



# THE EAGLE EYE

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# America Trumped

*The Electoral College trumps the popular vote.*

By Cristina Zapata, Print Editor-in-Chief

After a year and a half of a historic election, the people have spoken -- or have they? According to the Associated Press, Democratic Nominee Hillary Clinton defeated President Elect Donald Trump in the popular vote, yet her loss amongst the electors cost her the presidency. Under the process of the Electoral College, 538 representatives will vote and reverse the conception that majority rules.

The Founding Fathers' intention was never to create a pure majority-rule democracy. In fact, they made sure to steer clear of this possibility by mandating the Electoral College in the Constitution. Today, controversy exists on whether or not this process has become outdated.

"People don't understand that the presidential election is not really a national election," said

AP Government teacher Raymond Dunne. "It's a state-by-state election, therefore the Electoral College is based on states. When it was first started it was so that states had the most important say in who was president. So if you look at it that way, the way it was put in the Constitution, it makes a whole lot of sense."

If the popular vote was enough to grant a candidate the presidency, Clinton could have landed the presidency with the majority support coming from the East and West coasts. With the Electoral College, winning in certain parts of the country is not enough. This system prevents candidates from focusing their attention on the biggest cities

and neglecting less populous states such as Wyoming or Vermont.

"I think that if we didn't have the Electoral College, the smaller states would be afraid that the candidates would just ignore them and focus on the bigger states like California and New York," Dunne said.

In this past election, the deal-breaking swing states were Trump and Clinton's primary focus. While this seems to defy the Electoral College's call for the support of a variety of voters, in reality, swing and safe states are constantly changing.

"The voters in those states tend to be people who are not as parti-

san," Dunne said. "Therefore they are not as tied to a party, so they are open to the message of either candidate."

Trump's success in Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania and North Carolina were critical to his overall victory. With these swing states on his side, Trump secured 82 electoral votes of the 270 he needed to win.

"I think [Trump] had a very keen way of appealing to primarily white, middle-class working families," Dunne said. "He did a good job of giving people who had not been recognized by previous candidates, both Republican and Democrat, a message that they wanted to hear -- that is jobs, jobs,

jobs." With a complex system, it's easy to believe that one vote can't make much of a difference. However, the steady changes that occur between election years grant the possibility to shift even the bluest and reddest of states over time.

"Maybe not on the presidential level, but there are certainly many local elections where one or two votes can make a difference," Dunne said. "There are a couple in Orange County right now that are going through a recount because they were so close."

Studying the electoral system in detail, the Founding Fathers' judgement gives citizens a voice through the system that defines this country as a democratic-republic. With four years of the Trump administration ahead, it is critical to understand who placed him in office, and how.

Illustration by Ivanna Rea



## Eighteen and under exit poll

By Hannah Prince, Staff Writer

As of November 8, the country prepares itself for the Trump administration.

During the week of October 24, The Eagle Eye conducted a Twit-

ter poll on the 2016 presidential election.

When the Eagle Eye asked students who they would vote for, 57 percent said Donald Trump, 21 percent for Hillary Clinton, 4 percent for a third party candidate and 18 percent were undecided.

After campaigns and rallies throughout the country, the nominating process chose the final candidates.

When asked if the students' opinions have changed during the campaign, 64 percent replied no and 36 percent replied yes.

The Commission on Presidential Debates chose three locations to hold the presidential debates including Hofstra University in New York, Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. There, topics encompassed politics, economics,

societal standards, environmental issues, foreign affairs, et cetera.

Regarding the presidential debates, 43 percent of the students claim to have watched all three, 28 percent watched two, 18 percent watched one and 11 percent watched none.

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# MUNdon

SMCHS juniors come back from the London MUN conference with record breaking results.

By Chloe Le, Web Editor-in-Chief

On Oct. 20-29, 11 SMCHS juniors took part in the annual Royal Russell MUN conference held in East Croydon, United Kingdom. Students spent four days debating topics ranging from the rights of transgender people to refugees in the Mediterranean.

In late February, MUN Director John Rimmell chose these 11 juniors to travel to London and students began preparation for the conference this past summer. They dedicated a lot of time and effort into the conference in hopes of a successful outcome.

"This was definitely the most prepared I've been for a MUN conference and it clearly paid off," said junior Corbin Ko.

At the conference, there were 18 committees and 70 countries represented by students from countries including Japan, Greece, France, Turkey, Egypt and America. Once the conference began, students like junior Alex Firestone did not anticipate what she would experience as a participant in the committee.

"I thought the conference would be the worst part but honestly it was my favorite part," Firestone said. "We got to meet a bunch of people which was cool and we saw how they did MUN over there."

Because this was an international conference, committees were run differently than if students were to attend a conference like SOCOMUN (SMCHS' annual MUN conference held in the beginning of the school year.) These juniors were not new to travel conferences - considering many of them went to UCSB or Berkeley



**Ocean's eleven** - After adventuring through the busy streets of London, the juniors took time to visit sights like the London Bridge. courtesy photo

conferences as sophomores - however, this was their first international travel conference.

"It was so different," Firestone said. "At UCSB their MUN style is the same as how we do it at SM but in London it was weird to see how they did things compared to how we do MUN."

During committee, students debated for hours, sometimes even six consecutive hours, about their topics and their resolutions. Although the transition of the MUN style may have seemed intimidating, Ko saw it as a learning oppor-

tunity.

"In London, their form of debate is generally more aggressive and disruptive but also exciting," Ko said. "Delegates are allowed to interrupt others with their own objections or motions which creates a more active environment for debate."

After four days of debating, the juniors came out of the conference with seven individual awards and two delegation awards. An individual award is given to delegates who stick to their country's policies, demonstrate leadership skills, speak well, are knowledgeable on their topic and exhibit diplomacy.

"I was really surprised that I won an award because there were 40 people in my committee and only seven people won awards," Firestone said. "I even counted."

A distinguished delegation award is given by the members of the General Assembly and there is one vote per country, taken on the last morning of the conference. Nine out of the eleven juniors were split into two delegations. Four juniors, including Ko, represented Indonesia and five represented the United Kingdom. Nine delegations, including both of SMCHS' delegations, won a Distinguished Delegation Award and/or Highly Commended Delegation Award.

"Being the ambassador for Indonesia, I was given the honor of speaking at the General Assembly in front of hundreds of people," Ko said. "Although it was quite

nerve-racking in the process of memorizing and practicing my speech, in the one minute speech delivery, I had the time of my life addressing people with the same passion for MUN as me."

The reason behind the juniors' success was their preparation, knowledge and pure talent as public speakers and leaders. Although they did not win the highest amount of awards ever won in London, the juniors came back with a majority of awards compared to the other delegates who participated.

"We were rewarded for our blood and sweat with the most prestigious award a school could win," Ko said.

Many of the students experienced "culture shock" and had to adapt to London's way of life -- some had to adapt the hard way.

"There were so many funny stories," Firestone said. "People in London call pants 'trousers' and pants mean underwear and my friend complimented someone on their pants and they thought she was talking about their underwear."

All in all, the conference was a beneficial learning experience for the juniors and it also guided them towards their future aspirations and hopefully their future careers.

"I've always had an interest for political science," Ko said. "So naturally, I steered towards the international aspect and found myself in this wonderful MUN program at SM."



**Rock on** - Juniors came back home with many awards and a great learning experience as well as friendships and memories. courtesy photo

## Campaign recap

By Riley Davies,  
Staff Writer

The 2016 presidential election has been action packed. The election campaign has been active from early 2015 and was changing all the way up until Donald Trump was officially elected as 45th President of the United States of America.

**April 12, 2015**

Hillary Clinton announces her candidacy for the Democratic Party.

**June 16, 2015**

Donald Trump announces he is running for president.

**May 20, 2016**

The National Rifle Association endorses Trump.

**June 6, 2016**

Clinton secures Democratic nomination.

**July 5, 2016**

The FBI closes the Clinton email investigation.

**Sept. 10, 2016**

Clinton calls Trump supporters 'deplorables'.

**Oct. 2, 2016**

The New York Times releases Trump's leaked 1995 tax records.

**Oct. 4, 2016**

Mike Pence and Tim Kaine face off during the vice presidential debate.

**Oct. 7, 2016**

An Access Hollywood video tape from 2005 exposes Trump.

**Oct. 7, 2016**

Leaked emails from Clinton show different messages to Wall Street.

**Oct. 12, 2016**

Four women step forward to accuse Trump of inappropriate behavior towards them.

**Oct. 19, 2016**

Trump wins final presidential debate at University of Las Vegas.

**Oct. 30, 2016**

The F.B.I. obtains a search warrant to reopen the Clinton email investigation.

**Nov. 6, 2016**

The F.B.I director closes Clinton investigation stating no new action is needed.

**Nov. 8, 2016**

Trump is elected President of the United States.

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## Signing out Athletes sign to schools on Nov. 9.

By Sarah Turner,  
News Editor

### DIVING

Paige Gohr, Georgia Tech  
"Signing gives me a definite future to look forward to. But right after [signing], I was just hoping I didn't misspell my name."

### BASEBALL

Joey Myers, UC Davis  
"At signing they said my name was 'Josh Myers' but I was like, whatever, real fans know my name."

### TRACK & FIELD

Kate Thomas, UC Berkeley  
"I was so ready [to sign] because I know Cal is the perfect fit for me. I'm more motivated as a pole vaulter to jump higher."

### WATER POLO

Vicky Ochoa, California Baptist University  
"What excites me the most is that I get to experience being first in my family to attend a four year university."

### BASKETBALL

Adrease Jackson, Dartmouth College  
"Dartmouth hasn't made it to the NCAA Tournament in over 60 years, so I can't wait to help Dartmouth make it to the NCAA."

### SOFTBALL

Makenna Lutterloh, Duke University  
"A huge part of my excitement is the friendships I'm going to make with teammates as well as other athletes."

### SWIMMING

Alexander Qu, University of Chicago  
"Committing has given my life a positive new purpose as I will strive to not drop out over the next four years."

### VOLLEYBALL

Julianna Reisinger, Purdue University  
"This might sound strange but I'm excited to experience an actual winter as opposed to a California winter."

### VOLLEYBALL

Meghan McClure, Stanford University  
"I've been waiting for this since I was five. I'm ecstatic about having the opportunity to go to, in my opinion, the best school in the world."

### TENNIS

Katie Chang, Emory University  
"I'm excited to experience things outside our Orange County bubble and represent my college on the tennis court."

### BASEBALL

Joshua Nicoloff, Columbia University  
"I actually signed the back of a Brueggers napkin because Ivy League doesn't officially sign a paper."

### BASKETBALL

Johnny Wang, Cal State Fullerton

# Not happy 'ATM'

*Credit cards: they can be convenient, but what happens when they compromise your personal information?*

By Briana Ryan,  
Staff Writer

The phrase "Does your chip reader work here?" is a phrase that many consumers have become accustomed to asking in the light of credit card advancements. While companies have been in a constant race to issue their new Europay, MasterCard and Visa cards, also known as EMV cards, (that provide higher security with in-store purchases), thieves have trained their sights on less guarded targets such as ATMs and gas station pumps.

Modern thieves have long used the method of card skimming—or capturing a customer's card information by copying the information from the card's magnetic stripe. This practice requires little to no effort, only access to a card skimming device and a target.

The widely used chip cards have strengthened security for in-person transactions through sophisticated encryption and a decline in usage of the easily cloned magnetic stripe (that can be found on the back of a card). However, these cards neglect to protect customer information where this defenseless magnetic stripe is still the primary mode of payment.

"Payment networks aren't requiring banks and gas stations to update card readers on ATMs and fuel pumps until October 2017," said Ben Luthi of nerdwallet.com.

Though society is no stranger to credit card fraud, criminals have sensed the recently increased vulnerability of ATMs and fuel pumps, and have begun to exploit unsuspecting citizens. The main problem is that these common places still use swipe card readers that are not heavily monitored and are easily tampered with.

"Any transaction you do outdoors is going to be higher risk exposure," said Chris McGoe, a Los Angeles based security consultant. "If the public has access to it, then someone has the ability to add skimming devices to it, position cameras on it and position themselves in a way where they could surveil it."

Because of many technological advancements, crooks are able to stalk their sites with a laptop in hand and charge their victim's cards as soon as their computer receives their information. Many times this fraud can occur before the card owner even notices.

"I got an email from my bank and it said that 60 dollars was charged to my card," said junior Tanner Bailey. "But I hadn't even left the house that day."

Though many credit card companies can resolve these cyber robberies fairly quickly, debit card theft can trigger a more frightening reaction.

"I had never expected this would happen to me," Bailey said. "The money was just gone from my account and I had no idea what was happening. I felt violated."

Since the release of these new

EMV cards, in January of this year, cases of fraud have hit a record high.



Illustration by Ivanna Rea

"These tremendous spikes in fraud are unprecedented," said FICO card-alert system manager John Buzzard in an interview

with the Wall Street Journal.

According to Squareup, a popular card processing system, due to increased security fraud rates,

bank establishments are looking to move away from magnetic stripe cards and replace them completely with EMV cards because they provide a more authenticated form of payment.

Advanced machines are said to be installed fully by October 2017, but for now all you can do to prevent this type of fraud is be a mindful consumer.

"Now, at gas stations I use my prepaid gas card instead," said Bailey. "Anywhere else I go I try to cover up the numbers on my card so that hidden cameras can't see them."

One of the many other ways to protect yourself includes being aware of skimming devices at places you may have to swipe your card. According to Editorial Manager Jennifer Calonia from GoBankingRates.com, they are often beat up and attached to a machine with only double sided tape, for easy application and removal by their owners.

Squareup cites setting up your card on your smartphone, with programs such as Apple Pay, as an effective way to prevent theft. These mobile payment methods do not actually store your information, rather they use tokenization, or sending temporary numbers for specific transactions, in order to prevent fraudulent activity from occurring. While security officials work to resolve the increased fraud rates, the best and most definite way to ensure and protect your funds is to simply use cash.

This option takes away the risk of cyber crimes and outsmarts thieves, leaving you with a criminally untouched bank account and the promise of secure information. In this age of technology, risks continue to rise and fall with time. With credit card theft happening regularly, the most important responsibility we assume as acting members of society, is to be aware of our surroundings.

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# Beyond Middle East

*It's time for America to free itself from the Middle East.*

By Hannah Prince,  
Staff Writer

The morning of 9/11 was one of terror and anxiety, accompanied by a rising sense of nationalism. From those at home watching the disaster unfold at the World Trade Center to the men and women who gave their lives, it was a day that changed the world forever.

After a 10 year search for Al-Qaida and their leader, Osama Bin Ladin was killed in an Abbottabad, Pakistan compound by SEAL Team Six. Through the presidency and cabinets of George Bush and Barack Obama, the fight to gain justice from 9/11 was accomplished. But the U.S. involvement goes way deeper in the Middle East than this one military mission.

Since the birth of our nation, foreign affairs have played an important role in politics. For example, George Washington's Farewell Address to the population to avoid engagement in permanent alliances in 1796 set the tone. All branches of the military serve as our safety net, but they do not need to be risking their lives for a war that isn't ours to fight.

Currently, our government declares we will remain in the Middle East for the following reasons: fighting terrorism, containing Iran, securing oil and defending Israel. But when should the line be drawn?

The dissention in the Middle East goes back for centuries and is em-

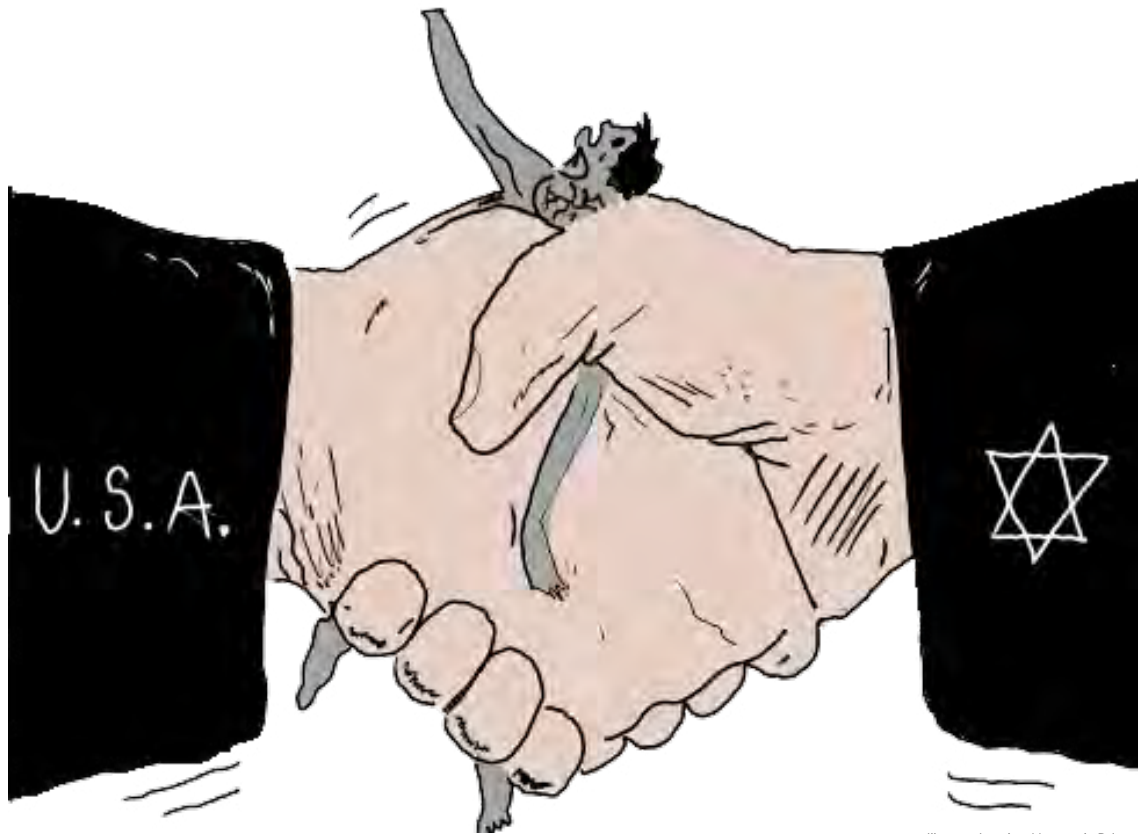


Illustration by Hannah Prince

**Agreeing to the terms** - The U.S. ties to Isreal cause conflict and devastation throughout.

bedded in its culture. The Shiites and Sunnis have been at odds for hundreds of years because of one thing: religion. The U.S. can't be arrogant enough

to think it can fix an issue that dates all the way back to prophet Muhammad (570 CE). This will be one of the biggest challenges that our new president,

Donald Trump, will have to face.

Just because our nation has power and money doesn't require our involvement in struggling nations, like

Iran, Iraq and Syria. Our government claims to be supporting these poverty stricken populations; the U.S. is known for spreading democracy and nation building. Consequently, we overthrow popular governments and upset entire populations in the process. We then leave these countries without a strong enough foundation, which allows dissident groups, like ISIS, to take over the country.

Our government fears that without our attempt to stabilize the Middle East and control the radical Islam terrorists, excessive conflict will prevail. The government feels our military is needed to neutralize an already failing society. That shouldn't be the case.

Overseas, our troops experience death first hand; their best friends are murdered, their families crave their presence back home and their lives are overtaken by PTSD. At what point does the federal government need to say "enough"? Do they not hear humanity's cry? It's time for our allies in the Middle East to step up and take responsibility for defending their own lands. The U.S. should not have to offer monetary and military support and expertise. Our Middle Eastern allies should provide the manpower.

We tried diplomacy in Iraq after the Iraq War and found little success. We seem unable to get the Shiites and Sunnis to unite against their enemies. Forcing democracy upon these nations has never succeeded and will not in the future.

## Toying with gender stereotypes

*Gender stereotypes may be perpetuated through toys.*

By Meghan Forsythe,  
Staff Writer

Since I was a kid I have repeatedly heard the phrase "boys are from Mars and girls are from Venus." Regardless of the format, the moral of the message stays the same: boys and girls are polar opposites.

However, boys and girls are more alike than we tend to acknowledge. Developmental psychologist Christina Brown argues in her book "Parenting Beyond Pink and Blue: How to Raise Your Kids Free of Gender Stereotypes," the division we see between boys and girls is based on our own preconceived ideas about gender.

"For most traits and abilities, boys differ from other boys and girls differ from other girls more than the two groups differ from each other," Brown said. "Just because we like to ignore the variation within a group of boys or a group of girls doesn't mean it doesn't exist."

Despite the small difference between boys and girls, a divide still exists, and most of the characteristics we define as inherently "masculine" or "feminine" are learned.

By forcing boys and girls into two, separate, gendered boxes of what they can and cannot be from childhood, we only aid in deepening the gap between boys and girls when they grow up. Our childhood homes are not untouched by these gender stereotypes.

When leaving the white walls of the hospital, babies are unaware they are about to embark into one of two separately colored worlds: one pink and one blue. Little girls

and boys grow up in a pink or blue room, pink or blue clothes and, most impactful, play with pink or blue toys.

Recently, the toy marketing industry seems to regress towards "over gendering" children's toys.

As highlighted in a paper by Lisa Dinella, a psychologist at Monmouth University, several studies suggest that children are more likely to pick toys they believed were made for their gender.

According to Dinella, girls are more likely to play with a stereotypical "masculine" toy, such as an airplane, if it were to be pink. However, according to Associate Professor of Psychology at Washington Lee University Megan Fulcher, the gendering of toys impacts more than their toy choice; it affects their development and future interests.

"[Playing] with masculine toys is associated with large motor development and spatial skills and [playing] with feminine toys is associated with fine motor development, language development and social skills," Fulcher said in a New York Times interview. "Children may then extend this perspective from toys and clothes into future roles, occupations, and characteristics."

Through toys, boys are given the skills and subconscious push to participate in STEM jobs instead of equally valuable careers in the arts. They are taught they cannot be nurturers, cannot be care givers, cannot be nurses. Meanwhile, girls are left without the skills "masculine" toys provide, but are instead encouraged to play house instead of build one.

Toy companies and stores

shouldn't have the last say in what children like and what influences their careers. Fortunately some stores have started to challenge the gendering of toys in order to combat gender stereotypes.

In 2015, Target made headlines by announcing it would no longer label items in their bedding and toys aisles by gender. Following in

suit were Toys R Us and Walmart with decisions to decrease their gendered marketing as well.

While this is a step in the right direction, allowing boys and girls to choose their favorite color or whether to have horses or cars on their pillows, isn't revolutionary. Allowing kids to choose what they like and what they want to

be shouldn't make headlines. It should be the norm.

The toys children play with should not be predetermined by their gender, and should not limit what they grow up to be. Kids should be allowed to grow up without needing to conform to gender stereotypes - girls can be pilots and boys can be nurses too.



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# Thanks Obama

*Saying goodbye to arguably the most criticized president.*

By Ian Gutierrez, Staff Writer

**Y**es he can and yes he did. After eight long years of hope, change and criticism, it is finally time for President Barack Obama to say goodbye.

He has accomplished so much in his time as president. After taking office during one of the worst economic recessions, he created more jobs in 2010 than Bush did in his entire presidency. With the Affordable Care Act, he guaranteed health insurance for all U.S. citizens. He pulled our soldiers out from the extremely controversial Iraq War. He legalized gay marriage. And as of October 2016, the U.S. experienced a record breaking 73-month continuous job growth. He even ordered the military operation that resulted in the death of Osama Bin Laden, something the earlier president failed to do.

But throughout the years, it has been hard to ignore the hate and conspiracy theories directed towards President Obama.

From the birther controversy to radical right wing Republicans accusing him of being Muslim, Obama seemed to be ridiculed for everything. But for what reason?

His campaign slogan "Yes we can" inspired us back in the 2008 election. He gave America hope and a reason to believe that the future would get better. He represented the very best of the American possibility.

Looking forward, no other

president will match his optimism, eloquence or temperament. From the State of the Union Addresses to the dinners hosted, his humor and charisma have made him one of the most memorable and brilliant presidents.

"In this country, we rise or fall as one nation, as one people," Obama said at a rally after winning the race for the White House in 2008. "Let's resist the temptation to fall back on the same partisanship and pettiness and immaturity that has poisoned our politics for so long."

After this 2016 presidential campaign, his words have clearly displayed the contrast in America's politics as of late. A year and a half full of personal attacks, immaturity and childishness have only proven that neither of the candidates are prepared to take over Obama's position in office.

The difference between Obama's family and these candidates' families is obvious.

Obama's family has been an inspiration to all of us. Michelle's social activism in the American communities throughout the last eight years has resulted in a healthier and more aware nation. Her advocacy for poverty awareness, nutrition and physical activity has helped to truly "make America great again."

Obama is also a beloved icon in American society. From being a constant guest on talk shows such as Jimmy Fallon and Jimmy

Kimmel, he has demonstrated to the American people that he is not just another politician, but rather a man of his people.

I congratulate him on an amazing eight years. He will leave office on a high-note, exiting his presidency with approval ratings skyrocketing the highest besides Bill Clinton and Dwight E. Eisenhower, which

shows that Obama is finally receiving the recognition, and appreciation he has long and well deserved.

No one knows what the next four years has in store for us. But one thing is for sure: the next four years will not be the same without

Barack Obama.



Courtesy illustration

# Double trouble

*To have an identical twin is to have a lifelong best friend.*

By Rachel Tetreault, Staff Writer

"Which one are you?" "How can I tell you guys apart?" These are the awkward conversations you have with people who mistake you for your identical twin. Sharing everything you own and having a built-in best friend for life is what my identical twin sister, Victoria, and I, appreciate.

One of the main perks of having an identical twin is being able to confuse people for fun. My sister and I have dressed alike, pretended to be each other and switched classes in elementary school.

Having the advantage of someone that looks exactly like me means I can get away with a lot more with my parents and other people because they don't know who to blame.

When my sister and I were around two years-old, we always dressed alike to trick everyone, including our parents. It got to the point where my mom forced us to paint our nails so she could stop

calling us by the wrong names. I had to paint my nails red, and Victoria had to paint hers violet.

It's frustrating to think that after all these years people still

sister for the 20 minute conversation.

Although it can be annoying being mistaken for my sister, being a twin is worth it because I have a life-long bond that can never be broken.

Having her be a part of my life through anything and everything is rewarding. It comforts me to know that she is always there

Flash forward - 13 years later, nothing has changed.

to cheer me up when I'm sad and make me cry of laughter at an inside joke only we can understand.

I remember when driving back from getting food, my sister and I started laughing at something dumb and all of a sudden it escalated to the point where my sister and I were dying of laughter and we had to pull over to avoid crashing the car.

She also brings out the competitive drive in me; I'm always competing with her. We compete to get the best grades and finish tasks in sports and especially in arguments.

Although being a twin has helped me be more competitive, sometimes my competitiveness gets a little out of hand and it ends up with a hair-pulling altercation between the two of us.

but even though I am stuck with her for the rest of my life, I couldn't have asked for a better partner in crime.



Rewind- To be honest, I don't know who is who.

can't tell the difference between us -- even my parents still have trouble telling us apart.

Once, one of my sister's teachers approached me about her assignments in class, and feeling bad for the teacher, I went along with it and pretended to be my



photos by Katie Tetreault



By Chloe Le,  
Web Editor-in-Chief

Getting "stuffed" on Thanksgiving is an understatement for my family. While the average American Thanksgiving meal consists of turkey, bread, stuffing, green beans and a whole lot of mashed potatoes, you would need to multiply that by four to get my typical Thanksgiving.

Ever since I was two-years-old, all my holidays have been split evenly. I get Christmas Eve with my mom and Christmas Day with my dad - same goes for Thanksgiving. But since Thanksgiving is only one day, my family decided to alter the custom and make it two days - one for my dad and one for my mom. That means it's a jammed-pack holiday food fest and I have very little time in between to mentally prepare.

My day starts bright and early on Thanksgiving morning to help my mom prep the food for dinner. Around 11 a.m., my mom, step-dad and I head over to my step-grandmother's place for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Around the afternoon, we leave to go back home and prepare for my mom's Thanksgiving party, which is usually held at our house. But considering we're not a normal family and we're Vietnamese, it's more of a "how much food can we all bring to completely cover three whole tables" type of party.

Basically, it's a giant Vietnamese potluck where you won't find any turkey, cranberry sauce or stuffing, but you will find massive bowls of fried rice, vegetables and a ton of egg rolls - not trying to be stereotypical but it's true.

It's also not considered a Thanksgiving party until my uncles have had a little bit too much to drink, my aunts have already planned our Christmas party or until I've lost a couple rounds of Apples to Apples with my cousins. And it's been a tradition for the cousins to plan our Secret Santa during our annual Thanksgiving party.

Usually the party lasts until 2 to 3 a.m. when my aunts and uncles are done karaoke-ing their hearts out (sincere apologies to my neighbors) and everyone - especially my little cousins - are passed out from food comas. That's when everyone starts to head home and call it quits for their Thanksgiving day but my Thanksgiving is NOT over.

The next day is my dad's Thanksgiving. Usually this starts off with brunch with just my dad, step-mom and little sister. Then we head over to my step-mom's family's house for a late dinner. The dinner is way more laid-back than my mom's with traditional Chinese food, since my step-mom is Chinese. Once I'm sure I'll break the scale, we end the night watching a bunch of movies ranging from Transformers to The Notebook until my sister passes out and I start researching how to lose forty pounds (that's how much two turkeys weigh, I've checked).

For almost 15 years, my Thanksgivings have always been hectic. Whether I'm at my dad's or my mom's, there's never a dull moment with my families and that has always proven to be true during Thanksgiving.

# The Eagle Eye Staff



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Amanda Moussiaux  
Hannah Prince  
Briana Ryan  
Bridgette Singer  
Rachel Tetrault  
Devin Walsh



# Lock the talk

*Oops, someone leaked the locker combo.*

By Allison De La Bastida, Opinion Editor and Ivanna Rea, Managing Editor

**T**alking about an attractive girl? That's fine. Talking about how you're going to kiss her whether she likes it or not? Not fine.

This kind of "locker room talk" is typically associated with vulgar statements made by men about women. In 2005, Donald Trump was unknowingly recorded before an interview with the Today TV host Billy Bush while he spoke freely about forcibly assaulting a woman.

"When you're a star, they let you do it," Trump said on the leaked tape. "You can do anything. Grab them by the [explicit]. You can do anything."

A controversy arose over the morality of what Trump calls "locker room talk." Ten days after the tape was released, Bush was fired from The Today Show and Trump went down in poll numbers.

According to CNN.com, Trump refuted the criticism from the public by redirecting his attention towards an irrelevant subject and claiming it was a misunderstanding.

"I don't think [people] understood what was said," Trump said during a presidential debate. "I am embarrassed by it and I hate it, but it's locker room talk and [it's just] one of those things. I will

knock the hell out of ISIS. We're going to defeat ISIS."

It's imperative that we disclose we are judging Trump because of the content of his character and not him as a presidential candidate. Not only do these remarks provoke post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and anxiety in sexual assault victims, but they also insult athletes while normalizing and encouraging misogyny in everyday life.

"I've never really thought about these [assault experiences] cumulatively before," said Julie Oppenheimer on Facebook sharing how at 13-years-old she was forcibly kissed on the mouth by a janitor at her synagogue. "In part, because [these incidents] seem so 'small' compared to what many have experienced — not worthy of consideration. That's because all of us already live in Trump's world, where these behaviors are commonplace."

Granted, not all locker room talk is filled with vulgar language. There's a clear distinction between speaking freely about attractive women and speaking openly about your plans to harass them. Labeling this as locker room talk insults women and athletes alike, because equating Trump's kind of locker room talk with typical guy talk is not the same.

"Have I been in every locker room?" Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Chris Conley wrote on his Twitter account. "No. But the guys I know and respect don't talk like that. They talk about girls but not like that. Period."

The thing is, Trump was not young and naïve when he spoke this way. He was 60-years-old when he consciously said these comments out loud, announcing that the talk was just "one of those things" boys do.

But if that's his excuse then it's time Trump becomes a man and leaves the childish non-excusable talk behind. A real man would.

"The attempt to normalize [this language] as any type of 'talk' is wrong," said Atlanta Falcons right end Jacob Tamme. "I refuse to let my son think that this is 'just how guys speak.'"

If the majority of people wouldn't talk like that, what excuses Trump from doing so? Claims as bold as these could easily land the average person a restraining order, yet Trump's high society placement acts like a protective shield, even after 11 women have publicly come out with sexual assault allegations towards him.

This locker room talk is bigger than just his political campaign; words of that sort have the power to impact the views of his support-

ers. Trump may not be young and impressionable, but his teenage male followers are. If they look up to him, they're going to start believing this type of behavior is acceptable. It's not.

With such a prominent figure making light of such a dark topic, it lessens the intensity of sexual assault.

College campuses are heavily struggling with this same problem - like the now infamous Brock Turner rape case. Turner was a student athlete at Stanford University who was convicted of three counts of felony assault. He pleaded not guilty even after two women testified he assaulted them while the women appeared unconscious.

The conviction warranted a prison sentence of 14 years, yet the Judge only granted a six month imprisonment. Public outcry followed as many claimed his easy sentence was based on male class privilege in the criminal justice system.

This trial set back future attempts to resolve sexual assault. This crime makes it seem as something we don't need to worry about.

So thank you Trump for giving us a platform to discuss sexual assault, at least for once something good came out of the profane language you so candidly used.

## Twenty-first century feminism

### How has feminism changed?

By Hannah Prince and Ian Gutierrez, Staff Writers

They marched, they protested, they went on strike for their rights. Women fought for equality for centuries and continue to fight to this day. Feminism exists, but to what extent?

By definition, feminism is the advocacy of women's rights on the grounds of political, social and economic equality to men. However, just like other movements or religious organizations, feminist extremists have flourished.

Only 100 years ago, women were fighting for their humanitarian rights to achieve equality in America. Today, women's rights activists like Emma Watson and Malala Yousafzai, Noble Peace Prize winner, are still fighting for equal treatment.

Many have recently questioned whether the feminist movement is still necessary in the 21st century.

In past centuries, the feminist movement has accomplished so much for American society. With figures like Susan B. Anthony leading the suffrage movement in the 1840s, one would think that

current feminists would follow in their past leaders' footsteps and protest through meaningful and non-offensive ways.

In comparison, today's protests have become much more radical. Nudity demonstrations (i.e. Free the Nipple that relates back to Burn the Bra in the 60s) are meant to "empower" women and end fe-

male objection.

Howev-

earned by men, a gender wage gap of 20 percent."

Twitter accounts like @MeninistTweet have taken advantage of this radicalism in the feminist movement. The account's beliefs are in bold contrast to feminism; they justify their posts by reasoning that the third-wave feminist movement of the 21st century has made

feminist Catholics.

Watson discussed how feminism is not just a movement that protects the equality of women, but defends the equality of all people.

"I've seen men made fragile and insecure by a distorted sense of what constitutes male success," said Watson. "Men don't have the benefits of equality either.

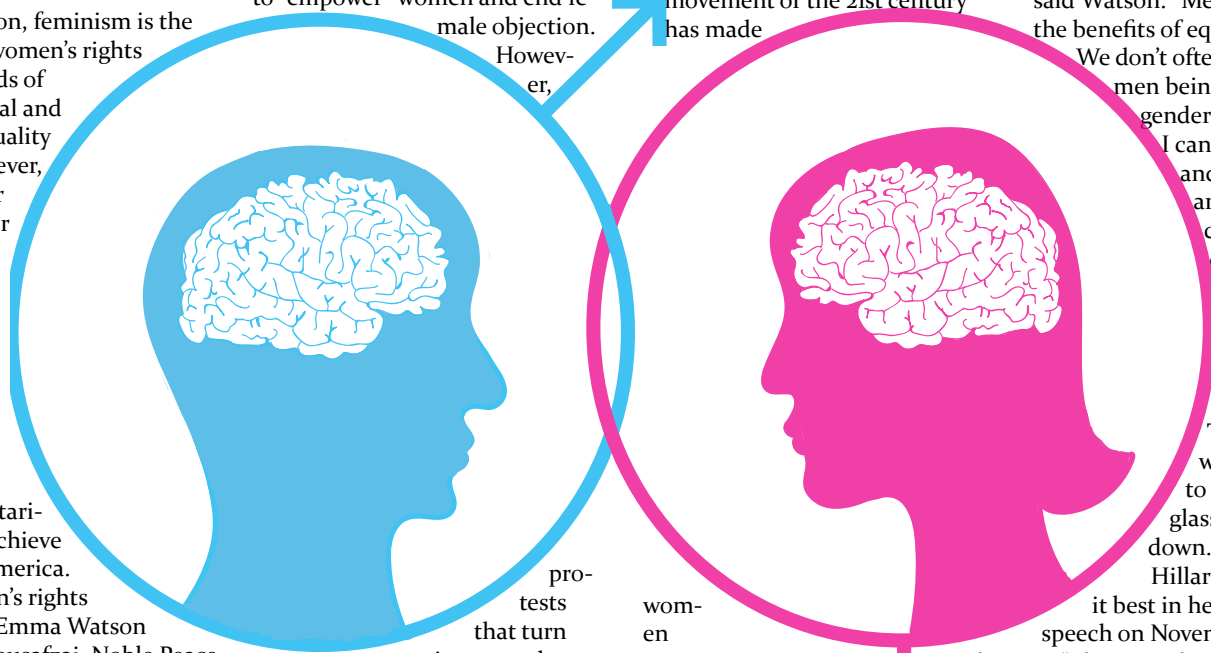
We don't often talk about men being imprisoned by gender stereotypes but I can see that they are and that when they are free, things will change for women as a natural consequence."

With the election season now closed and President-elect Trump chosen, woman will have to wait for the glass ceiling to come down.

Hillary Clinton said it best in her concession speech on November 9.

"I know we have still not shattered that highest and hardest glass ceiling, but some day, someone will, and hopefully sooner than we might think right now," Clinton said.

"And to all the little girls who are watching this, never doubt that you are valuable and powerful and deserving of every chance and opportunity in the world to pursue and achieve your own dreams."



women oversensitive overbearing.

The feminine role in Catholic church is a hot topic among activists. Pope Francis has ruled out women ever serving as priests in the Roman Catholic Church during his papacy. Though the pope emphasized that woman do "many other things better than men," his praise of women offers little comfort to

protests that turn against men, have become counterproductive in this century.

These forms of activism accomplish minimal victories and draw focus away from reducing the wage-gap or gender inequality in the workplace.

According to Institute for Women's Policy Research, "In 2015, female full-time workers made only 80 cents for every dollar

# Justice is served

Chief Justice of California appeals to the leaders of tomorrow.

By Shannon Daehnke, Staff Writer

Ever since she was sworn into office on Jan. 3, 2011, Tani Cantil-Sakauye, the Chief Justice of California, has made advances in civics across the state.

As the first Asian-Filipina American and the second woman to serve as Chief Justice, the mere appointment to the position itself is worthy of praise. Cantil-Sakauye started as a lawyer, and didn't consider becoming a judge until well after law school. Many people first influenced Cantil-Sakauye to become a lawyer, one of the most influential was her mother and an event they attended together.

"My mother thought [law] was a really good idea," Cantil-Sakauye said. "So when I was a little girl she took me to see what was really an unusual sight for back then, which was a Filipina female lawyer. We had never seen such a person in our entire lives, so everyone in my community went out to go see her, and that was the first time I thought about being a lawyer."

Afterward, Cantil-Sakauye grew more civic-minded, wanting to fight for fairness. In high school and college, she became involved in activities such as speech and debate club, student government and cheerleading which allowed her to find her passion for civics, and develop teamwork and planning

skills.

"When I was in college something that influenced me was that I joined the speech and debate club," Cantil-Sakauye said. "I was in many competitions with college boys and I beat them! And they were all going to law school, so I thought I would do well there too."

Cantil-Sakauye applied to be a judge in 1990, but still only considered being a trial judge. She didn't set out to be the Chief Justice, but since the opportunities presented themselves, she applied for the Supreme Court.

"The best part about being the Chief Justice is being able to be involved in cases, trying to get the fair and right answer and getting to work with smart people who are also trying to get to the right answer," Cantil-Sakauye said.

Cantil-Sakauye empowers her two daughters, and other young women with advice to educate against gender and ethnic bias, especially in the workplace.

"I think that women will always be faced with various types of bias, and that we just need to understand the person who has those feelings towards you," Cantil-Sakauye said. "[I] have an opportunity to educate them, and to address that bias by understanding that it is all that they know. People are malleable and if you can teach

them to get over their bias by simply being around you and knowing you, you are paving the way for the next female that they come into contact with because now they have a positive example of someone who they previously thought they had a bias against."

Cantil-Sakauye advises young women to have some what of a sense of humor towards uneducated people who might have a bias against them, because through your hard work you will prove them wrong and prove that you are exactly in the right place.

In addition to female empowerment, the Chief Justice promotes the youth through her education task force. Cantil-Sakauye's mission through her creation of the California Task Force in K-12 Learning is to educate kids in grades kindergarten through 12th grade about the judiciary branch of government. After becoming Chief Justice, she realized that a majority of people didn't understand the three branches of government, so she decided to create a program that would educate the youth.

"I realized that the best people to teach would be K-12 because [they're] our future leaders," Cantil-Sakauye said. "It's leadership training in a sense, and I hope that it'll inspire young people to get involved in the world around them."



courtesy photo

#Judgingyou - Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye envisioned a program called K1-12 Learning to promote educating youth on the legal system.

# Eagle Eye love you

Meet The Eagle Eye's biggest fans.

By Margaret Driscoll, Staff Writer

It's the highlight of their month -- the time when the paper is out and the stories are in. While many students love The Eagle Eye, these individuals take it to a whole new level. So whether it's a profile on a student or a controversial politics piece, The Eagle Eye covers it all. Thank you for the endless support and dedication. You are the reason we do what we do!



Meghan McClure, senior  
"I enjoy finding out about aspects of my classmates' lives- whether it be politics, extracurriculars, or anything in between."



Kennedy Kremmerer, sophomore  
"The stories relate to what I'm interested in and feature students that I wouldn't usually know."



Dylan Field, senior  
"I love the writing staff and the creative stories because they care so much about what they publish and write."



Hannah Baker, senior  
"I love the stories about teachers and the Humans of SM. You get to learn about unique new people at school."



Allison Blain, junior  
"I liked the article about TK; it showed who he was as a person and I also just really love reading about the staff."



Elyse Angel, junior  
"My favorite articles are the ones about entertainment and Talon Theatre. I also really love the articles about food."



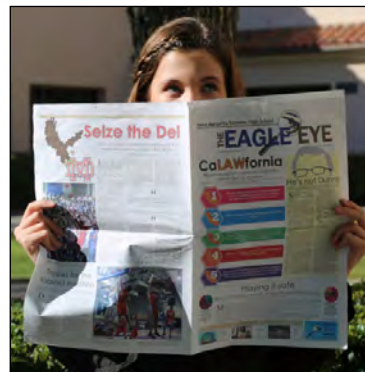
Griffin Webb, junior  
"I really love the relevance of the articles and how they apply to my life. My favorite are the stories about individuals."



Colleen Scannell, junior  
"I liked the article about Hamilton last issue and when they interview a bunch of people and I love the controversial stories."



Garrett Webb, freshman  
"I like to find out about what's going on around school with different parts of school like campus ministry or theatre."



Natalie Mitchell, freshman  
"I like being aware of what's going on so I read it especially since I'm a freshman. It helps to know about people at school."

# Thanksgiving back

Service isn't just an item to check off on your list of to-dos.

By Lauren Kesic, Copy Editor



It seems as though everyone is running away from one thing or another with one thing in mind: peace and sanctuary. That's what the Pilgrims were in search of when they landed on the shores of North America about 400 years ago. Luckily, they had someone to take them in.

"We were all refugees coming to this land," said Campus Ministry Assistant Director Margaret Hanley. "We depended on those who preceded us to help us through that time to become a great nation. We think of [Thanksgiving] as turkey and family, but if we really sit down to think about what that says to us about the values of this country, I think it speaks directly to [Christian] service."

Rewind to 2000 years ago and we're looking at

the creation of our world made by the one and only, God. Religion teachers at SMCHS teach their students the fundamentals of the Catholic faith, such as the Story of Creation, in religion classes. They are also strongly encouraged to be walking examples of Christ by conducting corporal works of mercy.

Juniors and seniors are asked to partake in the Lumen Christi project. This requires completing a certain number of community service hours along with writing reflections. While there are set requirements to meet, some students go above and beyond the maximum amount of hours.

"It's the call of every single person whether they're Muslim, Jewish, Christian,

Buddhist," Hanley said. "Every faith tradition has a core value of being one with others and helping each other out."

Sophomore Katie Flores devotes much time and attention to a variety of service organizations outside of school.

Throughout high school, Flores has completed 500-plus hours of extra-curricular service. She volunteers at the Shea Therapeutic Riding Center, Creative Kids Playhouse, the Boys and Girls Club and is also a Girl Scout.

"In Orange County we are very privileged," Flores said. "I think it's only right to share my privileges with others who are not as privileged. Seeing the effect that I can make on another per-



Horsin' around - Junior Katie Flores cares for the horses at the Shea Center.



Gather round - SMCHS juniors and seniors enjoy a nice meal around the table after several hours of serving food at the Ronald McDonald House.

son or people is truly humbling."

Service is more than just a box to check off in a list of things to do. According to Assistant Coordinator to Christian Services Caitlan Rangel, volunteering reflects the loving relation-

ship between God as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

"The point of service is to transform our hearts so that we can be in that role of loving service in all moments of our lives," Rangel said. "We are created to be in relationships of love

constantly."

Giving back can be looked at as sort of a reaction to the feelings of love and gratitude, especially around the Thanksgiving holiday. It is easy to feel grateful for the things we possess, whether that be a family, a house or food, but Catholics are called to reflect on such gratitude and thereby transform that feeling into generosity.

"We are loved intimately by God from the get-go," Hanley said. "We are all running around feeling so loved and therefore wanting to respond to others in that way. Service should be a continuum in our life because it's a call and response of an emotion."

There are many different reasons as to why stu-

dents and people perform service. Whether it be a requirement or out of the willingness of one's heart, one thing remains the same: service is an opportunity to become a deeper, more generous person.

Prayer and silence can help anyone foster a better sense of what he or she is called to do.

"[Prayer] is a living thing," Rangel said. "It reminds me of what Mother Theresa says in her book A Simple Path: 'the fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace.'"

Allowing oneself to let the guard down and be more open to facilitating relationships outside of

casual ones, into relationships with those who are marginalized, adheres to the Catholic ethos.

"We're all seeking peace, especially here in Orange County," Hanley said. "Just visually you know this is a dense place. So the pursuit of peace becomes even more urgent in a place like this and in a school like this."

People who respond to love and want to give back to those around them then have the ability to bring peace beyond understanding.

"Thanksgiving at its core is really a spiritual value," Hanley said. "There's a saying that 'service is the rent we pay for living.' In a nutshell [that is] the philosophy of service: we didn't earn all that we have, we were given it. And always you are asked to then share."



If you smile, I smile - Senior Lily Turner and her buddy from Special Camp for Special Kids can't help but smile when they're around each other.



Illustrations by Lauren Kesic

The fruit of prayer is silence. The fruit of love is faith. The fruit of service is prayer. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace. - Mother Theresa



# Dad to dean

*Freshman Michael Ventura experiences high school with his dad.*

By Taylor Gather, Staff Writer

It's hard to fit in as a high school freshman, especially when your dad's the most feared person on campus.

Unlike other SMCHS students, freshman Michael Ventura's high school experience is filled with friends, football and his father, Juan Ventura, better known as Ace. Contrary to popular belief, going to school with his dad has not affected his freshman year -- yet.

"It's a little weird seeing him at lunch, but other than that it's not too different from the other freshman," Michael said. "When we see each other I say 'hi' or 'bye' and then carry on with my day."

Having a relationship with someone of higher power has made it easier for Michael to meet new people and make new friends.

"My friends think it's cool that my dad is a dean," Michael said. "Probably because they want to get out of detentions but there's no way that he will let them, no matter how much I ask."

Although faculty and staff are eager to give Michael his first detention, Ace makes sure that his son always follows the rules to prevent that from happening.

"I haven't given him a detention yet because I get to see what he's wearing before he leaves the house," Ace said. "If it's something out of dress code, I make him take it off before we get in the car."

Although Ace doesn't have the advantages that comes with favoritism, he's acquired much more than someone to make sure he's always in dress code.

"We've started talking a lot more," Michael said. "He works long hours so I would come home from school and only see him for a couple of hours before bedtime. Now, I see him all day so we're a lot more social with each other."

While Michael may be more vulnerable in receiving a detention, there are still perks to sharing such close quarters with his dad.

"If I need to turn in something and I haven't printed it, then I can text him and he can print it for me," Michael said. "It's reassuring to know that if something happens there's someone right there."

What Ace knew to be true about SMCHS changed when his perspective as faculty member shifted to the perspective of a parent once Michael enrolled as a freshman.

"After 19 years of working at SM, I finally get to experience freshman orientation and back-to-school night," Ace said. "I even get to speak to the teachers about what to do as a parent for my kid and what the expectations are for him."

Even though some might think it is unusual for Ace to see his son at work every day, he has only seen the positives that have come out of the situation.

"The best thing about getting to go to school with my son is getting to monitor his work and grades," Ace said. "I get to see who he's hanging out with and if he's making good choices. We also get to hang out more often."

The time spent together at school has also benefited their life off campus.

"My relationship with Michael has changed 100 percent - it has only gotten better," Ace said. "I will make the best of my time with him for the four years of high school I have with him."

Michael's relationship with his dad has not only been strengthened but is now filled with memories that will stay with him even outside of high school.

"We were at the varsity football game one day, and after everyone had left we raced," Michael said. "It was hilarious because all his friends were watching and they were laughing because of the way he runs."

Although being a high school freshman is hard enough, Michael has found a way to make his high school experience worthwhile as he grows closer to his dean and dad.



photo by Amanda Zou

**That's so Ace** - No one is safe from a detention, not even his own son.

# Men behind the wheel

*School bus drivers contribute more than their foot on the gas pedal.*

By Amanda Zou, Photo Editor



photo by Amanda Zou

**Wheelin' around** - Willis, Vazquez and Martins are always ready to drive miles and miles to return student to their homes.

For students and teachers, 2:05 pm is the most relaxed moment. However, at the same time, three people change into their uniforms and get ready for their mission to begin.

Kevin Willis, Antonio Vazquez and Manuel Martins serve as SMCHS school bus drivers. Because of them, 148 students are able to take part in safe transportations every day. These drivers set high expectations for themselves and hold many responsibilities.

This is Martins' sixth, Willis' fourth and Vazquez' second year as drivers for SMCHS. Martins and Willis drive routes south one and south two both morning and after school for students living in areas like San Clemente, San Juan, Dana Point and Aliso Viejo. Vazquez drives the north route after school picking up and dropping off students from Yorba Linda, Tustin and Orange.

"Being a bus driver means putting a lot of responsibilities on your shoulders," Vazquez said. "Safety always comes first and we make every attempt to make sure kids feel comfortable on the bus."

In order to have safe travels, bus drivers dedicate much of their time preparing both themselves and the buses. After getting four certificates and two licenses, they have to keep up with their trainings and maintain a good record which includes a clean record with no driving violations.

"All hard work pays off at end of the day when I safely drive kids home," Martins said. "Seeing smiles on their faces makes me feel proud of my work."

After being a school bus driver for six years, Martins has met many students. He treats the bus riders like his family and even gets his nickname, Manny, from them.

"All 58 kids on my bus bond like a family," Martins said. "It feels like I am driving my own kids to school every morning and pick them up after school."

Bus driving might seem like a boring job, but Vazquez sees chance to learn through his experience as a bus driver and hopefully create many memories with the kids along the way.

"It is fun to meet a lot of students in different grade levels, who

speak different languages and have different religious beliefs," Vazquez said. "I like to ask them how to say a certain word in their languages, and I learn a lot from them."

After spending hours with them, the bus drivers build strong relationships with the riders because of how much time they spend together before and after school every school day.

"I am glad that I can watch these kids progress through the year," Willis said. "I have become close friends with some of them and we share our stories when they ride the bus."

Driving buses at SMCHS has given Willis, Vazquez and Martins memories that stretch longer than 10-30 minute bus rides. They hope to continue their story and commitment with their yellow buses and beloved bus riders.

"My experiences at SMCHS really shaped who I am," Willis said. "My work and these wonderful kids I met on the journey truly changed me as a person. They helped me to bring out my true self, and I will never forget the memorable time we spend together."

# Bon voyage

Rory and Lorelai are back better than ever... sort of.

By Claire Robidoux,  
Feature Editor

On April 3, 2016 my whole world came crashing down. It was the day Rory left Stars Hollow and Lorelai to travel for her new job on the presidential campaign. It was the last time I sang along to the intro theme song "Where You Lead". It was the last time I would hear Michel's French accent, watch Sookie make a culinary masterpiece or see Kirk being well... Kirk. It was the end of Gilmore Girls.

As I frantically clicked to find the next episode I came to the

life rippling realization that I had finished all seven seasons. After watching Rory get into Chilton Preparatory School, apply to be a part of the school paper and study endless nights to be accepted to Harvard and Yale, it all ended. The stress, excitement and laughter was over.

However, on November 25, 2016 at exactly 12:01 a.m. Pacific Time, the Gilmores are coming back. Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life will air four episode revivals on Netflix. The episodes: "Winter", "Spring", "Summer" and "Fall" (lyrics to the show's theme song) will be 90 min long.

Filming for the four episodes began Feb. 2 at the Warner Bros. Studio in Los Angeles, CA and ended at the beginning of May according to TVLine. Along with all the favorite characters, there will also be some new cast members joining the iconic show.

Jess, Dean, Logan, Luke and Chris, all my, and the Gilmore's, favorite men will be returning - including the most important man, Paul Anka, Lorelai's dog.

However, there has also been rumor of a new man named Damon. Whether he will become a new member of the swirling vortex that is the Gilmore Girl's love life can only be determined on Nov. 25.

Other characters include Lane Kim and her twin. Lorelai Gilmore will also have a mothering moment with her daughter from the show Parenthood, Amber Holt (Mae Whitman).

Due to contract issues, the show's writer, Amy Sherman Paladino, actually did not direct the last episodes of season seven. The finale had to be directed by an alternate, changing the original ending to the final season of Gilmore Girls. Whether this revival is merely a correction to that ending or the rebirth of Gilmore Girls all together is in question.

Paladino did say the last four words meant for season seven's finale will close out Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life. Along with the

mother daughter duo closing out the season revival, there is said to be a cliffhanger. One can only hope that's a sign of future season continuations.

The revival will also be a new frontier for the Gilmores. Each will have to face a sort of crisis in their lives, unlike what has been seen in the previous seasons. Emily must deal with the mourning of her husband, Lorelai and Luke are still a mystery, and Rory has a mid-life crisis.

Unlike previous seasons, we begin to see Rory face real life. Before, she seemed to breeze through with the occasional bump. She got through Chilton at the top of her class, was the Editor for the Yale Daily News and got a spot as a journalist for the presidential campaign. Yet, her life hasn't turned out as she hoped. All the studying and stress has led to her "feeling very lost these days." In the trailer she even says "I have no job. I have no credit. I have no underwear."

Being a Gilmore Girl fanatic, seeing my childhood idol struggle is going to be hard. Rory is the reason I want to be a journalist.

Watching her and her mother brought my mother and me closer as we bonded by bingeing each episode season by season. She's the person I wrote about in my college essay to my dream school. So, if Rory really isn't as perfect as I had thought all these years, what does this say of my future?

Paladino has brought a mixture of emotions to this revival. So one can only hope those last four words satisfy our expectations. Yet whatever Rory and Lorelai say at the closing of the last episode will not be the end. The Gilmore girls will live on in the coffee I drink, the stories I write and most importantly in the inside jokes my mother and I share. If this is the last season, I'll survive because seeing Rory and Lorelai chug coffee at Luke's Diner one last time will be enough to relive the show that changed my life.



Illustrations by Claire Robidoux

# Election survivors

We survived the election.

By Jillian Baldwin,  
Staff Writer

There's no doubt that this election will go down in the books as one of the craziest ever fought between the two parties. It's been a great time of solidarity and a great time of division for Americans, and the question of whether politics can recover from this election is as much of a mystery as figuring out what happened to George Washington's dentures.

Luckily, television has stepped in to get us through these next four years.

On the new ABC drama, Designated Survivor, actor Kiefer Sutherland embodies Tom Kirkman, a lower level cabinet member suddenly elevated to the presidency after the Capitol is bombed and all leaders are killed. A state of anarchy is on the horizon, no one

trusts the government and beliefs about how D.C. should rebuild itself divide the American people.

In an interview with The Globe and Mail, Sutherland commented on what it's like to play the role of the P.O.T.U.S. during one of the most bizarre elections to date. "To be able to play a president (a) in the middle of a crisis and (b) who's really trying to bring a country together within the context of crisis almost mirrors the circumstances we're dealing with now," said Sutherland.

While the story makes a gripping TV plot, the circumstances are certainly not hoped for in real life. However, it does call into question how the government would react if such a tragedy were to happen. A designated survivor is a real government role created during the Cold War. The U.S. Government feared a Soviet air strike and needed one of their own to survive to lead the remaining government should an airstrike occur. The des-

ignated survivor is held in a secret, high security location away from Capitol Hill. The Presidential Succession Act also dictates the order in which power falls if the President were to be incapacitated, and in this case, it fell on the shoulders of Tom Kirkman.

"The event of such a tragedy is such a crazy storyline because it makes you think about the challenges we would face in that circumstance and how you literally find yourself saying "I have no idea" yet the people in the show are dealing with every problem that has no answer or has never happened before," said senior and avid watcher Isabella Murdy.

Votes have been cast and we await Donald Trump's January inauguration, so our TV star is out of the race. However, that didn't prevent fans on social media from voicing their opinion about the fantasy president's notable qualities that may have made him the ideal president.

From t-shirts to Twitter hashtags, some fans of Designated Survivor are taking efforts to start a grassroots campaign for Kiefer Sutherland's chance at the real Oval Office. It wouldn't be the first time a television star was elected to an office. Remember California was governed by Arnold Schwarzenegger back in 2003 and 2006. Ronald Reagan won the 1980 election by a landslide, adding the presidency to his resume--along with a list of movies such as Bedtime for Bonzo and King's Row.

An article from New York Post highlights Sutherland's ability to play the president with a most elusive quality: humility. His character even tells a White House staff speechwriter that standing is not necessary when he enters the room. "I'm not the Queen." There is an appealing aura about Sutherland's character that makes him seem more like a Designated President instead of just a Designated Survivor.



Illustration by Jillian Baldwin

# Promotional exp(art)ise

The Varsity Arts Club and NAHS promote the Art Department on campus.



Passion and he(art) - Newly inducted NAHS members pose for a portrait outside the Sacred Heart Chapel.

By Dessi Gomez, Arts & Entertainment Editor

The silence is deafening yet important. It helps the viewer focus on the exhibit before them. As one walks into the gallery, one is taken aback by the different works of art set up throughout as they are guided through the exhibit full of displays. If only works of visual art could receive this much attention all the time.

With the arrival of the visual arts consultant Nancy Harrell, the Art Department has received a boost in the promotion of the work of Eagle artists. Art students have followed Harrell's lead to shine the spotlight on their peers.

"The Performing Arts are always performing so they're out front and center, but nobody knows what's going on in the Visual Arts Department," Harrell said. "I'm here to promote [it]."

Throughout her 32 years as an art educator, Harrell has established Art Departments at the Orange County School of the Arts (OSCA) and JSerra. She now acts as a moderator for the National Art Society and the Varsity Arts Club here at SMCHS.

"The National Art Honor Society is a society in the vein of NHS, but we're honoring scholar-artists," Harrell said. "[It] does not just refer to Visual Arts, it's for all the arts."

In commencement of its second year at SMCHS, the NAHS currently has 30 members. The requirements for membership in the National Art Honor Society is a 3.75 GPA in at least two previous art classes, an advanced art class within the member's 4 year art curriculum, a 3.0 cumulative average in other academic subjects and three hours of service per semester to add up to 6 hours of service total. Members graduate with acknowledgment in the form of a

colorful chord worn in the graduation ceremony.

"I think [people] are just starting to realize that we're here," Harrell said. "We're getting to be known on campus and I'd like to see [NAHS] continue to grow and be inclusive in all of the arts."

NAHS members promote art through various opportunities on campus.

From leading tours during 8th Grade Visitation Day to setting up art galleries and the Annual Art Show in January, members strengthen the presence of all forms of the SMCHS Art Department.

"It is definitely giving me an outlet for services," said junior Andrew Kalasky, NAHS President. "As a full IB student I need to do a certain amount of service hours per semester and this year I'm trying to focus it on my interest in the arts. I want to serve something through my passion, and I actually want to

help people through what I love and hold dear to my heart."

As a student in IB Visual Art HL, Kalasky enjoys the opportunities involved in setting up the art galleries, especially when it comes to welcoming the large crowds attending the art galleries.

"[NAHS] really gives an influence that brings in more kids to the SMCHS community and share in visual arts and other art classes that we offer here," Kalasky said.

Junior Catherine Orihuela aims to promote the arts with her club Varsity Arts. As president, Orihuela sets up fundraisers, coordinates meetings and oversees the club meetings to keep track of new ideas for bringing attention to art.

"I really wanted to see more arts promoted on the campus," Orihuela said. "I felt that as an art student, I had a lot to give to the Art Department in general. So I felt that it was important to bring a strong foundation between the visual and performing arts."

Orihuela takes IB Visual Art HL along with Kalasky, and Varsity Arts allows her to continue her passion for art outside of the classroom.

"At meetings we generally dis-

cuss upcoming projects that we want to do," Orihuela said. "Last year we did the Inside-Out project to show the diversity in high school yet all unification it has. Our goal is to further emphasize the importance of art in the public space."

Varsity Arts Club members must have a GPA of 3.5 or above and they must be currently enrolled in at least one visual or performing art class. Passion and commitment are very important to the club as well.

"I feel that I have a greater responsibility in helping other kids realize their potential in the arts," Orihuela said. "It's helped me realize that I can translate promoting the arts in my own life and in the future as a career."

Although Orihuela's love for art stems from her past visual arts electives, Varsity Arts, like NAHS, welcomes artists of all disciplines.

"We want to acknowledge both departments and show the importance of the arts in the education of a student," Orihuela said.

It looks like an end has finally come to the long silence that has commonly surrounded the SMCHS Art Departments in the past. The artists are ready to share their capabilities and talents.



Performance promotion - Varsity Arts Club members meet to create illustrated mason jars that will be sold at the Christmas production.

# Breakdown of marching band

Everyone hears and sees them, but does everyone know them?

By Cambria Miller, Staff Writer

The Eagle Regiment practices countless hours every week to make sure all SMCHS events look good, feel good and sound good. Here's a closer look at the people who complete the stands.



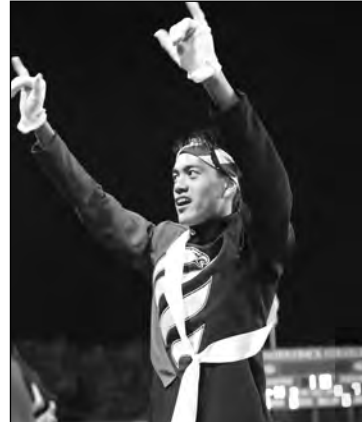
Pounding percussion - Framan beats the drum with focus.

"I had been interested in the music program at Santa Margarita since I was in middle school. I also found that the marching band would be a new family for me in the new high school environment" -Michael Framan, Drumline Captain

"Hearing everyone talking about how good the performance was is always such a wonderful thing, especially to hear that coming from the rookie members who were just beginning to learn how to march a couple of months prior" -Jon Prentice, Woodwind Captain



Sound the saxophone - Prentice adds necessary notes to music.



Band hands - Tajonera leads the rhythm of a Friday night.

"I get to help develop and witness the growth all of the members go through. Seeing how far they've come and how much fun they are all having always puts a smile on my face. We are a family, both the students and the staff member--there's no other way to put it." -George Tajonera, Drum Major and Brass Captain

"The amount of pride I see in every member of the Eagle Regiment is indescribable. This is truly a unique group of individuals with talents that span across the entire music and visual arts platform." -Kennedy Kemmerer, Equipment Manager



Warm embra(ss) - Kemmerer and pit captain Sabrina Torres spread band family love.



Poise on point - Zielinski preps for the halftime show performance.

"I do Eagle Regiment because it gives me the opportunity to do what I love with people I love and foster my passion of performing." -Noelle Zielinski, Color Guard Captain

# AYSO-FUN



SMCHS seniors kick it back to the little league days.

By Dani Segovia, Sports Editor

**B**ows, colorful jerseys and crazy team names are not limited to a five-year-old's soccer experience.

American Youth Soccer Association, better known as AYSO, is a beginners league soccer program that gives boys and girls ages three to 18 the chance to play soccer at a recreational level. During the fall and spring time, soccer players join local programs and compete in games every Saturday.

Seniors Dina Saccacio, Emma Flaharty and Tana Tarazi played AYSO until they later moved on to a more competitive level of club soccer at the age of 10. For their senior year, however, the three of them decided to throw it back to their AYSO soccer career and join the league they once played for when they were younger.

"My team hasn't changed that much since then," Tarazi said. "We have bows, half time snacks, a team name [called] the Mild Marinara Meatball and [we] pretend we are seven again."

Saccacio and Tarazi quit club soccer in 2015, and since then they have missed the sport they love. Joining AYSO allows them to continue the game and gives them the opportunity to experience childhood memories again.

"The Mild Marinara Meatballs has been my favorite team I have ever been on," Tarazi said. "There is no pressure anymore, and the people on the team make games much

more enjoyable."

Even though the level of competition is low, tension still rises especially between the referees and players.

"I talk with the refs during the games, but they can't make a decent call to save their lives," Saccacio said. "Sometimes I'd rather have Stevie Wonder ref our games

because he'd make the same calls that they do."

Flaharty on the other hand, has not quit club soccer, but instead joined AYSO to remember what it feels like to play the game without the stress.

"My favorite moment has been just going out and playing," Flaharty said. "[My team and I] laugh

when we have the ball and it reminds me of when I was younger."

Getting ice cream, having water balloon fights instead of practicing and messing around during games are memories from this season that Saccacio, Flaharty, and Tarazi will always cherish. Playing AYSO has allowed them to be a child again and gave them the opportunity to

step away from growing up.

"I think its funny that it has come in a full circle," Saccacio said. "I started playing AYSO and I'm finishing by playing AYSO. It's like I'm reliving a childhood memory and that makes me feel happy."

Thanks to AYSO, they will end their soccer careers the way they started.



AYSO represent- Senior Dina Saccacio shows off her team spirit.



Hold it up-Senior Tana Tarazi shows off her favorite jersey.

photos by Amanda Zou



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# Faith in football

*Sophomore Mase Funa finds a family and traditions in his new home.*

By Amanda Moussiaux,  
Staff Writer

**N**ew campus, new traditions and new teammates, yet his Mormon faith remains.

At the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, sophomore Mase Funa found himself in a foreign place. Having transferred from Spanish Fork High School in Utah, he was miles away from familiar faces. SMCHS not only offered him the chance to be a part of a new community and team, but also a new faith to learn from.

As a devoted Mormon, Funa makes faith present in his life each day. In his opinion, there is little difference in going from a school where the population was mostly Mormon to a Catholic school.

"I don't feel like I stand out that much," Funa said. "We have similar beliefs and I feel like the people [at SMCHS] are very inclusive."

At SMCHS, faith and community play a huge role in the day-to-day student life and in the tradition and rituals of the football team.

"We practice a lot here at SMCHS, more than I ever have practiced football in my life," Funa said. "But spending a lot of time with the team has built a brotherhood and family outside of my own family, and that is something I really love about the game."

Along with his faith life, Funa also has big dreams. He hopes that the football program at SMCHS will help him accomplish his



**Field Focus** - Pre-game pep talk.

dream of playing at the Division One college level. Beyond college, Funa aspires to one day play in the National Football League, and looks up to his father who played professional rugby in the Australian Rugby league.

"If I one day make it to the pros, I will dedicate my career and success to my family," Funa said. "They have loved and supported me since day one."

The goal to be a professional football player one day comes into conflict with a core belief in the Mormon faith -- the commandment to honor Sabbath. According



photos by Amanda Zou

**Run Funa run** - Teammates Funa and McCartan jog on the field as they get ready for the next play.

to this commandment, Sundays must be set aside as a holy day of rest and worship. But in the NFL, Sundays are game days.

"I never voluntarily practice on Sundays or train," Funa said. "However, if it was game day, depending on where the game was and the time, I would try to go to church either before or after my game to give God the glory and thank him for everything He has blessed me with."

But before he can make it to the big leagues, he remembers to make the most out of his time with the team. The football family holds a

very strong bond with numerous opportunities to share memories. Funa admires the way the team stands together in the good and the bad. He has learned that win or lose, they are a team who encourages each other to do better and work harder each week.

"Being young and new to the team, I look up to [Grant] Calcuterra and [Brett] Neilon a lot," Funa said. "I learn from them and the way they lead the team and the way they work in practice."

After each game, the team comes back to school where they gather in the grotto to reflect and

pray a decade of the rosary. "Grotto" is a valuable tradition Funa has loved to learn and be a part of.

"It is nice to have a place and time where the whole team comes together to give thanks and prayers to God," Funa said. "It's a new experience for me."

The religious aspect of the game is what keeps Funa humble. He is grateful for all the coaches' help and his family's support. He looks forward to his next two seasons and hopes to lead the team someday while keeping faith, family and football present in his life.

# Setting the goals

*The water polo team welcomes underclassmen to help the team win.*

By Taylor Gather,  
Staff Writer and Ivanna Rea,  
Managing Editor

The pool of underclassmen are taking over the waters.

This past season, water polo co-captains senior Jack Baumgardner and junior Noah Hodge led their team to third place in the Trinity League and are now preparing for playoffs on Nov. 9. In addition to winning numerous games, the team chemistry couldn't have been stronger.

"So far the season has been really fun," Baumgardner said. "[The coach] has done a really good job of letting the older guys work with each other rather than for him."

This water polo season also welcomed several valuable new additions to the team, including freshman Jackson Glassman, a water polo player since second grade. His background and skill earned him a spot on the varsity team.

"I think right now I'm getting a lot of really great experience playing with the older guys," Glassman said. "They play at such a high level so just watching and playing with them at practice makes me so much better and hopefully I can play like them some day; that's my



**Power play** - Throughout the water polo season, senior co-captain Jack Baumgardner and junior co-captain Noah Hodge led the team with their physical skill and mental encouragement.

main goal right now."

As goalie, Hodge's main responsibility is to act as a mentor to his team both in and out of the water. He practices positive reinforcement with younger players who are the future leaders of the team.

"The group of guys I've been playing with this season have been outstanding," Hodge said. "The wins we've been able to pull off to-

gether show that we've improved so much, especially beating Harvard Westlake. The team chemistry is our strength -- we know what the other player is going to do before we even do it."

Baumgardner is aware of his influence on the underclassmen. He makes sure each player feels appreciated, sets an example so the younger team members can

emulate them and become better players.

"My team being younger has impacted my view because the underclassmen are the future of the program," Baumgardner said. "It's the older guys' jobs to set the tone so that they know what to expect when they have to be leaders. During a game the younger players are just teammates and we're all

equal. I don't ever feel isolated."

Glassman's role as a freshman is to learn from teammates such as junior Chase Petersen. He hopes that by the time that he becomes an upperclassman, he'll be able to maintain the team's current level of play.

"[Petersen] plays the same position as me so during practice he really helps me understand [new] things," Glassman said. "He's been playing for a lot longer so having him coach me and teach me in the water every day has definitely influenced my style of play a lot."

Through the guidance of team captains and upperclassmen, younger players like Glassman are better prepared to become future leaders, who will leave a similar mark in the pool as their mentors.

"My coaches expect me to go as hard as I can and be the best player I can possibly be," Glassman said. "My teammates expect me to get better and learn from them. When they're gone I know I must keep the level of water polo they're playing right now so we can have a successful season like this year."

The scoreboard only shows the many points the team acquired each game, however, the boys scored much more than goals this season.

photos by Eugene Choi



# Sooner than later

Senior Grant Calcaterra's first semester of college is right around the corner.

by Chloe Le, Web Editor-in-Chief

For most SMCHS seniors, the second semester is the only thing that helps drag them through the struggles of balancing college applications, homework and even a social life. It's the senior mantra until June 2 when they can finally leave the nest and soar to new heights -- transitioning from one milestone to the next. But for senior Grant Calcaterra, that milestone will come five months early.

On Feb. 16, 2016, the University of Oklahoma offered Calcaterra an athletic scholarship. Other renowned schools including Texas A&M University and Indiana University, Bloomington offered him scholarships as well. But despite the numerous offers, Calcaterra was drawn to the Oklahoma Sooners.

"The school was probably the best football school out of all of [the offers] and it was in the top three academically," said Calcaterra. "It was the whole package and when I visited Oklahoma, it solidified my decision."

In order for Calcaterra to graduate ahead of time, he had to enroll in the university early and complete SMCHS' graduation requirements to meet Oklahoma's qualifications. Once he had earned enough credits, Oklahoma sent a letter to SMCHS requesting for Calcaterra to graduate and begin his college experience.

"I decided to graduate early at the end of my junior year," Calcaterra said. "I applied October 13

and got in and now I'm starting to pick out my schedule."

Before making his decision, Calcaterra looked to several people for guidance. One person in particular was SMCHS' head football coach Rich Fisher who he has known for almost eight months.

"He reached out to me about my thoughts," Fisher said. "But it's not really about me being happy about his decision. As long as he chose the school for the right reasons and he's happy with his decision, then that's all that matters."

Calcaterra's fame has escalated ever since Oklahoma (and the other schools) offered him scholarships in the beginning of the year to play for their team. Once he committed to Oklahoma, the coach even requested for him to get verified on Twitter.

"I was really excited because I remember when I got an email on October 18 from the 'Verified' account on Twitter," Calcaterra said. "They followed my Twitter, and their account is obviously verified, and I was like 'um what?' and I went to check my profile and saw that I was verified."

With all the attention Calcaterra has received, he's made sure to keep his morals and remain loyal to himself, his friends and family throughout the entire journey.

"A few people have treated me differently like outsiders but I think for the most part, the people who are really close to me haven't treated me differently because I

haven't treated them differently," Calcaterra said.

While Fisher has seen Calcaterra grow over the past several months as a player, he's also witnessed his individual growth as well.

"He's a great ambassador for any program," Fisher said. "Just in terms of when he goes to OU, he's going to have OU on his chest and that's what college recruiters look for -- high character kids that will represent your program."

Calcaterra looks up to his older brother, Nick, as a role model and inspiration not for football but for his own personal principles.

"My brother was never the star athlete or the smartest or most popular kid but he always had a positive outlook on everything so I've always tried to have that too," Calcaterra said.

With the anxiety of leaving for college also comes the reality of leaving a place you've spent four years making memories and forming friends.

"I'm going to miss the relationships I've built here," Calcaterra said. "I wouldn't trade them for anything else."

Calcaterra's friendships at school have helped him create fond memories that will last a lifetime but he's also overcome a massive struggle regarding the last three seasons with his teammates.

"We've probably had the toughest time because we've been through three head coaches," Calcaterra said. "We've had to go from



photo by Amanda Zou

**Out with the old** - Senior Grant Calcaterra trades his blue and gold for crimson and cream, proudly representing his new school.



**Boomer on the run** - Calcaterra beats the defense line and makes a run for the end zone.

courtesy photo

staff to staff and system to system but we've managed to stick together which is really important to me."

While Calcaterra spends most of his time off the field resting up from the previous games, he always makes time for his family.

"During season I'm hanging out with my family because you only have a limited time with them," Calcaterra said.

However, during off-season Calcaterra's time is mostly dedicated to football and training. And while football may be a main priority for Calcaterra, his time at SMCHS is something he refuses to waste.

"I want to start training after the season and finish with straight A's even though I don't need to -- it's more for me," Calcaterra said. "A lot of my buddies have been talking about doing a lot of fun stuff like hike Saddleback mountain as a team. We want to do a lot of things

together before I leave because we won't be able to see each other as often."

As Calcaterra will spend the next four plus years at Oklahoma, he will not only be shaping his football career but also his future.

"Football ends for all of us," Fisher said. "In five years from now, I want him to have a successful career. He's got the intangibles so whatever happens after that, happens for him."

With only a few short months left, Calcaterra will leave behind his own legacy and hopefully help others create their own legacies at SMCHS.

"I would say this whole experience has been a good opportunity because I can represent SMCHS in a good light," Calcaterra said. "I think it will bring a lot of positive attention to our school and our program."

## Fall sports recap

by Dani Segovia, Sports Editor

While the season of fall is just beginning, the 2016-17 fall sports season is coming to a close. Here is a recap of our fall sports victories and where they placed in league.

### Girls Volleyball

Girls Varsity Volleyball is crowned Trinity League and CIF Champions with an undefeated season.

### Girls Tennis

Girls Tennis team shares the Trinity League Title with rival Mater Dei High School.

### Boys Waterpolo

Boys Waterpolo team ended their season with a third place title in league.

### Girls Golf

Girls Varsity Golf "swings" victoriously through an undefeated finish in Trinity League.

### Boys & Girls Cross Country

Boys Cross Country team place third in league and Girls place in second.

### Boys Football

Varsity Football team places third in Trinity League after facing many tough teams.

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