

# INSIDE SI

Created by Ryan Agarwal '25

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## AFFIRMATIVE? ACTION!

Naomi Ko '24, Senna Nijagal '24, Jeslyn Oum '24,  
Megan Stecher '24, Cayden Tu '24 Editors-in-Chief

On June 29th, the Supreme Court rocked the nation when they revealed their decision to end the practice of affirmative action in the college admissions process in the United States in a 6-3 vote for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill case, and a 6-2 vote for the Harvard case.

The practice of affirmative action in college admissions was first introduced in the 1960s, in an effort to combat race-based discrimination and quota systems that limited the number of minority students legally allowed to be admitted to colleges and universities. Prior to the implementation of affirmative action, colleges and universities had no obligation to enroll minority students, which resulted in many students of color being barred from the opportunity of a higher education.

Current high school seniors—the Class of 2024—will be the first graduating class directly impacted by this decision. By next spring, admissions will be able to evaluate whether this decision made any equitable change for the next generation of college-bound students.

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## Opening the Doors to Our Common Home

### THE FEATURE

As we begin the start of the school year, we at *InsideSI* are opening doors to new beginnings, activities and people at our school. As you “enter through the doorway” of this issue, you will see a number of “firsts”: first year clubs, first liturgies, first retreats, first Bruce-Mahoney victories. Our FEATURE section begins on page 7, and we hope our readers enjoy our coverage of the first month at SI!

*-The Editors-in-Chief*

## 3 IN A ROW: BRUCE VOLLEYBALL VICTORY

Nick Luongo '25

Managing Editor

The St. Ignatius JV and Varsity Women's Volleyball teams kicked off the annual Bruce-Mahoney series on Tuesday, September 12th, with their game against Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Bruce-Mahoney rivalry, a tradition beginning in 1947 that honors the lives of Bill Bruce and Jerry Mahoney, is a five-game series of sports games played between SI and SHC. The five sports involved are women's volleyball, football, women's basketball, men's basketball, and baseball. The first team to three wins takes home the trophy.

Women's volleyball was the first Bruce-Mahoney game of the 2023-2024 school year, and it was a good one. The game was played at War Memorial Gymnasium at the University of San Francisco, with the bleachers packed full of parents and students of both schools. The game started out very close, with SI and SHC trading points most of the way through the first set, and SI winning it 25-15. SHC made some good adjustments, taking the second set 25-20. The third set was another hard-fought battle, but SI managed to edge out SHC by a score of 25-22, meaning they were one set away from winning the first leg of the Bruce-Mahoney.

Vibes in the student section were at an all-time high. However, these quickly changed when SHC stormed back,

taking the 4th set 25-16 and setting up a winner-take-all 5th set to 15 points. At this point, after all the back and forth of the first four sets, every fan's eyes were glued to the court, waiting to see how this thriller of a game would end. In yet another close back and forth set, SI came through with a 15-12 win and a victory in the first Bruce Mahoney game. This is the third year in a row SI has won the volleyball matchup.



*The SI Varsity Volleyball team celebrates their victory over SHC.*

SEE  
INSIDE!



*Flag football game on p.2*



*Club fair on p.2*



*UNC shootings on p.11*



*Affinity panel on p.13*



## SI CLUB FAIR

Aiden Gray '26 & Abigail Edwards '26      Contributing Editors

On September 5, SI hosted our annual club fair. Every year, Saint Ignatius holds a club fair to display over a hundred different clubs. Nearly all of SI's clubs are student led, and students can partake in anything that piques their interest- from Affinity and social clubs to competitive clubs, sports clubs, and more! The club fair is an event where students have the opportunity to see and decide what clubs they want to be a part of. It is an awesome way to grow your circle and make new experiences.

Students reported positively about the Club fair, making comments about both the clubs and our SI community. Tai Morganson '26 commented on how much potential he sees in SI, saying, "It was great to see the potential of our students at SI and our commitment to inclusivity." There is a club for everyone at SI, so everyone feels welcome and can be a part of a special group.

Twins Dylan '26 and Jordan Liu '26 agreed on their appreciation for the club fair, saying, "It was a success. I loved the layout this year because of how everything was organized section by section. It was a great success... Sign up for the Korean culture club!"

Students enjoyed the organization of the fair and how this year the gym did not feel as congested as usual; however, some students complained that the timing of the club fair was not convenient.

Overall, the club fair had a very positive outcome for the SI community. As Tai Morganson said, "It was great to see the potential of our students at SI and our commitment to social justice which embodies our Ignatian values of inclusivity and reflects well on the SI community!"

Madison Farrell '24      **JRS: 1, SNRS: 0**      Managing Editor

On Friday, September 16th the Juniors and Seniors girls battled it out under the lights on J.B. Murphy Field, in attempt to secure the win of the annual Flag football game. The tradition, dating back over 5 years, takes place in the fall of each school year in the middle of the football season. Junior and Senior varsity football players are assigned coaching positions and teams of players; Mr. Glosser and Coach Myles Holmes as referees. This year, over six practices were held after school before the big game to run drills, learn the basics of football, and determine each player's skills. Each class had over 100 girls come out to play.

This year, the Juniors won the game 7-0, securing the victory against the Senior class that was unable to score. "I think that this game is a great tradition to bring girls from both grades together," said Eliza Harlow, the Junior who scored a touchdown to secure the win for her team.

**"I got to spend a lot of time with people in my grade that I do not normally get to spend time with, as well as hang out with my Senior friends. I think it really brought the two grades closer."**

**-Eliza Harlow '25**



*Seniors get ready to line up against Juniors*

Despite the rivalry between the Juniors and Seniors, it is a great way to bond over friendly competition at the start of school to get the year on a good note. Only time will tell if the Juniors will be able to keep their crown next year as Seniors, and congratulations to both teams on a successful, fun game.

## GELATO BARS IN THE COMMONS

Megan Stecher '24      Editor-in-Chief

This year, the Commons has introduced a new sweet treat to its students-gelato bars! These frozen treats have already grown popular among SI students, with new flavors circulating every week. In the mood for pumpkin pie or raspberry sorbet? The Commons has you covered!



## NEW BEGINNINGS, NEW CLUBS!

Caroline McFadden '24

Managing Editor

### Students Against Sexual Harassment (SASH)

**Club President:** Chloe Lucey '26

The club works to educate people on sexual harassment and laws in California that pertain to sexual abuse. We are here to support survivors of sexual abuse and make resources on and off campus known available. We want to lessen the stigmatism around talking about sexual harassment and promote open conversation about it.



*Chloe Lucey '26*



### Girl Scouts of Northern California

**Club President:** Colette Patterson '24

Girl Scouts of Northern California Club's mission is to help Girl Scouts and Scouts of America who are in their high school years find service and networking opportunities and gain working opportunities for the future.



*Colette Patterson '24 & Abby Reed '24*



### SI T1D Club



**Club Presidents:** Jolie Barret '24 & Lexington Lehnert '24

Our mission is to raise awareness and educate, to create a safe community, and to create a sense of belonging and acceptance for diabetics and anyone interested.



*Jolie Barret '24 and Emily Humphreys '24*



### The Brady Therapeutic Riding Club

**Club President:** Cece O'Brien '24

The Brady Riding Center is a great place where many SI students have done their core project. It is a therapeutic riding program that helps kids with physical or mental disabilities, and over the years SI students have created their own little community right there at the Brady barn. The club's goal is to facilitate community gatherings and activities and help new SI volunteers find their place at Brady. It's a great place to get some of your service hours done, meet new students, and sit down with a hot cup of tea.



*c/o www.bradyridding.org*





## A GLIMPSE INTO DANCE & DRILL’S SCHEDULE & SPIRIT

Cece O’Brien ’24

Managing Editor

At St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco, the Dance and Drill Team is not just an extracurricular activity; it's a way of life for dedicated students. Their rigorous practice schedule, camaraderie, and passion for dance are at the heart of their success.

This talented group of dancers follows an intense practice regimen that sets the stage for their outstanding performances. They practice three times a week, dedicating two hours each session. However, their commitment goes beyond the academic year.

During the summer, they kick it up a notch, meeting every day, even on weekends, from the last week of July until school starts. The Bruce season, which is a highlight for the team, brings additional weekend practices from 9 AM to 1 PM. They tackle choreography with precision, typically mastering one set, which consists of three dances, within two practices. Afterward, they spend the following two weeks fine-tuning their moves, perfecting formations, and rehearsing the dances relentlessly.

For Kristen Patricio ’24, there's one event that stands out above the rest: the Football Bruce Mahoney. She reminisced, "It has been my favorite game since middle school. Watching the halftime performance as a seventh-grader sparked my interest in attending SI. I love the energy the crowd brings, and, in my opinion, the football Bruce is always our best set." Her enthusiasm for this annual tradition encapsulates the dedication and passion that the Dance and Drill Team brings to every performance.

The Dance and Drill Team at St. Ignatius High School exemplifies discipline, teamwork, and an unwavering love for dance. The dancers embody the spirit of the team, creating memorable performances and fostering a strong sense of community.

A standout feature of the Dance and Drill Team is their strong sense of community, a sentiment that resonates with all its members. This sense of unity and support is what makes the team a tight-knit family.



Dance and Drill performs at halftime at the Bruce Mahoney Volleyball Game on September 12.

“

“My favorite thing about the team is how we are a community. We are constantly supporting one another, not just in dance but outside of it as well. We celebrate each other's accomplishments and are always there to lift each other up.”

”

Kristen Patricio ’24

## MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Lilly Eugster ’25

Contributing Editor

The Holy Spirit is a key piece of Christian theology and is the third branch of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a divine presence, a source of guidance and comfort, and helps to empower all believers. Every year at Saint Ignatius, we hold the Mass of the Holy Spirit to commemorate God’s amazing presence in our lives. The large student body is invited to come together in song and prayer to show our love and respect for our strong faith.

Many moving parts make this Mass such a wonderful experience and tradition for everyone. The choir, campus ministry, faculty, and clergy, all assisted in making this Mass such a memorable time of worship. On Friday, September 8, each grade level made their way to Holy Name’s church, where the celebrations began. Campus ministry opened with a prayer, and the choir followed with many great songs, preaching our faith.

The Mass of the Holy Spirit is a great tradition to mark the beginning of a school year. Insignito leader, Riley Gumpert ’25 said the reason she became an Insignito leader was to “get involved in the community,” and because of her “passion for helping others discover their own spiritual journeys.” Gumpert shared that she had always known about the tradition of the mass, having had an older sibling who attended Saint Ignatius, and being a part of putting the mass altogether was a really exciting experience.

Emma Kiehn ’25, from the Music Ministry, shared her excitement about holding a leading position within the choir, especially with the abundance of new members having joined in the past year. Kiehn said, “I really appreciated having the opportunity to lead the school in prayer while doing something I love: singing!” She also talked about the special tradition of the mass across the country saying, “ I think it’s so cool that Jesuit schools across the country all participate in the mass of the Holy Spirit every fall. It’s something that brings students together and really sets a positive tone for the year.”

The Mass of the Holy Spirit is a deeply significant notion within the Christian Church. Understanding the Holy Spirit and why we celebrate the concepts of embracing our faith, and recognizing the divine presence of God in our lives, is key in understanding our beliefs altogether.



Teachers and students holding hands during prayer

## SI GOES TO TAIWAN

Sierra Murphy ’25

Managing Editor

Coming soon to our community is the SI trip to Taiwan! Hosted by Ms. Pappas, this 2024 summer trip is open to all students of SI. This trip is a great opportunity for students to gain service hours, as well as immerse themselves with a new, unfamiliar culture.

During this 2-week trip abroad, students will have time to bond, while exploring and experiencing the diverse culture, scenery, and cuisines that Taiwan has to offer. The trip’s moderator, Ms. Pappas, shared her goals for the trip, saying she hopes to "take language learning beyond the classroom." While on the trip, students will get the opportunity to improve or learn Chinese language skills by serving local communities.

On this once in a lifetime trip, students can expect to visit many famous cities and sites around Taiwan, while participating in hands-on and DIY activities. Besides fun activities students can earn 10 service hours, by volunteering to teach English to local children. “This trip is a great way to develop our value of Men and Women For and With Others,” shared Ms. Pappas as she highlights all the wonderful opportunities students can gain on this trip. Throughout their time in Taiwan, students will bring the values taught and portrayed in the SI community International.

All students and their parents are welcome on the trip! The great part about this trip is that, “You don’t need to speak Chinese to join the trip, but you will be able to speak Chinese after the trip!” said Ms. Pappas. In the past, SI has offered immersion trips to areas of China. Past trips included Shanghai, Beijing, Xi’an, Chengdu, Kunming, and Li Jiang; however, after the pandemic mainland China is not as accessible. That is why Taiwan is a great place to learn and interact with Chinese culture, while making memories to last a lifetime!

2024 Summer Cultural Exchange & Service Trip

TAIWAN

Open to all SI students! Join the Information Meeting to learn about the trip!

FRIDAY 9/22, 6 PM CHORAL ROOM

RSVP

SCAN ME

CONTACT INFO: Ms. Pappas lpappas@siprep.org

\*\*You do not have to speak Chinese before the trip, but you will be able to speak Chinese after the trip!\*\*



## STARRING: THE CLASS OF 2027!

Kate Quach '25

Associate Editor-In-Chief



InsideSI invites YOU and the Frosh class to shine bright as the newest superstars of a special section known as the FROSH CLOSEUP!

This space in SI's newspaper celebrates the special journeys and experiences of the students taking their first steps into high school. As a part of the cast of the Frosh Closeup, you can **show your leadership and school pride** while representing an aspect of all the diverse areas of student life: athletics, arts and literature, music, math and sciences, and performing arts.

You have the incredible chance to showcase your 9th grade adventures in all of *INSIDE SI's* newspaper issues! Connect with students of all grade levels as you voice your experiences, passions, and aspirations as you set out on your exploration across this year!

Scan the QR code to apply to become one of the members in this year's cast (It only takes a few minutes!):

While you're getting geared up to apply, check out Jaqueline Hang, Alexander Salentine, and Ellie McCuskey-Hay—the Frosh Closeup's Class of 2026— and their words of advice for you:



## THE SI KEY CLUB

Caroline McFadden '24

Managing Editor

One of the many clubs that represents SI on and off campus is the SI Key Club! The Key Club is a nationally affiliated club with hundreds of other key clubs scattered throughout the United States. These clubs are joined together through a united mission of individual growth through service.

One member and leader of the SI Key Club, Stephanie Frias '24 talked about how the club is a great way to get involved in SI and live out the Jesuit principles that are taught from the beginning of freshman year. She said, "The Key Club is a prime example of St. Ignatius' own Jesuit principles as we create service opportunities that give people the opportunity to be with and for others."

The great thing about this service club is that there is not a single cause or organization that they are devoted to. Key clubs raise money and bring awareness to a variety of causes. One of the service opportunities that

SI Key Club members had the chance to be a part of

last year was a fundraiser for the Brady Therapeutic Riding Center after the harsh rains and storm caused damage. Members contributed in a variety of ways whether it involved helping to organize a bake sale, being a cashier, or making delicious treats. Everybody had the chance to help through their own gifts. They were able to raise over \$1000 just by serving right here on campus.

If you are looking for a great way to meet new classmates while simultaneously getting credit for service hours, Key Club is the place to be! If you are interested in joining this club, or have a cause or organization you want to fundraise for fill out the google form using the QR code:



Stephanie Frias '24 welcomes people to the Key Club.

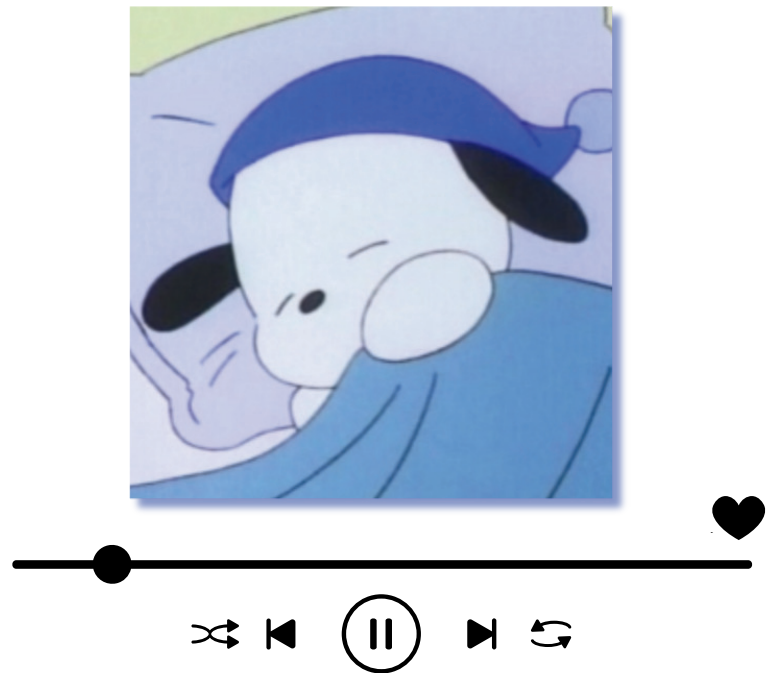




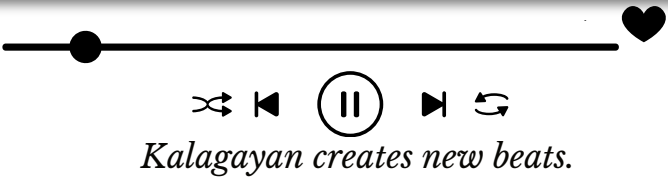
In 2023, Caden Kalagayan '24 released a single called “Stay the Night” on Spotify. Within a month, it garnered over two million streams. *InsideSI* interviewed Caden and asked him a few questions about his music production and how it felt to go viral.

**WHEN AND WHY DID YOU START TO PRODUCE MUSIC?**  
I started to produce music around early 2021 on FL Studio. I started because I grew a pretty big interest for a lot of underground artists and knew if I started, I’d definitely have a chance at working with them. I also just wanted to start a new hobby because the COVID pandemic had me extremely bored and music had been my biggest interest for me at the time.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF PRODUCING MUSIC?**  
My favorite part about producing music is seeing how far you can take it, just pushing the boundaries as far as possible and make some crazy but beautiful sounds that a lot of musicians would appreciate. The community is also one of my favorite parts, and I’ve met so many other talented artists/producers, both big and small, to work with.



Cover art for cadenkala’s single, “stay the night pluggnb”.



**DO YOU TAKE INSPIRATION FROM ANY PARTICULAR ARTISTS?**  
The biggest inspirations for my musical journey so far have definitely been Porter Robinson and Jane Remover. Their music has inspired me to make the remixes I’m known for and I definitely draw a lot of elements from their songs and implement them into my own.

**ONE OF YOUR SONGS HAS OVER 2 MILLION STREAMS ON SPOTIFY (CONGRATS!!)**  
**HOW DOES IT FEEL FOR YOUR SONG TO HAVE GONE FAIRLY VIRAL?**  
It still feels all so surreal to me considering three months ago I had about 35 followers on SoundCloud. At my age, I never expected to surpass many of the artists I listen to in listeners so fast and I’m not too sure how to feel about it, since I feel like they deserve much more recognition for their art than mine. Of course, I still am beyond grateful that I now have an established fanbase who supports me and awaits new music, but it comes with a lot of stress as well as I now have to balance releasing music, extracurriculars, and a lot of school work.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR ASPIRING MUSIC PRODUCERS/ARTISTS?**  
My number one advice is be yourself, and don’t let the opinion of others stop you from pushing boundaries and self expression.

## COMMUNITY CREATIVITY CLUB

Ella Walti '25Contributing Editor

The start of a new school year at SI brings the creation of many new clubs. One in particular is the Community Creativity Club, led by presidents Maya Briones '25 and Jolie Barrett '24. The club aims to spread inclusivity around art for the SI community, and foster spaces of creativity and comfortability for those with a passion for visual arts.

The inspiration behind the club is based on the love of art and sharing that love. Ever since Maya was little, art has “been a big part of [her] life and it is one of the main things that made [her] who [she is] today.” When Maya first came to SI, she did not see much attention given to the visual arts. Starting this club gives her that very opportunity. Maya said, “I think that a club like this can open up opportunities for students like me to express their love for art outside of the classroom. Having a space for that is important for artists or anyone who wants to express themselves in general.” Mia and



her co-president want to foster an environment for everyone, from advanced artists to students seeking a creative outlet. The goal is to create a fun space for people looking to express themselves through visual arts. “This club isn’t for hardcore oil painters or future Picasso’s; it’s a time and place to express your creativity visually. I hope this club shows the students of SI that we value art and that anyone can express themselves through visual arts.”

For Frosh and Sophs, this club is a great opportunity to meet more of your classmates and discover new passions of your own. For juniors and seniors, take this chance to artistically express yourself among the hundreds of clubs SI has to offer. If you’ve ever found yourself seeking new ways to help express your ideas and visions, then look no further and make sure to join their club!



## CARING FOR OUR CITY

Shay Moriarty '25

Managing Editor

San Francisco, our beloved city with its breathtaking landmarks, is truly a blessing of a home. However, although San Francisco is full of wonderful sites like the Golden Gate Bridge and Pier 39, one cannot deny that our city has become overpopulated with people that call the streets their home. Just walking past City Hall, you are greeted by over 30 homeless people, most under the influence and angry that you have invaded their home.

Anxiety runs through me whenever I am walking outside, frightened that I may have an unwanted encounter with someone on the streets. The sheer amount of encampments I see while walking in the city is absurd, especially when I am forced to step over the used needles sprawled across the sidewalk. The problem of homelessness goes hand in hand with the drug epidemic in the city. This issue is more urgent and frightening than ever given the recent fentanyl crisis. Walking through the city, I cannot help but notice all the people who are suffering from some kind of addiction.

Megan Stecher, a senior at SI, has noticed the city's state of desperation too, saying, "On my immersion trip to the Tenderloin this summer, my eyes were opened to the severity of the issue of homelessness in San Francisco. Every day I met people living on the streets, and the stories I heard from them were shocking and heartbreaking. They only reaffirmed my belief that every single person, no matter their past mistakes or circumstances, deserves a home. Our city needs to recognize that and begin treating its people with the humanity they deserve."

Through the Immersion program, SI sends rising seniors around the world to immerse themselves in underprivileged communities, one of them being the Tenderloin. This unique immersion in our own city gives aid to the issue of homelessness and also devastating insight to how extreme the issue is. Through her immersion over the summer, Megan experienced first hand how serious the problem of homelessness is and the urgency that our city needs in order to combat this problem.

To see our city in this state makes me heartbroken, so when I heard the new slogan for this year, my mind immediately thought of this issue. To "Care for our Common Home" can be taken to a wider range, not just at SI but within the city we call home. Seeing the work and determination that SI is putting into reducing its carbon footprint is marvelous.



SI's "Hope for Homes" Club, led by Meghan Sheehan and Ocean Wong, (not pictured).



Police officers conduct a sweep in the Tenderloin, where they collect and throw away all belongings that unhoused people cannot physically hold in their arms, including tents, backpacks, and priceless personal mementos.

If our community works just as hard for our homeless problem as we do our waste, our city can go back to a time where people considered it abnormal to see tents set up on the sidewalk or a half-naked person crossing the street.

SI students can take initiative to start helping with this issue by becoming more involved in various aspects SI offers its students, including its Immersion program.

One new program is a club called "Hopes for Homes," a group that recognizes homelessness as "a very prevalent issue in San Francisco that is often overlooked and swept aside, people are mistreated and there is a severe lack of affordable housing available," according to Ocean Wong '24. Ocean described the club, saying, "Hopes for Homes wants to reveal the unseen humanity through community service, discussions, engaging activities, and movie screenings."

By joining Hopes for Homes, SI students can take part in actively trying to assist our city. Not only can students join this club, but we also have the opportunity to reach out to non-profits who specialize in helping the homeless for their core project, or running a charity campaign to raise money for the homeless. Little things that SI students can do to provide aid to the homeless would, in my mind, significantly contribute to our city's problem.

Our city, currently struggling with the insane overflow of homeless, needs our help to try and transform the city back into a clean and homeless-free environment. Instead of ignoring the problem like we did with our waste for many years, we need to step up and create a solution. By doing so, SI can confidently say that we are Caring for our Common Home.

## SI WITH AND FOR THE EARTH

Kate Ozaeta '25 &amp; Evie Chen '25

Contributing Editors

Before the start of this school year, SI was fined by the City of San Francisco for not complying with waste disposal standards. In response, Ms. Megan Pryor-Lorentz, Assistant Principal for Mission, announced during orientation that through new environmental regulations, SI would shift their focus to a more eco-conscious lens to help protect the future of the school and the planet.

When asked about the progress SI has made so far this year, Ms. Pryor Lorentz shared, "Our initial push was to draw student's attention to a completely new practice: dumping liquids before recycling. This has been met with excellent success in both the Commons and Student Center. Our hope is to spread this practice to our other waste disposal areas on campus."

"I'm so encouraged by the ways I've seen students slow down, walk through the line in the Commons, and truly consider where each item in their hands should be placed. I also appreciate their attitude towards me as I monitor the bins; folks have remained positive and open to my input these past two weeks."

Various changes have been enforced on campus including the transition to compostable plates and utensils, the addition of liquid waste bins, and the student-led trash monitoring in the commons. Through this year's theme of "Care for Our Common Home," SI's recent environmental emphasis has been benefiting the school community and helping the Earth.

Numerous students have shifted their attitudes towards waste-sorting and become more eco-conscious due to these recent changes.

Natasha Rodkewich '26 pointed out, "I've noticed that there's a lot less trash around the school, and I think [the new waste sorting procedures] have created more of a desire [in] students to clean up after themselves and others," proving the positive impacts of these environmental policies.

Matthew Ayon '26 shared, "Instead of putting it into trash, I know how to separate [my waste] better," when asked about the new waste disposal signs on the bins.

Isa Alcantara '24 added on, "I am way more conscious of my waste-sorting now that it is our school theme...and just making sure that I place things in the right bin."

Highlighting the reasoning for the new regulations, Teddy Bell '26 believes that "it's good to help the Earth, and it's good to give back."

According to these students, the new shifts on campus have played a significant role in improving students' day-to-day actions and mindsets towards the environment. From the positive responses from students to the reduction of the school's carbon footprint, the recent enforcements for the environment have already better shaped SI to be with and for others, as well as with and for the Earth.



## WE ARE ONE BIG COMMUNITY: CHANGES IN CAMPUS MINISTRY

Leanna Leung '24 & Zoe Omar '25

Contributing Editors

With a new start to a new school year also comes new goals for SI to achieve. This year, SI's resolution is to "care for our common home." Not only does this mean caring for our shared environment, but it also means caring for each other and building relationships within our community as well.

One big change that many students may have noticed is the change to the bell schedule. Ms. Miguens, director of Campus Ministry, explained that the Friday Afternoon Liturgies from last year just "[weren't] working with schedules." Last year, with liturgies during X periods, it was difficult to gain attendance with the busy and rigorous schedules of SI students: rehearsals, extracurriculars and clubs, after-school jobs, sports practices, you name it!

There was another notable motivation behind the change in schedule. With many Freshmen and Sophomore retreat groups leaving campus on Mondays to go out into the community and serve others, the Campus Ministry team thought it would be "important to pray, reflect, and gather in community and bless our Frosh who are going to go out, learn, and open their hearts to our city and world."

"Our Sophs [are] going to start wrestling with who they are and how they want to be authentic," Ms. Miguens remarked. "We want to bless them and love them in the community first, and then send them forth into the retreat experience."

When asking regular liturgy attendees about SI's liturgy experience and what makes it so special, Emma Kiehn '25, a member of music ministry, responded, "I get to sing and use music to pray with all of my friends."

Ms. Shorrock-Chen responded similarly. "The community gathering together in a prayerful way to either start the day or continue the day... it's an opportunity for the SI community to be together where there isn't the typical separation between teachers and students." She added,



*Students exchange the Sign of Peace with one another at the first Monday Morning Ministry of the year.*

"Everybody is part of the faith community and it brings me a lot of joy listening to the music and starting off my work day with that."

Freshmen also made an appearance to the first liturgy of the year. Maggy Magnano '27 commented that her first SI liturgy "was pretty good," liking "how there were a lot of different students that came to it which was amazing."

No matter how one participates in Monday Morning Ministry, there is a place for everyone, with countless Liturgical Ministers and Campus Ministry staff working tirelessly to make it a space where everyone feels welcome to walk through the doors of the chapel.



*Monday Morning Ministry attendees receive Communion.*



*Ms. Miguens poses for a picture before Monday Morning Liturgy with InSignis members Catherine Alcantara '24 and Avery Ghali '24.*

### CHANGES IN FROSH RETREAT

Another change this coming year is apparent in the new freshman retreats. Instead of the usual trip to St. Anthony's, the retreat now includes two day trips: one to the Richmond Neighborhood Center, and the other to the Tenderloin.

"[The new retreatants] are still going to be grounded in our mission of faith that does justice, being people for and with others, and really helping the freshmen know what that means and looks like," said Ms. Miguens.

Even though this seems like a more drastic change compared to previous years, the campus ministry program is confident that the core purpose of these retreats will still shine through, especially in new environments. The St. Anthony's program has now become a part of the St. Ignatius Junior curriculum and will now be discussed in the junior Ethics class.

Ms. Miguens further explained, "Imagine your ethics class. One day, you'll all go to St. Anthony's and then you'll come back and it becomes part of the classroom curriculum."



*Students from a frosh retreat from last year (2022-2023) share their experiences at the end of the retreat.*



NEW TEACHERS: EMBARKING ON A NEW EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURE

Cassidy Chew '25 and Zoe Corrigan '25

Contributing Editors

The new school year brings new beginnings—and not just for incoming students. New teachers entering into a different school environment can be intimidated as they may struggle to find where they belong. These new teachers at SI, including AP Calculus & Linear Algebra teacher Mr. Moy, Ethnic Studies and Modern World History instructor Ms. O’Kane, Engineering and Product & Design teacher Mr. Toney, and English instructor Ms. McNicholas shared their experiences transitioning to SI. The overwhelming response was that although it was initially difficult adjusting to the new environment at SI, the community was very welcoming and helpful in finding them their way.



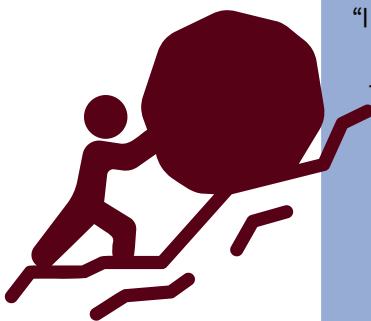
Challenges?

“I would just say that my biggest challenge is adjusting to the culture of a school that is so old and has such a clear set of traditions and rituals set around how they run their day,” - Mr. Toney.

“I think the biggest shift is that the classes here are a lot bigger. At my old school it was 12 kids per class. But collaborating with other teachers in my department has been super helpful and SI definitely has great infrastructure for new teachers.” - Ms. McNicholas

“Like most new jobs there's always an adjustment to the way things are done and people’s expectations...its finding out what their expectations are and trying to live up to them.” - Mr. Moy

“It's still early, but I think the biggest challenge is the technology. ... But I have been really supported by my mentor teacher and other adults on campus. Everyone is always asking me if I need help or if I have any questions, so I feel like I’m getting over those humps.” - Ms. O’Kane



Finding Support

“It's been awesome. The faculty and staff have all been very warm and welcoming: asking about what I need, asking about me, showing curiosity, sharing resources and their time when they don’t have to. The social sciences department has been incredibly generous and welcoming and the students too, they seem really kind and eager to learn.” - Ms. O’Kane

“I would say how everyone has been so friendly and helpful and excited to have me here. It feels like a lot of people like it here, and want to come back, so for me its been really encouraging to see that and again just like the school spirit, it really says a lot, the school just means a lot to a lot of people.” - Mr. McNicholas

“I would say I like that the students here so far that I have seen have a vast array of interests... It just makes for a more diverse group of people to talk about stuff. And having that diverse experience with a focused intent makes you feel like you have a really big community, but its still a community that you can get to know, and be a part of, and engage in.” - Mr. Toney



Past Affiliations

Unlike the other teachers, Mr. Moy is an SI alum. When the SI community was in need of a new math teacher, he stepped up. Now, as a teacher, Mr. Moy reflects on his lifelong connections to SI and because of SI:

“I never really felt like I left, only because I have so many close friends who were SI graduates who I am still close to. And I’ve tutored a lot of SI students with SAT prep and other things. So I never really felt like I left in that sense and I could always find out from one of my tutoring students who won the Bruce that year ... it didn't feel like I was really coming back to anything in that community sense. SI was kind of already around and part of my life. Just more so now than before I worked here.” - Mr. Moy



Finally, after speaking to so many teachers, we, the SI community, are so happy to welcome the new faculty and staff. We hope that SI will become a lasting home for these teachers, and we’re excited to see the lasting impacts that they will create during their time here.





# OPINION: THE NEW BELLS ARE NOT EXACTLY MUSIC TO OUR EARS

Emily Winters '24

Contributing Editor

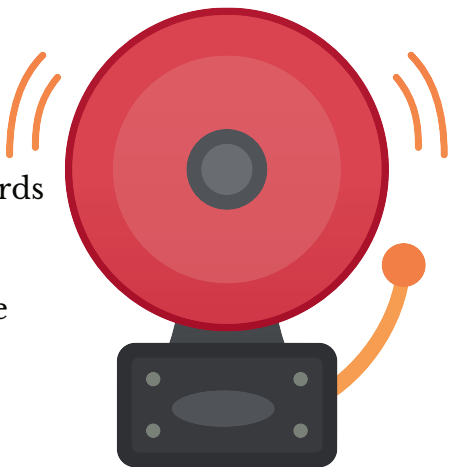
As the school day starts and students frantically navigate the halls to their classes, the infamous sound of the bells sets the tone for the day. As SI students walked into school on the first day, while they weren't looking forward to the borderline obnoxious ring, they weren't dreading it either, as they were used to it. Little did they know that would all change, and when the bell went off, instead of bringing a start to class, it brought a start of chatter, rolled eyes, and strong opinions about the new bells.

Personally, I do not like the sound of the new bells. Why change something that has already been working? It just throws everybody off. Many of my peers agree with me.

Fabiola Bucio '24 called them her "new pet peeve." The senior class is in solidarity about the hatred of the new bells, and I think this is because we were the most used to the old ones. While yes, it's annoying for a part of our routine to change in our last year of SI, the perspectives of the younger classes, those who haven't had the bells for as long, help shed some positive light on them.

Gaby Bulgatti '26 stated that she finds the bells "pretty tolerable," and Caitlin De Venecia '25 sees them as "something new."

Let's be honest, the sound telling us to go to class will never be amazing, but by seeing it in a more nuanced way, maybe when we hear the sound of the bells this year, we won't longingly wish for the bells of the past, but rather, feel neutral towards the bells of the present. That way, we focus less on the sound of the bells, and more on the meaning behind the bells: how they direct us places throughout the day, which become integrated into our SI experience.



Sierra Murphy '25

## IT'S RETREAT TIME!

Managing Editor

Sophomore retreat and Kairos are a key part of the Ignatian experience here at SI. As we begin the school year, we can look forward to the beginning of these one-of-a-kind retreat experiences for the sophomore and senior students who choose to immerse in these SI traditions.

After talking to many juniors about their time on sophomore retreat last year, it is certain that many individuals had a very positive and enlightening experience.

Julia Ting '25 opened up about her time on sophomore retreat saying, "Sophomore retreat was a very eye-opening experience for me, and I was able to strengthen bonds with many of my classmates."

In this overnight, device-free retreat, Sophomores participate in a variety of team bonding activities, bringing classmates together. In addition, Sophomore retreat is led by SI students who are either part of Insignitos or Insignis, ultimately providing Sophomores with an older leader that they can look up to and feel comfortable around. Students can use this secluded environment as a safe space to reflect with their peers, and be open to spiritual growth.

Many students agree and are willing to take time to truly reflect on themselves and grow closer to their classmates. "I had a great time at sophomore retreat! I think it is a very enriching experience that all sophomores should look forward to," says Katherine Smith '25.

Sophomore retreat is not the only interactive experience SI has to offer.



A group picture from SI's most recent Kairos retreat, K184, from May/June 2023.

Kairos is yet another retreat that seniors at SI get the opportunity to embark on.

Although it is optional, most seniors choose to immerse themselves in this mysterious retreat. Students and faculty who have attended Kairos choose to keep what happens at the retreat a secret, in order to protect the sanctity of this experience. By keeping this information disclosed, all students are able to fully enjoy and embrace their time at Kairos in an undisturbed manner. Students never fail to come back from Kairos full of many emotions and memories that will last beyond their time at SI.

Since its introduction to the school, SI has led an impressive 184 Kairos retreats for their students, and will continue the tradition for many years to come. A new school year means hundreds of new students will grow through the beloved retreat experiences at SI, opening the door to friendship, self growth, and amazing new memories.





## AI @ SI: RESPONDING TO NEW TECHNOLOGY 🐾

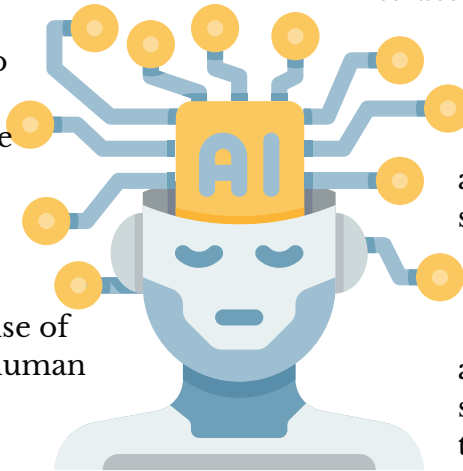
Sofia Wall '25

Contributing Editor

It's no secret that artificial intelligence is transforming the world, with new systems and policies having new use in institutions. In high schools, such as Saint Ignatius, policies and discussions about AI are fairly pertinent, with teachers now including their classes' approach to AI within their syllabuses.

The questions now being raised are: How can one use AI beneficially? Is AI something to be scared of? What specific faults lie in its use within learning?

"It isn't a bad tool. It's just a tool that we have to figure out how to use," said Ms. Yen Hui, a counselor at Saint Ignatius. Ms. Hui described the faults of the use of AI as detrimental in the way that it takes away from human authenticity and feelings.



Ms. Hui stated that she finds importance in "being clear about expectations." She suggested that teachers ought to be clear on their instructions on the use of AI.

Students at SI feel strongly about the way their school has been recognizing AI. Cassie Doerner, a junior at Saint Ignatius, described how all of her teachers have been acknowledging AI, but few are teaching their classes how to use it. Many students find themselves confused on the regulations of their use of AI within their classes, with policies differing between STEM and humanities departments. Cassie stated, "Teachers are forced to incorporate AI because either way, students are going to use it so you might as well teach them how to use it resourcefully."

## OUTSIDE SI

## AFFIRMATIVE? ACTION! (CONT. FROM P.1)

Naomi Ko '24, Senna Nijagal '24, Jeslyn Oum '24, Megan Stecher '24, Cayden Tu '24

Editors-in-Chief

Angelica Chu '24 noted, "I don't think race based admissions should be a thing. I think instead we should be basing it off other factors like socioeconomic background, sexual identity, gender expression, etc. I believe that we could have a more diverse student body if we look at these factors instead of race based admissions. Of course, race [plays] an important role when it comes to your background and your identity, but I don't think colleges should be admitting or rejecting people purely because of their race. I think that if colleges truly want a diverse environment, they would look more into other factors besides race."

University of California schools banned affirmative action in 1996, following the passing of Prop. 209. As a result of the ban, many Black and Latino students enrolled at less competitive campuses (rather than UCLA and UC Berkeley). In the early 2000s, the UCs began establishing policies created to increase diversity and outreach to low-income students, such as guaranteeing admission to most of the eight UC campuses for top-performing California high

school students. In 2020, the UC system also went test optional. While UCs have begun to catch up to the racial diversity numbers they had pre-ban, the effect has been detrimental to many minorities.

"Since I've seen the data from the UCs after they got rid of affirmative action, I'm curious to see if the same trends will show up with other universities around the country," said Carmen Aaronson '24.

The ban on affirmative action also raises questions about other practices in college admissions. Should colleges also disregard legacy status, parent donations, and athletic commitments when making admissions decisions? According to *The Washington Post*, "Legacy students are more likely to receive admission at 12 highly selective private American colleges, including Ivy League institutions, especially if they are from high-income families."

If the shift regarding affirmative action is in an attempt to make the college admissions process more holistic and fair for all applicants, factors such as legacy status should be considered within the debates as well. It is also important to note th

the benefits and reasonings behind this decision.

Diverse college campuses would not only expose students to new cultures and perspectives, it would also increase solidarity between groups. Learning experiences would also be impacted, with teachers being pushed to create more diverse lesson plans.

A few suggestions from the American Civil Liberties Union advise "making classroom teaching methods more fair and inclusive; providing curriculum, programs, and activities that speak to students' diverse interests and lived experiences; removing financial obstacles to academic success; and addressing bias in advising."

Rather than striving to make amends for disadvantages that minority students have faced in education, we must solve the root of the problem—by ensuring that every student is set up with the same opportunities from the very beginning of their lives.



## OVER THE SUMMER: IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Lucas Liang '26

Contributing Editor

As we return to school at SI, here are a few noteworthy events from around the world that happened over summer break:

Former president Donald Trump was criminally charged three times over the summer on 57 felony counts, including 40 counts of mishandling classified documents and 4 counts over his alleged attempts to overturn the 2020 election and his role in the January 6 Capitol attack. These charges add to the 34 counts in Manhattan that Trump was indicted for in March for allegedly falsifying business records in relation to his payments to adult film actress Stormy Daniels.

The world was captivated in mid-June by the search for Titan, a submersible that had been carrying five passengers to view the Titanic wreckage. On June 22, debris was found from the implosion in the craft. The combination of disaster and wealthy passengers spawned a media frenzy around the Titan's destruction. This media attention has been criticized due to the comparatively little attention paid to the sinking of a fishing trawler in the Mediterranean that killed up to 500 migrants, which occurred just four days before the Titan's implosion.

On July 21, the movies "Barbie" and "Oppenheimer" released on the same day. The juxtaposition of the two films sparked a rush to movie theaters - nicknamed "Barbenheimer" - and the weekend saw a total domestic box office of \$311 million, Hollywood's largest weekend haul since the pandemic.

The 2023 Women's World Cup wrapped up on August 20, with Spain defeating England by 1-0 to win the quadrennial competition. Spain's victory, however, was marred by controversy, as most of its players had been on strike for the past year and the country's soccer federation president, Luis Rubiales, was accused by Jenni Hermoso, a player on the team, of sexual assault, for kissing her during the awards ceremony. Spanish prosecutors have brought a sexual assault and coercion case against Rubiales to court.



## TWO IN TWO WEEKS: UNC SHOOTINGS

Naomi Ko '24 & Kate McFarland '24

Editor-in-Chief & Managing Editor

*Are you safe? Where are you? Are you alone? Guys I'm so f\*\*\*ing scared.* These messages are only some of the texts featured on *The Daily Tar Heel's* front cover from August 30, 2023 - two days after a deadly school shooting hit the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. On August 28th, Zijie Yan, a faculty member, nanoscience researcher, and father of two, was killed by a graduate student with a 9mm handgun. UNC students, reeling from the unspeakable violence, rallied outside the North Carolina General Assembly and attended the session of the House of Representatives, demanding gun safety laws.

One day after the protesting, on September 13, UNC was subject to another lockdown due to a gun threat made by Mickel Deonte Harris, over an employment dispute in the Campus's student union.

A message from UNC Chancellor Kevin M. Guskiewicz addressed the school about the September lockdown, writing, "Following the incident on Monday, Aug. 28, the news of another armed person and a second lockdown on our campus is concerning and can be traumatic." However, the fact that a shooter was able to make his way onto campus only two weeks after a previous shooting questions UNC's ability to protect their students. On September 17, NC Democrats rallied at Halifax Mall in Raleigh to again protest gun violence and promote gun control legislation.

"[The shooting] was just surreal, to be honest with you," Alberto Laveron, who is a current international student at UNC, said. "I never thought I would experience something like this."

“**UNC was at the top of my list of colleges before all of the gun violence... Knowing there have been two incidents of guns on campus makes me worry about the safety of this school along with all of the other colleges I am applying to.**”  
Meghan Sheehan '24



Top: UNC-Chapel Hill students rally for gun control and anti-violence in front of the South Building. Bottom: UNC students, faculty, and others hold candles at a vigil for Zijie Yan.

### The Daily Tar Heel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023 VOLUME 131, ISSUE 16

**ARE YOU SAFE? WHERE ARE YOU? ARE YOU ALONE? GUYS I'M SO SCARED. HEY- COME ON SWEETHEART- I NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU. CAN YOU HEAR ANY GUNSHOTS? PLEASE STAY SAFE. BARRICADE THE DOOR OR IF YOU THINK YOU CAN RUN AND GET TO A PLACE THAT CAN LOCK DO SO. MY TEACHER IS ACTING LIKE NOTHING IS HAPPENING AND I'M LOWKEY FREAKING OUT. I WISH THESE NEVER HAPPENED. STAY CALM AND SAFE - WE LOVE YOU. I AM SO SORRY THIS IS HAPPENING. I LOVE YOU. WHAT THE IS HAPPENING? MULTIPLE VOICES AND LOUD BANGING. I'M IN CLASS EVERYONE IS LOSING IT PEOPLE ARE LITERALLY SHAKING. STILL GOING ON AND COMING CLOSER, HOPING IT'S COPS. I'M GONNA THROW UP. KINDA WISH I HAD SOMEONE ELSE HERE THOUGH. PLEASE PRAY FOR US. PLEASE STAY WHERE YOU ARE AND KEEP YOUR DOORS LOCKED OR FORTIFIED. LOVE YOU SO SO MUCH. ARE YOU HOME? SOMEONE IS ALREADY SHOT. IT'S ALSO SCARY HOW UNPREPARED OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF WERE FOR THAT. I'M LISTENING ON THE SCANNER. I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING YET. IT WILL BE OK MY LOVE JUST STAY PUT. THERE'S SOMEONE ARMED ON CAMPUS. YOU HAVE A WHOLE COMMUNITY IN THE SAME BOAT WITH YOU. ARE U HIDDEN? LONGEST HALF HOUR OF MY LIFE. I'M SO SCARED TO LEAVE. STAY DOWN. DO YOU HEAR SHOOTING? PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU ARE SAFE. HEY ARE YOU DOING ALRIGHT. LIKE MENTALLY, THIS SCARY. I LOVE YOU. IM SAFE STILL. MY TEXTS WON'T GO THRU. I AM SAFE. ACTIVE SHOOTER ON CAMPUS. I'M IN DEY RN BUT I CAN SEE PEOPLE RUNNING AND HEAR SCREAMING. GET UNDER THE DESK!!!! OR RUN IF YOU CAN! PUT STUFF IN FRONT OF THE DOOR! PLEASE BE CAREFUL. I'M SCARED. I'M SO SCARED RN. OMG. I'M SO SCARED. HOLY SOMEONE'S IN MY BUILDING. SAFE? YES YOU? YES. CHECKING IN JUST HOPE Y'ALL ARE SAFE WHEREVER Y'ALL AT. APPARENTLY SOMEONE WAS SHOT IN CAUDILL. POLICE SCANNER SAYS 1 PERSON DOWN NO PULSE. PLEASE STAY THERE WHERE YOU'RE SAFE. ARE YOU SAFE RIGHT NOW? ARE YOU SAFE? PLEASE SEND LITERALLY ANYTHING. I HEARD SOMEONE GOT SHOT. CAN YOU CALL ME? ARE YOU OKAY?? IDK WHAT TO DO. I WISH I COULD JUST COME GET YOU. DON'T STOP TEXTING ME.**

The front cover of UNC's newspaper, two days after a devastating shooting hit the campus.

Emmy Martin, editor-in-chief for *The Daily Tar Heel* on the viral front cover: "So many students and so many friends of mine had posted messages that they had received and sent themselves to others on campus, and I knew that was going to be our front page." The graphic quickly went viral on Twitter, with President Biden quote tweeting, "I'll continue to do all I can to reduce gun violence and call on Congress to do the same."

Caitlyn Yade, the *Tar Heel's* print managing editor, tweeted, "I shed many tears while typing up these heart-wrenching text messages sent and received by UNC students yesterday."

As U.S. school shootings hit a record high, there must be an incentive to put them to a stop. While these shootings have quickly garnered attention, due to the fact that this is the 13th shooting at a U.S. college since the 1960s, shootings at elementary and secondary schools have also been increasing. 2022 was the second consecutive school year in which the U.S. broke the record for number of school shootings. It is not the UNC shootings alone that show that gun control must be regulated.

“**Know that you can contribute to keeping our campus safe. Students shouldn't let anyone into the building, don't prop doors open, don't wear hats or hoods, and secure your belongings.**”  
Ms. McFarland, SI's Director of Security



# THIS SUMMER’S REMINDER: AN ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Jordan Liu ’26

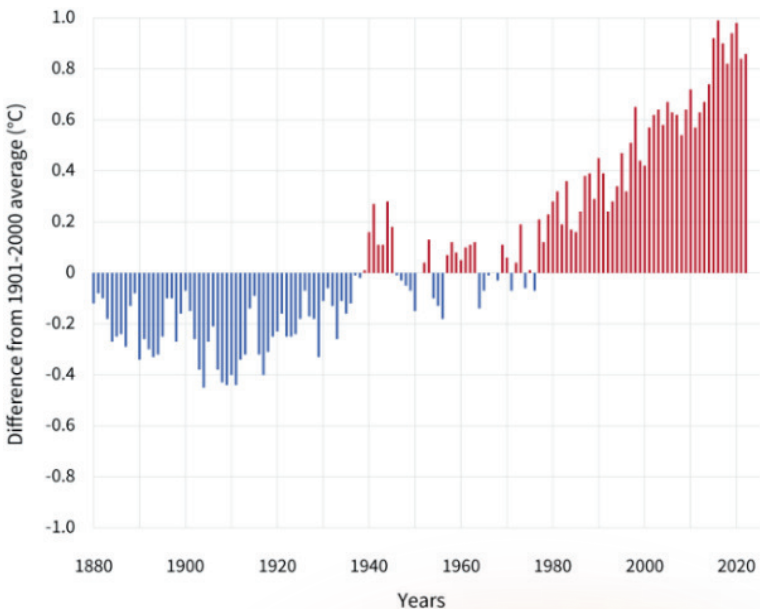
Contributing Editor

This summer, from the wildfires in Maui to the heatwaves in Europe, unprecedented effects from global warming have impacted people all over the globe. This ongoing destruction of the environment and planet calls to mind one of SI’s themes: Care for the Common Home. Here is a wrap-up of some key events we should not fail to remember as we head into fall.

In early August, wildfires on the Hawaiian island of Maui broke out and killed 115 people, with an additional 385 people still missing. The fires destroyed many landmarks and sites, such as the Baldwin Home Museum, which was Maui’s oldest building. These fires are the result of an amalgamation of factors such as dry grass, global warming, severe drought, and invasive plants disrupting the ecosystem. The fires have also caused \$6 billion in property damage, with the aerial photographs of Lahaina, on Maui’s northwestern coast, displaying an unrecognizable town that has almost completely burned to the ground. On the other side of the world, heat waves in Europe this summer have broken records for the hottest recorded temperatures in European history.

This series of heat waves have caused thousands of citizens and tourists alike to experience heat stroke, dehydration, and fatigue. In addition, temperatures exceeding 118 degrees were recorded in Spain, France, and Italy. Trends like this are concerning, as global temperatures have risen exponentially in past years. In fact, scientists say that the last eight years have been the hottest recorded in human history. These rises have been attributed to global warming and the release of carbon emissions into the atmosphere. Kate Ozaeta ’26, a sophomore on Green Team leadership, said, “Corporations that still use fossil fuels and value their own profit over people should be held responsible for the destruction that is happening in the world due to rising temperatures.

This summer served as a haunting reminder to us that we should not take our planet for granted. The entire world experienced immense environmental changes. Students at SI must be mindful of their environmental impacts, as it is necessary to remember that we are in a position to create change and care for our home.



Global warming caused record-high temperatures. (NOAA Climate.gov)



## AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES AND THE FUTURE

Tai Morganson ’26

Contributing Editor

The future is here: self-driving cars crowd the streets of San Francisco, offering cost-free transportation in exchange for the propagation of a good image of technology. San Francisco, a city known for its progressiveness, is among the first in the nation to grant autonomous vehicle companies like Cruise and Waymo permission to employ their cars in its streets. But this exciting new technology is not without controversy; its opponents hone in on its philosophy and on the achievability of safely sharing the road with emergency vehicles. On Thursday, August 10th, California’s Public Utilities commission approved self-driving cars to roam the streets of San Francisco. Waymo and Cruise self-driving cars can now charge people for rides at all hours of the day. Jack Baxter ’25 stands in vehement opposition to the philosophy behind autonomous vehicles. He stated, “Self-driving vehicles are a curse against our streets[,] people would rather get in a car that’s driven by a robot than on a street car or train.” Baxter believes extensive funding for single-rider autonomous vehicles draws invaluable finances from more beneficial, utilitarian alternatives like public transit. He raises an interesting point. Inversely proportional to the money granted to autonomous vehicle research is national funding for public transit; its upward trend halted and then reversed in 2019, the year of the first extensive grant to autonomous vehicle research. Baxter’s issue is not with the funding for self-driving technology, but with funding for fared, self-driving cars that he points out will only increase class antagonisms; self-driving cars only benefit the top percent and not aid the average worker who cannot afford the fare or the wait. “The government will spend money on everything except something that’ll help the people,” Baxter concluded.

The most apparent flaw in the execution of autonomous vehicles is their current competency regarding emergency vehicles and situations around which traffic laws bend. Despite the expert insistence that autonomous vehicles are equipped with emergency-vehicle-sensing technology and are programmed to yield, San Francisco driverless taxis have interfered with fire trucks over sixty times. In a statement following a collision, San Francisco Fire Chief Jeanine Nicholson stated that autonomous vehicles are “still not ready for prime time because of how they have impacted [SFFD’s] operations.” Some see the development of autonomous vehicles as for the benefit of only the upper class, defunding and discouraging the use of public transit. Others are concerned about its jeopardy to safety. Though they are early into their likely extensive period of development, it is clear that the issue of self-driving cars will unite San Franciscans, in, if nothing else, discussion on safety, politics, and economics.



An automated Waymo car navigates down Columbus Avenue in San Francisco.



Ariana Barredo '24 & Anthony Jin '24

Managing Editors

With the dawn of a new school year comes a new batch of affinity group leaders, and SI's affinity groups have already held small social events midway through September. As the new school year begins, we were curious to find out what hopes each group has for the year. Each affinity group offers the space for students to celebrate their community within their identity group, whether that is through identity formation events, socials, showcases, and many more. We asked some of the affinity group leaders for their hopes for this coming school year:

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR THE YEAR WITHIN YOUR AFFINITY GROUP?

"My hope for BSU this year is to build a stronger community that everyone within can lean upon."

Andre Ignoffo '24, BSU

"We're hoping to continue to build community for our LGBTQ+ folks here at SI and educate people on pertinent topics related to gender identity and sexual orientation."

Mr. Geraghty, LGBTQ+ Affinity

"With all the trouble in the Middle East, we are trying to come together and support each other and our common home."

Sophene Panosian '24, AMA

"I hope that ASC can be a loving and brave space for individuals who are looking for community on campus."

Nam Nguyen '24, ASC

"I hope that the affinity groups continue to grow, not just in membership but in identity formation opportunities that advance belonging for the students who engage."

Ms. Hernandez, Director of Community Engagement & Belonging

"My hopes are to bring more Pacific Islander students together through events. I hope that we can see the diversity of our islands and cultures and create a space to celebrate that."

Ms. Hurley, PIA

"I hope that ALAS is able to continue to grow and support incoming students this year through our empowering community."

Enzo Arantes '24 ALAS

"I am excited about the upcoming year for JAG. We have a fabulous leadership team who want to increase our events and participation...We hope that anyone Jewish at SI can find community and connection with JAG."

Kerryn Schwarz, JAG

Affinity groups are not only places where we can build community as students, but they are also spaces to turn for support and explore our identities. They present the opportunity to build solidarity across communities, most notably through showcases, such as the ALAS Showcase, BSU Showcase, and Pasko (ASC). These events (which are open to everyone!) give the chance to elevate and celebrate the beauty and joys of each affinity group.

Affinity groups have a long history at SI; ASC, for example, is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. Ms. Hernandez, SI's Director of Community Engagement & Belonging, expressed her excitement for the celebration, indicating her hope that "we all can appreciate the impact and importance of ASC and all the affinity groups in helping SI live out its mission."

Throughout the coming year, there will be plenty of events to check out, from the socials to showcases, so be on the lookout for chances to celebrate the diversity of SI's student body and to grow in community with one another!



On Tuesday September 19th, the Office of Belonging Equity and Excellence held the first Affinity Groups X Period where a panel of members from various affinity groups spoke about their experiences being apart of them and why affinity groups are essential at SI.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO/EXCITED FOR?

"I am looking forward to the BSU Showcase!"

Andre Ignoffo '24, BSU

"This year's leadership group is incredibly passionate and driven. We're so excited to have them plan our events this year...Big events on the calendar are Queeraoke, a field trip to the LGBT Historical Society Museum, fundraisers for various LGBTQ+ charities, movie afternoons, and our annual LGBTQ+ student panel."

Mr. Geraghty, LGBTQ+ Affinity

"Bringing awareness to current issues in the Middle East and planning events throughout the year."

Sophene Panosian '24, AMA

"I'm most looking forward to the 50th anniversary this year and celebrating alongside my peers."

Nam Nguyen '24, ASC

"I'm excited for students to share their joy and pride in their identity. And, for the SI community to experience the cultural wealth that students contribute on a daily basis."

Ms. Hernandez, Director of Community Engagement & Belonging

"I am excited for our leadership team to bring our community together and look forward to the ideas they create...I hope to inspire our students from a cultural perspective and develop a deeper understanding of their own personal identities."

Ms. Hurley, PIA

"I'm excited for the first Affinity group X period on September 19 in Wiegand Theatre. We will be answering questions and sharing information about our affinity group to all who want to attend. I'm also looking forward to the ALAS showcase Saturday where we can celebrate our culture and history together."

Enzo Arantes '24, ALAS

"[JAG's leaders] have some great ideas for events on and off campus, including celebrating holidays, bowling, and teaming up with SH's Jewish group to volunteer with Hamotzi, a program at Congregation Sherith Israel that prepares meals for shelters."

Kerryn Schwarz, JAG



CELEBRATING ASC’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Penny Pyo '24

Contributing Editor

In the winter of 1973, a group of graduating seniors founded SI’s Asian Students Coalition, with Mr. Jim McGarry as their moderator. In the 1975 St. Ignatius yearbook, ASC officers Kiyasu, Yip, Gloria, and Tominaga outline ASC’s mission of “[helping] Asian Americans adapt to a unique environment of the community of Saint Ignatius and to the ever-changing world.”

The officers expressed their goal to “give the rest of the community at SI insight into Asian American experience...[ASC] wants to give an accurate picture of who we really are.” Finally, they state that as an organization, ASC strives “to create an understanding and firm bond with the rest of the SI community.”

Fifty years later, ASC’s membership has grown from forty-three students to over four hundred, and the original officers’ tenets remain core to ASC’s mission of creating community and providing a place to explore and discuss Asian American cultures, identities, and issues. Señor Orque, current ASC moderator and SI alum, recently shared about being part of ASC during his time as a student and moderator.

INSIDE SI: When you were attending SI, what was your experience being part of ASC like?

SEÑOR ORQUE: As a student at SI, ASC welcomed me, and it was one of the first spaces in which I felt that I belonged as a member of the community. In fact, I met some of my closest high school friends from ASC gatherings. At these events, we shared our experiences with our heritages, shared many meals, and built strong community bonds.

INSIDE SI: As a moderator, how has ASC grown over the years?

SEÑOR ORQUE: Since I became one of the co-moderators in 2012, ASC has transitioned fully into being an Affinity Group and has broadened its events to include discussions around identity formation topics. ASC has also strengthened its partnerships with other Affinity Groups and with SIPAC (the SI Parents' Asian Club). ASC continues to serve as an important space for students to share their various Asian and Asian American identities, cultures, and heritages.

INSIDE SI: What are some memorable ASC events from over the years?

SEÑOR ORQUE: Some events that stand out in my mind from recent years are the student-run presentations about the history of and how to respond to anti-Asian hate, the first student-run Diwali event in the Commons, and the Zoom presentation from California State Treasurer Fiona Ma about Asian Americans in politics.

INSIDE SI: What are your hopes for ASC this year?

SEÑOR ORQUE: As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of ASC at SI, I hope that ASC continues to serve as a safe space while working towards its mission: to promote ongoing education and dialogue about Asian American issues and to support and empower students to contribute to an inclusive school community. Lastly, I hope that ASC continues to bring joy and fun to everyone!



ASC THEN AND NOW

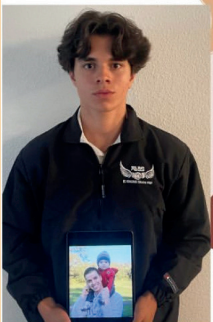


ASC Seniors & Juniors, 1974. The first ASC yearbook photo.



ASC 2023

SEPTEMBER 15TH MARKED THE FIRST DAY OF LATINX HERITAGE MONTH! CHECK OUT THE ALAS HERO POSTERS AROUND THE SCHOOL:




**ALAS HEROES**

ENZO ARANTES '24


**VINICIOS MORAES**

*"Make something of yourself!"*

My dad, Vinicios, is the most hard-working, selfless, loving person I know. Moving from Brazil at the age of 19, he aspired to make something of himself in a country full of opportunities. My dad came to the United States not speaking the language and without any money, but he was determined to succeed. Originally working at a pizza place in San Francisco, my dad delivered pizza to get by in a new city. Working up to 16 hours a day, he wasn't going to let down not only for himself but for my mom as well. Eventually getting married and starting a family, Vini had even more responsibilities and joy added to his life. He embraced fatherhood and when he wasn't working, he made sure to spend his time with his two sons. Bringing my brother and I to the house of air and to play soccer was his favorite way to bond with us. I witnessed the true definition of fatherhood, the selfless act of protecting, loving, and sacrificing for your family. Nowadays, Vini is a father of 4 and continues to sacrifice each and every day to give his children a future he never had.



ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDENTS




**ALAS HEROES**

PALOMA HUERTAS '24


**ADRIANA OCAMPO**

*"Dream and never give up. When thinking about the great adventure that you have ahead, dream and never give-up, be persistent and always be true to your heart."*

Adriana Ocampo was born in Barranquilla, Colombia and was raised in Argentina. As a teen, her family moved to the United States. While in the states, she had the opportunity to volunteer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and worked there throughout her college career. She received two degrees while working full time. She credits her parents with being her inspiration. While living in Argentina, she used to look at the stars and dream about space. Her research has led to the discovery of the Chicxulub impact crater, the impact from this crater led to the extinction of over 50% of Earth's species.



ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDENTS




**ALAS HEROES**

JULIAN GREENWOOD '24

**GLADYS ROSALES**

My Grandma Gladys has been my hero my entire life. She immigrated to the US from El Salvador as a teen. Her parents sent her and her twin sister to live with aunts to achieve a better life in the United States. She attended Balboa High School in the Excelsior District in the Mission Terrace neighborhood of San Francisco where she met my grandfather. They were married when she was only 18. After starting a family, they moved back to their home country and unfortunately faced several tragedies, including the loss of a daughter due to heart complications. They were forced to flee the Civil War in El Salvador in 1980 and moved back to California. My Grandmother started her own business, a Mexican Restaurant, and raised her family in the US. When she was only 61 years old, she suffered a life-threatening brain aneurysm that left her walking impaired. My Grandma has never complained once. She walks several miles a day, and continues to cook delicious meals. She taught her entire family the power of hard work, resilience, and gratitude and for that she is my hero.



ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDENTS





THE BUCKET LIST

Written by Senna Nijagal '24

On the night before the first day of school, I remember my mom asking me what my bucket list is. I did not have an answer for her. “What do you mean, my bucket list” I asked. “Why would I have a bucket list?”

“Because it’s your last year living in this city.”

At the time, I brushed off her suggestion, most likely because I did not want to think about the difficult reality of leaving the city I have always called home. But now, I have decided to take up her suggestion, in a way, by revisiting some of my favorite, and most meaningful, places in the Bay Area - starting with the Botanical Gardens.

The Botanical Gardens has quite a lot of nostalgia for me because it has always been a part of the San Francisco I have known. I have always lived just a few blocks away from this place, and I pass it everyday on walks with my dog, but it has been 10 years since I have actually visited.

I remember one of my family excursions to the gardens when my cousins were visiting. I am not sure if it is still there, but at the time, there was a large fountain towards the back of the gardens, and as 5 and 3 year olds, my cousins and I had no choice but to jump into the fountain, picking coins off the bottom. Looking back, it was quite an obnoxious thing to do, picking people’s wishes off the fountain’s floor, but we did it. We were so terrified that the people working there would come and yell at us for jumping into the fountain, but we left the gardens having successfully and inconspicuously (apart from our soaking wet clothes) accomplished our fun for the day! Now, as a 16 year old, I most definitely could not get away with jumping into the fountain at the botanical gardens, but I hope the trip will be a worthy check off of my bucket list!

Upon entering the gardens, the space was larger than I had remembered, and my recollection of the fountain being towards the back of the gardens turned out to be false. The fountain should actually be described as sitting right in the middle part of the gardens because if you continue on past it, the garden reveals more secluded trails, a small lake, and smaller gardens encapsulating the botany of a geographic region or highlighting a specific type of plant. Although there were plenty of beautiful spots and picturesque benches, I felt as if I could not sit anywhere other than the very spot that seemed to be at the forefront of all of my memories here, which seemed to be the very reason I was drawn to putting this place at the top of my bucket list, The Fountain.

Unfortunately all that remains of the Fountain is the pastel green, orange, and purple tiles which make up its sturdy wall, and signs in the middle which prohibit climbing into the actual Fountain part. The actual water of the Fountain has been switched off now (I cannot help but feel as if this may be my and my cousins fault), and therefore I feel as if the Fountain can only now be referred to as a life-size shallow bowl thing. Nevertheless, San Francisco decided to hold off its gloomy fog, put a pause on its perpetual seasonless-ness, and tell Oregon to slow down its recent smoky air for my visit to the Botanical Gardens. Maybe that makes it the least reflective of my home, or maybe it paints a perfectly rosy glow of my most recent memory of the Botanical Gardens.



San Francisco’s Botanical Gardens



Jolie Barrett '24 & Emma Chan '24 show off their OSL outfits.

FASHION IN THE PARK

Mccoy Heaton '24

Contributing Editor

Outside Lands, the vibrant festival that pulses through the heart of the city, unveils a kaleidoscope of trends and styles that ignite imaginations in San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park. The festival is not only famous for its performances, but also known for its unique fashion trends that often take inspiration from the music.

A popular event for teenagers in the city, many SI students go each summer. This year, the festival celebrated its 15th anniversary with headliners including Kendrick Lamar and Lana Del Ray. Even though the typical San Francisco fog kept Golden Gate Park chilly this year, fashion and style remained an integral part of the festival experience.

On Friday, black leather jackets kept many warm, while statement earrings and necklaces were the centerpiece of many outfits. This style is inspired by Kendrick Lamar’s laid back style and relaxed, yet powerful lyrics. Some trends, however, did not reflect the style of any specific musical artist that performed at the festival. Cowboy boots from suede to leather were all the rage, appearing all three days. Ariana Barredo '24 commented, “I wore cowboy boots every day, and it was difficult to spot someone who didn’t have boots on their feet.”

The variety of trends also included lace and crochet clothing everywhere. Sofia Ivers '24 stated, “There was so much white and pink lace on Saturday. I actually wore lace that day as well. I think the lace and neutral colors were inspired by Lana Del Ray.” Many of the notable fashion trends on Saturday were inspired by the Del Ray’s own style, which includes the lace trend, and another popular trend of long, flowy, white skirts. These trends reflect the nature of Lana’s dreamy and lyrical music.

At Outside Lands, the relationship between music and fashion was symbiotic. Festival-goers used style as a form of self-expression, similar to how music reflects the artist’s identity. Fashion appeals to our visual sense, and music to our sense of hearing. These two forms of expression are used to display identity, and Outside Lands was the perfect place to display both.

KEEP YOUR EYE OUT FOR  
FUTURE ARTICLES IN INSIDE SI’S NEW COLUMN,  
“THE BUCKET LIST”!



## FEMALE STORIES IN CINEMA

Ava Murphy '25 & Sienna Cline '25

Managing Editor & Contributing Editor

2023 really has been the year of incredible female empowerment in cinema. Many movies this year take the viewer on journeys through female struggles and the ups and downs of womanhood. These projects have broken records and created conversations around what women go through each and every day.

This was, of course, most clearly seen in the release of the *Barbie* movie, directed by Greta Gerwig. The movie took the world by storm, and continues to draw large crowds into movie theaters, parading through the streets dressed in pink from head to toe. Greta Gerwig broke records with the project, having the highest grossing opening weekend of any female director.

This movie not only broke records but also brought to light issues like body image, the male gaze, and what women are really capable of. This portrayal had an impact on women and girls around the world and opened the eyes of so many. The Barbie movie conveyed how important educating others on these stories can be. Every woman has a story to tell.



However, this is not the only female directed project to grace screens. Movies such as *Are You There God it's Me, Margaret*, and *Priscilla*, which is yet to be released, showcase the female experience from various perspectives throughout a woman's life. These stories offer unique opinions and viewpoints that everyone can relate to or learn from.

As the end of 2023 approaches quickly, go out and engage in this new era of incredible female storytelling and see the narrative for yourself!



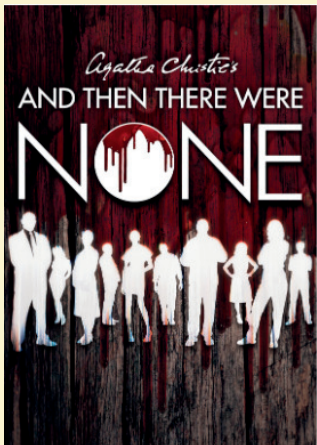
Ilaria Rossetto '24

## AND THEN THERE WAS THE FALL PLAY

Contributing Editor

SI's fall theater production will be the thrilling murder mystery, *And Then There Were None*, by Agatha Christie. The play begins as eight strangers are inexplicably invited to a secluded island off the coast of Devon. As two butlers welcome the guests to a house owned by mysterious hosts Ulick Norman Owen and Una Nancy Owen, each of the ten visitors are accused of murder. When the group attempts to discover the purpose of their summoning by the enigmatic hosts, a bloodbath breaks loose and each guest is murdered in accordance with a nursery rhyme hung on the walls of the house.

Students involved in the production have expressed that there is no better way to build a community than acting in this strange mystery presented by Agatha Christie. The atmosphere in rehearsals allows students to creatively express their talents with their peers. Colton McKie '27 expressed his gratitude for the drama department, saying, "The community has welcomed me with open arms, as I am new to high school. This is a brand new experience for me and the cast has helped me have a great time in the play." *And Then There Were None* opens in November and is sure to entertain. Get your tickets early as the show will sell out quickly!



Ava Murphy '25

What's in SI's AirPods?

Managing Editor




**MORE THAN A FEELING**  
Boston



**-ANNIE STECHER '27**

**DOOMSDAY**  
MF DOOM



**-SAMANTHA GOETHALS '26**



**BRAZIL**  
Declan Mckenna



**-AVERY NUSS '25**

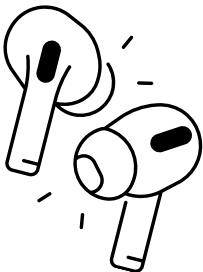
**VIVA LA VIDA**  
Coldplay



**-SAM FINNERTY '24**



Open your Spotify app and scan the codes to listen to what's in your classmates' airpods!





Nick Luongo '25 & Stella Hong '24

Managing Editor & Associate Editor in Chief

Wildcat sports are back! As fall sports reach the midway point of their season, each team has some big games ahead. Go support teams at the pool, gym, Fairmont, and JB Murphy. Good luck to all of our fall athletes! Go Cats!

Football

Record as of 9/24: 2-2

The Varsity Football team has had a great start to the season. After a tough loss against Riordan on 9/23, they play Bellarmine under the lights on Friday.



Varsity Football making an entrance at their USA-themed game against Cathedral Catholic

Flag Football

Record as of 9/24: 1-1

Women's Flag Football is the newest addition to SI athletics. They had an exceptional 36-16 win against Northgate in their opening game. They played against St. Francis on Wednesday.



The Flag Football team gets ready for their first game against Northgate.

Men's Cross Country

The Varsity Boy's Cross Country team is off to a great start, earning second place in their most recent WCAL meet in Golden Gate Park.



The Varsity Boys talk things over ahead of their race.

Women's Cross Country

The Varsity Girl's Cross Country team finished in second place along with the boys in their first WCAL meet. Their next meet is on October 7.



The Varsity Girls in the lead at the Ed Sias Invitational.

Women's Golf

Record as of 9/24: 6-1

Varsity Girls' Golf has been on a victorious winning streak. They most recently played against Washington on Wednesday.



The Varsity girls tee off against Lowell.



Women's Tennis

Record as of 9/24: 9-2

The Varsity Girls' Tennis Team has had an exceptional start to their season, taking 1st place in the Santa Barbara High School Invitational this past weekend. Their most recent match was against Valley Christian on Tuesday.



The Varsity Tennis team announces the lineup before the match versus Sacred Heart Prep.

Women's Water Polo

Record as of 9/24: 8-4

Girls' Water Polo took the victory in a tournament over the weekend, counting a 5-game winning streak. Varsity most recently took on Menlo School on Wednesday.



The Wildcats swiftly moving the ball around against Castilleja

Men's Water Polo

Record as of 9/24: 6-3

Boys' Varsity Water Polo is coming off a 13-11 Win against Valley Christian. They also faced off against the Menlo School on Wednesday alongside the Girls Varsity.



The Wildcats playing defense against St. Marys







COCO GAUFF: 2023 US OPEN WINNER

Kate Quach '25

Associate Editor-in-Chief

A neon green tennis ball whistles through the air before slamming down past the net. On one end of the court advances Coco Gauff, who flashes in red as she races from left to right. Aryana Sabalenka swings at the other end with two hands steadied around her racket. The tense anticipation strained in the air during the final match of the 2023 women’s singles US Open brought viewers to the edge of their seats, whether they gathered around Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Queens, New York, or tuned in from TV screens at home. Yet, no matter the location, the finishing move of the match point met eyes across the nation: in a quick step, Gauff rushed her racket toward the ball, successfully striking it past Sabalenka’s reach. Gauff, overwhelmed by the reality of her victory, staggered down to her knees before flopping her back onto the hard court surface. Abundant applause erupted throughout the stadium. Across sports broadcasts, a commentator called out, “Get up, Coco Gauff, you just won the US Open!”

On September 9, at 19 years old, Gauff became the first American teenager to win the US Open title since Serena Williams in 1999. This day was not her first time stepping onto the tournament’s court. Four years prior, Gauff faced Naomi Osaka in the third round of the 2019 US Open. Meeting defeat against Osaka did not set the then-15-year-old back. Instead, her continued dedication to the game of tennis propelled her to her recent championship. Now etched alongside Osaka and Williams’ names on the wall of tournament victors beams Gauff’s in shimmering silver lettering.

Her triumphs across the six total matches she competed in displayed her true talents in tennis, inspiring young tennis players. Claire Somsouk '26, a player in the JV women’s tennis team at SI, admired Gauff’s strength, which she reflected in her physical athleticism and performance. “She’s incredibly fit because she can keep running back and forth,” Somsouk said. The sophomore found Gauff inspiring emerging tennis players as extraordinary as Gauff is “so young and so hardworking.”

Gauff stands as a leading figure in the competitive world of tennis, radiating her values of determination and spirit onto the rising generation of players who take their step on the court.



Coco Gauff wins the 2023 US Open, Photo c/o Associated Press



2023 FIBA BASKETBALL WORLD CUP

Sebastian Fisher '25

Contributing Editor



Winning team Germany celebrates winning the 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup, courtesy of Getty Images.

The 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup just concluded its 19th annual tournament for men's international teams. It is held every four years, and took place this year in Japan, the Philippines, and Indonesia.

This year’s team USA was not filled with the big name players. Instead, the team included younger, hungrier players. The tournament was filled with surprises, and arguably the most shocking was that Team USA didn’t win the championship.

Critics pointed to Team USA's weak defense and rebounding as the main reasons for their defeat, which was not a surprise considering they were undersized coming into the tournament.

Spain and France were also surprising as they were both ranked highly in the pre-tournament power rankings; France failed to make it past the first round and Spain was eliminated in the second.

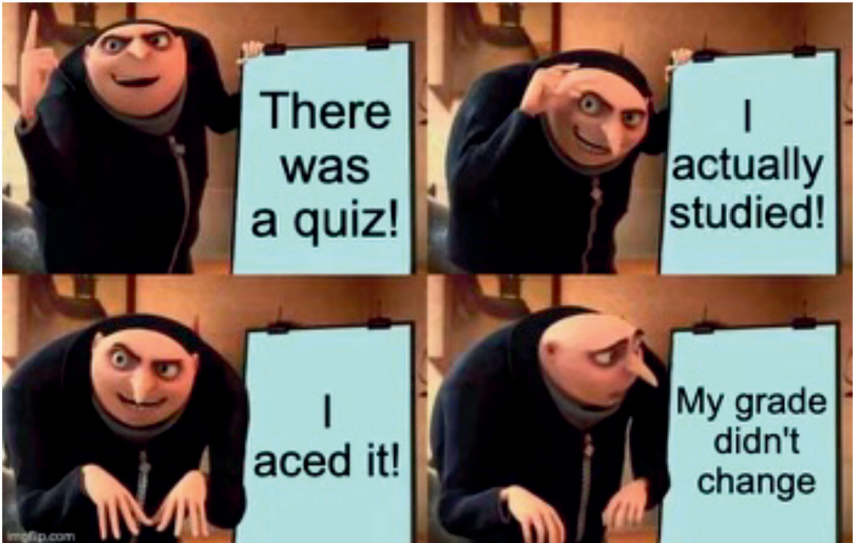
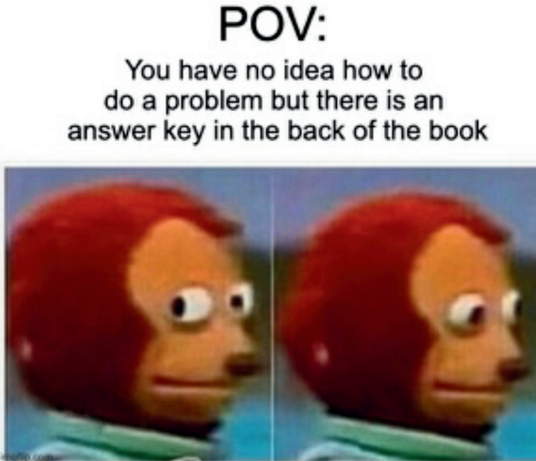
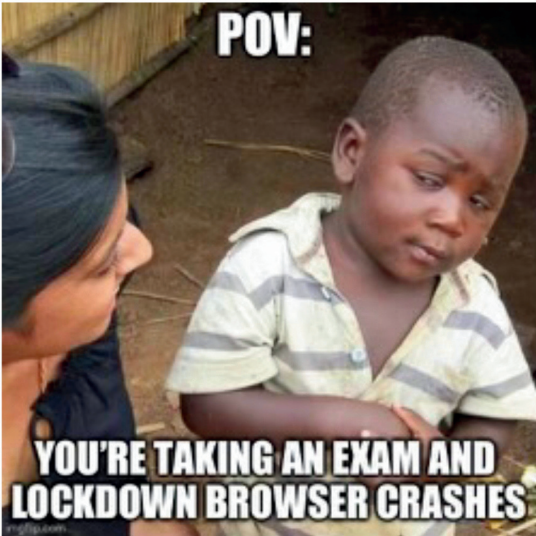
Germany, originally ranked 7th, went on to win it all, defeating a tough Serbian squad playing without star center Nikola Jokic.

HUMOR

NEED A LAUGH? LOOK HERE!

Ricky Ng '24

Contributing Editor

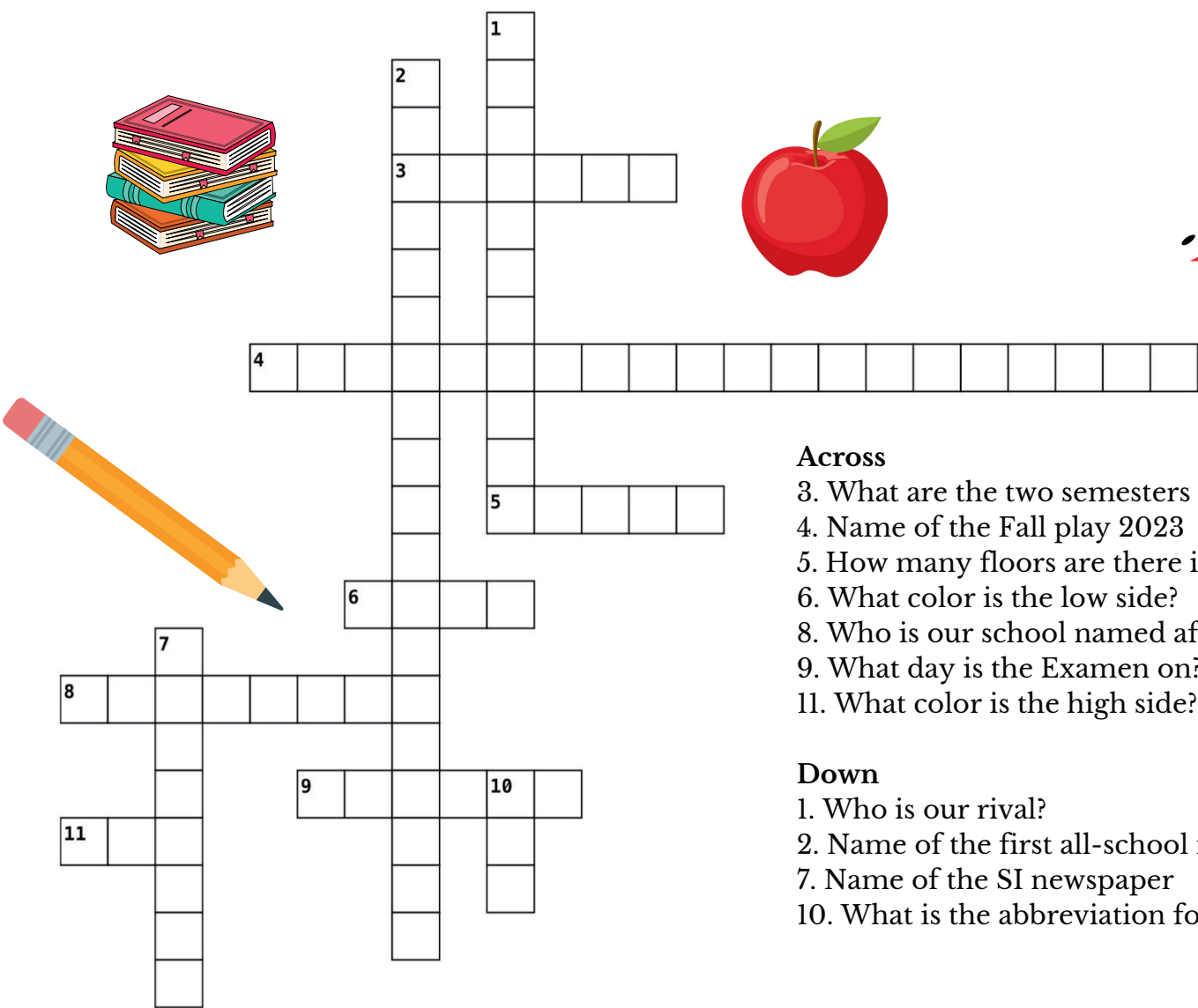




Ethan Lo '24 and Justin Lin '24

CROSSWORD

Contributing Editors



Think you have the right answer for any of these games? Come by Room 119 to see if you're right and win a prize!

- Across**
- 3. What are the two semesters at SI? Fall and \_\_\_\_
  - 4. Name of the Fall play 2023
  - 5. How many floors are there in the main school building?
  - 6. What color is the low side?
  - 8. Who is our school named after?
  - 9. What day is the Examen on?
  - 11. What color is the high side?
- Down**
- 1. Who is our rival?
  - 2. Name of the first all-school mass of the year
  - 7. Name of the SI newspaper
  - 10. What is the abbreviation for the affinity group for Asian students?

SI CONNECTIONS

Kayla Hoy '24

Contributing Editor

Group these words into 4 groups of four related items, based on what they have in common.

INSIDE SI CONNECTIONS

FIND GROUPS OF 4 ITEMS THAT HAVE A COMMONALITY

WILDCAT	BSU	CANINE COMPANIONS	COOKIES
SPICY KOREAN BEEF	ENDANGERED ANIMALS WELFARE	RED	JAG
SI	ASC	CLAM CHOWDER BOWL	PET NATION
ALAS	BLUE	MEDCATS	CHICKEN TENDERS



**ICON SEARCH!**

Get your detective skills ready! How many wildcat paw prints are hidden throughout the issue?

