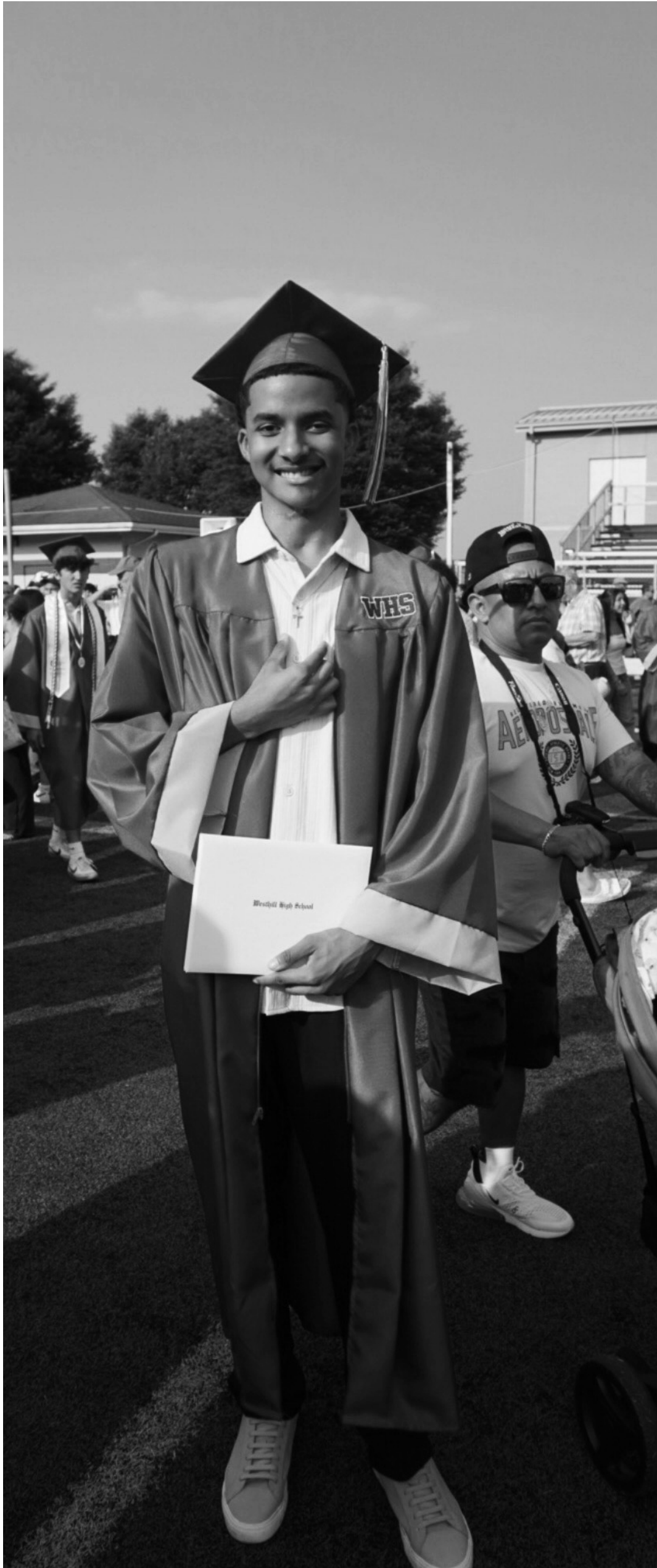


Remembering Scion Estrella

Editorial Board



Scion Estrella at his graduation ceremony on June 14th, 2025.

The Westhill community mourns the loss of Scion Estrella ('25), who passed away on September 23, 2025 at the end of a long battle with cancer. Scion was a creative artist who loved to draw and an energetic basketball player who cherished time on the court with his friends. He was a kind soul who dreamed of majoring in psychology so that he could help others, especially children facing the challenges of cancer.

“(Scion) was diagnosed with cancer at the young age of 12, and while doctors gave him only six months to a year to live, he defied all odds through his strength, determination, and unwavering positive spirit. For five years, he continued to inspire everyone around him — friends, family, teachers, and even those who only met him once — with his resilience and hope...” Scion’s mother, Idania Gutierrez, said.

Scion was a consistently positive force in Westhill, known for his steadfast perseverance and thoughtful presence. His spirit and leadership left a lasting impact both inside and outside the classroom. Being in charge of the Scatterbrain section of *The Westword* last year, he brought creativity and care to every issue.

“Scion and his friends, through their openness, lighthearted conversations & laughter, made every morning in my world brighter.

Even after he finished 10th grade, though, Scion made frequent stop-bys and visits to my room to talk and tell me how things have been for him, or even to ask for advice. I had the privilege of witnessing him grow up intellectually, socially, and morally,” Mr. Laber, English teacher and *Westword* advisor, said.

“The nature of print publishing also means we all still have fragments of him strewn across our homes in the form of all those old copies. Hidden within those pages are the intangible: his work, his name, and the love and pride he had contributing to his school community,” Eugene Caibal ('25) said, Scion’s close friend and former editor-in-chief of *The Westword*.

“Scion taught us the true meaning of strength, kindness, and perseverance. Though we miss him dearly, his positive spirit and the impact he left on so many lives will forever live on,” Gutierrez said.

The Westword expresses sincere condolences to Scion’s family, friends, and all who are grieving his loss. He is remembered as a positive force whose resilience and kindness impacted many. His absence leaves an unmistakable void in our community.