

Three Eagles take the next step in their faith journey.  
page 3



"Once I found God during Kairos, I began to accept

~ Renee Gentry

"It's the little things like going to God for everything that makes all the difference."

~ Riley Rosenzweig



"It's the best decision I've made in my entire life."

~ Kianna Rezaei

Senior issue!

## Santa Margarita Catholic High School

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# THE EAGLE EYE

# Top 5 colleges

On June 2, the Bren Center at the University of California, Irvine will be crowded with 410 students and their families to commemorate their years at SMCHS. It's been 720 days filled with emotion through the roof as the senior class of 2017 accomplish another milestone.

Illustration by Claire Robidoux

By Chloe Le, Web Editor-in-Chief

### 1. Saddleback College (14)

Only 11 miles between SMCHS, Saddleback College is the number one college for the senior class. Saddleback has been serving 500,000 students since 1968 with over 300 degree and certificate programs and now adds 14 Eagles.

### 2. University of Southern California (12)

With a 16.5 percent acceptance rate, 12 students head off to sunny Los Angeles. These Trojans will find their passions in impacted majors such as communications, dramatic arts and engineering.

### 3. University of San Diego (12)

Located between the beach, downtown San Diego and the mountains, USD will be home to 12 Toreros exploring college experience through Greek life, sports and academics. Student internships are abundant in the city of San Diego.

### 4. University of Oregon (12)

12 Eagles will become Oregon Ducks and join the flock of 23,600 students. Located in Eugene, the University of Oregon has a Division 1 athletic program, study abroad opportunities and up to 250 social clubs for students to thrive.

### 5. Texas Christian University (12)

TCU is an attraction for SMCHS students in academics, campus life and social activities. Students will enjoy tailgating at Division 1 football and baseball games, free concerts and the plentiful food choices in Fort Worth.

## \$3n10r y34r = 3z

*I miscalculated senior year.*

By Briana Ryan, Staff Writer

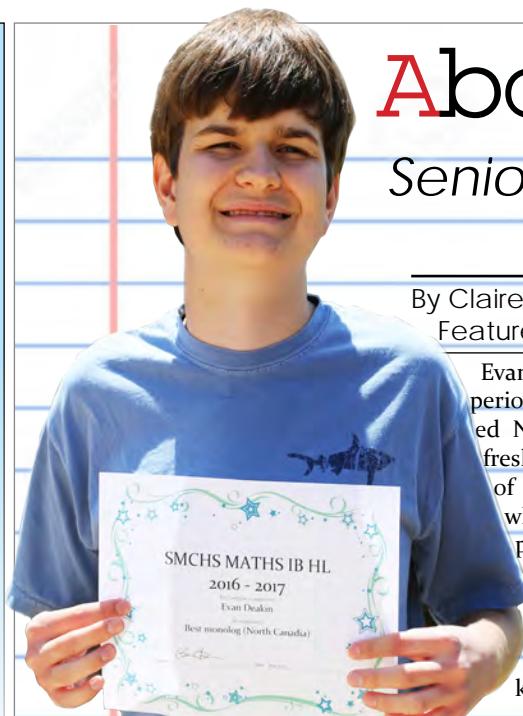
Ahhh, senior year. Finally a time to ditch all responsibilities and just enjoy the last year before adulthood right? Well, at least that's what I believed after finishing the last final of my junior year. And I could not have been more wrong.

From shows like Gossip Girl, where wildly independent teens have no rules or boundaries, to movies like High School Musical -- that present a group of teens with no real cares in the world

-- we have been groomed to think of the high school experience as it is on television. The media has falsely portrayed the big idea of the ultimate "senior year" as one giant party and I'm setting the record straight.

TV and movies do nothing to ease the worry lingering in the back of the minds of all seniors "Am I the only one feeling this way?" Many television shows depict stress-free seniors as knowing exactly where they want to go to college and getting in with ease.

*continued on page 2*



## Above average

*Senior Evan Deakin earns the valedictorian title.*

By Claire Robidoux, Feature Editor

Evan Deakin walked into period one Model United Nations as just another freshman on the first day of high school. However, when the 55 minute class period ended, Deakin walked out as the kid who knew everything about everything. He hadn't gained the knowledge of the uni-

verse or anything, but he proved to his classmates that his knowledge was far more expansive than the average freshman's.

His class was told to give a speech and discuss one random topic for two minutes. Deakin went first, and as he stood in front of all his new classmates, he was told to talk for two minutes about cats. Instead of sharing anecdotes about petting cats or cat sitting, Deakin gave a well thought out speech cently watched.

*continued on page 10*

### On the Website



The last dance



Teenage angst



Big family big responsibilities

Check out centerspread for the *Class of 2017's* college decisions!

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# Every 15 Minutes program shows students the results of drunk driving

By Hannah Prince and Rachel Tetreault, Staff Writers

Upperclassmen walk onto Alas de Paz Street, silent, curious and frightened. Fake blood and rubble mimic disaster as students watch actors and actresses re-create a fatal car crash caused by someone driving under the influence of alcohol.

With the assistance of the California Highway Patrol and the State of California, SMCHS brings the Every 15 Minutes program to campus every other school year. This year the program returned on April 24-25.

The Every 15 Minutes program is meant to challenge students to think about drinking and texting while driving. California's law enforcement community attempts to ensure personal safety.

The program's simulated drunk driving collision includes gruesome visuals - fake blood, smashed cars, real police officers, fire-fighters and paramedics. The processes enacted by the students and officials are step-by-step requirements for handling collisions and drunk drivers themselves.

"[SMCHS] participates in this program because it is an impactful and important program that raises awareness about the dangers and consequences of drinking and driving," said Activities Director Sammer Darwazeh. "We pray and hope that nobody has to experience something like what was demonstrated in the Every 15 Minutes program in their life. We continue to bring this program to help educate students so that they make good decisions and stay safe."

In addition to the audience, the student participants included: Ryan Marks, Natalie Hogue, Hannah Loessberg, Grant Brakke, Delaney McCabe, Dylan Field, Chris-



courtesy photos



photos by Hannah Prince and Rachel Tetreault

**Before and After** - From the first to 100th mock DUI crash at SMCHS, Steve Concialdi (left), with son Andy (right), are dedicated to the mission of spreading knowledge about the consequences of drinking and driving.

tian Blazona, Hannah Baker, Jack Barrera, Julia Higgins, Joey Myers and Brooke Leet, along with other "living dead." These students get a different experience as they are the "drunk driver," friend, parent and/or victim. Based on their role, they leave campus after the simulation with an actual trip to the morgue, the hospital emergency room and the San Clemente jail where a student was booked for "drunk driving."

Meanwhile, all upperclassmen

are reminded of the mock crash by interactive activities such as using impaired simulator goggles in the classroom, heart beats that flat line every 15 minutes over the intercom and listening to a police officer who reads an obituary written by the "dead" student's parents throughout the day.

Aside from the mock crash, the assembly reinforces the effects of losing a loved one due to someone's poor choice. Speakers include students who read letters to their

parents, parents to their children and Wendy Reynolds, the key note speaker who told the story of her family who were killed by a drunk driver.

SMCHS parent and captain paramedic of the Orange County Fire Authority Steve Concialdi, lives this program every day. Concialdi is the founder of Friends Against Drunk Driving, also known as F.A.D.D., which is a nonprofit organization. Since 1991, their mock DUI crashes at high

schools in South Orange County have shown students and faculty what happens when you make the decision to drink and drive or get in the car with someone who has been drinking. On Monday, April 24, he organized his 100th staged crash for high school students at SMCHS, also the place where Concialdi's first mock DUI crash began in May of 1991.

"I have been doing this for 26 years," Steve said. "I started in the fire service at a very young age and I would see my friends go to parties, then drink and drive. At work, I would see horrific accidents, so I just wanted to make a difference."

Steve's son, Andy Concialdi, continues to follow his father's footsteps. Since this year, Andy has been involved in a volunteer program called Fire Explorers that allows him to be in the field alongside his dad.

"My dad inspires me everyday - he is a role model and a man of Christ," Andy said. "I have a passion for helping people [...] and now I am able to do so."

Not only does Andy stress that these tragedies are all preventable, but also the school community. The program, Every 15 minutes, goal is to bring awareness to all teen drivers to refrain from driving under the influence.

"Hopefully students realize that it can be very dangerous and if they make the right decisions, then they will be safer," Steve said. "Imagine if your mom showed up to your crash. We don't want to put our parents and [community] through that - losing a child or friend is an extreme tragedy. Kids are young and have their whole lives ahead of them; our program is so that this will never happen to you."

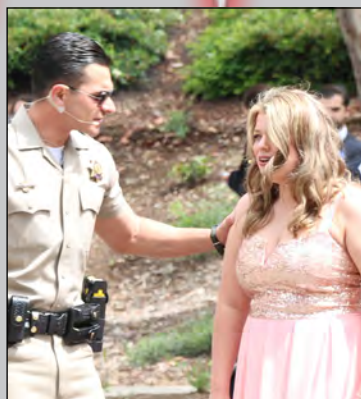
**"Drunk Driver"**  
Junior Ryan Marks



**"Deceased Victim"**  
Senior Delaney McCabe



**"Victim"**  
Junior Hannah Loessberg



**"Victim"**  
Senior Grant Brakke



**"Grim reaper"**



photos by Hannah Prince and Rachel Tetreault

**Live from the scene** - Student participants experience the crash first-hand as they interact with the fire department and police officers. Their roles tell a different story about the tragedy.

Junior Ryan Marks played the role of the drunk driver. Through the eyes of Marks, the audience glimpses into the rest of his life-one without a future. As the police officer arrests him for vehicular manslaughter of three persons, Marks expresses remorse and sadness from a prom night turned wrong. He "only" had three Coronas. (For anyone under 21, the legal alcohol limit is 0.00%.)

"Being in jail was not anything near comforting," Marks said. "I wanted that to be my first and last time in one. [...] I kept praying to God to help guide me. I kept thinking of how horrible it is to kill three people."

Senior Delaney McCabe played the role of the injured passenger, who was transported to the Mission Viejo hospital and then died in the trauma room.

"It was truly an eye-opening experience when I went to the hospital because seeing and hearing the doctors work on me in the 'last minutes of my life' was truly impactful," McCabe said. "Hearing the different terms of pushing medicine or giving more CPR and then the doctors finally calling my death was extremely sad. It was hard to realize that my death really could have [been prevented]. Hearing my parents come in and say their 'goodbyes' [...] felt so real."

Junior Hannah Loessberg played a passenger in Marks' car. She was distraught as she witnessed her friends' injured and dead bodies.

"It was all very surreal and I don't remember much of what I said or did," Loessberg said. "It all blurs in my mind but in the moment I was just in utter shock[...]. During the crash it was easy to channel because everything felt so real. It was like I had actually been in the crash. During the assembly after not seeing or speaking to my mom for 24 hours, I felt very anxious and I really wanted to just run and give her a hug. I had a lot of thoughts; most of them were 'Is my mom crying right now?', 'IS she okay?'"

Senior Grant Brakke, was a victim in the mock crash who had to be sawed out of the car. He hopes his role opens discussions between teenagers and adults.

"I decided to be apart of this program because I am involved with the police department," Brakke said. "The experience I had during the crash was very impactful; it became real very quick. Knowing that this crash actually happened made me think during the crash that this isn't overly dramatic to scare kids from drinking and driving--that this is actually real and very possible. After coming to this realization it made me open my eyes and it all felt very surreal."

The grim reaper symbolizes death-- he is the ultimate consequence. He reminds students throughout the day that death could await for those who let friends drink and drive. Every 15 minutes, he takes a student from a classroom to his or her "death." In the image above, the grim reaper watches over the students "killed" in drinking and driving accidents throughout the day.

For live videos, visit [smchseagleeye.com](http://smchseagleeye.com).

# Tuition rates inflate over the past five years

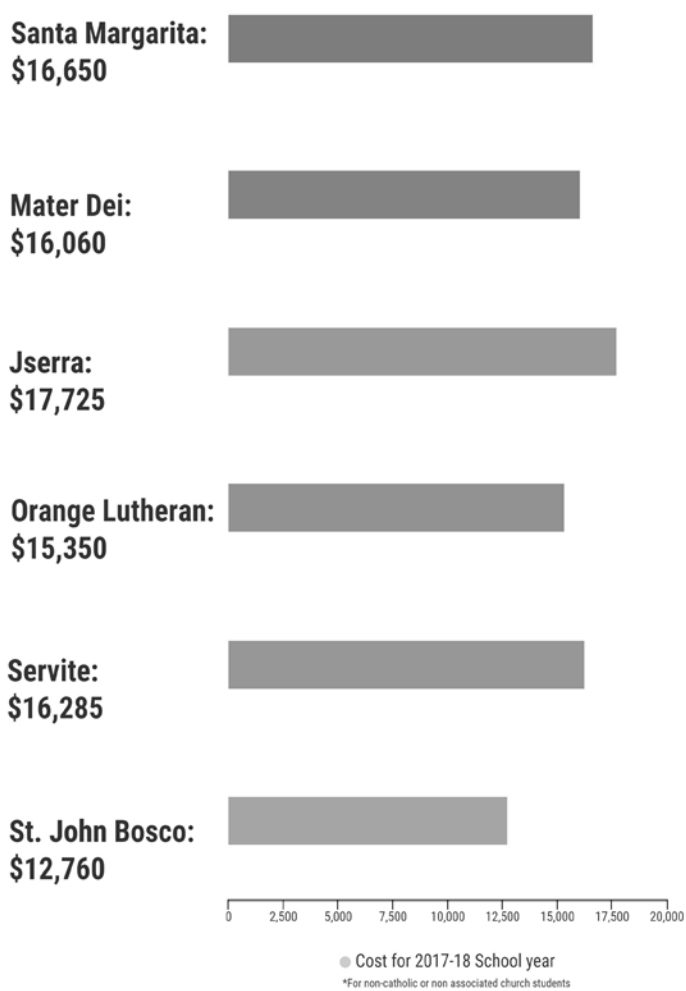
By Ian Gutierrez, Staff Writer

Throughout the last five years, SMCHS has installed a new football field, renovated the basketball gym, and made many other improvements to the school. Over the

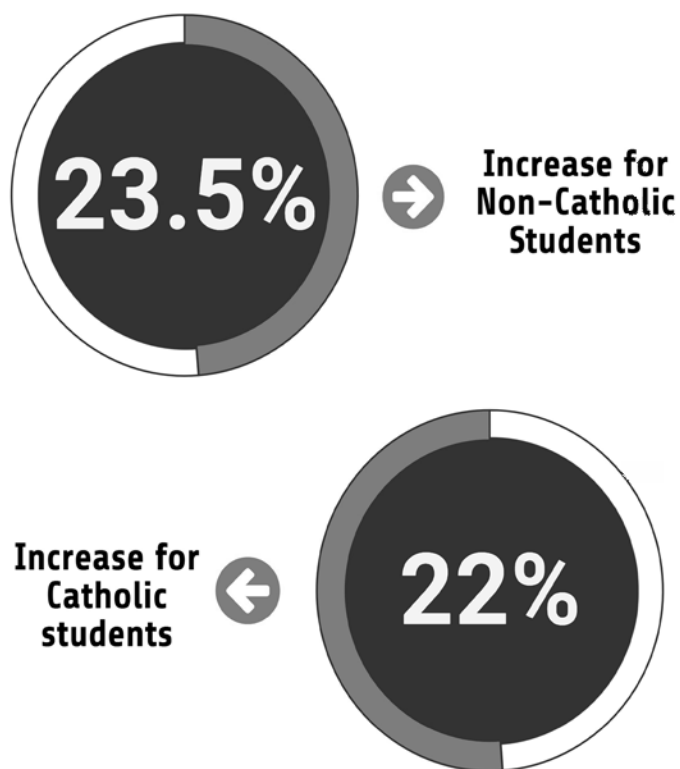
course of these years, SMCHS's tuition has spiked significantly, increasing 22% for Catholic students and 23.5% for non-Catholic students.



## Trinity's Tuition: Tuition rates for each Trinity League school



## How much will SMCHS increase next year?



Infographic by Ian Gutierrez

# Debt free diplomas

Taking after New York, California proposes free college for low-income families.

By Megan Forsythe, Staff Writer

After New York's decision to make college tuition free for low- and middle-class students, California Assembly Democrats proposed the Degrees Not Debts budget package into legislation on Monday March 13. This program intends to help 2.8 million Californian students at the University of California (UC's), California State University (CSU's), and California Community College (CCC's) systems. If it passes, the budget plan will be the most generous college aid program in the U.S. encompassing both college tuition and other living expenses.

The proposal of the Degrees Not Debts budget comes two months after New York's, now passed, Excelsior Scholarship program. This program makes New York the first state to have four-year public colleges be tuition free for in state students.

The Excelsior Scholarship will go towards paying for tuition at City of New York and State of New York University systems. The program will be fully phased in in 2019 and will aid 940,000 families with incomes under \$125,000 a year.

The major caveat for New York students is the requirement to stay in New York for the same number of years students were receiving the grant. If they don't, their grants will turn into students loans.

The Excelsior Scholarship will only give aid towards tuition, not room and board or other expenses, which makes up a large part of college costs. In contrast, California's Degrees Not Debts Scholarship will encompass those outside costs in order to completely eliminate debt for students. As of 2015, 54% of California students are graduating college with debt. The average debt for California students is \$22,191 according to the Institute for College Access and Success' Project on Student Debt.

"For 14 years I served day in and day out with students struggling to pay for college," said Assemblywoman Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara) in a press release. "These Assembly proposals reaffirm the promise of what a college degree should mean - opportunity, economic mobility, and investment in our future workforce."

The first part of the Degrees Not Debts budget plan would be

Getting into college is challenging. Figuring out how to pay for it should not be more difficult.

~ Assemblyman Phil Tine

to make the first year of CCC's tuition free for all in state students. The second aspect would be to expand the Success Grants program for CCC students which will help low-income families cover the costs of college outside of tuition. The third aspect is to reject Governor Jerry Brown's proposal to cut the Middle Class Scholarship which covers 40% of tuition for over 55,000 students in California. The fourth aspect of the plan is to create the Degrees Not Debts Scholarship which would cover both tuition and other expenses for California students attending a UC or CSU.

An important feature of the budget plan and scholarship does not make college absolutely free for families, but instead to make attending college debt free.

"Eliminating the debt burden of our graduates will free them to achieve even more success and stability in life," said Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, Assemblyman Phil Tine (D-San Francisco) in a press release. "Getting into college is challenging. Figuring out how to pay for it should not be more difficult."

The Degrees Not Debts Scholarship would only be applicable to California students with a family income of under \$150,000. The scholarship would benefit 283,000 students at CSU's and 109,000 UC students. Eligible students would continue to receive their existing aid.

Since the scholarship intends

to make college debt free, students and some families are still expected to make a contribution to the cost of college. Students whose family earns more than \$60,000 will have to pay 33% of what the federal government calculates each family member should be able to pay. All students are also expected to contribute to the costs of college by working part time. To qualify for the scholarship, students would be expected to work 15 hours a week during the school year and 40 hours a week during summer at minimum wage.

The scholarship fills the gap between what a family and student can pay after grants and the total cost--tuition and other expenses--of attending a UC or CSU. This typically would be \$21,152 for a CSU or \$31,605 for a UC according to the Legislative Analyst's Office for the California Legislature. This scholarship would enable California students to go to college without having to go into debt.

"Any legislation or programs that remove financial barriers for college access is positive for students throughout our country," said SMCHS' Director of College Relations Christa Crafts. "There are pros and cons with free state tuition plans. For example, some programs may limit or put restrictions on a student's plan post- graduation, but on the other side, they also give students a choice which may be their only option for continuing their education."

The scholarship is expected to cost \$1.6 billion the first year it is implemented, which Assembly Democrats hope is the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The scholarship would be phased in over the course of five years. Each year California student debt would decrease by 20% until they would be able to pay for a UC or CSU without having to go into any debt at all.

"With this proposal, California is taking the boldest step in the nation to make college debt-free," said Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Paramount) in a press release. "By 2025, California will be short one million college graduates we'll need to keep our economy going. Making college debt-free will encourage more students to go to college and leave with degrees, not debt."

## Senior struggles

continued from page 1

I believe myself to be a motivated student, and because of this, I never thought that senioritis would strike me. I got through all of first semester without slipping into a senioritis mindset, however, second semester proved to be not so easy. The constant routine of schoolwork and tests was difficult to re-adjust to after the brief break, and senioritis hit me hard.

I remember being told time after time that senior year would be easy. However, no matter what seniors in the past have said, times have changed. With college acceptances becoming increasingly more competitive, senior year is no longer a breeze. Colleges request final transcripts from high schools, meaning that students cannot let their grades slip. In an effort to get ahead, students take challenging classes in which they are expected to earn decent grades, all while applying to and visiting their future universities and colleges.

Senior year is a time when one is expected to act like an adult, but is not given all the freedom to actually do so. From my experience, this makes the year very interesting. I always thought of this year as being my last year of childhood when in reality that ended a while ago. In preparation for next year and the rest of my life, my responsibilities have multiplied. From things like helping out my parents to taking my future into my own hands, I feel a pull to the future while I'm supposed to be living up my last months as a child.

So don't believe everything you hear about senior year (except this, of course). The world is full of misconceptions and the great senior experience is only one of many. It is all anyone can do to not over analyze every situation and trust me, senior year is not a time to dwell. Even with all of the promoted fallacies, the media did get one thing straight: senior year is the time to create memories that will last a lifetime with family, friends and classmates.

# Making family history

*I will be the first person in my family to attend college. Ever.*

By Taylor Gather, Staff Writer



photo by Amanda Zou

College: a place where discoveries begin, expansion of knowledge continues and preparation for life outside of your parents' home starts. For many, college is the continuation of generations attending a certain university, while for others it's the introduction to life as they will soon know it. For me, it was always something that I knew would be in my future, but that was pretty much it.

Since I was four-years-old, I knew that I wanted to be a pediatrician. Being the oldest of three daughters, I had taken on the role of being a mentor at an early age. One of my favorite aspects of being the oldest was watching my mom take care of my sisters when they were babies, and learning all that I could about how to be the

best big sister possible. My love for my first job of being a big sister ultimately inspired me to become a pediatrician, or as I used to call it, a "kid doctor."

I became invested in my childhood aspiration. I knew that I would be going to college for eight or more years, and that I would have to work very hard like any other student to achieve what I had set out to do. Even with the knowledge of what I had to do with a plan in mind, I knew that I would have to face hardships that my fellow classmates would not.

Not only would I be the first one in my family to attempt to go to medical school and find a career in the medical field, but I would be the first to attend college - ever. This was daunting, especially since an EAB study showed that 90% of

first generation college students don't graduate on time. How was I supposed to fulfill my plan on time if the numbers showed that I wouldn't even finish schooling on time? And if I'm not even finishing school on time, how am I expected to attend, let alone get into, medical school?

These questions are the harsh realities that I continuously struggle with today, but being the determined and tenacious person I am, I sought out to prove that I would be a part of that other 10%.

Come senior year, I realize that I have no idea what I'm doing. Yes, I want to go to college, but I don't know where. I didn't even know how to fill out an application, and wasn't able to ask my parents about what college entails. Why would colleges really want a girl who has no idea what she's doing?

It was frustrating for not only myself, but for my parents that they weren't able to guide me through this process. I felt discouraged when my friends would tell me about how their older siblings helped them apply, or how their parents aided them in writing their essays, while I was expected to do it all on my own.

But eventually, I just had to accept reality and do it. I narrowed down my college list to 13 schools, and from there decided that I wanted to stay in California or at least on the West Coast. That was the easy part. Now was the portion that would leave me hours on end questioning whether I was even capable of writing something that sets me apart from seniors all across the country: the essay. How was I expected to share my life in 650 words?

I get it: all college students struggle with trying to give their life story with such a limited word count. But unlike many of my peers, I didn't have the help of parents or college counselors to

read my essays and tell me what colleges are looking for. My parents are not alumni of big name universities, and college counselors are just too expensive to hire, especially since I have to save all that I have for enrollment and college expenses in general.

It was up to me, solely me. So I just did what I knew best: sit down and write. I know that's probably not the greatest game plan, but it's what I know. Even though I was unable to write about how my parents are alumni of amazing schools or their college experience, I was able to write about my journey thus far, without any preconceptions.

While I went through the college application process alone, my parents were also able to go through the college process for the first time with me, which made it so much more significant. Not only was I faced with one of my greatest challenges, but I would be changing the dynamic of future family generations to come.

I remember receiving my first acceptance letter. Even though it was from one of my "safety schools", it ensured that I would be going to college in the fall. Seeing the word "Congratulations" at the top of the letter made me feel joy unlike anything else I have experienced before. I was going to college, and it wasn't because of connections I had or an amazing college counselor, but on my own merit. This was the biggest accomplishment I've ever had, and I've never felt so proud of anything.

In the end, I was accepted into ten out of the 13 colleges that I applied to and will be attending Pepperdine University in the fall with a major in biology and minor in journalism.

My journey was one of the greatest challenges I've ever faced. I can't wait to see what the future holds as I make family history.

# Voting rights por favor

*Since we're talking about politics...*

By Allison De La Bastida,  
Opinion Editor

This isn't a story about Trump, his presidency or even anything closely related to our favorite toupeed man. In fact, this story is so controversial he won't even be mentioned within it. I know it's hard to believe that there is more to politics than just Trump talk.

Yet, I'll take this highly political climate to work as a Public Relations Manager for Puerto Rico, not because I'm qualified, but because I believe there is an injustice the country's population faces in regard to debt issues and friendly accents.

I believe Puerto Rico has been deprived of a right that should be inherently theirs - the right to vote.

Even more alarming than its

virtually nonexistent representation is the shortage of media coverage on this issue. The lack of representation is concerning to say the least.

Let me put it this way: if the question of why Puerto Rico should be able to vote is typed into the Google search bar, the fourth search result to appear is from 2000. That is almost eighteen years ago.

Puerto Rico deserves the right to vote. It pays federal taxes and fights to defend and protect us in all branches of the armed forces.

It's been 72 years since World War II, but there are parallels in history. Puerto Ricans are still being treated like the minorities (specifically African Americans) of that time. Just like them, Puerto Ricans return from war without voting rights as well as a government that doesn't treat them like

they belong.

It baffles my mind to think that Puerto Ricans are willing to risk their lives for our country and its safety, but paradoxically, we can't welcome them as the full citizens they are protecting.

It's not only that they can't vote; the matter is more complex than the simple knot appears.

Puerto Rico can't vote because it isn't part of the electoral college. It isn't part of the electoral college because it has no electors. It has no electors because Puerto Rico has no voting members of Congress and it doesn't have voting members in Congress because it has no senators.

It does however have a residential commissioner - a voice but not vote.

This expresses a concern that many U.S. territories have: not fully a country, but not fully a state

either. It's like being tempted with independence only to be pulled back by the child leash harness you're restrained to.

So if Puerto Rico doesn't have independence to be its own country then it's only right that it should reap the full benefits of being part of the U.S..

As described by political attorney Nelson Denis in BuzzFeed, "the difference between a commonwealth and a state is about the same as the difference between a mistress and a wife. There's been some supreme courses in 2016 where the federal government, the solicitor general, argued that Puerto Rico, under the territorial and the supremacy clauses of the U.S. Constitution, is a territorial possession. Meaning a colony."

Remember that, U.S.? Yeah, didn't think you liked that either. The commonwealth relation-

ship was "supposedly" agreed to by Puerto Ricans in 1952. Yet that same year Puerto Ricans voted for commonwealth, another law was in place, which stated its citizens could go to jail for 10 years for saying one word against the U.S. or for one word in favor of Puerto Rico's independence.

"You're really not anything," Denis said. "Because the United States at any time can tell you 'well, you're a citizen, but not exactly, because as a territory, you are not fully entitled to the privileges and immunities of the US constitution'. And in the end, Puerto Rico has no rights whatsoever."

Puerto Rico deserves the right to vote. So how long is it going to take until the Puerto Rican disenfranchisement ends and the population earns its rights as American citizens?

# Counting continents

*From learning the lifestyle of city slickers, to venturing outside of the old Torrance house, Mary Palkovic has been to all corners of the world.*

By Devin Walsh,  
Staff Writer

Students can usually find statistics teacher, Mary Palkovic on G3 sipping tea out of her FIFA 2014 reusable cup. However, she spends her free time, believe it or not, exploring the world.

Palkovic has traveled to five out of the seven continents in the world. She's been to 47 out of the 50 states in the US, three countries outside of the U.S. in North America, 19 countries in Europe, one country from each Africa and South America, and 12 countries in Asia. However, Palkovic's travel experiences did not start by going such great distances by plane.

"When we were kids we didn't have much money so we would always take the car," Palkovic said. "We would go off into the desert. We were in the Hinterlands!"

Because of Palkovic's extensive travels, both near and far she has learned a few things about people both at home and on the opposite side of the world.

"People are different but people are nice," Palkovic said. "When you're completely out of your environment and people could take advantage of you, even just giving you back change when you buy something the coins are different and they're smaller and you can't really tell if it's the right amount of

money. There are so many different way people could take advantage of you and they don't because they're nice."

With the extensive list of countries Palkovic has visited, she has a few crazy stories to tell about her travels.

"In this one park in India this guy wanted me to do something," Palkovic said.

"I

didn't know what he wanted. It turned out that he wanted to clean out the wax in my ear. He was going to put this cone in and like set it



on fire. I was like NO NO NO NO, and I had to get away. I

was also just in Portugal where I got bit by a dog." With so much world experience under her belt, Palkovic has

even mastered the talent of incorporating her travel insights into a math class.

"I always like to have maps up," Palkovic said. "When I have international students, I always want to know exactly where they're from. It's the adventure of exploration, that's all it's about."

While sharing her global insights in the classroom, Palkovic encourages her students to go out and see the world for themselves. Not during the school year, however, or they will be docked participation points in her class.

"I would absolutely recommend students to travel," Palkovic said. "You always come away from traveling as a better person than when you left and in the mean time you get to have fun, taste different food, meet strangers that aren't strangers anymore because they're nice people."

In addition to encouraging students to travel in their free time, she recommends that they take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad. If that is an option for them, she insists they can experience new places and their cultures.

"If my parents had had the money, I really wish that I had done that," Palkovic said. "To study abroad would have been really fun. Back then people didn't do it as much. Probably Europe would be where I would have gone but these days I could go anywhere."

# Student creates art for love

*Evelyn Young finds happiness when expressing herself through art.*



Photo by Amanda Zou

By Amanda Zou,  
Photo Editor

From her eye-catching paintings in the art show or the unique memorial portrait of Nick Kraus, students recognize senior Evelyn Young as an artist.

Young is an IB art student at SMCHS and learned her painting skills from her mother. She has always enjoyed drawing and creating which led her to begin taking art lessons at Mission Renaissance: Fine Arts Classes at age 10. Eight years later, she did not want to pursue an art career. It wasn't until her senior year that she discovered her passion.

"When I was younger, I had always felt forced into taking on an art career," Young said. "I greatly despised hearing anyone tell me I was 'good at art' because it was a label slapped on me by others. I decided I wanted nothing to do with art in my future until this year that I realized making art brought me the greatest happiness."

Passion motivates Young's art. Anything that people see in her work are things she is passionate about—people she admires, color combinations, painting styles she likes or her love of Indian culture and Bollywood films.

"At this moment I experience art

Art has taught me to be committed to working with and for the people I love.

~ senior Evelyn Young

as an outlet that speaks on behalf of and displays my interests to the world," Young said. "It is nice to have the capability to paint something and let that painting communicate to the world for me."

Even though there are artists and paintings that impress Young, her greatest emotional appeal comes from herself. Young tries new drawing techniques and combinations to bring originality to her artwork.

"All of the pieces I have created hold the same value to me, although each artwork of mine has a

unique reason for existing," Young said.

Among many art pieces Young has painted, her favorite is a self-portrait, combining both drawings and photos.

"The portrait highlights a proud moment for myself because it was created without the need of reference images or research of any ideas," Young said.

Art has changed the way Young thinks about and views herself. She challenges herself to be experimental with her physical appearance through makeup and fashion. In some ways, these personal decisions represent her artistic style and works.

"I have always pushed aside the need to establish a meaning within my artwork," Young said. "I recognize a message that is personal to me in every artwork I created. When someone else looks at them, I want people to know and experience the devotion which I have placed into my work."

Young will continue studying art at Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles.

"Art has shaped the entirety of my living purpose," Young said. "It has taught me to be committed to working with and for the people I love. Creating is empty when it is only for myself."

In loving memory - Evelyn Young's portrait of Nick Kraus stands out to students because of its detailed brush work and great balance of color.

# Confirmed in faith

Senior Eugene Choi returns to a strong level of faith after seven years.

By Ivanna Rea,  
Managing Editor

Senior Eugene Choi is a living reminder that it is never too late to be a person of faith.

Choi has come a long way in his faith journey. When he was seven years old, his family moved to the United States from Korea and he began attending St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Irvine. He was baptized in the Catholic Church in 2008, but he was still out of touch with his faith. However, with time and a better understanding of his faith, Choi realized the importance of church.

"Ever since my baptism I had been avoiding Mass for seven years," Choi said. "I didn't see the point in it, and I didn't get it. I avoided church for so long and let me tell you: without Mass as a Catholic, my faith was absolutely nothing."

Choi spent seven years without a relationship with God. He says he was often angry and never found the need to express himself until he slowly opened his heart and let God in.

"If anyone knew me before [this year], I was down on myself all the time and I didn't really find happiness in the things that I did," Choi said. "But through faith, God gave

me a new life. He gave me chance to be myself, to be what He created me to be, and do it in the best way that I can."

Choi attended Kairos the summer leading into his senior year. Without that experience, his faith life wouldn't be where it is now.

"Deep down I really wanted to know who God was to me and Kairos opened that door," Choi said. "It was my first retreat and it opened up opportunities to learn about who God is. Not just in a textbook sense that we learn in Religion, but who God is to me and who I am to God."

Choi has led numerous retreats this past year including K127 and K129.

This year, Choi was Confirmed on May 6 at San Francisco Solano. Choi acknowledges that the word "confirmation" means "with strength," so he's excited to live his life now with a stronger purpose.

"[To me,] Confirmation is really when the Holy Spirit comes down on you and God seals the gifts that He's already given you," Choi said. "He gives you courage to really live out your relationship with Him so I'm really excited to go forth in my journey and hopefully get closer to God and bring others closer to God."

No one has a perfect relationship with Christ, but through the past year, Choi has developed a good idea of what faith is to him.

"Faith isn't just about feeling good or somewhere to let out your struggles," Choi said. "It's not about therapy and being happy all the time and having an easy life. Faith is life. Faith is a family. Faith is what gives you the motivation to get through what you're going through. It's not easy being faithful. If it was easy then everyone would be doing it. But it's worth it, every day."

Choi claims he wouldn't have achieved the level of faith he has now without the help of his peers and adult mentors.

"What was really pivotal to me was meeting awesome Christians who support and inspire me," Choi said. "Without my Kairos small groups, my church, Mrs. Nancy Hormuth, my youth minister Jenna DiBernardo and Mr. Francis Cabildo, I don't think I would be standing here today."

Choi plans to spend a year off after graduating college to participate in mission trips around Latin America and eventually join the seminary to study theology and philosophy. He's realized a passion for giving back to the community and wants to further that passion in a grander sense. As he follows his vocation, he trusts in God.

"Whether you go to church or retreats or not, never forget that God has an amazing plan for you," Choi said. "Above all things, He wants you to be the happiest version of



photo by Grant Brakke

'With strength' - Senior Eugene Choi confirms his faith with his sponsor and good friend Francis Cabildo.

## Goodbye Santa Margarita

Campus ministry's Nancy Hormuth retires after thirteen years of service.

By Sarah Turner, News Editor and Kendal Orrantia, Staff Writer

"Good morning my beautiful children of God!" says the famous friendly voice that echoes before every mass. Known for her squishy hugs and her job as Director of Campus Ministry, Nancy Hormuth prepares to bid farewell to SMCHS after 13 years.

Hormuth came to the

school in 2003 from her job as Director of Youth Ministry at the Diocese of Orange.

She began full time here as a freshman religion teacher, a job significantly different from her previous one.

"The classroom setting is very different, and I wasn't sure about actually instructing 35 kids," Hormuth said. "I gained confidence when I learned that the key to success in a classroom is that you have to love them first. They have to know you care before they care about what you have to say."

After two years of teaching, Hormuth was asked to be the

director of Campus Ministry in 2005. When Hormuth first got the job, the department was housed in a tiny office on the second floor of the G building with only three employees. But through her devotion and desire to grow in her faith, she has brought immense growth to the Campus Ministry department.

"My peers and I in Campus Ministry have helped plant the seeds for students to grow," Hormuth said. "We were touching lives in here, and the need for that began to grow, so as a result we began to grow too."

Hormuth's job entails a number of things. Her main duty is planning the masses, a job she takes very seriously.

"I think one of the things that helped me to grow so much in my faith was writing prayer services and organizing liturgies because I depend so much on God and the Holy Spirit to guide me," Hormuth said. "The greatest memories I have are of the school worshipping together. There's an intimacy here with school masses."

The other component of Hormuth's job is teaching the Peer Ministry religion class for seniors.

When she

first began working at SM, the Peer Ministry class was called Christian Leadership and was taken away the year she arrived. However, when Hormuth took over the Campus Ministry department the next year, she had plans to reinvent that particular religion class.

"I didn't want it to be called Christian Leadership," Hormuth said. "I wanted it to be called Peer Ministry because I wanted it to reflect service, caring about others and reaching out."

Hormuth has connected on a personal level with her students for over a decade. The interaction she is able to partake in on a daily basis is what makes her time at SMCHS so memorable.

"That is the greatest thing I will miss - the interaction day to day, touching students lives, helping them in their struggles, and how they have touched my life," Hormuth said. "Relationships are so important to experience God because His love is more apparent than if you are working on your own."

From the moment she began at SM, her faith has been ever-growing.

"Trusting in God is one of the greatest areas I grew in," Hormuth said. "The interaction of students around me who love God has allowed my faith to grow tremendously. I thought I could not possibly love God anymore, and yet He still shows me beyond the capacity

for loving Him."

Despite her incredible experiences of God at SMCHS, Hormuth has been considering retirement for a few years now.

"I don't like the word 'retire' because the word 'retirement' does not fit my personality, but it was time for me to move on to something different," Hormuth said. "And the thing that was always on the back of my mind was going to Dale Junior High in Anaheim. I have watched them struggle with such little resources and little help so I have felt called to go over and help."

In addition to volunteering at Dale Junior High, Hormuth wants to dedicate more time to her family.

"I want to be with my husband and my grandchildren, the combination of all of that has pulled me from here," Hormuth said. "There is a peace that comes from within when I think about both being with my family and lending a hand at Dale."

Although Hormuth may be "retiring", her lessons in faith remain profound in the SM community. Her cheery spirit and testament to Christ will forever be the true force behind the Campus Ministry department.

"No matter how perfect you have everything, only God can anoint the work," Hormuth said. "Sometimes I just need to say, 'well, I did everything I could do, and I turn the whole thing over to you, Jesus.'"

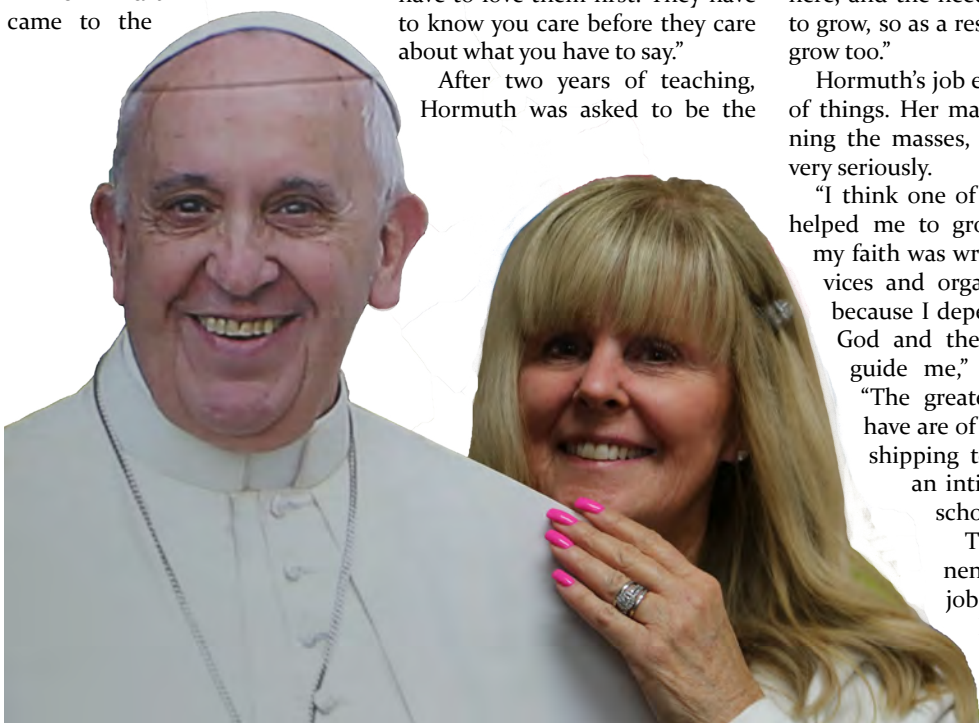


photo by Jesse Casey

Woman of God - Mrs. Hormuth will be remembered for her bright attitude and faithful spirit in the Campus Ministry department.

# The holy trinity

Seniors strengthen their faith lives with the decision to become baptized.

By Dessi Gomez, A&E Editor and Taylor Gather, Staff Writer

**Renee Gentry**  
 “Before I really started believing in God, I tried really hard to be something I wasn’t; I tried really hard to be good at everything,” said senior Renee Gentry. “I didn’t recognize what gifts God gives

each person and I always put so much pressure on myself. I wanted to be better than the person competing with me.”

Gentry did not go to church before her baptism, nor was she religious. She chose to go on Kairos because she didn’t want to miss out on one of the more popular senior traditions.

“I can’t not smile when I think

of Kairos,” Gentry said. “It was the first time I had been on a retreat and I’d never felt so much love in one place and felt accepted.”

Gentry participated in K128, the November Kairos of 2016. There, she along with another 30 students experienced God and became more in touch with their faith and each other.

**Riley Rosenzweig**

“I used to not really feel God with me,” said senior Riley Rosenzweig. “I didn’t necessarily believe in myself, and I felt like no one else believed in me. But as I gained a closer relationship with God, I learned that even if I can’t necessarily feel God, I know that he’s always there. I go to him whenever I need him.”

Rosenzweig went on Summer Kairos, K126 in July of 2016 as well as led January Kairos, K129. Her Kairos experiences ultimately led her to make the decision to get baptized as a Catholic as well as receive the Eucharist and become confirmed.

“Kairos was life-changing,” Rosenzweig said. “When I was a leader in January it sort of rekindled all the memories back from summer. It reassured that this is something that I definitely want to do.”

In order to prepare for her baptism, Rosenzweig attended RCIA classes with peer and fellow leader, Kianna Rezaei. The two also

met with Nancy Hormuth during their lunches for lessons. April 15, Rosenzweig received three Sacraments at San Francisco Solano Church’s Easter Vigil service. That day, she officially entered the Catholic community.

“It’s the little things like going to God for everything that makes all the difference,” Rosenzweig said. “I think about God a lot, and relive my baptism every day. I think of all those great moments that I had and I wish I could go back, but I know that this is only the start and I know there’s so much more to come from it.”

**Kianna Rezaei**

“I did not come from a religious family and I didn’t really practice anything,” said senior Kianna Rezaei. “Since I was born and raised in Southern Orange County, I always had the Christian influence and some idea of God, I just didn’t know who or what he was. I was confused as to how people could worship someone that you couldn’t really see.”

Although Rezaei chose to attend a Catholic high school, she did not expect to become invested in the religion like she has. Her first exposure to Catholicism was on the Kairos 126 retreat, where she experienced her first true religious encounter.

“I know it’s really cheesy to say to have a ‘God’ moment but I had never had one because I had nev-

er gone on a retreat before,” Rezaei said. “I fell in the presence of God during Reconciliation with Father Dewey and on the third night of worship. I finally experienced a ‘God moment’ and thought it was really cool.”

Summer Kairos became a conduit for Rezaei’s involvement in the Catholic church and school ministry, and even inspired her to lead the 2017 January Kairos. After informing Francis Cabildo and Nancy Hormuth that she wanted to be baptized, Rezaei began to undergo the process of preparing for her baptism and confirmation. Along with Rosenzweig, Rezaei was baptized during the Easter Vigil Mass. This was also the first time that she received communion.

“When I walked into the church, I didn’t expect so many people to be there for us, and it made my heart so happy that they wanted to be there,” Rezaei said.

Rezaei acts as an inspiration to all who want to strengthen their faith, and encourages those who are thinking of becoming baptized to do it.

“It’s a big step in your faith life and your life in general,” Rezaei said. “It’s the best decision I’ve made in my entire life, and if you love it and feel at home when you pray then you know that it’s your time to get baptized. Ever since getting baptized my ‘faith life’ became my whole life.”



Blessed are they - All three girls begin their faith-filled journey.

# Dear youth

Pope Francis encourages young Catholics to get involved in the world.

By Hannah Prince and Ian Gutierrez, Staff Writers

An ex-nightclub bouncer, a chemical technologist and a pope walk into a restaurant. The hostess says, “Table for 1?” How is this possible? It’s because they are all the same person -- Pope Francis.

He was born Jorge Mario Bergoglio, and now his papal name, Francis, is in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. Francis is the first of many: Jesuit pope, from South America, from the Southern Hemisphere and from outside of Europe.

Being the first of so many things, Francis is also the first pope to issue statements and opinions regarding more current and pressing topics of the church -- sexuality and science. The traditional church views on abortion, euthanasia, contraception, homosexuality, ordination of woman and priestly celibacy remain, but Francis welcomes all into the community. Besides controversial issues, his public life includes an emphasis on God’s mercy and the youth.

“We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love,” Francis said. “Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace.”

Junior Ryan Buckles had the chance to visit the Vatican and meet Pope Francis the summer of 2014, before his freshman year.

“The experience was very moving because at fifteen there are so many different options to guide me through my faith,” Buckles said “I just started my confirmation journey and meeting the pope really strengthened my belief - seeing such a powerful figure inspired me.”

The Year of Mercy was a Roman Catholic period of prayer in 2015-16. Like previous jubilees, or years of emancipation and restoration, the Year of Mercy was seen by the Church as a time for remission of sins and universal pardon.

“Pope Francis is big on forgiveness; he is a pope that reaches out to a lot of people,” Buckles said. “By touching different causes and issues throughout the world that many popes have been too scared

to address in the past, so now he is really reaching out to a new group of people - the youth.”

Buckles was given the opportunity to participate as an altar server in one of Rome’s chapels with Francis. From getting his religious necklace blessed to washing Francis’ hands before the blessing of the Eucharist, Buckles cherishes this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

From Francis’ concern for the poor to commitment to his interfaith dialogue, his humility is renowned. Francis’ acceptance of homosexuals into the church is extremely progressive in regards to the Catholic church.

“If someone is gay and he searches for the Lord and has good will, who am I to judge?” Francis said. “We shouldn’t marginalize people for this. They must be integrated into society.”

Another example of Francis’ changings of the traditional Catholic church is the acknowledgement of evolution. Unlike many other previous popes, Francis believes that evolution is true, but does not undermine the Bible’s teachings.

“When we read about creation

in Genesis, we run the risk of imagining God was a magician, with a magic wand able to do everything. But that is not so,” Francis said. “He created human beings and let them develop according to the internal laws that he gave to each one so they would reach their fulfillment. Evolution in nature is not inconsistent with the notion of creation, because evolution requires the creation of beings that

evolve.” Francis’ acceptance for everyone throughout the world has made a significant difference in the Catholic church’s recent revival. His popularity and less traditional teachings made the 2016 World Youth Day to be one of the most attended in history.

“A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just,” Francis said.



Kickin’ it with the Pope - Junior Ryan Buckles had the honor to shake the pope’s hand while visiting The Vatican.

# Class of 2017 College Decisions

*"You're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, so get on your way!" -Dr. Seuss*

<b>Marcel Abadia</b> Savannah College of Art and Design	<b>Brooklynn Brady</b> Undecided	<b>Shannon Daehnke</b> University of Oregon	<b>Kelly Gardner</b> Grand Canyon University	<b>Gabriel Ibarra</b> Boise State University	<b>Yongbo Li</b> Undecided	<b>Yasmin Minai</b> University of California, Los Angeles	<b>Christian Potts</b> California State University, Channel Islands	<b>Jacob Schrier</b> Pepperdine University	<b>Anne-Elisabeth Wagner</b> Saddleback College
<b>Parnia Abrishamchian</b> University of Southern California	<b>Grant Brakke</b> Point Loma Nazarene University	<b>Grace Dawson</b> University of California, Santa Barbara	<b>Michael Gately</b> San Diego State University	<b>Annie Iskander</b> University of San Diego	<b>Victoria Lightman</b> Boston University	<b>Erik Modica</b> Saddleback College	<b>Neil Schuler</b> Arizona State University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University
<b>James Adams</b> University of Southern California	<b>Jack Brannock</b> Saddleback College	<b>Danica De Kuyper</b> Quinnipiac University	<b>Taylor Gather</b> Pepperdine University	<b>Paige Iwamoto</b> Southern Methodist University	<b>Casey Lippincott</b> University of Alabama	<b>Kyle Monteleone</b> Lewis & Clark College	<b>Anton Poujade</b> Xavier University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Nikki Adhami</b> University of California, Riverside	<b>Skylar Broadus</b> University of Oregon	<b>Allison De La Bastida</b> New York University	<b>Renee Gentry</b> Baylor University	<b>Adrease Jackson</b> Dartmouth College	<b>Christina Lombardi</b> Saint Mary's College	<b>Isaac Montes</b> University of Colorado at Boulder	<b>Kyle Scalpi</b> Marymount California University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Emily Allison</b> University of Toronto	<b>Trevor Brouette</b> University of Redlands	<b>Evan Deakin</b> University of Oxford	<b>Erin Gerardo</b> Yale University	<b>Ashkan Jamshasb</b> California State Polytechnic University, Pomona	<b>Makenna Lutterloh</b> Duke University	<b>Jonathan Montgomery</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Logan Scifres</b> Berklee College of Music	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Rachel Amparano</b> Seattle University	<b>Marcus Brown</b> Colorado School of Mines	<b>Nicolas DeFazio</b> Trinity University	<b>Hannah Getz</b> University of San Diego	<b>Harrison Jantz</b> California State University, Fullerton	<b>Chase Lynch</b> Denison University	<b>Samantha Moreno</b> University of Arizona	<b>Grant Pratt</b> DePaul University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Morgan Andersen</b> Orange Coast College	<b>Olivia Brown</b> Boise State University	<b>Carla Giacobbe</b> New York University	<b>Carla Giacobbe</b> New York University	<b>Chase Lynch</b> Denison University	<b>Sean MacDonald</b> University of Nebraska	<b>Amanda Moussiaux</b> Arizona State University	<b>Danielle Segovia</b> Wofford College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Kendall Anderson</b> San Diego State University	<b>Amanda Buckley</b> Arizona State University	<b>Sara Dejbakhsh</b> University of San Diego	<b>Nicholas Giardini</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Chase Lynch</b> Denison University	<b>Margaret Jennison</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Samantha Moreno</b> University of Arizona	<b>Erin Shusterman</b> Savannah College of Art and Design	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Vittoria Anderson</b> Seattle University	<b>Brooke Budman</b> Duchesne University	<b>Tera Detels</b> College of the Holy Cross	<b>Brennan Gibbons</b> Boise State University	<b>Sean Mack</b> Whittier College	<b>Eric Johnson</b> Loyola Marymount University	<b>Alexandra Murdy</b> Southern Methodist University	<b>Jett Shibata</b> Loyola Marymount University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>John Andrikos</b> Loyola Marymount University	<b>Alexander Burke</b> Dartmouth College	<b>Krishma Dhani</b> Concordia University	<b>Christopher Gibbs</b> University of Colorado at Boulder	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Madison Johnson</b> Southern Methodist University	<b>Harry Mutram</b> California State Polytechnic University, Pomona	<b>Alexander Qu</b> University of Chicago	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Sophia Angelici</b> University of California, Santa Barbara	<b>Grayson Burke</b> Saddleback College	<b>Erin DiBernardo</b> Arizona State University	<b>Micaela Glackin</b> University of San Francisco	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Mitchel Johnson</b> California State Polytechnic University, Pomona	<b>Mary Catherine Muzzy</b> Saint Mary's College	<b>Dominic Puntoriero</b> Chapman University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Ariana Aninag</b> California Baptist University	<b>Delia Cabrera</b> Arizona State University	<b>Jadon Digravio</b> Saddleback College	<b>Paige Gohr</b> Georgia Institute of Technology	<b>Sean Mack</b> Whittier College	<b>Lauren Kastanas</b> University of Oregon	<b>Vargas Muzzy</b> St. John's University, Queens Campus	<b>Alexander Qu</b> University of Chicago	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Aron Aromin</b> University of San Diego	<b>Caroline Cai</b> University of Southern California	<b>Brett Dinsmore</b> California Polytechnic State University, San Louis Obispo	<b>Dessi Gomez</b> University of Notre Dame	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Cassiani Kateyiannis</b> Undecided	<b>Eric Reed</b> Pepperdine University	<b>Faith Quigley</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Craig Ashmore</b> Orange Coast College	<b>Andrew Calcaterra</b> Ohio State University	<b>Hannah Dolan</b> Johnson & Wales University	<b>Claire Kazem</b> Syracuse University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Emma Kearns</b> University of San Diego	<b>Gretchen Reinert</b> Santa Clara University	<b>Ryan Ramos</b> University of San Diego	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Christian Azalde</b> University of California, Merced	<b>Claire Calcaterra</b> Kansas State University	<b>Alex Donnelly</b> Santa Barbara City College	<b>Emma Kearns</b> University of San Diego	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Sarvien Keighobad</b> University of California, Davis	<b>Joseph Myers</b> University of California, Davis	<b>Kaden Rasheed</b> Point Loma Nazarene University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Hannah Baker</b> Pace University	<b>Grant Calcaterra</b> University of Washington	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>Michael Matrangola</b> University of Arizona	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Janni Kempainen</b> Indiana University at Bloomington	<b>Julianne Reisinger</b> Purdue University	<b>Bridgette Singer</b> University of Oklahoma	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Katherine Baker</b> The University of Iowa	<b>Taylor Campbell</b> California Lutheran University	<b>Hannah Green</b> University of Dallas	<b>Michael Matrangola</b> University of Arizona	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Lauren Kesic</b> University of Notre Dame	<b>Mary Retoske</b> University of Notre Dame	<b>Ivanna Rea</b> Chapman University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Jillian Baldwin</b> University of Oregon	<b>Lucia Carballo Chanfon</b> San Diego State University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Matthew Gonzales</b> San Diego State University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Sara Khoshniyati</b> University of Southern California	<b>Cecilia Nepple</b> Colorado School of Mines	<b>Eric Reed</b> Pepperdine University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Dylan Baldy</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Sean Carroll</b> California Polytechnic State University, San Louis Obispo	<b>Jeni Griffin</b> Tulane University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Alexis Kim</b> Cornell University	<b>Chad Matthews</b> Boise State University	<b>Eric Reed</b> Pepperdine University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Nader Banna</b> Chapman University	<b>Victoria Evans</b> University of Arizona	<b>Hannah Green</b> University of Dallas	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Jonathan Kim</b> Northwestern University	<b>Delaney Mccabe</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Joseph Myers</b> University of California, Davis	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Jenna Barber</b> New York University	<b>Daniel Fang</b> Willamette University	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>Delaney Mccabe</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Julianne Reisinger</b> Purdue University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Hannah Barnes</b> University of San Diego	<b>Cameron Farmer</b> New York University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Ethan Kirby</b> Concordia University	<b>Joshua Nicoloff</b> Columbia University	<b>Hayden Reynoso</b> Seattle University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>John Barron</b> New York University	<b>Joseph Fedden</b> Seattle University	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Justin Ko</b> New York University	<b>Caroline Nguyen</b> University of California, San Diego	<b>Hayden Reynoso</b> Seattle University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Alexandra Barry</b> Saddleback College	<b>Wendy Castillo</b> California State University, San Marcos	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>Kianna Rezaei</b> San Diego State University	<b>Cade Smith</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Ryan Basford</b> University of Oregon	<b>Shiyuan Feng</b> Rhode Island School of Design	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Alexis Kim</b> Cornell University	<b>Sean Rezendes</b> Loyola Marymount University	<b>Matteo Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Lauren Bauer</b> Vanderbilt University	<b>Katharine Chang</b> Emory University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Jonathan Kim</b> Northwestern University	<b>Garrett Rhorer</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Bradley Stockton</b> University of Oregon	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Jack Baumgardner</b> University of California, Irvine	<b>David Xavier Chen</b> Claremont Mckenna College	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>Sydney Riccardi</b> University of Oregon	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Alex Beall</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Shuangshuang Chen</b> Pennsylvania State University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Ethan Kirby</b> Concordia University	<b>David Riemann</b> Saddleback College	<b>Jack Wesierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Alyssa Beamish</b> University of San Diego	<b>Soo Min Cho</b> University of California, San Diego	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Justin Ko</b> New York University	<b>Connor Riley</b> University of California, Santa Barbara	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Brian Bell</b> Sonoma State University	<b>James Fisher</b> Concordia University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>Sean Rezendes</b> Loyola Marymount University	<b>Jack Wessierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Andrew Belmont</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Ashling Fitzgerald</b> Undecided	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Ethan Kirby</b> Concordia University	<b>Garrett Rhorer</b> Texas Christian University	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Gregory Bennett</b> Loyola Marymount University	<b>Julia Ferrara</b> Babson University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Justin Ko</b> New York University	<b>Sydney Riccardi</b> University of Oregon	<b>Jack Wessierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Haylee Bernard</b> Baylor University	<b>Andrew Harp</b> Marquette University	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>David Riemann</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Michael Bishay</b> University of San Diego	<b>Kyleigh Hartigan</b> University of Virginia	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Ethan Kirby</b> Concordia University	<b>Connor Riley</b> University of California, Santa Barbara	<b>Jack Wessierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Jekabs Bisnieks</b> Undecided	<b>Madeline Finlayson</b> Boston College	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Justin Ko</b> New York University	<b>Hayden Reynoso</b> Seattle University	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Dennis Blaul</b> University of Utah	<b>Jack Hayden</b> Idaho State University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>David Riemann</b> Saddleback College	<b>Jack Wessierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Edward Blaul</b> Pennsylvania State University	<b>Emma Kurstjens</b> University of California, San Diego	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Ethan Kirby</b> Concordia University	<b>Connor Riley</b> University of California, Santa Barbara	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Jenna Boerlin</b> University of Oregon	<b>Corbin Heavirland</b> University of Arizona	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Justin Ko</b> New York University	<b>Hayden Reynoso</b> Seattle University	<b>Jack Wessierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Michael Bogart</b> California State University, Fullerton	<b>Shawdy Hedayati</b> Arizona State University	<b>William Green</b> Undecided	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Rachel Kinoshita</b> Saddleback College	<b>David Riemann</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Spinosi</b> Saddleback College	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University
<b>Sabrina Boyd</b> Fordham University	<b>Andrew Harp</b> Marquette University	<b>Claire Griffin</b> Baylor University	<b>Isabel Good</b> Purdue University	<b>John Maechler</b> University of San Francisco	<b>Ethan Kirby</b> Concordia University	<b>Connor Riley</b> University of California, Santa Barbara	<b>Jack Wessierski</b> San Francisco State University	<b>Matthew Wainschel</b> Gonzaga University	<b>Richard Wagner</b> Cornell University

\*\*\*All decisions as of May 16, 2017



# #JustSMThings

By Amanda Moussiaux, Staff Writer

The most relatable #JustSMthings that the Class of 2017 feels have been the best, worst and biggest struggles the past four years.

- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
When you really want to go to a music festival, but missing stats would be NONSENSE!
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
If you didn't go to Stagecoach or Coachella, are you actually an SM senior?
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
If you didn't eat the chicken fingers and french fries and a pack of cookies almost every day freshman and sophomore year, did you really even go to SM?
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Thank you SM for my password that I use for everything.
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Everyone sprinting to the back lot when the bell rings
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Senioritis is very real.
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Asking to fill up your Hydro but having to walk to the nearest flo machine.
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Still mourning the chicken and fries.
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Running away from a dean while simultaneously pulling your skort/shorts down.
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Accidentally using your yoga password to log into social media.
- SM Seniors @Senior17**  
Using the heat from your yoga to keep you warm.

# College eh

Senior Emily Allison heads to the land of hockey, Justin Trudeau and maple syrup.

By Claire Robidoux, Feature Editor and Riley Davies, Staff Writer

As August approaches, senior Emily Allison will pack her bags and travel farther north than anybody in her graduating class.

Allison will be 2,508 miles away from home attending the University of Toronto to study business management and commerce.

Allison wasn't always set on moving to a different country. She planned to travel two states above California and attend her first choice, The University of Washington. A summer business trip and an unplanned stop to the Canadian university changed her plans.

"When I was first there it was like, wow I can see myself here," Allison said. "I just walked around by myself in the city, and I totally fell in love with it. It's big but it's not overwhelming, so it feels smaller than it actually is - almost like home."

After her trip, Allison began to consider the University of Toronto. She saw elements that she valued in the school that weren't present in some American universities, like prioritizing of academics over sports. Allison's strenuous work in the IB program paid off since academics meant more scholarship opportunities than the University of Washington.

"If I continued to play volleyball, I probably would have gotten more money as a scholarship [in the U.S.]," Allison said. "I worked really hard in full IB, and I wanted my credits to mean something so I could get college credit."

Students attending universities in the U.S. will stress over finding roommates, picking classes and getting a dorm. While Allison's college preparation includes these check list items, she also has to get a student visa, Canadian health

insurance, a Canadian phone number and a Canadian bank account.

"It's a lot of work," Allison said. "It's kind of hard getting used to a place you haven't been exposed to very much and getting a broader understanding of the world rather than just staying at home the entire time."

After all the work involved is over, Allison will be set to spend the next four years of her life in Toronto. Moving across the northern border will force Allison to adjust and leave behind aspects of the United States that she loves.

Moving further from the equator, Allison will adapt to one major difference.

"I'm gong to miss the weather so much!" Allison said.

Luckily for Allison, the Southern California sun is always a five hour flight, and a trip through immigration, away.



photo by Riley Davies

Canada Ready- Emily Allison gets ready for her college experience in Canada.

# Look mom I am valedictorian

continued from page 1

He explained various foundations and complex facts describing *Felis catus*. Deakin nonchalantly sat down. His classmates watched astounded and waited for the next kid to helplessly attempt to follow him up.

However, when Mr. Dunne called Deakin into his office he was much less prepared.

"[Getting called in] was a little weird," Deakin said. "Though [he] did say it was for tomorrow. So it seemed less worrisome, and I was less apprehensive."

It comes as no surprise that this years valedictorian is hoping to attend the University of Oxford. After applying, Deakin was granted a conditional offer stating as long as he gains a 39 on his overall International Baccalaureate diploma (a six average on each test) he'll be on his way to England.

"Hopefully I've been doing well," Deakin said. "It's hard to tell with IB."

While most students focus on college as a junior, Deakin first set foot on the University of Oxford campus at the age of nine. It was in his sophomore year that he knew his heart was set on the prestigious London school.

"My entire paternal side of my family has attended British schools in the UK," Deakin said "It was always on my agenda."

Since Oxford doesn't allow for switched majors, Deakin is set on studying biological sciences and going into a graduate PHD program after his undergraduate studies. For now however, his biggest focus lies with finishing his graduation speech.

"I haven't even started yet," Deakin said. "I'm probably going to talk about the future and where we are all going. Everyone is splitting up and going their separate ways, and its jarring almost."

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Dancing duo - Seniors Sophia Angelici and Sophia Yacap will both attend UCSB next semester. photo by Amanda Zou

# UCSBffs

Seniors Sophia Yacap and Sophia Angelici continue their routine in college.

By Chloe Le, Web Editor-in-Chief

Not all friendships start off with the classic introduction and simple conversation. There are a million ways friendships begin.

Seniors Sophia Angelici and Sophia Yacap's friendship started the end of their freshman year during auditions for the dance team.

"I was auditioning but then completely forgot the audition dance," Yacap said. "I looked down at Sophia [Angelici] who was the only one who I kind of knew and the only one in my grade and I was like 'ah help me!' and then she started doing the motions for me."

Three years later, Angelici and Yacap are now the captains of the varsity dance team. Their time in the SMCHS dance program helped nurture their love for dance, which they will carry onto UCSB together.

Because Yacap's been dancing since the age of three, her talent has evolved just as she has throughout high school.

"Being on this team, I had to do whatever the coaches gave me and I was able to adjust to different styles," Yacap said. "It has made me a stronger dancer and I feel more prepared for the dance major. I'm not afraid for anything UCSB gives me because I feel like I experienced it all at SM."

While majoring in dance, Yacap's decision to attend UCSB was an easy choice for her. The school was a perfect fit in regards to dance and staying close to her sister, who will be there next year.

"I've been falling in love with UCSB ever since my sister began studying three years ago," Yacap said. "I saw how much fun she was having there while also going to a top college and I just knew it was a perfect choice."

For Angelici, her reason behind choosing UCSB was the proximity to home.

"It's just far enough away from home where you get the college experience, but also close enough so if you need anything you don't have to fly across the country," Angelici said.

Although Angelici plans to major in English, dance -- which has been a part of her life for almost 15 years -- will still be a part of her college experience at UCSB.

"I tried out and made the team," Angelici said. "I love dancing because I love performing. Each dance has its own story and you get to adopt a different persona for every routine."

As captains, the girls shaped the team how they felt was the best fit -- which benefited everyone.

"Because of us, the team actually wanted to succeed," Yacap said. "I feel like it's hard to be a leader and be the only one who wants to succeed but this year, we made it more fun for them but also taught them when to focus. Everyone just bonded and all wanted to succeed in the end."

The dynamic of the two girls has helped the team's success grow especially in the beginning of March when the dance team placed second in four of their dance divisions at Champions Nationals in Florida.

"I think that especially this year we've helped all the girls grow -- in dance of course but also in being responsible," Angelici said. "We've taught them to be accountable."

Being on the dance team for all four years, Angelici was able to take away more than just a few dances up her sleeve, but rather how to lead and be independent at the same time.

"I've become more self-sufficient because I have to do a lot more stuff on my own when it comes to dance," Angelici said. "The captains are just as responsible as the coaches so we're in charge of leading the team and knowing as much about dancing and knowing what looks good and what doesn't."

Angelici's optimism and ability to carry the team is what landed her the spot as captain.

"No matter what is happening in [Angelici's] life, even with all the stress from school, she manages to always have a positive attitude and make me and the team laugh," Yacap said.

Although Yacap started on the team as a sophomore, she has represented SMCHS well by winning eighth place out of eight senior soloists at the Nationals this past March.

"Sophie [Yacap] is inspiring because she excels at all forms of the arts," Angelici said. "She's versatile in dance and can perform difficult choreography while making it look effortless."

The two share an affinity for Harry Potter, dogs, random fashion shows at Goodwill and forcing their team to go play laser tag. Their friendship grew while the pep rallies and the practices continued throughout their four years of high school.

"I think our friendship works so well because we can be as weird as we want to be around each other," Angelici said. "Outside of dance, we're never serious together."

In Sept., their college experience commences. Although it'll be hectic for both Sophias, they'll always have each other, especially if one of them forgets their dance moves during a routine.

# Focus on grit

Meet everyone's new favorite spin instructor.

By Bridgette Singer,  
Staff Writer

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Senior Elisabeth Tracy is one of the few that, at the age of 18, can call herself a spin instructor.

"Spin was a replacement for dance for me because of the lights, the music, and how you have to keep the beat or rhythm of the music," Tracy said. "It has a lot of dance incorporated into it and I think that's why I like it so much."

Three years ago, Tracy tried spin for the first time at LocoCycle in Rancho Santa Margarita. Feeling it was too difficult, Tracy decided she would not go back for another ride. However, one of the instructors at LocoCycle, Rachel, encouraged her to go back for a second class. Tracy kept going back until she knew spin was a passion worth pursuing. She then decided to take it to the next level.

"Rachel was definitely my biggest inspiration, she brings such a different energy into the room," Tracy said. "Just the way she was and is able to touch people's lives, not just in a physical, but spiritual way has really inspired me to pursue trying to give some of my knowledge and light I got from her to other people I teach."

Tracy heard about GritCycle from instructor, Jessica Ginsberg. Ginsberg saw intriguing posts on Facebook about the new studio in Monarch Beach. The policy at LocoCycle--a studio that provides a full body workout--prevented instructors from working at other places. This led Tracy to consider working at GritCycle.

"I saw that they had instructor auditions coming up and at first," Tracy said. "I was super nervous and did not want to do it, but I decided the night before that I was going to go for it and go all in."

Trying out for an instructor position was nerve-racking and complicated, but Tracy made it through the auditions as a new spin instructor.

Being a brand new instructor, there are only substitute positions available. Tracy has taught one class so far.

"I was so nervous, it was unbelievable. The whole day I had waves of nausea coming over me," Tracy said. "I could not eat, the night before I could not sleep, and after, I

I know a lot of people have their minds set on what they want to major in and what they would want to pursue, but I feel like none of us really knows for sure.

~ senior Elisabeth Tracy

//

figured that I had nothing to worry about."

Once she got up to the podium and looked out into the crowd, she saw all her friends and family that were there to support her and her nerves went away.

"It did not feel like it had happened. It felt like it was too good to be true and I was in such shock from how well it went and how much support I had," Tracy said. "I could not believe that I pushed myself past the nervousness and really put myself out there."

As a current senior, Tracy will be heading off to college and her aspirations after high school are unclear.

"I know a lot of people have their minds set on what they want to major in and what they would want to pursue, but I feel like none of us really knows for sure," Tracy said. "My mom told me before that even if I got into my top schools, which were Boston or Brown, she would still tell me that I should stay here and pursue my career as an instructor because just the way that I put on my first class, I feel like this is what I was meant to do."

Recently, Tracy found out that she would start teaching classes instead of being a substitute.

"My manager told me that I will be starting to teach Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:45 in the evening, so I am super eager and enthusiastic to start," Tracy said.



courtesy photo

Spinning around - At Monarch Beach Grit Cycle, newest instructor senior Elisabeth Tracy, poses for her employee picture.

# Artistically gifted Academically recognized

Art students honored with a  
Collegiate Arts Day.



By Dessi Gomez, A&E Editor

On Wednesday May 17, SM senior artists will be honored with the Collegiate Arts Day. Students in all forms of arts classes will celebrate their commitments to various colleges for different majors in the arts such as dance, film, visual arts, theatre and music.

The Collegiate Artist Signing Day procedure consists of a brief introduction and biography including the college that they are attending, their chosen major and notable performances or artworks that they have created at the school.

"I think that we create more well-rounded individuals that have studied the arts as well as the other required fields of study so whether or not they go on to study in the arts I'm proud," said Visual Arts IB HL teacher Joseph Hoff. "For those students that do choose to go on to follow that course path, on a personal level as an artist, I relate to that passion and I relate to that desire and I find it very admirable especially in areas or particular career paths where students may have to think a little bit more creatively as to how to make a life or career doing it."

Senior Cameron Farmer will attend New York University for his Bachelor of Fine Arts major.

Farmer will begin school as a



courtesy photo

Spotlighted senior - Boyd shines as the stage manager in Our Town.

//

I actually get to go forward and pursue the things that I love and it has me excited for this next step in my education.

-senior Sabrina  
Boyd

//

director because that is what he wants to pursue and it is his position currently in Talon Theatre.

"The biggest part of it had to do with Mrs. Barth," Farmer said. "Working with her and seeing her work with others has helped me understand what directing is. I've developed respect for it but also the skills to some extent the skills that I need to be able to do it and she definitely helped me find what excites me."

Senior Sabrina Boyd is looking at a prospective double major in English and music with a minor in theatre. She is attending Fordham University in New York City this fall

"What I'm most looking forward to about college is the opportunity to continue to grow and start to apply these different things that I've been passionate about and interested in into real life job scenarios," Boyd said. "So getting to actually pursue a career in something that I love to do is perfect."

Music is very important to Boyd, as well as writing and acting. She is grateful for her chance to attend SMCHS and the people that she has met through her involvement.

"It's a dream come true," Boyd said. "Not everybody gets to say that. I actually get to go forward and pursue the things that I love and it has me excited for this next step in my education and in the opportunities that Talon Theatre and the performing arts department at Santa Margarita has offered me are the reason that I am able to [act and build my future] in college."

In combining all of her interests, Boyd is excited to make her mark on the world and produce her own original works in her respective disciplines.

Boyd hopes to inspire others with her passion.

"I think it's just as important for kids in the arts to be able to have that same kind of celebration and recognition [as athletes] from their school," Boyd said. "That's what makes a community at this school is you have athletes you have artists, you have academics and they all mix together and so being able to bring attention to all these different areas is very important so giving the recognition to the kids in the arts is just celebrating another group of students that are going to go on and pursue their talents."

## Chamber choir preps for senior showcase

By Dessi Gomez, A&E Editor

Four years of any activity takes immense commitment and four years in an SMCHS elective takes even more commitment. Bringing back a school tradition, the Chamber Honors Choir will hold a showcase to display what their years in choir has taught them.

"The senior showcase is all the seniors and it's just a chance for us to show what we've learned in the last few years and all our talents," said senior Julianna Reisinger. "We're all just in the choir room and we got to pick between how many songs we wanted to sing."

The different genres for song choice include a pop song, a musical theatre song and a classical song. Singer's arrangements vary from one of these choices to all three.

"I think it's a really cool opportunity because even though we've been in class with each other the whole year a lot of people don't really know what everybody can do and it's a really cool experience to be able to show off your talents and what you've learned," said Reisinger.

Reisinger will most likely sing a classical song in Latin. She also hopes to sing an Alicia Keys song, since she prefers more contemporary music.

"I'm like way more of a pop singer and so my freshman year I never really talked in choir until the pops concert," Reisinger said. "That was the time when I got to showcase my talent and show that I could actually sing. This is a nice way to close it because I began with a pop song and I'm ending with a pop song."

Senior Matilda Vertiz has looked forward to the senior showcase for a long time. Having been in choir for only two years, she is new to solos, and she is eager to hear her peers sing.

"Mr. Calvo did it a few years ago but he hasn't done it in a while and this Chamber's really special this year so he wanted to start it up again," Vertiz said.

Vertiz will sing "Dream" by Priscilla Ahn, an Italian opera song and "How Could I Ever Know" from The Secret Garden.

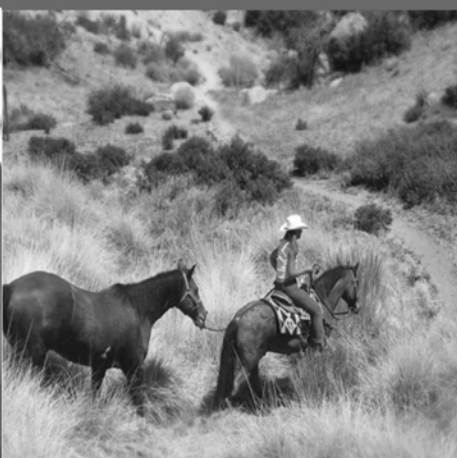
"I love singing so being able to sing and listen to all my senior friends in choir sing," Vertiz said. "Choir's something really special to me so I love being able to close out the year in my last performance with all of my friends."



courtesy photo

Poppin vocals - Reisinger belts out the song "Kryptonite" by 3 Doors Down in honor of her brothers at the May 217 Pops Concert.

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# Curtain calls for a new board

A new election process chooses the next thespian officers.

By Margaret Driscoll,  
Staff Writer

As the curtain closes for the 2016-2017 Talon Theatre Thespian Board, a new one opens with new members and opportunities. Last year's board had significant accomplishments for Talon Theatre, just as the new board hopes to continue.

Thespian Society is a highly regarded national club that is also recognized by colleges. Within the club, there are numerous activities students can get involved in to earn points.

These include Cappies Critics that review plays, work on crews behind the scenes of a show, help to stage manage a show, participate in the Christmas Show, Comedy Sportz, and many other opportunities.

The club requires demanding work and effort from the students but also helps them for future careers in theater.

"In order to become a thespian you need 10 points coming from theater related activities and one point is equivalent to 10 hours of work so that really shows how many hours thespians are devoting to theater," said Thespian Troupe President Lauren McNair.

McNair believes that the Thespian Troupe has been a significant blessing in her life and high school career.

"It has enabled me to gain the leadership skills that I need to succeed in the future," McNair said.

Thespian Troupe #5524 constantly changes and improves as the troupe elects new board members. This year, the troupe has decided to change things up. Typically, the voting process of electing the new board members is informal. McNair decided to change the process.

"We really wanted to make the



New era- Thespian president Drew Schlingman and vice president Devon Hunt embrace their roles for the new year.

process more structured and official as theater continues to grow throughout campus," McNair said.

Candidates are required to complete a packet with teacher recommendations and a formal speech, similar to the application process for an ASB position. Thespian members vote to see who they think will make their year successful.

"Students have to answer more in depth questions about their qualifications, need a resume attached to the application and have to get the deans' approval," McNair said.

These changes were created by the board and will be followed by generations of thespians. Junior Drew Schlingman assumes McNair's old position of Thespian president.

The vice president elect is junior

//  
Talon Theatre is truly a place of love.  
I hope to further this love and help spread  
it throughout the rest of the school.

~junior Devon Hunt

//

Devon Hunt. With sophomore Katie Flores as treasurer and junior Elyse Angel as secretary, the Thespian executive board is complete.

With these new positions, the students hope to change Thespian even more.

"I'm so incredibly honored to get to serve on the board," Hunt said. "Talon Theatre is truly a place of love and with my position as Thespian vice president, I hope to further this love and help spread it

throughout the rest of the school."

The new Thespian board members want to work collaboratively to make next year the best that it can be for Talon Theatre.

"Next year we are going to really focus on further unifying our rapidly expanding theater community and make our program's presence known in the SMCHS community, among many other things," Schlingman said. "It's really going to be a great year in the arts."

# Game on seniors

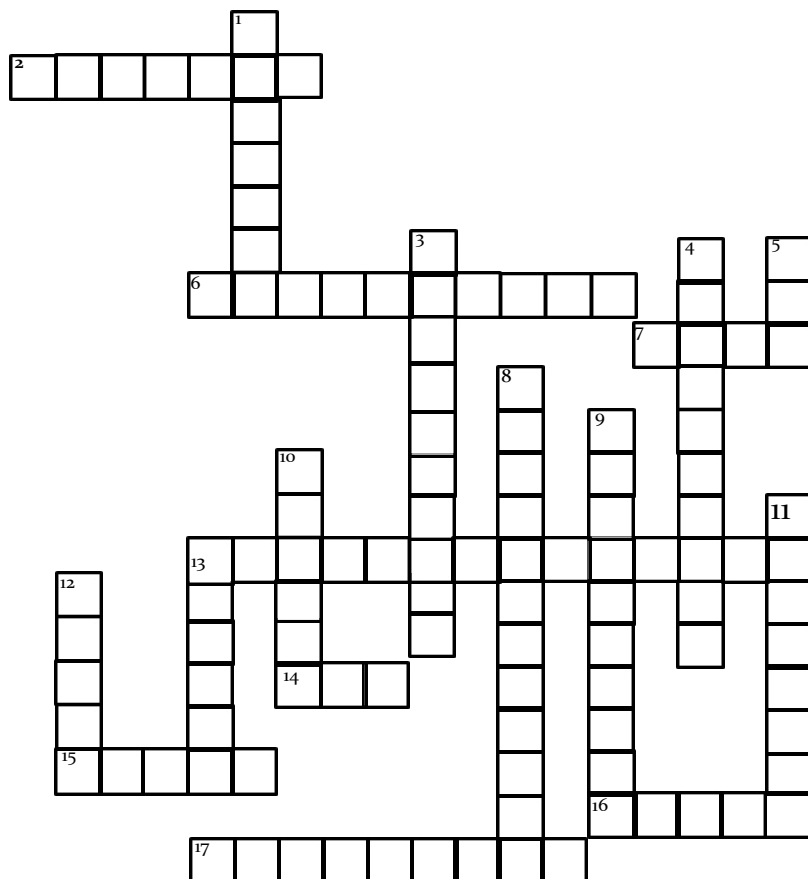
By Lauren Kesic, Staff Writer

## Across:

2. Run, run like the wind to the...
6. The illness most 12th graders suffer from...
7. Yellow, green, red and...
13. The old editor -in-chief
14. Hashtag...
15. The senior privilege throughout the month of May
16. Seniors are almost...
17. He's not Trump, but he is our class president

## Down:

1. What will we do without our moms when we go to...
3. An album by Kanye
4. Basically a half marathon
5. Most feared dean
8. The new editor-in-chief
9. He has a field of dreams
10. The time to be you and to be with God
11. First place winners of the American Scholastic Press Association
12. 65+
13. Term used by our generation meaning to come over



To check your answers, visit [smchseagleeye.com](http://smchseagleeye.com)

## Thirteen Reasons Why this show is so addicting

By Briana Ryan, Staff Writer

**SPOILER ALERT:** The following article reveals details from the plot of "13 Reasons Why." If you don't want to be spoiled, stream the series on Netflix first!

"Hey, it's Hannah, Hannah Baker. It's me live and in stereo. No return engagements, no encore. So settle in because I'm about to tell you the story of my life." This is the first line of the Netflix adaptation of Jay Asher's young adult novel, "13 Reasons Why." And, as it is easy to assume from the blunt nature of that line, this show is like no other. The series focuses on recently deceased teenager Hannah Baker, and the thirteen tapes she left behind for her so-called "friends," detailing why she killed herself. Although the series has received mixed reviews, I truly believe that it is one of the few genuinely impactful shows about today's youth. So, in true Hannah Baker style, I am presenting to you thirteen reasons why this show has become an instant hit

**1. Teenage life isn't sugar coated.**

Being a teenager today isn't easy by any standards. Pressure from parents and teachers is multiplied by the peer pressure to party and drink, and "13 Reasons Why" showcases this to the fullest. Unlike other popular television shows, the producers of this hit are able to capture teenage life in it's truest form. The characters are often pressured into drinking, smoking, skipping class and uncomfortable situations, as are many of today's youth. The show provides a refreshing change from all of the sugar-coated representations, such as in High School Musical, that we see on television today.

**2. The story is told in an unconventional way.**

The plot is told in a mixture of flashbacks and present time, which adds dimension to the narrative. The fact that the main character leaves an essential suicide note in a series of tapes detailing her life, and why it ended, immediately stuns the audience in the first episode. Hearing a dead girl tell you exactly why she killed herself creates the ultimate confrontation. And while it is a bit unsettling, it also makes the series addictingly blunt.



To continue reading, visit the Eagle Eye Website at <http://smchseagleeye.com>

# Batter than the rest

Senior Makenna Lutterloh makes history as one of the first players on Duke University's softball team.

By Taylor Gather, Staff Writer

Committing to play a Division one college sport was not enough for senior Makenna Lutterloh.

On Sept. 4, 2015, Lutterloh was the second in Duke University, known simply as "Duke," history to compete on the 2018 softball team.

Although she committed to become a Blue Devil at an early stage of her high school career, Lutterloh admits that she took more time committing than other softball athletes.

"Although I was talking to multiple schools about the possibility of playing for them, I was blessed to be given the opportunity to play on the very first team at Duke," Lutterloh said. "Honestly, everyone in the softball world commits early in their high school career; mine was actually rather late."

Even though Lutterloh received numerous offers from schools such as Utah State, Georgetown and University of California, San Diego, she knew right off the bat that Duke University was a home run.

"Duke is the perfect fit for me," Lutterloh said. "I had always wanted a high academic school, but not at a place with a lot of smart students where I would feel left behind. I think Duke's academics and athletics balance each other out. The Duke softball coach also happens to be a Christian, which is something really important to me. I also have family about 45 minutes away from campus, where my grandmother is buried."

After discovering that Duke University was in the process of forming a softball team, Lutterloh put in numerous hours of practice and hard work in order to spark the interests of the Duke coaches which ultimately paid off.

"My recruitment process was extremely stressful," Lutterloh said. "I always felt like I was going to get left behind because all of my friends around me were committed already. I worked really hard at my practices and always tried to improve my play. Then, the Duke coach showed up to one game and it went rather quickly from there. I got an offer and two weeks later while on my visit I told the coach I would love to be a part of their program."

Lutterloh was able to set herself apart from other players, and continues to work on her weaknesses as well as her strengths.

"I'm told that I have really fast hands when I play defense," Lutterloh said. "The Utah State coach ac-



Future Blue Devil- Lutterloh suits up for the next four years at Duke.

tually nicknamed me 'wizard' because of how natural I am at it. I also have a pretty good arm, especially for how small I am. This year I really cracked down on training to keep up my game. I attend Crossfit two nights a week and have hitting once a week as well as normal everyday practice, except Saturdays."

Although being one of the first players to play on a big university's sports team may seem intimidating, Lutterloh embraces the idea of being a leader to not only her future teammates, but to Duke softball athletes in years to come.

"I am most excited about being able to set the tone," Lutterloh said.

"We get to make up all the cheers, set the tradition and really build the program from the ground up. We also get to be the first ones to play in the brand new stadium which is awesome."

Along with being one of the first Duke softball players, Lutterloh hopes to strengthen the bonds she has already created with her future teammates at the university.

"Me and the other commits in my class have grown rather close,

and I hope to gain many long-lasting friendships from playing for this team" Lutterloh said. "We have had a group chat from the beginning, and last summer we finally got to meet each other; just a few months ago we got to meet the girls that have been new since the summer. It's actually really cool because one of the girls is one I've known for a few years and she goes to Edison. Another one goes to Rosary and we get to play each other in league."

As Lutterloh continues her softball career into college, she hopes to build upon her academic career by attending Duke University.

"With the coach's help and the girls pushing me, I will be able to grow into a strong woman with an excellent work ethic, and also a very helpful degree from one of the top schools in the country. Besides softball, I liked that Duke has a really good abroad program that I'm interested in."

Lutterloh has high hopes for the future as she makes Duke University history, and strives for greatness, as she embarks on the next chapter.

"Even though there are better teams out there that are Division 1 that I could have played at, being able to play on Duke's first softball team ever is so much better than being on the best team ever," Lutterloh said. "The fact that I will forever be known as a player on the very first softball team at Duke is one of the coolest things."

## Team bonding serves success

Boys varsity volleyball team bonds beyond practices and games.

By Dani Segovia, Sports Editor



Got your back- Boys volleyball creates close relationships through team bonding.

Boys volleyball isn't the average sports team. The boys come together off the court each week for strong team bonding to grow closer together.

"Team bonding means having fun with the boys and getting to know each other," said senior varsity player Tommy Gallagher.

All the teammates agree that team bonding helps them foster a different type of friendship than just teammates.

"Team bonding gives us a chance to become closer as a team, and when we are closer as a team we play a lot better," said sophomore Shane Suxho.

Suxho is the second youngest on the team. The seniors though are very welcoming to the underclassmen, always including them and mentoring them through the high school sports experience.

"It doesn't feel any different being an underclassman on varsity," Suxho said. "I don't even feel an age difference because we are just

a bunch of brothers."

"We all hang out at someone's house, usually Garrett Rhorers, and [...], watch some TV, ice [injuries] after our games, get to know each other and talk about girls," Gallagher said.

Their closeness allows the boys to work together and it brings a more positive and encouraging environment on the court. They support each other through every point whether they win or lose.

"We come together as a team after every point during the game [...] because no matter the outcome of the previous point was, we support each other," said senior varsity player John Barron. "When we come together after winning the point, it's all exciting like good job boys lets do it again but if we lose that point then it's all about getting each other back in the game and preparing for the next point so that we can win."

The endless encouragement helps each player's confidence, al-

lowing them to build the overall team.

"Everyone on the court has your back and makes you feel good," Gallagher said. "If you look over at the bench everyone is going crazy there too. It feels nice to help your team get that much closer to winning. Also it feels pretty good making your opponents look like fools."

Barron's favorite memory this season was winning the foothill tournament on March 9. The victory trophy was definitely worth the many games.

"Our first game we lost so we were pretty broken down, but the next day we came out pretty strong and beat San Clemente in the first round of play offs and ended up winning the rest of the tournament," Barron said. "It was such a thrill winning the tournament."

The boys will end the season with many memories shared. The season wasn't just about winning; it was filled with inside jokes, new friendships and laughs shared.

# Mission Viejo Auto Collision From the Class of 1991: Congratulations Class of 2017!



Throwing it back - Here is a flashback to SMCHS class of 1991's yearbook.

Contact Todd M. Hesford for more information: (949)951-7503  
23812 Via Fabricante, Mission Viejo, CA 92691

**Mission Viejo  
Auto Collision**

**Auto Body Shop and  
Auto Collision Repair  
Center of Orange County, CA**

# Meet the writers



**Debra Barbre,  
Adviser**

The staff looks up to Ms. B for her journalistic wisdom and intelligent perspective on media. She is always willing to offer a piece of advice to help improve our paper as well as our roles as journalists. We will miss her amazing taste in music, occasional sarcastic comments and ability to get along with the staff very easily.  
- The Eagle Eye Staff



**Cristina Zapata,  
Print Editor-in-Chief**

I've known you for 1,095 days but who's counting? Don't worry though because you'll get to spend another 1,460 more days with me at CSUF. Cris-tipher, thanks for being the greatest co-chief a gal could work and be best friends with. Can't wait for our second first day of school together. #ilyism  
- Chloe Le



**Chloe Le,  
Web Editor-in-Chief**

Chloe Le is the funniest person on staff. She is incredibly nice and super fun to be around. Chloe is a great writer and a great chief and always brightens the room with her hilarious remarks towards Ian. Also, I have never met anyone who is more obsessed with Mulan than she is. I can't wait to fulfill her web-chief role.  
- Rachel Tetreault



**Ivanna Rea,  
Managing Editor**

Ivanna is one of the funniest and most genuine people in the world. She is always available to help someone or have a good laugh, whether you're best friends or not.  
-Margaret Driscoll



**Sarah Turner,  
News Editor**

Sarah always has others' best interest in mind. Whether she's sleeping in the corner or doing homework in the hallway, the E.E won't be the same without her.  
- Cambria



**Claire Robidoux,  
Feature Editor**

Claire is an amazing writer with a vivacious personality! She is a friend to everybody, never fails to make you laugh and will always be there for you.  
- Briana Ryan



**Allison De La Bastida,  
Opinion Editor**

Allison is passionate about her work and the opinion section wouldn't be the same without her thorough edits. I can't wait to see what she will accomplish at NYU!  
- Riley Davies



**Danielle Segovia,  
Sports Editor**

Dani Segovia is one of the funniest girls on our staff and her contagious laugh never fails to put a smile on our faces. Congrats on going to college for soccer!  
- Devin Walsh



**Dessi Gomez,  
A&E Editor**

Dessi is everyone's favorite person on staff. Her quality of work and her unmatched kindness will be missed next year. A&E will not be the same without her!  
- Ian Gutierrez



**Amanda Zou,  
Photo Editor**

Amanda has managed to capture our articles in single photographs all throughout the year. She's incredibly sweet and I can't wait for her to thrive at Emerson!  
- Ivanna Rea



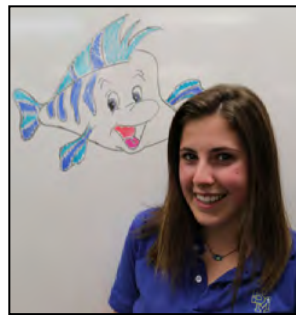
**Jillian Baldwin,  
Staff Writer**

Jillian always thinks outside the box. The Eagle Eye gained such a strong writer in her. Her kindness will take her to great places! Go Ducks!  
- Sarah Turner



**Shannon Daehnke,  
Staff Writer**

Besides being a varsity swimmer and aquarium lover, Shannon is super funny, an amazing writer, is always on top of her work and has a dank(e) aesthetic.  
- Taylor Gather



**Riley Davies,  
Staff Writer**

Riley is super sweet and so friendly. She's always in a good mood and ready to help out. I'm sure she is going to be an amazing copy editor!  
-Dani Segovia



**Margaret Driscoll,  
Staff Writer**

Margaret's an amazing journalist and it's been so cool watching her writing develop. I'll miss when she would randomly start singing and could always make me laugh.  
- Megan Forsythe



**Megan Forsythe,  
Staff Writer**

Megan always has a smile on her face and brings energy into the room. Her strong passion for journalism shows in every article she has written. Good luck in BU!  
- Amanda Zou



**Taylor Gather,  
Staff Writer**

Taylor, also known as our "Staff Writer-in-Chief," is famous for her quality feature stories and leads. We'll miss her sense of humor and pictures of her dog.  
- Cristina Zapata



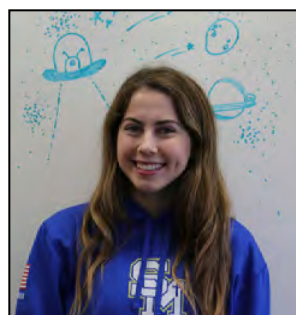
**Ian Gutierrez,  
Staff Writer**

Whether it be Easter or Arbor Day, you can count on Ian to send thoughtful holiday texts. I wouldn't want any other person to be the only guy in our class!  
- Claire Robidoux



**Lauren Kesic,  
Staff Writer**

The Eagle Eye's friendly foodie, Lauren, is kind and inspiration to us all. Thanks for teaching me AP Style. I cannot wait to see what you accomplish at ND!  
- Amanda Moussiaux



**Cambria Miller,  
Staff Writer**

Cambria is beautiful inside and out. Her creativity, dedication and artistic skills proved to be a huge asset to this year's staff. The Eagle Eye is lucky to have her!  
-Lauren Kesic



**Amanda Moussiaux,  
Staff Writer**

Amanda is a very motivated person, and is super creative. I loved her vlog from the Seattle trip, and I can totally see her pursuing a career in broadcast journalism.  
- Shannon Daehnke



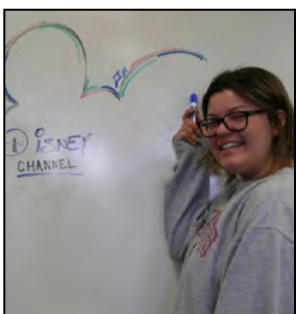
**Hannah Prince,  
Staff Writer**

Hannah is hardworking and diligent. Her writing skills allow her to communicate the most compelling stories. She'll take the E.E. to new levels as the next Chief!  
- Dessi Gomez



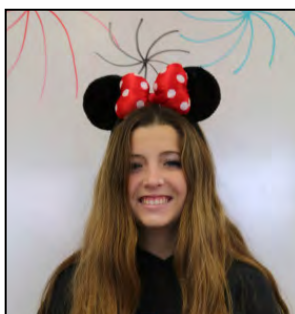
**Briana Ryan,  
Staff Writer**

Briana joined our staff this year and has grown into such an amazing writer. She always has really creative ideas and I know she will do amazing things at Auburn!  
-Ivanna Rea



**Bridgette Singer,  
Staff Writer**

Bridgette Singer has the biggest personality on the staff. She makes everyone around her laugh and can carry a funny conversation from across the room.  
- Jillian Baldwin



**Rachel Tetreault,  
Staff Writer**

You haven't met a tough cookie until you've met Rachel! She is filled energy, spunk and values hard work. Watch out for our future web chief!  
- Hannah Prince



**Devin Walsh,  
Staff Writer**

Devin is a fun, loving person that shows happiness towards everyone. She is also a very hard worker and Fordham College is very lucky to get such a special person.  
- Bridgette Singer

Thank you for a brilliant year!

Love,

The Eagle Eye