

THE ROYAL COURIER

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EL CAMINO REAL CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

THE NEW DAWN OF A FINAL CHAPTER



Photo by Sophie Blanc

THE SENIOR CLASS GATHERING TO TAKE THEIR SENIOR SUNRISE

By **Sydney Keane**

This year's senior sunrise brought together the class of 2024 to celebrate the start of their last year of high school Aug 31.

The seniors were told to arrive at school around 5:45 but students arrived as early as five to set up in their ideal space. Students lined up next to the lower B and service road gate to await for their wristbands and made their way down to the baseball field to secure their spot. Friend groups joined together with their blankets so they could all sit and enjoy the sunrise together.

As students got adjusted many talked about their high school experiences

and reminisced about their last couple of years at the school. Many also talked about future senior events they were excited to go to and continue the fun memories they were making at that moment. Since it was so early, some students were pretty sleepy and chose to just enjoy the moment with their friends in silence while watching the beautiful sunrise.

Among entering the baseball field, students were given one ticket each to have some of the food the school provided. There were tables lined up with delicious food and drinks for the student to eat and enjoy while watching the sunrise. Some of the food and drinks includ-

ed donuts, bagels, pastries, orange juice, coffee, water, chips and even little bites. Although, a lot of students came prepared with their Starbucks drinks.

Many students went around taking photos to capture the moment. Some even brought digital cameras as well as professional cameras. There was even a backdrop available for the students to take photos with. The seniors all got together to take one big group photo towards the end of the event. Students were seen playing music, having handstand contests, and more just to enjoy their time together.

Senior sunrise is an event student council hosts every

year for the current graduating class. This year it was hosted and put together by two seniors on the student council: Spencer Jundef and Samarah Cecil. They worked hard to create a fun and relaxing atmosphere for seniors to enjoy in the morning before heading off to the rest of their classes.

Even though the seniors are sad for their high school experience to be ending, senior sunrise was a fun way to start the end of a chapter. The seniors will continue this chain of fun senior events throughout the year with the next one being the senior picnic.

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NEW GAME PAGE!

Devastating Maui fires rip across beloved Hawaiian island



Photo credentials to The Maui News / MATTHEW THAYER photos

By **Isabel Rose** and **Kyleigh Zvara**

Fires ravaged Maui August 8, leaving the city in ruins and thousands of residents misplaced. The fires started due to a fatal accident with the powerlines. Extremely high winds that week struck down a tree, causing it to collapse on the line in the

eastern region of Maui. This sparked a brush fire that continued to spread through multiple cities and became the deadliest fire in over a century. It was first reported in Kula 20 minutes after midnight, then early next morning in Lahaina. The now demolished, historic town had been standing for about 221 years. It was built in 1802

by people of the Hawaiian Kingdom, long before the nation joined the United States. The blaze has caused massive damage to the island, and especially to Lahaina. 3,200 acres of land has been burned, 2,200 buildings have been destroyed, 11,000 people are left without homes, and 115 residents have been report-

ed dead. On top of the tremendous loss, there were an estimated number of 388 people missing by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in their official report, August 25. Residents of Lahaina were met with walls of fire and had no other option but to evacuate their homes. Some drove away, able to bring with them what little possessions they could fit in their cars, and others were forced to abandon their livelihoods and jump in the water to survive. Many watched as everything they had burned to the ground. The fire not only killed hundreds, but also spread toxic chemicals that were released into the lungs of residents which may cause serious medical problems for them in the future. A clean up for the hazardous waste created is scheduled after the ongoing

searches for missing residents is completed. This operation is the beginning of the rebuilding stage of recovery for Maui and will be conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency. To help the reconstruction of the island, President Biden signed an order to provide 95 million dollars to Maui. For those who want to help by donating to the rehabilitation of Maui and support the stranded Hawaiian residents, various organizations are accepting donations. Such organizations include the Maui Strong Fund, the Hawaiian and Pacific Islands Division of Salvation Army, and the Hawai'i People's Fund. There is a donation site that gives funds directly to residents or charities from the island. Assistance to victims of the tragedy is essential during this tragic and difficult time.

Actors and writers strike for their rights

By **Kyleigh Zvara** and **Victoria Matz**

Fighting for higher wages and fair treatment, the Screen Actors Guild – American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, and the Writers Guild of America, are striking together for the first time in 80 years. Writers and actors in the film industry have been protesting big-name broadcasting corporations and streaming services due to their lack of equal pay. Be-

ginning May 2, writers have refused to work on shows until they receive better benefits, and actors part of SAG-AFTRA joined the fight July 14. The strikes began May of this year, however, the most well-known strike was early July, when the crowds combined to see both actors and writers protesting in solidarity. Strikes were happening primarily in Los Angeles and Hollywood, targeting production companies. About 200,000 Hollywood actors and actresses

were in attendance at these strikes and showed people what their true concerns and opinions were about this situation. Production companies and beloved television shows, as well as movies have halted filming and even casting. Upcoming movies like Avatar 3 and 4, the live-action interpretation of Moana, as well as Lilo & Stitch have paused production. Shows such as Law & Order, Emily in Paris, and even Stranger Things have also stopped filming. Programs that were

set to be released in 2024 are now, because of the strike, believed to be released in 2026, if all goes as planned. Actors at the picket lines are not only fighting for higher wages but also equality with their digital existence. Extras on certain shows were scanned using a complex arrangement of cameras to digitize their image. Hollywood's proposal is to use these three-dimensional images in films, eradicating the need for performers to be in the background of them.

This would destroy countless jobs, and remove most on-screen actors from work. Above the issue of artificial intelligence taking over the actor's jobs, any performer whose likeness was used in a piece of media would not be paid. It has been rumored that the WGA has been discussing updated terms with participants in the strikes, but regardless, no new information has been released to the public. Writers and actors together, will continue to fight for their safety and

New leadership within leadership

By **Kaley Samiian**

The school's Leadership program has experienced a change in administration within the class for the 2023-2024 school year. "Mr. Wilson and I share the position," Flex counselor Lynsey Shano said. "For the most part, we're splitting the duties fairly equally. I'm mainly gravitated towards the senior cabinet and the senior activities." Shano and math co-department chair Brian Wilson have taken the role as Leadership administrators. While their tasks are even-

ly distributed, the two still work together and assist one another in accomplishing goals within the class. They share a common admiration for the student-led aspect of the program. "I like how the students come up to me with ideas of what they should do as opposed to me telling them," Wilson said. "The students work together to accomplish a goal that they created." Many of the students have previously been part of Leadership at the school with the exception of the new freshmen. The students exercise and expand

their management skills and organization in the class. The members of the student-body frequently hold meetings to discuss school-related topics. They then create posters and ask for funds regarding upcoming activities. The Leadership teachers oversee all the work that is being done. "We did have a couple of new freshmen students that applied and interviewed," Shano said. "There is a paper application and an interview with the student body president and vice president. Additionally, Mr. Wilson or myself takes part in the in-

terview and then together we decide [who is going to be in the program]." Every individual student has a significant role in the program and the administrators guide them as they complete their tasks. For the new school year, the directors acknowledge a corresponding ambition they have. "I [hope that] more students will become involved in all of the activities," Shano said. "They generally don't know or participate in events, so [our goal] is to have more participation among students and staff."

To accomplish this, the directors have been consistently communicating with fellow teachers to inform them and keep them updated about approaching school activities. "My goal is that students have a fun-filled year and that we get more teachers involved with school spirit," Wilson said. "I think if teachers and students both have school spirit, they will be more inclined to do better both academically and socially."

What’s truly beneath the “Barbie”?



Photo credentials to WARNER BROS. PICTURES

By **Victoria Matz** and **Kaley Samiian**

The recent “Barbie” movie was a smashing success and emphasized a deeper message about the significance of female empowerment since its initial release in theaters July 21.

The superior marketing of the movie increased its popularity as it was advertised through media platforms and through products that were sold with Barbie themes, throughout stores worldwide.

This Sparked a sense of excitement in young children, older teens, and even adults who grew up engaged in the world of Barbie with the playsets, the television series, and even the movies

Its popularity called for an increased spread of awareness regarding serious issues within women’s rights. Furthermore, when it was released in theaters, it set forth a deeper message to people of all age groups, from kids to adults. The movie succeeds in spread-

ing awareness about the significance of feminist movements, as seen when all of the Barbies worked together and found tactics to regain their power in society. No matter how difficult times got, they would persevere and stand up for what was rightfully theirs from the beginning.

Fans around the world expected the movie to be very glamorous and outright perfect. However, they were quite shocked to find out that this movie had a lot more to it than it was advertised to be. Behind the glitter, the pink and the Barbie, there are deep revelations and a human-like thought process.

While the idea behind the movie may be very moving and influential to today’s society, it can also be looked at as a negative thing. After the release of this movie, children are given insight into the real world and the harsh

reality that adults have to live with. That barrier that most children have between Barbies and humans gets quickly obliterated with the message that’s portrayed throughout the movie.

Generally, children are protected from the real world until they are older so that while they are still young, they can live an innocent and worry-free lifestyle. Contrary to popular belief, the Barbie movie may be doing more harm to children than is meant to be done.

With that being said, there are negative and positive sides to the Barbie movie. The positive side being that it tells a deep message within such a happy, imaginary world. The negative side is that young children may be exposed to more mature content and conversations that shouldn’t be discussed yet.

Will Ferrel leads in raunchy comedic movie ‘Strays’

By **Jenna Espinoza** and **Isabel Rose**

Directed by Josh Greenbaum, “Strays,” released August 18, is a story about a dog’s journey to get revenge on his owner after being abandoned.

“Strays” follows Reggie, played by Will Ferrell, a Border Terrier who was recently abandoned by his owner. The film focuses on the adventures of Reggie and his new found friends in a raunchy comedy. The movie is rated R and will be

available on streaming services such as Netflix, Hulu, or Prime Video.

Greenbaum wanted to make the film with as little CGI as possible, and according to him it was 95% real dogs. This is uncommon in most movies today because it’s very difficult to get animals to act a certain way and follow direction. The dogs who starred in the movie were able to accomplish this through lots of training and treats.

However, the movie has not done very well in its

reviews; it received a 55% rating from Rotten Tomatoes. Reviewers of the movie stated that they didn’t like the jokes regarding serious topics such as abandonment and did not at all appreciate the sexual content in a movie about dogs.

Unlike other dog movies, “Strays” will leave viewers in tears of joy instead of sadness. However, at some points of the movie, people may feel some sympathy for Reggie and the other dogs, who don’t understand why they got abandoned.

Though the movie may not be serious, it does address a huge problem in the world. There are many stray dogs fighting for their lives who are regarded as dangerous and diseased. Strays are put out into the street because of their bad owners and only are sometimes saved and rescued by good people.

This movie is definitely not for everyone, but for those who enjoy a slightly dark sense of humor and are comfortable watching it, the film is hilarious.

Travis Scott reutrns with ‘Utopia’ after the Astroworld disaster

By **Coleton Rice**

Travis Scott has returned to release his fourth full length studio album, “Utopia,” his first since the infamous Astroworld disaster in 2021, which resulted in the deaths of 10 people.

The record features 19 songs with a total runtime of an hour and 13 minutes. With features from notable artists such as Drake, Playboi Carti, Future and Bad Bunny as well as contributions from younger and lesser known artists such as Teezo Touchdown and

Rob49.

The album has many major standouts which include the openin g track “HYAE,” “MODERN JAM,” “MELTDOWN” featuring one of the best Drake verses of the last decade and an incredible beat switch, “FE!N” with Playboi Carti and Travis using each other’s styles “TOPIA TWINS,” and the widely favored “TELEKENESIS” featuring SZA and Future nearing the end of the album.

The tracks on this album signify a deviation in Scott’s style and allow him

growth to create new and innovative music. Production credits on the album include large contributions from Mike Dean, Kanye West, and Scott himself.

The record initially had mixed receptions from fans with some feeling it blew their expectations away and others thinking it was a major letdown, especially after waiting 5 years. “Utopia” has been highly praised as weeks have passed, with some even going as far to say it’s Scott’s best album.

Many believe the album will age well in the future,

as a majority of it sounds futuristic and modern with the production influence deriving from young artists across the world.

Since its release, this album has broken multiple records in sales and still is in the top 5 on the Billboard charts, showcasing the true gravity of Scott’s popularity and how well received this album truly is. “Utopia” is a step forward into what hip hop music will become in the near future, while also being a very relevant album in its stylistic choices.

THE ROYAL COURIER FALL 2023

The Royal Courier is El Camino Real Charter High School’s student-run and student-led newspaper publication. The Royal Courier has been publishing news for the school community since 1970.

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The Royal Courier is published by the newspaper class of El Camino Real Charter High School and is funded by the school and by advertising. All issues are free.

Our main purpose is to (1) inform the students, faculty and community of school-related news; (2) broaden the range of thinking of staff members and readers; (3) provide a forum for readers; (4) train the students in the functions of the press in a democratic society; and (5) provide entertaining features of interest to the students. All editorials without a byline reflect at least two-thirds opinion of The Royal Courier staff but are not necessarily the opinion of the administration.

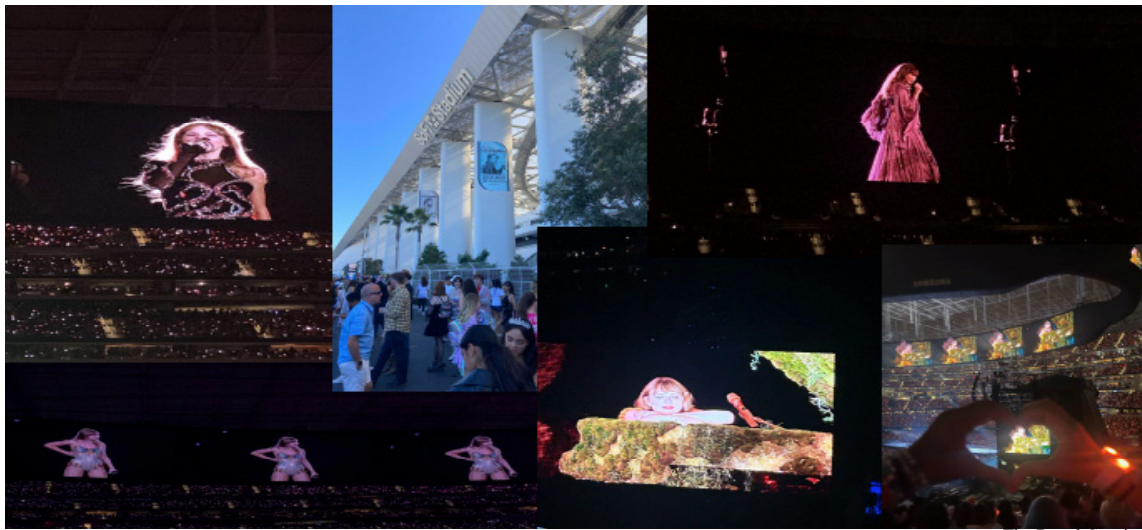
Letters to the Editor are welcomed and must be signed; however, names will be withheld for valid reasons. All contributions are subject for restrictions of libel, defamation, slander and obscenity. The Royal Courier staff reserves the right to edit letters without changing the meaning, and also reserves the right to reject letters for reasons of limited space, untimely material, or unbalanced coverage.

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Taylor Swift makes history with the Eras Tour



The Royal Courier

By Jenna Espinoza and Sydney Keane

Taylor Swift has officially completed her US leg of the Eras Tour after five long months of a three hour and 45 song concert every night. Each night Swift surprised fans with two surprise acoustic songs that aren't on the setlist. She kicked off the tour in Glendale, Ariz. by singing "Mirrorball" from the album "Folklore" and "Tim McGraw" from her 2006 self-titled debut album. Jack Antonoff came on

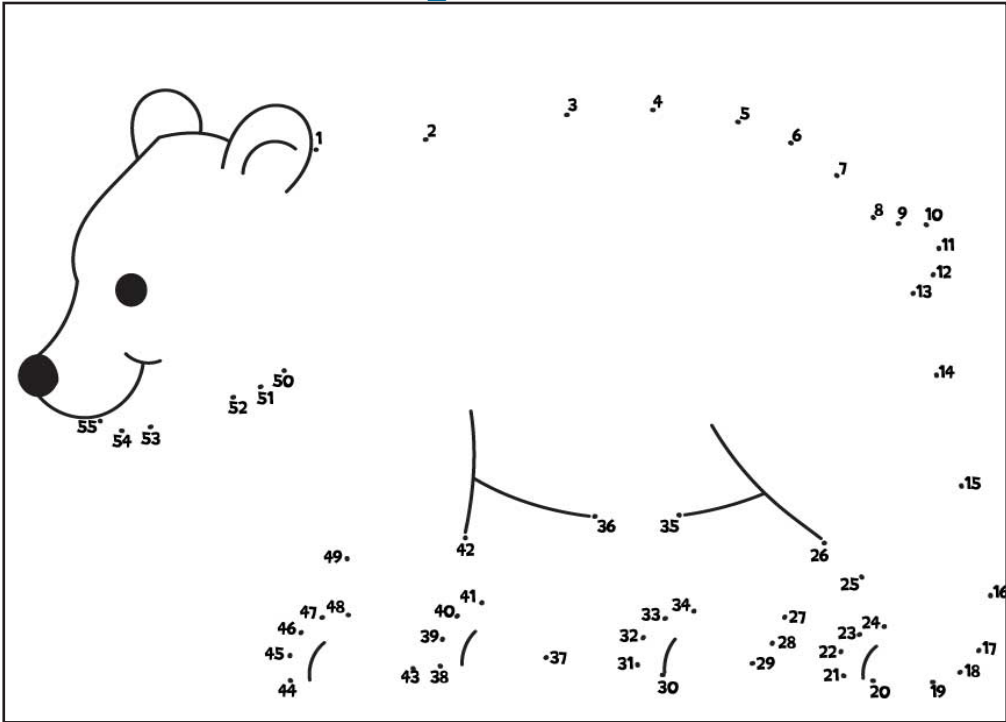
stage in East Rutherford, NJ. to sing "Getaway Car" from "Folklore," making fans go wild. On night six of the Los Angeles, CA shows, Swift sang "New Year's Day" from "Reputation," and "New Romantics," after announcing the release of "1989 (Taylor's Version)." After hinting about it for months, the re-recorded version of "1989" was announced to be released October 27th. Swift showed the premier for new music videos at some of the shows, the vault song "I

Can See You" from "Speak now (Taylor's Version)," starring Joey King and Taylor Lautner, was shown for the first time in Kansas City. The fans brought a euphoric energy to the concert by dressing up as their favorite album era or anything Swift related. People were seen wearing Swift's dress from the 2020 Grammy's as well as past concert outfits like the white tube top and shorts combo she wore during the 1989 World Tour. People also came with out of the

box ideas like wearing a discoball, or better known as a mirrorball to the Swift Fandom. One thing every fan had in common were the friendship bracelets that Swifties (Swift fans) went around trading. Swift had a different outfit for every album era that she performed including bejeweled bodysuits and large ball gowns. However, Swift decided to switch it up and have different outfits she could switch for different nights. Her 1989 era had a blue, green, and orange sparkly set that she switched off every night. By the end of the tour all of her album eras, aside from Reputation, had multiple different outfits for Swift to choose from. Towards the end of The Eras Tour Swift decided to raise her tour staff's salaries by \$100,000. It is estimated that she spent \$55 million on these raises for the hard work her crew had put into the tour. The tour is said to also have benefits for the

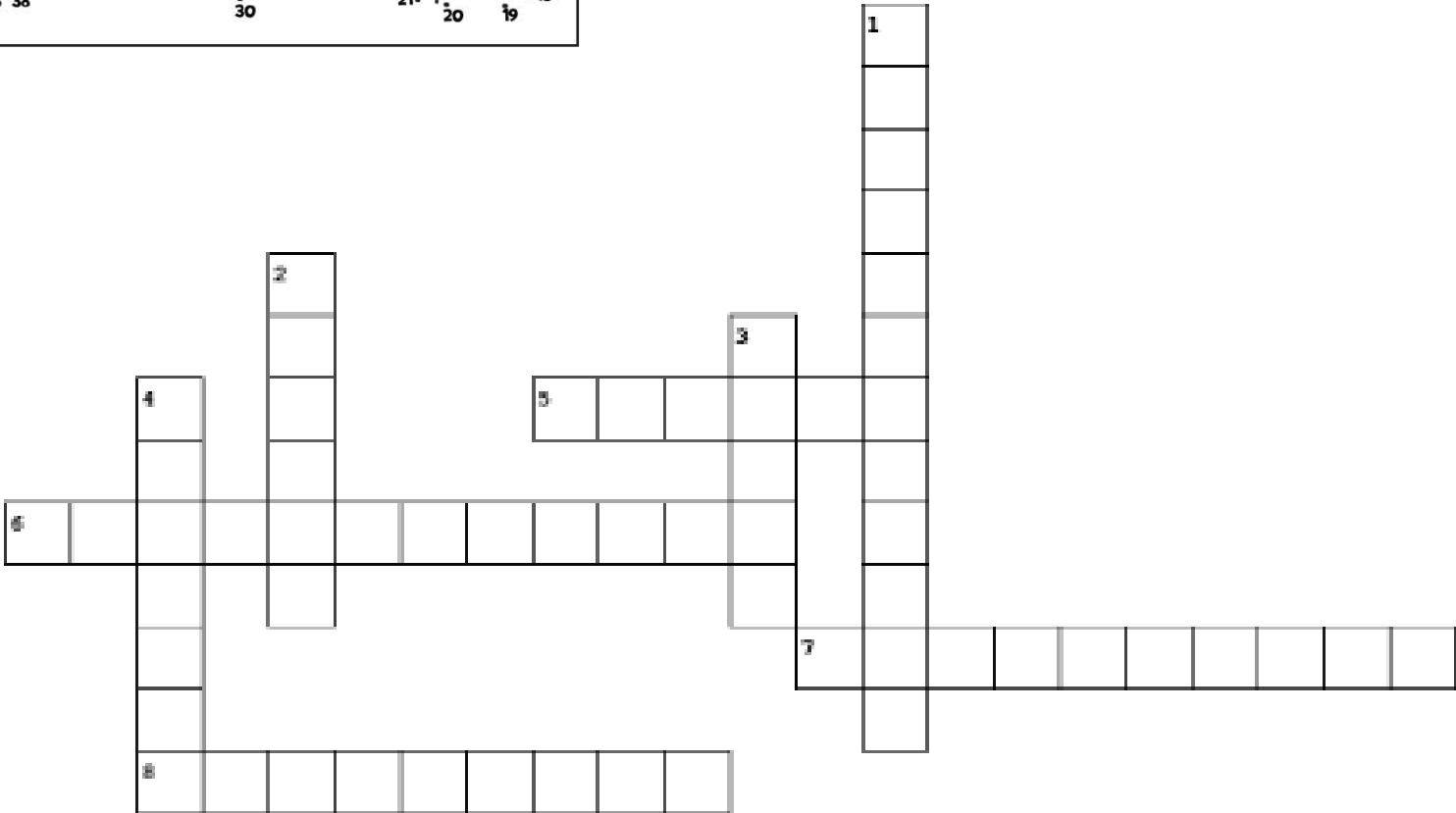
economy due to the mass amounts of cars, food, and hospitality needed to keep up with the fans attending the tour. Businesses around and close to the stadiums were getting a lot of physical and financial support those nights due to the masses of people in the area. The Eras Tour is also going to the big screens, starting Oct. 13 in theaters, for fans who weren't able to experience the concert live. Swift's career has tremendously grown since her first self-titled debut album in 2006. She's gone through many different genres which she displayed as she went from era to era during the tour. This year, Swift has placed 10 albums on the chart and is the first living artist since 1966 to have four titles in the top 10 at the same time. The tour has brought so many fans together as they all share the same love for Swift and her music.

The Royal Games



	7	5		9				6
	2	3		8			4	
8					3			1
5			7		2			
	4		8		6		2	
			9		1			3
9			4					7
	6			7		5	8	
7				1		3	9	

- Across
5. The school's current mascot.
6. The street the school is on.
7. The next major event happening at the school.
8. The name of the year-book.
- Down
1. The school's former mascot.
2. The school's executive director.
3. One of the school colors.
4. The teacher who teaches AP World History in B115



New summer renovations



The Royal Courier

By **Sydney Keane** and **Victoria Matz**

Over the summer, the school underwent a series of renovations to update the school’s facilities and create a better environment for students and staff.

One location in the school that deserved some tender loving care was the gym. The gym is used by endless amounts of students and staff for sports games and for regular PE classes. It was repainted with yellow, blue and white to further represent the school’s colors. Sports achievements and plaques were placed back up on the walls with new on-theme backgrounds

and recent years added onto sports and their list of accomplishments. On one side of the gym, there was a new El Camino Real sign painted on the wall. This features a statement bear scratch as an extra nod to our new mascot, the bear.

Another place in the school that was looking vaguely run down from all of its years of usage was the cafeteria. The cafeteria serves thousands of students every single day and is an essential part of students’ days. This is where students sit, eat and receive their breakfast and lunch. Outside the cafeteria, there were numerous new tables and chairs placed for

the student’s convenience. These tables have a blue shine to them and the chairs spin around about 180 degrees for easy access. When you approach the cafeteria, there is a new sign that says, “The El Camino Cafe”. The beautiful font and letters give the cafeteria a welcoming feel and overall sense of cleanliness . Inside the cafeteria, there are new and elongated tables positioned underneath the overhang, as well as circular tables with more spinning chairs. There is a lot more seating than there was before and is more accessible to all of Elco’s students.

There is also a lot of new signage and murals around

the school. One of the biggest murals is the bear outside the gym. The bear is featured breaking through the wall wearing a crown on its head. On top of Anderson Hall, the school’s name is featured and adds some school spirit around the quad. There are many more signs throughout the cafeteria and halls that are great new additions to the campus’s decor.

Another very noticeable difference is the new flooring in the middle A hallway. The flooring extends to just the edges of the B and C hallway as well, but is cut-off before it fully extends into the rest of the building. The new flooring, which

resembles a wood finish, is very different from the cream, gray, and blue tile the school previously had. Students are hopeful that the new flooring can eventually be extended throughout the entire building so it is more cohesive. There are a wide variety of new renovations the school has completed over summer and many more to come.

Dear Elco: Answers to your questions

By **Kasey Lee** and **Kyleigh Zvara**

Dear Elco: When will we be able to join clubs and find more information about them?

Dear 9th grader, a few times a year an event called Club Rush is held in the quad. On the set date, during the lunch period, clubs will set up tables with information about what they do, when they meet, and how to join. Before Club Rush happens there will be plenty of announce-

ments to let you know when it will be, and this isn’t a one time occurrence, so you don’t have to worry about missing it. If you happen to miss Club Rush you can go to the office where they have a list of all the clubs and their room numbers.

Dear Elco: How can I contact people?

Dear Freshie, if you need to get in contact with someone for school like a teacher or classmate, you can simply type their name or student identification

(ID) into the Outlook search bar. Outlook is the email service we use at the school and by typing in their name or student ID you can immediately get their email. This also works in Microsoft Teams.

Dear Elco: What events does the school have?

Dear New Student, throughout the school year, there are several events that many students attend. Some of which are Football Games, Homecoming, the Annual Carnival, Winter Formal, Powderpuff, March

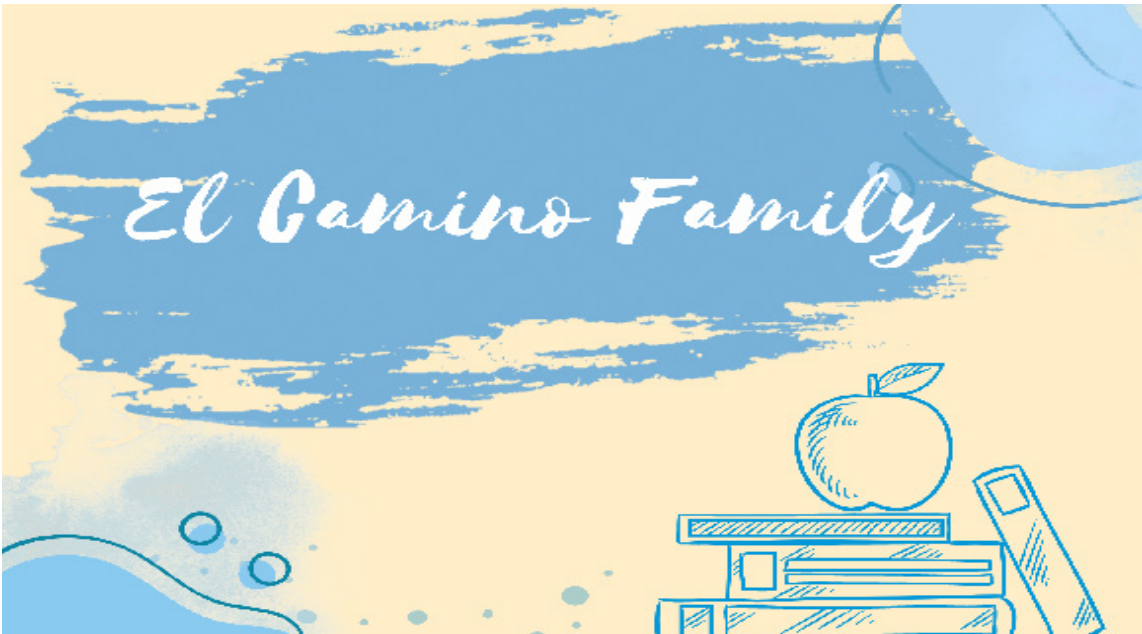
Madness, Grad Night, and Prom. Most of these events are open for all students to participate in besides Prom and Powderpuff which are reserved for juniors and seniors, and Grad Night which is only for seniors.

Dear Elco: How do sports teams work?

Dear Freshman, there is a short process to joining a sports team. First, be sure to look out for any information regarding tryout dates. Usually this can be found on flyers around the school, on the school’s

instagram page, on the school’s website, or in the morning announcements. If you make the team during tryouts, your counselor will switch your schedule to suit the period in which your practice will be. Typically, sports team practices are during 6th or 0 period. If your team needs to travel to another school for a game, you will often have an excused absence for your 5th period class and take the bus as a team.

New teachers join El Camino family



By **Isabel Rose**

The start of the 2023-24 school year brings in not only new students, but 11 new teachers.

These new teachers expressed their excitement for the fresh start, and hope they can truly become part of the El Camino family.

These teachers have been working for various amounts of time, ranging from as little as 1 year to decades of work dedicated to education.

“I really love the school,” faculty member Samantha Chai said. “I student taught here, and I fell in love with

the campus and the faculty and students, so I just love the environment of the school.”

One of the new additions to the school is Samantha Chai, who is currently experiencing her very first year of teaching. Chai hopes she can become a long term teacher at the school and hold a lengthy teaching career.

This change to a new school can seem overwhelming for these new teachers, especially for those who have grown accustomed to a smaller campus.

“I like [the school], it’s

very large,” teacher Teshera Barnes said. “but the people are really kind, which is nice.” Barnes, a teacher of seven years, is another new addition to the school.

These staff members teach a wide range of subjects and appreciate the assistance and welcoming nature of the faculty.

“I love the community,” Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Teacher David Buchanan said. “I love the support system here, all the staff, employees, it seems like they love to be here as well. It provides a good atmosphere.”

David Buchanan joined

the school at the beginning of this year. He has been a teacher for 10 years and shares the dream of spending many years here.

These faculty members are working towards becoming part of the school, which includes getting to know their fellow teachers.

“[The school has] a great group of students and a great campus,” teacher Rosie Reeves said. “It’s great to get to know new teachers and new students and see how I can help them.”

Reeves, teacher of 12 years, shared her excitement to be here and hopes she can successfully continue her teaching career here.

These recently appointed teachers haven’t been experiencing a calm beginning to the school year, and have had a tumultuous two weeks.

“ [The start of the school year has] been wild, I think everyone’s had the experience of it being a little bit chaotic,” Barnes said.

It’s been a learning experience for everyone, including the students of these new teachers. They’re learning and adjusting alongside them.

“Week one was busy. Kids are starting to understand the rules and regulations of the class and they understand that learning comes first,” Buchanan said. “I hope my classroom provides a safe environment for them. And I think that’s slowly being accomplished.”

Despite these difficulties, the new teachers have kept a positive outlook and are keen to continue.

“The first few weeks have been pretty crazy, a lot of running around, but it’s overall been fun, [and] exciting,” Chai said. “The students are really fun, so it’s been good.”

As the teachers settle into their new school, they understand what the school represents and strives to accomplish.

“I think all the students are fantastic, it’s a very diverse community as well,” Buchanan said. “Kids definitely respect education and what comes along with it and the importance of learning and so far I’ve really enjoyed it.”

Poetry Corner

written by
Creative Writing
students

Ancestor
by Mikey Diaz

Hats don't fit on my head—rather, they don't fit around my hair. I grew without knowledge of its nature, and learned through painstaking trials and tribulations. I wish I could make hats fit.

Identity is something fleeting. It's something developed, like the way I figured out how to care for my hair. I have few connections to my Jewish predecessors, and the wild curls of my hair is just one of them.

I wonder how many died just for me to know next to nothing. Would they be disappointed? They went through what feels like dozens of genocides just for me to pop out ignorant. There's a certain shame in our shared fail coming almost entirely from identity—and mine is solidified by melting columns of ice. They haven't crumpled yet, so I'll try again tomorrow.

I wonder if the man who gave me my hair thinks about me. Has he imagined my future? Will I live up to it? Or will I die with my hair up?

I look at the woman who made me, and I realize we both have been drinking since the Spring of '23.

Stopwatch

by Brooklyn Piana

The poets and writers always say It's not you It's me,
But the problem was,
It is you.
Maybe,
If I hadn't felt like I fallen through rain clouds when
I look in your eyes
Or that the little girl inside me that has been buried
far, far down into my darkness hasn't been smiling and
laughing ever since I met you.
Maybe,
If I hadn't felt like the child I would be before
walking through hell
That girl who never had her fairytale ending
Maybe
It would've been me
My fault
My mess
My loss
But fairies aren't real
And you can't fall through a rain cloud without
getting hurt.
And what's buried far, far down cannot be found
So I let you go
Let you flee from my darkness
Maybe you were the problem but I was the reason,

The new Twitter logo sparks controversy

By Isabel Rose

Billionaire and business entrepreneur Elon Musk made a momentous change to Twitter by changing its name and logo. Musk, who acquired ownership of the company in October 2022, decided to change the notorious blue bird to a stylized X.

This significant change comes after Musk repeatedly mentioned a brand change and revealed his desire to turn the social media company into an “everything app.”

This change was foreshad-

owed in 2017 when Musk tweeted that he had bought the rights to X.com, an online bank he helped to found but split up and turned into PayPal. His fondness for the letter can also be traced to his son, X Æ A-12 Musk, who is frequently called X.

For ten years, the blue bird has represented Twitter, and the name even created its own verb, “Tweets” that became widely recognized. This change has made a sweeping impact in the usage of the app due to unhappy users who preferred the iconic name and

logo. The United States has seen a drop in monthly users, 14% of Android users and %15 of iOS users. Even the time using Twitter, pages visited, and worldwide visits have decreased since the change was made.

This is not the first time Musk has changed something about the platform. In the past , he added so called badges, verifying users and creating new rules and regulations, but this new change has upset twitter users beyond his other adjustments.

Many think this change is quite the risk, and one he shouldn’t have taken. With the current outcome of this disaster, Musk needs the support of Twitter’s users after financial troubles, and he’s only causing more people to leave. He also is facing a new rival, Meta, and its new app Threads which has achieved an immense amount of downloads.

Despite the negative feedback, Musk seems determined to enforce this new logo, even putting up posters of the new logo in the cafeterias in Twitter’s headquarters. Musk even

went so far as to rename conference rooms to feature the new name. In photos obtained by the New York Times, we can see some rooms named “eXposure”, “eXult” and more.

From what we can see, this is only the beginning in a long line of changes to come for Twitter or the new X. Musk plans on adding features such as shopping and banking according to comments by him, from late July. “Soon we shall bid adieu to theTwitter brand,” Musk said, “and, gradually, all the birds.”

Home football game delays continue



Photo by Becca Margolin

By Sydney Keane

Since 2021, the school’s football field has been out of use and has upset endless amounts of athletes and students.

“We had been given so many updates about the field being started to make the process seem good to the public eye,” senior Caden Jong said. “Their priorities clearly aren’t straight and that priority should be to the students.”

The school has been claiming that the field would be updated soon; however, it is clear that there has been no major updates since 2021.

The school has been sending emails claiming that the field would be ready for the 2023-2024 season yet, the football games have started and there are still no home games.

“We need the track and field to do our stunts to make sure we are okay for our games,” said senior Ashlee Singh. “When we’re not on the field, we are on mats [which affects] our stability when we are trying to get used to not being on mats anymore.”

The school hasn’t hosted any games since the 2021-2022 school year. The current seniors haven’t been to a

home game since their sophomore year and will not experience one again. Students feel like they are missing out on a key high school experience as home football games are a staple school event.

“They are supposed to have the field released to El Camino by mid December,” said Administrative Director David Hussey. “I have been working with them to try to find an alternative field closer to El Camino for our home games”

The major problem in this whole ordeal is that LAUSD owns the football field, so they are the ones who can grant

permits and control other relying factors of the field’s replacement. Since LAUSD is so large, there is no surprise as to why it has taken them this long to get the new field approved; however, students feel it should have been made a priority sooner.

“I can’t believe we had to resort to moving the games to the weekend; which not only cuts into our personal time that we might be spending with family but, in my case I have a job and other people have jobs,” said Jong. “They have had to call out, lose work hours, and possibly affect their relation-

ship with their management.”

The student football players joined together and created a document talking about the so-called renovation of the field and how it has affected their team and the student body. The document goes into specific detail as to the grueling process of players getting their hopes up that they could play on their home turf to getting disappointed by empty promises.

“We don’t get the full scope of the field on the baseball field because when we line it there isn’t enough space to get the full length and width of a football field,” said Jong. “So we aren’t able to get an accurate look of how spacings will look.”

The most recent update on the field claims that the field will be done and ready for use by December 2023. However, many are still unsure whether the school will keep their promises this time. Either way, current seniors will not be able to partake in another home game for the remainder of their highschool careers, and something must be done about it.

The new structure of the school parking lot

By Sydney Keane

The way the administration is dealing with the limited amount of parking and student drop off is upsetting many of the upperclassmen this semester. “There is definitely more teachers this year so it makes sense that they need more spots,” said senior Spencer Jundef. “But I feel like there needs to be a change.”

Prior to the changes, there were two parking lots: a staff parking lot, reserved strictly for faculty, and a student parking lot with flexibility as to who could park. Now, the

teachers have two rows of extra parking spaces that were previously reserved for students. This leaves the students with only two rows in the upper lot, which are blocked off from certain entrances and exits. There is now a designated area for student drop off ,which is located in the middle of the lower lot of the student parking lot.

“Teachers [also] have spaces in campus they could park so they could fill up those spaces more,” said senior Rosie Sabourin. “There is always empty spaces in there which would free up the room in the [stu-

dent parking] lot.”

There was already limited parking for students which makes it very difficult for the seniors and certain juniors to find parking in the morning. Most of the spaces are taken up by the start of zero period; so the students who start school later are required to park on the street or in areas with limited parking time. Teachers have a far bigger lot than the students have, even though there is a larger number of students in comparison to the number of teachers.“[The new student drop off] creates a lot of congestion and difficulty for

students to actually park and find a spot,” said senior Rose Jensen. “It’s very difficult to maneuver in the lot.”

The parents who drop off their children tend to stop in the middle of the road which makes it difficult to drive around their cars. In addition to this, parents are also parking halfway into spots preventing students from finding parking and even making them late. Many of the students are also new drivers so having to navigate the parking lot as well as trying to avoid parents stopping in the middle of the road can be very difficult and

dangerous.

“The [main] issue is with the city having two hour parking everywhere,” Jundef said. “It just makes it more difficult because this is a [large] school with a [large] staff. There needs to be an [equal amount] of spaces between everyone.”

There is no denying that the parking situation is going to be difficult to navigate and adjust but, hopefully there will be a way where everyone can find parking safely and without worries of getting a ticket.



Tennis team ready to ace the competition with new coach

| By Kasey Lee and
Kyleigh Zvara

The tennis team is preparing for their league, as the fall sports season begins, with new coach, Jason Grider.

“So far the new coach has been a little more serious,” sophomore Roman Mosavi said. “I [also] think he is very devoted so it’ll be a good season.”

Grider has 15 years of tennis experience and has coached competitive sports for many years. He played on the varsity tennis team for four years during his high school tenure and continues to play recreationally. Thanks to his experience, he is qualified to coach the teams and lead them to success in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) open division.

“He had a chat with us the first time he met us, and he

was very serious,” sophomore Charlotte Krause said. “He was talking about out conditioning to other teams, which is something we have never heard from other coaches, so it’s very exciting.”

Grider is strategizing for the girls’ season in fall and the boys’ in the winter. Him and all his players have a common aim, they want to win their league.

“I mean [I have] one goal, we gotta win the open,” Grider said.

Along with his efforts to win, Grider is looking to improve his team’s skills and bring new changes to the team. He plans to better his players by raising money to buy new equipment, like ball machines.

“I think because he actually seems like he wants to coach us, our season will go a lot better,” junior Keltly Liu said. “He’s actually

trying to make money for us and fundraise.”

With his dedication to the team, Grider is working hard to help them reach their full potential, starting with their tryouts, which is a vital part in the team building process.

“We had the largest turnout for tryouts this year that the schools had previously,” Grider said. “We had around 40 or so kids trying out.”

The tennis season officially starts Sep. 18 and to build team dynamics Grider will have practices every day during sixth period and on some days extended until 4:30 or 5pm.

“I’m really just looking forward to this year, [and] just meeting everybody,” Grider said, “We have some great talent on the team so I’m just excited to see what everyone’s capable of.”

Lionel Messi comes to America

| By Coleton Rice

Legendary soccer player Lionel Messi has come to Major League Soccer (MLS) to play in the United States for the first time in his career, after over twenty years in the sport.

“Messi is undeniably the best soccer player in the world,” senior Diego Hernandez said. “He is leagues above most [players] in Europe and even more so in America.”

Messi began his career at Futbol Club (FC) Barcelona, where he played a majority of his time. He then—shockingly—moved to Paris Saint-Germain where he played three lackluster seasons. After his European career, he ended up in the United States as a member of Inter Miami CF, the soccer club partially owned by soccer icon David Beckham. Messi’s dominant career has resulted in him winning various awards and titles, including the most recent World Cup where he captained Argentina’s team to victory.

“He did everything he possibly could in Europe,” senior Hugo Serrano said. “He had nothing more to accom-

plish there.”

Messi has dominated the competition in the MLS. From scoring to defending, Messi has kept the ball in Inter Miami’s possession. Since his arrival they went from being the lowest ranked team in the MLS to now winning 10 of the 11 games he’s played with the club.

“It’s been incredible to see,” senior Spencer Jundef said. “Messi has steamrolled the competition in America.”

Messi’s dominance on the soccer pitch has also led him to win his first American trophy, the 2023 MLS Leagues Cup. Messi hopes to continue riding the success he’s found in the U.S. and turn Inter Miami CF into a 2024 playoff contender.

“With the way they all have been playing in Miami, I see them doing quite well next year,” Hernandez said. “This spark Messi has lit in them is a game changer for that club.”

WHO WILL WIN AT THE ECR VS NARBONNE FOOTBALL GAME ON SEPT. 15

