Rachel Chang 1/23

The Iconic Smiley Face of the Century

An iconic t-shirt that spread the nation with its simple, yet easily recognizable logo. The t-shirt was printed with yellow text on a black cotton t-shirt followed by a smiley face with its tongue out and its eyes crossed out. The smiley face was inspired by the Marquee at the now Lusty Lady Strip Club, but was originally drawn by the none other Kurt Cobain. The logo itself made its first appearance on a poster flyer dedicated to the release party of Nirvana’s album, “Nevermind” on September 13,1991. In result, this cotton thread top captured the eyes of not only many fans of the band, but also local fashion trend seekers. However, when the band shirt trend exploded throughout the nation due to celebrities making these garments a fashion statement, Nirvana’s smiley face logo has been seen at almost every function since then. The t-shirt has become so popular amongst the young audience that people who did not even listen to the band would wear the band t-shirts anyway, simply to be presented as fashionable.