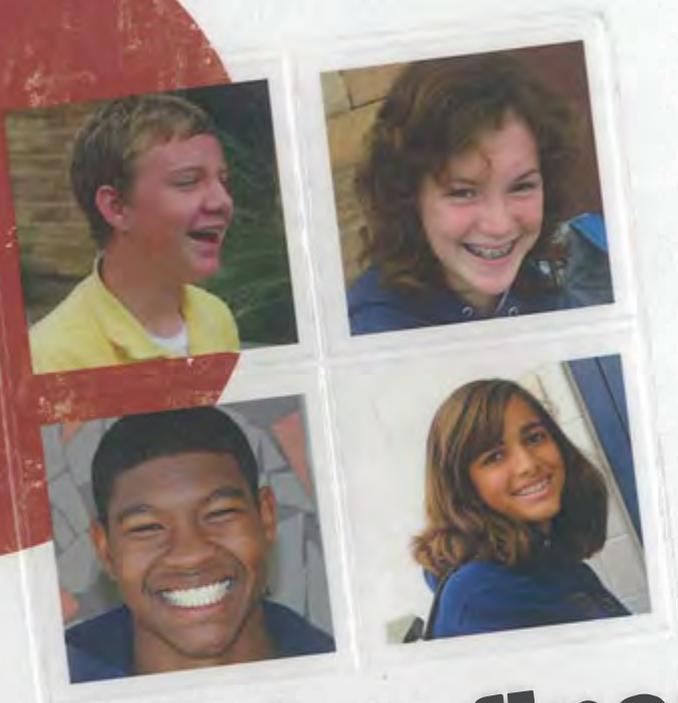
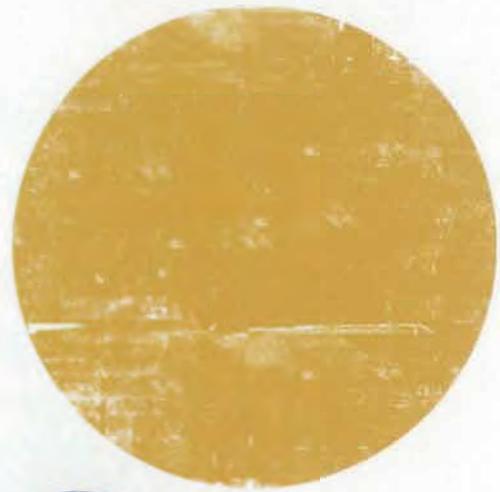


**Mater Dei Catholic High School 2009**

*Yearbook* **Volume 2**



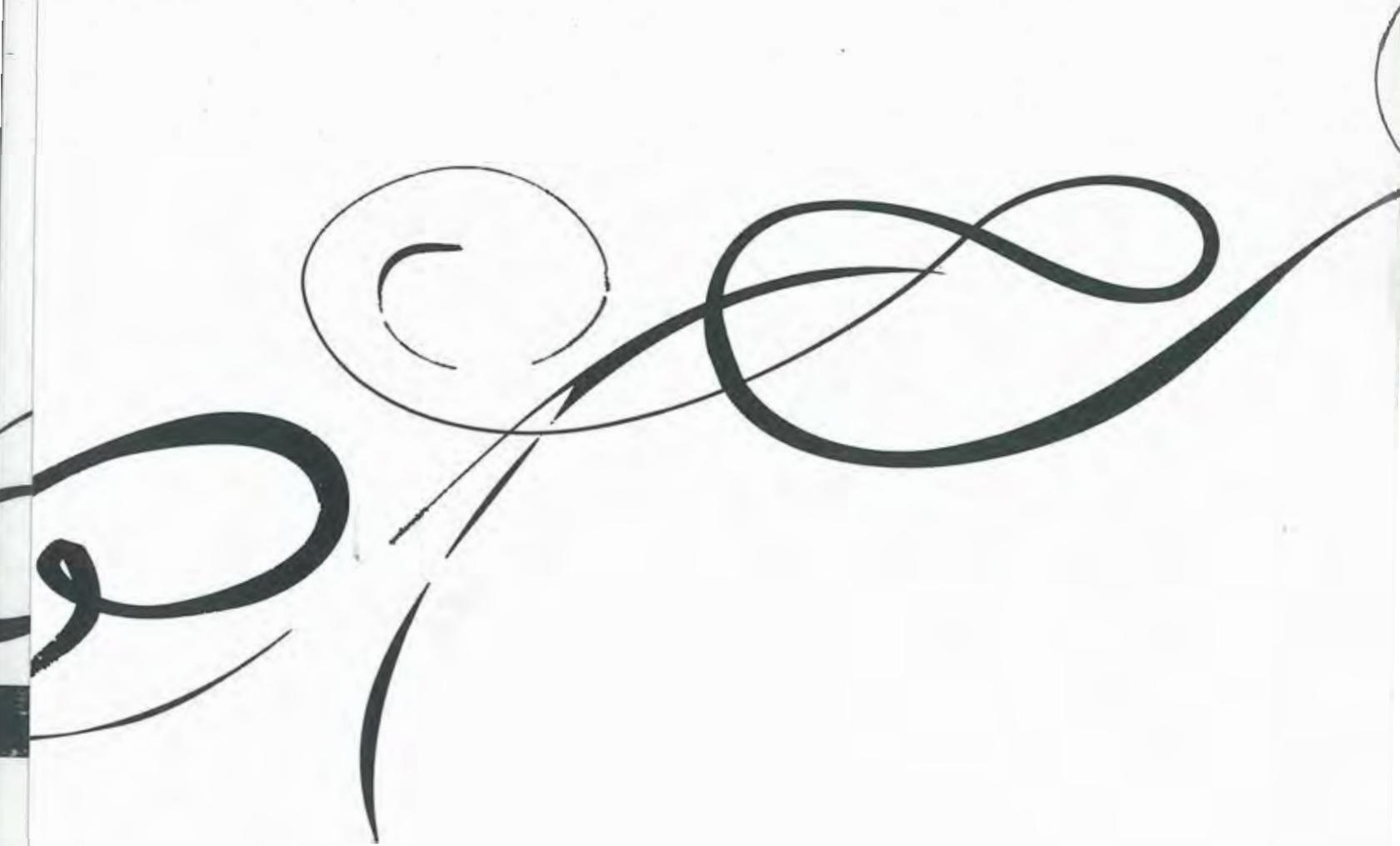
*{re}* **defined**



**Mater Dei Catholic High School**



RETURN TO  
BILL GERKEN  
ALUMNI SERVICES



{re} live

*student life* 4

{re} charge

*sports* 32

{re} discover

*academics* 86

{re} create

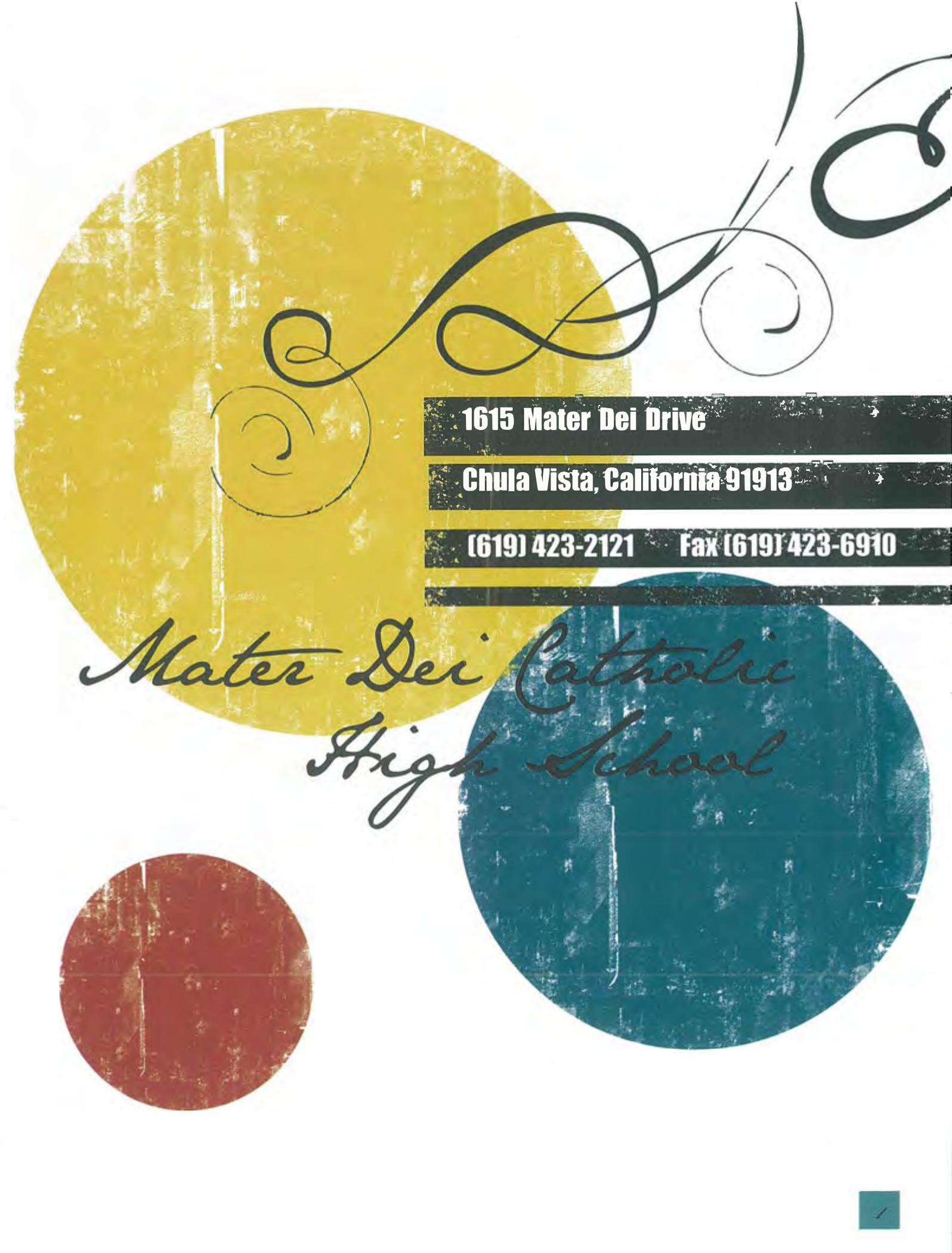
*clubs and organizations* 102

{re} invent

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**1615 Mater Dei Drive**

**Chula Vista, California 91913**

**(619) 423-2121 Fax (619) 423-6910**

*Mater Dei Catholic  
High School*





# We Redefine Ourselves and the Future



Going back is not nearly as fun as going forward

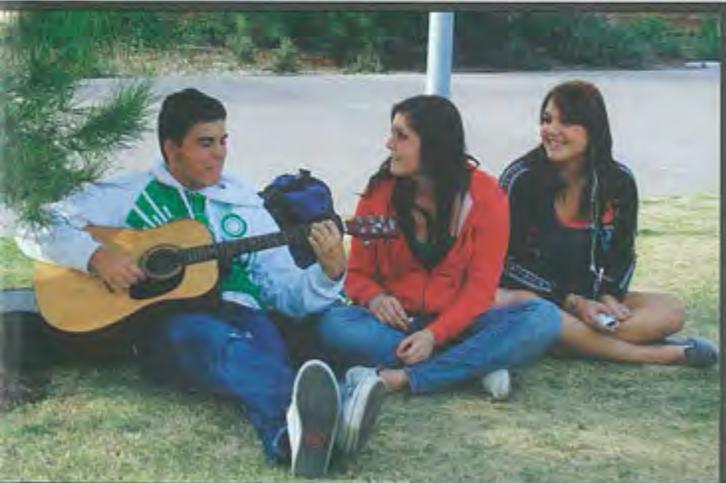
by Frances Fernandez, EIC

Sometimes we just want to stay with what is cozy and familiar like a soft, warm bathrobe we love or a routine we don't even have to think about anymore. But no matter how much we desire to hold on to what we know and are used to, change is inevitable. Each one of us experience changes and challenges that make us redefine who we are. High school is perhaps the shortest time in which we change the most. When we enter as freshmen we are practically babies. Some are short little things, many still have baby fat. But, quickly we are introduced to the rigors of high school life: endless homework assignments, MLA formatting, AWP's, but also friendships, athletics, extracurricular activities. By the end of the year what we thought was overwhelming, now seems like a piece of cake. Sophomore year comes. We're feeling pretty confident now. We get to enjoy being cocky until junior year comes down upon us like doomsday. Now SAT's are looming over our head and the reality of planning for the future. School takes on an intensity we did not feel before. Before we know, it we are seniors. How did that happen? We are now inches to a foot taller, the baby fat is gone. We don't look little anymore. As we start the process of college applications, we begin to get a taste of what being an adult is all about. It can be scary; sometimes we want to cuddle up in our cozy robe. But then we realize that going back is not nearly as fun as going forward. Our future is thrilling. And we are on the threshold of a portal which leads to unlimited possibilities. Will we become engineers, lawyers, teachers, mothers, fathers, writers, movie stars? Maybe we will be them all as we embrace the future and redefine ourselves.





**Come On, Get Happy** Seniors jump with joy over the prospects that await them.



**Guitar Guy** Eli Durante knows playing a little music can define you. Just ask Gisel and Laura Soto.

**Fresh Day Ahead**  
A group of students walk through the gate ready to conquer a new day.



**Pals and Players** Michelle Centrullo and Brina Morales are fast friends, softball stars and sweet smilers.



**Birthday Boy**  
Jesus Gutierrez celebrates a rite of passage with friends in the library.

**Pocahontas**  
Alyssa Pack sports pretty plaits just for fun.

# {re}live

## To experience the good memories all over again

Yes, we know how important grades are and preparing for college. But there is so much more to high school than hitting the books. High school is its own world and the only way to get the full experience is to go to Friday night football games with friends and dress all out for the big formal then, dance like there's no tomorrow. You have to scream at the top of your lungs at rallies and never forget a first Monday free dress or Jeans day. You can't be a wallflower for Spirit Week. You have to get a little crazy and show off, like Thing One and Thing Two. You have to be a joiner. Join Drama, join Debate, join Ecology Club, join something. And you have to at least give sports a try. This may be your last chance to be part of a team that, win or lose, becomes your family and friend.

You could go through high school and do well academically but if you haven't done more than just get good grades, you haven't lived it. And if you don't live it, you can't relive it. Reliving is as much fun as experiencing it the first time. You can relive with your friends. That's what you do at Kateri Café and Fatima Court and all the other favorite places you have around campus.

You can relive again and again. In fact reliving is what you may do when you are old and gray and you look back on high school and think, "What a great time I had; I'm glad I was there!"

by Kayla Pega





# What Babies Say

What's dat, what's dat, what's dat?" asks a baby when he is first learning about the world.

And he must be answered or he will not grow. Definitions help us identify our surroundings, classify elements and create a cosmos out of chaos. They can also pinpoint a person's personality. Paloma is shy, Luis is a non-conformist, and Daniela is sweet. Sometimes definitions contradict each other warning us that the person described is a complex being. Like Christine who is wild and hilarious. A person may have a dual personality. R.J. for example admits to being quiet but when people really get to know him, he has a lot to say. We read horoscopes and fortune cookies to find out who and what we are. Even coming from a cookie, we feel complimented to hear, "You are a kind and gracious person." It's nice to think that as we go through life we will add all sorts of marvelous

adjectives to our collection: hard-working, loyal, imaginative, confident, loving, brave. Still, we don't want to reveal all. We resist being classified just as much as we want to be understood. Nor should we box up others into one tidy little description. We are more than adjectives. And part of our beauty is in what is inexplicable. "What's dat?" cannot always be answered, nor should it be.

by Daniela Perez



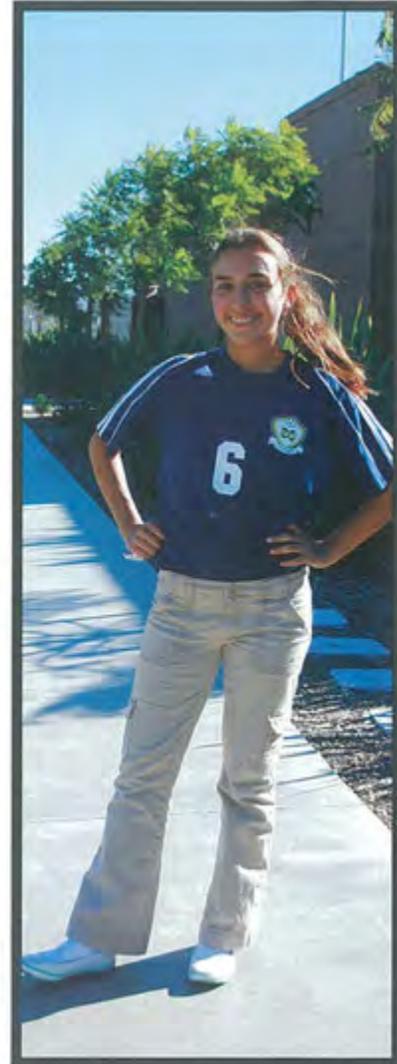
"My friends would say that I am very shy and quiet but friendly and polite with everyone, even people I don't know. On the other hand, I can be a little crazy too."

**Paloma Polanco**

**Shy**

**Unique**

**Crazy**



**Daniela Corona**

**Sweet**

**Sporty**

**Friendly**

"I used to be a total tomboy. I was all old school too, and in love with the 80s. In 4th and 5th grade I hung out with mostly boys. Then in 6th grade I became more girly. Now I'm very girly but still sporty and athletic, too."

“It’s funny, I came out of a school full of sheltered kids. But one of my uncles introduced me to Metal in 2nd grade and I loved it. Another major influence in my life was going to summer camps in San Luis Potosi, Mexico and getting to know different people and places.”

**Luis Rocha**

**Metal**

**Non-Conforming**

**Creative**

**Affectionate**

**Slim**



**RJ Rowan**

**Tall**

**Dark**

**Handsome**

**Easy-going**

“Okay, I agree with you, I am tall, dark and handsome. Watch me on the basketball court and you know I love the game. But did you know I like to doodle and draw?”



**Christine Bayaca**

**Stylish**

**Wild**

**Out-there**

**Hilarious**

“I’ve continued to redefine myself by becoming a more responsible student. I am more confident now with myself and when meeting other people. I’ve opened up to a lot of friendships. I’ve also probably changed my hair color about 15 times since freshman year. Due to all the chemicals, I’ll probably be bald by the age of 45!”



# It's in the Mix

**W**e're the rainbow coalition, the celebrate diversity crowd, the melting pot school. Just look around and see: Mexicans, Anglos, Filipinos, African Americans, Koreans. But that's not all. There are a few individuals whose nationality and heritage would surprise you. So don't be too quick to put a label on anyone because you just might not know who or what a person may be. More and more people will be a mix as ethnic and racial lines blur, and instead of identifying with just one culture, they will celebrate many. How fun is

that? Just look at our president Barack Obama. He's English,

Irish and Kenyan.

What a cool mix.

Some people call it

being Heinz because

the famous catsup company used to say it had 57 varieties. Haven't you heard, variety is the spice of life. See if you can guess the many cultures and countries these Crusaders enjoy. And go Heinz!

by Cristina Fuentes



I'm a lot of things but it's the Irish that shows. It's fun getting shocked looks when I tell people I'm not only mostly Mexican but Mayan too. It's exciting to think that my ancestors were part of one of the most advanced civilizations ever.

**Ariel Cabrera**

**Mayan Mexican**

**Irish**

**Polish**

**German**



**Jenny Borck**

**German**

**Filipino**

When Jenny Borck goes back to visit her relatives in the Philippines, no one thinks she is a native. If anything she looks like a California girl: tan skin, blonde hair. Jenny thinks it's fun having a mixed ancestry. Her dad is all German, her mother is all Filipino and Jenny is all American.

He's better known as Gerber because of his resemblance to that bright eyed, adorable baby. "Even though I don't look it, I'm half Mexican. The other part is Irish. Most people are astonished when I tell them what I am. Sometimes it's after they're a little confused about my accent and ask what it is."

**Chris Burritt**

**Irish**

**Mexican**



Stephanie Grimaldi may hold the record for being a mixed bag. She explains, "Having such a rich ancestry ensures that I am interested in people everywhere in the world."

**Stephanie Grimaldi**

**Venezuelan**

**Italian**

**French**

**Spanish**

**British**

**Greek**

**Aaron Bustillo**

**Italian**

**French**

Aaron Bustillo-Moreno has unwittingly confused some people. Blonde, blue eyed and kind of German looking, he has surprised people from his own culture. "When I first came to school and entered a classroom, the students around me were speaking in Spanish. They actually said a few things about me, it wasn't bad but boy, were they shocked when I answered them in my native tongue Spanish."



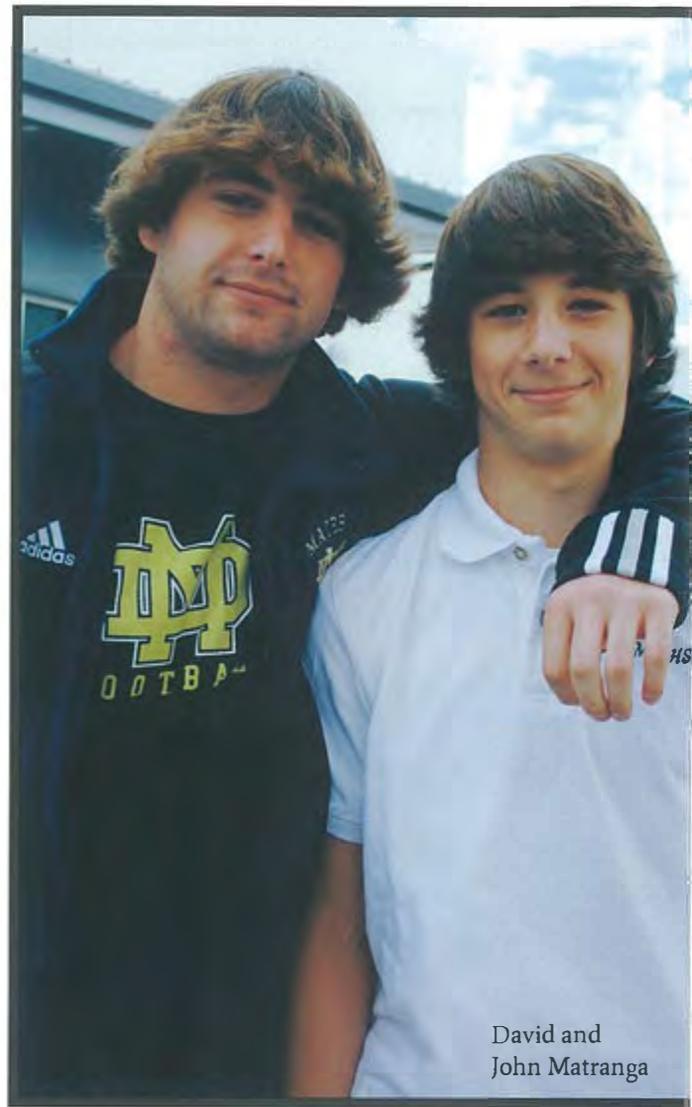
# Families

## They're pretty nice

As much as we want to be known as individuals there is something about being part of a family. It makes Mater Dei more than an institution, more like a home. The Gonzalez girls, now called Ms. Hodges and Ms. Brown, graduated from Marian in 1981 and 1983. Ms. Hodges is now vice president and has had two daughters, Aubrey and Amanda, graduate. Her sister Ms. Brown is the Parent Volunteer Coordinator and runs the ASB store. Daughter, Vanessa is a receptionist and daughter, Sammy is a senior. If it seems like they're running the school, you are half right. The Alvarados are another example. Jonathan and Danielle Alvarado already graduated, Camile still has a year to go: one more Alvarado will be coming in. But Ms. Alvarado hopefully will stay for a long, long time. Her desk in the attendance office is one of the main hubs of the school. If Mater Dei is a family, she's our mother. Not everyone has a mom or dad who works here, sometimes a big brother is enough. Scott Wright thinks having his brother Nick already here is, "cool because even before I came, I knew about 20 people from the school." Edith Carmargo got a big hug and a few little tears from Ms. Kelleher who remembered her as a sweet little girl who used to come in and quietly color while her big sister Olga worked on the yearbook on some Saturdays.

There is something about families and it's pretty nice.

by Thomas Hahn



David and  
John Matranga



Camile and  
Ms. Alvarado



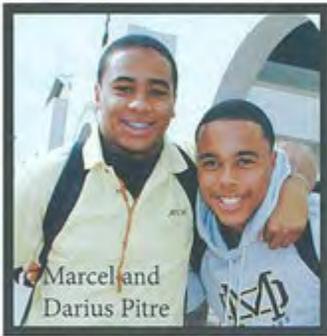
Miranda Zora

Darlene Zoura

Crystal Zora

Michelle Zoura

Diane Zoura

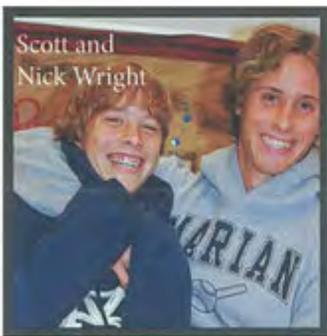


Marcel and Darius Pitre

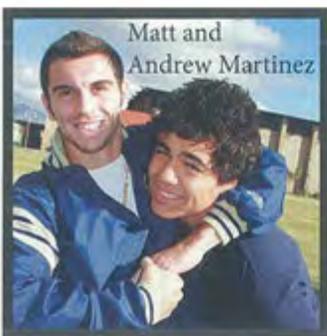


Sammy Brown  
Vanessa Brown  
Ms. Brown

Ms. Hodges



Scott and Nick Wright



Matt and Andrew Martinez

# Friends

## No More Empty Feeling

It's the first day of school and you are walking around with a big empty feeling in your stomach because, you don't know anyone and you're not sure you can make it through the day. But then a friendly smile with a person attached starts talking with you. Before long you have made a friend. Now you realize you can handle anything that high school throws at you because, your friends will be there for you.

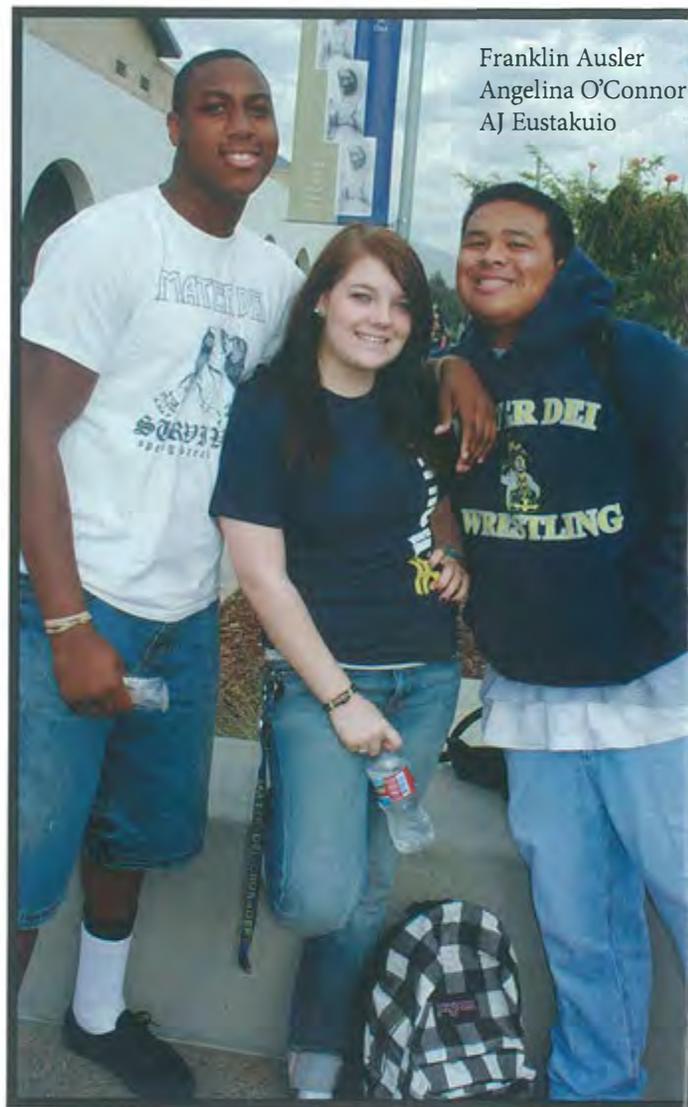
Juniors, Diana Paredes and Mariana Burkle have been friends since their freshman year although one might think they have been joined from birth. "We met at cheer camp and hit it off immediately," explains Diana. "Now we practically live at each other's houses." Mariana and Diana have never had a fight which is somewhat amazing because, Mariana has a boyfriend, Salvador Lopez, and that sometimes complicates things. "Not at all," says Mariana. "We all get along great and we're always there for each other." Not every friendship is so smooth.

You might have noticed Frances Lopez and Andrew Thein. They resemble siblings in the way they rant, tease and yell. But they have been best buddies since 2nd grade. Frances admits, "During the summer I have gone into Andrew's house and gotten food from the fridge before he even woke up."

Seniors Alex Pergrin, Judah Villescascas and Vincent Vazquez, get along so well they make it look easy. Then there's the Stoop Girls who got their name from the place just outside Mr. Smith's room at Marian. They started hanging out there as freshman and they have been best friends ever since.

Some friendships will wane and some will last a lifetime. Either way they will fill that empty feeling and a whole lot more.

by Theresa Chiappe



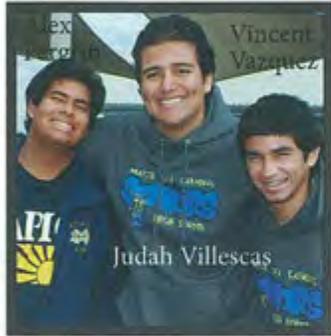
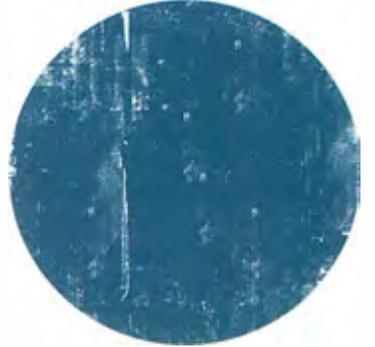
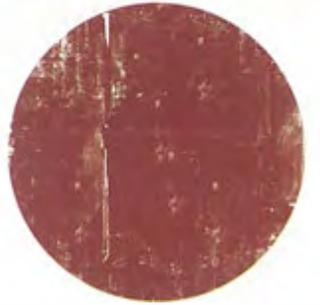
Franklin Ausler  
Angelina O'Connor  
AJ Eustakuio



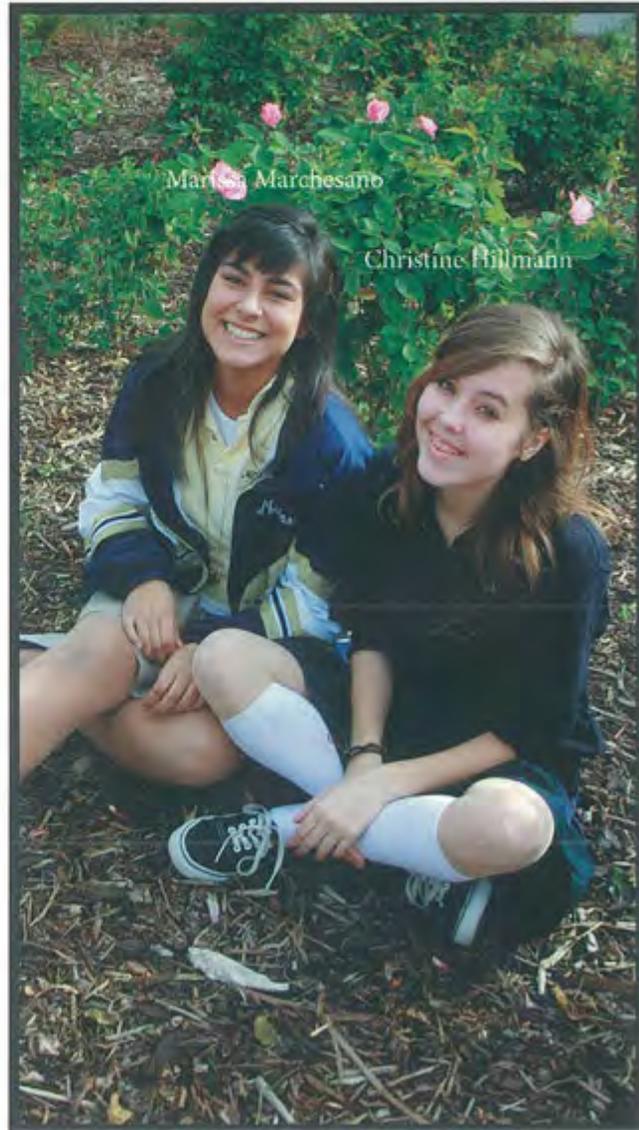
Stoop Girls: Frances, Gaby, Christine  
Toni, Jamie, Kayla, Janine, Geni



Andrew Thein  
Frances Lopez



Vincent Vazquez  
Judah Villescas



Mariela Marchesano  
Christine Hillmann



Diana Paredes  
Mariana Burkle



Ludo Spinola  
Sojin Kim



# Collections

What do Dhyrce Fritz, Chloe Slovisky and Mrs. Kelleher all have in common? The answer is, they all have a unique collection. From dolphins to bird's nests to soda can tabs, these creative minds also have a story behind their collection.

Dhyrce Fritz has been collecting dolphin things since third grade. Why dolphins? "They're peaceful, smart and that defines who I am." She also links her love of dolphins to her zodiac sign, Capricorn. People have soda cans all the time, but mainly for what's inside. Not for tenth grader, Chloe Slovisky. When Chloe gets a soda can, she saves the tab. In two years she has accumulated about fifty thousand. Her friends and brothers help out, too. Chloe said that she "loves making necklaces out of them to wear."

"I'm more of a 'get ridder' than a collector, but my bird's nests sort of collected me," explains Ms. Kelleher. When she moved to Bonita Ms. K started to find bird's nests in

her yard. They were so precious to her that she decided to put them all on a shelf she has outside. She finds many pieces of egg shells too, on the ground, in the bushes and around her neighborhood, but she would never disturb an occupied nest. Ms. K loves her collection of nests because they are tiny nature art works.

by Hollie Keene



Beanie Mommy Frances Fernandez shows off all her Beanie Baby babies. Full Hand Kayla Pega holds on to all her ticket stubs, sweet memories.

Stick 'Em Up Jose Garcia's walls pop with colorful brand name stickers. Pet Rocks Rock Ana Gabriela Madrigal loves her rocks inside and out.



Chloe Can Do Chloe Slovinsky turns pop tops into jewelry, art, and even table tops.

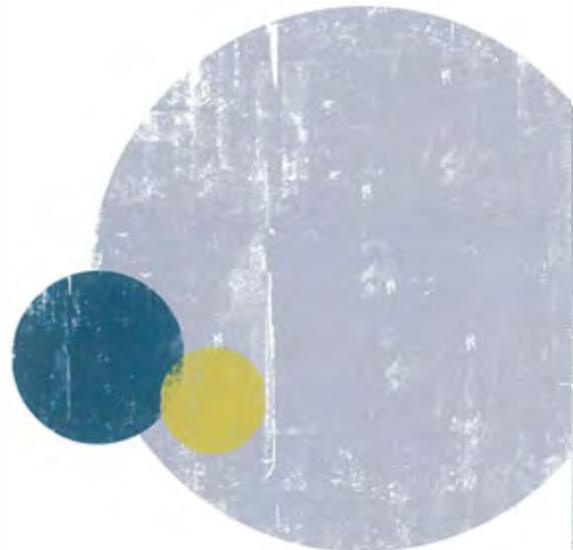


The Skittle Kid She's little but Karen Sanchez has a big appetite for Skittles candies.



Miniature World Ms.K holds one of her tiny bird's nests in her hands. Inside are three little egg shells that were left behind.

Mickey Mouse Started It Leslie Bustillo's first hat was from Disneyland, now she can sport head gear from many theme parks.



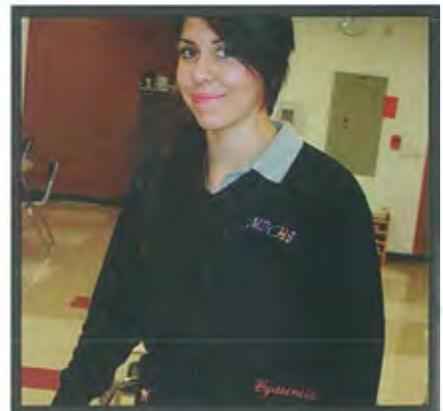


# Dressing up

Usually the first thing people say when you tell them you go to a Catholic school is, “Ew, you have to wear uniforms.” But you know, they’re not all that bad. A uniform is just a way to challenge us to keep our creativity. When girls buy their skirts, the first thing they do is bring the hem up about five inches. Guys tug on their pants to bring them down, at least as much as they can get away with. This keeps Ms. Angeles and Mr. Moeller busy all year. If you walk through the campus and look closely, you’ll find that no two people look exactly the same. Paola Oriozola and Czarina Ortiz individualize their sweaters and skirts with buttons and monograms. Most girls wear different shoes to enhance their individuality. Patricia Hubbard explains, “I always wear my favorite shoes. They’re simple, but rad.” Guys have their own way of standing out in a crowd. Most of the time it’s by the way they wear their hair. Alex Gonzalez insists, “Well-groomed and stylish hair is needed in high school.” Then he adds, “But undershirts play a key role too.” He wears solid black or

white to stand out. When it’s cold, and even when it’s not that cold, scarves are a colorful accessory. This year the uniforms have definitely been more comfortable because, we have been allowed to “untuck.” Except for Mass days of course. And that’s the day when everyone follows the rules to a “T” because it’s for a “higher authority.”

by Angela Beck and  
Stephanie Grimaldi



**Button Belle** Paola Oriozola has worn her heart button since freshman year. **Accessorize** Adrian Davila knows the meaning of the word.

**Czarina Style** Czarina Ortiz loves rainbows and wears them on her sweater. **Simple and Stylish** Francisco Palacio sports a snappy scarf.



Let It Snow or at least stay cold so Estela Uribe and Andrea Canaan can show off their spiffy scarves.

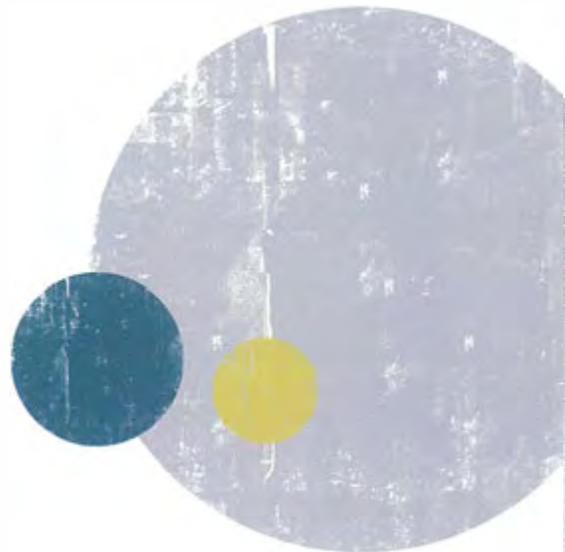


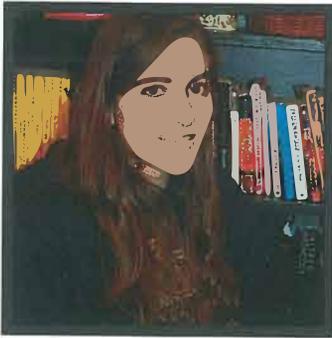
Mr. Snazz Only Mr. Van Wyk can make a Mr. Roger's sweater look smart and sharp.



A Little Here, A Little There Karla Jaramillo and Cristina Valverde show how color here and a cross there make a big difference.

Natty Nataly Nataly Briones can make even a simple gray scarf look great.





Twilight fan Fernanda De La Parra says she never finished a book. But when she saw her good friend totally absorbed, she decided to give it a try.

Not only did she finish Twilight, she completed the series and can't wait for more.



"I never used to read either," says Danielle Flores. "But now I'm hooked. I'd like to read some of the classic

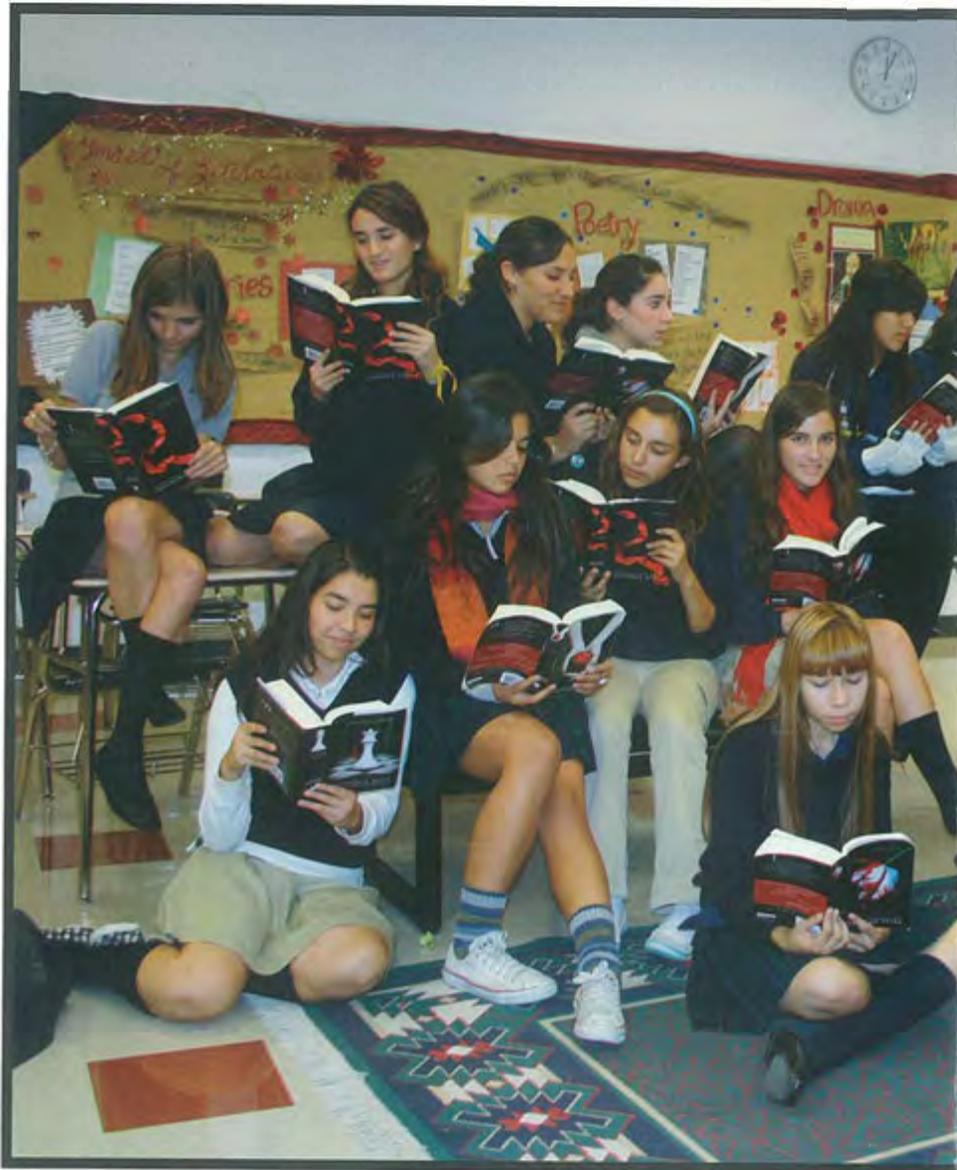
romances too, like Jane Eyre and Sense and Sensibility. After all, that's where Ms. Meyers got her idea for the name Edward."



Valeria Plascencia knows exactly why she likes the series so much.

"Edward is the perfect guy, everything most girls want.

Mostly he's romantic and we all want more of that," says Valeria emphatically.



**Looking for Romance** Maria Trueba De Buen, Paloma Polanco, Dhyrc Fritz and Maria Sayas stare off into the mist, hoping their dreams may become reality.



**The Eyes Have It** Look closely into Maria Trueba De Buen's eyes and discover the topaz glow of Edward's.

## Princess? I want to be a Vampire!

Have you ever heard of a book about a regular girl who falls in love with a beautiful vampire? If you have, you know about the whirlwind of excitement that comes with Twilight. The obsessed fans will fight to the death to defend the book against criticism. The fans are also divided into Team Edward and Team Jacob, who is the werewolf best friend. Many people enjoy the book because it is not the typical teenage story, and it especially attracts the romantics looking for the perfect person in their life. Sophomore Karem Calaya, a devout Twilight fan, says "I wish I had an Edward in my life, he is just the perfect

guy." Even though the fan base is mostly girls, some guys have read it because the girls are always raving about how wonderful it is. When the movie came out, people went to the extremes of dressing like a vampire with bite marks on their necks. Some fans were disappointed with the movie, but many fans were able to understand that the movie could not be just like the book. Brianna Truffa, a freshman, went to the midnight showing and said, "I think they did an excellent job with the movie, although it wasn't nearly as wonderful as the book. But obviously they can't make it exactly like the book, because everyone sees the characters differently. Overall I think they did a wonderful job." Summit Entertainment has already decided to film New Moon, the sequel, and the crazed fans will just have to see how the movie compares to the book next year.

by Theresa Chiappe



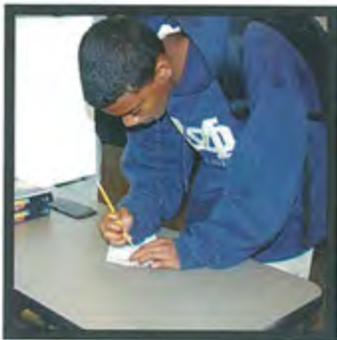
All Four Lilia Covarrubias, Daniella Flores, Paola Prieto and Marisol Padilla each read one of the Stephanie Meyers' series and hope she won't stop there.

Silent Reading It's not a classroom but a magical world where romance reigns.



**Casting the Vote**  
Tenth Grader Marissa Rios takes her time filling in the ballot for her

as well as all the crusaders, it was a chance to be heard loud and clear.



**First Time Favorite**  
Evan Cintron may be too young to vote but he can say he participated in the vote which elected Barack Obama at MDCHS.

ed in the vote which elected Barack Obama at MDCHS.



**One Student, One Vote**  
Young people are also involved in the election. Here Robbie Silva cast his vote for 2009 president.

Silva cast his vote for 2009 president.



**Watchful Eye** Mr. Moeller carefully oversees the balloting as students take their turn casting votes.



**Can We?** Ebone Henry and Sergio Crosthwaite argue the merits of an Obama presidency.



First Time Voter Sammy Brown is pretty proud after casting her very first official vote for the 2008 presidential election.

# The Vote: Feeling good about what's important

What a great time to come of age in America and vote in this historic election. Any way it went, we knew we would have either a female vice president or a black president. First time voter, Sammy Brown expresses her feelings about this privilege and right, "This was such a great experience. I was nervous but it felt good to be a part of something so important." The student body was decidedly in favor of Barack Obama. Still there are a few Conservatives around. Alexa Tassinari says, "McCain's future actions can help the country in our crisis, he has experience." Others like John Matranga also believe McCain's experience

will serve us well. But Obama eludes a strong attractiveness that carries a lot of clout. Lucia Ramirez says, "He relates to the youth, I like his plan for the country and he seems like a reliable candidate." Some opinions don't belong in any category. Eric Aquilar is one example, "McCain resembles Bush too much. Obama is too inexperienced. Palin seems too foolish to be second-in-charge. Biden alone would be a good president." Students were given a chance to vote at a mock election sponsored AP Government teacher Ms. Grosz. The voting was open to the whole student body and largely reflected what the American population believed. Consequently Barack Obama was chosen at Mater Dei and elected to be our 44th American president by the majority of Americans. History was made and only the future will reveal the results.

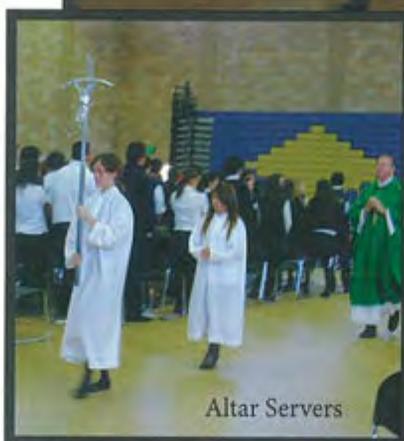
by Cristina Fuentes



Yes, He Can Rina Himan and Frank Huerta won the debate representing John McCain and Sarah Palin in the A.P. Government mock election. But Barack Obama was the choice of the school at large.



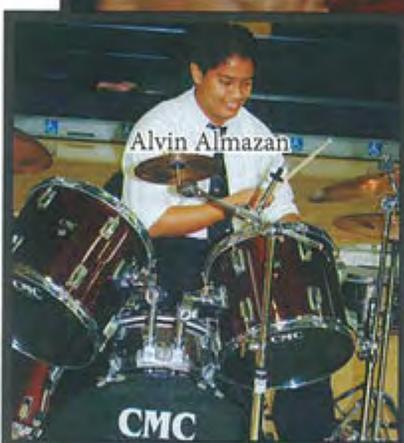
All Smiles Toni Vasquez waits with her signature smile for all the school ballots.



Altar Servers



Maria Sayasy  
Nina Salazar

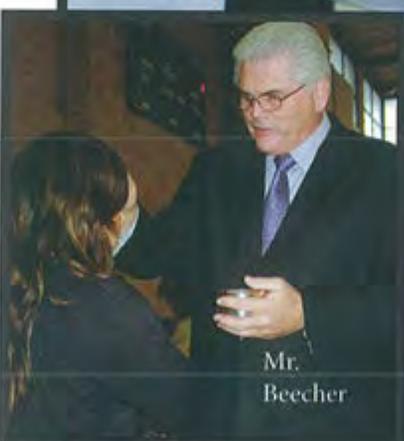


Alvin Almazan

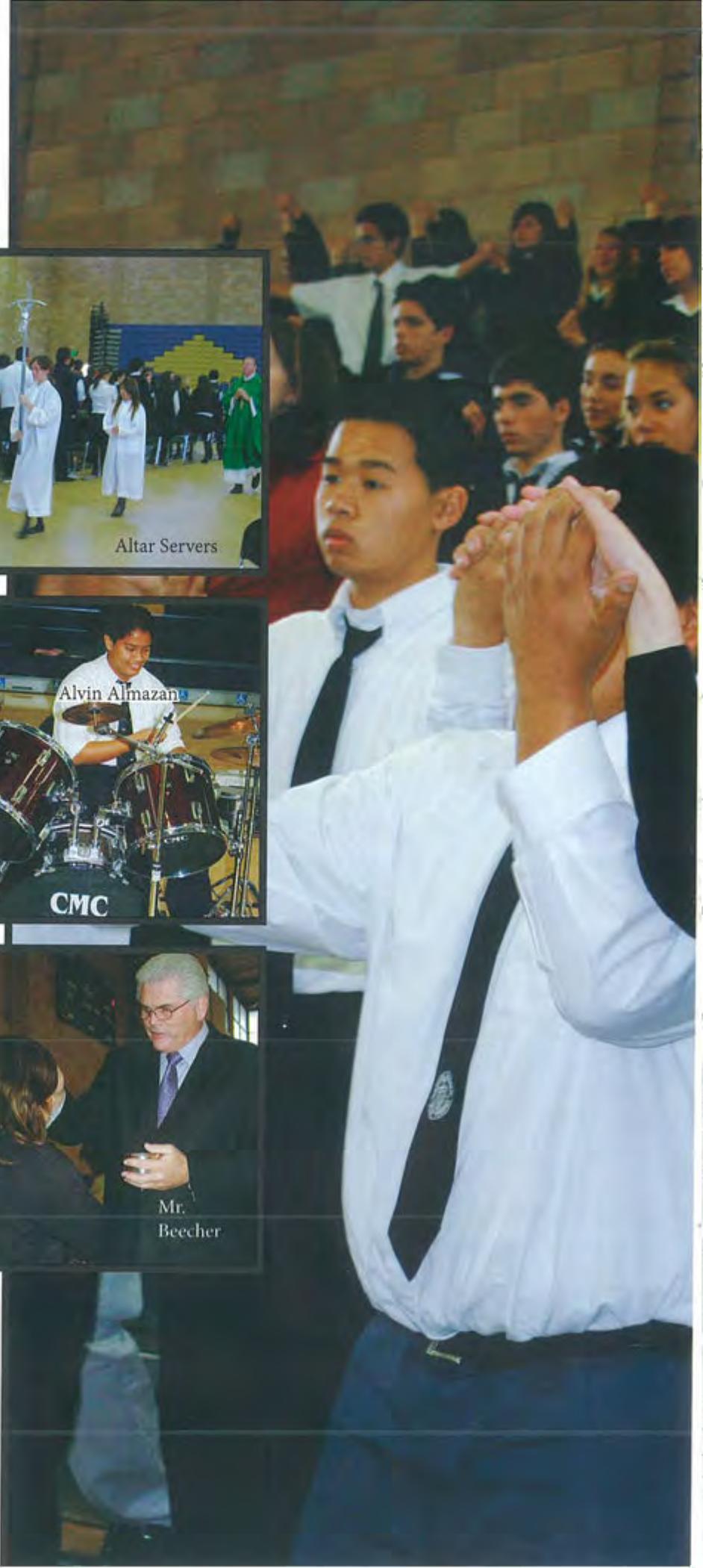
CMC



Jackae Bridges



Mr. Beecher





# Religion

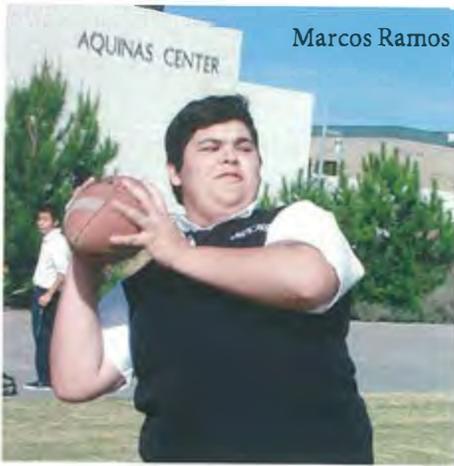
## Every faith has social justice

**F**or starters our name says we are Catholic. And in innumerable ways we endeavor to achieve an understanding of our faith as well as an adherence to its standards. But MDCHS is not for Catholics alone. Other faiths are welcome here and that diversity can be an integral factor in establishing understanding and good will between all religions. Jackae Bridges is one example. She is Baptist and finds no difficulty being accepted here. The only problem for her is that she has become so used to signing the cross throughout the day that when she goes back to her own church she sometimes slips into a sign of the cross which startles her Baptist minister.

Marto Winata is Buddhist. Though there are differences in this faith and the Catholic one, there are many similarities. Christ and Buddha were both loving and compassionate. Marto feels very comfortable combining the two faiths and practicing both of them.

Regardless of which faith you are, all Mater Dei students take religion classes and learn about the Catholic faith, history, sacraments. So some non-Catholics might end up knowing more than Catholics in the public schools. Another class everyone takes is social justice. Social justice is for everyone; Catholic, Baptist, Buddhist or even Agnostic. We begin here just by getting along.

by Daniela Perez



Marcos Ramos



Ernesto Avevedo

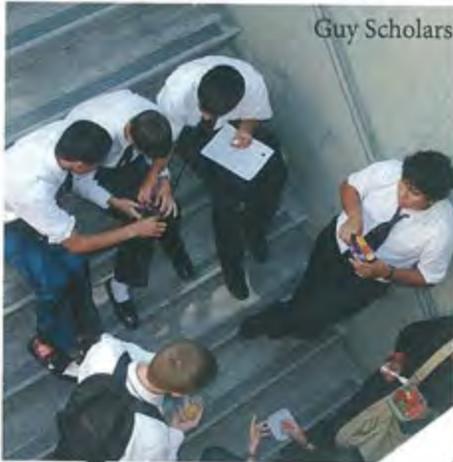
Valeria Plascencia



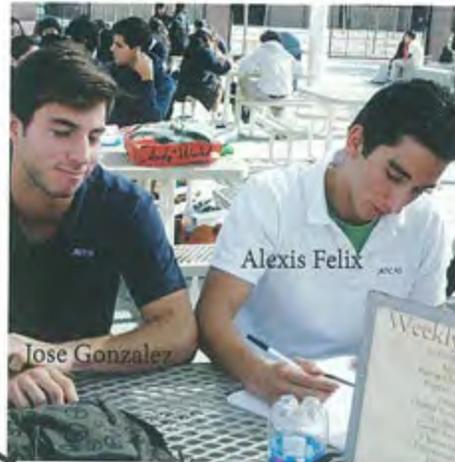
Jesus Garcia

Manuel Lara

Eric Martin



Guy Scholars



Jose Gonzalez

Alexis Felix



Jonathan Madrid and Rebecca Porter

# Ordinary Days, Sweet Memories

Of course we love Spirit Week and Homecoming. But some of the best times are just ordinary days. Nothing special, but mostly sunny. We arrive at school looking up at Mount San Miguel and notice what the clouds are doing around it today. Our friends are already waiting for us. There's time to catch up

on any events that have happened since yesterday. We can finish a little homework in the library or play a game of chess. Break is long. There's time to get a fruit cup or fries and visit more with friends. Lunch is more of the same. You can even play some football or soccer on the Big Green. After school

everyone has their own thing to do. Now we can use our cell to stay uber connected. Some just hang around, lots go to sports, some study. This is what we do and who we are on ordinary days. Sweet.

by Daniela Perez



Monica Szkopec

Roxanna Enriquez



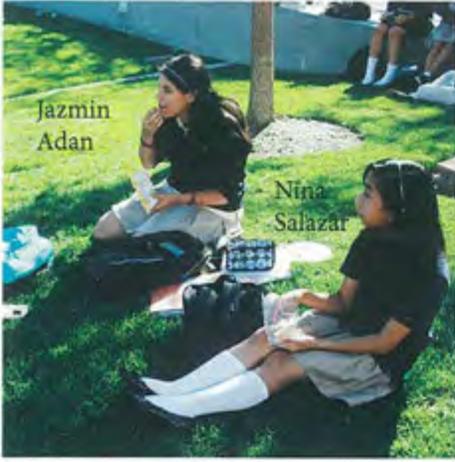
James Mara

Catherine Valenzuela



Hector Fajardo

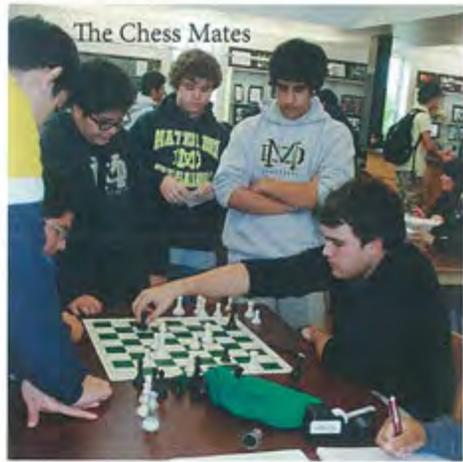
Nicholas Hamich



Jazmin Adan  
Nina Salazar



Brenna Gates  
Melanie Diaz  
Melinda Fernigan



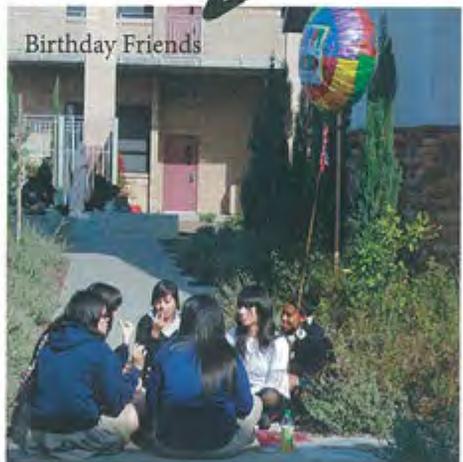
The Chess Mates



Mount San Miguel



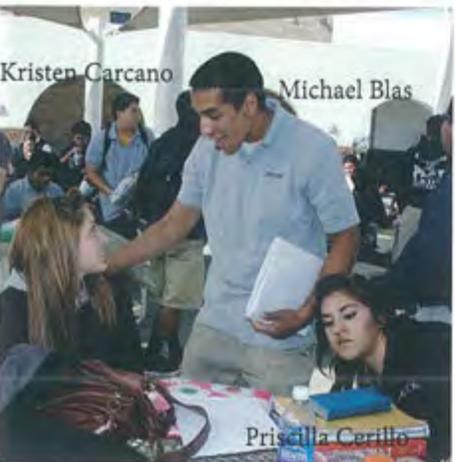
Francisco Mediologoitia



Birthday Friends

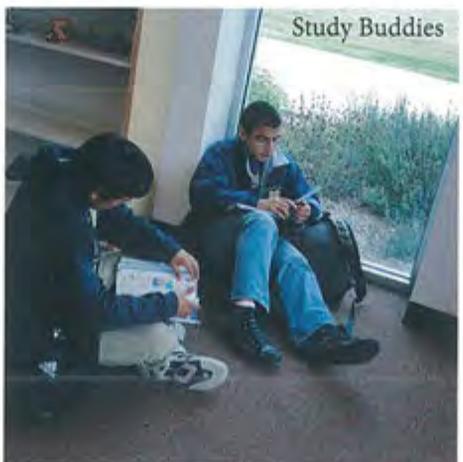


Celia Wright

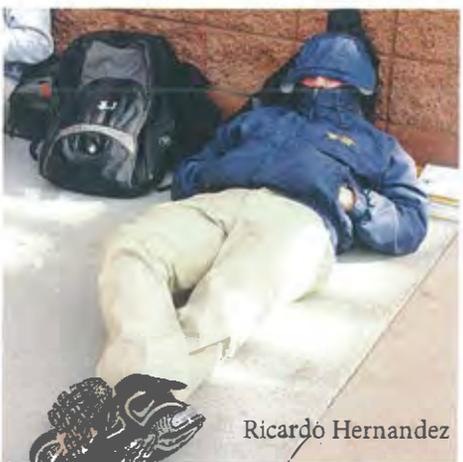


Kristen Carcano  
Michael Blas

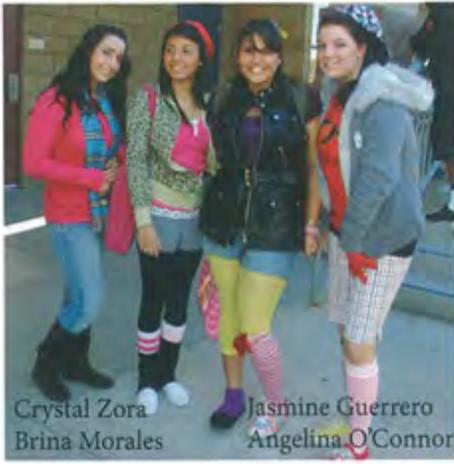
Priscilla Cerillo



Study Buddies



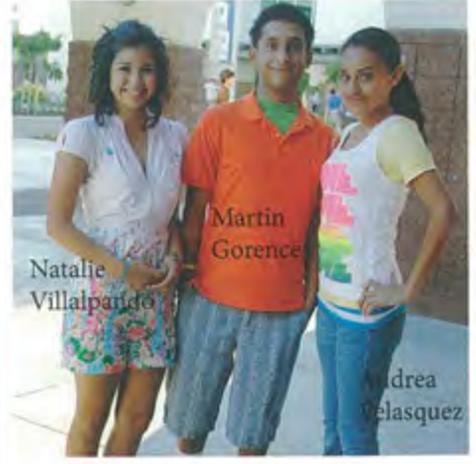
Ricardo Hernandez



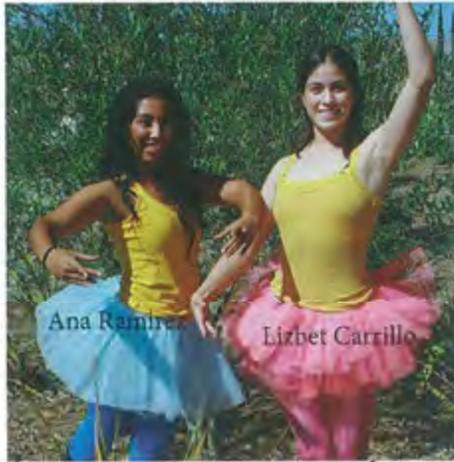
Crystal Zora  
Brina Morales  
Jasmine Guerrero  
Angelina O'Connor



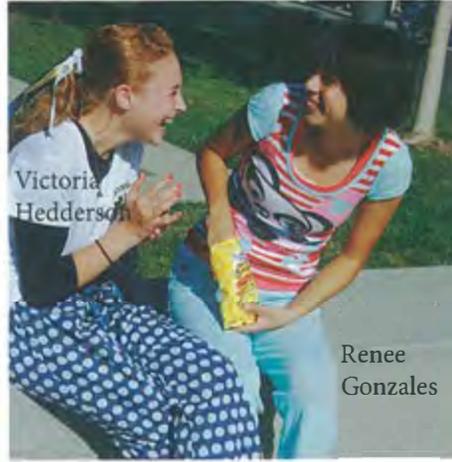
Karen Lopez  
Kayla Pega  
Jesus Gutierrez



Natalie Villalparido  
Martin Gorence  
Andrea Velasquez



Ana Ramirez  
Lizbet Carrillo



Victoria Hedderson  
Renee Gonzales



Rebecca Parra  
Sammy Brown

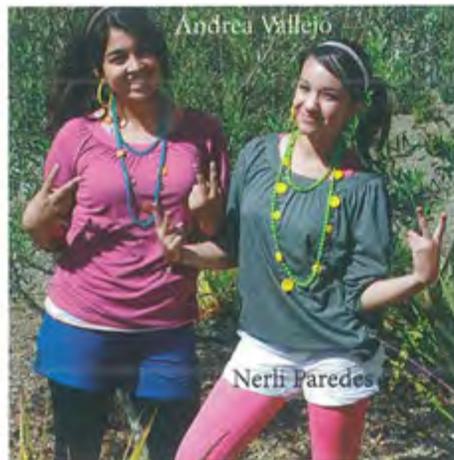
# Motley, Multi-colored and Outlandish

Most of the year we are easily identified by our uniforms: a bit of tan, some plaid, lots of blue. But during Spirit Week our personas can be expressed in motley, multi-color and the more outlandish, the better. It's fun. Shy people can get wild. Romantics can revel in lace. Closet Gothics can go garish. Peo-

ple you thought you knew turn out to be far more interesting than you could have imagined. Mario Zayas, Jason Myers and Will Stewart revealed their political persuasions in matching Obama shirts. Nick Wright and Jesus Gutierrez became positively mischievous as Thing One and Thing Two. And Moises

Lora and Alex Garcia surprised everyone in their pilot uniforms and snappy salutes. Maybe it's time to give up all the pre-conceived ideas we have about people and let them redefine themselves any way they want. That's the spirit!

by Daniela Perez



Andrea Villedo  
Nerli Paredes



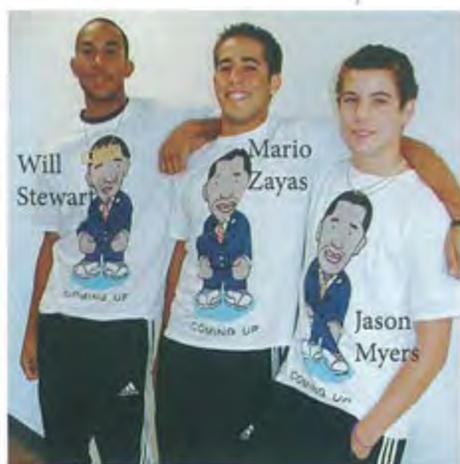
Cassandra Duron  
Chloe Slovinsky



Alex Garcia  
Moises Lora



Ilse Gutierrez  
Andrea Martinez



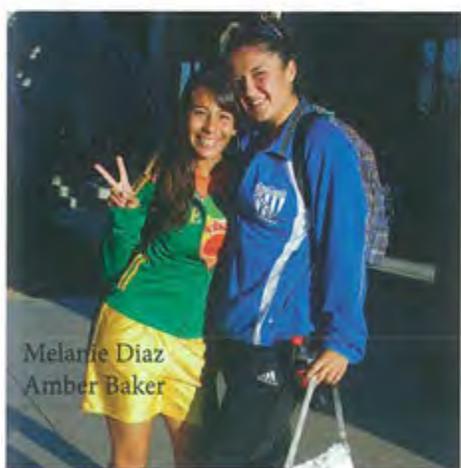
Will Stewart  
Mario Zayas  
Jason Myers



Jorge  
Alan  
Israel  
Jorge  
Juan Carlos



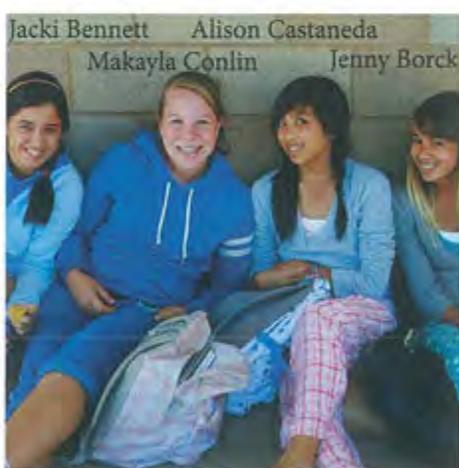
Vanessa Celia Alejandra Bri Analorena Andrea Diane



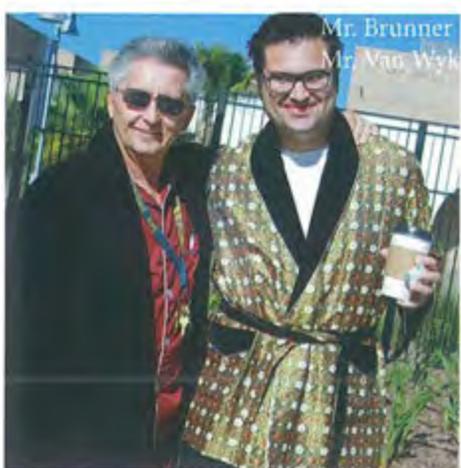
Melanie Diaz  
Amber Baker



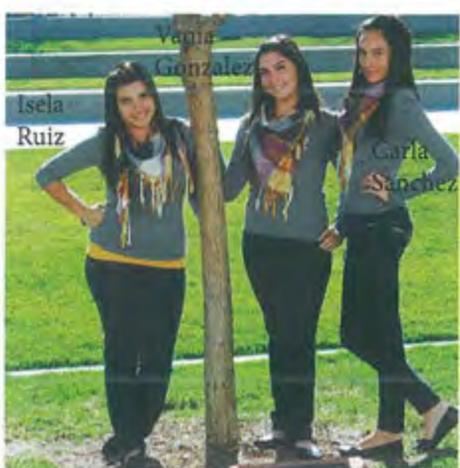
Nick Wright  
Jesus Gutierrez



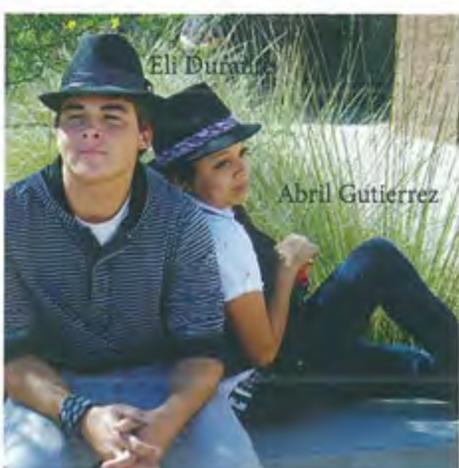
Jacki Bennett Alison Castaneda  
Makayla Conlin Jenny Borck



Mr. Brunner  
Mr. Van Wyk



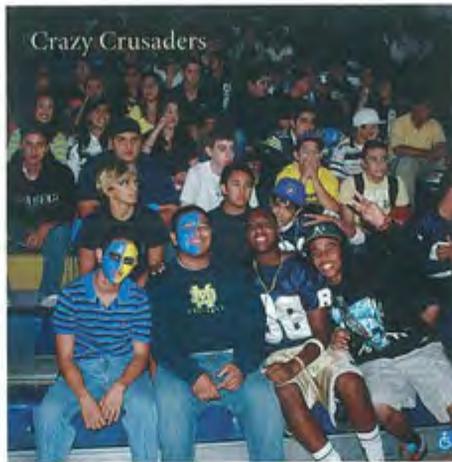
Isela Ruiz  
Vanja Gonzalez  
Carla Sanchez



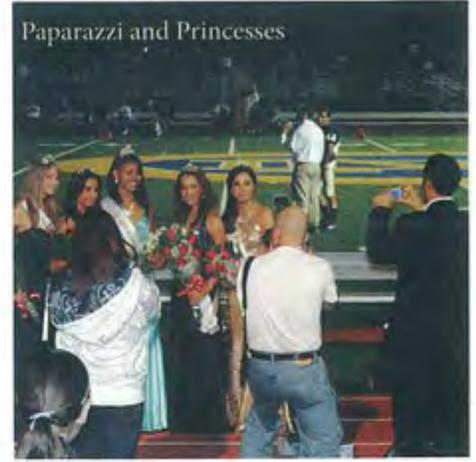
Eli Duran  
Abril Gutierrez



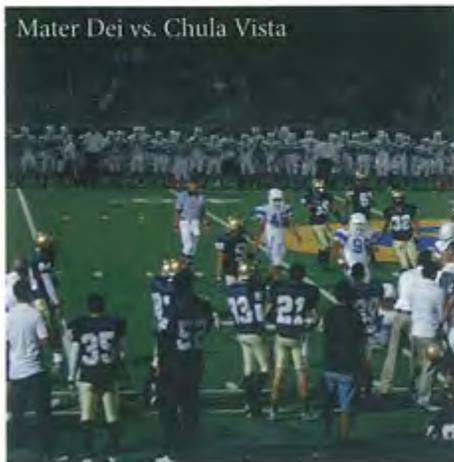
Flashy Fireworks



Crazy Crusaders



Paparazzi and Princesses



Mater Dei vs. Chula Vista



Chris Crusader

Sandra Gonzalez

Victoria Vega

## Sharing Memories of Glory Days

Spirit Week and the Homecoming dance belong largely to the students. They are closed activities mainly for us. But the Homecoming game and to some extent the rally, belong to all Crusaders. This is when people come back to their Alma Mater. You might see the parents of some of your

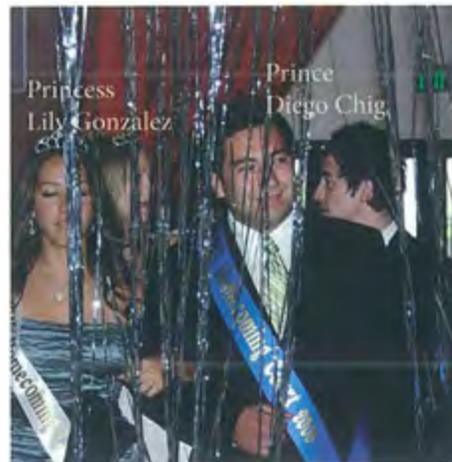
friends. Or an athlete you looked up to who was a senior when you were just coming in. Sometimes it looks like there are more former football players on the side line than there are on the field. This is the time for them to remember their days of glory and watch the "little ones" coming up. It's a great

time for teachers to talk to students they may have taught just last year or more than ten years ago. It's a time for people to reconnect with who they once were and to share some memories with someone who knows who they are now.

by Cristina Fuentes



Popcorn Stand



Princess Lily Gonzalez

Prince Diego Chig

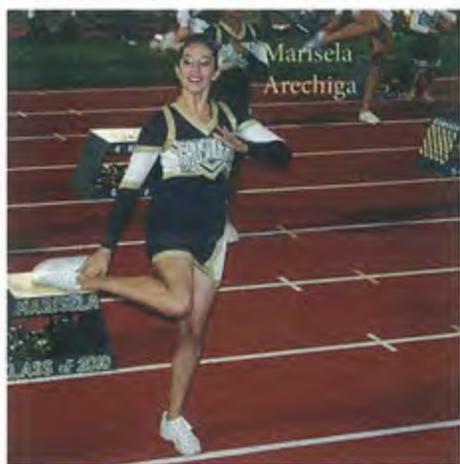


Queen Danae Johnson

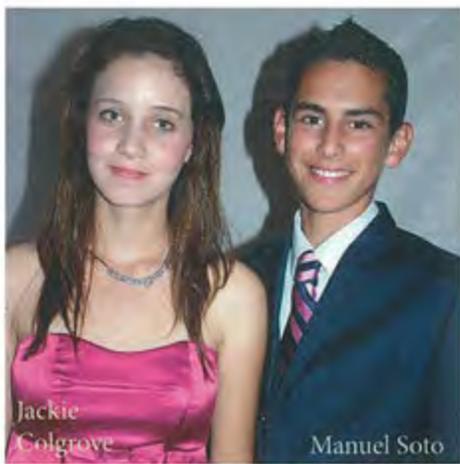
King Mario Zayas



Queen  
Danae Johnson



Marisela  
Arechiga



Jackie  
Colgrove

Manuel Soto



Princess  
Michelle Lyle

Princess  
Paulina Kayachanian

Queen  
Danae Johnson

Princess  
Lily Gonzalez

Princess  
Danel  
Hernandez

# Homecoming



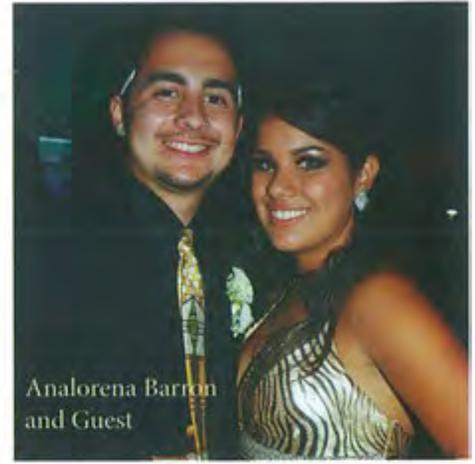
Mater Dei Homecoming Court 2008  
Carlos Gonzalez and Michelle Lyle, Andres Schramm and Paulina Kayachanian, Queen Danae Johnson and King Mario Zayas, Lily Gonzalez and Diego Chig, Danel Hernandez and Marcel Pitre



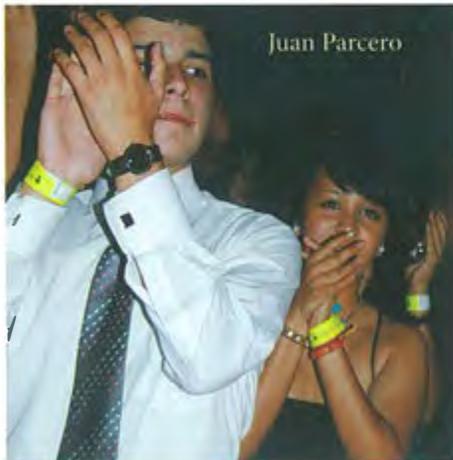
Jacob Marrion



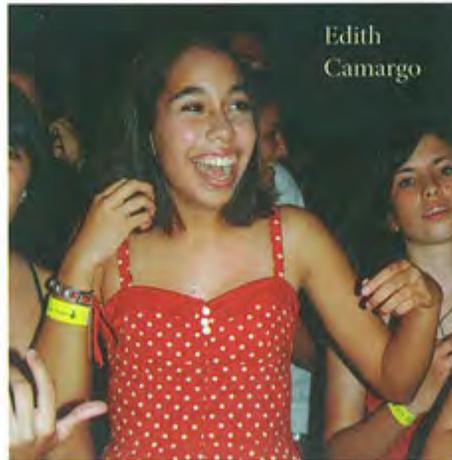
Patrick Guest Darius Jacob



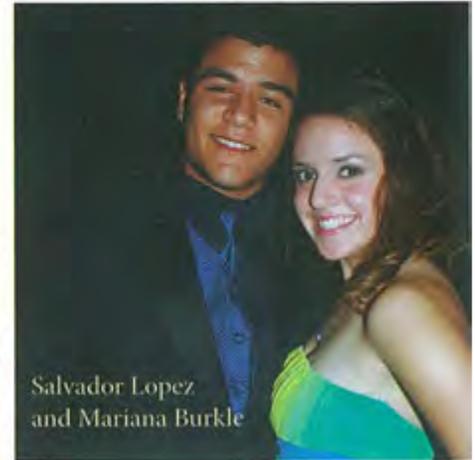
Analorena Barron and Guest



Juan Parcero



Edith Camargo



Salvador Lopez and Mariana Burkle

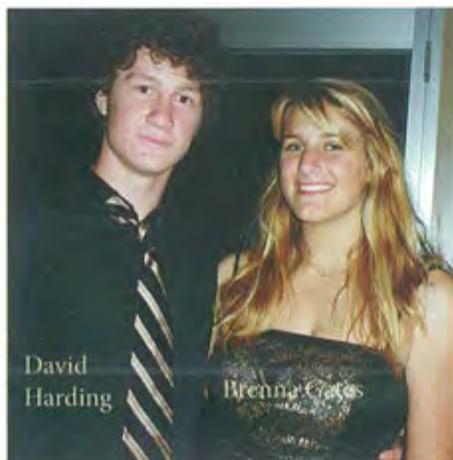
# *Sloppy Morphs into Debonair*

Gals, if you want to be a princess, diva or other subject of adoration, and guys, if you want to be James Bond, Mr. Darcy or Edward, homecoming is your chance to redefine yourself. It may take more than a day for certain girls with hair appointments, professional make-up application and various

other beauty treatments or just a few minutes for guys who can shower fast and jump into their clothes, but fast or slow Homecoming is the night to transform. Jeans are replaced with silk and satin. Sloppy metamorphizes into debonair. And then the party begins. The energy surges through the

dancers as everyone moves to the beat. Sometimes the whole room pulsates as everyone follows the DJ's commands. Fresh breaths of air are gulped down during short visits outside. Then back again inside to where reality becomes magic.

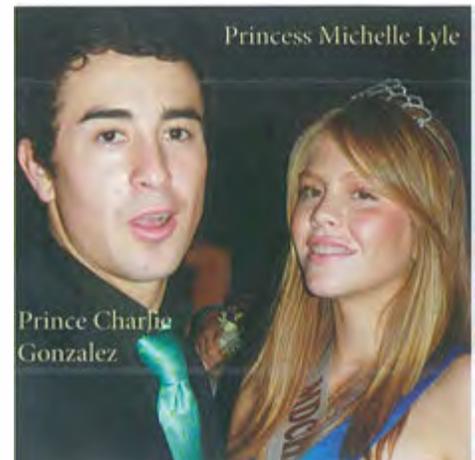
by Daniela Perez



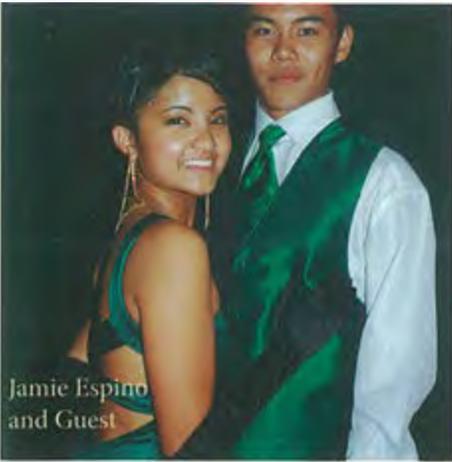
David Harding Brenna Cates



Tatiana Tobe Karla Jaramillo Oliver Caro Angelina O'Connor Andrea Velasquez



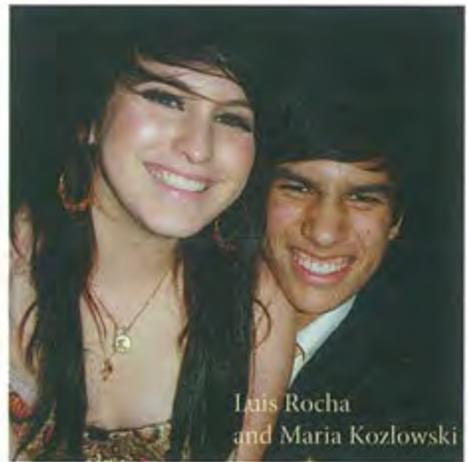
Prince Charlie Gonzalez Princess Michelle Lyle



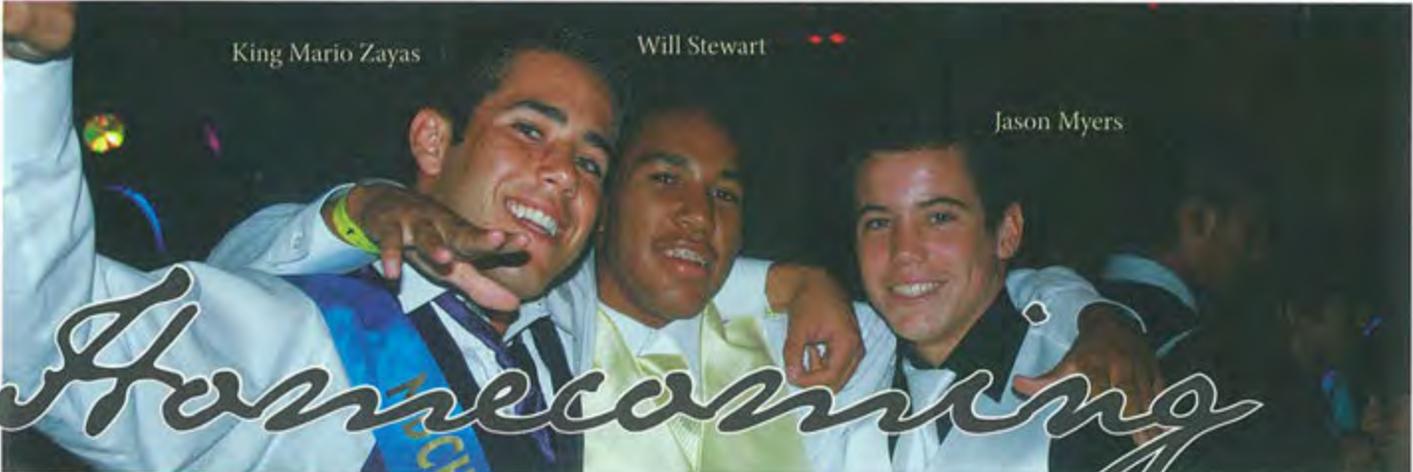
Jamie Espino  
and Guest



Crystal Zora  
and Diane Zoura



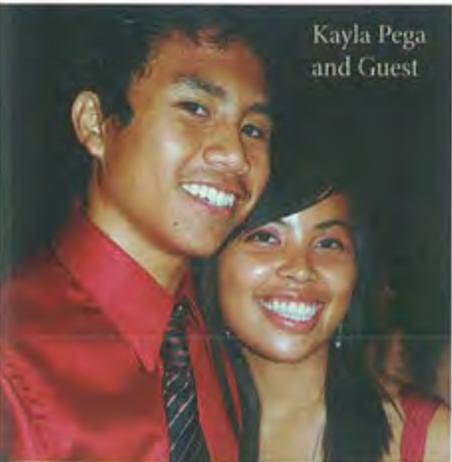
Luis Rocha  
and Maria Kozlowski



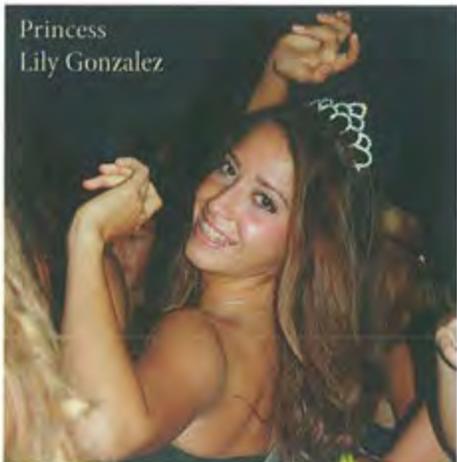
King Mario Zayas

Will Stewart

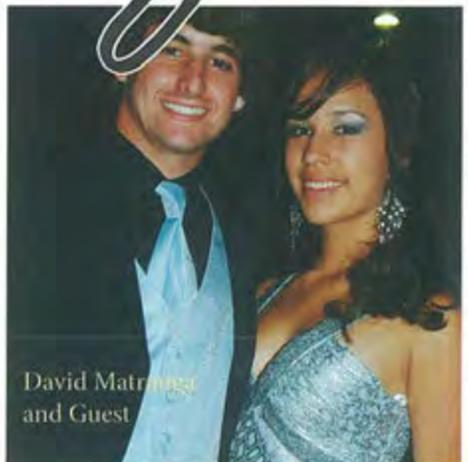
Jason Myers



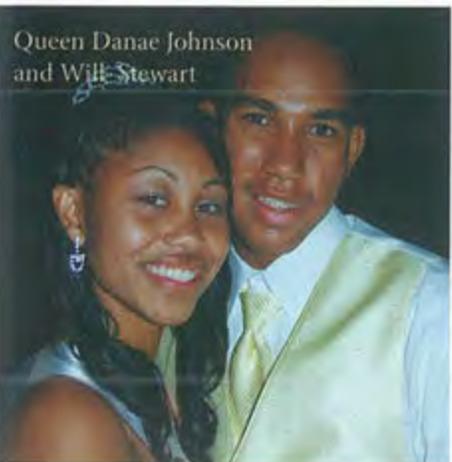
Kayla Pega  
and Guest



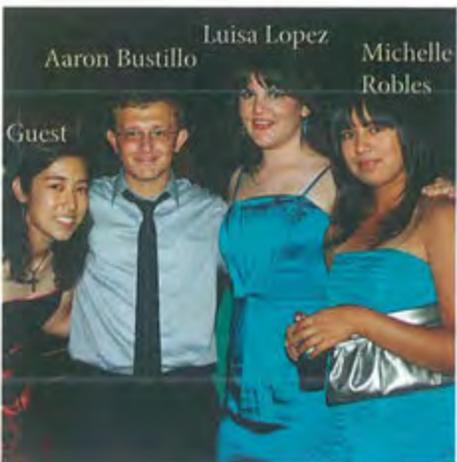
Princess  
Lily Gonzalez



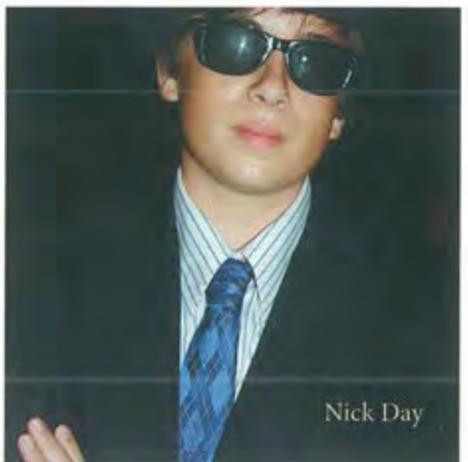
David Matrone  
and Guest



Queen Danae Johnson  
and Will Stewart



Guest  
Aaron Bustillo  
Luisa Lopez  
Michelle Robles



Nick Day

# {re}charge

**To take something inactive, give it energy and bring it back to life.**

They live to play and they play to live. Whether it's on the courts, on the field or in the pool, athletes know that sports allows them to recharge.

Sometimes it's hard to get up every morning and endure a day with homework due, tests to take, lectures to listen to. But athletes know that when the academic day ends, another will begin. While some students leave school after hearing the last bell of the day, they will suit up for practice. Whether it's running around the track, or practicing their throws, they find the energy to keep going, in fact, they recharge. Instead of sleeping, watching tv or playing video games they spend their next few hours pushing themselves in endeavors which challenge and strengthen their abilities. What may have been difficult at the on set, now becomes a power source. Another payoff will come with the first game or match. Then the athlete discovers that energy makes energy and all the workouts are like a piston, pumping him or her up for competition. Everything that was endured becomes an asset for athletes who are doing what they love. Then the game begins and there is another kind of recharge.

It comes from the rush toward victory. Adrenaline has a will of its own and athletes perform without thinking, without effort. It just comes. After a win or even just a well-played game they are almost bursting with momentum. That's what living is about. Shouldn't you recharge too?

by Kayla Pega





# Big Hearts Win or Lose

## Varsity Football

By Angelina O'Connor and Caleb Galvez

It's pageantry. Thirty athletes marching down the stadium stairs, warming up on the astro turf, fans streaming into the stands. Some hardly notice what is happening on the field. Others don't miss a single play and let everyone know if something should have been done differently. For whatever reason you go and whatever your sports acumen is, football is the high light of Friday nights. When your team wins it's great but we know now this doesn't always happen.

"We had a really tough schedule and we started off a little slow but we picked it up," stated Mario Zayas. Though the team lost some games, they lost to some of the best teams in the county. But one game will stay a sweet memory: Bonita Vista was slated to slam Mater Dei. It was their homecoming too. Franklin Aussler was unperturbed. "We knew they were tough but we didn't care, we just had to come in ready to dominate." And they did. With team strength and the kicking skills of Jason Myers they won the game. Patrick Mayor was so exhilarated he rejoiced, "It was a great night for us, one I know

we'll never forget."

The Crusaders finished with a record of 5-5. They ended up in 3rd place for the Mesa League and were 3-2 in their division, beating Hilltop, Otay Ranch, and Bonita Vista. They showed their heart on and off the field and, win or lose, they worked together to finish strong.

Silent on the Sideline  
Frank Huerta watches every  
move, ready and waiting to go in.



**Kick Off!**

Jake Coogan sprints down the field for kick off.



**Fighting Back**  
Darius Pitre stands firm, ready to make a stop.

**Undeterred**  
In spite of a man on his tail, Franklin Ausler makes the catch.

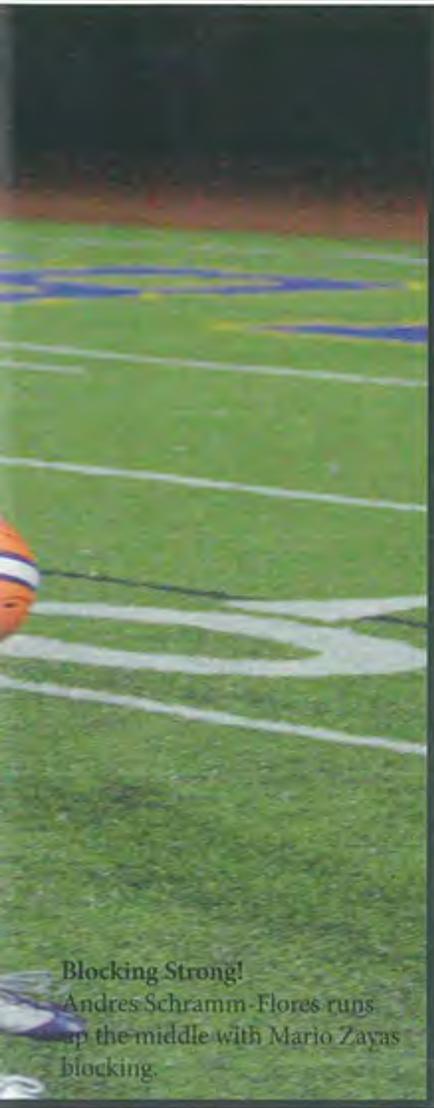


**Almost There**  
Matt Martinez gains yards but no touch-down.

**D-Line!**  
The tough guys prepare again to fight.



(back row); M. Blas, W. Stewart, F. Ausler, M. Valdez, F. Huerta, M. Lopez, J. Edgar, R. Carrillo, M. Zayas, (3rd row); J. Coogan, Coach White, Coach Hirsch, Coach Roji, Coach Dahlen, Coach Miranda, Coach Joyner, D. Matranga, (2nd row); J. Marrion, V. Soriano, J. Fischer, R. Hernandez, W. Gonzalez, D. Harding, D. Chig, L. Carrillo, M. Pitre, D. Pitre, (front row); P. Mayor, J. Myers, M. Winata, A. Schramm- Flores, C. Gonzalez, J. Viruete, S. Lopez, M. Martinez



**Blocking Strong!**  
Andres Schramm- Flores runs up the middle with Mario Zayas blocking.

Opponent	MDCHS
Chula Vista	37 20
Eastlake	35 6
Bonita Vista	21 24
Hilltop	10 38
Otay Ranch	12 17
Mission Bay	37 10

# The Right Attitude

## JV & Freshman Football

by Ashley Medina & Andrea Velasquez

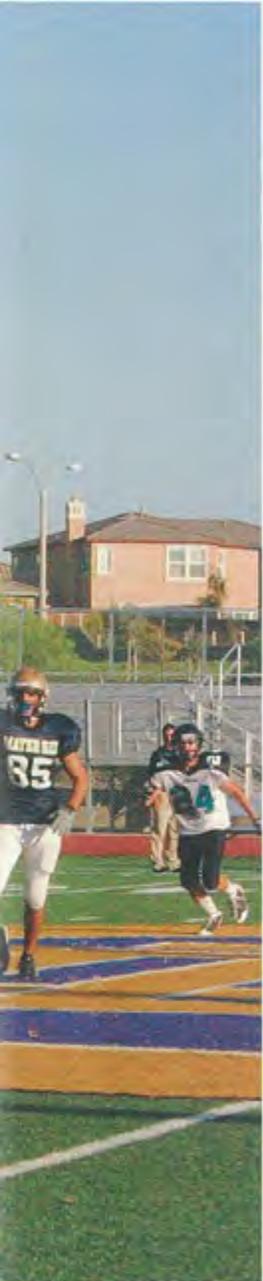
**T**eamwork and a never say die attitude helped the JV through a tough season. Coach Hugo Roji, a Marian alum, was proud of their efforts. Key players Rafael Blanco, QB, Aleck Urrutia, Offensive Tackle, and Manny Zea, Safety and RB, had a tough style that served as a model for the rest of the team. The result was some satisfying competition. The most exciting game for all was against Eastlake. The Titans came on the field with confidence thinking they would crush the Crusaders. Neck and neck, and with little time left, Junior Quarterback Rafael Blanco completed a quarterback sneak and raced 10 yards to the end zone taking the lead. The Crusaders made a major comeback beating Eastlake in the end. The win boosted their spirits and enabled the team to work harder and feel proud of their accomplishments. JV boys had an exciting season and are looking to improve the fundamentals, step it up and come back next year strong. The freshman team, coached by Coach White had their own ups and downs. By summer's end had become fairly cohesive as a team. Unfortunately they lost a couple of very strong athletes. It was tough but Samuel Ordaz was philosophical about it, "It's hard to lose some of your best guys and still go on but you have to deal with what you have." John Matranga explains how the team could have won more games if they had run the ball, but were trained to pass in preparation for varsity. "In the long run, it's going to help us out." Attitudes like his will help take the team far, so keep an eye on them.

**It's Complete!**  
David Delacalzada catches a 15 yard pass, oblivious to his opponent.



**Can He Go all the Way?**  
Yes, he can! Cole Beltran is chased by the notorious Valley Center Jaguars but still makes a 50 yard touchdown.





**Brute Force**

Mater Dei defense pushes against the equally strong opponent.

**Pass or Fail**

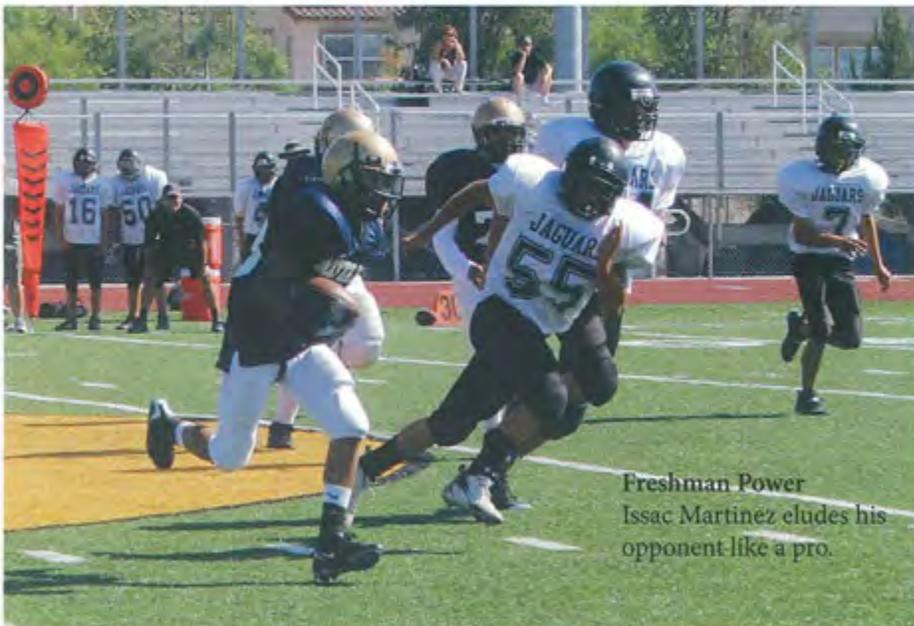
Rafael Blanco has seconds to throw but manages a 15 yard pass before being hit.

**Plucky Parra**

Eddie Parra gets in low to stop the offense.

**Deft Hands**

John Matranga hands off to Jake Dacayo.



**Freshman Power**

Issac Martinez eludes his opponent like a pro.

**Stop the Man**

Jose Brambila is ready to push his opponent out to the sideline.



(back row); I. Sanchez-O'Sullivan, C. Burritt, Coach Hugo, Coach Joyner, R. Blanco, A. Urrutia, (middle row); P. Salem, R. Rosique-Gaxiola, M. Aspili, D. Delacalzada, I. Camara, J. Mireles, (front row); F. Hernandez, R. Ros, M. Zea, N. Johnson, J. Brambila, (not pictured); E. Parra, A. Basantes



(back row); N. Hindi, M. Ordaz, B. Nunez, A. Martinez, A. Sepulveda, A. Barbosa, P. Ganelin, N. Kaiser, (3rd row); B. Gonzalez, M. Gamboa, C. Beltran, Coach Martinez, Coach White, Coach Martinez, J. Matranga, A. Cesena, C. Lewis, (2nd row); V. Gonzalez, M. Mottale, A. Garcia, L. Verduzco, R. Barletta, J. Vasquez, X. Villanueva, J. Parcoero, T. Plaza, A. Davila, (front row); H. Flores, D. Noland, A. Arce, D. Munoz, J. Dacayo, K. Lapurga, C. Galvez, A. Gonzalez.

# Herkie, Liberty, Pike!

## Varsity Cheer

by Middle Keene

**T**oe touch, herkie, liberty, pike! You might not know it, but these are just some of the moves our cheerleaders do to get our attention and rev up enthusiasm in the stands. If you think cheerleading is just standing around with pompoms and looking pretty, you are wrong. Being a cheerleader is not as easy as it sounds. Other athletes may lift weights, but cheerleaders lift other cheerleaders! Rebecca Parra laments, "What most people don't understand is how difficult cheer can be at times. If a girl is missing on a game day, stunts become really hard to accomplish."

Cheerleaders always do the best they can and fill in for each other. Having school spirit helps a lot. Gabriela Torres, who has been cheerleading for seven years explains, "My love for Mater Dei is what keeps me cheering down on that field." The three varsity captains are Gaby, Rebecca a six year veteran, and newcomer Amber Baker.

The girls have been working very hard on their stunts especially with help from Coach Laura Rodriguez. They attended the NCA cheer camp at UCSD where they learned many new stunts, cheers,

and dance routines. Amber Baker comments, "Cheer camp was tough, but it was also an awesome time where the squad really came together." Cheerleader work from football season to basketball season, and then add spunk to our rallies. It's a lot of work, but the fun of it makes it worth it. It's a lot of work, but the fun of it makes it worth it.

Lookin Out  
Chris Crusader & Casey Pimentel  
watch on as the Crusaders play.



**All Smiles**  
 Captian Gaby Torres always has a smile for her Crusaders.



**Waves**  
 Varsity cheerleaders get the crowd excited.

**Lady Liberty**  
 Marisela Arechiga salutes the football fans.



**Hurkey**  
 Mariana Burkle makes the moves with perfection.

**TD Sprints**  
 Cheerleaders run to the endzone after MDCHS scores.



**Pep Rallies!**  
 Varsity and JV cheer come together for pep rally stunts.



(back row); M. Burkle, R. Parra, A. Baker, M. Arechiga, S. Tessman, N. Briones, (front row); C. Valenzuela, D. Paredes, C. Pimentel, S. Sanz, K. Lopez (not pictured); G. Torres

**Coaches**

Heather Powers  
 Laura Rodriguez

**Captains**

Gaby Torres  
 Rebecca Parra  
 Amber Baker

# When Work is Worth It

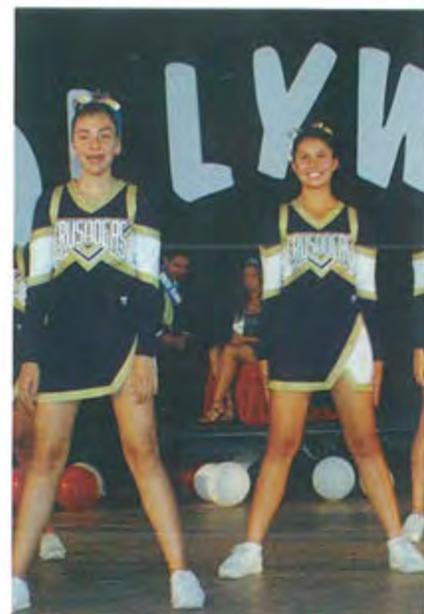
## JV Cheer

By Daniela Pérez

**O**h, sure, it's a lot of work. These girls have been practicing for years, some from the elementary level as well as middle school. They go to camp at UCSD where they have to work hard again learning new routines and they have to practice most of the year twice weekly, usually out in the dark on the Big Green. If the stunts aren't perfect, they have to work on those. But the reason our cheerleaders love cheering is because it's so much fun. Meghan Schroeder explains what it's like to be out in front of a stadium full of people on a Friday night in the fall, "It's so great to feel like you're in the middle of an explosion of energy." Football and cheerleaders not only go together but are icons of the high school experience, but that's not the only experience for cheerleaders. Michelle Andreoli actually likes basketball the best. "It's exciting because you are so close to the game." Some of the competition has been pretty dramatic like when our varsity girls trailed Eastlake most of the game and ended up winning only in the last few minutes. The gym was full and the spirit was high. Everyone was stomping their feet and clapping their hands. Being part of this is what makes all the work and effort worth it. In fact, it's hard to think it is work when it's so much fun.



Mix and Match  
Hollie Keene and  
Jade Molina keep  
their smiles big,  
their arms and legs  
straight and their  
moves in time to  
the dance medley  
presented as part of  
the Homecoming  
entertainment.

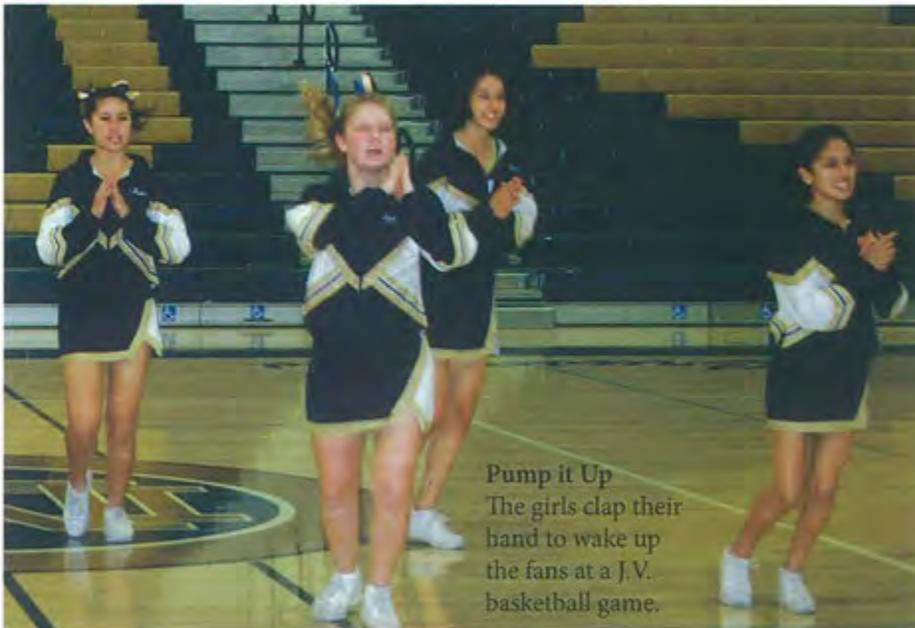




**Cool in Casuals**  
Even in practice garb, Renee Gonzales and Michelle Andreoli look great!



**TV Mini-Facts**  
Jade Molina always has a positive attitude and positive energy. Meghan Schroeder is a great flyer and likes to keep her hair straight. Marissa Marchesano is funny, nice, and loves M&Ms. Margarita Tarantino is a steady ear worker with a lot of expression. Renee Gonzales is a 5 year vet with hypo energy. They all love to cheer.



**Pump it Up**  
The girls clap their hand to wake up the fans at a J.V. basketball game.

**Getting Rowdy**  
Half time is "rowdy" time for the squad.



**Sitting on the Sidelines**  
The squad keep time with their feet and hands during a basketball game. Some girls prefer being this close to the action in a competition.



(back row); J. Molina, R. Gonzales, C. Ortiz, H. Keene, (front row); M. Marchesano, M. Andreoli, M. Tarantino, B. Gamez, M. Schroeder

# Keeping the Spirit Strong

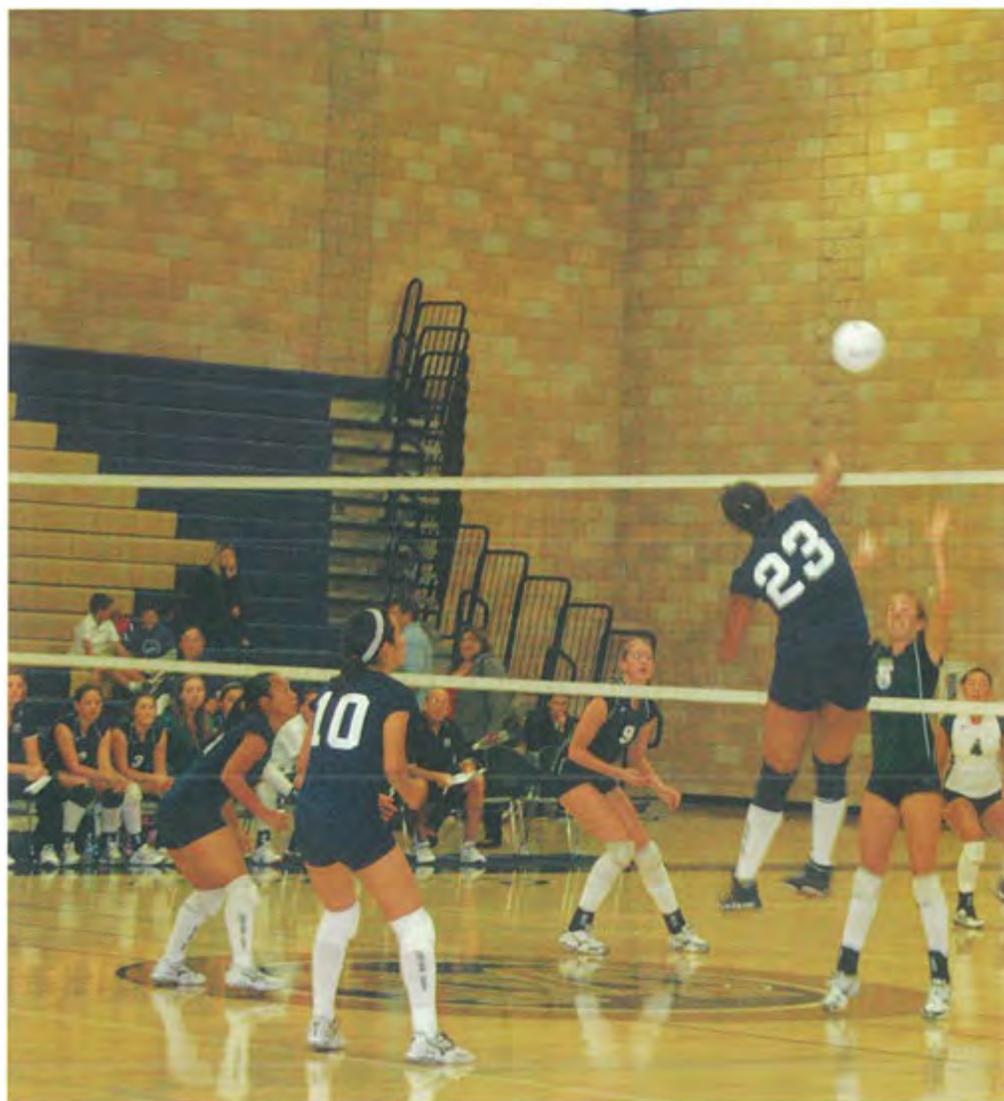
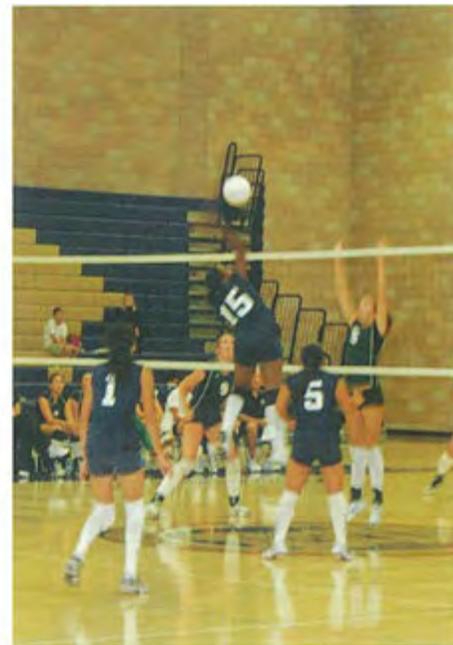
## Girls Varsity Volleyball

by Andrea Velasquez

**S**uccess was in the air for varsity volleyball. After winning last year's South Bay League title, the Lady Crusaders were challenged to play with other teams in the tougher Mesa League. Coach Nerat prepared and challenged them for the upcoming matches. Junior Mariana Gomez laments, "It was hot and rough; Coach Naret makes us run and train hard." Standout players senior Lauren Elise Judal, Ebone Henry and freshman Ilse Gutierrez-Nunez, helped lead the team. But Camile Alvarado reports, "Every player provided talent and value to the team." The Lady Crusaders most exciting game was against Otay Ranch. One of their leading rivals, the Otay Mustangs played through the entire season undefeated. Both teams had played five consecutive games. The Lady Crusaders did well and won the first one but lost the next two. Keeping their spirit up they came back to win game four. This last game depended on the girls. They were one shot shy of a win: 12-11. Neck and neck they boosted their spirits and began intimidating the Mustangs. At the last point Otay made a mistake,

and accidentally hit the ball out, bringing the Mustangs to defeat. "We went crazy and felt we were winning CIF!" replied Lauren Elise Judal. "It was their senior night and on their home court. They thought they would win but we proved them wrong!" rejoined Mariana Gomez. Keep the spirit strong girls, and come back next year to win more.

**Jumping Jhaz!**  
Jhazmine Lynch goes up high for the kill against Hilltop.



**Little Lauren.**  
Just because Lauren Judal is little, doesn't mean she can't hit that ball hard.

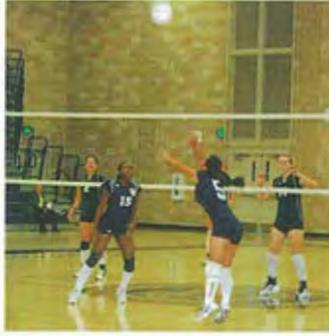
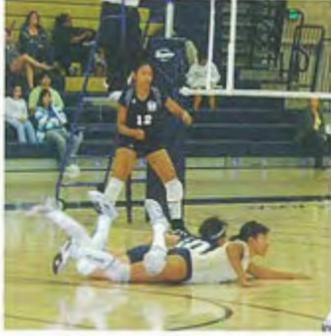


**Up & Over!**  
Ebony Henry spikes a deep one as Mariana Gomez stays set to cover.



**Putting On The Heat**  
The back row warms up before the game.

**Tough Frosh**  
Alexis Hawley makes sure to get the ball over the net.



**Get Down**  
Mariana Gomez and Celia Wright both go for a dig

**Team Work**  
Lauren Judal sets up for outside hitter.



(back row); J. Baumgardner, D. Johnson, Coach Nerat, A. Loera, C. Alvarado, E. Henry, (middle row); J. Lynch, C. Wright, I. Gutierrez-Nunez, M. Gomez, (front row); A. Hawley, M. Gulias, L. Judal

Opponent	MDCHS	
Bonita Vista	3	2
Chula Vista	0	3
Eastlake	3	0
Hilltop	2	3
Otay Ranch	3	0
Chula Vista	0	3
Bonita Vista	3	1
Eastlake	3	0
Hilltop	1	3
Otay Ranch	2	3
Holtville	2	3
Bishops	3	0

# Working Hard, Playing Hard

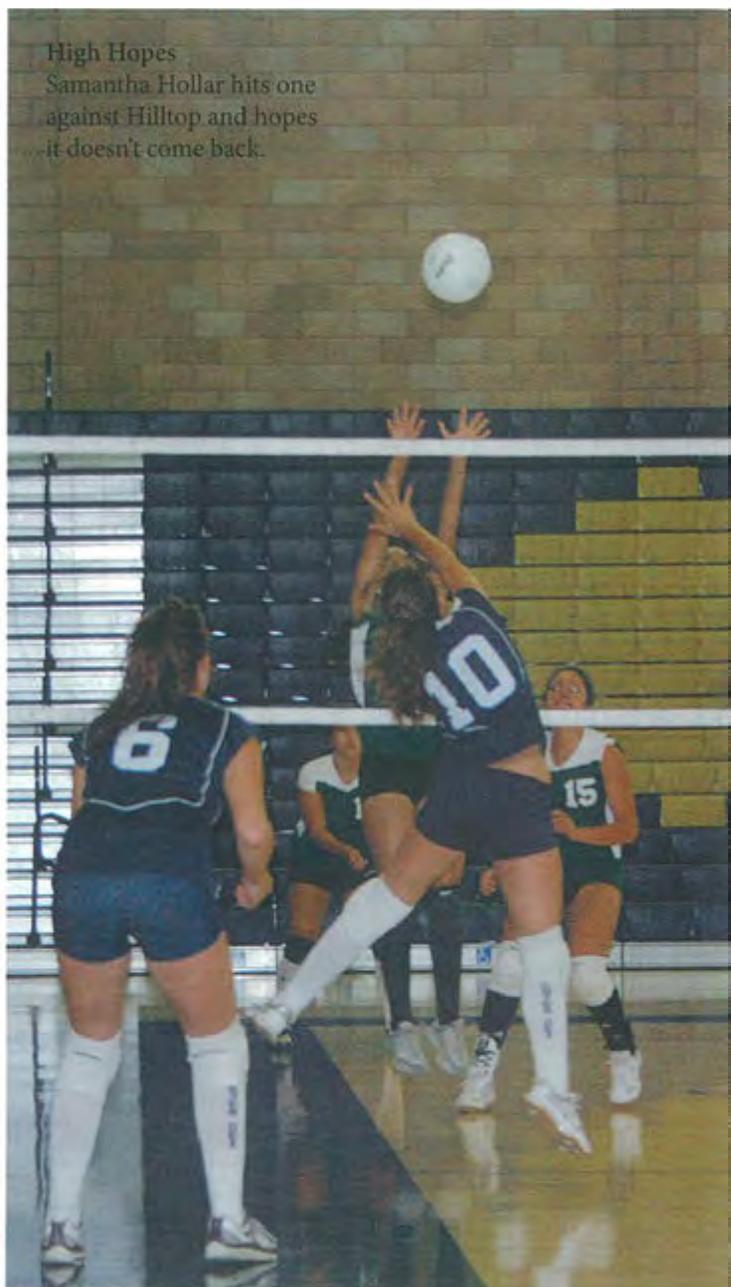
## JV & Freshmen Volleyball

by Erica Silva

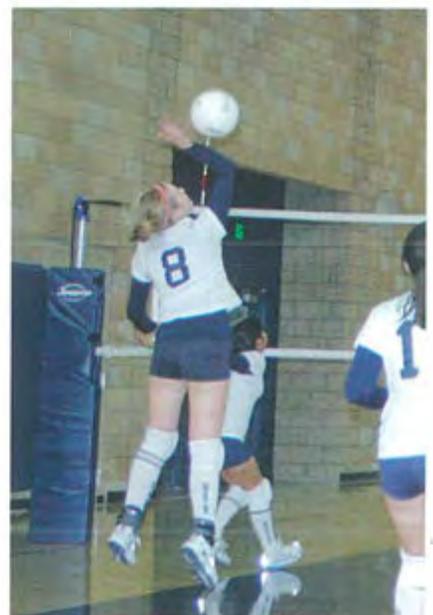
**W**hat's loud, funny, obnoxious, and loving? Girls JV Volleyball, that's what. Laura Soto describes how the team stayed tight even though they experienced some tough times. "We always had each other's back and we knew we could have embarrassing moments and get past them." The girls did have some successes and after some they could hold their heads very high. The game against Chula Vista was the most memorable. Not only did the Lady Crusaders crush the opposition, they did it with injuries. "Even though I had a hurt arm, I still went out and gave it my all," says Jasmine Cota. They ended up 8 and 14. If they keep up their spirit and keep working they can come back strong next year.

The freshman team proved that talent is not always the most important thing. What these girls had was commitment and determination. Though only one had even played the game, each of them pushed themselves and worked as a team to do far better than was anticipated at the onset. Helper coach R.J. Rowan remarks, "They took every drill seriously." No one shirked from the task of competing in the tough Mesa League. Victoria Henderson even won a nickname for herself: "Seal" That, of course was from diving to recover the ball. The girls came away with the Bronze Division for the Granite Hills tournament. Maybe they will be able to keep the surprises coming when they come back next year.

High Hopes  
Samantha Hollar hits one  
against Hilltop and hopes  
it doesn't come back.



In the Sky  
Caylee Smith goes  
up high for the  
spike.





**Ready To Go Girl**  
Stephame Grimaldi stance shows she's ready for action.

**Pumpin' Up**  
The girls gather for some mini pep between points.



**Winning**  
Sonia Reyes & Kathrine Mathews celebrate their high score with a high five.

**Packing a Punch**  
Laura Soto swings hard on a smart serve.



**Striking Back**  
The freshman team is ready to strike back against Hill-top's attempt to score.

**Up and Over**  
Elizabeth Gonzalez executes a one handed smash.



(back row); G. Soto, E. Gonzalez, Coach Quinlin, L. Soto, I. Stonehouse, (middle row); I. Arias, J. Cota, R. Barletta, S. Hallor, A. Castro, (front row); A. Beck, A. Navaro.



(back row); I. Abarca, S. Reyes, Coach Karla, C. Smith, H. Torres-Ramos, R. Rowan, (middle row); M. Lopez-Portillo, P. Torres, S. Grimaldi, (front row); V. Soto, V. Hedderson-Atkinson, V. Vargas.

# What a Racket!

## Girls Varsity Tennis

by SooJin Kim

**T**his spunky team has kept its spirit up and continued its success. But because they only got a few returning juniors, people did not expect the girls to go far. However, with mostly new players, including strong athletes Vivian Moreno and Natalia Gomez, and stellar coaching by Coach Borck and her husband, the girls made their way to CIF. Their hard work, teamwork, and dedication to the school brought them a successful season.

One of the team's top players, Jenny Borck, explains why tennis has so much appeal. "I fell in love with tennis because you can play it with all of your friends practically forever." The game did bring the girls together and created a good time for everyone. During practice, the girls not only built closer relationships with each other, but also built strong skills that brought success. Exchange student Ludovica Spinola, from Italy, joined the team as soon as she arrived. She comments, "It was the best way to meet new people; and people there were very open to me." Besides working out and going to the games, the girls enjoy getting together for sushi and shopping.

This season the girls won league and were able to walk around the campus in jackets which read "undefeated." Next year they will try to get the league champions for three years in a row, and hopefully make it to CIF again. With their hard-work and care for each other, it is evident that the girls will bring us another successful season next year.

### Swinging Time

Jenny Borck swings a sweet back-hand across the court.



**High Brow Action**

Vivian Moreno makes a perfect serve look like a piece of cake.



**Big Love**

This threesome knows hugs are nice.

**Low Down**

Mariel Castillo scoots down to keep the volley going.



**Concentration**

Christina Padilla gives the game her all every time.

**Ready Set Serve**

Ludo Spinola stands poised, ready to smash the ball.

**Hip Hip Hurray!**

The team celebrates after a great day with another win!



(back row); M. Castillo, T. Padilla, D. Contreas, L. Spinola, V. Moreno, N. Gomez, M. Robles, V. Hernandez, V. Genel (front row); A. Echeverri, C. Padilla, L. Ramirez, D. Corona, J. Borck, Coach Borck

Opponent	MDCHS
Hilltop	4 14
Eastlake	8 10
Bonita Vista	7 11
Chula Vista	0 18
Otay Ranch	7 11
Hilltop	4 14
Eastlake	4 14
Bonita Vista	9 9
Chula Vista	1 17
Otay Ranch	6 12

# The Young & Inexperienced

## Girls Varsity Golf

by Dr. Anthony T. Jile

**P**oor Mr. Gerken. As the girls golf coach he has the job that everyone knows is tough but someones got to do it. Some years he has managed highly skilled and experienced players. Then he can usually get in at least a few holes while he is supervising. But this year it was a challenge. The girls were new to the game and it was his job to coach them into a successful team. The team had a total of one year varsity experience among the players when the season began. Still they managed to finish 5 and 8. This was also after having moved to the tougher Mesa League from the South Bay League. Two Lady Crusader golfers, Perla Laborin and Melissa Fajardo qualified for the Metro Conference Finals and Perla earned Second Team All Conference honors. Sophomore Melissa Fajardo was selected as the Most Improved Lady Crusader of the Year and Perla Laborin was awarded the Medalist honors for the team with the best overall average during the season. It was a challenging year in the Metro Conference and the team's record

could have easily been over 500 with just a couple of strokes making the difference. All of this year's team will be returning next year and he expects the team to be stronger. And, Coach Gerken will be back to do a tough job well and help transform the inexperienced into seasoned players.

**Smooth Sailing**  
Fernanda de La Parra watches her ball sail down the fairway after a nice drive.



**Cool Eye**  
Adriana Quintero Franco checks out the lay of the land before sinking her last hole.

**Accuracy is Key**  
 Florencia Tena looks for the break in the green before her out.



**Beautiful**  
 Melissa Fajardo lofts a wedge shot onto the green.

**Stake Out**  
 Perla Laborin checks out the territory before selecting a club.



**Thinking**  
 Florencia Tena thinks long and hard before her next shot.

**Drive Off**  
 Melissa Fajardo gets ready to swing away.



(back row): Coach Gerkin, (front row); L. Troncoso, F. Tena, F. De la Parra, P. Laborin, A. Quiroz-Franco, M. Fajardo, P. Pavon

Opponent	Results
Otay Ranch	Lost
Mar Vista	Won
Southwest	Won
Olympian	Won
Montgomery	Lost
Sweetwater	Lost
Our Lady of Peace	Won
Sweetwater	Lost
Bonita Vista	Lost
Our Lady of Peace	Lost
Eastlake	Lost
Bonita Vista	Lost
Otay Ranch	Lost

# Goals, Guts and Glory

## Varsity Waterpolo

by José García

**H**ere are the real tough guys. From getting up out of their beds early in the morning and jumping into cold water, to training themselves to swim fast and at the same time making sure the ball makes it into the goal. Even without a home pool, the water polo team has been making highlights in the newspaper thanks to Coach Souza's hard training and the team's dedication.

"You need strength, endurance and guts to be #1 in this sport!" says Alexis Diaz who never gave in to the opposing teams. The Aqua-Crusaders had some hard moments this year, but even in the toughest situations, the team would strike back, as in the comeback game against Monte Vista. "Water polo is not for quitters," explains Sergio Fourzan.

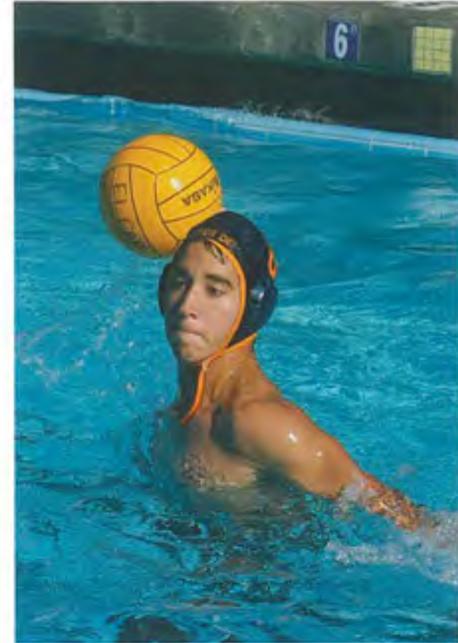
Coach Souza and players like goalie Mark Latorno, Alexis Diaz, team captain Kalum Figy, Raymond Lugo and Sergio Fourzan are elements needed to make a great water polo team. This year's team was very young. Six of the seven varsity players will return to the starting line-up for next year's season, and with returning underclassmen Ivan Chavez

and Jose Martinez the future looks bright for the Aqua-Crusaders.

Even so, there is one ingredient missing, the fans! They cheer the team on even in the hardest moments of the game.

The team has only one thing in mind for next year, and that is to work hard and go for glory.

Throwing In  
Alexis Felix-Diaz throws the ball  
for the score.



Can't get by Thein!  
Andrew Thein blocks the shot  
from his opponent.



Still Looking  
Alex Giery waits to  
take his shot.

Listen Up  
The boys gather  
around Coach Souza  
like little ducks.



Superman  
Mark Laturno blocks  
the winning shot.

Taking a Breather  
Andrew Thein  
pauses between the  
action to catch his  
breath.



Action Packed!  
The Aqua-Crusaders swim their  
hardest to keep Hilltop from  
scoring.



(back row); I. Chavez, E. Martinez, A. Thein, M. Laturno, J. Martinez-Rebollar, (middle row); Coach Souza, D. Montes, N. Schmitt, A. Pergrin, S. Fourzan, A. Giery, Coach Smith, (front row); C. Gage, K. Figy, R. Lugo, A. Felix.

Opponent	MDCHS	
Chula Vista	6	17
Monte Vista	12	13
El Capitan	17	2
Mt. Miguel	8	15
West Hills	15	5
El Cajon	10	11
Oceanside	7	6
Mt. Miguel	12	9
Mar Vista	20	15
Southwest	4	17
Hilltop	16	4
Mar Vista	17	7
Southwest	4	17
Hilltop	12	6

# Self-Contained Competitors

## Cross Country

By Sammy Brown

**W**hat is it about cross country runners? They always seem so self-contained. Maybe it's because it's just them and the running. There's little to no fan fare most of the time. It's not a glam sport like football or basketball. But it's something that they can do for a long, long time. Assistant coach Dr. Burke understands this. Coaching here has "brought back many memories of myself running track in high school." And you can still see her doing the distance after school because running is part of her life. Head coach Ms. Willich hasn't been running as long but it's still ingrained in her. "It's great to be able to run with the kids." Many of the athletes enjoy running for the fun of it too. Captain Johanna Rhein says, "I love the feeling of accomplishing my hard work and crossing the finish line." Another runner Vincent Vasquez says "I just like running with my friends and the competition." In one of the meets in Imperial Beach he adds, "It was a neat experience running along the shore on the beach." This year the athletes had to step up the competition as they entered the Mesa League. It was going to present new challenges and tougher competition which they encountered this season. They will be working a lot harder on

accomplishing the Mesa League because it was a tough challenge for the team this year.

The Mesa League was a toll on these players because it made them put more heart and effort into the game. Mater Dei is looking forward to more students who love to run for whatever reason, as long as you're enjoying yourself.

Almost a Walk in the Park  
Aaron Bustillo rounds picnickers  
as he completes his run.



**Breaking Out**  
Johanna Rhein & the rest of the runners vie to escape from the crowded congregation.

**Wide Stride**  
Jesus Briones finishes up with energy, he's ready for a few more miles.



**Smiles and Stretches**  
Valeria Plascencia looks and feels great as she stretches out.

**Zonie**  
Sam Cantu-Reyna is in the zone.



**Follow the Leader**  
Coach Willich gives out compliments and directions after the meet.

**Headup and Forward**  
Johanna Rhein keeps good posture throughout the run.



(back row); J. Hernandez, C. Lopez, J. Sanchez, A. Gonzalez, Coach Willich, Coach Burke, R. Tamborrell, M. Rodriguez, J. Martinez, S. Cantu-Reyna (middle row); J. Briones, R. Hernandez, M. Lindstorm, V. Plascencia, D. Aguilar, V. Vazquez, J. Ramirez, A. Bustillo (front row); J. Rhein, L. Bustillo, A. Lopez, D. Moore, K. Sanchez, M. Davenport, S. Papi Pietro

Opponents	MDCHS	
Chula Vista	15	50
Hilltop	15	50
Otay Ranch	15	50
Eastlake	15	50
Bonita Vista	15	50

# Thanks for the Memories

## Girls Varsity Basketball

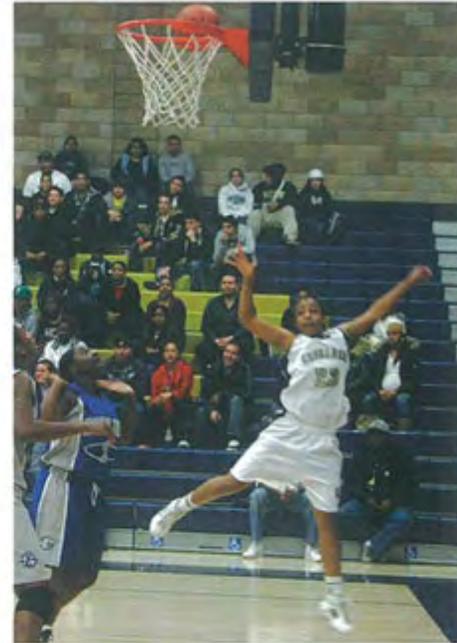
by Christina Fuentes

**R**emember when these girls first arrived? Most of them sat together in the honors classes. They were athletes and scholars. They created quite a hub: they had played together since 4th grade, they had brought their coach, David Monroe, with them, they were going to change girl's basketball at our school. And they did. They showed us that if you're good enough, people will come. They also brought our school together. Faculty and student body were able to experience some of those sweet high school moments when the stands are packed and everyone is rooting for their team. With all the teams there are now, it doesn't happen too often. But it happened when the 2009 Girls Basketball played their last home game, beating La Jolla Country Day and ending one of the longest streaks in SD section history. More importantly it qualified them for the State Division IV playoffs. The girl's hopes for a CIF championship were dashed at USD by their nemesis Bishops but that was not the end of the story. They went on to beat 2 teams before they faced Bishops again, this time beating them with their lucky numbers, 54-51, for the Southern California Division IV Regional Championship. There was only one place left to go. Sacramento! The rest was like an inspirational movie. For half the game the girls seemed destined to defeat. They went out at half time down 31 to 19 against Modesto Christian. With 27.1 seconds left the Lady Crusaders had a chance to take the lead when

Ebone Henry was fouled. Both went in. Then Kamela Jackson added one more free throw. Coach Monroe moved Soulijah Evans from under the basket to defend against a 3 point attempt. It worked! Final score, 54-51 and our first State Championship!

Now it's on to college. And the game these girls have given so much to, will now give them the key to future success. Do well, girls, just as you have and thanks for the memories.

**Hold Your Breath**  
Ebene Henry waits to see if the ball will go in the basket.



### Up and In

Danae Johnson goes up for the two point shot.



### Free Points

Carina Erb gets ready to shoot her free-throw.

Just Like Kobe  
Soulijah Evans shoots for the three.

### Team Work

Ocean Escalanti gets ready to pass to team-mate Jhazmine Lynch.



Take Out Please  
Kamela Jackson ready to take the ball out.



Lay Up Professional  
Jhazmine Lynch goes up for the perfect lay-up.



(back row); D. Johnson, E. Henry, S. Evans, C. Erb, O. Escalanti, Coach Monroe, (front row); J. Lynch, T. Tobe, W. Tamayo, K. Jackson (not pictured); R. Harris

### Lady Crusader Achievements

- West Coast Jamboree Diamond Division Champions
- Mesa League Champions
- San Diego CIF DIV Runner Ups
- Southern California DIV Regional Champions
- California State DIV Champions

# Funny Girls and the Fab Five

## Girls JV and Freshman Basketball

by Daniela Pérez

# C

Coaching was provided by Coach Carla Martinez but the entertainment was provided by Jessica Baumgardner who played every game and never stopped cracking her teammates up. “We needed to keep our sense of humor,” says Jessica. “There were only seven girls on the team,” explains Jeannette Lira, “but somehow we were able to pull a team together.” Isabel Stonehouse adds, “I loved the team and I really believe that we were allowed to have a lot of fun together.” They played hard all year in spite of great obstacles. They learned a lot about the game. And most important, they had a great time together.

Why is Mr. Smyth smiling? It’s because he’s the coach of the Fab Five aka the freshman girls basketball team. They’re little, there aren’t very many of them, but they are winners. These young athletes won 12 of 14 games. And they did it with only five players. That’s impressive! Shooting guard Victoria Manriquez, the most valuable player, says, “It was a pleasure to play on the team and I am glad I rose up to the challenge.” Stephanie Grimaldi, another of the five says, “I am glad that I can be on this team.” With this much talent the girls should be able to keep the ball rolling next when the Fab Five goes to the next level.



**Breaking Away**  
Katherine Matthews hurries into a fast break opportunity after an outlet pass from her teammate.

Novice to Vet Elizabeth Gonzalez takes a shot to put some points on the board for her team. Being new to basketball this year didn’t stop Eli from being a big part of the JV basketball team. She learned a lot of new skills and the team benefitted from her height during rebound opportunities.





**Get it on the Rebound**  
The JV girls wait for a rebound.

**Concentration**  
Victoria Manriquez shoots a free throw.



**On the Watch**  
Michelle Andreoli gets ready to make her move.

**Anybody Open?**  
Elizabeth Gonzalez looks down the court for an open teammate.



**Pressure Point**  
Stephanie Grimaldi attempts to make a pass.

**The Main Man**  
Coach Smyth tries to find new ways to motivate his team during a time-out.



(back row); Coach Smyth, D. Scott, K. Soto-Fimbres, E. Sifuentes, (front row); M. Andreoli, V. Manriquez. (not pictured); S. Grimaldi



(back row); Coach Carla, J. Rodriguez, E. Gonzalez, J. Baumgardner, I. Stonehouse, A. Martinez, (front row); S. Baxley, A. Frausto, C. Zora, J. Lira, (not pictured) K. Matthews

# Heart and Sole

## Boys Varsity Basketball

by Stephanie Crimaldi

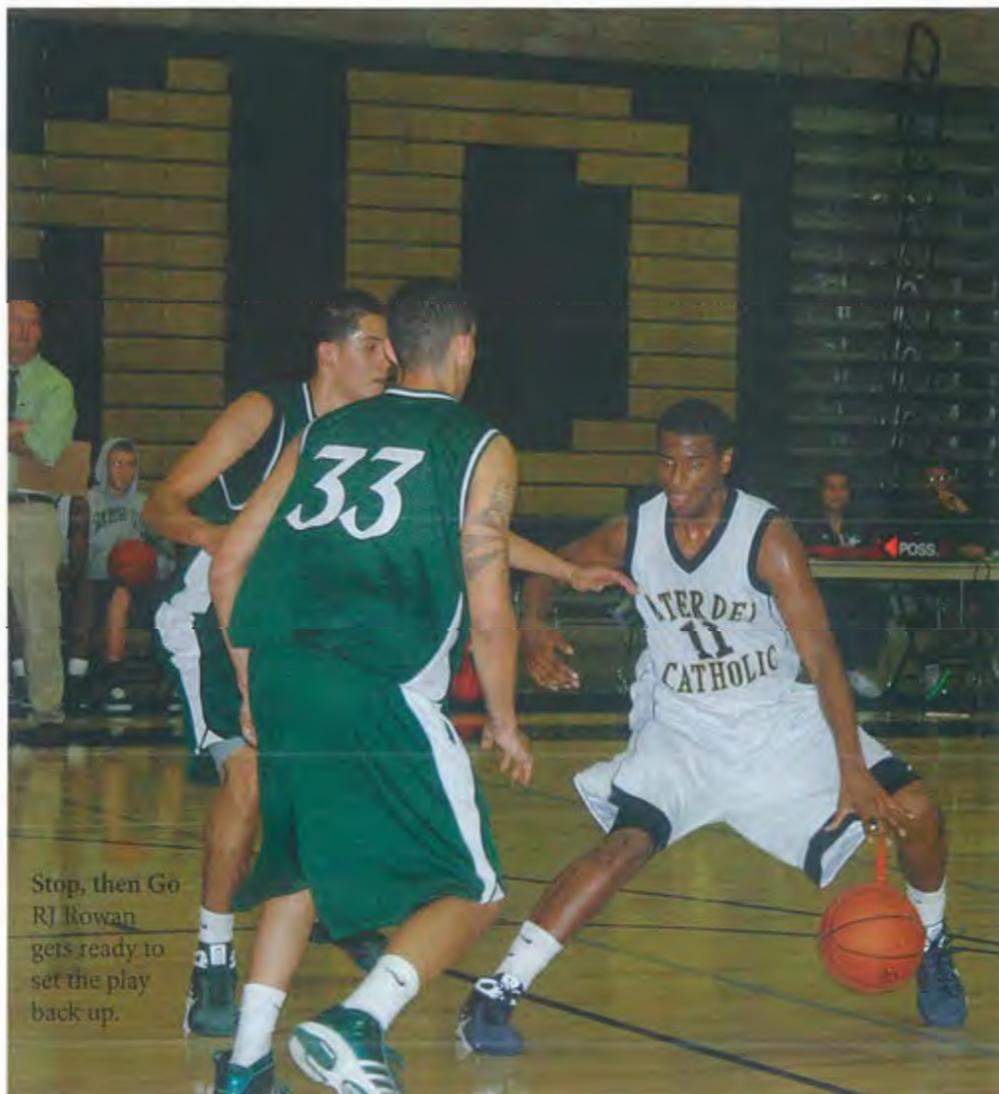
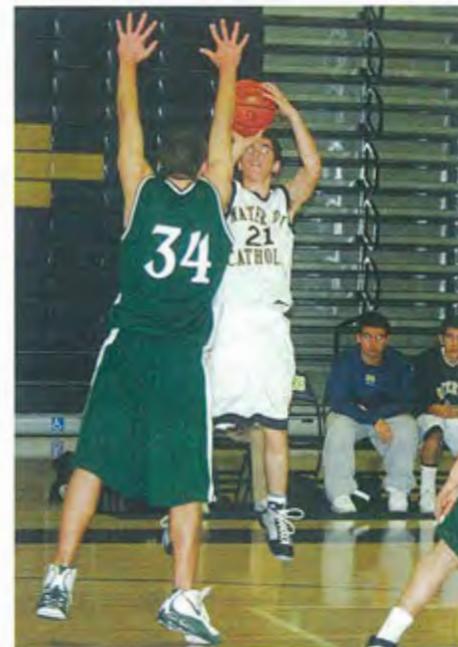
Imagine the determination as our varsity boys walk into the gym and face a team from a school twice or more our size. You got to have heart. These guys played the toughest schedule in school history with some impressive wins and some close losses to prove it. The team was led by All-League players RJ Rowan and DeAnthony Tobe; both were consistent top scorers in the county. The defensive work on the opposing team's big guys was handled by Aldo Loera and the outside zone buster was Meises Lora.

Coach Modler reflects, "These guys were as high character of a group as I have ever coached. They worked hard not only during the season, but also in the off-season. This senior class will definitely be missed." The Varsity Crusaders finished 3rd Place in the Imperial Christmas Tournament and 5th in the Mesa League, but had quality wins over Hilltop, Bonita Vista and Chula Vista. They played every game competitively and earned respect for their effort. The season ended with a playoff loss at Imperial High School, but it should be noted that this was the

third consecutive year qualifying for the playoffs.

The future looks bright with promising players returning: Denny Kremer, Angel Basantes, Raul and Robbie Silva-Martinez to name a few. They'll wear out some soles but the younger Crusaders will follow the path that the seniors have set.

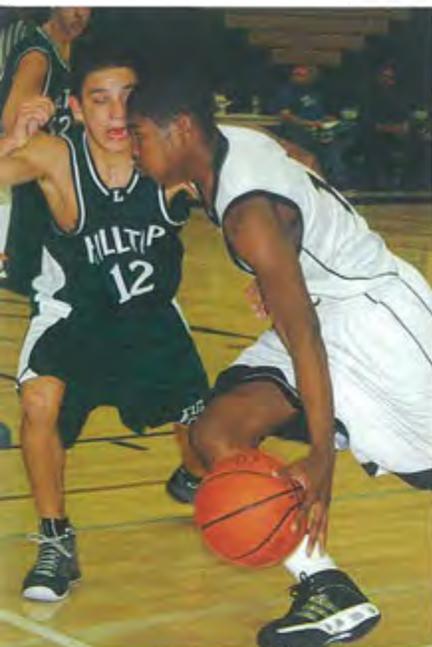
**Aiming High**  
Moises Lora shoots the ball over a Hilltop guard.



Stop, then Go  
RJ Rowan  
gets ready to  
set the play  
back up.

**Coming Through**

De'Anthony Tobe attacks the basket, driving through the defender.



**Make it Quick**

Denny Kremer looks for an opening as he takes out the ball.

**Mo' Play**

James Lynn runs the motion play.



**Go Go Loera**

Aldo Loera dribbles the ball to the weak side of the defense.

**Keep it Going**

Angel Basantes gains momentum as he dribbles down the court.



(back row); Coach Moeller, R. Silva-Martinez, A. Loera, V. Garcia, R. Rowan, D. Tobe, W. Stewart, (front row); J. Lynn, P. Mayor, R. Silva-Martinez, J. Marrion, M. Lora, D. Kremer (not pictured); A. Basantes F. Ausler

Opponent	MDCHS
Eastlake	34
Chula Vista	64
Mt. Carmel	58
Otay Ranch	42
Bonita Vista	42
Hilltop	71
Bishops	59
Otay Ranch	60
Chula Vista	51
Hilltop	36
Bonita Vista	66
	52
	64
	46
	51
	47
	49
	53
	62

# A Cool Core

## Boys JV and Freshman Basketball

by Stephanie Grimm

Let's face it, being on a JV team has its challenges. If you have any stellar players they will probably play up so you always have to make due with what you have. Boys JV Basketball is no exception. Throughout the season players came and players left, but there was always a faithful core. Coach Dominic Cruz describes them, "David Delacalzada is a sharp shooter, Matt Burden has great leadership potential, Sergio Valdez and Jesse Edgar play like soldiers and I would go to war with them, and last, Patrick Mayor, he came to us late, but I wish I had him all year." These guys learned to play together and even had some amazing games. "Chula Vista had beaten us twice, and it was a total blowout," remembers Matt Burden. "But the third game we came back and beat them, the third time was a charm."

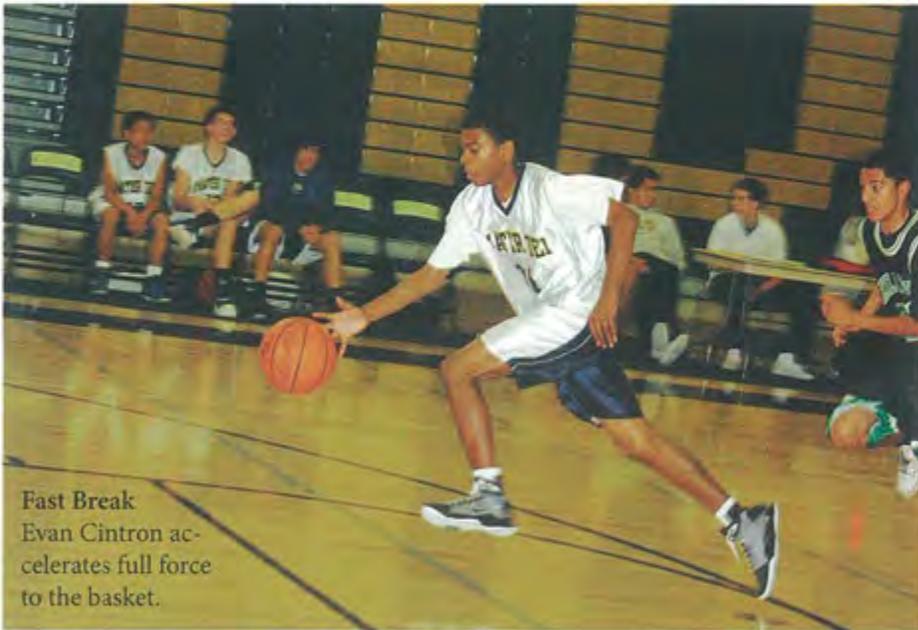
The Freshman basketball season was an adventure of its own. A group of young individuals became a team through hard work and dedication to the sport they love. The season got off to a great start with a victory over San Ysidro. With two dominating wins over Hilltop and several other nail-bitters, the boys laid down the foundation for future success. With competition in the tougher Mesa League, they'll need to become a cool core.



**Slashing**  
Sergio Valenzuela tries to split the two defenders on the way to the hoop.



**Stay on It**  
Matt Burden applies some pressure defense.



**Fast Break**  
Evan Cintron accelerates full force to the basket.

**Setting Up The Offense**  
Jake Dacayo takes it up the court.



**Rejected**  
Alex Sadighi blocks the offensive shot.

**Take It to The Hoop**  
John Matranga goes up strong for a lay up.

**Swinging the Ball**  
Armando Barbosa looks for an open teammate.

**Buddy System**  
Jose Martinez and Matt Burden use team work to get the ball back.



(back row); Coach Joyner, B. Nunez, A. Barbosa, M. Travers, D. McDonald, M. Ordaz, J. Monlina, C. Fojaco, N. Hindi, E. Cintron, J. Matranga, J. Decayo



(back row); Coach Cruz, A. Chavez, M. Burden, J. Martinez, A. Sadighi, D. Delacalzada, J. Sanchez, (front row); S. Valenzuela, A. Basantes, S. Princell, V. Rojas-Rodrigues, G. DeSimone

# Girls Got Game

## Girls Varsity Soccer

by Angela Beck

**O**

Once again our Lady Crusaders have given us a season of hard work, sweat, dedication, and intensity. Captain Rina Himan speaks for her whole team when she says, "Though we're in a tough league, our girls never give up. They play every game with heart and love for the sport. Win, loose, or tie we're always just happy to be playing and being with each other." This year's girl's varsity soccer team gained four skilled freshmen, Mariana Barrera, Elyssa Pumpelly, Alexa Garcia, and Brittney Mullendore who were all fit and ready for their first season of high school soccer. Not only did they gain new players, but a new coach stepped onto the field. Coach Brenda Byrn had coached the boy's soccer for five years, now she is giving the girls a chance. She feels the girls need a bit more focus but have a lot of talent. "I anticipate a promising season next year." The girls feel that they can relate to Coach Brenda because she really understands them and are looking forward to another

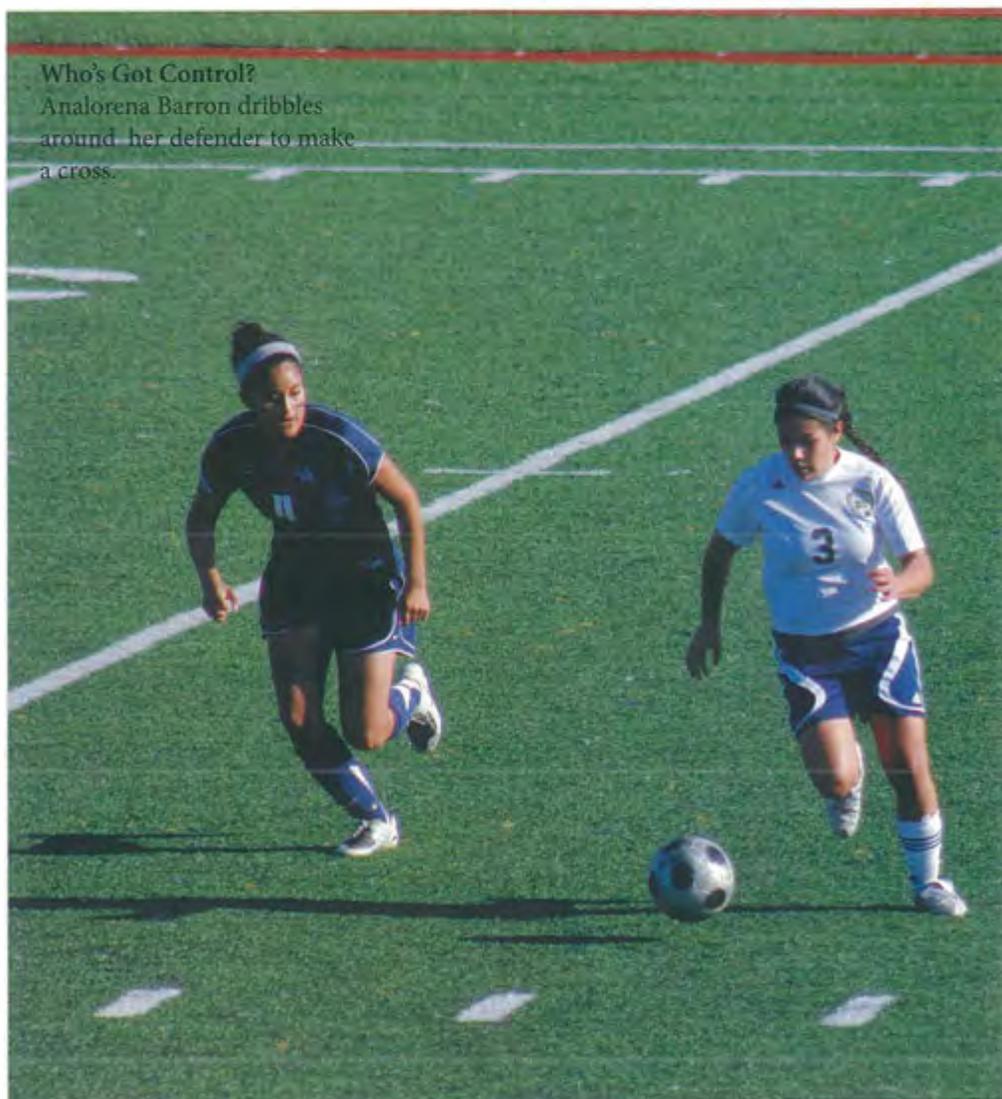
year under her guidance.

Both freshman, Mariana Barrera and Elyssa Pumpelly scored against La Jolla Country Day to win 2-0. This advanced them to quarter finals. With competition like this, the girls have lots to look forward to next year because the girls got game.

**Little Speedy**  
Lauren Elise Judal uses her considerable skills to juke her defender.



**Who's Got Control?**  
Analorena Barron dribbles around her defender to make a cross.



**Double Team**

Amber Baker and Lorena Gonzalez team up against their opponent for the ball.



**Fight Fight**  
Violeta Arista-Palacios collides with her opponent but takes the ball away.

**Stopped**  
Karinna Himan stops the opponents from getting a score and punts it back to the Crusaders.



**Otay's Intense Game**  
Brenna Gates crosses over her defender and dribbles the ball down the field.

**Whoa, Collision**  
Mariana Barrerra bumps heads with an Otay Mustang.



(back row); Coach Vero, M. Centrullo, E. Pumpelly, K. Himan, A. Smith, A. Baker, C. Alvarado, B. Gates, L. Gonzalez, Coach Byrn, (middle row); B. MullerDore, S. Papapletro, A. Ramirez, L. Paullada, M. Barrera, A. Barron, (front row); V. Arista-Palacios, L. Judal, A. Garcia, R. Harris, (not pictured); A. Velasquez

Opponent	MDCHS
Chula Vista	4
Bonita Vista	0
Eastlake	5
Hilltop	2
Otay Ranch	2
Chula Vista	0
Bonita Vista	3
Eastlake	5
Hilltop	5
Otay Ranch	1

# Going for Glory Again

## Boys Varsity Soccer

by Scott Wright

**D**ateline 7 March 2009: The Boys Soccer team becomes the first Mater Dei Catholic High School team to win a CIF championship. The glory days are back, just as Coach Zavala said they would be. After winning CIF championships in 2002 and 2004, the team lost its edge and went 4 years without taking the title again. That's all water under the bridge now, and the seniors who trained so long to become leaders can go out with not only a CIF title but State competition as well. "There's nothing better than taking it to 'em," declares Octavio Rodriguez. Jason Myers agrees, "It's great to go out on top." Much of the success is due to Coach Zavala. Kevin Mercado describes him as passionate about soccer and straightforward with the team. "He's always constructive. He tells us if we're doing something wrong and then he explains how to do it right." German Verduzco adds one more thing, "He trusts us."

That trust paid off this year and the forecast is excellent. Many of the players are young, such as junior and forward Sergio Lopez. A clutch player,

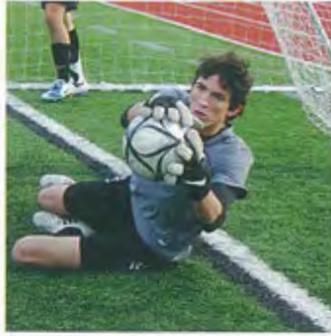
Sergio scored both goals against Animo Leadership in the state semi-final. Another youngster is freshman Alejandro Guido who made the winning goal in the state quarter final against Annenburg. With talent like this and direction from Coach Zavala, these guys will be chanting "Ole, ole, ole," for years to come.

Fighting For It  
Hector Gomez struggles to keep  
the ball in his possession.



Ole Ole Ole  
The boys soccer team celebrates  
its victory over Francis Parker  
making them the 2009 CIF  
champions.

**Kicker**  
Jason Myers uses nothing but finesse to move the ball.



**Instant Reaction**  
Luis Ayala lunges to the ball for a save.

**Guido the Great**  
Alejandro Guido shields the ball from a Calpatria defender.



**Special Delivery**  
Michael Blas sends one up the field.

**Airborn**  
Cesar Trejo leaps up to gain control of the ball.



(back row); Coach Caro, Coach Vasquez, M. Blas, N. Wright, J. Pablo Martinez, L. Ayala, S. Lopez, J. Gomez, O. Rodriguez, R. Blanco, Coach Villalva, Coach Zavala (middle row); Coach Chavez, D. Galan, S. Crosthwaite, J. Myers, J. De la Concha, I. Paredes, A. Castillo, H. Torres D. Alvarez, R. Rosique, (front row); H. Sanchez, E. Martinez, A. Moreno, G. Verduzco; C. Trejo (not pictured) H. Gomez, K. Mercado

Opponent	MDCHS
Hilltop	0 1
Otay Ranch	0 1
Chula Vista	2 1
Bonita Vista	5 3
Eastlake	0 3
Hilltop	0 1
Eastlake	3 4

2009 CIF Division IV Champions  
Southern California Division III  
Regional Champions

# A New Angle

## Boys and Girls JV Soccer

by Edith Camargo

# Y

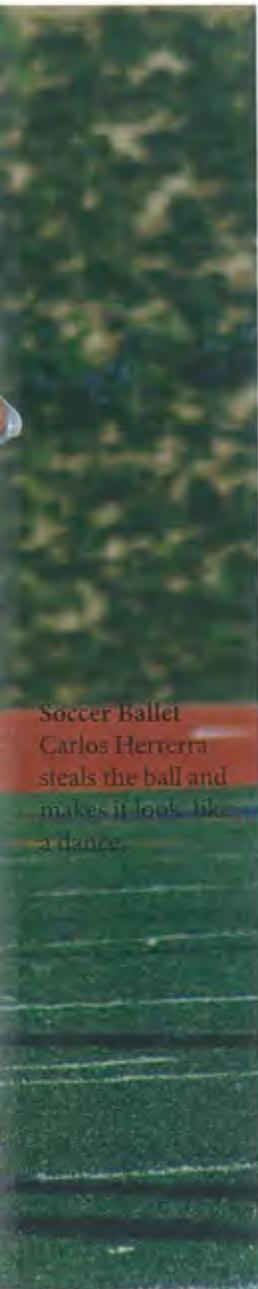
You have to make a choice that could choose the fate of the game: do you go left, passing the ball to your teammate, and have them score a given goal, or go right and score the goal yourself, even

though there are about half a dozen players on defense? Our soccer players have to make decisions like this every game. And believe it or not, math helps them. You can use math in even the simplest of things, especially in the world's most popular sport: soccer. "Angles are very useful in the game. They allow us to predict our opponent's next move," said freshman Angela Beck. Angles are everywhere in the game. Let's say you have to score a penalty kick, you have to know the best angle at which it is easiest to score. The same can be said about a corner kick, you have to know who to kick it to, so they can score the goal. Angles are important whether it's in passing to your teammate, or scoring the game winning goal. All good soccer players have an understanding of this. Our JV players have tried their best, and through all of their challenges this season, they have learned that sometimes you just have to see things from a new angle.



**Blasting It**  
Erick Rubio gains momentum for a long shot to the forward.





**Soccer Ballet**  
Carlos Herrera steals the ball and makes it look like a dance.



**Passing Fancy**  
Valeria Cardenas and Nancy Gonzalez pass back and forth, keeping control of the ball.



**Double Duty Goalie**  
Alonso Moreno doubles as varsity keeper too.

**Catch Me If You Can**  
Juan Rodriguez speeds through the opposition leaving them behind.

**Looking Down the Line**  
Haley Mendoza looks for an opening before throwing the ball.



**Goal Time**  
Angela Beck advances within striking distance of the goal.

**Amoeba Ball**  
In their excitement, the girls get all bunched up.



(back row); Coach Mouse, G. Silvia, J. Beltran, E. Webber, C. Salcedo, K. Logue, T. Wright, D. Martinez-Saenger, B. Duarte, A. Rosales, Coach Mouse, (middle row); Coach Mouse, A. Monraz-Garcia, J. Rodriguez, E. Rubio, S. Parra, L. Garcia, A. Sanchez, C. Herrera, (front row); I. Teon, A. Alcala, F. Pagola, M. SotoMayor, O. Galindo, I. Acosta



(back row); V. Gonzalez, L. Spinola, V. Cardenas, E. Croshwaite, I. Ames, L. Covarrublas, A. Echeverri, A. Reyes, P. Torres, V. Plascencia, N. Paredes, Coach Kim, (middle row); Coach Jasmine, P. Hubbard, A. Beck, I. Ruiz, L. Gonzalez, D. Corona, A. Cervantes, J. Adan, J. Colgrove, (front row); H. Mendoza, N. Gonzalez, D. Paredes, I. Alvarez, A. Velasquez

# Toss, Wrap, Pin

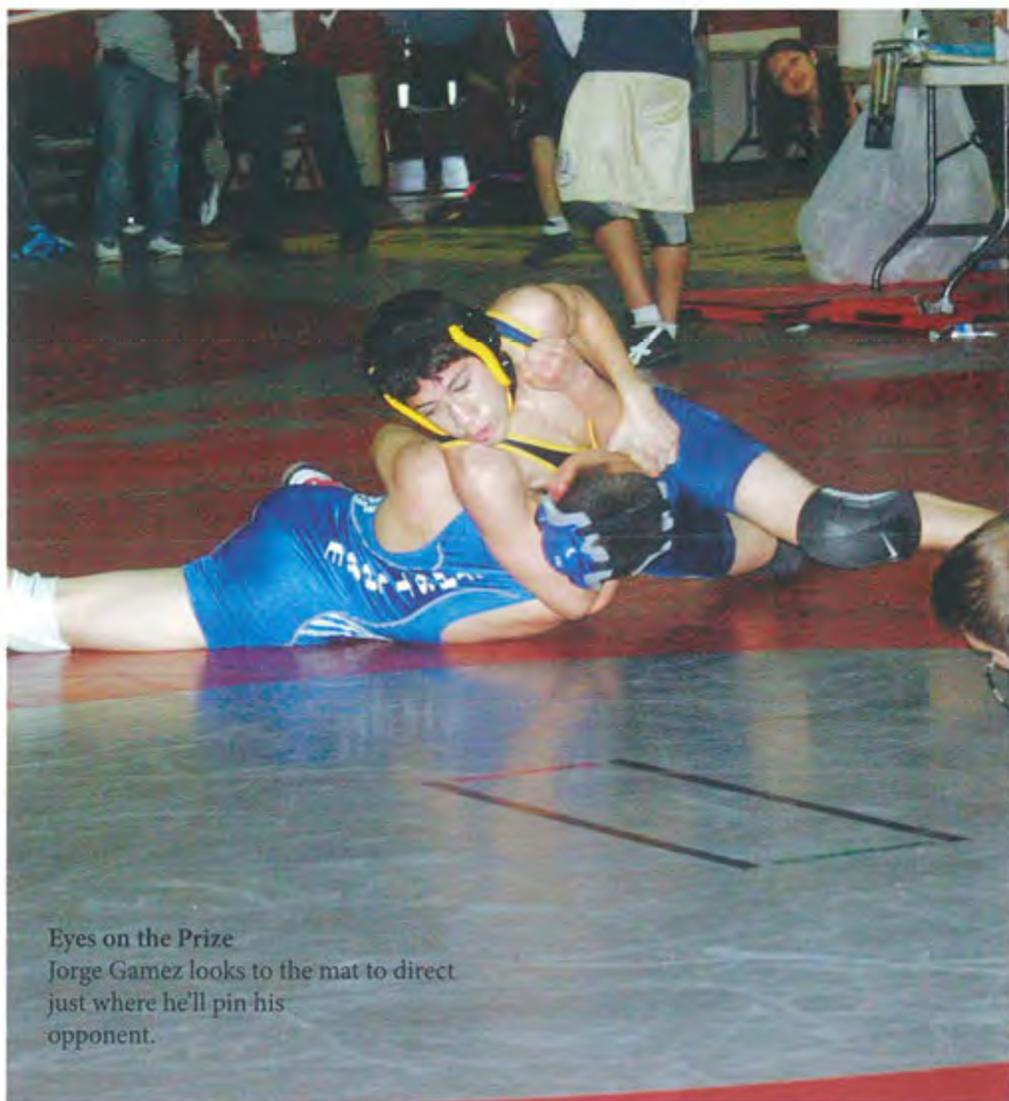
## Varsity and JV Wrestling

by Caleb Galvez

**T**ossing your opponent onto the mat, wrapping your arm around his head, trying to pin his two shoulders down: this is still new for MDCHS but it is an ancient sport of wrestling developed by the Greeks. As novices, the Crusaders have gone through a trying season. There were many newcomers to the team with little or no experience and it takes time to form even the fundamentals. In spite of having the fewest wrestlers in our division, they have heart, determination, and sportsmanship. Some of the highlights were the important addition of assistant coach Matsumoto. They were also able to host a tournament. This was an honor and a challenge because mats had to be borrowed from other schools and transported, no easy feat but nowhere near as difficult as the training and conditioning supervised by Coach Ullsperger. Many felt his methods were strict but the results were worth it at the end. Most wrestlers were able to wrestle thirty matches which was a big step up from last season where a few of them were lucky to

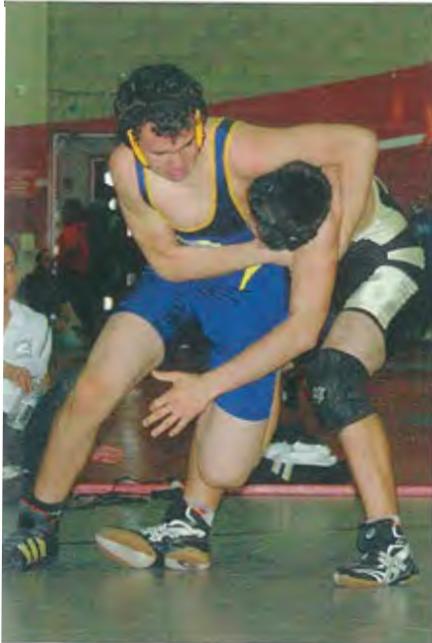
get ten matches. Coach U. said, "The team we have now shows a lot of promise for the future and with the help of Coach Matsumoto, we have a new level of intensity in our program." And since the team was strong enough to have JV competition, there will be 2 pages of coverage next year.

**Brute Strength**  
Tony Jaquez drives for the take down against Castle Park.



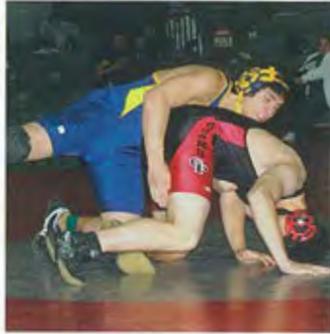
**Eyes on the Prize**  
Jorge Gamez looks to the mat to direct just where he'll pin his opponent.

**Head Lock**  
Efren Roman looks to throw his Olympian opponent.



**Showing Some Love**  
Coach U congratulates Jorge Gamez after his victory.

**Roman Arch**  
Efren Roman makes a tremendous bridge to avoid a pin.



**Give Me My 2**  
Tony Jaquez completes the take down for two points.

**Crusader Crew**  
After many Saturday tournaments these guys have become a team.



(back row); Coach Ullsperger, K. Figy, D. Montes, C. Burritt, J. Eubanks, P. Salem, E. Roman, A. Jaquez-Moreno, C. Gage, Coach Jerry, (middle row); E. Parra, C. Alvarez, J. Sanchez, E. Martinez, S. Fernandez, A. Madrigal, B. Kalb, Coach Matsumoto, (front row); N. Day, J. Gamez, T. Plaza, R. Lugo

### Tournament Results

- CIF Div IV:
- Jorge Gamez: 4th
- Metro Conference JV:
- Daniel Montes: 1st
- Raymond Lugo: 2nd
- Claudio Gage-Sedas: 2nd
- Mater Dei Varsity Team Tournament:
- Jorge Gamez: Gold

# Positivity and Passion

## Varsity Softball

by *Mollie Keene*

**A**s junior Wendy Tamayo says, “Winners never quit and quitters never win.” Many girls on our varsity softball team agree, and are always out there on the field practicing. Last year the Lady Crusaders finished second in league, and are going to really step it up this season in the new tougher league. Senior Melanie Diaz, who plays third base, has been on varsity ever since her freshmen year and a captain since her sophomore year. She said, “I will try my hardest in leading the team to victory.” Positive attitudes and great team work will be key factors for a winning season. Softball is not new to our varsity girls, and many have been playing for many years. Captain and junior Michelle Centrullo, a pitcher who also plays shortstop and center field, has been playing since she was six years old. She said that “softball is my strongest passion and desire in life.” A captain is chosen to lead the team, and to be there for the players, and that is exactly what Michelle Centrullo wants to do. When asked how she was going to

make this a great season she replied, “I am going to play my best at every game, and help my girls out when they need it.” Our returning, and new varsity girls, including three freshmen, look forward to an outstanding, fun, and memorable season.

**Slugger's Stance**  
Melanie Diaz swings hard to blast the ball for a run.



### Happy Day

Freshman pitcher Maritza Lopez-Portillo winds up just one of the pitches she threw for a shut out.



**Speedy**  
Shelly Centrullo already has momentum to get to first in time after slapping.

**Power Hitter**  
Wendy Tamayo hits another one past Sweetwater outfielders.



**Girl in Mitt**  
Rina Himan still knows how to make a softball glove look stylish.

**Baby 'Nessa**  
Veronica Vargas has a different hitting technique, but it's just as effective as big sister Vanessa's.



**In the Glove**  
Confidant catcher Mikayla Conlin easily catches the pitch.



(back row); Coach Hernandez, Coach Centrullo, Coach E. Day, V. Vargas, E. Petway, M. Conlin, C. Erb, M. Rios, M. Centrullo, A. Baker, Coach Andreoli, Coach Girard, (middle row); N. Moore, W. Tamayo, V. Vargas, M. Andreoli, M. Lopez-Portillo, B. Vela, (front row); M. Diaz, B. Morales (not pictured); K. Himan

### Coach's Quote

They have tremendous passion and respect for the game. With Gods grace, hard work, good coaching and raw talent there is no limitation to what these girls will accomplish."  
-Coach Mike Centrullo

# It's Spring Again

## Varsity Baseball

by Scott Wright

**W**hen the ball is coming at you at 85 miles per hour, you have less than half of a second to decide when and where to swing, or if you want to swing at all. Mater Dei baseball players have to decide this at least ten times a game. Coached by Eddie Johnson, the team finished last year with a record of 19 wins and 15 losses. Leading the team is 6 foot tall pitcher Jesus Emmanuel Guitierrez, a four year letterman pitcher. Manny, also known as the Class of '09 Salutatorian, has been getting top pitching assignments since his sophomore year. He says the best thing about being a Crusader is "Learning from Coach Johnson's experience of the game and running to the sound of his whistle as he shouts, 'Hit it!'" Mario Zayas is another four year letter winner. He benefits the team with a career batting average of over .300, and further adds to the team as an aggressive base runner. The thing he likes most about this year's team is, "We all know the game and we work together well." There are 12 returning letter winners. A conservative starting line up is

Raul Martinez-Silva behind the plate, Jorge Ramirez at shortstop, Cristian Castro at second base, Denny Kremer at third, and when not pitching, Emmanuel Guitierrez will be played at first. To complete the middle and start the outfield, Sergio Valenzuela will probably play center, Mario Zayas in left, and Matt Martinez in right. That's the spring line up, let's play ball.

Way to Steal  
Sergio Valenzuela shows the stance that gets him to third and then home.



Not Safe  
Christian Castro makes the tag for an out.

### Unorthodox

Robby Silva-Martinez winds up his style, to strike out the batter.



**Line Drive Hitter**  
Mario Zayas, four year letter man takes his turn at the plate.

**Quick Reflexes**  
Raul Silva-Martinez jumps up in a flash to keep control of the ball.

**Duo Devil**  
Manny Gutierrez is dangerous at both the plate and the base pass.

**Power Hitter**  
Matt Martinez shows the form that allows him to hit for power.



(back row); Coach Martinez, C. Rodriguez, J. Coogan, C. Castro, J. Ramirez, M. Zayasm A. Martinez, M. Gutierrez, R. Silva-Martienz, Coach Johnson (front row); D. Villegas, D. Kremer, R. Sais, S. Valenzuela, M. Hernandez, R. Silva-Martinez, M. Martinez, N. Wright

### Coach's Quote

Baseball is it's own universe. Statistics don't lie but they don't tell everything. For players the ultimate satisfaction comes from a perfect pitch, the sound of the bat when it hits right, the feel of the ball caught in the glove and thrown out instantly, and, of course, coming home. That's what we strive for.

- Coach Johnson

# Bunny Hops and Tough Starts

## JV Baseball and Softball

by Brianna Truffa and Cristina Fuentes

**N** “No sissy screams! Keep your glove on the ground! And no bunny hops!” These are the sounds of spring as Coach Smyth starts off another year teaching many newcomers how to play the game. Fortunately there are some experienced players too: Erica Silva, Angie O’Connor, Angelica Smith and twins Karla and Vere Jaramillo. Mr. Smyth says, “I expect the girls to learn the game and have fun.” The players returning from last year are helping the new girls learn. “It’s always rough at first,” says outfielder Angie O’Connor, “But once the girls get the hang of it, it goes smoothly.” Win or lose, they have a great time. Playing softball is one of the most fun things to do after school.

JV Baseball will face some formidable competition especially at the beginning of the season. Matt Burden explains, “Right now it’s hard because we are playing some of the toughest teams in the county, but it’ll help make us ready for league.” The team is led by sophomores Andrew Chavez, Michael Carton, Alfredo Paullada and Matt Burden. This is the first year Mater Dei will compete in the Mesa League and face rival high schools Eastlake, Otay Ranch and Bonita Vista. Pitching, playing good defense, consistent hitting and most important, playing as a team is the formula needed for success. “We are learning how to work together,” says Andrew Chavez, “And we know we’ll get there, just like last year.”



**Tag You’re Out**  
Michael Carton has got the ball caught and waits for the runner to get tagged.

**Strong Man**  
Alfredo Paullada hits for power as well as helps at the plate.





**Home Run Hitter**  
Andrew Chavez knocks one out of the park.

**Put It There**  
Vere Jaramillo leans back to catch a pop up.

**Batter, Batter Up**  
Karla Jaramillo takes her turn at the bat.

**Main Man**  
Matt Burden stays alert to protect first and throw to second if necessary.



**Quick Release**  
Angelica Smith winds up to let go a fast one against Sweetwater.

**Recovery**  
Angie O'Connor throws it in to the pitcher after playing back up.



(back row); Coach Smyth, J. Aguilera, A. O'Connor, A. Smith, S. Holler, E. Silva, (middle row); J. Armenta, M. Osorio, V. Jaramillo, A. Guerrero, (front row); K. Jaramillo, D. Moore, J. Ruiz



(back row); A. Paullada, R. Castillo, M. Burden, A. Chavez, P. Salem, J. Ramos, (middle row); S. Guardado, P. Osuna, T. Hayes, D. Delacalzada, E. Durante, (front row); J. Espinoza, J. Ramirez, M. Carton (not pictured); G. DeSimone, E. Silva,

# Collaborative Individuals

## Varsity Track

by Luisa M. Lopez

**E**ver heard this, “There’s no “I” in team”? You’ll hear in the stadium as the Track and Field team practices. It’s almost a mantra for Coach Dominic Cruz who along with Head Coach Carla Martinez, wants to mold almost 50 individuals into a team. And the athletes are getting it perfectly. “I could relate this sport to ESLR #4, a collaborative individual. Doing a relay involves teamwork, and if you can’t collaborate- it will be unsuccessful,” varsity runner and senior Jackae Bridges explains. For a school to be declared a winner the points that have been accumulated by each player are added and that is the score of the school. One also can collaborate doing other things that will also have a positive effect in one. Junior Nerli Paredes explains, “Joining the Track & Field team has made me realize how to take care of my diet. The coaches emphasize what we have to eat to improve and therefore have a good performance. Another thing I love about Track and Field is that you get to work out and still have so

much fun with your friends. It makes it such a memorable experience.” This is the perfect sport to be in if you love working as a team, want to have a lot of fun, and love getting a great work-out. Let’s go team!

**Chorus Line**  
Team prospects test their stamina as they execute leg sliders in unison.



**Marching Against the Fence**  
Runners strengthen their strides by bringing knees to chest and driving feet into ground.

### Roundabout

Estefanie Rubio jogs around the stadium showing good form.



**Conditioning Crunches**  
Franklin Ausler winches but doesn't whine as he completes a set.

**Psych I**  
Elizabeth Crosthwaite puts her head in the right place before moving her body.



**Looking Like a Recruit**  
In his white MDCHS shirt Bruno Rocha raises his arms along with his teammates.

**Collaboration**  
This is how they do it, everyone together for the goal.



(6th row); J. Vasquez, C. Lopez, J. Fischer, S. Santana, J. Briones, Z. Uribe, E. Romero, M. Pitre, J. Rhein, C. Alvarado, (5th row); R. Barletta, M. Buffaloe, F. Nunez, L. Verduzco, C. Wright, V. Soto, A. Valajo, L. Covarrubias, R. Gonzales, C. Slovinsky, B. Gamez, E. Crosthwaite, (4th row); B. Sandoval, I. A. Ruiz, K. Solis, A. Navarro, N. Hindi, M. Lindstrom, G. Ramirez, A. Zuazo, V. Plascensia, S. Licht, A. Lemus, J. Beltran, (3rd row); A. Estrada, A. Cervantes, V. Marchena, C. Peraza, I. Ortega, Y. Lozano, C. Valverde, D. Corona, M. Gomez, V. Cardenas, C. Salcedo, (2nd row); N. Kaizer, C. Ortega, V. Atkinson, F. Tena, D. Blancas, A. Echeverri, D. Moore, X. Villanueva, A. Garcia, (front row); A. Hawley, N. Paredes, A. Lopez, M. Rodriguez, I. Bridges, V. Vazquez, C. Kelbaugh, P. Torres, J. Paredes

### Coach's Quote

"One team, one goal.  
Win together, not alone.  
You're only as strong as your  
weakest link."

- Coach Carla Martinez

# The Five Inch Course

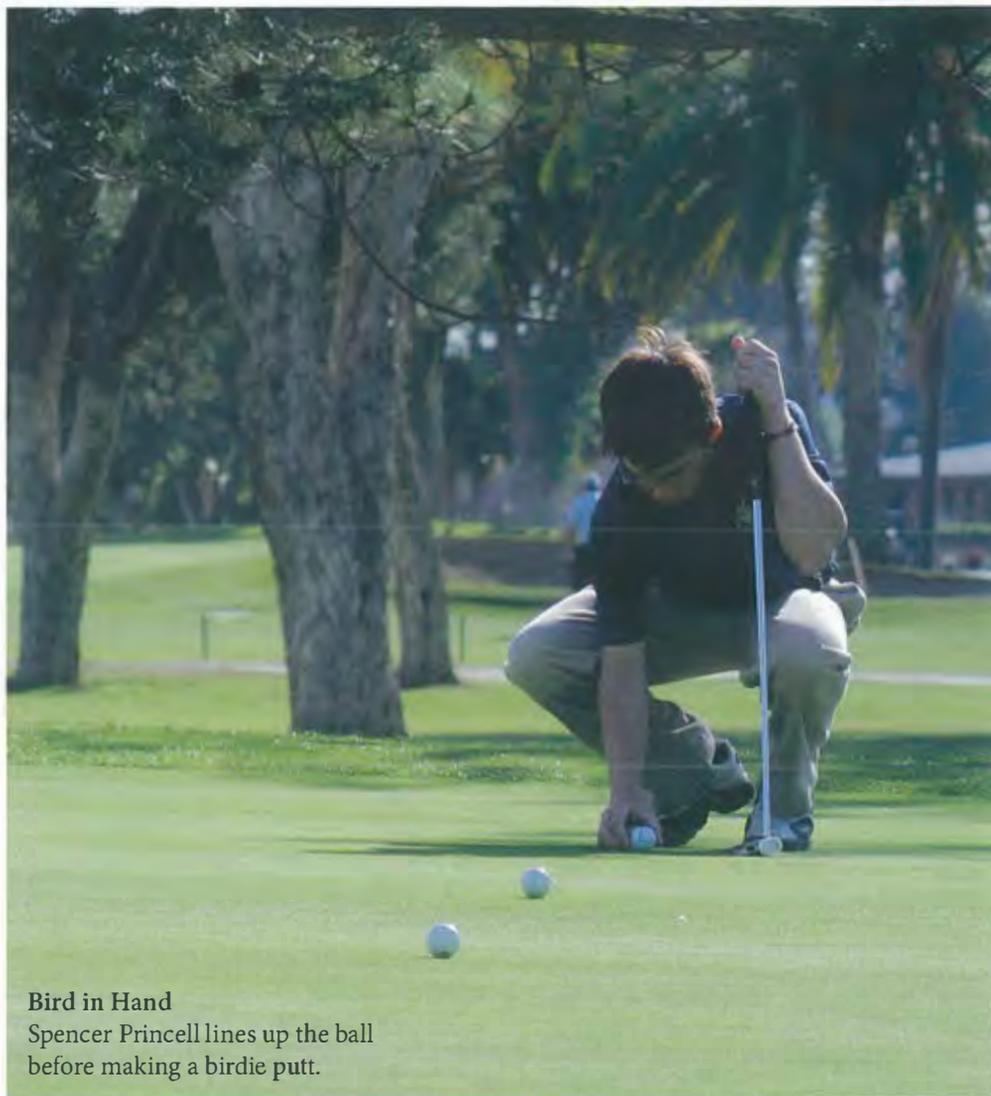
## Boys Varsity Golf

By Guillermo Escabeche

It's just not like other sports. Most of it is played inside the 5 inch course between your ears...your own head. That is because one of the hardest things to do athletically is hit a tiny little ball into a hole about 250 yards away. It can drive you crazy trying but if, on the other hand, you learn how to enjoy golf, life can be beautiful. Our golf team knows it. Whatever difficulties they are having in school are forgotten, because they must use all their concentration on sinking that ball. And they do it pretty well. Competition will be tough as they move into a more competitive league. Team captain and senior David Moreno will be vying for the #1 spot on the team against Octavio Fernandez-Simon, Cesar Ybarra and Spencer Princell. This year the team should have the depth to be very competitive in league play and vie for the Mesa League title, hopefully heading back to CIF playoffs. Returning golfers Alex Giery and Marcos Ramos along with junior Andrew Haines and sophomore Alex Martinez will compete for those last spots in the top eight players. First

year players Franciso Palacio and Antonio Zuazo will round out the Crusader Golf Varsity Team. Hopefully beginning a tradition, the Crusader Golf Team played against a team of Crusader Alumni, with players from '66 to '08. Alumni won. Better play that 5 inch course, boys, and beat them next year.

Time for Tee  
Octavio Fernandez gets ready for the tee shot.



Bird in Hand  
Spencer Princell lines up the ball before making a birdie putt.

**Form Follows Function**  
 Team captain David Moreno lets loose with his drive.



**A Good Walk Enjoyed**  
 Jose Labastida and Spencer Princell walk down the fairway toward their golf balls.



**Following Through**  
 Francisco Palacio watches his drive off the tee.

**Getting to the Green**  
 Marcos Ramos hits his fairway shot to the green.

**Sweet Spot**  
 Andrew Haines takes a practice shot before hitting the ball just right.



(back row); Coach Gerken, A. Martinez, D. Moreno, O. Fernandez, H. Ruiz, A. Haines, A. Zuazo, E. Azano, Coach Vasquez, (front row); J. Labastida, F. Palacio, C. Ybarra, M. Ramos, A. Giery

**Coach's Quote**

"Golf is a unique sport, no officials, just the golfer against their opponents. Golf in a day teaches you more about yourself and your opponent than working in a job for years. You learn so much about who you are. As a coach it is a pleasure and honor to watch these teenagers grow into adults and realize you had some impact on their life."  
 - Coach Gerken

# Passing on Tradition

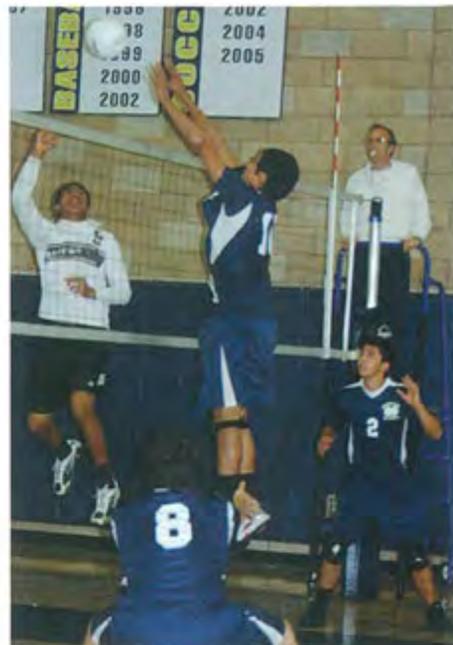
## Boys Varsity Volleyball

by Angela Beck

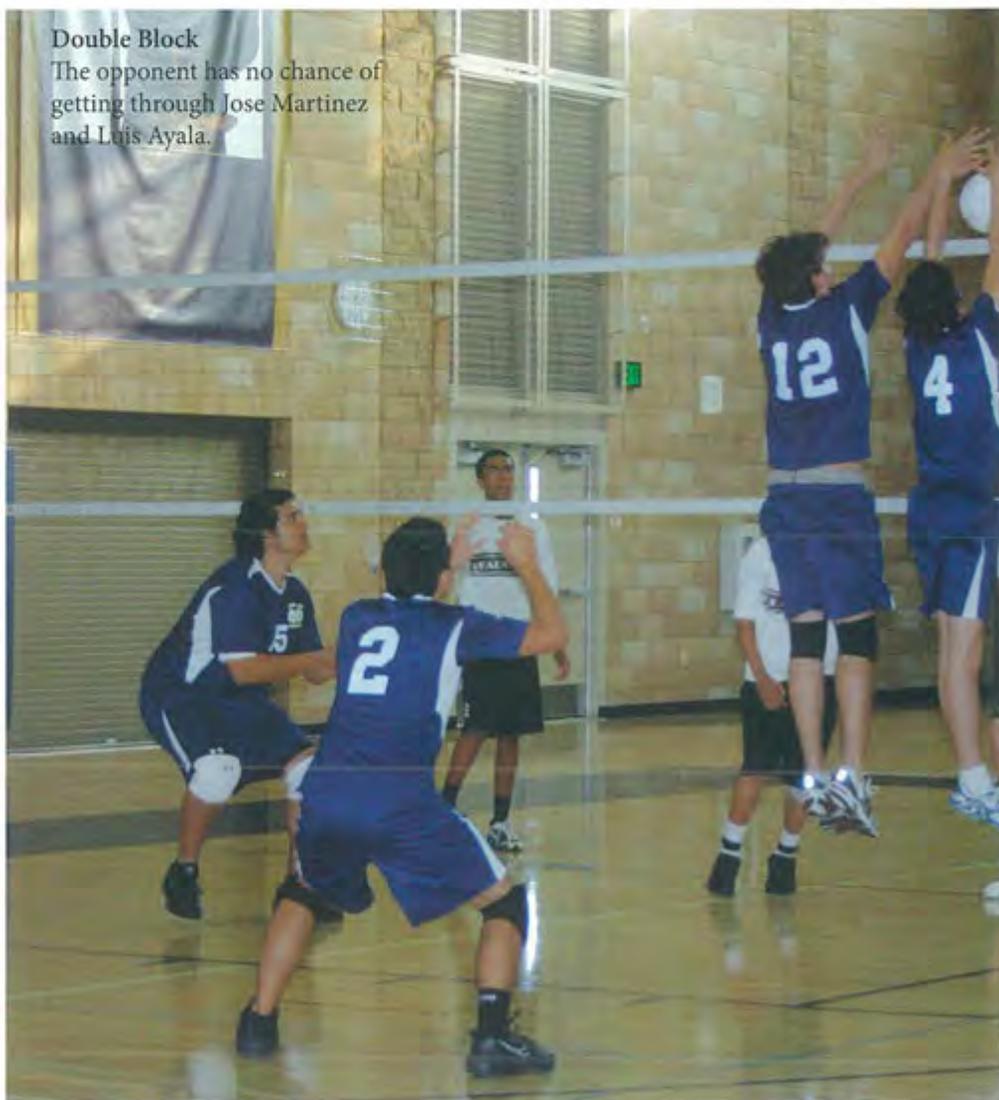
**N**ew school, new gym, new league, but still the same great game. What started out as a small group of guys at Marian has now transformed into an aggressive and spirited team here at Mater Dei. Alum Michael Fajardo and a few friends introduced boys volleyball at Marian a few years back. "Here it's different," says Michael. "more boys are aware of the team." One of his recruits was Aldo Loera. Now Aldo is a senior who not only plays on the team and helps out but is planning on playing in college. Sophomore Luis Ayala is another promising new athlete. Ayala does not have high expectations for the league games, but he knows that in CIF they will go far. Coaches Brian Ritz and Karen Neral reflect on the team. "We have a lot of talent. We are still in a rebuilding phase, but with hard work and diligence, we foresee a positive outcome to our season." The new talent includes many freshman boys who decided to tryout. For Kenny Espinoza, a freshman, he is just following in his big brother

Kacy's footsteps. With all these freshmen boys interested in volleyball, the tradition is sure to carry on for years to come. Unfortunately for the boys one tradition continues; any mistakes made require pushups. But in the words of Aldo Loera, "No pain, no game."

Up and Over  
Aldo Loera blocks the outside hitter from Kearny.



Double Block  
The opponent has no chance of getting through Jose Martinez and Luis Ayala.



**Big Save**  
Alfredo Brambila pops the ball back up to remain in play.



**Practice makes Perfect**  
Alfonso Cardona practices digging from every angle.



**Waiting for the Serve**  
Luis Ayala focuses on the next serve.



**The Big Guys**  
Seniors and veteran players Aldo Loera and Judah Villescas inspire the new comers with their love for the sport.



**My Turn**  
Kacy Espinoza beats Jose Martinez to the ball.

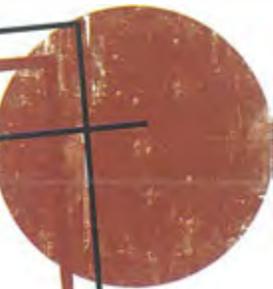


(front row); Coach Ritz, L. Ayala -Padilla, A. Loera, J. Martinez, J. Villescas, M. Travers, S. Wright, R. Rosas, Coach Nerat, (middle row); E. Guilas, L. Margallan, (front row); R. Hernandez, K. Mercardo, K. Espinoza, A. Pergrin, A. Brambila, A. Cardona

**Coach's Quote**

"Don't mess up,  
there is always someone  
ready to take your place."

-Coach Brian Ritz



# Suited, Capped and Goggled

## Varsity and JV Swimming

by Mallory Davenport

**D**“Don’t count the days, but make the days count.” That’s what swimmers at Mater Dei do when they jump into the pool. Imagine standing on a starting block listening to the whistles of different length, and then, the gunshot. This means ready, get set, and go! Spring off, streamline and begin the stroke. Swim season has begun! Coach Smith is excited to report, “This is the youngest, but strongest team we have had.” The team consists of 32 boys and 14 girls. There are thirteen senior and junior swimmers and 34 sophomore and freshman swimmers. These include some strong, experienced swimmers such as Andrew Thein, Gisselle Suarez, Raymond Lugo and Mark Laturno. They will all set the pace and serve as models for the newer athletes.

Daily practice at the Las Palmas Pool tones the team so they can compete in the new Mesa League. The tough competition includes Hilltop, Eastlake, Bonita Vista, Chula Vista and Otay Ranch. Chances are they will do at least as well as last year when they had two swimmers qualify for CIF in

individual events. The regular season is from the end of March to the end of April with Championship meets held in May. Some think it’s a brutal regimen but the Crusaders are suited, capped, and goggled. And they are ready to take the plunge. It should be a great season!

**El Pecho**  
Sergio Fourzan executes a strong breast stroke.



**Graceful Gliding**  
Giselle Suarez looks graceful as she butterflies through the water.

**Proper Positioning**  
 Andrew Thein shows good form and proper breathing technique as he swims freestyle.



**Smart Start**  
 Malory Davenport gets ready to push off the wall.

**Fast and First**  
 Kalem Figy pulls ahead in the freestyle.

**Sooner**  
 you get started, sooner you get started.  
 -Coach Smith



**Smooth**  
 Laura Soto strokes steadily to the finish.



(front row); Coach Smith, N. Camacho, N. Schmitt, C. Burrit, A. Thein, M. Laturno, I. Chavez, D. Montes, K. Figy, E. Martinez, J. Arredondo, Coach Souza (middle row); R. Tamborell, S. Fourzan, E. Parra, L. Soto, I. Stonehouse, G. Soto, R. Rosales, R. Lugo, A. Bustillo, A. Stahl, C. Fojaco, (front row); G. Camacho, P. Mendoza, D. Tamborell, G. Suarez, J. Cota, B. Rodriguez, T. Chiappe, M. Davenport

**Coach's Quote**

"The only easy day was yesterday.  
 That is what will make you a champion.  
 Show me, don't tell me!"

- Coach Kevin Smith

# Section, Regional, and State Champs

## Boys Soccer and Girls Basketball

### By Our Fans

This was a banner year for winter sports with the boys soccer team becoming Mater Dei's first team to win CIF. Not only that but they continued to play at the Division IV State Championship level. Girls basketball were CIF runners up and also competed at the state championship level. Here are the fans own feeling about out teams.

### Soccer

*"They are fantastic! It's wonderful for the school; we are showing everyone what a great school we are!"* Mr. Brunner, Teacher

*"Their hard work and dedication paid off. They really believed in themselves."*

Michael Blas' parents

*"The whole team is good and deserves to be where they are!"*

Jason Meyer's mom

*"It's been awesome to watch them play and be so successful."*

Nick and Scott Wright's parents

### Basketball

*"Watching this team makes me proud to be an alumna."*

Mickey Pimental '03, Professional football player

*"They are exciting. I'm very proud of the effort they put into the game and how well they developed their craft."*

Mr. Rudy Anderson, Uncle of both Danae Johnson and Jhazmine Lynch

*"Fundamental!"* Lady Crusader Fans

*"Girls, keep shooting for the stars! You are stars!"*

Michelle Andreoli's mom

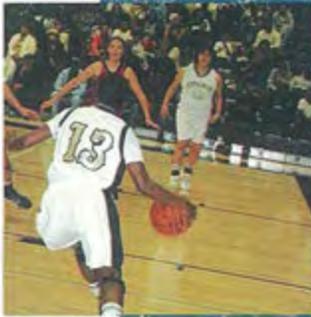


First of Two  
Sergio Lopez makes the  
shot that keeps Mater  
Dei alive in the State  
Championship.

### Flying High

Desiree Evans goes up for an alley-oop lay-up against Harvard Westlake in the State Semi-finals.





Long and Lanky  
Nick Wright dribbles  
upfield.

Look Out. Coming  
Through  
Ihazmine Lynch  
makes a signature  
drive to the basket.

Try, Try Again  
Kamela Jackson  
reaches high for the  
rebound.



Get Out of My Way  
Alejandro Guido  
shields off the  
defender.



Keep it Going  
German  
Verduzco keeps  
the ball in mo-  
tion.

Unstoppable  
Ebony Henry dribbles her  
way out of a trap.



Keeping Control  
Diego Alvarez looks to play the ball upfield.



Swish  
Danae Johnson makes a free throw to give the Crusaders  
an early lead.

# {re}discover

**To find something  
you thought you had lost.**

Classwork, homework, any school work; most students dread it at times. Everyone is aware of the pressures, stay-

ing on top of the work, keeping a thousand details in mind. But Crusaders always find a way to rediscover things they thought they had lost. It's not unusual to see a crowd of students waiting for the library to open to finish up some homework they had forgotten about, or to find a book they had left the day before.

Tutoring is always a lifesaver. Whether it's science, math or English, if you have trouble with a subject you can get the help you need.

If you are lost in math, you can discover solutions; if you feel clueless with AWP's, you can get the

mysteries unlocked. It's just a matter of putting in the effort. And teachers will always lend a helping hand.

The NHS and CSF are examples of how Mater Dei is able to accomplish academically. Students from all grades exemplify levels of academic success, responsibility and leadership.

The Ambassadors for Christ Corps are also willing to help out their community because Crusaders do not just value good grades, but also having a good, giving heart.

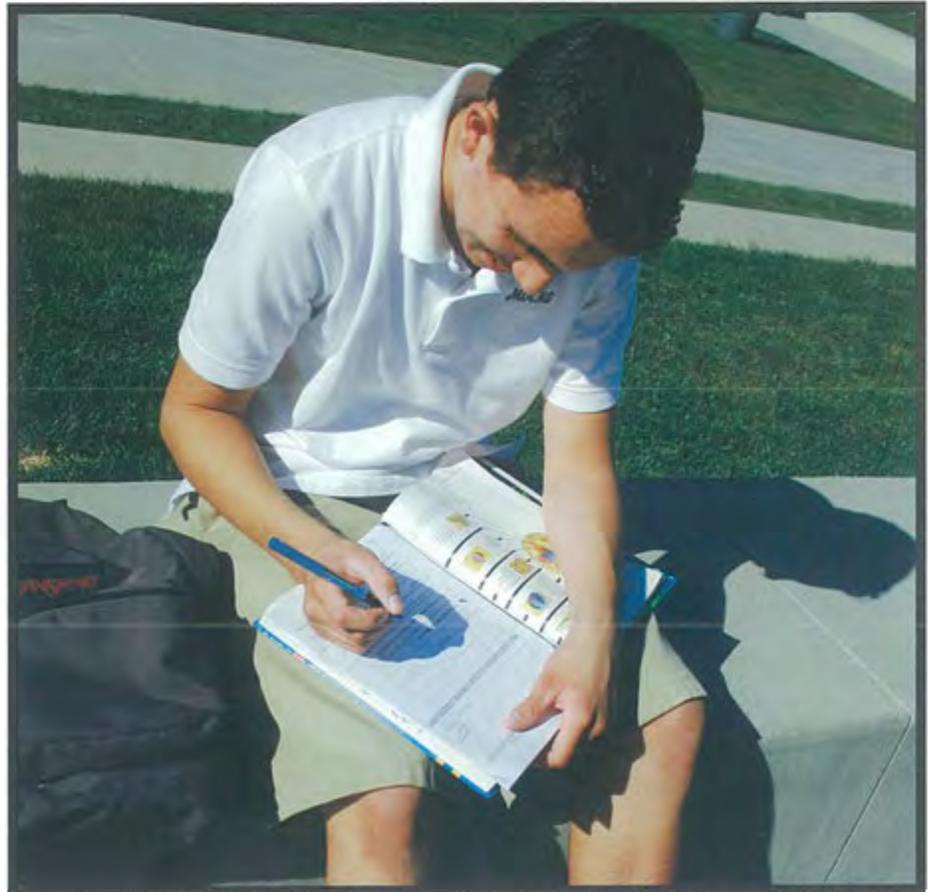
Those endless hours of studying and doing homework seem to drag on, but when the end of the year comes, it is always worth it.

Whether you felt lost, and struggled in the beginning, you now know

you have rediscovered what is fundamental and you can keep on learning.

by Kayla Pega





# NHS Class

## Seniors

Miguel Arechiga\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Gene Barroga Jr.\*  
 Lorena Beltrones\*  
 Diego Chig\*  
 Sergio Crostwaite\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Janine Dacayo\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Mario Delgadillo<sup>^</sup>  
 Jamie Espino\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Frances Fernandez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Oscar Flores\*  
 Jose Garcia\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Brenna Gates\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Axel Gonzalez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Genevieve Guarnes\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Jesus Gutierrez-  
 Nunez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 David Harding\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ebone Henry\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Adriana Hernandez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Monserrat Hernandez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Karinna Himan\*  
 Sandra Ruby Huerta\*  
 Kamela Jackson\*  
 Melissa Jimenez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Danae Johnson\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Lauren Elise Judal\*  
 Soo Jin Kim\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Aldo Loera\*  
 Luisa Lopez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Daniela Lozano\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Hector Lutteroth<sup>^</sup>  
 Michelle Lyle\*  
 David Matranga\*  
 Ailin Mendez-  
 Medina\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Kevin Mercado\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Paulina Millan\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Barbara Padres\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Christina Padilla\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ivan Paredes<sup>^</sup>  
 Kayla Pega\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Alejandro Pergrin\*  
 Marcel Pitre\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ana Ramirez\*  
 Mariano Rayon\*  
 Michael Rodriguez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Andres Schramm-  
 Flores\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Vanessa Tanabe<sup>^</sup>  
 Toni Vasquez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Vincent Vasquez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Susana Verdugo  
 Del Real\*  
 Judah Villescascas\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ivan Paredes Viscarra\*  
 Laura Watts\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Vanessa Wood\*<sup>^</sup>

Celia Wright\*  
 Nicolaus Wright\*  
 Diane Zoura\*<sup>^</sup>

## Juniors

Dianne Acevedo\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Marisela Arechiga-  
 Romero\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Rafael Blanco<sup>^</sup>  
 Mariana Burkle\*  
 Jacob Coogan\*  
 Rafael Carrillo- Bay-  
 lon\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Michelle Coria\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Gerardo Castro<sup>^</sup>  
 Jasmine Cota\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Lilia Covarrubias\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Kacy Espinoza\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Maria Gomez-  
 Rodriguez<sup>^</sup>  
 Mariana Gomez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Lucia Gonzalez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Marie Elaine Guilas\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Andrew Haines\*  
 Vere Jaramillo<sup>^</sup>  
 Marquise Jimenez<sup>^</sup>  
 Alec Kuzukian\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Perla Laborin<sup>^</sup>  
 Nora Leyva\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Alicia Lopez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Alfredo Lucero-  
 Canaan\*  
 Patrick Major\*  
 James Mara<sup>^</sup>  
 Andrea Navarro\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Paola Odriozola\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Dianne Moore<sup>^</sup>  
 Carolina Ortega\*  
 Diana Paredes\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Nerli Paredes<sup>^</sup>  
 Alejandra Perez-  
 Madrigal\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Cassandra Pimentel\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Yazmin Razon\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Johanna Rhein\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Jazmine Rodriquez<sup>^</sup>  
 Paul Romero<sup>^</sup>  
 Michael Sanchez<sup>^</sup>  
 Stephanie Santana<sup>^</sup>  
 Stephanie Sanz\*  
 Robert Silva-  
 Martinez\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Estela Uribe<sup>^</sup>  
 Catherine Valenzuela\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Marto Winata<sup>^</sup>

## Sophomores

Jessica Baumgardner<sup>^</sup>

Samantha Baxley<sup>^</sup>  
 Nallely Beltran<sup>^</sup>  
 Matthew Burden<sup>^</sup>  
 Ariel Cabrera<sup>^</sup>  
 Valeria Cardenas<sup>^</sup>  
 Alison Castaneda<sup>^</sup>  
 Alejandra Castro<sup>^</sup>  
 Chlseaa Chenille<sup>^</sup>  
 Mikala Conlin<sup>^</sup>  
 Daniel Corona<sup>^</sup>  
 Nicholas Day<sup>^</sup>  
 Nicolas Franco<sup>^</sup>  
 Korina Garcia<sup>^</sup>  
 Valeria Genel<sup>^</sup>  
 Kristin Gonzales<sup>^</sup>  
 Christine Hillman<sup>^</sup>  
 Frances Lopez<sup>^</sup>  
 A. Martinez -Castillo<sup>^</sup>  
 Jose Rebollar-Martinez<sup>^</sup>  
 Theodore Matula<sup>^</sup>  
 Ana Maria Mendoza<sup>^</sup>  
 Heidi Nguyen<sup>^</sup>  
 Jorge Peterson<sup>^</sup>  
 Spencer Princell<sup>^</sup>  
 Robert Quijano- Luna<sup>^</sup>  
 Maryel Quintero<sup>^</sup>  
 Jesus Ramos<sup>^</sup>  
 Briana Rodriguez<sup>^</sup>  
 Ramon Ros<sup>^</sup>  
 Andrea Ruiz<sup>^</sup>  
 Karla Snachez<sup>^</sup>  
 Carolina Silva<sup>^</sup>  
 Teresa Blair<sup>^</sup>  
 Laura Contreras<sup>^</sup>  
 Marissa Lindstrom<sup>^</sup>  
 Lillian Navaro<sup>^</sup>  
 Isela Ruiz<sup>^</sup>  
 Calla Sanchez<sup>^</sup>  
 Raul Silva- Martinez<sup>^</sup>  
 Isabel Stonehouse<sup>^</sup>  
 Victoria Vigil<sup>^</sup>

\* Indicates NHS  
 Note: sophomores are  
 not inducted until after  
 yearbook deadline.

<sup>^</sup> Indicates CSF

## The Long Table of Learning

This area is traditionally reserved for the brightest and most hard-working students. Note our valedictorian looking over things.



## Prestigious Presentation

Salutatorian Jesus Gutierrez and Valedictorian Axel Gonzalez stand between Mr. Milke and Mr. Beecher after their class standing was announced to the school after liturgy.

# White Banners Gold Tassels



Being smart is a gift, but being a member of the National Honors Society and or the California Scholastic Federation is an accomplishment. In order to qualify for the CSF, you must have a 3.8 GPA or higher. To qualify for NHS, you have to be recommended by a teacher, and be approved by a panel of teachers. Then you have to be nominated officially and answer a set of questions that include how involved you are in school and how good your grades are. NHS sets standards such as service, leadership, character, and citizenship. The CSF recognition is given each semester, while the NHS is given once. You don't have to re-apply, but you do have to keep up your grades. Some students find this motivation to study

harder. "Ever since I was inducted, I focused more on my studies. It has also helped me to see that my effort is being recognized. Thanks to NHS and CSF I have been motivated to study more," Senior Fabiola Watts comments. Inclusion in these organizations has also influenced senior Michael Rodriguez, "To know how to use your brains and be recognized with a prestigious space in an organization, makes studying even better!" Watch for the white stoles and gold tassels at graduation. Axel Gonzalez and Jesus Gutierrez will be wearing them as well as many others. It is an honor well deserved. They show who has been doing their job.

by Luisa M. Lopez



**National Honor Society Officers 2009**  
 Secretary Caroline Ortega, Vice President Lilia Covarrubias, President Mariana Gomez, Treasurer Michelle Coria



**Nook and Cranny**  
 Christina Padilla and Heidi Nguyen look cozy and studious in their tiny library corner.



**World in his Hands**  
 Alfredo Lucero-Canaan has seen a lot of the world and knows studying is the key to holding it in your hands.



**Malaysia to Mater Dei**  
 Marto Winata came from another world but didn't let language and cultural challenges keep him from succeeding scholastically.



“I’ve always enjoyed going to different parochial schools to recruit seventh and eighth graders. I like it when people come up to me and ask me for help because it’s nice to know that I can assist others.” -Judah Villegas



“I was very excited about going to my old school to recruit. I’m very proud to say that I’m an Ambassador because I love helping out at different events. I enjoy helping people in general.” -Sammy Brown



“Being an Ambassador is great. No matter how much work we do, it’s always fun because we have friends (like Lauren) to share the job.” -Jamie Espino



**Swift and Suave**

Genaro Camacho demonstrates how Ambassadors can walk and tie their ties in seconds if necessary.



**Making a List, Checking it Twice**  
Paola Odriozola helps Ambassador moderator Mr. Vasquez in the myriad duties of his job.

# Dressing the Part



Japanese Connection  
Ambassadors and Sisters School  
student share the universal sign of  
peace.

The uniform says it all. The first thing people notice when they see Ambassadors for Christ Corps are their dark blue blazers and khaki skirts or pants. Right away people get the impression that these students are professional and well mannered, which they are. The Ambassador for Christ Corps is an integral part of the school's volunteer services. They help the school recruit new students, set up for any events held on campus, give tours to guests, and represent the school at special events like funerals for alumni.

Members must be nominated by teachers who see Christian leadership qualities in the

candidate. They look for students who can represent our school and Christ through their service. And thanks to this process, the members of Ambassadors never fail to impress parents, teachers, or guests. Many people compliment on how well behaved, friendly, and knowledgeable these students are.

No matter how nice their uniforms are though, the Ambassadors are not afraid to get their hands dirty to get the job done. "I remember having to clean dirty dishes after an event. Even though my uniform was getting dirty in the process, I was with my fellow Ambassador friends and we all just dealt with it," says senior Frances Fernandez. It just goes to show that a fancy uniform will not stop the Ambassadors from getting anything done.

by Jamie Espino



Welcome to our World

Mikayla Conlin and Jesus Gutierrez are often the smiling faces visitors first see when they come to Mater Dei.

The Mater Dei Catholic High School Ambassadors for Christ Corps 2009



Alicia Wang is from the Canton area of China, near Hong Kong. She now lives in Coronado with her aunt and uncle.

Alicia loves it here. She especially likes American holidays, "It was fun carving a pumpkin and I love the performing arts that take place at Christmas." She also loves the diversity here. "There is so much of it...you are all so lucky...you should always be kind to everyone."



Maria Brandao comes from Brazil. She loves living near the beach and hanging out with other foreign exchange students. It's exciting for

her to learn about where they come from. She likes learning English and says she also gets to practice Spanish too since so many people speak it here. One thing she does miss is native food. Anybody know a great Brazilian restaurant?

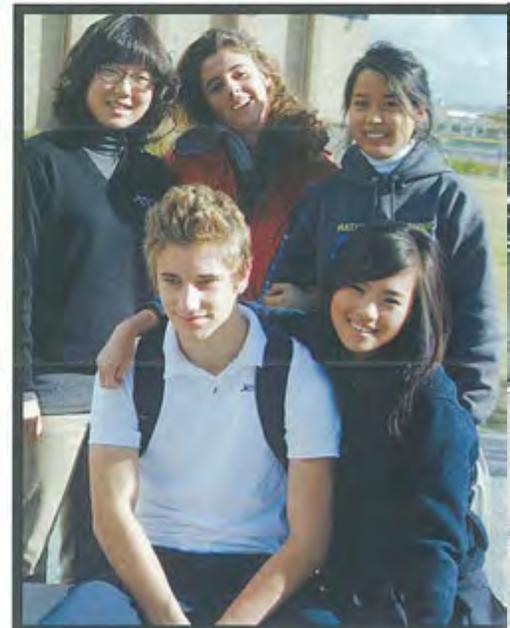


Everyone loves Jun. Jun says that his friends are very nice. His favorite American food is Italian. He loves lasagna. But if he wants,

he can eat delicious Korean food any time because there are Korean stores here and Korean friends to make it. Jun has one very important message for everyone. "Chinese and Korean are not the same!"



**Sweet and Spicy Italian**  
Ludovica Spinola brought zest to every group of friends, and there were many, that she made here.



**Cool Exchange Students**  
Yoori Cheong, Ludovica Spinola, SooJin Kim, Henrik Weidmann and Gayoung Kim hold still just long enough for a quick shot.

Checking Up on Exchange Kids Mr. Milke chats for a bit with Sophia Cai and Henrik Widemann.



# 180 Degree Change

How exciting to experience something different to what you are used to. This is what exchange students from other countries like China and Italy do when they come to visit the United States. Both Ludovica Spinola from Italy and Sophia Cai from China agree that it is different although the degree varies depending on where you are from. "I like it here, it's cool, not what I am used to," says Sophia Cai with a big smile on her face. As for Ludovica, or Ludo, as she is called, "I like the people, the weather, and the way of life."

Now, try imagining a country where the government

is very different, and there's not that much freedom. Sophia comes from Guangzhou, China. This country has a communist government. "I like the capitalist government more, you have more freedom. I also like this school better." Sophia explains, "In China we live in dorms. I go to school at 7:15, and except for meals and a break, do not finish until 8:00pm. Then I go back to my dorm."

Italy isn't as different from the US. "It was easy to get used to the lifestyle here, I could identify myself with the American culture" says Ludovica Spinola. We hope that the first impression for them lasts and makes them feel like they are at home even if it is an 180 degree change.

by Luisa M. Lopez



**Eastern Food, Western Warmth**  
Yoori Cheong and SooJin Kim enjoy their Korean lunches: kimbob, bulgogi, and ramen, under a California sun.



**East and West Flirts**  
Brenna Gates and Ga-Young Kim compare flirting styles. They're both experts.



“Ceramics is cool because I like to play with clay. It’s fun creating many things such as pots, vases, and cups. If I could, I would continue this class forever.” - Janine Dacayo

continue this class forever.” - Janine Dacayo



“It was very fun singing at the Christmas concert because I like being on stage, even though I’m in Drama. I wanted to do a musical,

and this fulfilled my wish.” -Chelsea Chenelle

“It was a fun experience singing a duet with Chelsea. We sounded pretty good together and I liked singing on stage. -Alvin Almazan



“Ceramics is fun because it is very relaxing, and it makes me happy. I like to have fun, making memories with my friends in

ceramics. I felt accomplished when I finished my project, and hope to make more creations.” - Carina Erb



**Kids in Clay**  
Jose Gonzalez, Fernanda De La Parra, and Florencia Tena enjoy the hands on satisfaction of shaping clay into creations.



**Communication and Creativity**  
Ms. Limoges listens carefully as Raul Silva-Martinez tries to explain his idea for a project.



**Red, White, and Singing the Blues**  
Abril Gutierrez, Maria Sayasy, Nina Salazar, and Tatiana Tobe stop in for a quick picture before the Christmas concert.

# Super Achievers Stay Late



It's 2:05 p.m. The bell rings and students hurriedly head out to the gate. While many students are glad the day is over, students in 7th block classes are glad that they get to enjoy one more class. From artworks to chemistry formulas, these students are superachievers.

Girls in the Choir Ensemble class cannot wait to get together and create great sounds. They fill the empty theatre with their harmonious vocals, and give great times to people during the concerts and recitals. Tatiana Tobe, a lead singer, says, "I found my talent to sing through 7th block.

It really encouraged me to go for what I really want to do."

Students in art class also cannot wait to create new works with brushes and paints. Frances Fernandez, who loves to draw, says, "Taking an art class after school not only relaxes me but also brings out my talent." Some might question why students take extra classes, but the students in the art class says it is very soothing, and is a great way to finish a day.

7th block is also the source of information. From the science academy to tutoring, the teachers are always there to assist. It is very helpful because students can gain knowledge, and can spend more time getting to know their teachers.

by SooJin Kim



**Art Decor**  
Luminous purple and orange artworks create a wild background for art students: Ricardo Duarte, Hector Gomez, Carla Sanchez, and Nataly Briones



**Luciano's Line Up**  
Singers share center stage at the Christmas concert.



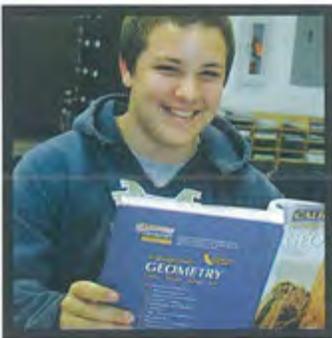
“I actually didn’t notice getting stronger as a student. But little by little I improved. It feels pretty good to have teachers single you

out and tell you how well you are doing. It’s definitely more satisfying to be in high school when your academics are strong; then you can enjoy friends and having fun without guilt.”  
-Ashley Medina



“When I first came to MDCHS I was a little overwhelmed and my grades dropped. I knew I could not disappoint my parents who were sacrificing so much for me

so I got organized and got all my homework done. Now my grades are good, my parents are proud and I feel happy and confident.”  
-Paloma Polanko



“It’s amazing how your grades can improve if you do your homework. I saw what I had first semester, and knew I needed to make some

changes. Now I’m starting to feel proud of myself.” -Nico Johnson



**No Romp Zone**

Hey, guys, that’s you, Manuel Gutierrez, the library is for reading, not rough housing.



**Boy Wonder**

Kids wonder why Gene Barroga ever got anything but A’s. It’s the norm now.

Classy Class Ms. Daigle's class knows it looks good when lots of hands are up.



# Making the Grade

There may be something even more satisfying than getting good grades. That's having low grades and then turning them into great ones. Some people don't seem to struggle at all. They come in and start racking up the A's with the consistency of a ticking clock. But do they ever experience the supreme beauty of rising out of the ashes like a phoenix?

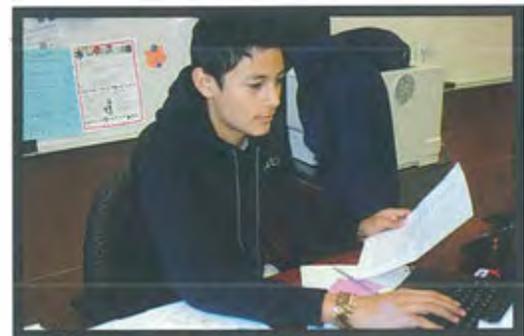
Jesus Garcia recounts his sublime transition, "...the greatest thing of the last semester is the way I was able to rise after having fallen...my grades were low until I decided to do more and give more effort." Even his teachers noticed the difference in Jesus and how

proud and confident he looked.

Most people would be surprised to learn that Gene Barroga had some difficulties in his first two years. They see him now as a NHS academic who people go to for help.

But he also had to change his ways. "At first the work seemed easy and I didn't care about doing it; I just wanted to have fun." Reality set in when he started thinking about college. He also had teachers who kept on him to use his talent. Finally he decided to work. Did it ever pay off. He has a chance now at the best schools and he feels accomplished. What's your GPA? Can you make the grade?

by Christina Fuentes



## Jesus Has It

He started out slow, but Jesus Garcia caught up fast and is going strong. Keep it going, Jesus!

## Old Pro and Pal

Brenna Gates knows that studying during breaks as well as helping out her friend, Melanie Diaz, ensure top grades.



Judah Villegas swoops up Genevieve Guarnes, the love of his life, at ancient ruins, on a Greek island of Rhodes. That's about

as romantic as it gets. So, don't drop her Judah.



Mr. Brunner and Mr. Hall imitate the flights of the jumbo jets which took them and their beloved students across the

US and over the Atlantic Ocean to the Old Country. With energy like this, they will fly high many more times.



Twins Alfredo and Andrea Lucero-Canaan were lucky enough to have a family friend in Rome who showed them a side most tourists don't

get to see. One was a view from a secluded hilltop that overlooked the whole ancient city.



#### Arch of Constantine

Think of the people who have marched through this historical arch. Now the Mater Dei mob adds the pitter patter of their little feet.



#### Time Machine or Telephone?

"Is this what they call a phone booth?" asks Ericka Brunner. "Do they still use these?"

## Reunion

Teachers and student travelers get together to reminisce and replay good times.



# A Jump into History

"Buongiorno! Hello!" This is how Mater Dei students and teachers were greeted last summer in the "Old World." This extraordinary trip redefined the views of a group of people most of whom had never been across the sea. "I thought Europe would be old fashioned, but it is modern as well, just like here," said Monserrat Medina. "Still, it was like jumping into a history book!" She was not the only one whose views changed towards other cultures. Senior Claudia Ordaz explains, "I became a person who appreciates cultures and ancient architecture. The Colosseum for example; it's

amazing to think of how much happened in this huge thing." Europe is incredibly rich in history, culture and ambience.

The countries are small, close together yet so different that you can visit many of them in one trip and see so much. But you can't really see everything. Like Lily Gonzalez says: "I'm very motivated to travel and study psychology to understand the cultures. I have realized I have seen a little, and I still have a lot to see." Trips like this really help us enlarge our view of the world. Maybe you should start planning now so you can go on the next one. Then you can jump into history and a lot more too.

by Luisa M. Lopez



## Swiss Misses and Mr's

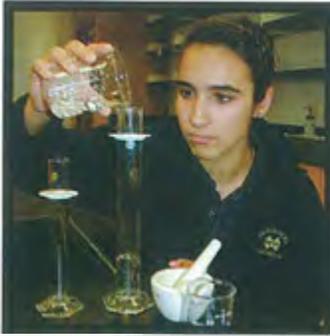
The Mater Dei mob stands together for a picture in beautiful Lucerne, Switzerland. Diane Zoura explains, "Everything was picturesque, the mountains, the water, the town...everything."



## Claudia in the Colosseum

Claudia Ordaz stretches her hands out in sheer gladness to be at a place where history was made for a thousand years.

Ready, Set, Buzz! Mr. Hall looks over a few details to make sure his kids are ready to roll when the competition begins.



For Mariana Gomez, the Science Academy has opened more options. Now she realizes she can study different areas in science: neurosurgery, gastroenterology, and research. "These are all fascinating areas of science which are open to me. I feel more confident that I can enter into them when I go to college."



Angela Reyes is no rookie to Academic Decathlon. She loves questions on her favorite subjects: English and history. But there is one favorite subject Angela learns about after school. And that's her beloved Beatles. "I just love them; especially Paul." The Beatles are pretty famous, so maybe they'll show up in Academic Decathlon questions as well.



Andrea Navarro has blossomed because of the Science Academy. Though a couple student fell out, she stuck it out and now feels reassured that science is something she sees herself working in, in the future.



#### It Takes Two

Daniel Noland and Naythin Hindi deliberate on a math question which they are able to work on together and can win as long as they can do it faster than the other team.



Buzzer Boy Armando Gonzalez listens intently to the question and keeps his fingers ready to buzz if he knows the correct answer.

# Learning the Fun Way



Eventually the Science Academy will redefine not only the way Mater Dei sees itself but how it is seen by others. Under the auspices of the University of California at San Diego, the Science Academy has the opportunity to collaborate with top students and scientists in practical and theoretical science. Besides being challenged by a rigorous academic program, students are given hands on projects which require initiative and creativity. The first was an operation game with different body parts. Every component had to be made so it could be taken out and studied. Even though he doesn't like doing homework much, Chris Weller thought this assignment was pretty cool. Barbara Elenbaas

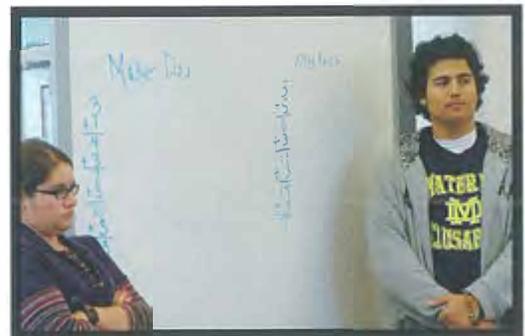
liked what she learned about the human skull. "I never realized before that a baby's skull was made up of parts that don't come together for years, hence the 'soft spots.'"

Students in Academic League learn lots of interesting things too. Armando Gonzalez comments, "League exposed me to so many things I didn't know before. Now I pay attention in class." This question answer competition is so much fun for those who already know a bit and want to learn more. "We know more stuff about everything!" says Jorge Arredondo. "I have gained more confidence in my answers and I've also learned to think before I act." This lesson comes in handy when the team faces their opponents who are equally learned and just as quick on the buzzer. Both orgs make learning fun.

by Luisa M. Lopez



Mater Dei Catholic's First Science Academy Class  
Nick Day, Chris Weller, Mariana Gomez, Andrea Navarro, Paola Odriozola, Samantha Baxley, Michel Sanchez, Carina Erb, Theodore Jr Matula, Kristin Gonzales



Tallying the Old Fashioned Way  
Judah Villescas stands by the score board with the opponent from Otay Ranch while their teammates compete.

# {re}create

**To put your own unique twist to something that has already been made.**

A lot of kids come into high school not really knowing who they are or where they fit in. But very few seniors have any insecurity about their identity. That's because one of the neatest things about high school is you get to discover who you are and even recreate yourself if you feel like it. Clubs and Orgs are some of the things that help you metamorphize.

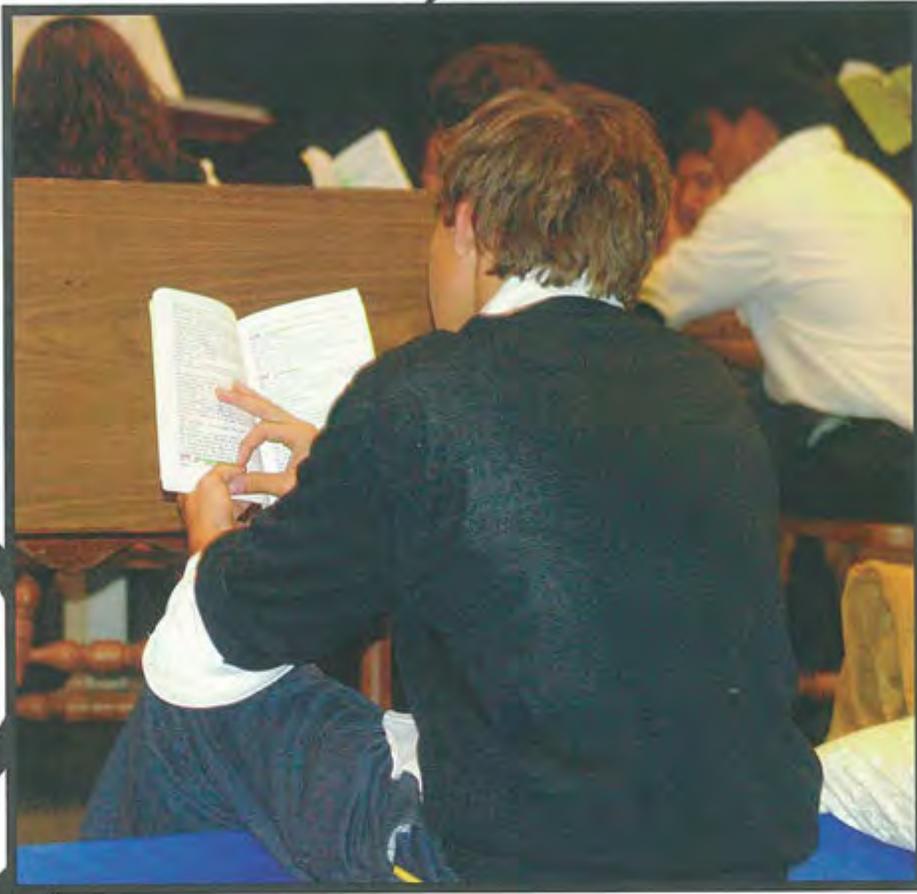
There is so much diversity here and people who have different ideas and interests. If you are musical, you can join Music Ministry and make a joyous noise unto the Lord. Or if you prefer an island sound you can play with the Steel Drum Band. If you are proud of your ethnic culture or want to learn more about another one you

can join Hispanic Alliance, French Club or the APIC. If you love questions, answers and trivia you might become a part of a brain team in Academic Decathlon. If you wish to "be the change you want to see in the world," you need to get involved with Ecology Club. Maybe dancing is for you, then dance with a team. There's newspaper, yearbook, drama and lots more.

Involvement in these clubs gives you a chance to find out who you are. You might discover things you like that you didn't even know. This is your chance to explore, to recreate who you are and who you might be. Carpe diem and get involved.

by Kayla Pega







### Lights, Camera, Action!

Camile Alvarado, Lauren Elise Judal, and Janine Dacayo have done their work and are ready for the homecoming show.

### Candy Grams

Get your candy grams! Right here! Cry out our ASB barkers: Jamie Espino, Toni Vazquez, Lauren Elise Judal, and Ms. Angeles.



# Behind The Scenes

by Jamie Espino

When it comes to keeping school spirit flowing, the ASB does it best. They make it look easy, but it's not. This year their goal was to redefine themselves and with the determination of our executive president, Toni Vazquez, they have been successful. Freshman officers and other new members were invited to help right away. "Everyone did their job, which made it easier to get everything done", says president Toni Vazquez. Even during Homecoming, the busiest week for the ASB,

things went smoothly because plans had been made last year. Even if members get a little stressed before rallies and other big events, everyone looks cool and composed when the show is on. Whether it's interviewing the Royal Court, booking the Hotel for the dance, making decorations, choosing the food, planning the presentation for the Court, or just blowing up balloons that day, the ASB were there doing the work.

Many people do not realize how hard the ASB works to put

things together for the student body. They don't do it for recognition; they do it to see the student body enjoy the fun activities in high school. Still it might be a nice idea to notice all they do. The next time you go to a sports rally, get to wear jeans for a dollar, or receive a holiday candy gram, say thank you to the people who made it possible.

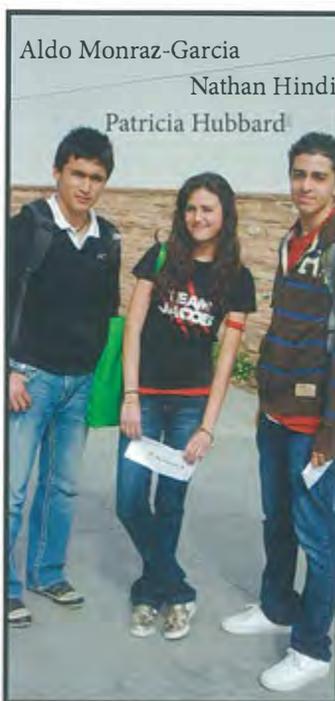


Send flowers if you really care and Marquise Jimenez and Daniela Aguilar will get them there.



Karina Human  
Camile Alvarado

Spooky Sweets  
Crusaders get a head start on Halloween candy delivered by Aldo Monraz-Garcia.



Aldo Monraz-Garcia  
Nathan Hindi  
Patricia Hubbard

Express Male  
Special delivery for a special girl:  
Marysol Osorio.



Jeansday  
Jeans make everyone happy. People look good in them and don't mind paying ASB one dollar for them.



Sweet Surprise  
Karla Jaramillo receives a candy gram from Ericka Brunner.



ASB CB  
Come to cosmic bowling says the poster that engulfs Ms. Angeles and Mariana Burkle.



Secretary: Andrea Rios  
Vice President: David Matranga  
Treasurer: Lauren Elise  
President: Toni Vasquez



(back row); Nick Day, Aldo Monraz-Garcia, Janine Dacayo, David Harding, Diana Paredes, Mariana Burkle, Camile Alvarado, Danae Johnson, Sarah Papapietro, Kamela Jackson, Adriana Hernandez, Ericka Brunner (middle row); Ms. Angeles, Marto Winata, Sergio Lopez, Marissa Lindstrom, Axel Gonzalez, Jamie Espino, Diane Zoura, SooJin Kim, Vanessa Wood (front row); Nathan Hindi, Cassandra Pimentel, Patricia Hubbard, Frances Lopez, Theresa Chiappe, Johanna Rhein, Kayla Pega, Christine Bayaca, Frances Fernandez, Jasmine Cota



#### Making a Joyful Noise

Andrea Vallejo and Kamela Jackson sing out their praises at the Freshman retreat.

#### Representing the Forgotten

Students sit among tiny blue and pink flags, each marking a child lost to abortion.



# Sharing Talents

by Luisa M. Lopez

In order to be good stewards we have to use our God given talents for good. Campus Ministry, Pro-Life, and Invisible Children are three clubs that can help you help. Members use their talents to do the right thing. They also learn valuable lessons like Judah Villescascas did. He explains, "I was very surprised in the Life Walk that so many people were against abortion." President of the Pro-Life club Genevieve Guarnes uses her creative talent to bring

awareness. "With the flags during the jeans day, we were trying to bring consciousness about abortion to school."

Junior Cassandra Pimentel is very happy to be part of Campus Ministry. She loves helping in the retreats. "It gave me a chance to interact with lots of students. I even got to write a funny skit, everyone laughed at it but they also learned something." As for the Invisible Children Club, one of the most ac-

tive at school, everyone contributes. "We want to spread awareness by selling the blue bracelets to people in and outside of school. It is amazing to see that so many people do not know how children are suffering in Uganda and other African countries" club president Luisa Lopez says. Being part of these clubs is good and good for you, so when do you start making the world a better one?



Recession Procession  
Casey Limentel, Celia Wright, and Dr. Threatt proceed out after liturgy.



Excellent Opportunity  
Samantha Baxley, Genevieve Guarnes, and Judah Villegas are delighted to meet and talk with Bishop Corleone.



Shhh.  
Diane Zoura and Andrea Rios wonder if the Lord is listening too.

Hello Freshmen  
Mr. Schnitzius gets the attention of the crowd by speaking loud and clear.



Bond of Bracelets  
Luisa Lopez hands out bracelets.



Business as Usual  
Campus Ministry members discuss upcoming events at their weekly meeting.



(back row); Melinda Jernigan, Dianne Acevedo, Alicia Lopez, Mr. Schnitzius, Jeancarlo Rivero, Jasmine Cota, Victoria Pena, Diane Moore, Toni Vasquez, Cassandra Pimental, Jason Myers, Marisela Arechiga (front row); Michelle Coria, Nerli Paredes, Karinna Himan, Kamela Jackson, Johanna Rhein, Camile Alvarado, Danae Johnson, Diana Paredes, Brenda Carrillo

(back row); Aaron Bustillo, Maria Trueba De Buen, Michelle Robles, Adriana Hernandez, Nick Wright, Chelsea Chenelle, Chris Weller, Barbara Elenbaas, Ms. Angeles, (front row); Mariana Lopez, Michael Rodriguez, Luisa Lopez, Ivanna Ames, Geraldine Bloch, Valeria Plascencia



(back row); Jorge Arredondo, Cassandra Pimental, Diana Paredes (front row); Karinna Himan, Ms. Salazar, Maria Lilia Gonzalez, Jeancarlo Rivero



Ready to Read Alvin Almazan, Edith Camargo, Andrew Thein, Ryan Ortega, Marisol Padilla, and Theresa Chiappe have a great time together running through their lines.

Mouse Magicians Yearbook Guru Steve Bailey and assistant Julie go over some finer details in PhotoShop with EIC Frances Fernandez.



# The Stress Seekers

by Daniela Perez

Both Drama and Yearbook love stress. It's a symbiotic relationship. How else would the members of each group deal with deadlines and opening nights? Yearbook Editor in Chief Frances Fernandez says, "Stress can be scary but you have to deal with it. Then you find you are able to handle more than you thought." Producing a yearbook is not an easy business but it has its moments. Yearbook staff gets involved with activities and people at

school that they wouldn't otherwise even notice. It's also fun to see the book from the first designs to the finished pages. You can learn more about computer programs too like Indesign on new 22 inch Mac monitors. In the end you have a product you can be proud of for the rest of your life and that's worth some stress. Drama experiences its own kind of stress for whatever happens, everyone knows, the show must go

on. This year's fall production, The Diary of Anne Frank was a big hit. Students walked away really thinking about Anne Frank's life and that means the acting was very effective. The actors, under the tutelage of Ms. Rebecca Brown, have gotten stronger in their craft. "I like being a part of such a fun and talented group," says Freshman Meghan Schroeder. Stress can make success. And that's why these clubs love it.

**Still Smiling**  
SooJin Kim and Kayla Pega embrace after a typical laborious day in Yearbook.



**Time Traveling Attire**  
Chelsea Chenelle and Frances Lopez travel to the 40's in their period pieces.

**Hardy Hair**  
Kristina Moore has lots of hair to style on Andrew Thein's patient head.



**Yes!**  
It may be premature but Frances Fernandez is feeling thumbs up about her book.



**Two Heads are Better Than One**  
Andrea Velasquez looks over Angie O'Connor's copy to make sure the spelling is correct.



**Details, details**  
Sammy Brown and Gaby Torres re-read once again to get everything right.

**Copy Queen**  
Thank heaven premier writer Luisa M. Lopez, put her by line on many pages.



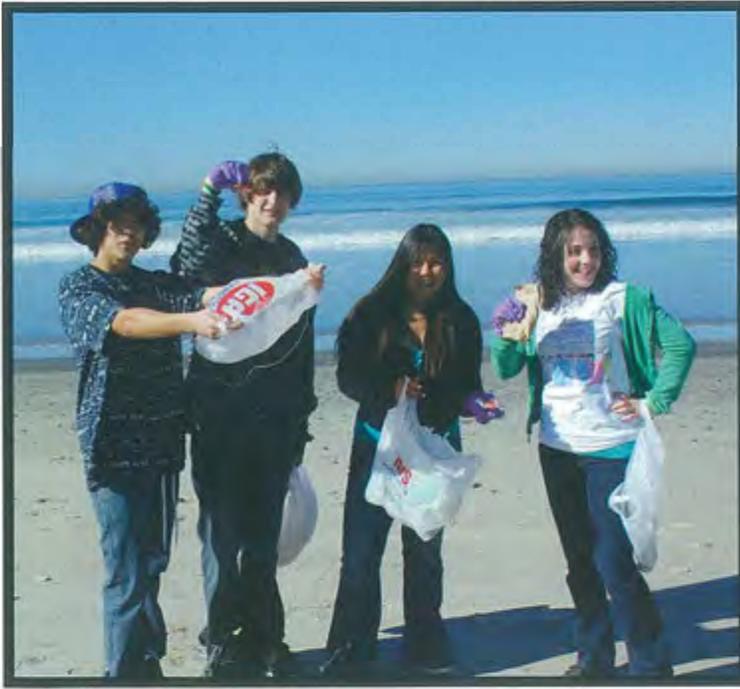
**A Little Dab**  
Brianna Gamez puts a touch of eyeliner on freshman actress Theresa Chiappe.



(back row); Ashley Medina, Jose Garcia, Fabiola Watts, Erica Silva, Gaby Torres, Sammy Brown, DeAnthony Tobe, Kayla Pega, Andrea Velasquez, (front row); Angie O' Connor, Frances Fernandez, SooJin Kim

(back row); Meghan Schroeder, Renee Gonzales, Kristina Moore, Ryan Ortega, Andrew Thein, Chelsea Chenelle, Daniella Fierro, Brian Rodriguez, Mauricio Lopez, Samuel Acosta, Alvin Almazan, (middle row); Ariana Rodriguez, Brianna Gamez, Brianna Truffa, Edith Camargo, Theresa Chiappe, Frances Lopez, Marisol Padilla, Danielle Flores, Ana Gabriela Madrigal, Ana Paola Madrigal, (front row); Chloe Slovisky, Karem Celaya, Ms. Brown





#### Beach Buddies

Ivan Torres, Andrew Thein, Cassandra Duron and Chloe Slovisky whoop it up after collecting flotsam and jetsam.

#### Filipino Frills

Katherine Valenzuela and Cassandra Pimental model their lacy and lovely ancestral gowns.



# Sharing Trumps Stingy

by Luisa M. Lopez

Ask the Grinch. Sharing is more fun than being stingy. In Ecology Club you can share your ideas of how to make our world a cleaner, safer place to live. Members help do this just by picking up trash around campus and setting up recycling bins. They also do beach clean-ups especially at Imperial Beach. There is always at least some trash and garbage to put in its place. "I hate it when people litter; it is so disgusting," complains club president Rebecca Porter. "When people

just discard trash they make other people do more work." Fortunately there are enough volunteers here to balance out the litterbugs but it takes work and dedication. No matter how troublesome it is, Ecology Club feels it is worth the effort to protect the big blue earth we share. The members of the APIC also like to share. They bring a little of their cultures from Asia to our Western world. You may notice them sometimes in their dark blue tees with a bright yellow sun and sunbeams.

They and or their families may be from China, Korea, Hawaii, Guam, or the Philippine Islands. Since many of them dance and have fabulous native dresses, it's always a special treat to watch them perform at Culture Night. One of last year's dancers, Kayla Pega, explains how doing the traditional dances made her feel proud to share her culture and also share a special tie with her mom who dances as well. That's sharing; that's sweet.



**He and the Sea**  
Andrew Thein skips a stone while enjoying low waves and a clear sky.



APIC Moderator Mr. Cruz and President Aaron Estrada

**Saipan Cuties**  
Frances Fernandez and Jamie Espino show off their saipan hats and big sun tees.



**Conscientious Cleaners**  
Chloe Slovinsky and Cassandra Duron save the earth one can at a time.



**Walking the Beach**  
Chloe Slovinsky, Cassandra Duron and Ivan Torres stroll back after a beach clean up.

**Pennies for Pasta**  
Brandon Nguyen and Ryan Uy collect money to help leukemia and lymphoma victims.



**China Doll**  
Alicia Wang models a beautiful dress her country is known for.

**Recycle Queens**  
Nataly Briones and Rebecca Porter demonstrate which bin used paper should be placed in.



(back row); Aaron Eustakuo, Marcel Pitre, Aaron Estrada, Alex Pergrin, Gene Barroga, (front row); Mr. Cruz, Kayla Pega, Frances Fernandez, Jamie Espino

(back row); Marisol Osorio, Andrew Thein, Chloe Slovinsky, Ms. DiTommaso, Miguel Arechiga, (front row); Yvette Munoz, Nataly Briones, Rebecca Porter, Andrea Vallejo, Jose Garcia, Ana Ramirez





### America's Lady

Members of Hispanic Alliance surround a portrait of Our Lady of Guadalupe with flowers and respect.

### All Hands Up

The Dance Team finishes off a routine with exuberance as fans look on in delight.



# Cultures Crash

by Luisa M. Lopez

Slide! Switch places! The Dance Team has been very active this year and has brought amazing acts to the rallies. Team captain Ericka Brunner and co-captain Adriana Hernandez have motivated the girls as well as contributed great choreographies. "I have influenced my team to have confidence in themselves, and express themselves through dance," explains Adriana. Captain Ericka notices some changes also. "I see more ambiance in the rallies. It's great when we give the audience

a good time." Most agree that the girls put on quite a show. When they come on everyone knows they're going to be fun to watch.

The Dance Team is not the only club teaching culture to their fellow Crusaders. The Hispanic Alliance Club also brings to the school Hispanic traditions. They have celebrated "El Día de los Muertos" and set up the traditional altar with sugar skulls and colorful decorations. They also sponsored a shoe drive for orphanages in Tijuana and led the

mass for the Virgin of Guadalupe. More activities will come because with the help of Ms. De La Parra the club has organized a calendar from the beginning of the year. "Leading this club and showing culture to people who are not familiar with it has made me more responsible. I would like to keep it up at SDSU if I go there," comments club president Mario Delgadillo. With one year as vice-president and two as president, Mario had the experience to bring Hispanic Alliance wherever he goes.

**Respect and Remember**  
 Mario gingerly props up Mary's picture before the special rosary.



**El Dia de Los Muertos**  
**Pink Robot**  
 Ericka Brunner imitates a mechanical doll quite well.



**True Blue Shoes** Mario and Zamahara display some of the many shoes that were collected for orphanage children.



**Dance robots come to life.**  
**Blue Robot**  
 Adriana Hernandez mirrors Ericka Brunner as a dancing doll.



**Show Time**  
 Dance girls trip the light fantastic at the Homecoming half time show.



(back row); Aaron Bustillo, Maria Trueba De Buen, Mario Delgadillo, Paulyna Ptacnik-Sanchez, Soojin Kim, Lynette Paullada, (front row); Zamahara Uribe, Luisa Lopez, Ms. De La Parra, Ana Gabriela Madrigal, Thalia Chaidez, Ms. Escobedo

(back row); Laura Soto, Sandra Murillo, Tiara Leon, Diana De La Garza, Gisel Soto, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Brianna Byrd, (middle row); Ruby Huerta, Monserrat Hernandez, Adriana Hernandez, Ericka Brunner, Lizbet Carrillo, Ana Ramirez, (front row); Alexis Rosselle, Andrea Valdespino, Tanya Flores, Brianna Truffa, Ariana Rodriguez, Karla Becerra





Mr. Peets' Copacetic Crowd  
Here they are enjoying  
some sunlight and limelight.

Asian Angels  
Alicia Wang and SooJin Kim  
sing sweet hymns for liturgy.

Tandem Duo  
In whatever they do  
Chelsea Chenelle  
and  
Daniella Fierro  
are two.



# Making Music

by Sammy Brown

Everyone loves music. And steel drum band is a great way to get involved with music that has a copacetic Jamaican sound. Drummer Alvin Almazan says, "It's really cool and it's a different way to hear your favorite music. Plus you can hang out and have fun with your friends." Steel Drum Band plays for the Golf Tournament, 8th Grade Visitation, the Christmas Parade, and private gigs. With Mr. Peets as the main man, Steel Drums has made a name

for itself.

Choir is another way to express yourself in music. In choir, of course, you use your voice as the instrument and you sometimes sing solos. Singing in front of the entire school can be daunting but the singers get used to it with expert coaching from Mr. Luciano. Abril Gutierrez has already belted out a few solos, "Singing lets you express all your feelings and emotions."

For people who are not quite

ready to go on stage and perform there is a music class offered. Jose Gomez is one of the students in it and says, "Mr. Luciano makes class fun and enjoyable, I look forward to it everyday." In music class the students critique and interpret different types of songs. They also learn varieties of music, musical notes then present these songs to the class. If music is the universal language, let's start talking.



**Music Man Mr. Luciano**  
His hands are on the keys and  
his heart is on the music.

SooJin Kim and Abril Gutierrez



Monserrat, Estela, Brianna

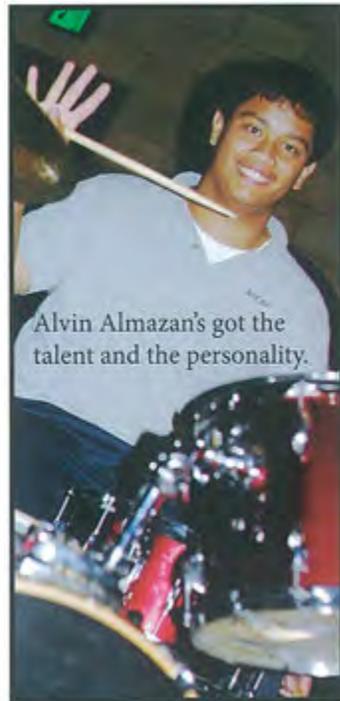
Can you hear it? The band can.



**Mini Peets**  
Mr. Peets' little son  
has grown up on drums.



Sing Time With Mr. Luciano



Alvin Almazan's got the  
talent and the personality.



(back row); Troy Peets (middle row); Daniel Slovinsky, Thomas Allingham, Hector Herrera, Brandon Truffa, Alfredo Lucero, (front row); Estela Uribe, Monserrat Medina, Andrea Lucero

Chelsea Chenelle, Daniella Fierro, Stephanie Tessman, Casey Pimentel, Catherine Valenzuela, Marquise Jimenez, Dianne Acevedo, SooJin Kim, Abril Gutierrez, Alicia Wang





30 Second Bliss  
Editor Daniella Fierro takes a breather from the computer to relax a little and smile.

What's Your Side? Chloe Slovisky, Daniella Fierro and Joey Bush demonstrate the vivaciousness of the debate crowd when they are into an argument.



# Vowels and Consonants

by Christina Fuentes

The people in these two clubs and orgs go together like vowels and consonants because they love words. Newspaper staffers love the written word. Nothing is more exciting to them than making a great argument in an editorial. "If we get people to think about something, then process it a bit and finally go to their friends and discuss it, that's just a great feeling," says editor Daniela Fierro. The newspaper staff also gets to see activities close up. "You find out that

there is always more to a story than what any one person says so you have to start going a little deeper." The Debate team loves the spoken word. They practice making their arguments to be heard so they really give attention to how the words sound. They also love a challenge. When Joey Bush debates, he likes what the others don't. "I like doing the hardest subjects, the ones that don't seem to have another side to them. Those are the ones I like."

Both groups are moderated by Ms. Delahunty who is responsible for getting Mater Dei to sponsor a county wide debate tournament early in the year. Because newspaper and debate are similar and have Ms. D as a moderator, many members are in both groups. They are a lively group, and why not? They know how to express themselves in vowels and consonants.



Drawing Outside the Box  
Christine Bayaca



Have Topic Can Argue  
Chloe Slovisky and Mr. Hall love to argue, any place, any time.

Pensive Jorge Arredondo



In the Box

Newspaper kids need to get in the box, before they can think outside the box.



Daniela and Chloe at it again!



Practice Makes Perfect  
Luis Rocha and Jose Rosillo even practice debating during lunch.

Mac Gal Heidi Nguyen



Focus  
Newspaper students gather around the computer to look at their latest creation.



(back row); Daniel Slovisky, Heidi Nguyen, Ana Ceballos, Alec Kuzukian, Alejandra Madrigal, Luis Rocha, Jun Woo Kim (front row); Christine Bayaca, Christina Peraza, Cassandra Duron, Ms. Delahunty, Chloe Slovisky, Daniella Fierro

(back row); Manuel Sanchez-Barajas, Brandon Morales, Alejandro Madrigal, Luis Rocha, Jose Rosillo (front row); Jorge Arredondo, Jose Bush, Ms. Delahunty, Chloe Slovisky, Daniella Fierro



# {re}invent

**To take an existing idea, establishment or individual and make it better.**

We are the Crusaders. Yet all of us understand now the meaning of this term has had to change over the years. We were inspired by the religious soldiers of the middle ages and their ideals of chivalry. But history has taught us that the reality was less than ideal. To a lesser degree we too may fall short. That is why we must continually reinvent ourselves. Each year, each class, each individual must take serious looks inward and ask hard questions. How do we need to behave at our school? How do we want to be represented in the community? How does our Catholicism make us stand out? Recently our principal, Mr. Milke, congratulated us on our behavior at a sporting event in which the opposing side broke CIF rules with their actions. Have any of us ever done anything that might put us closer to the opposition? Have any of us ever demonstrated in a manner that is less than the Christian ideal? Just saying we are Catholic is not enough; we will be known by how we act. We may say we love our school but if we trash it, what does that really say about us? Because it is hard to always do the right thing, we must continue to make ourselves better. We must dream of what we can be and then take the steps to reinvent.

by Kayla Pega





# Staff and Administration

It can be a delicate balance, but they do it Remarkable

Rocio Del Carmen Hodges  
Vice President, CFO



John Rey  
Vice President of School  
Advancement



Roy Vasquez  
Director, Ambassador for Christ  
Corp, JV Baseball



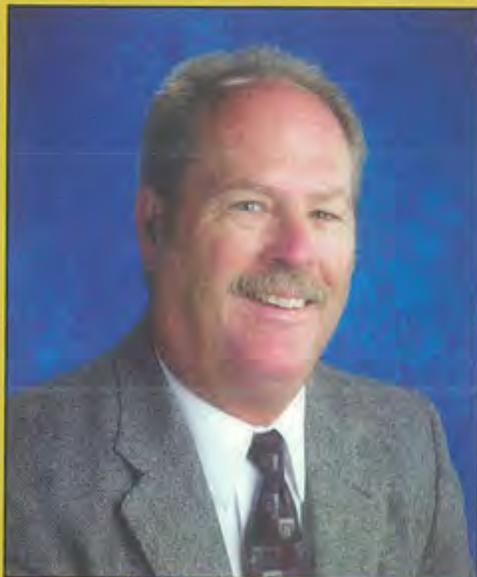
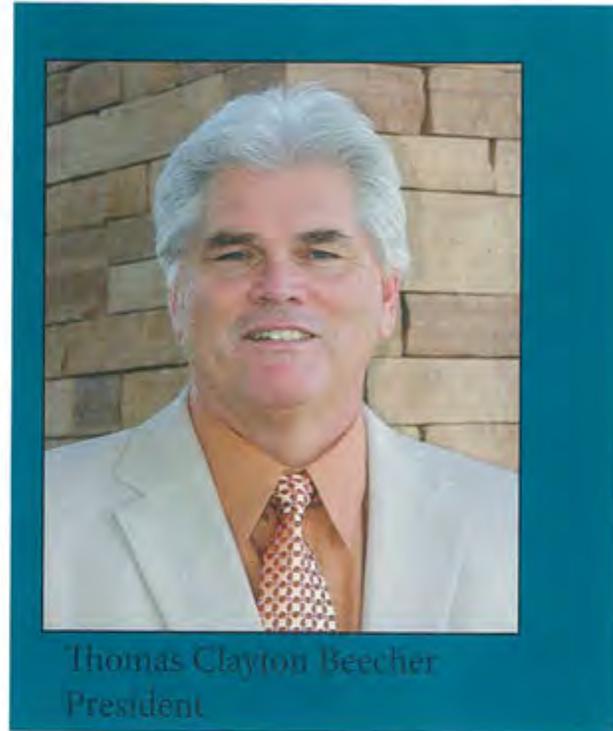
Bill Gerken  
Director of Alumni Services,  
Golf



Bradford Bookser  
Director of Integrated Technology



Carston Kroon  
Director of Library and  
Media Center



George Milne  
Principal



Chris Moeller  
AP for Student Services/  
Dean of Boys  
Boys Basketball



Thomas L. Hardin, Ph.D.  
AP Curriculum/Instruction,  
A.P. US History



Matt White  
Athletic Director



Cresencia Angeles  
Dean of Girls, ASB



Silvia Torres  
Director of Language Academy/  
Juan Diego



Chris Schnitzius  
Director of Campus Ministry



Dawn Adams  
Ceramics



Robert Adams  
Security



Christine Alvarado  
Attendance



Anamarie Anthony  
Theology Chair  
Christian Service  
Senior Advisor



Jessica Austin  
Beginning Art



Sylvia Bergeron  
French



Joelle Biedenbach  
Math Chair  
Swim



Michelle Brooks  
English  
Visual and Performing  
Arts Chair



Rebecca Brown  
English  
Play Director



Joseph Brunner  
Am. Gov. Economics  
Social Studies Chair



Emily Burke  
Science  
Science Academy  
Cross Country



Margaret Chiappe  
Spanish  
World Language Chair



Doreen Correia  
Theology



Jeanne Cox  
Physical Education Chair



Connie Daigle  
English

## Teaching: It's a Tough Job but Somebody's Got to Do It

by Casey Kim

They prod us, they pick on us; what we do is seldom good enough. And then they give us homework every single day. English teachers don't even let us rest during the summer. No. "Read three books...but how exciting," they say, "You get to choose which ones from this list. Isn't it cool?" It's just a preview of what you'll have to read when you get Mr. Stingo. You can't read fast enough in a day to keep up so at night sleep is the first thing to go. But don't despair. Mr. Stingo will make sure you don't fall asleep in class by keeping the thermostat at 52. Then there's Ms. Anthony, the Queen of Projects. She's got it down and you won't have time to even turn around. Don't complain. It's great practice for your Senior Portfolio. Ms. McGregor is so balanced. "I'm tough with everyone so it's completely fair." One step inside her door and we know it's true, if you don't do well you have no one to blame but you.

OK, we may complain, well, yes, we do. But deep in our hearts we know that teachers change us for the better. They have quite a challenge when we act like we don't even

**...pick, pick, prod**

want to learn or do well. It is their constant dedication that helps us organize ourselves, learn self discipline, become analytical, and, in short, get ready for college. They help us redefine ourselves.



Terri Day  
Library Assistant



Danielle Delahunty  
English Speech Journalism  
Speech Team Lit. Mag.



Monique Escobedo  
Spanish



Sr. Margarita Gallardo  
Math



Amy Gallmann  
English



Estela Gonzalez  
Accounts Receivable



Brenda Grosz  
Math  
Social Studies



Laura Gutierrez  
Admin. Assistant  
Juan Diego School



Michael Hall  
Social Science



Margarita Hernandez  
Receptionist



John Joyner  
English  
Football Basketball



Sherry Kelleher  
English  
Yearbook



Emma Krvaric  
Spanish



Kathryn Laaperi  
English  
Writing Center



Katherine Larson  
Math



Ana Lima  
Portuguese



Nicole Limoges  
Art 1  
Graphic Designer  
Photographer



Raquel Lopez  
Juan Diego  
School



Peter Luciano  
Theater Manager  
Music



Marissa Meda  
Counselor



Joanne Morales  
Counselor



Jonathan Oakman  
Chemistry Physics



Elena Plazola  
Accounts Payable



Andrea Puschendorf  
Counselor



Karen Nerat  
Science  
Academy  
Volleyball



Ahmad Rice  
Science



Hugo Roji  
Math  
Football



Peggy Sadock  
World Language



Iliana Salazar  
Theology  
Pro-Life Club



Kevin Smith  
Social Studies  
Swim Water Polo



Greg Smyth  
Math Softball  
Girls Basketball



Guy Souza  
Government US History  
Water Polo



Frank Stingo  
English Chair



Marvin Threath  
Theology



Scott Ullsperger  
Math  
Wrestling



Zurisaddi Valencia  
Human Resources  
Principal's Executive  
Assistant



Steve Van Wyk  
English



Darlene Vavela  
Registrar



Kristen Willich  
English  
Cross Country



Pete Wraith  
Theology  
Praise and  
Worship Club

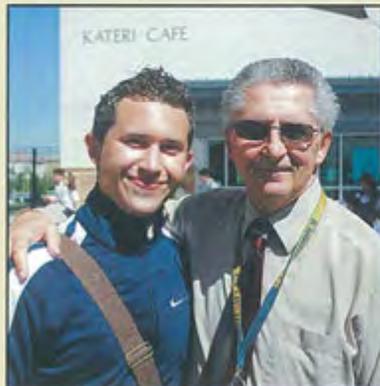


Alejandro Zavala  
Social Science  
Language Academy

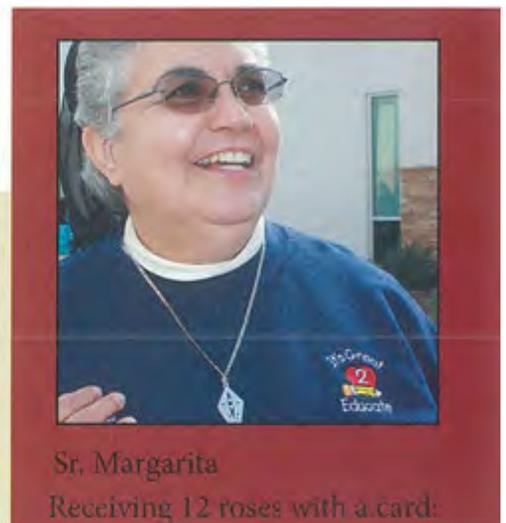


Kathleen Zuniga  
Math

A student said to me a few years ago, the reason he came to school was because of me.



Mr. Brunner  
and Manuel Lara-Ponce



Sr. Margarita  
Receiving 12 roses with a card:  
Sr. Margarita, thanks to you,  
math is easy for me.

*Teachers, describe a fulfilling memory as a teacher.*

# Eda New TO KNOW

We're not the last or the first; we're now.

Freshmen come in quietly ... at least so far.

by Daniela Perez

**W**e just arrived and whatever history is here, we only have glimpses of it through our big sisters and brothers. As far as we're concerned, Mater Dei is all we know first hand. And we're pretty happy so far. Others may have had to make a transition, we just had to show up. Maybe that's why we're so calm. At least most of us are. We enjoy our classes: Algebra with Sr. Margarita, World Cultures with Mr. Smith, English with Ms. Kelleher and all the others. They make us work pretty hard and at first a few of us pretty much freaked out, but we've got it down now. We know if we keep up and do

the work, we'll be OK. Homecoming was great; lots of us went to that. It was fun getting dressed up. Dancing was a blast. And didn't Juan Parcerro and Edith Camargo make it look fun? We feel a certain confidence in ourselves and in our school. We've got the brains: Brandon Nguyen, Theresa Chiappe, Hollie Keene and Alyssa Pack are just a few. We've got the bronze: Jake Dacayo, Caleb Galvez (actually he's also a scholar). We have some personalities too: Xavier Villanueva, Kenny Espinoza. They'll make sure that fun is in the balance. How we turn out, we're not quite sure, but it'll be fun getting there.



Sweet Bliss: Sunny skies, a seat under a paloverde tree, Ana Barbosa, Mariana Barrera, and Aranza Otanez know it's a perfect day.



**Not Quite Identical:** Carolina and Andrea Fernandez are twins, that's plain to see, but they have their own identities.



**AWP Predicament:** Vanessa Soto and Daniel Valinas work together to organize mixed up elements of the AWP. It's analytical.



**2012 Class Officers:** Vice President Naythin Hindi, President Aldo Monraz-Garcia, Secretary Patricia Hubbard, and Treasurer Theresa Chiappe.

Carlo Acosta  
 Israel Acosta  
 Jazmin Adan  
 Alejandro Alcalá  
 Ivanna Alvarez



Michelle Andreoli  
 Adalberto Arce  
 Julio Armenta  
 Jorge Arredondo  
 Alexa Banchetti



Ana Barbosa  
 Armando Barbosa  
 Rachel Barletta  
 Ryan Barletta  
 Mariana Barrera



Angela Beck  
 Ryan Beck  
 Carlos Beltran  
 Javier Beltran  
 Jaime Boquiren



Juan Bremer-Ortega  
 Andrew Brodbeck  
 Leslie Bustillo-Moreno  
 Edith Camargo  
 Mellisa Cardona



Alan Carrillo  
 Karla Castro  
 Georgina Castro-Giron  
 Alexa Cervantes  
 Arturo Cesena





Yoori Cheong  
Theresa Chiappe  
Evan Cintron  
Jackie Colgrove  
Daniela Contreras



Alfredo Correa  
Clara Covarrubias  
Ana Cruz-Sanchez  
Jake Dacayo  
Mallory Davenport



Adrian Davila  
Andrew Davilla  
Jose De La Concha  
Sofia De La Garza  
Juan De La Torre



Jose De Soto Iv  
Fernando Del Monte  
Louis Diaz  
Ryan Ellis  
Oscar Eribez



Ocean Escalanti  
Kenny Espinoza  
Andrea Fernandez  
Carolina Fernandez  
Rafael Fernandez

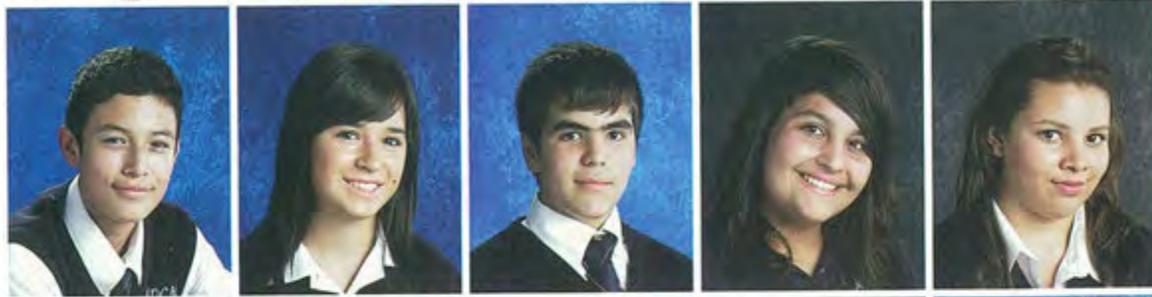


Hector Flores  
Tanya Flores  
Christian Fojaco-Weeler  
Phyrce Fritz  
Oswaldo Galindo

Caleb Galvez  
 Michael Gamboa  
 Paul Ganelin  
 Alejandro Garcia  
 Alexa Garcia



Jesus Garcia  
 Jocelyn Garcia  
 Leonardo Garcia  
 Vanessa Garcia  
 Nathalia Gochicoa



Lorenzo Gomez  
 Renee Gonzales  
 Armando Gonzalez  
 Benjamin Gonzalez, Jr.  
 Nancy Gonzalez



Victor Gonzalez  
 Stephanie Grimaldi  
 Alejandro Guido  
 Manuel Gutierrez  
 Ilse Gutierrez-Nunez



Jeff Guzman  
 Thomas Hahn  
 Samantha Hallor  
 Nicholas Hamiel  
 Alexis Hawley



Victoria Hedderson-Atkinson  
 Ivan Hernandez  
 Paula Hernandez  
 Vannia Hernandez  
 Carlos Herrera





Naythin Hindi  
Patricia Hubbard  
Cassandra  
Huinquez



Juan Ibarra  
Nickolas Kaiser  
Hollie Keene



Cristina Kelbaugh  
Jun Kim  
Carlos Lagos



Kevin Lapurga  
Alexander Lara  
Cole Lewis



Stephanie Licht  
Mitchel Lindgren  
Maritza  
Lopez-Portillo



Hector Lugo  
Karmina Lutteroth  
Bridgit Lyle

## What did they do before backpacks?

**Plaid, pink, and pretty  
...all a girl needs!**



**This backpack's  
attached to wheels  
and carries in it ev-  
erything to stay  
organized.**

**This gal wears  
her heart on her  
pack: she loves  
The Cure, Misfits  
and more!**



**Watch Out!  
This baby's  
hot stuff!**



Julio Maciel  
 Victoria Manriquez  
 Viviana Marchena-Pompa  
 Alejandro Marquez-Escobedo  
 Andrew Martinez



Isaac Martinez  
 Katharine Mathews  
 John Matranga  
 Edna Mawhinney  
 Marc McBroom



Dylan McDonald  
 Marco Mejia  
 Haley Mendoza  
 Pablo Mendoza  
 Marianna Meneses



Brianna Miranda  
 Joel Molina  
 Alejandra Monge  
 Aldo Monraz-Garcia  
 Alvaro Montano



Brandon Morales  
 Salvador Moreno  
 Michael Mottale  
 Brittny Mullendore  
 David Munoz



Brandon Nguyen  
 Daniel Noland  
 Bernardo Nunez  
 Marco Ordaz  
 Rogelio Ortuno





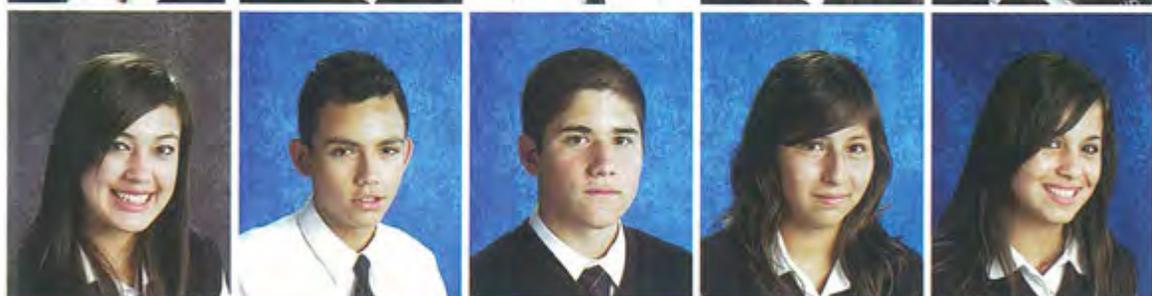
Aranza Otanez  
Alyssa Pack  
Teresa Padilla  
Francisco Pagola  
Francisco Palacio



Raymond Palmer  
Juan Parcero  
Salvador Parra-Morales  
Thomas Payne  
Edward Pena



Eva Perez-Cecenas  
Sarahi Pitones  
Tyler Plaza  
Paloma Polanco  
Lauren Porter



Elyssa Pumpelly  
Jaime Ramirez  
Jorge Ramirez  
Ana Reyes  
Andrea Reyes



Angela Reyes  
Sonia Reyes  
Ariana Rodriguez  
Jonathan Rodriguez  
Juan Rodriguez



Erick Rubio  
Anna-Nickole Ruffo  
Jazmine Ruiz  
Manuel Saenz  
Nina Salazar

Alejandro Sanchez  
 Emilo Sanchez  
 Karen Sanchez  
 Manuel Sanchez-Barajas  
 Maria Sayasy



Nick Schmitt  
 Megan Schroeder  
 Dara Scott  
 Sabrina Scott  
 Alejandro Sepulveda



Marko Serena  
 Elizabeth Sifuentes  
 Giancarlo Silva  
 Angela Simon  
 Caylee Smith



Karla Solis  
 Vanessa Soto  
 Kenia Soto-Fimbres  
 Manuel Soto-Mayor



Isaac Tamborrell  
 Alexa Tassinari  
 Jose Teon



a. Spiderman:  
 He can climb  
 walls and he  
 really swings.  
 -Jesus Garcia



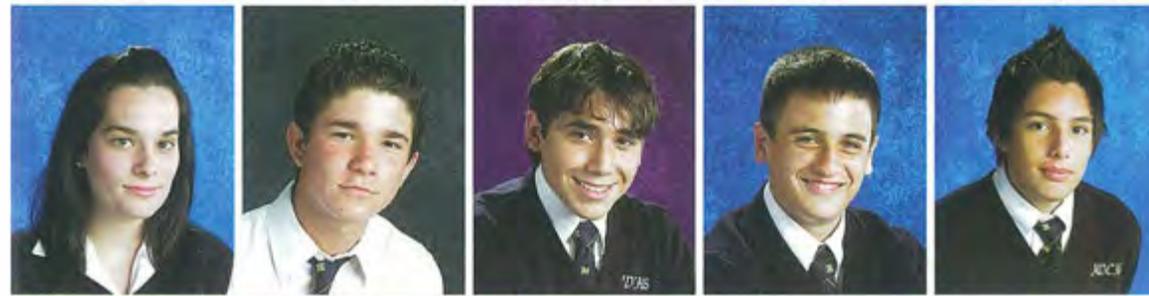
c. Sleeping  
 Beauty: She's  
 pretty and  
 I've liked her  
 since I was a  
 little girl.  
 -Alejandra  
 Monge



Paola Torres  
Mitchell Travers  
Brianna Truffa  
Ryan Uy  
Andrea Valdespino



Martin Valdivia  
Jaques Valenzuela  
Diana Valinas-Gulias  
Daniel Valinas-Paradela  
Veronica Vargas



Frida Vasquez  
John Vasquez  
Andres Velderrain  
Luis Verduzco  
Jorge Villa-Garcia



Claudette Villalvazo  
Xavier Villanueva  
Jose Villegas  
Thomas Wright



Darlene Zoura  
Michelle Zoura  
Antonio Zuazo

*defining questions*

- a. Who is your favorite super hero?
- b. What animal do you most resemble?
- c. What Disney princess would you like to be?



b. A lion:  
In The Lion  
King, he's the  
king!

-Ivan  
Hernandez

# Just a bundle OF ENERGY

We are the first class to begin and end at Mater Dei!

And we'll make sure everyone notices us!

by Cristina Fuentes

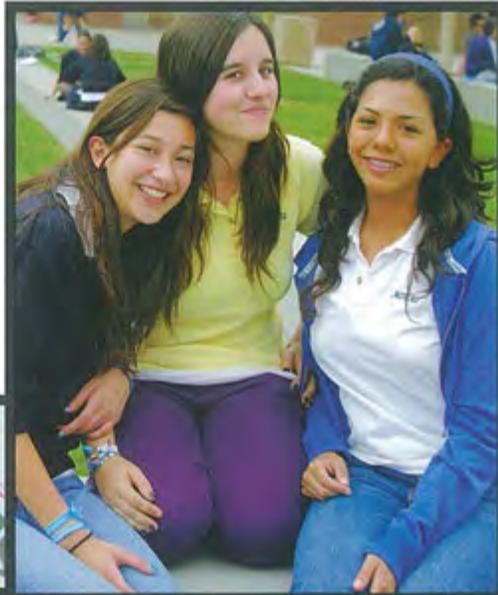
This class is noisy and boisterous. We have a little trouble sitting in a room together and being quiet at the same time. That's not to say we're bad. We're energetic, enthusiastic, and mostly enjoyable. People like Jessica Baumgardner and Alex Martinez keep us laughing. Luis Garcia, Kristen Gonzalez and Ariel Cabrera ensure that we will be respected for our intellects. Brian Rodriguez, Chloe Slovin-sky and, of course, Frances Lopez will make sure there is plenty of "drama" going around. And then Christine Hillmann will donate lots of money to the school when she becomes a famous Country Western singer. We seem to have

as many different interests as we have faces. Maybe that's why, unlike the juniors, we really break up into different groups. Drama is a pull for some. Sports for others. You have to wander around the campus and hit several different spots to find us all. But just because we hang out in different places, doesn't mean we don't get along. Everyone is chill. More or less we all respect and enjoy each other. We know what we've got. Maybe we'll settle down a little by senior year, maybe not. Whatever happens, you'll be sure to hear it.





Monitor Madness: Nick Day scans the computer as Samantha Baxley looks on laughing. He must have found something amusing.



1-2-3 Three friends are fun to see. Tiara Alvarado-Leon, Luisa Margallan, and Aileen Robles enjoy spending their "three" time together.



Sunshine on the Big Green  
Karem Celaya, Brian Rodriguez,  
Brianna Gamez, Frances Lopez



2011 Class Officers: Secretary Frances Lopez, Vice President Nick Day, Treasurer Sarah Papapietro, and President Marissa Lindstrom.

ness

Eric Aguilar  
 Enrique Aguirre-Hernandez  
 Ana Alcantara  
 Thomas Allingham III  
 Tiara Alvarado-Leon



Diego Alvarez  
 Isabella Alvarez  
 Jeffrey Alvarez  
 Mariana Alvarez-Lopez  
 Ivanna Ames



Ivana Arias  
 Julissa Armenta  
 Kristell Arreguin  
 Matthew Aspili  
 Luis Ayala-Padilla



Vivian Ayon-Heredia  
 Angel Basantes  
 Jessica Baumgardner  
 Samantha Baxley  
 Karla Becerra



Nallely Beltran  
 Adan Beltrones  
 Jacqueline Bennett  
 Teresa Blair  
 Daniela Blancas



Geraldine Bloch  
 Nadine Bolanos  
 Jenny Borck  
 Matthew Burden  
 Christopher Burritt





Jose Bush  
Breana Byrd  
Ariel Cabrera  
Ivan Camara  
Valeria Cardenas



Alfonso Cardona  
Michael Carton  
Alison Castaneda  
Mariel Castillo  
Raul Castillo



Alejandra Castro  
Karem Celaya  
Thalia Chaidez  
Andrew Chavez  
Ivan Chavez



Chelsea Chenelle  
Mikayla Conlin  
Alejandra Contreras  
Laura Contreras  
Daniela Corona



Joshua Corona  
Jordyn Craig  
Elizabeth Crosthwaite  
Ricardo Cruz-Chong  
Luis Cruz-Sanchez



Brian Daniels  
Marionne Dantzler  
Daniel Davo-Gutierrez  
Nicholas Day  
Fernanda De La Parra

David Delacalzada II  
 Eli Durante  
 Cassandra Duron  
 Anamikela Echeverri  
 Barbara Elenbaas



Carina Erb  
 Alexandra Escobedo  
 Joel Espinoza  
 Justin Eubanks  
 Melissa Fajardo-Krasovsky



Vanessa Felix-Martin  
 Erik Fernandez  
 Sergio Fernandez  
 Daniella Fierro  
 Gabriel Fierro



Alfredo Figueroa  
 Alexis Frausto-Rosselle  
 Grettel Fritz  
 Claudio Gage  
 Diego-Emilio Galan



Adam Gallegos  
 Brianna Gamez  
 Luis Garcia  
 Valeria Genel  
 Andres Gomez-Rosales



Kristin Gonzales  
 Elizabeth Gonzalez  
 Kenneth Gonzalez  
 Vania Gonzalez  
 Sandra Gonzalez-Murillo





Saad Guardado  
Abril Gutierrez  
Thomas Hayes



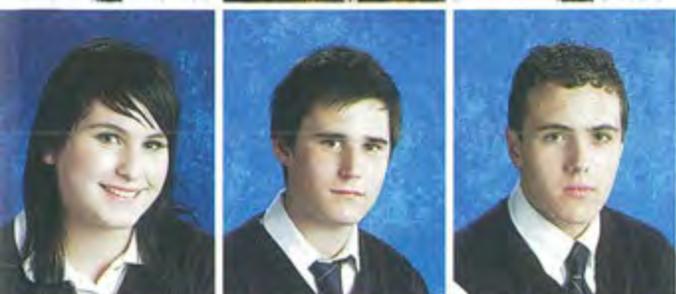
Angel Hernandez  
Fausto Hernandez  
Hector Herrera



Christine  
Hillmann  
Andrew Infante  
Anthony  
Jaquez-Moreno



Nicolas Johnson  
Abigail  
Juarez-Rios  
Benjamin Kalb



Maria Kozlowski  
Alejandro  
Krasovsky  
Francisco Kuri



Jose Labastida  
Mark Laturno  
Marissa  
Lindstrom

## What does your locker say about you?

You will never forget friends if you turn your locker into a scrapbook.



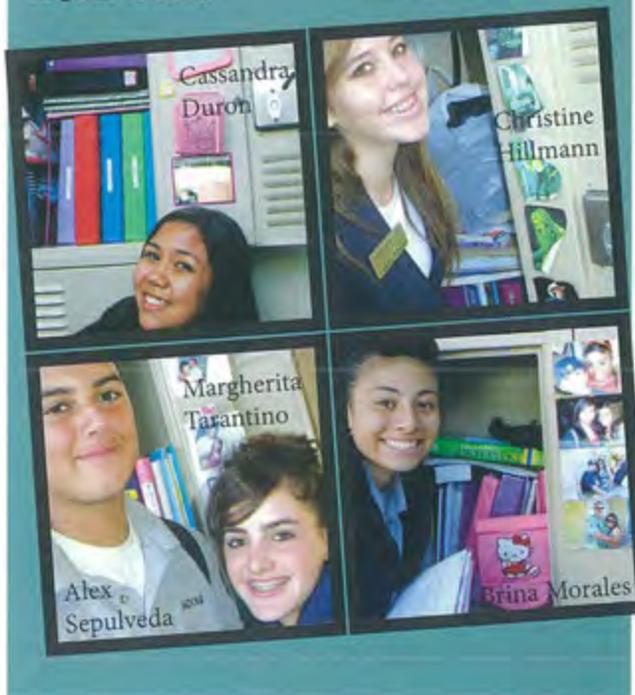
Do you think she'll write a song about her locker when she's famous?



A place for everything and everything in its place is the way to become an organizational diva.



If you miss your honey, you can keep his picture in your locker.



Jeanette Lira  
 Kevin Logue  
 Armando Lopez  
 Frances Lopez  
 Jose Lopez



Raymond Lugo  
 Sofia Lutteroth  
 Christopher Luu  
 Ana Gabriela Madrigal  
 Ana Paola Madrigal



Assael Madrigal  
 Marcela Mafud  
 Felix Magallon  
 Marissa Marchesano  
 Luisa Margallan



Jonathan Marquez  
 MacKenzie Martin  
 Alejandro Martinez  
 Andrea Martinez-Casillas  
 Eduardo Martinez-Pazzi



Jose Martinez-Rebollar  
 Diego Martinez-Saenger  
 Theodore Matula, Jr.  
 Paloma Mawhinney  
 Joshua Mireles



Jade Molina  
 Daniel Montes  
 Kristina Moore  
 Brina Morales  
 Lilliam Navarro





Heidi Nguyen  
Alexandra Orozco  
Lizbeth Ortega-Ounigian  
Jose Ortiz  
Andrea Osuna



Pedro Osuna  
Victor Padres  
Kevin Palacios  
Sarah Papapietro  
Jose Paredes-Ruvalcaba



Alfredo Paullada II  
Daniel Pavo  
Paola Pavon-Perez  
Christina Peraza  
Maria Peregrino



Valeria Plascencia  
Spencer Princell  
Paulyna Ptacnik-Sanchez  
Ligia Quijada  
Roberto Quijano-Luna



Maryel Quintero  
Gabriel Ramirez  
Jesus Ramirez  
Lucia Ramirez  
Jesus Ramos



Ray Rangel  
Xiomara Reynoso-Iverson  
Marissa Rios  
Angelina Rios-Balladares  
Aileen Robledo

Bruno Rocha  
Luis Rocha  
Brian Rodriguez  
Victor Rojas-Rodriguez  
Efren Roman, Jr.



Ramon Ros, Jr.  
Ricardo Rosales  
Ricardo Rosas  
Jose Rosillo  
Ricardo Rosique-Gaxiola



Humberto Ruiz  
Isela Ruiz  
Maria Ruiz-Rivas  
Alexander Sadighi  
Cristobal Salcedo



Patrick Salem  
Carla Sanchez  
Isael Sanchez-O'Sullivan  
Jesus Sanchez-Robles  
Steven Sayasy



Carolina Silva  
Raul Silva-Martinez  
Chloe  
Slovinsky



c. Airplanes:  
Cuz if they  
crash, you're  
dead. At least  
in a car, you've  
still got a  
chance.



-Adam  
Gallegos

*defining questions*

- a. What is the greatest role you would like to play?
- b. What is your greatest ambition?
- c. What is your greatest fear?



Daniel Slovisky  
 Angelica Smith  
 Gisela Soto  
 Alan Stahl  
 Isabel Stonehouse



Giselle Suarez  
 David Tamborrell  
 Margherita Tarantino  
 Florencia Tena  
 Andrew Thein



Ivan Tornel  
 Ivan Torres  
 Lorena Troncoso  
 Brandon Truffa  
 Aleck Urrutia



Juan Vargas  
 Victoria Vigil  
 Alicia Wang  
 Anthony Warner  
 Jalil Wehber-Zuniga



Christopher Weller  
 Karime Zavala  
 Manuel Zea

a. I want to be  
 Beatrice, from  
 Shakespeare's  
 Much Ado  
 About  
 Nothing.

-Frances  
 Lopez



b. I would  
 like to win  
 the Nobel  
 Prize for  
 Literature.

-Luis Carlos  
 Garcia



# Don't LOOK BACK

We were the last Marian Crusaders!

But we don't look back to yesterday,

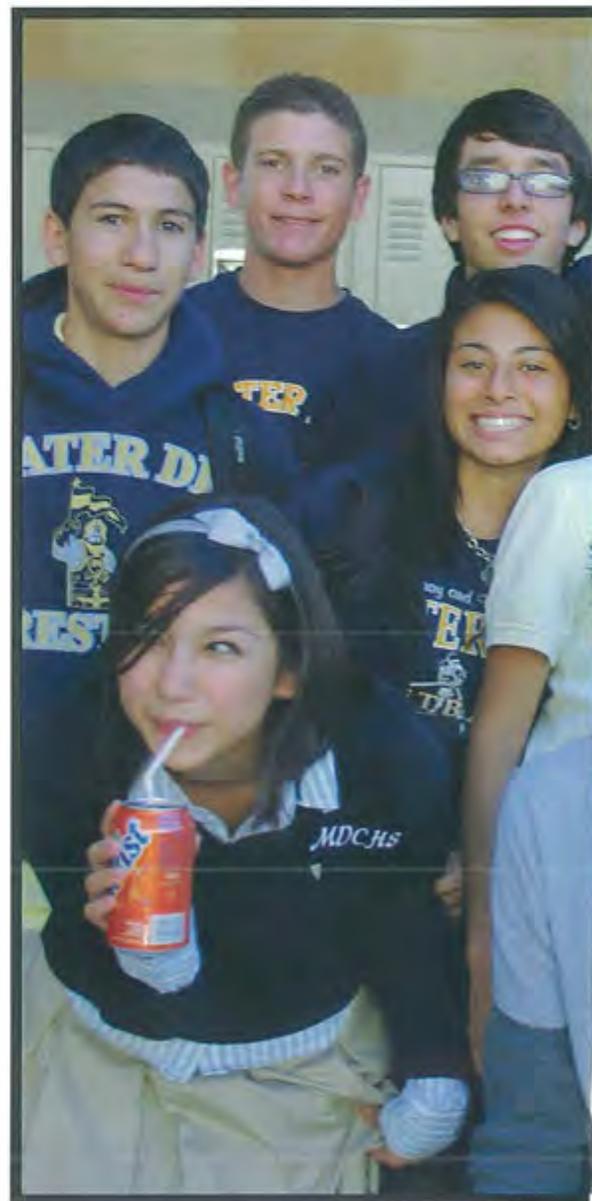
we look forward to tomorrow!

by Daniela Perez

**W**e entered Marian with an energy that livened up the classes but flattened out the grasses on the Freshman quad. Remember that? Good times talking and playing around. When it came time to say goodbye to the old, we were ready to go. Now, though we still think back on Marian's cozy atmosphere, we see open skies, mountains nearby, everything new, crisp and exciting. We look to the future. This class has an abundance of twins: Karla and Vere Jaramillo, Alfredo and Andrea Lucero-Canan, Daniel and Daniella Puffelis, Erika and Ernest Silva, and Mariana and Diana Burkle-Paredes, oh wait, those last two aren't twins, they're

just always together. Some others make a team too, like Genaro Camacho and Aaron Eustaquio at the Homecoming rally, doing their dance. It took them a while to warm up but it was worth the wait. There are lots of good friends in this class but no groups that are set in stone. Everyone mixes with everyone. Throw us all together and we're happy. You can find us on the steps by the chapel just getting along, everyone from the quiet and down to earth Alfredo Lucero to Mr. Spirit himself, Oliver Caro.

We know we too will leave this place. Bigger worlds are calling. We know that we may lose touch with some of our classmates. But our experience here have taught us that there are all kinds of people just waiting to become our friends. And with a few good friends, we can go far.





**Ernie in the Middle:** Ernesto Moreno has got a big smile. Who wouldn't, standing between Marisol Padilla and Brenda Carillo.



**Say Cheese!** Mariana Burkle and Diana Paredes have poses and smiles that are ready in an instant whenever a camera is around.

**Amoebas!** Juniors show they're most content when all together; it's time well spent.



**2010 Class Officers:** Secretary Jasmine Cota, President Johanna Rhein, and Vice President Camile Alvarado. Treasurer Maria Cristina Lopez (not pictured).

# Juniors

# Shoes, shoes! Oh my gawd shoes! Let's get some shoes!



**We've got the number on these suede shoes.**



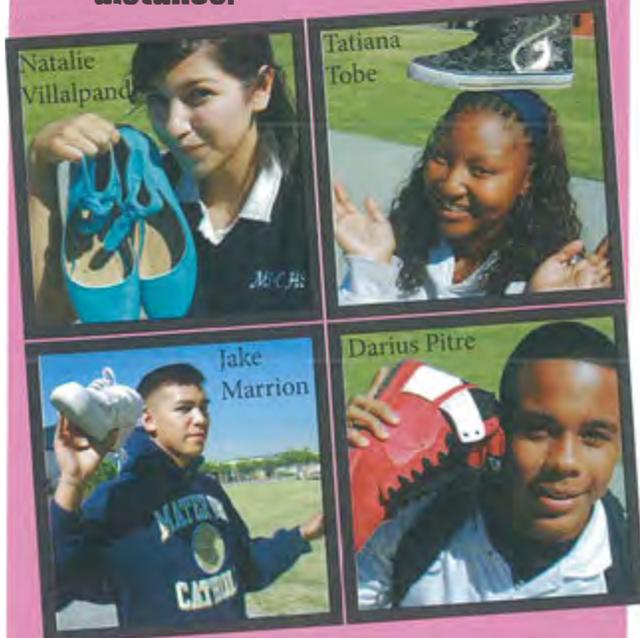
**Size Petite Feet.**



**Egyptian princess reincarnated.**



**These shoes will go the distance.**



Ivan Abarca  
Dianne Acevedo  
Raphael Acioli-Gomes



Samuel Acosta  
Daniela Aguilar  
Regina Alcala



Alvin Almazan  
Camile Alvarado  
Norma Anaya-Valdez



Ivonne Angulo  
Marisela Arechiga-Romero  
Fernanda Arzaga



Jisselle Attisha  
Franklin Ausler, Jr.  
Edward Azano



Ivanna Banales  
Kendis Barangan  
Aide Barbosa



Tania Batista  
Joshua Bensen  
Rafael Blanco  
Maxwell Bloch  
Jose Brambila



Maria Brandao  
Anthony Brandon  
Jesus Briones  
Mariana Burkle  
Ruofan Cai



Paulina Calleros  
Genaro Camacho  
Samuel Cantu-Reyna  
Kristen Carcano  
Gissele Cardenas



Oliver Caro  
Brenda Carrillo  
Rafael Carrillo-Baylon  
Jocelyn Casillas  
Hector Castaneda



Ronald Castillo  
Christian Castro  
Gerardo Castro  
Carlos Celaya  
Michelle Centrullo



Priscilla Cerrillo  
Ramon Cevallos  
Hector Chavez  
Ricardo Chavez  
Jacob Coogan

Michelle Coria  
 Mario Cortez, Jr.  
 Jasmine Cota  
 Lilia Covarrubias  
 Pamela Dabdoub



Gino De Simone  
 Jesus Diaz  
 Jesse Edgar  
 Kacy Espinoza  
 Aaron Eustaquio



Carlos Figueroa  
 Kalum Figy  
 Danielle Flores  
 Sergio Fourzan  
 Alejandra Galindo



Jorge Gamez  
 Alexander Ganz  
 Denisse Garcia  
 Victor Garcia, Jr.  
 Alexander Giery



Maximiliano Gochicoa  
 Hector Gomez  
 Mariana Gomez  
 MariaMar Gomez-Rodriguez  
 Martin Gorence



Alba Guerrero  
 Marie Guilas  
 Andrew Haines  
 Ramonda Harris  
 Christian Hernandez





Ivanna Hernandez  
Juan Hernandez  
Kevin Hernandez, Jr.  
Miguel Hernandez  
Richard Hernandez



Karla Jaramillo  
Vere Jaramillo  
Steven Jarjees  
Melinda Jernigan  
Bibiana Jimenez



Marquise Jimenez  
Erickson Julve  
Antonia Klases  
Denny Kremer III  
Alec Kuzukian



Perla Laborin  
Alexa Lemus  
Nora Leyva  
Alicia Lopez  
Cesar Lopez



Lizeth Lopez  
Maria Lopez  
Mauricio Lopez  
Sergio Lopez  
Santiago Lopez- Avila



Yesenia Lozano Cardenas  
Alfredo Lucero-Canaan  
Andrea Lucero-Canaan  
James Lynn  
James Mara

Jacob Marrion  
 Eric Martinez  
 Juan Martinez-Saenger  
 Patrick Mayor  
 Ashley Medina



Montserrat Medina  
 Juan Moctezuma  
 Diane-Leah Moore  
 Vivian Moreno  
 Ernesto Moreno-Acevedo



Fernando Morlan  
 Andrea Navarro  
 Ryan Nesbit  
 Fernando Nunez  
 Michael Nunez



Angelina O'Connor  
 Paola Odriozola  
 Carolina Ortega  
 Ryan Ortega  
 Marysol Osorio



Marisol Padilla  
 Diana Paredes  
 Nerli Paredes Ruvalcaba  
 Edward Parra  
 Steven Pena



Victoria Pena  
 Aldo Peralta  
 Cassandra Peraza  
 Eduardo Perez-Cano  
 Alejandra Perez-Madrigal





Erica Petway  
Maria Pimentel  
Darius Pitre



Luis  
Priego-Padilla  
Paola Prieto  
Daniel Puffelis



Daniella Puffelis  
Adriana  
Quiroz-Franco  
Araceli Ramirez



Daniela  
Ramirez Gonzalez  
Yazmin Razon  
Mark Reed, Jr.



Mayra Reynoso  
Johanna Rhein  
Jazmin  
Rodriguez



Estefania  
Romero  
Zayra Ruiz  
Marisa Russo

## Teachers: Mentors, models, and friends

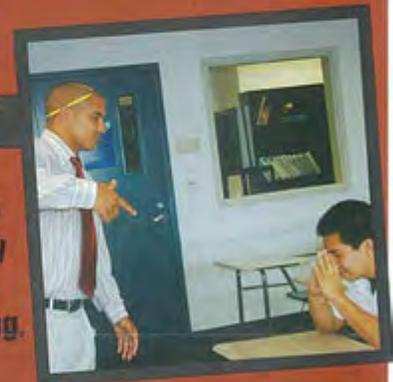
Mr. U. points out a salient fact to Estefany Rubio.



Ms. Anthony gives Kristin Gonzales and Ariel Cabrera a Big Squeeze.



Ronald Castillo prays for mercy from Mr. Cruz's mock moralizing.



"He's our man," say all about beloved Coach Johnson.



Erik Salazar  
 Hadrian Sanchez  
 Jorge Sanchez  
 Michel Sanchez  
 Bernardo Sandoval



Stephanie Santana  
 Stephanie Sanz  
 Erica Silva  
 Ernest Silva  
 Robert Silva-Martinez



Daniela Silva-Soler  
 Laura Soto  
 Ludovica Spinola  
 Wendy Tamayo  
 Ricardo Tamborrell



Stephanie Tessman  
 Tatiana Tobe  
 Hiram Torres-Ramos



*defining questions*

c. Fruity Pebbles are my favorite because they have so many different colors.

-Camile Alvarado

- a. If you could have a super power what would it be?
- b. What do you value most in a friend?
- c. What's your favorite cereal?





Cesar Trejo  
Paulina Unibe-Matamoros  
Estela Uribe  
Martiniano Valdez-Davis  
Catherine Valenzuela



Sergio Valenzuela  
Cristina Valverde  
Vanessa Vargas  
Andrea Velasquez  
Diego Velasquez



Jose Velazquez  
Ana Vidal  
Natalie Villalpando  
Henrik Weidmann  
Marto Winata



Cesar Ybarra  
Crystal Zora  
Miranda Zora

b. What I think is most important in a friend is honesty and loyalty.

-Crystal Zora



a. I would want to stop time so I can do everything I want.

-Aaron Eustaquio



# From There TO HERE

**We've come a long way, baby.**

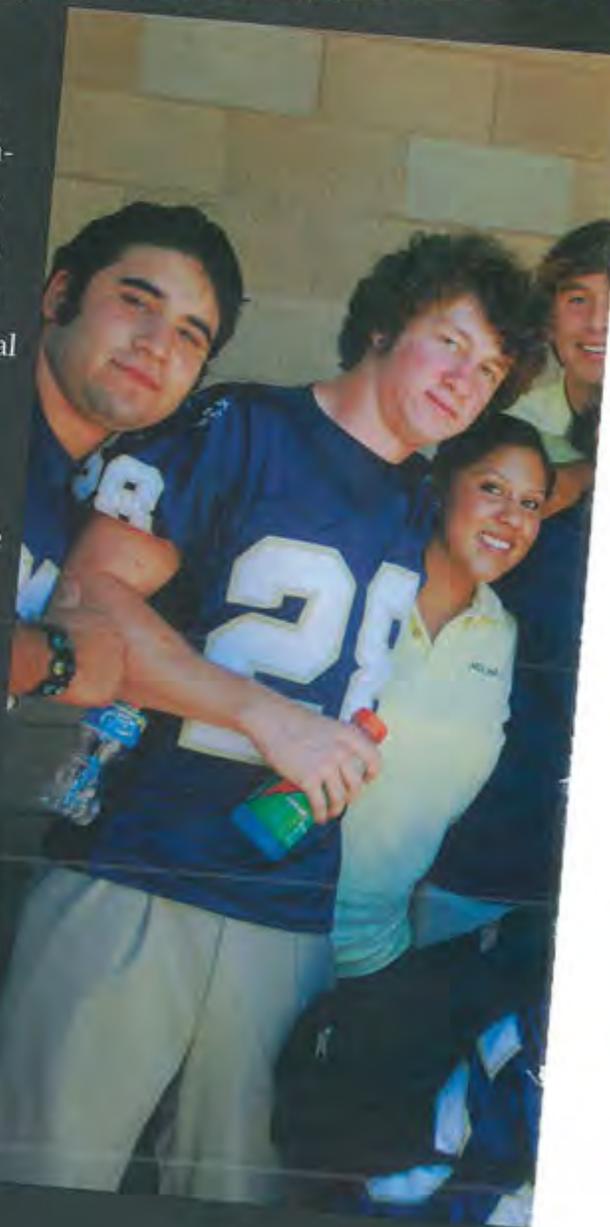
**From 18th St, IB to Mater Dei Drive**

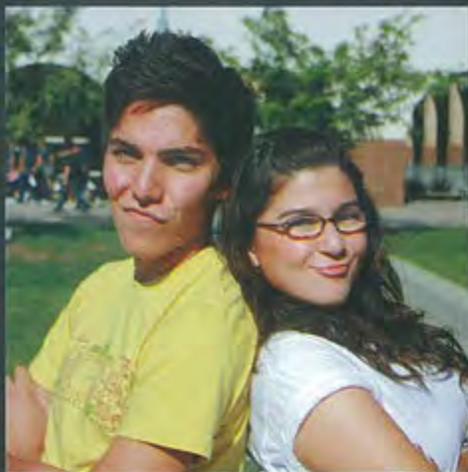
**And it's been a great ride!**

**by Fabiola Watts**

**W**e began our high school journey at Marian Catholic and will end it at Mater Dei. As we changed campuses we also redefined who we are. Each of us has contributed to the goals of our school. We grew in our love for Christ. We realized that education is not something that ends at school but carries on through out our life. We learned that we need to take responsibility for our education, and to communicate and work with others. Some individuals brought their own spark into our world. Michelle Lyle gave us laughter which resonated throughout these new buildings and made them happier. Michael Rodriguez shared not just his sweet smile but also his willingness to help others.

Jhazmine Lynch, Ebone Henry, Kamela Jackson and Danae Johnson fired up our basketball court and many others and made them burn with excitement. Zamahara Rotter-Urbe brought international flair by mastering and speaking French. Luisa Lopez showed us that good will means helping out next door as well as far away. These are some of the people and personalities who have defined and redefined us as Mater Dei Crusaders. Each one of us had something to give to make the class of '09 what it is. Now it is time to leave what we are now and redefine ourselves again as we continue our education in college and beyond.. But what we became at MCHS and MDCHS will help sustain as in the larger world we soon will enter. And we are ready to roll!



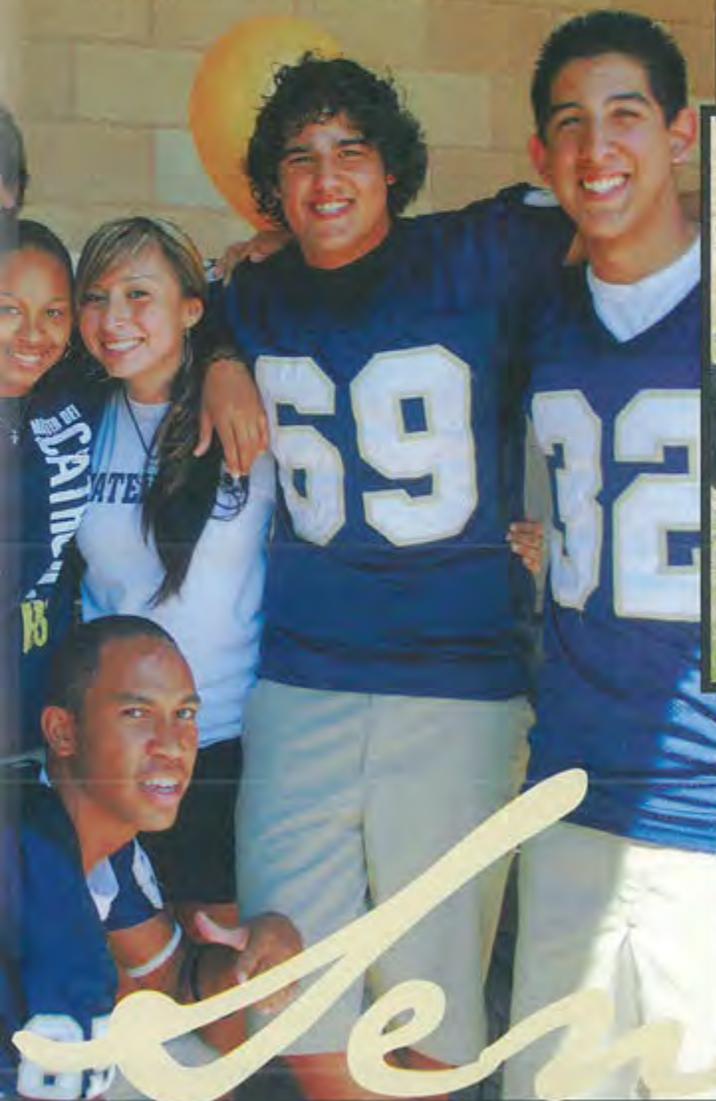


Attitude! Arturo Garcia-Sierra and Barbara Padres make a formidable duo. They're ready for you to bring it on!



Isn't it a lovely day to talk on the green? Melissa Jimenez, Monserrat Hernandez, and Ericka Brunner share stories and good times on a sunny day.

Senior Group Hug: These friends have shared many good times together, but who's the guy in the back?



2009 Class Officers: Treasurer Alex Pergrin, Secretary Diane Zoura, Vice President Kamela Jackson, and President Jamie Espino.



*Brianna  
Acosta*



*Miguel  
Arechiga-Rosnera*



*Matthew  
Atchley*



*Fernando  
Baer*



*Amber  
Baker*



*Gene  
Baroga, Jr.*



*Analorena  
Barron*



*Christine  
Bayaca*



*Lorena  
Beltranes*



*Michael  
Blas*



*Jackae  
Bridges*



*Nataty  
Bioner*



*Samantha  
Brown*



*Eicka  
Brunner*



*Michael  
Buffaloe*

**We might fear change, but in the end,  
it is what makes us stronger.**

*Laura M. Lopez*



*Aaron  
Bustillo-Moreno*



*Alexandria  
Camargo*



*Luis  
Casilla*



*Ana  
Ceballos*



*Diego  
Chig*



*Jacqueline  
Cuen*



*Suwan  
Dabdoub*



*Janine  
Davaza*



*Maria  
Delgadillo*



*Melanie  
Diaz*



*Ricardo  
Duarte*



*Rosanna  
Enriquez*



*Jamie  
Espino*



*Aaron  
Estrada*



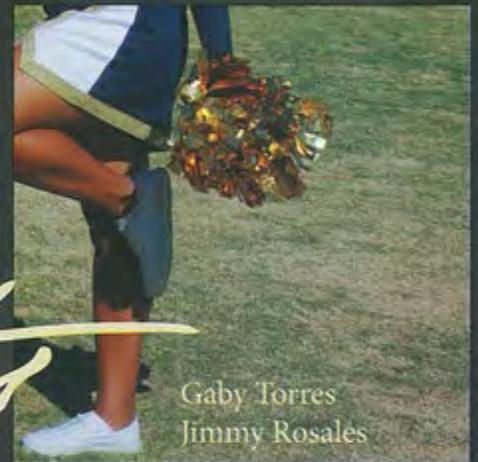
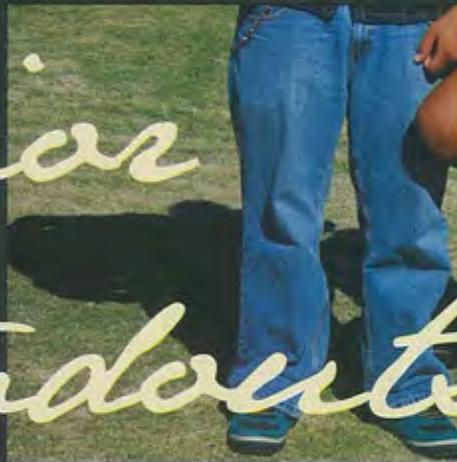
*Hector  
Fajardo-Santillan*

*Francis Fernandez*

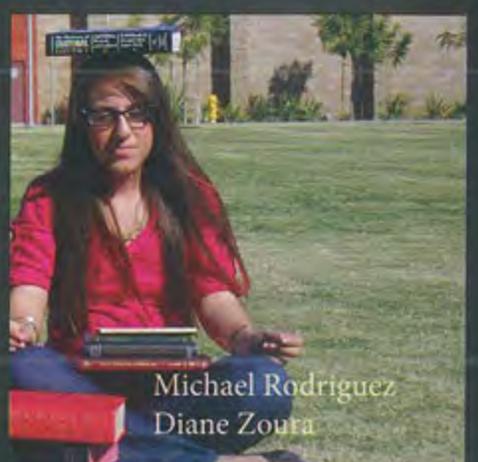
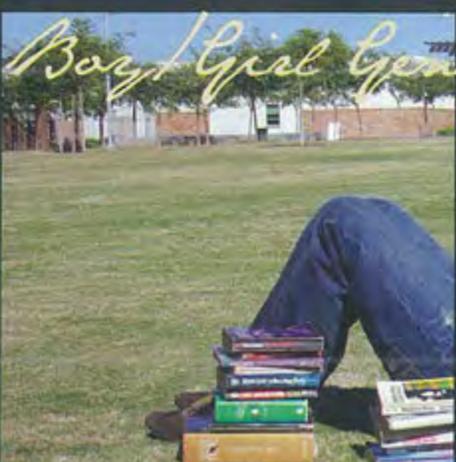
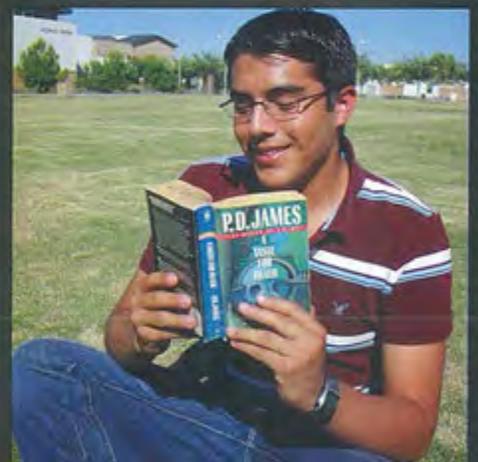
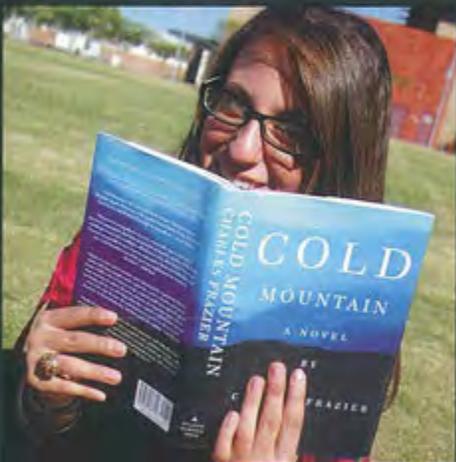
**It's the challenges in life that define us.**



# Seniors



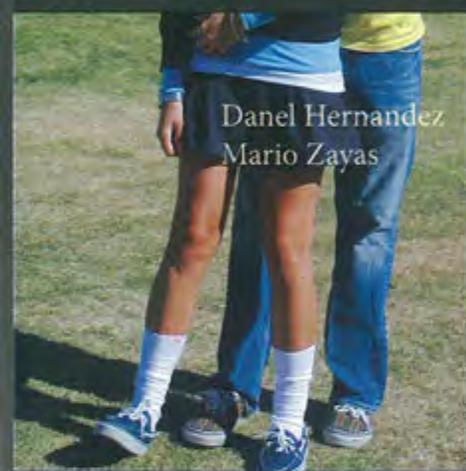
Gaby Torres  
Jimmy Rosales



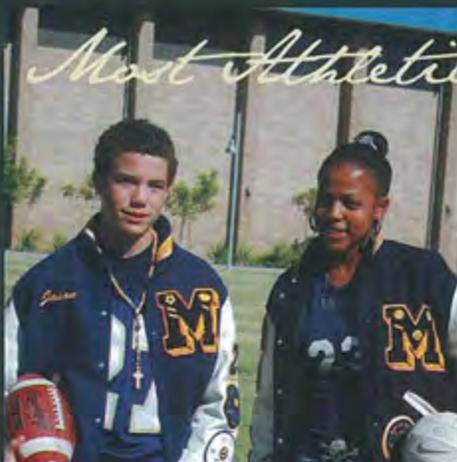
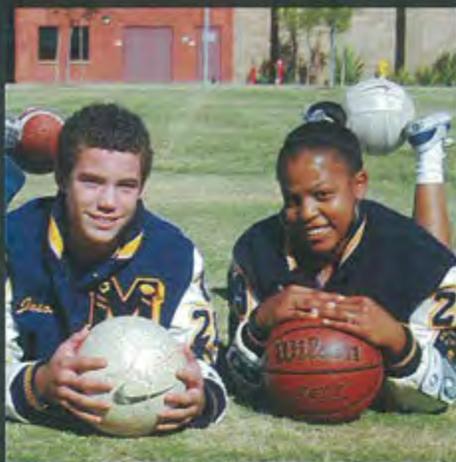
Michael Rodriguez  
Diane Zoura

# Boy/Girl Genies

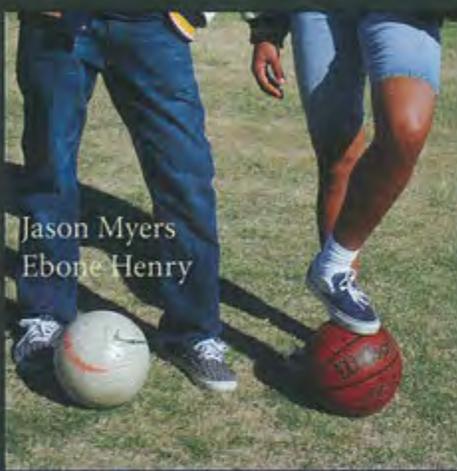
*Most Likely  
to Make Your  
Heart  
Skip  
a  
Beat*



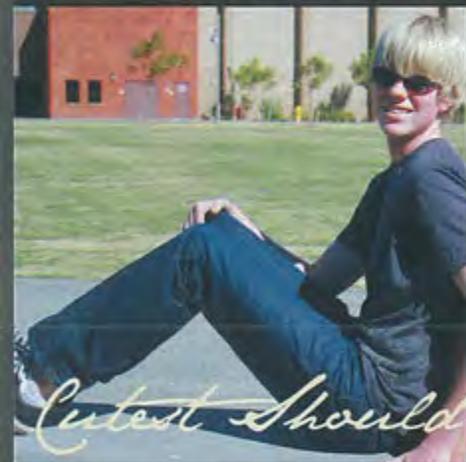
Danel Hernandez  
Mario Zayas



*Most Athletic*



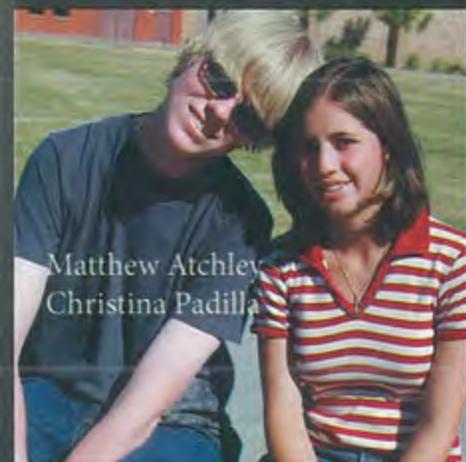
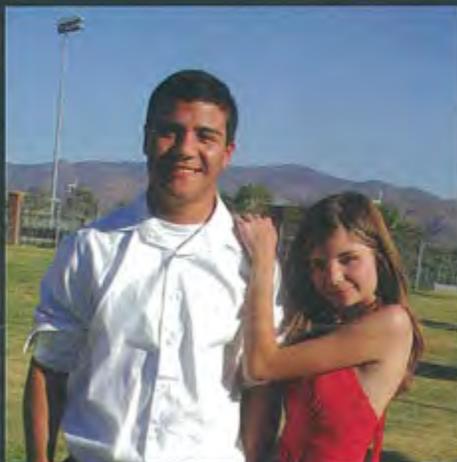
Jason Myers  
Ebony Henry



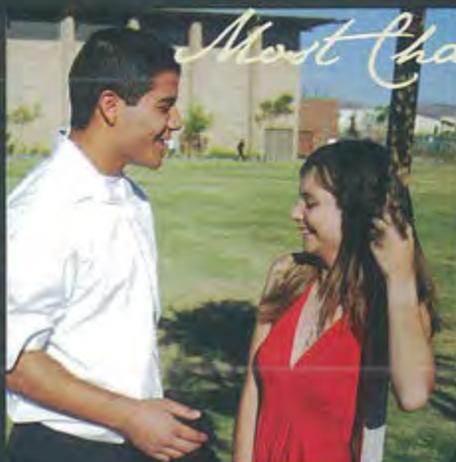
*Cutest Should Be Couple*



*Cutest Should Be Couple*



Matthew Atchley  
Christina Padilla



*Most Changed In 4 years*



Salvador Lopez  
Maria Trueba De Buen



*Frances Leane  
Fernandez*



*Octavio  
Fernandez-Simon*



*James  
Fisher*



*Jose  
Gaitan*



*Jose-Antonio  
Garcia*



*Jesus  
Garcia Rios*



*Brenna  
Gates*



*Jose  
Gomez*



*Ricardo  
Gomez*



*Gabriel  
Gonzalez*



*Lorena  
Gonzalez*



*Maria  
Gonzalez*



*Wilberto  
Gonzalez*



*Genevieve  
Guarnes*



*Jesus  
Gutierrez-Nunez*

*Jackie Bridges*

**Good, better, best... never give it a rest, until you  
change your good to better and your better to best!**



*David  
Harding*



*Ebone  
Arney*



*Adriana  
Hernandez*



*Danel  
Hernandez*



*Montserrat  
Hernandez*



*Karinna  
Hisman*



*Frank  
Huerta*



*Sandra  
Huerta*



*Kamela  
Jackson*



*Maria  
Jimenez*



*Melissa  
Jimenez*



*Danae  
Johnson*



*Lauren Elise  
Judal*



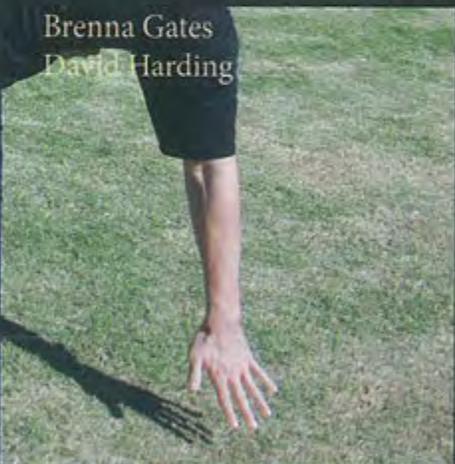
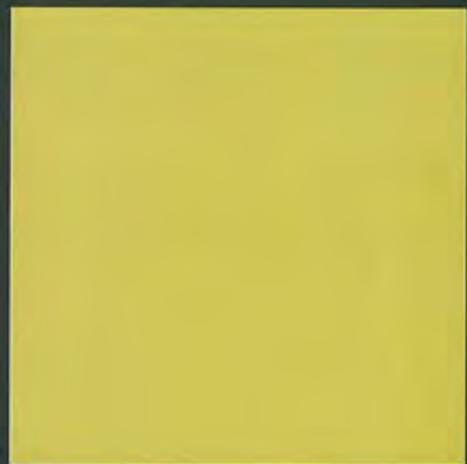
*Paulina  
Karpachanian*



*Soo Jin  
Kim*

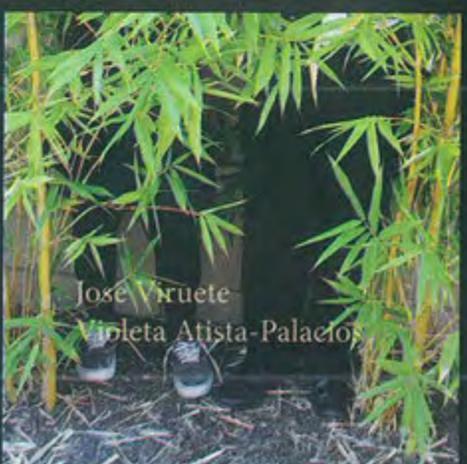
**Change is inevitable, and only those  
who adapt to it survive.**

*For Garena*

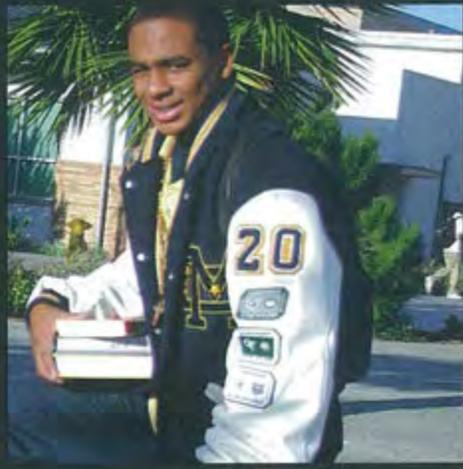


Brenna Gates  
David Harding

*Class Clown*

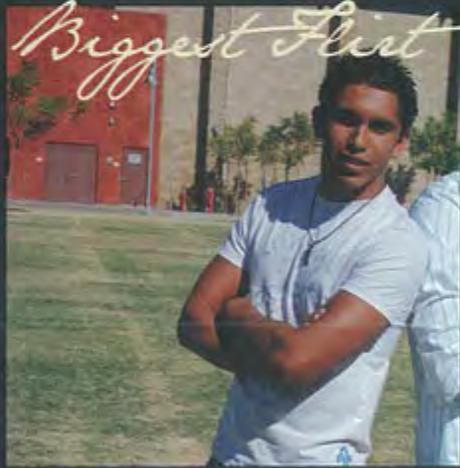


Jose Viruete  
Violeta Atista-Palacios



Lauren Elise Judd  
Marcel Pitre

*Best All Around*



*Biggest First*

*Senior Standouts*



Victor Soriano  
Jose Gomez  
Brianna Acosta



*Justin  
Liang*



*Aldo  
Loera*



*Ana Karen  
Lopez*



*Luisa  
Lopez*



*Michael  
Lopez*



*Salvador  
Lopez*



*Jharmine  
Lynch*



*Jonathan  
Madrid*



*Matthew  
Martinez*



*David  
Matranga*



*Pamela  
Mejia*



*Daniel  
Melendez*



*Ailin  
Mendez*



*Kevin  
Mercado*



*Paulina  
Millan*

**Each day is an opportunity to celebrate who you are and who you can be.**

*Erin Wagner*



David  
Moreno



Zuzette  
Munoz



Jason  
Meyer



Jonathan  
Naranjo



Claudia  
Ordaz



Christina  
Padilla



Barbara  
Padres



Juan  
Paredes-Vizcarra



Rebecca  
Parra



Cynthia  
Paullada



Karla  
Pega



Lissette  
Perezpa



Adolfo  
Perez



Alejandro  
Perquin



Marcel  
Pitre

*Deja Dies*

Its good when your big brother tells you  
about high school days. But its even better living them.





*Eanysa  
Plasencia-Litica*



*Rebecca  
Porter*



*Ana  
Ramirez*



*Jorge  
Ramirez*



*Alejandra  
Reyes*



*Matthew  
Reyes*



*Andrea  
Rios*



*Allan  
Rios-Balladares*



*Jeancarlo  
Rivera*



*Michelle  
Robles*



*Carlos  
Rodriguez*



*José Martín  
Rodriguez*



*Michael  
Rodriguez*



*Octavio  
Rodriguez*



*Roderick  
Rowan*



*Estefany  
Rubio*



*Andrés  
Schramm-Flores*



*Victor  
Soiano*



*William  
Stewart*



*Monica  
Szkopiec*



Vanessa  
Canabe



De' Anthony  
Lobe



Gabriela  
Torres



Maria  
Eneba De Buen



Jaime  
Erujillo



Andrea  
Vallejo



Loni  
Vasquez



Vincent  
Vasquez



Rocia  
Villaluz



David  
Villegas



Judah  
Villegas



Laura  
Watts-Cerna



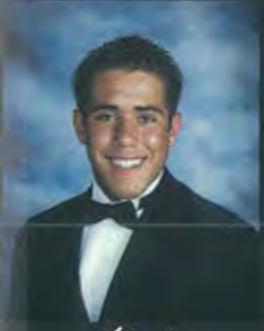
Vanessa  
Wood



Celia  
Wright



Nicholas  
Wright



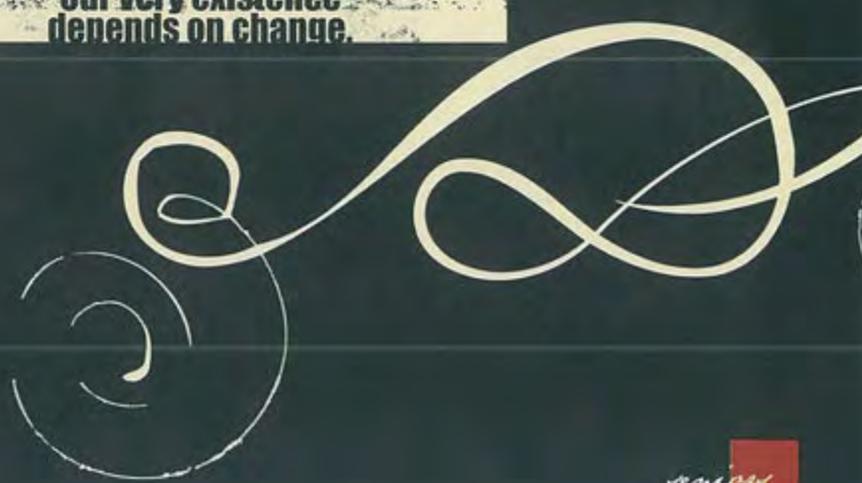
Mario  
Lopez



Diane  
Louisa

*Stephen King*

**Our very existence  
depends on change.**



# Val/Sal



**Axel Gonzalez 4.52**

I definitely want to give thanks to my parents for supporting me in every decision I made through all the long stressful nights. I appreciate my teachers for happily answering every single one of my questions and helping me to understand.

I owe a lot to my schoolmates for making my experience here a memorable one and helping me in so many ways. I'm excited to be going to college, but it does not mean I won't miss high school. I grew in every possible way and am very thankful to everyone who was always there for me.

## Future Plans



## Pediatric Surgeon

"Let's all just have fun with life: a little laughter never hurt anyone."

## Jesus Gutierrez 4.41

First, I want to thank God for his protection and love, my parents for always being there for me, supporting me and pushing me forward to do the best I can. I would also like to thank my friends for not letting me down and being patient enough to stick with me.



### Future Plans

Finally, I want to thank the whole Mater Dei Catholic family for transforming me from a freshman who barely spoke English to a senior with honors.

### Computer Engineer



This has been a long and wild journey, but if I had to do it again, I sure would. At the end of the day, you realize that it all depends on you, as Coach Johnson likes to tell us all the time at baseball practice: "It's all mental."

# Valedictorian Salutatorian

Axel and Jesus have only known each other since sophomore year but by the time they were juniors they realized they would compete against each other. They had seen their rankings on their transcripts. Both would go for the highest scholastic honor at the

school. At first there was a bit of banter between them; it was friendly play. Then they began to talk of their plans, what their options were, where they wanted to go to school. Axel is hoping for Loyola in Chicago, or UCSD or Richmond; The American University in Lon-

don. Jesus wants Stanford, Notre Dame or Cal. The two became friends, sharing big dreams and high hopes. Their future is still unfolding but there is no doubt each will go far. Both of them came from Tijuana.

by Daniela Perez

I, Luisa Lopez, will my spirit and hard work for charity to the Invisible Children Club.

I, Aaron Estrada, do hereby bequeath to Mario Cortez my swagger to impress the ladies, as well as my quick thinking so he may talk his way out of any situation. Lastly, I will to the classes from '10 to '35 and beyond my knack for stirring things up.

I, SooJin Kim, will my nonstop laughter and love to Mr.U; my "speedy drawing skills" to Dianne and Alicia; my love for music to Mr.Luciano; my study hours to incoming Koreans so they can keep up the Korean status; my nickname "sushi" to Manuel "taco" and "suchin" to class of '09; my bins of leaves and nicely cleaned room to Ms.K; my cheeseburger to Geraldine and Valeria; and finally, my infinite love to Mater Dei.

I will Mr. Vasquez "drinks"; my sister, Darlene, all the leadership skills I have offered to Mater Dei; Wendy Tamayo a hot chocolate from Starbucks; all the books in the world to Ms. B; and I will the rest of the Zora and Zo-ura family to Mr. Moeller!

I, Eduardo Jorge Jesus Sanchez Rios, leave my casino skills to Mr. Stingo so one day he may become extremely wealthy and won't have to deal with students like me ever again. I leave my proposing ideas to Mr. Oakman so his girlfriend hopefully becomes his fiance and I can crash his wedding. I leave my sense of humor to Mr. Moeller so he will have patience with future troublemakers. I leave a piece of my heart to Mrs. Anthony so she continues teaching with the most incredible passion I have seen in a teacher. I leave my optimistic attitude to Bob so he continues welcoming every student with his famous "Happy (Day of the Week)" quote. Finally, I leave my hunger for

# Class of 2009

I, Laura Fabiola (Pico) Watts Cesena, bequeath my English learning skills to Yuri Cheong; my craziness and laughter to all the girls in my Physical Education class, who still have a long journey in this school and life. I bequeath my faith in true love, near or far, to Michelle Coria whose hope will never be lost. I also leave my communication skills to those who are shy and my smile to every student in this school who is willing to succeed in life and with God.

I, Ericka Brunner, leave my passion and dancing skills to my beloved dance team; my gratefulness to Bob, Coach Johnson, Mrs. Cox, Mr. Brunner, Mrs. Angeles and MD's STAFF for their support of my Dance Team. I give my pottery skills to Mrs. Adam's future students; my patience and driving skills to my crazy carpool marianero; I also leave my Spanish skills and love to my favorite teacher and the best father ever, Mr. Brunner. Thank you for these wonderful 4 years Daddy! I'll miss you!

I, Diane Zoura, will my license to Crystal; my brains to Crystal, Miranda, Michelle, and Darlene; my hugs and never ending love to Mr. U; my math skills to Miranda and Alex Giery; my patience to all the Campus Minis-

ters. I will Mr. Vasquez "drinks"; my sister, Darlene, all the leadership skills I have offered to Mater Dei; Wendy Tamayo a hot chocolate from Starbucks; all the books in the world to Ms. B; and I will the rest of the Zora and Zo-ura family to Mr. Moeller!

I, Brenna Gates, will my good looks, art skills and commitment to Sergio; my amazing pre-calculus abilities to Michael; my luscious blonde hair to Jade and Sunshine; my random outbursts and love to Shelly; my English to Henrik; my dance moves to baby girl Bibi; my real-life stories to Gabriel (funny boy!); my ability to make Mr. Stingo speechless to any students who will have him (trust me you'll want it) and lastly my title of class clown to the whole school because you can never have too many laughs!

I, Marcel Pitre, will my letterman jacket to my lil' bro' Darius and my Cytogainer to Coach Johnson.

I, Rina Himan, will Camile my YouTube dancing skills; Johanna, a nice scarf in case her neck gets icy; Christina my so called "Jesusness"; Vanessa V our "fun" practices; Christine, our amazing taste in music, Taylor Swift rocks (Thought I'd remind you). To all my other favorites... Robbie, Sarah, Wendy, Shelly, D-ster, Samantha and all the Amazing Teachers through the years, I leave you Peace, Love and Happiness Now and Forever.

I, Adriana Hernandez, leave my 411 on guys, and my dance moves to Nerli Paredes. I also leave Chispita my glitter so she keeps shinning; my name to Baby Jesus, so that she is never called Baby Jesus again, my second child awesomeness to baby brother Prescott and finally I leave my big happy smile and my Spanish to my two favorite teachers Mr. Joyner and Mr. Smyth.

I, James Fischer, will my good looks, great humor and coolness to Cole Luis and John Matranga. I also will my cousin Max Eribez my love because we are cousins. I also will Max the ability to become a model and to look like one as well because he really needs it.

I, Nick Wright, bequeath my baseball skills to Alfredo Sauce and Michael "Baby-face" Carton; my abundant head of hair to Mr. U; the legacy of being the lone blonde guy on campus to my little bro Scott; my magnificent

# Senior Wills

math abilities to Caleb Galvez and Thomas Hahn; and finally my weighted baseball to Johnson.

I, Ruby Huerta, will my BBQ sauce to Miranda; my Chinese food, sparkly socks, funny voices, love for Old and New testament and half of my Happy Betty Balloons to Stephanie (my Jirafa); my cheeks and the other half of my Happy Betty Balloons to Lizeth; my dance skills to Brianna, Arianna and Tiara; my love to Margarita, Erika, Jade and Ramonda; my math homework to Sergio Lopez. I leave my hair to Mr. U because he needs it and all my positive energy to Mr. Joyner.

I, Vanessa Tanabe, will my A.D.H.D to Camile ada Ay! Milli; my driving skills to Johanna for our future road-trips; my ugg boot love to my twin Vanessa; my wonderful dancing skills to Christina. Ms. Biedenback, my love for math; Mr Stingo my blonde moments; Mr. Joyner my smile. My love to class of 09' especially my girls Danae, Drea, Ale, Bri, Celia, Diane, Kristen, monkey, Blas & my all to Frank.

I, Vincent Vazquez, will my cross country skills to Sam Cantu-Reyna, Richard Hernandez, and Johanna Rhein. I

will my track skills to Marissa Lindstrom, Nerli Paredes, Chelsie Plascencia, and Johanna Rhein.

I, Danae Johnson, will Marissa my ability to straighten my hair really well. I will Wendy my who cares attitude. I will Jo the title of FBOC to have for herself. I will Sergio my strength to listen to and edit every song! I will my baby giraffe Jessica my coordination. And last but not least I will my twin Camille the best volleyball number in the world #12!

I, David Harding, will my weight room bench, "Station Harding" to Jake Coogan.

I, Kayla Pega, leave Kendis Barangan my random dance moves when she listens to Britney Spears or Danity Kane. I leave Jake Dacayo the name, "Jakey Poo-Poo," so that he may hear it for all his upcoming years at Mater Dei.

I, De' Anthony Tobe, leave my sister Tatiana Tobe my basketball skills and my "Ninja" Jake Dacayo my sense of humor. I also leave Markie Jimenez the cousin Spirit on the party bus! Last I leave my smartness to Kendis Barangan in math with Mr. Cruz.

I, Pamela Mejia, leave my last name and my intelligence to my brother Marco Mejia; my legs to Vivian; my Spanish skills to Aracely and my best wishes for my next generation.

I, Gabriela Torres, will my game time giggles and my front right hurkeys to Marisela Arechiga. I leave my school spirit to all next years varsity cheerleaders that they may "Shake that thang" all year long. I will my patience to Andrea Velasquez so that she will not freak out every time some one thinks she's not Mexican, my summer school memories to Angie O'Connor, my hair to Kendis Barangan, my "glass half full attitude" to Mr. Joyner/J.J. The Jet Plane and my neat handwriting to Mr. Cruz.

I, Samantha Brown, will my "annoying-ness" in the front office to Vanessa Brown, Monica Brown, Mrs. Alvarado and Rocio Hodges. I also will my beautiful long curly hair to someone who needs it more than I, "Mr.U." I also will my "Dumb & Dumber-ness" to Jesse Edgar for all the times we were together. I will my fun awesome times during yearbook to Ashley Medina, Erica Silva, Angie O'Connor and Andrea Velasquez.

I, Melanie Diaz, will my superman lunch pail to Michelle Centrullo; my loudness to Brina Morales; my tendency to be outgoing to Sergio Lopez; and my captain skills to both Michelle Centrullo and Wendy Tamayo.

I, Christina Padilla, will my love of anime and manga to my friends and the members of the Anime Club. Let the love of anime live in your hearts forever. I also leave my sister, Teresa Padilla, a sense of organization so she will always be prepared for her classes.

I, Janine Dacayo, will my math skills to my brother Jake Dacayo; my long hair to my cousin Marquise Jimenez so she won't have to worry about her extensions falling off; the black in me to Kendis Barangan; my inability to use Macs to Sergio Lopez; my dancing skills to Sam Acosta; my gym membership to James Mara so he won't have to worry about any 'extra baggage'; my Spanish skills and never ending laughs to Efren Roman; and hugs to my 'sister' Tatiana Tobe.

I, Jamie Espino, will my school spirit to all Crusaders. My awesome "driving skills" to my "baby" Kendis B, my shelf to my locker buddy Marquise J.; my silliness to Mrs. Alvarado and Camille; my nonstop laughter to Mr. Moeller; my creativity and love to Mrs. Angeles and the ASB; my insane attitude to Mr. Smyth's basketball team; the yearbook "secrets" to Ms. K; and my legible and beautiful handwriting to Mr. Stingo.

I, Andrea Vallejo, will all my Chiva things (except the ones she gave me) to Cristy Valverde; all my food especially my grapes to Ilse Gutierrez; all my scary moments to Marisela Arechiga; my trips to the bathroom to Mariana Gomez; all my good mornings to Bob; my Spanish skills to Mr. Moeller; all my previous lockers, letters and love to Nerli Paredes; and all my gold stars to Mr. "Juan" Joyner.

I, Alex Pergrin, will luck, skill and game to Mark Latorno. I will my good grades, and gaming skills to Jake Da-

cayo. I will my patience and courage to Raymond Lugo. I will a diet coke to my teacher and friend Mr. Brunner. I will my problem-solving and determination to Kalum Figy; I will my humor to Nick Schmitt and Claudio Gage. I will my friendliness to Jenny Borck. I will poker to Scott Wright.

I, Toni Vasquez, will Kendis and Marquise my random hyperness and my motivation to never give up, Mr. Stingo; my bubblyness & everyday enthusiasm because I know how much he loves it; my dancing skills, special helmet & envious height to Mr. Rice; to Mr. Smyth, my sweet baller skills; to Auntie, my endurance and strength to overcome anything she faces; to Mr. U my secret love for his class. I will to ASB my school spirit and commitment, and to Ambassadors my dedication to serve.

I, Lauren Elise Judal, bequeath the bathroom stall and car memories to Camile; to Angelica my soda; to Baby Jesus my volleyball skills. I will my corn fields to Amish; my height to Jessica; my soccer skills to Marissa; my amazing lunches to Mr. Smyth; and to Johanna all my adventures, memories, and pandesal.

I, Judah Villescas, will to Michael Carton my awesome ceramic skills because he needs them; to the Big Dawg I leave sour skittles. I will Victor Garcia my coordination and big shoes since he has neither.

I, Salvador Lopez, leave all of my memories from Marian to my little brother Armando, a fellow tribute to my Big Boys, and a big hug and smile everyday that I'm not here to Mariana Burkle.

I, Kamela Jackson, will Johanna Montana a pack of Gummie Bears so she can always say, "Why is there a Gummie Bear on Johanna Mountain?"; to Camille Alvarado a box of Cheez-Its because she knows mine are better, to Jessica Baumgardner my hurling skills for the next track season.

I, Frank Huerta, will my fatty reputation to Johanna Rhein; my love of the game to Ramon Ross, and Mr. Moeller's job security to whoever will take it.

I, Jackie Cuen, leave "Punchinello" to future students of Mr. Wraith, that they may have a fantastic time with him. I leave my lunch, aka "Philosophy Reading Moments" to Tanina, Sofis and Nenis and hope they enjoy their time left in school. I leave an empty spot in Mr. Brunner's car,

my shimmy skills to Ms. Cox, and an empty spot in all my former teacher's whiteboards.

I, Arturo Garcia, leave all of my love to Ms. Ditommaso, my French-learning spirit in Ms. Bergeran's class (Mis-kusi); to Priscilla Cerrillo I wish luck in her senior year. To Daniela Corona I leave my speed.

I, Miguel Arechiga will all my fun and great memories to my sister Mariseka; my "sentido comun" to Sari; another semester of Chemistry to Mayra; all my "intelligence" to my encyclopedia Mariana Gomez; my messy locker to Cassandra; my Dumb and Dumber movie along with my perfect essays to Mr. Stingo; my presence to Ms. Ditommaso and my tardies, homework, and Spanish to Ms. Limoges.

I, Frances Fernandez, will my organization, and inde-sign skills to Mrs. K so she can finally make her own templates without my help; my silliness to Mrs. Angeles so she'll always remember me messing around in ASB; my craziness with Jamie to Mr. Moeller; my shyness to Mr. Stingo; and my Eeyore drawings to Mrs. Limoges. I also bequeath my smartness and commitment for school to my cousin/twin, Kendis so she'll take school seriously; my "dancing skills" to Markie; my heart and Spanish 3 memories to Efen Roman so he'll never forget the laughs we had together; my dedication and "yearbook bonding" with Mrs. K to future yearbook editors; and my love to Mater Dei.

All the rest, residue, and remainder of our estate, real or personal, wheresoever situated, that we may leave seized or possessed, or to which we may be entitled at the time of our departure, we bequeath to our beloved Ms. Alvarado.

*Class of 2009*





# Senior Babies



Tiny bears and babies  
soft and sweet,



here are our little ones,  
a memory treat.



1. One fish,  
two fish...



2. Best-dressed  
Baby



3. Ocho Cinco



4. All I Need is  
my Bottle



5. Finger-lickin'  
Good



6. Little Gent



7. Hiding in a Hood



8. Riding on my 22's



9. Ready for my  
Close up



10. Yummy in my  
Tummy



11. Ballin' Baby



12. My Little  
Sunshine



13. Diaper Dandy



14. Ready for the  
Game



15. Ain't I just  
Gorgeous?



16. Hear Me Roar!



17. All American  
Boy



18. Whatcha  
lookin' at?



19. Showering in  
Style



20. I'm a Little  
Indian Boy



21. Cutest in the Pumpkin Patch



22. Michelin Baby



23. I Love Eeyore



24. Getting Straight to Business



25. Ready and Waiting



26. Laid Back



27. Wakey Wakey



28. Glammed Up



29. Squeaky Clean



30. Ready to Boogy



31. Born with a Smile



32. Teeny Tiny Tot



33. Mini Mouseketeer



34. Mr. Giggles



35. Afro Puff



36. All Laced Up



37. What's up, Girlfriend?



38. Baby in a Bonnet



39. Big Eyed Beauty



40. Wild Thang



41. Daddy's Little Girl



42. Curly Cue



43. Rocking Chanel without a Tooth



44. Pink Princess



45. All Dolled Up



46. Hello 911?



47. See Me Rollin'



48. Beach Babe



49. What Did You Just Say?



50. Moo!



51. Colgate Smile



52. Bed Head



53. Flower Girl



54. Ooh, La La



55. Whoa



56. Ready to Nap



57. Party Girl



58. Ready to Drive



59. Queen of the House



60. Book Worm



61. Crusin'



62. Angel Eyes



63. Zzzzz



64. Future Baseball Player



65. That was a Yummy Dinner



66. Monkey Business



67. Heading for the Beach



68. Shhh! It's Bed Time



69. Cute, Aren't I?



70. Ready for the Easter Bunny



71. Model Status



72. I represent the Lollipop Guild



73. Little Angel



74. Ay Ay, Captain!



75. Where Am I?



76. Waiting for Santa



77. Sombrero Kid



78. Giddy Up, Gaucho



79. Stunna Shades



80. I'm Catching Up



81. Clap Your Hands

82. Just Hanging Around

83. Still Swingin'

84. Party Princess



85. Let's Dance!

86. Excited Much?

87. Bow Belle

88. Little Mermaid



89. Ready to Dance the Night Away

90. Where's the Potty?

91. Ready for the Runway

92. Checkin' Out the Cuties



93. Waiting for my Prince

94. Future Bride

95. Brown Eyed and Beautiful

96. Blonde Beauty



97. Pink Bow and Ready to Go!

98. Super Baby Sells Real Estate

99. Little Sprout

100. Santa Baby



Tiny bears and babies pictured here for you,



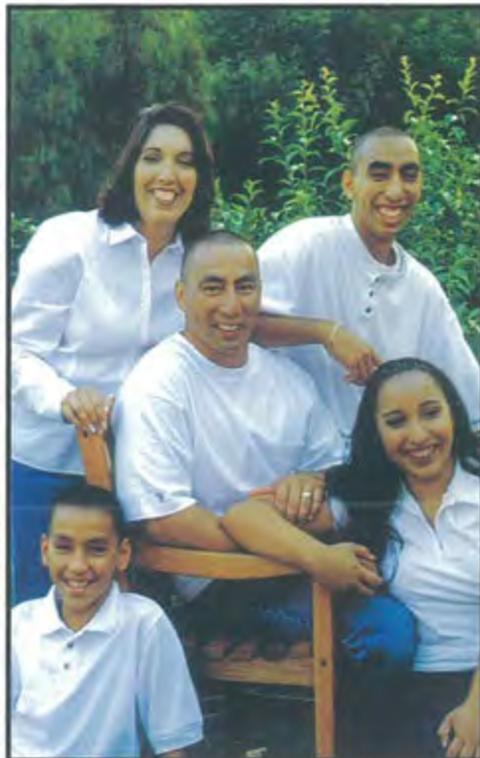
look at them closely to find out who's who.

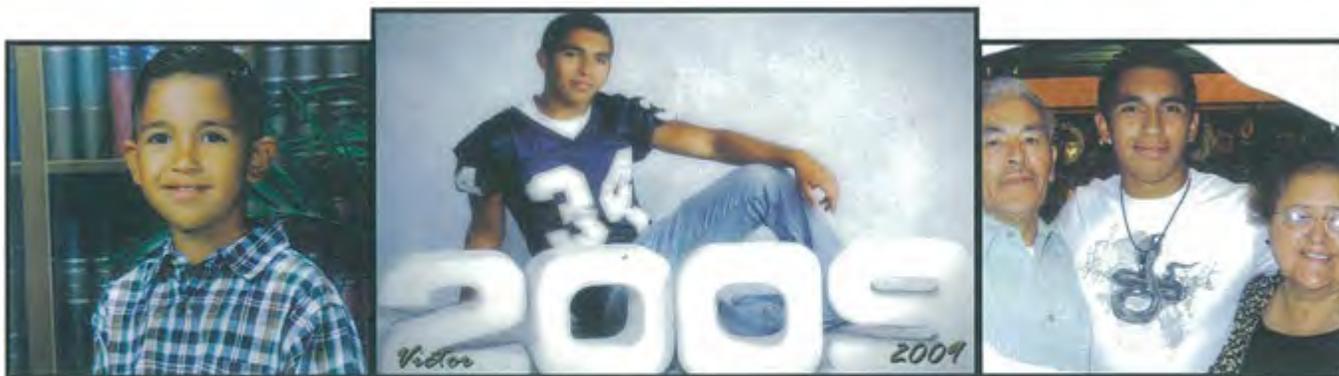


# Senior Babies

Michael... CONGRATULATIONS! You did it and we are very proud of you. As you begin the next chapter in your life we hope it continues to bring you lots of happiness, success, and fun times. Remember to always believe in yourself, follow your dreams, and strive to accomplish your goals. Life will bring you challenges and obstacles but you have proven that with determination you are able to overcome them. Most importantly in life always remember to always follow God's path as He is the only one that can lead you to true happiness. God has given us lots of happiness and blessings with this beautiful family...and we thank God for the special gift of you. You have brought us great love, joy, and crazy memories. You will always hold a special place in our hearts. We love you for who you are and will continue to ask God to bless you and lead you throughout your life.... Lots of love, **Mom & Dad**...Michael...Dear lil bro... congrats on graduating high school. I hope you take everything you learn with you to college. Don't ever forget the wonderful memories you've had during high school. You're a great little brother and don't change one bit. You have so much potential, don't let it go to waste. I wish you the best of luck and I want to see you achieve all your dreams!!! Love always, **John Andrew**... Michael, CONGRATS on making it through high school! I hope you enjoy your years in college. Have fun and make the right decisions. I love you. **Princess... Nonno**. To the best uncle in the whole world. We look up to you and will follow in your footsteps. Thanks for playing with us. You are lots of fun, crazy and silly. Love you... **Natalia & Santino**

## Michael Blas





# Victor Soriano

My "N" you made it through high school **"CONGRATULATIONS"** Class of 2009. I will miss the Friday nights under the lights; those are one of the best memories with you playing football games. **17** years have passed since you came into our lives **"The Perfect Baby."** I have enjoyed every single day of these 17 years. I love you and I am very proud of you and all your accomplishments. You are a young man who takes life as it comes with no turning back or regrets.

College is around the corner, and I know that you can achieve anything you want in life. Try your best and you will achieve all your goals. My father's advice to you is: **"A man always keeps his word."** **"Think' before making decisions for there are consequences for bad decisions"** and last but not least **"Life is short, enjoy you life to the fullest."** I love you, **Pops**.

Hey Bro! You finally made it. Just want to say **"CONGRATULATIONS"** and I am very proud of you. You are now closing a chapter of your life, but starting a new chapter. I am always going to be here for you, and you can always count on me. You're my brother and most of all you are my **"Best friend"** and I want to thank you for that. Remember to always follow your heart, and always **do** what makes you happy. You can achieve anything in life if you really want it. Once again, congratulations and I love you, bro. **Your Big Bro, Junior**.

Mijo! Congratulations! This is a great achievement in your life. As I am writing, 17 years come back to me in a flash. It was just yesterday that I held you in my arms. **"My Perfect Baby"** You and I have been through good and bad times. You have been the quiet one, but very observant on what is in your surroundings. You learn by listening, and you are humble, considerate and well mannered and you are becoming a great young man. You will find no greater love than mine **"MOM"**, it is unconditional. You are my sidekick; I remember us hanging out at Jr's Baseball games and us doing our own thing. You have a mind of your own and you are a person who does what he wants and has no regrets. Remember and take into consideration all Dad and I have taught you. Always remember that you have many people in life that love and care for you and count on, and you can always count on me. Hold tight to the dreams you have today, and walk boldly in that direction. Time is one thing we can never get back, so make the best of it. The one thing I will miss the most when you leave to college are your hugs, you always have given them to me when they were needed the most and you made things better. But I am so proud of all your accomplishments and you are heading in the right direction. I am always here, and I will be here to guide you. Honey, always remember **God** because he makes all things possible. So make life what you want it to be. I love you Mijo! **MOM**.



# Vincent Arquez

Vincent Andrew,

Congratulations! We are all so very proud of you. We love the mature young man you have grown to be. Always keep God first and with his blessings any goal you set is possible. Remember to laugh, live and love. God Bless you in this new chapter of your life.

Keep the Faith  
Love you always  
Dad, Mom, Richie and Nana



Dear Ana  
Victoria,  
This is just the  
beginning. Go  
confidently in the  
direction of your  
dreams to live  
the life you've  
imagined. We will  
stay by your side  
to support you all  
the way.  
We Love you  
Mom, Dad  
& Sofi

# Ana Victoria Ramirez

# Andrea Rios



CONGRATULATIONS ANDREA!!  
MDCHS CLASS OF 2009



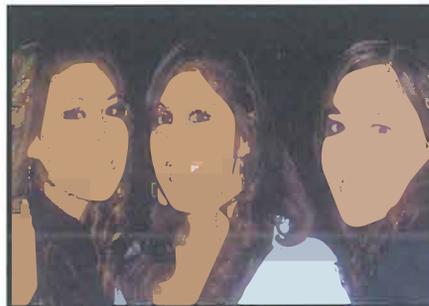
Your mom and I are very proud of you. You did it! Graduation is a big step in your young life along with your 18th birthday. You have so much ahead of you. The sky is the limit to achieve all your goals, God willing. God truly blessed us with your arrival. Jessica was very happy because she now had a baby sister that she could help care for. You have brought so much joy to us, from your first breathe to this very special day when you are graduating from the 12th grade from MDCHS. We have watched you grow from a little baby girl, running up and down the stairs into a beautiful young adult. You have been a younger sister to Jessica and a big sister to Andy. We thank you for your love and attention to them. We have also enjoyed your new friends, Jenna, Bri, Mari, Andy and Alex. We wish you the very best in college. Remember always to be yourself and to strive to be the very best that you can be. AIM HIGH ANDREITA... You deserve the best life has to offer. Appreciate the importance of your family. Trust in God. HE will guide and protect you. Whatever the future holds, you can always count on our support and love. Remember that your mom and I will be available to assist you in all your endeavors. You bring joy and happiness to everyone you touch.



We pray that you stay true to your faith and always believe in yourself!

MAY GOD BLESS AND PROTECT YOU ALWAYS!  
GOOD LUCK ANDREA!

We love you, Pangis! Your Papi, Mami, Jessica (04), and Andy



# Janine Dacayo



Congratulations for achieving on a major milestone. We are truly blessed to share our lives with you. May God continue to guide you in fulfilling your dreams.

Keep your faith strong and everything will be possible. You are a very smart woman and we wish you all the best in life.

We love you!  
Dad, Mom & Jake

# Christina Padilla



Christina, it seems like just yesterday was your first day at Marian and here you are four years later ready to begin the next chapter of your life. May you take from Mater Dei the great memories and friendships you have made and hold them close to your heart. We are proud of the many successes and achievements you have obtained.

We have watched you grow from a timid young freshmen into a strong young women we see today. You have always been an independent thinker, may this quality guide you as you continue on life's journey. College will bring new adventures and challenges. Embrace each and every one. Set your goals high and keep your dreams alive. Above all, always know that we are here for you with all our love and support.

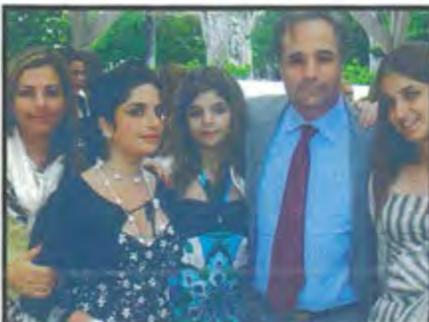
Congratulations on your Graduation  
Love, Mom and Dad

# Maria Eneba

Congratulations on your graduation day. We are so thankful to God, for you are a wonderful person and we are very proud of all your accomplishments. Now we see a beautiful and confident young woman ready for college. We love you and support you in all of your decisions. We know you will succeed and we will always be there for you.

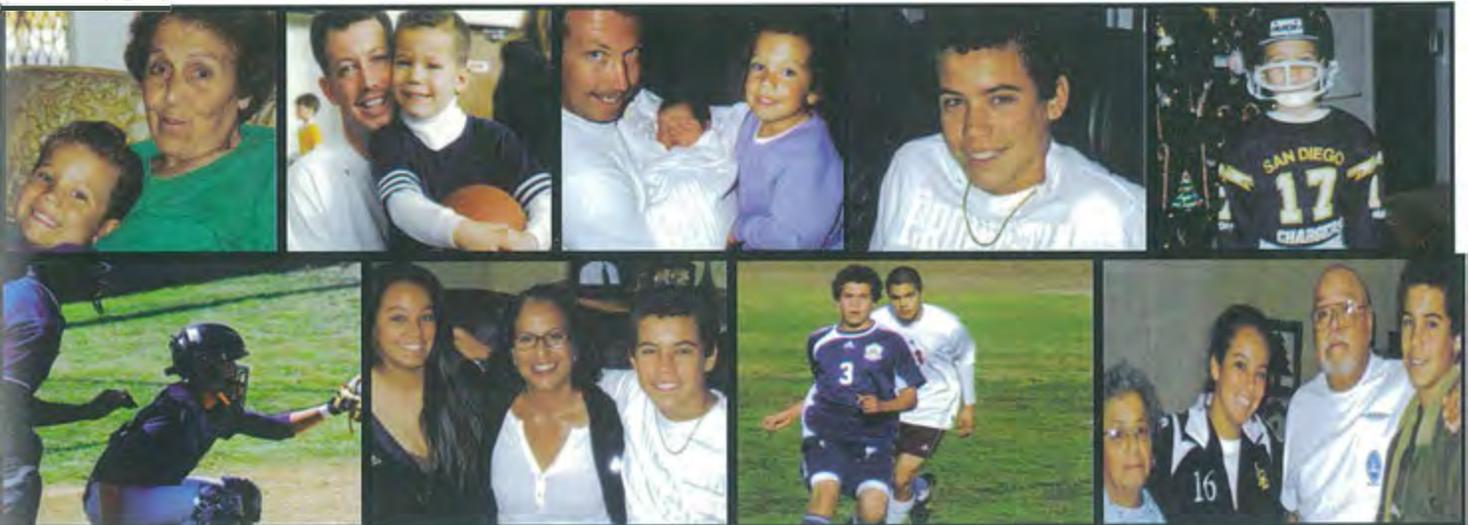


Love,  
Papa,  
Mama,  
Ana  
and  
Leonora



Dear Jason,  
 Well, your time for graduation has come! We can't believe you are already old enough to graduate from high school! Everything has gone so fast, it seems like yesterday that you were born! You were my Mothers Day present on May 12, 1991 and have been a wonderful gift ever since! It's time for you to move on to your next life experience---college! We remember when you were 6 years old and you sat in front of the TV and stated that you were going to Boston College! We asked how you came to that decision and you said it was because it was a great college and they had a great soccer team! We had to tell you how far away Boston was and you said you didn't care! So, it won't be soccer but probably football that will help in your decision in college. You had never played football, but right before your freshmen year was to begin, you told us you wanted to go out for the kicker for football! We told you that you needed to talk to the coach because all the other boys had been practicing for over a month. The coach said you could come out and the rest is Marian/Mater Dei history!  
 We are so proud of your determination to do the things you set out to do and we hope that you will continue on to great things in college. Great Wanní would have loved to see you play football, but you know that she is always watching over you and giving you the drive to accomplish many things in your life. Chances are that you will go away for college and that will be great for you, but we will miss you. Once Nikki left for college we were able to share some special time with you and we will miss that time. We are very proud of you and know that you will go on to have a wonderful life!  
 May God Bless you and watch over you always. We love you very much.  
 Mom and Dad

*Jason Myers*



*Carlos Rodriguez*

Happy Graduation!!!  
 Congratulations, you have all our love and you have a future waiting for you. Mijo, be strong in your goals, we really know how much effort you put in everything and you achieve it. Remember that your future depends on the decisions you make today. We ask God to always guide you and illuminate the way. We have faith that you will be a good man. Be happy, and enjoy everything that God has for you. We are very proud of you and to have you as a son, you will always be our Gordito hermoso!!! We love you so much!  
 Congratulations, with love from your f





Marcel,

When you were born I knew I was Blessed to have a son. We have raised, watched you grow into the person you are, a Fine Gentleman, responsible, funny, intelligent, strong young man. We are very proud of your accomplishments. May God Bless you in college and all your endeavors. Son, I pray for you to have a good future full of Joy, Love, Prosperity and Good health. May God and his angels always keep you under his loving Care and Guidance. Son, always pray for strength and keep God in your life. With God all things are possible. Keep the Faith. Thank you for being a good example for your younger brother Darius and little sister Destiny.

*Marcel  
Pitre*

Children God's Best Gift Psalm 127:3

May you be Blessed

with a Peaceful and Successful Life

We Love you Very Much

Mom, Dad, Brother Darius, Sister Destiny



*Karina Hisman*

Rina Makaleka,  
We can't believe you're our second baby to graduate from high school. You have no idea how proud and blessed we are. You have exceeded all our expectations in everything you have done from academics to athletics and all your involvement in school, as well as being a good daughter and sister.

We are excited and looking forward to the future. We know you will make a big difference in this world as you have in the lives of everyone you know. You are a beautiful young lady inside and out, not to mention you have a wonderful sense of humor that we all love. Remember to always keep the faith and keep reaching for the stars. Don't let anything or anyone hold you back. You can count on us to be there and support you always.

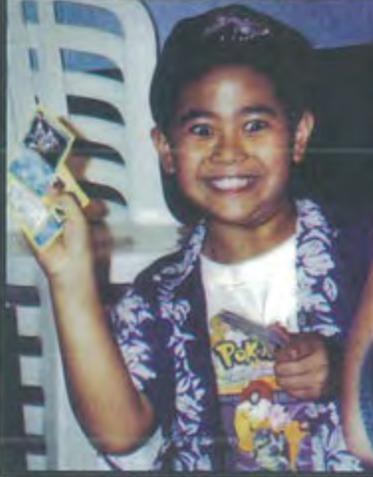
We love you very, very much.  
Mom & Dad







Dear Matthew, We're so happy that all things you have worked so hard for and all the good things you deserve are coming true for you. You have a lot to be proud of.  
Love, Dad. Mom & Jenny



# Congratulations Aaron Class of 2009!

Dearest Aaron,

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Remember to have faith in yourself and all that you do and everything will fall into place. Always pray to our Almighty God to watch over you throughout your future endeavors. You have our unconditional love. We will always be here to love, care and support you. Good luck and may God bless your heart, spirit and faith.

Love,  
Papa, Mommy, Kuya Alex and Ate Angela

# Aaron

## senior baby key

1. Jason Myers
2. Mario Zayas
3. William Stewart
4. James Fischer
5. David Harding
6. Victor Soriano
7. Frank Huerta
8. David Matranga
9. Salvador Lopez
10. Michael Blas
11. Marcel Pitre
12. Kamela Jackson
13. Karina Himan
14. Danae Johnson
15. Lauren Judal
16. Jesus Gutierrez
17. Nick Wright
18. Adriana Hernandez
19. Michelle Lyle
20. Carlos Gonzalez
21. Janine Dacayo
22. De'Anthony Tobe
23. Judah Villescias
24. Genevieve Guarnes
25. Vincent Vasquez



26. Alex Pergrin
27. Gene Barroga Jr.
28. Christine Bayaca
29. Gabriela Torres
30. Kayla Pega
31. Toni Vasquez
32. Jamie Espino
33. Frances Fernandez
34. Jeancarlo Rivero
35. Samantha Brown
36. Alejandra Reyes
37. Brianna Acosta
38. Andrea Rios
39. Diane Zoura
40. Celia Wright
41. Analorena Barron
42. Jose Gomez
43. Jackae Bridges
44. Jazmin Lynch
45. Ebone Henry
46. Ana Karen Lopez
47. Miguel Arechiga
48. Ga Young Kim
49. Estefany Rubio
50. Andrea Vallejo



51. Lorena Gonzalez
52. Victoria Ana Ramirez
53. Cynthia Lynette Paullada
54. Ricardo Hernandez
55. Mario Delgadillo
56. Amber Baker
57. Melanie Diaz
58. Brenna Gates
59. Ruby Huerta
60. Aaron Estrada
61. Fabiola Watts
62. Maria Trueba de Buen
63. Matthew Reyes
64. Kevin Mercado
65. Alexandria Camargo
66. SooJin Kim
67. Vanessa Wood
68. Zamahara Rotter
69. Christina Padilla
70. Lily Gonzalez
71. Lorena Beltrones
72. Ivan Paredes
73. Alexandra Garcia
74. Arturo Garcia
75. Roberto Sais

76. David Villalvazo
77. Jorge Ramirez
78. Oliver Bloch
79. Roxana Enriquez
80. Eddie Sanchez
81. Jose Chig
82. Jimmy Rosales
83. Melissa Jimenez
84. Luisa Maria Lopez
85. Aaron Bustillo
86. Jose Antonio Garcia
87. Claudia Ordaz
88. Pamela Mejia
89. Tanya Plasencia
90. Octavio Fernandez
91. Paulina Kayachanian
92. Monserrat Hernandez
93. Ericka Brunner
94. Ailin Mendez
95. Adolfo Perez
96. Rebecca Parra
97. Barbara Padres
98. Michael Rodriguez
99. Cedar Kroon
100. Frank Stingo Jr.



# A

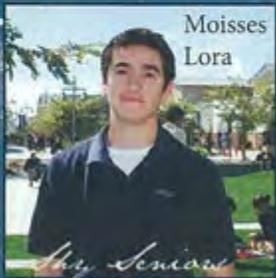
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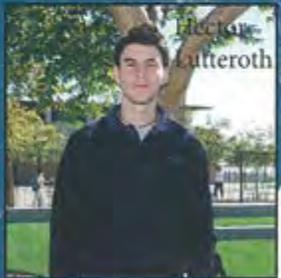
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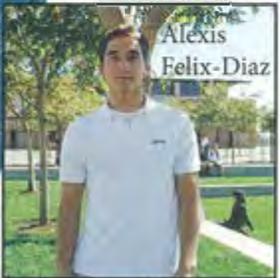
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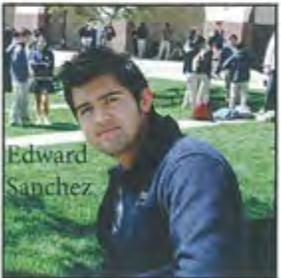
Moises Lora



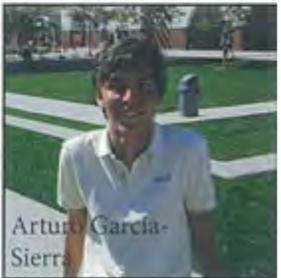
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Alexis Felix-Diaz



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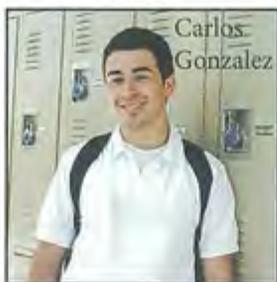
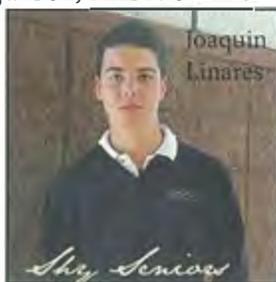
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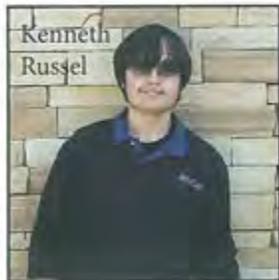
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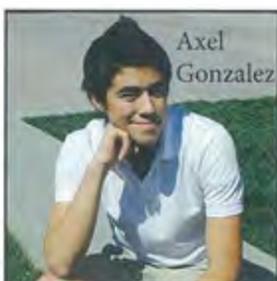
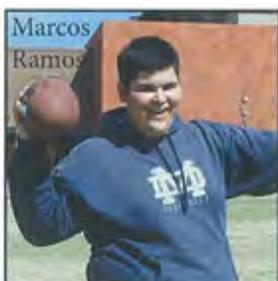
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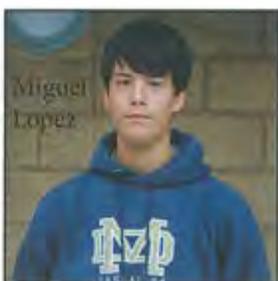
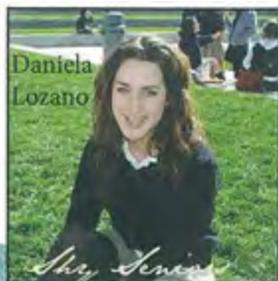
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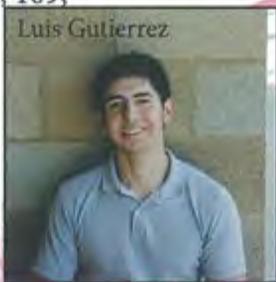
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# Colophon

*An inscription placed usually at the end of a book, giving facts about its publication.*

This yearbook is the 2nd volume of the Mater Dei Catholic High School Gauntlet. Created entirely by the yearbook staff, it was printed by Herff Jones Yearbooks in Marceline, Missouri. It was serviced by representatives Steve and Tamra Bailey, Julie Sullivan and customer service adviser Amanda Stufflebean.

The cover was designed by Ms. Kelleher and me and features a student from each class. Our theme was chosen to reflect the development of Mater Dei and tries to answer the question, "Now that we are here, who are we?" As Mater Dei students, we continually experience things which change who we are. This is what our theme represents: how we redefine ourselves. The ideas for the design were inspired by World Vision magazine and reworked by Ms. Kelleher. The white cover, our first ever, was the idea of Jose Garcia. We kept the fonts simple, using only 3. For copy and captions we used Minion Pro and for headlines, we used *Jane Austin* and **Impact**.

Our yearbook experience was a challenge. For starters, most of our staff including me, the Editor-in-Chief, were new. We had almost no yearbook experience. There was so much to learn! But we learned fast. And we had three beautiful new 24 inch iMacs to help us do the job. Thank you, Mr. Beecher. With the help of computer genius Chris Weller, we were able to create a design library in Adobe Photoshop CS3. And even though we

had to kidnap Chris to get our “W,” he made it possible to have the more sophisticated design elements we think you’ll enjoy in our beautiful book. We also hope you will notice the focus on our student body and love looking at the abundance of student pictures we made sure were in this edition.

Thank you, Steve and Tamra Bailey, and Julie Sullivan, the best yearbook reps in the world. Mr. Bookser, for keeping all our technology running smoothly, we are indebted to you. And thank you, Ms. Varela for your kindness whenever we needed help. Thanks to Imeem.com and Pandora.com for keeping us upbeat. Finally for sustenance, thanks to In-and-Out Burger, Girl Scout cookies and Ms. K’s oranges.

Making this yearbook has been a challenge for all of us. But we did it by working together. As editor, I have become more responsible and organized and have learned about leadership. In the end, we all felt like “Yearbook is our Life.” And just as our yearbook expresses, we too have been redefined.

*Frances Fernandez*

Frances Fernandez  
Editor-in-Chief



SooJin Kim  
Photo Editor



Angie O'Connor  
Sports Editor



*Mater Dei Catholic*

*The Gauntlet*

*2009*

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Sammy Brown  
Senior Editors



Ms. Kelleher  
Adviser







**It's never too late to be the person you might have been.**  
**George Eliot**