting civilian-populated areas by claiming the locations are Hamas bases.

This has gone on for far too long.

## PROPOSITION 1 IS TOO COSTLY

**KAREN LIN**  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, March 5 California voted on presidential nominees, a new senator and whether or not to pass Proposition 1.

Prop 1 seeks to authorize the California government to spend \$6.38 billion to build treatment facilities and housing for those with mental health or substance related needs. According to State Governor Gavin Newsom, this proposition will help to relieve the crisis of homelessness that California is currently facing due to the lack of access to mental health treatment.

At this time the results for this vote were still too close to count. CBS news is reporting that so far 53.29% of voters voted yes, however, and the proposition is likely to pass.

Of course it is important to help the unhoused people of California, but Prop 1, despite how positive and helpful it sounds, is not the most effective or efficient way to help people in need.

The passing of this proposition will lead to some negative effects in mental health services. The state will also need to shift funds from local mental health treatment programs.

If passed, Proposition 1 will also require \$6.38 billion in bonds, which is basically borrowing more money at a time when the state is already in a budget deficit.

## STUDENTS SOUND OFF: EMERGENCY DRILLS



“The PA system is really loud. The fire drills are kind of annoying because I can’t finish my work in fifth period chemistry.”

- Andria Lerma (9)



“I don’t think the fire drills are that bad because my fifth period class gets to stand under the shade of the new solar panels.”

- Antonio Tapia (9)



“I like the new PA system; it’s cool but it’s annoying that the fire drills keep happening during fifth period.”

- Klarissa Aguilar (9)



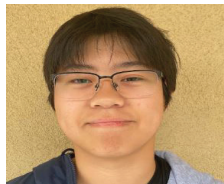
“The PA system is too loud and rings too many times. Why are the fire drills always during fifth period?”

- Mariana Alvarez (9)



“I think the fire alarms are... becoming so common that I don’t think I will even care if we had one that is serious.”

- Mandy Phu (11)



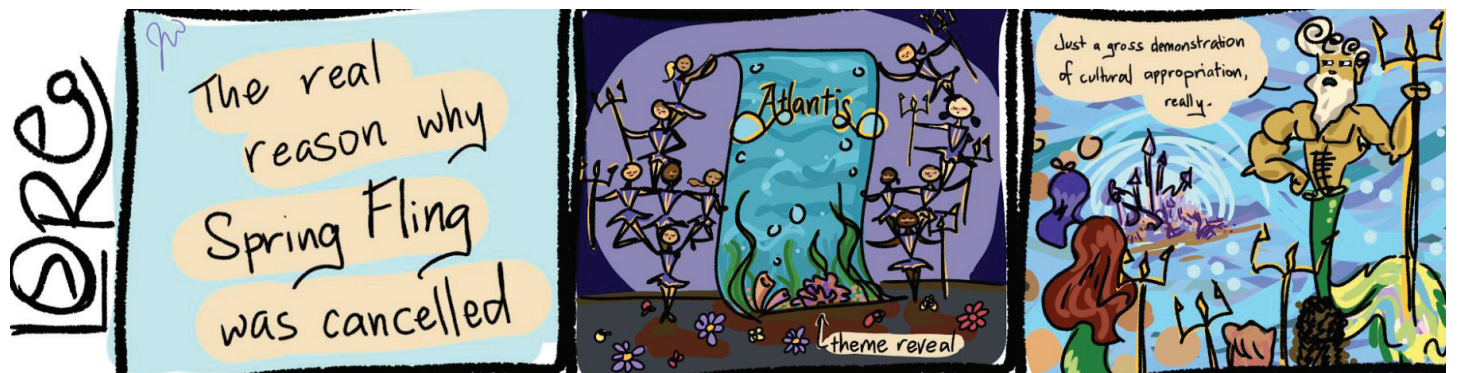
“I love the new PA system because it is easier to read the time during a test.”

- Anton Luu (12)



“While I don’t mind the fact that we have all these drills... it sort of sounds like the boy who cried wolf.”

- Asher Wong (11)



## \$2B SETTLEMENT WILL BENEFIT STRUGGLING STUDENTS

**KATIE MAZARIEGOS**  
Staff Writer

California students recently scored a great legal success: the state agreed to provide an additional \$2 billion dollars in funding to help struggling students after a lawsuit settlement. This agreement is designed to help struggling students who suffered learning loss during the pandemic. It provides financial aid for educational supports such as tutoring and for additional mental health resources.

Remote learning hinders a student’s education, especially children from low income households who have fewer resources such as laptops, books, high speed internet access and after school tutoring courses. In California, a disproportionate number of these students are Black and Latino. Although many teachers and schools tried to do their best during online learning, it is still mainly these stu-



get the help they need.

Schools with more money have opportunities to provide additional support to children who need it. Unfortunately, in many cases, schools with less funding cannot offer their students the extra help they need. They might, for example, have fewer counselors. They also might have no tutoring program or tutoring that is only

offered a few times a week. the most from learning loss and the mental health consequences of being isolated.

According to CNN, the government provided more than \$190 billion dollars in 2020-21 for action by suing California, demanding learning loss and mental health support, but the lawsuit argued that most of this money did not go to the students who needed it the most.

**The Moor Weekly**  
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## FAST FASHION: A WASTEFUL TREND

As fashion trends are constantly changing, many people resort to fast fashion (stylish, yet budget-friendly and accessible clothing) to keep up. The term encapsulates how companies turn a recent, trendy concept into something that can be seen in stores within only a few weeks. Though popular fast-fashion brands such as SHIEN, H&M, Forever 21 and Temu may appear appealing, shoppers may not consider the harmful impacts of fast fashion. As a result, consumers are encouraged to turn to alternative sources of fashion that are long-lasting, timeless and eco-friendly.

EMILEE LIEN, Features Editor

### CLOTHING RESTORATION: A RENEWAL

ANSON CHAU

Staff Writer

Clothing restoration is a money-saving alternative to fast fashion. Instead of throwing away old clothes, there are several ways to make them new again.

According to Solar Appliance Services, salt can be used to brighten clothing. Using half a cup of salt before dumping clothes into a washer can prevent fading and remove any remaining detergent residue that darkens clothes. For this method to work, run the washer without detergent. The procedure is slightly different for white clothes, which requires using baking soda or peroxide with the same measurement as the salt and adding detergent. Always check with manufacturer's directions before using washing machines.

A clothing tear does not mean it is no longer wearable. In fact, there are many accessible methods to restore rips in clothes such as using a straight or zigzag stitch. The type of stitch used depends on the type of fabric and size of the tear. Additionally, if a rip occurs where the fabric is thin, a fabric strip to fortify the tear is ideal. Tears can also often be repaired with fabric glue.

Finding ways to reuse and repair clothes instead of throwing them away can help express one's creativity while also reducing waste.

### TIMELESSNESS OVER TRENDINESS

REBECCA RAMIREZ

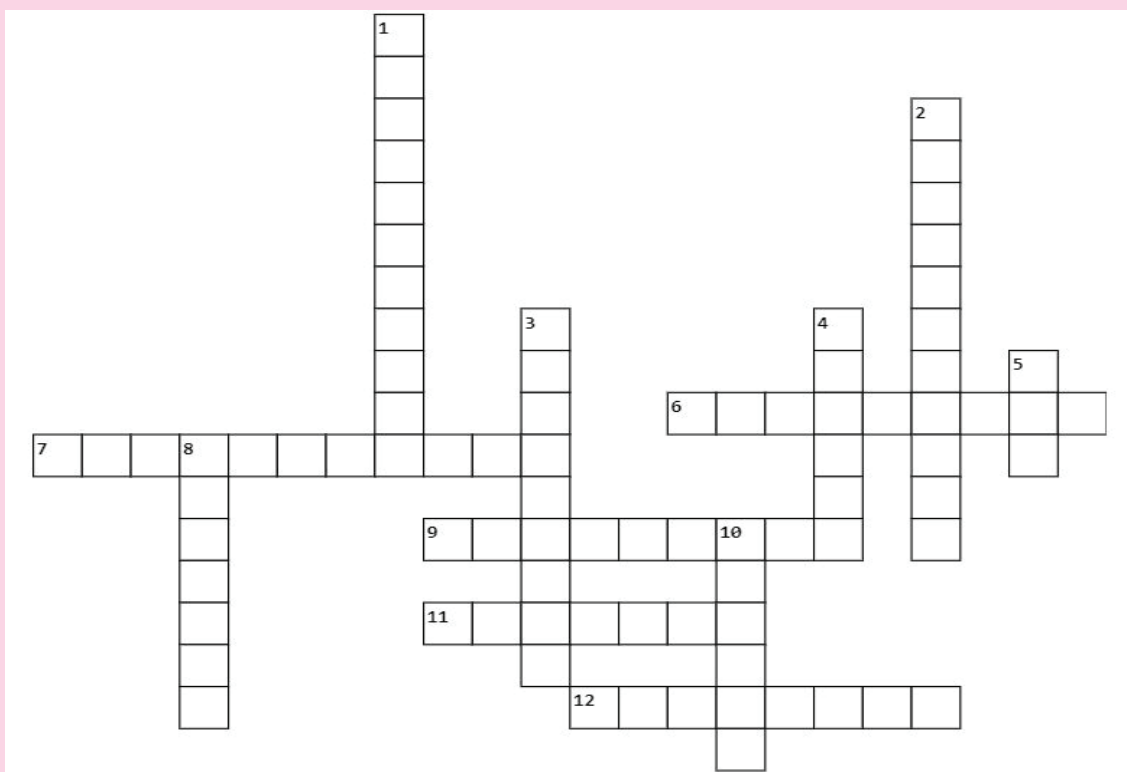
Staff Writer

Having a more timeless wardrobe can help the environment by decreasing the amount of clothes that end up in the landfill. Clothing choices that are more classic and less trendy can be worn for years if they are well taken care of.

To develop a timeless wardrobe, it is necessary to invest in high-quality clothes that will last into the future. Neutral and base colors are a great foundation for an outfit and an effortless way to match other articles of clothing. These classic colors favor versatility, as a casual white t-shirt can match any color of pants and any other colored piece. Having a few essential items such as casual and formal wear from jeans to collared shirts can help create endless outfits in shades of neutral colors that could compliment any kind of time, season and occasion.

Owning a timeless wardrobe can still make anyone feel and look fashionable. Consider adding trendy and fashionable accessories such as scarves and jewelry to more classic wardrobe pieces such as jeans and a shirt or a classic black dress for a sustainable but still up-to-date look.

Timeless items of clothing can help create a more sustainable wardrobe.



Puzzle by EMILEE LIEN

#### ACROSS

- 6. Shopping for items at discounted prices
- 7. Something that is not harmful to the environment
- 9. A synthetic material often used to make cheap clothes
- 11. Style of clothing that embodies older trends
- 12. Well-known retail thrift shop

#### DOWN

- 1. The process by which companies rapidly replicate and mass produce
- 2. The purchasing of goods/services by an individual
- 3. The process of repurposing unwanted/old clothing into something new
- 4. A person whose occupation is making and fitting customers with clothes
- 5. Owning a timeless wardrobe can still make anyone feel \_\_\_\_\_ look fashionable
- 8. trends
- 10. A term used to describe clothes that are fashionable/popular

### SUSTAINABLE CLOTHING BRANDS

KATE KANESHINA

Staff Writer

Opting for sustainable clothing brands is an effective way to combat consumerism and the negative effects of fast fashion.

Based out of Ventura, California, Patagonia is a great place to purchase outdoor clothing and gear. Not only does Patagonia sell durable outerwear, buying from them supports a brand that is both conscious of their environmental impact and has instituted programs to ensure good working conditions for their laborers.

For essentials, Kotn is the place to find wardrobe staples like white tees, tanks and jeans that are both long-lasting and use high-quality fabrics. Customers can buy guilt-free knowing that they will spend less money overall by investing in their everyday clothes. In addition to their eco-friendly materials, Kotn works closely with their cotton farmers and funds education in their communities.

For statement pieces, customized fits and original designs, Etsy shops have clothing in every style made by small business owners. Etsy is also transparent about their environmental impact and is carbon neutral.

### THRIFTING FOR CLOTHING

KRYSTINA GUTIERREZ-ROSALES

Staff Writer

Thriftng is an environmentally-friendly method to recycle unwanted clothes, whether someone wants to buy or sell. It can be considered a more ethical option for clothing shopping due to its positive environmental and social impact. By choosing second-hand clothing, individuals actively contribute to minimizing textile waste and lowering the carbon footprint associated with the production of new garments.

Thriftng can also save someone a good amount of money. In addition, it can even be helpful in preventing air pollution, since fast fashion items are often produced in factories. The fast fashion industry can also often perpetuate exploitative labor practices and unsafe working conditions in developing nations.

Opting for thrifted items helps reduce the demand for such unsustainable practices while at the same time supporting local thrift stores and charitable organizations. Thriftng also aligns with the concept of a circular economy by extending the lifespan of clothing and reducing the necessity for excessive resource consumption.



## GIRLS WATER POLO CONCLUDES SEASON WRESTLING TEAM MEMBERS SPEAK UP

OSCAR DIAZ

Copy Editor

MATTHEW JARAMILLO

Staff Writer

On Feb. 7, girls water polo competed in the CIF Championship Division 6 game for the first time in several seasons.

On Nov. 16, the team won their first game against Charter Oak High School, 17-12. The victory would propel the team to go on a winning streak against Blair, Pasadena, Gahr and Santee, which was their greatest preseason triumph with a scoreline of 20-3. Brea Olinda High School was the last preseason match and resulted in Alhambra winning by five points. The team ended the preseason with a record of 8-5.

The team's scored wins in the Almost League against Montebello with a score of 14-13, making it their smallest margin of victory. In their final league match on Jan. 30, the team needed a win against Bell Gardens High School to qualify for the CIF Championship and they won, resulting in a 11-9 win against their opponents.

"Going to CIF was a dream come true," senior Clarissa Tran said. "We have never made it this far in years,



**MAKING A SPLASH:** Goalie Minh Anh Nguyen blocks a shot during the game against Bell Gardens.

Photo courtesy of the water polo team

so to be [a part] of this is an honor."

The first round CIF game against the Webb School Gauls from Claremont resulted in a 20-14 defeat for the Moors.

"I am so proud of how far our team has come and how much every-

one improved," senior Jessica Lin said.

The season concluded with an overall record of 10-7, a win rate of 59 percent and a league record of 2-1, which placed them second behind Schurr. above Bell Gardens and Montebello.

### MEMBERS SPEAK UP

ELIZABETH JARA

Staff Writer

The wrestling season has come to an end with several members of the team qualifying for CIF including Naya Awuma, Vincent Tran, Nathan Tolentino, Eileen Estrada, Aiden Nava and Esteban Calderon despite tough competition.

"Wrestling is much more than just a combat sport to us," senior Sunny Tang said. "I truly believe it's the toughest sport on campus, physically and mentally."

Several team members recalled their highlights of the season.

"I was at a tournament and I was down by two," senior Ricardo Santos said. "I went up to [my opponent] and I did this back throw and I was able to win in the last couple seconds."

The team also improved a lot over the season according to the captain.

"The highlight of the team would be... getting first place in the gap tournament," captain Tolentino said.

The wrestling team has high hopes for next season as well.

## BASKETBALL SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

ARTHUR NIKTAB

Sports Editor

Both the boys and girls basketball seasons have come to an end.

In preseason, the Lady Moors' defeated Rosemead 41-31 and Hoover 52-18.

"We stuck together and worked hard to improve not just ourselves but each other as well," junior Kaylie Lam said. "Although we did not make it to CIF, we had a phenomenal season."

On Jan. 16, the boys defeated the San Gabriel Matadors 67-58,

after going into overtime following a 51-51 tie in the fourth quarter.

"This season had its ups and downs but we ended it off with making it [to] CIF," senior Sean Ho said.

The first CIF game was against the Arrowhead Christian Eagles. Their season came to a close as they lost with a score of 36-83.

"It was a tough season. We had many ups and downs but we made CIF so it's all right," senior Justin Phan said.

The boys basketball team ended the season with an overall 12-16 record and the girls team with 9-10.

## SOCCER TEAMS MAKE IT TO CIF

YAZMYN JUAREZ

Staff Writer

Girls soccer has come to an end this season with a record of 10-5. The boys team ended 6-5. Both teams made it to CIF.

The girls won their first CIF game against Garey High School for the first round 0-1. They then defeated La Quinta High School 3-1. However, in the quarterfinals Bellflower High School won 0-1.

"I was filled with emotions and I am excited but at the same time nervous," senior Abigail Moreno said.

Other players agreed with Moreno.

"We did what we didn't think could ever be possible, which was go to CIF semifinals," senior Jessica Carranza said.

The boys team had an excellent game against San Gabriel High School with a score of 0-3. Senior Bryan Morales, who had 10 goals this season, helped the team make it to CIF but was not able to play in the CIF game himself.

"I felt good and excited but I was injured so I wasn't able to play so I guess I felt a little sad, too," Morales said.

Their final game was Feb. 7 against Firebaugh with the score being 0-0.

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EYE SOCIETY OPTOMETRY

Dr. Donna Hong is a proud Alumni of Alhambra High School. She received her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Psychobiology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and her Doctor of Optometry Degree at the Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO). At Eye Society Optometry, we provide caring, high quality, modern eye care with emphasis on **dry eyes** and **ocular surface disease**.

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