

The Eagle Eye

Volume 12, Issue 1

El Camino Fundamental High School

December 2021

Drama students ‘born to stand out’

By Emma Canillo
NEWS EDITOR

Students in the seats of the auditorium applauded, amazed, as their own classmate stood on the brightly lit stage and belted her heart out.

Angie Ross (‘23), drama student at El Camino, performed in front of an audience of peers to receive critique from Hamilton Actress Ashley De La Rosa.

On Sept. 28, De La Rosa led a workshop in EC’s performing arts center that was organized by Drama Teacher Christopher Travlos.

De La Rosa plays Peggy Schuyler and Maria Reynolds in the Hamilton musical, which has held shows throughout North America, including Sacramento.

Set in place to give students a taste of what Broadway acting looks like from a performers point of view, the workshop spotlighted eight EC drama students and gave them the opportunity to execute their singing and acting to De La Rosa.

Ross explains that when she was introduced to this workshop, she undoubtedly agreed to be one of the eight students to perform in front of De La Rosa.

“We were working on our musical theatre unit, which is where we sing in front of the whole class and from there, [Travlos] chose students. He pulled me aside and asked if I wanted to do it and I obviously said yes,” Ross said.

Ross was first to walk the stage and show her talent to De La Rosa, who stood alongside and observed the performance. Ross explained how she felt the moment she walked onto the stage.

“It was a very relieving feeling because my nerves went away the minute I started singing,” Ross said.

Ross started the workshop off strong by singing “That’s What



PHOTO BY JACKSON PONDER

Carson Russell (‘23) receives feedback from enthusiastic Hamilton actress Ashley De La Rosa. She coached EC drama students to stage greatness giving them tips in real time.

You Call A Dream” from the musical Bonnie and Clyde. After the applause from the audience, De La Rosa gave insight on how Ross could improve her performance.

Using her own real-life experiences along with looking up towards the audience were two main things Ross took away from the workshop to create a better performance for herself and the audience.

Having almost three years of experience in the drama class at EC, Ross felt that pushing herself to agree to this workshop would allow her to learn how to overcome nervousness and perform in front of a large group of people.

As long as she can remember, Ross was surrounded by music and dance.

Her mother, a Sacramento State Dance Choreographer, exposed Ross to all things theatre and dance from the early age of three years old. From then on, dance lessons were a constant in her life up until she was 13 years old.

Along with dancing and acting, Ross has expanded her interests by learning how to play the ukulele and taking voice lessons this past summer.

Ross has continued to pursue her musical talents through the drama program at EC, which allows her to have a healthy escape when needed.

“I definitely think it’s a good emotional outlet because it’s a way for me to get my feelings out—If you’re listening to a musical, the songs have a lot of emotion, and

you can put your own emotions into it while singing,” Ross said.

Taking her talents to the next level has always been a consideration for Ross as she explores the pros and cons of an acting career. Turning theatre into a career is risky to pursue, and takes a lot of dedication and determination. Ross states that if she was guaranteed success in the theatre industry, she

SEE HAMILTON, PAGE 4

‘Devious licks’ Tik Tok trend at El Camino

By Annika Clinciu
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

“Devious licks” have become a viral trend among teen students where they destroy or vandalize property for fun. Recently, it has made its way to El Camino, thus resulting in new policies.

Devious licks started in America and spread fast on social media platforms, specifically on Tik Tok. The trend promotes teens ruining school property and then posting self-incriminating videos.

It started by stealing things like toilet paper or paper towels but quickly spiraled out of hand. Teens around the country went as far as stealing security cameras, computers, fire extinguishers and ruining expensive things in bathrooms such as pipes and sinks.

The vandalism is referred to as devious or diabolical licks. Lick comes from the term “hit a lick,” which in this context, means getting something

SEE TIK TOK, PAGE 4

In this issue

News 1

Opinion 5

Spotlight 6

Entertainment 8

Sports 10



French foreign exchange student on EC campus

Camille Pesin experiences American high school

By Yoyo Michaels
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

Foreign exchange students studying at El Camino has been a long-standing tradition, and the newest addition to the EC community is **Camille Pesin (‘22)**, arriving from France.

Compared to schools back in France, EC offers many events that Pesin has yet to experience.

“I’m so excited for all the football games, homecoming, prom, rallies,” Pesin exclaimed.

Pesin’s first American football game was the EC vs Cordova game, which was also EC’s first home game of the year.

In France, students are not offered



PHOTO BY YOYO MICHAELS

Camille Pesin lives out her dream by coming to California.

school sports. Pesin says schools in her area are more academically oriented and had eight or nine periods a day with no elective classes. She attended school from 8:00 in the morning to around 5:30-6:00 in the late afternoon.

SEE EXCHANGE STUDENT, PAGE 2



EXCHANGE STUDENT:
Pesin plays her first
school sport

Pesin arrived on Aug 8 this year and will leave the U.S. on July 26 after the EC school year ends.

Living in America has been Pesin’s dream since she was younger. She expresses that if she could bring one thing from America back home, it would be sports teams at school.

“That’s a big thing here and I love it,” she explained.

Counselor Bo Ahlgren works closely with the exchange programs and incoming foreign exchange students.

“Typically, foreign exchange students do not earn graduation credit even though they attend classes,” Ahlgren states.

Any work done while in America doesn’t count when they go back home. Students simply come to America to participate in these exchange programs.

EC doesn’t have it’s own exchange program, but works with other programs to accept students into the school.

French Teachers David Manigart and Joyce Bernhoft previously organized a student exchange program between EC and France. Last time Manigart tried to start the program, it struggled with issues around the costs. The program originally started in 2008, in the middle of the Great Recession where many people had complications with money.



PHOTO BY YOYO MICHAELS

Camille Pesin (‘22) has been embraced by many students and was voted homecoming queen.

“[EC] had families interested, but when it came to the first payment, nobody was paying, so we had to cancel,” Manigart said.

If given the chance, he would definitely start the program again.

According to Manigart,

exchange programs change students’ outlook on many things and they greatly benefit the EC community.

Manigart believes that exchange programs may help solve what he sees as one of the bigger problems in today’s society: ignorance. He said visiting different places and experiencing different cultures may be one of the ways to help this issue.

New medical careers class gives
students a look into medical field

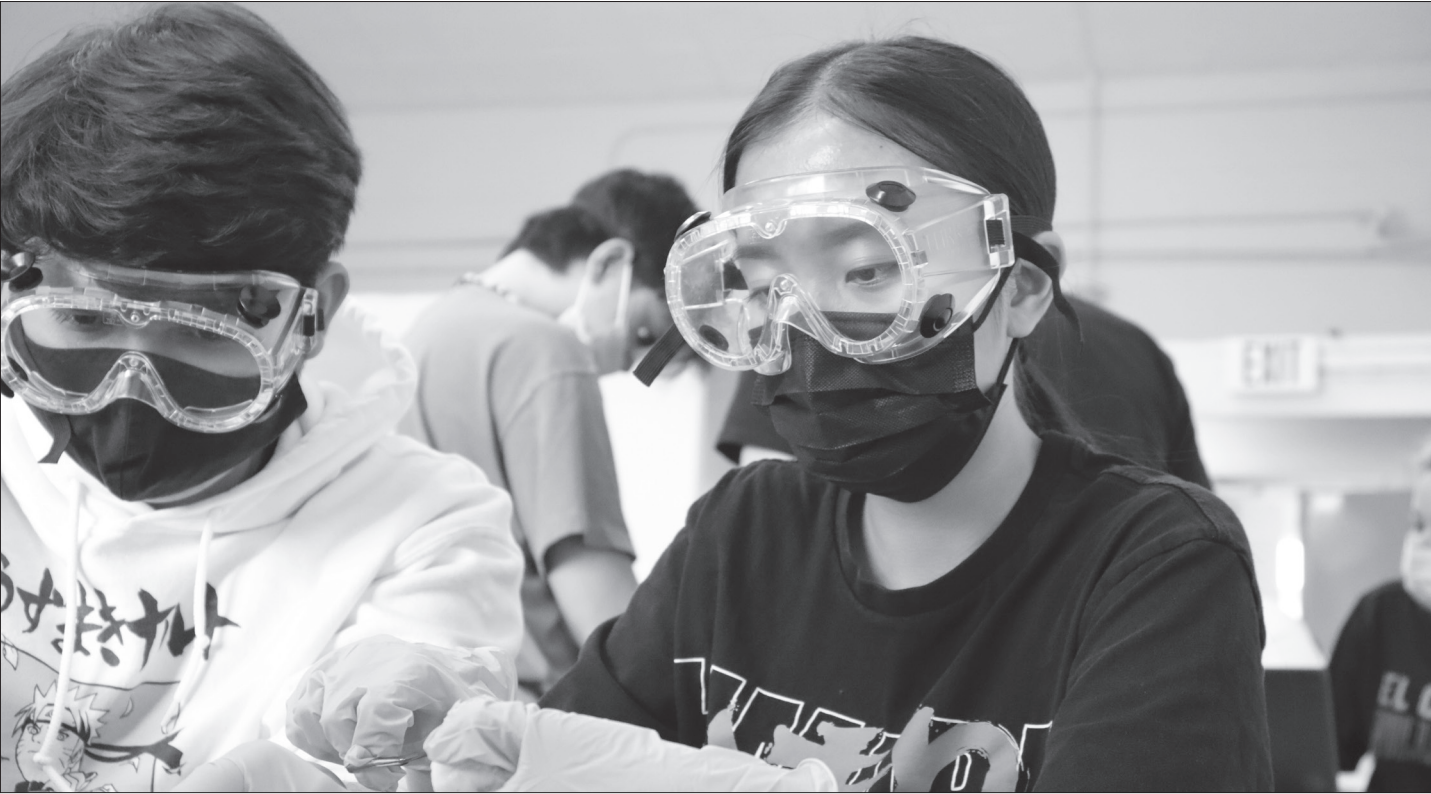


PHOTO BY JACOB CARPENTER

Two students in the new medical careers class dissected an animal eye to learn about how the eye funtions and what parts make up the eye.

By Mia Randall and Valyn Showalter
MANAGING EDITOR AND EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

Juniors and Seniors at El Camino who are interested in being in the medical field are now able to take the Medical Careers class which was introduced during the 2021-2022 school year.

It is a two-year class but was opened up to this year’s seniors so they can also have a chance at participating.

The teacher for this class is Angel Contreras, also known as “Dr. C” among students. Contreras is a practicing physician, so he has knowledge in the medical assisting field.

This pathway helps students who want their future to be in the medical field get the experience they need. Students in this class also get a chance

at working or interning in a real hospital and being a medical assistant after completing this EC program.

Vice Principal Evelyn Welborn expresses her thoughts on what the medical program will do to benefit EC.

“In terms of what I am hoping it will do for the school, I hope it will increase our enrollment,” Welborn said.

EC doesn’t have a school boundary like most schools have, meaning you have to apply to get in. Welborn hopes that since this new class has been added, it will attract more incoming middle schoolers to EC and its expanded curriculum.

Sariah Matthews (22’) ex-

plains the significance of the medical careers class in her life.

“I’ve always wanted to go into the medical field and [the class] just seemed like a really good career opportunity for me,” Matthews said.

The final exam for the Medical Careers class is like an AP exam, you can pay to take the test and it will give you college credits if you pass. It consists of an online exam and a physical exam.

The first year of the pathway is Anatomy Physiology and when you move on to the second year, it’s more hands-on work such as medical assisting.

Welborn and Contreras are hoping that this class can help the students in beneficial ways and increase their chances of them getting into the medical field.

The Eagle Eye

El Camino Fundamental High School
4300 El Camino Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821

Editor in Chief..... Jackson Ponder (‘22)
Managing Editor..... Mia Randall (‘23)
News Editor..... Emma Canillo (‘23)
Sports Editor..... Joshua Potratz (‘22)

Staff Writers & Contributors: Zainab Al Magsoosi (‘24), Maya Black (‘23), Logan Castro (‘23), Dracos Chism (‘23) Annika Clinciu (‘25), Zoe Evans (‘25), Yoyo Michaels (‘23), Ryan Nash (‘22), Valyn Showalter (‘23), Jacob Carpenter (‘22)

Advisor: Matt Sumpter (‘94)

The Eagle Eye is published throughout the school year by the journalism class at El Camino Fundamental High School, 4300 El Camino Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821. Any and all correspondence—including requests for advertising information—should be mailed to the school or emailed to: matt.sumpter@sanjuan.edu

KYDS 91.5 FM
Annual Audiothon
12/3 - 12/4
8 am - 8 am
Call
916-971-7453
to donate!

2021-2022



Free breakfast and lunch for all students extended by SJUSD

By Emma Canillo
NEWS EDITOR

The U.S. government has provided an extension of certain COVID-19 accommodations for San Juan Unified students, allowing schools like El Camino to receive free breakfast and lunch throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

During the first closure of San Juan schools for COVID-19, breakfast and lunch bags were handed out at various schools for students of all grade levels to take home and eat. These bags of food were free to all families during the stages of at-home learning.

When San Juan students returned back to school for the 2021-2022 school year, the USDA announced that free breakfast and lunch bags would continue for those who wanted the meals.

Nutritional Services Supervisor Jane Usrey expressed her joy and gratitude for this lunch opportunity at EC.

“I’m really excited that were able to feed all the kids that want the food because I think it’s really important for the kids to have a good, balanced breakfast and lunch,”

Initially, parents or guardians were required to submit a federal meal application and continuously pay for their children to receive breakfast



PHOTO BY JACKSON PONDER

Students have taken advantage of free lunch and lunch lines continue to be crowded everyday.

and lunch during the school year.

Being able to receive free breakfast and lunch on a regular basis is extremely helpful to many families and students that attend San Juan Schools like EC.

Usrey explained her thoughts on how this extension can help students at EC.

“I think it’s really important for all families to be getting these meals. There is definitely people that need it,”

Usrey and other nutritional staff at EC have noticed that since the opening of school and the extension of free breakfast and lunch, the amount of students taking the opportunity to get these meals have increased, which shows the true significance of these meals for EC families and students.

Seniors argue for in-person events at board meeting

By Jackson Ponder
and Emma Canillo
EDITOR IN CHIEF AND NEWS EDITOR

The monthly San Juan Unified School District board meeting took place in at the district office where staff, parents, and students of the San Juan School District expressed their desire for larger, whole school events that would typically be held throughout the school year.

Each attendee who requested to speak was allotted two minutes to express their thoughts and concerns to the district. This allowed El Camino students to speak their ideas and be heard by the district committee.

Danielle Spitler (22’), a senior class representative, spoke first from EC questioning why students were allowed to attend school and sporting events that are held outdoors, but not an outdoor dance. She expressed that highschool students have missed out on various opportunities over the past two years, and that a dance is heavily wanted by many students at EC.

Alongside Spitler, **Grace Hombrado (22’)**, EC senior class treasurer, explained her feelings around the freshman and sophomore classes who have never attended or been involved in a school dance, rally, or a large event of that kind. Hombrado mentioned the idea of students attending other events, school related or not, as an alternative to an EC organized event, which could end up being more dangerous to the entire school population.

Charter schools, which are not run by the district, have different mandates and rules for their students to follow relating to COVID-19 such as mask policies and testing protocols. If EC does not get approval for a large outdoor event, Hombrado addressed her concern around EC students attending these charter schools for dances and events.

Senior class vice president **Nicole Damoulos (22’)** focused her thoughts on the mental health of students at EC. After going through many months of distance learning and no school activities, students are eager to get back the events they missed. Having a social outlet is important for students now more than ever because of the COVID-19 restrictions, which is why EC students are pushing for events to take place this year.



EPI alumni: Where they are now



PHOTO BY JACOB CARPENTER

EPI students learn practical skills like welding and fabricating.

By Yoyo Michaels
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

Former students of El Camino’s EPI (Eagle Polytechnic Institute) program, **Katey Hogan (‘20)** and **Nick Rebholtz (‘18)**, share how the class has helped them as they ventured into the real world as adults, thanks

to teachers like Ari Santillanes.

EPI is a long-standing program that helps students get hands-on training along with many other classes targeted towards helping students get ready for the real world right out of highschool.

Katey Hogan was a part of the EPI program and has now made it into

the Marines, along with being “the first female company honor-men,” which means Hogan was the first female guide of the west coast.

Hogan said that she is extremely thankful and gives credit to EPI for helping her get into the Marines.

“It definitely did help me get into the Marine Corps because it helped me with my ASVAB and testing and with becoming a mechanic in the Marine Corps,” Hogan states.

EPI gave a sense of community to Hogan within EC. Students have more overlapping classes while in the program, which is another part of that sense of community.

Hogan explained her favorite parts of the EPI program.

“Being with the same people everyday, always making jokes and always learning about how to do more hands-on things. Also the field trips,” Hogan added.

EPI goes on multiple field trips a year as well as having more hands-on experiences.

Nick Rebholtz graduated in 2018 and was a part of the EPI program. After graduating, Rebholtz said that EPI has played a big part in making him who he is as an adult.

“EPI not only helped me meet a like-minded group of peers, but also introduced me to the real world, and how our education, our techniques and our determination all decide how we make decisions once one

SEE EPI, PAGE 4



CSUS math tutors offer help

By Zainab Al Magsoosi
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Sacramento State is offering a free math tutoring program for local middle and high school students.

Math tutoring topics available in this program are Pre-Algebra, Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-calculus, Geometry, and Statistics.

The tutoring program seeks to improve educational learning opportunities for university and middle/high school students. In the process, students greatly benefit from this program and acknowledge the higher education of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics also known as STEM.

Students will be tutored through one-on-one interactions on zoom from Monday to Friday. Four tutors are available throughout the week.

Tutor Nikita, an English speaker that teaches all math topics except statistics, is available on Tuesday 3:30-5:30 p.m., Thursday 4:30-6:00 p.m. and Friday 3:30-4:00 p.m.

Tutor Mukunda, an English, Hindi, Telugu, and Tamil speaker teaches all math topics, has tutoring hours on Wednesday 5:00-6:00

p.m. and Friday 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Tutor Quin, an English speaker that also teaches all math topics except statistics, is accessible on Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-5:00 p.m. and Thursday at 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Lastly, Tutor Michael, an English and Vietnamese speaker, teaches all math topics except statistics, is available Monday and Wednesday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and Friday from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

The Math Tutoring Buddies Program can support students in enhancing their knowledge, proficiency, and skills in mathematics. More specifically, studying mathematical vocabularies and concepts, improving in mathematics literacy and practices, and utilizing problem solving skills.

El Camino Math Teacher Samuel Fegan thought EC students could benefit.

“If you’re able to get a hold of them, I think it’s a great program. It’s obviously good for students to get the help they need from older, recent former high school students who were in their shoes not that long ago,” Fegan said.

Sacramento State students are also able to strengthen their mathematical communication skills through this pro-

gram. As an outcome, they will be able to expand their mathematical/ pedagogical knowledge, skills, and interest.

As it is a one-on-one tutoring program, students will better understand what is being taught and the tutors can fully assist them easily.

“I definitely think in person tutoring probably has advantages over online, but I think one thing to remember is that learning in a whole class setting online is very different than learning in a one-on-one setting online,” Fegan pointed out.

A lot of students struggled with online learning last year, however, this program is slightly more compatible for students and teachers as it is more straightforward with teaching and learning.

The Math Tutoring Buddies Program is easy to access and free for all students. It is a great opportunity that will benefit students who are struggling with math and hoping to strengthen their skills.

Students can access the zoom link and more information online at csus.edu under the “Mathematics & Statistics” tab.

EPI: trips create great memories

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

becomes an adult,” Rebholtz said.

Rebholtz feels that all of the things he learned in EPI helped him later in his life with resumes, jobs, and all around experiences. EPI also provided fun activities and field trips that Rebholtz still remembers, being some of his favorite memories.

Rebholtz says that while all of EPI was fun, the most fun he had is stuck at a tie between two events.

“Field day and the Donner Summit field trip. The skills and techniques you learn in a field day do teach you a lot... but the fun you have in Truckee with your peers, hiking and taking in the views, is unforgettable,” Rebholtz said.

Ari Santillanes is one of the teachers involved with EPI. The program has been around since about 1993, with Santillanes’s father being one of the founders of EPI.

“I’ve known about the EPI program for a long time because I was a student in the EPI program,” Santillanes stated.

Santillanes believes that students should definitely join EPI, as she has seen the relationships and communities students have built with each other through the program.

“Students still come back and visit.”



Drama student Angie Ross (‘23) listens to feedback from Hamilton star Ashley De La Rosa. De La Rosa plays ‘Peggy’ in the production

HAMILTON: Workshop was eye-opening to Ross

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

would definitely go through with it.

Despite the challenges, Ross has looked into a few schools that specialize in performing arts. She states that many schools in Washington and Oregon have great acting programs, but her choice to strive for this career is still up in the air.

Being able to perform in front of her own peers is one thing, but pushing the limits and stepping outside of her comfort zone is something that Ross loves doing.

The workshop held by De La Rosa is a prime example of drama students gaining better insight into the theatre world.

Ross explains that this experience was an influential opportunity for

any student who wants to expand their knowledge in theatre.

Being able to ask De La Rosa questions was eye-opening to Ross and other students because they were able to gain more knowledge on what a career in theatre looks like. The workshop also allowed EC drama students to receive feedback from someone other than their drama teacher, Travlos.

Staying invested in theatre for most of her life, Ross gives credit to her family for being her main inspiration to continue all things theatre.

Growing up watching her mother and sister take an interest in theatre and dance, Ross expresses that they keep her eager to be a part of EC’s drama program and continue participating in things to improve her knowledge within theatre.

TIK TOK: EC sees damage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of value quickly, usually by stealing.

This is not only resulting in the damage and vandalization of property, but has also led to the arrests of many minors across the country.

EC has had its very own share of devious licks as well.

VP Secretary Jane Smith said she had never heard of devious licks before they started affecting EC.

“The first thing that I heard was about the girls bathroom in the back quad. Someone had ripped the soap dispensers off and I thought, ‘Oh, that’s really strange.’ I mean everyday we were having to replace and pay for new things,” Smith stated.

Things were being broken and vandalized as well as stolen. A teacher’s 10 pound dumbbell was stolen as well as some other minor thefts. Soap and paper towel dispensers were constantly being ripped from walls.

Replacing school property and covering over graffiti became a nightly routine for the custodians.

While there’s typically vandalization at schools, custodial supervisor Andrew Freitas stated how devious

licks have changed the amount of vandalism he typically sees.

“It’s definitely seen an uptick in the last couple weeks,” Freitas said.

New protocols are now in place to try to prevent more destruction from happening. Policies such as recorded lists of who leaves class at what time as well as their phone staying in the class have been put in place to try to stop the possibilities of students recording and ruining school property.

This is why half the bathrooms are closed, so they are easier to monitor.

At EC, getting caught vandalizing or participating in a devious lick is punishable with a three day suspension as well as helping clean or whatever best suits the crime.

“There’s a cost to everything that’s going on and they may not see the cost right now but their parents are paying for it. We’re all taxpayers and all of the funding for schools is out of taxpayer money,” Freitas said.

The trend has since been banned on Tik Tok due to the countless videos being against community guidelines. A mix of this and the new EC policies has quickly brought the problem to a stop.

Oklahoma!

Auditions Dec. 13
3:30 - 5:30
Room S4

Come be in the upcoming ECHS musical theatre performance!

All students are welcome to audition!

Sign up in Room S4
Time slots are available



New songs music lovers must listen to

Opinion by Dracos Chism
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

‘Kill the Noise’ by Papa Roach



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER @PAPAROACH

First up, veteran rockers, Papa Roach, coming from Vacaville, CA, with their new single, Kill The Noise. Straight off the bat, the band shows off a much heavier side than what they’ve previously produced. They keep the modern, computer edited beats mixed in with real drums. As is the case with most Papa Roach songs, the chorus is the heart of the song. The chorus slows down in tempo and shows off more of singer Jacoby Shaddix’s vocal range, while bringing in a heavy, but playful sound. The breakdown after the second chorus showcases the band at its heaviest. With all of these different sounds the band brings together and the way it’s pulled off, the song earns a rating of nine out of ten.

‘Gotta Go’ by Darren Waller ft. Maxx

Tight End for the Las Vegas Raiders, Darren Waller, came out with another album on Sept 14, and this was a standout track off the album. Collaborating with his teammate Maxx Crosby, the song isn’t the most creative thing, but it is definitely a fun listen. It has a piano chord progression that makes the song have a lighter feeling than the lyrics imply. There isn’t anything that really makes it stand out as its own thing, and Darren Waller doesn’t have a real distinct sound that makes him stand out more than anyone else to rap the lyrics. The song earns a six out of ten rating for being the fun listen it is.

‘Hurricane’ by Kanye West

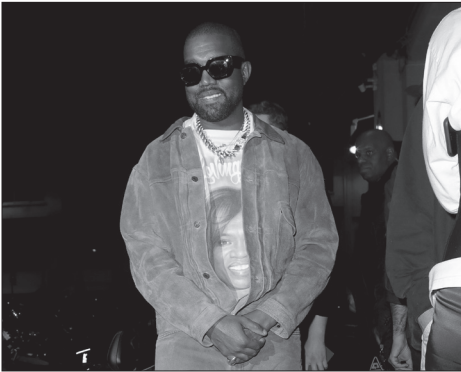


PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER @KANYEWEST

Coming from Kanye’s highly anticipated follow up to 2019’s Jesus is King, Donda definitely was a change for what was expected. The song Hurricane shows this very well. With organ music reminiscent of Church Gospel playing under the beat, it offers

something different from the style of rap that is over the beat. Although it is something different than what anyone else is doing, the sound wasn’t quite captured how intended. It sounds sort of lazily thrown together at the last minute. This song earns a rating of five out of ten.

‘Fair Trade’ by Drake ft. Travis Scott



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER @DRAKEDIRECT_

Off of Drake’s newest album, Certified Lover Boy, Fair Trade is a collaboration with two of the genre’s biggest names. Stylistically, it doesn’t differ from any of the other songs Drake has ever released. There is nothing that makes it something new of its own. The only saving grace on this song is the fact that Travis Scott contributed a verse. Because of the unoriginality and how it sounds compared to Drake’s previous work, this song gets a rating of four out of ten.

‘Paralyzed’ by Sueco



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER @SUECOTHECHILD

California based rapper Sueco comes up big with his new single called Paralyzed. Starting out stylistically, the song is reminiscent of the late rapper Juice Wrld. However, listeners were in for a surprise when the drums and guitars kicked in for the first chorus, which changed the song into a modern pop-punk tune. The genre is being used more and more as a revival of the early 2000s trend. Although Paralyzed uses elements heard from different artists, it is a song that is definitely hard to replicate. The dark lyrics mixed with catchy, fun chord progressions and beats make the song sound upbeat and fun. Altogether, the song is a respectable six out of ten. It could have used less autotune on the vocals and more focus on real vocals.

High school sports should be fun



Opinion by Mia Randall
MANAGING EDITOR

I started playing soccer when I was seven years old. After a couple years, I played goalie and I felt important. I was playing with my friends and making connections. Entering high school I loved it. Two years later, with over-use injuries and a lost passion, my love for soccer faded. High school sports can create opportunities for college, expand a student’s circle of friends, and most of all, they can be fun. Many consider sports to be the key component of one’s high school life. Though when the fun is removed, is it worth it?

Whether it’s beneficial to parents, coaches or anyone else, sometimes student-athletes have to ask if it’s beneficial to themselves. Sports should be self-gratifying, not everyone-else gratifying. When any high school athlete is working until physically or mentally injured—or both—to prove themselves to anyone but themselves, there’s an issue. Students are expected to balance their activity with academics, and when adding high school sports into the equation along with practice or games two hours a day, for five to six days per week, sometimes it just doesn’t fit. It will come to a point where student-athletes will have to pick and choose what to do and what not to do. When I played soccer for El Camino while challenging myself with honors classes, there would be times when I would have to choose to skip practice to study for a big test or complete long homework assignments. But, while chatting with my EC coach on our EC turf in advance about having to miss practice, I ended up being told, multiple times, that I should manage my time better

when, in reality, there was no extra time after school for me to manage. I was always greeted with a sharp glare by both my coach and my teammates when returning for practice the next day. I was told to run extra laps since I had been gone and missed out on the important drills the rest of the team was doing. It was punishment after punishment, simply a domino effect that when one toppled over, another fell. It only made sense for me to leave. I wasn’t having fun. Along with experiencing a mental fight between my happiness and my fear of disappointing my coach, my parents, and my friends, I had rethought what I wanted to do for my future and where sports were taking me. I concluded that sports were taking me nowhere, not to college, and definitely not to the pros. I wanted a breath of fresh air and, also, I wanted to enjoy high school and not look back and say to myself that I regretted wasting time doing something I wasn’t enjoying any more. The pressure student-athletes can feel may sometimes be too much

to handle, eventually forcing students to leave the sport for nothing else other than “mental reasons” which is valid, but the stigma around leaving a sport for “mental reasons” should disappear. Protecting mental health by leaving a sport isn’t quitting, it’s a healthy escape. There should be no shame in “quitting” a sport if it’s not fun anymore. Though there are benefits, the costs of high school sports on student-athletes can be overwhelming. According to the NCAA, college student-athletes graduate at a higher rate than their peers in the student body. Though this may be true, only 0.7 to 3.3 percent of high school athletes actually make it to compete in the NCAA’s Division I. For some, high school sports are also opportunities to receive financial help via a scholarship, but that number is even smaller. I’m not trying to take away the enjoyment of sports for those who find them fun, but there should also be no shame when a player leaves to protect their mental health. For most of us: If high school sports aren’t fun, leave—fun is crucial.



Students shoulder a heavy burden in 2021

Lockers would lighten the load

Opinion by Zoe Evans
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

Anyone that has ever been to middle school or high school knows that lockers are an essential part of a normal school year. Whether it's to grab homework or a textbook before class, sneak in a snack before lunch, or even socialize with your close friends before the next period, lockers are a big part of the school year.

Going into this 2021-2022 school year, the San Juan Unified District announced that the schools will be given a choice to use, or not use, any sort of locker that is not for physical education.

In the past, lockers have been available to all students, as long as they provide their own lock, and register the locker with the campus monitor.

Students who play sports were also given access to larger lockers in the locker room called sports lockers. The purpose of a sports locker was to hold sports equipment and clothing. Sadly these have also not been available this school year.

Athletes have resorted to dropping off their sports equipment in El Camino's Campus Monitor Cory Stowell's office, room 26.

"I had to carry my two heavy bags around all day because Cory's office was closed. Also some of us have to bike to school with two big bags. Typically I don't but it would be nice to be independent," complained **Heather Irwin (24)**.

In more recent years, schools throughout SJUSD have made the de-



PHOTO BY JACKSON PONDER

Empty lockers, ready to be used, still line the halls, zipped tied up and with no students congregating around them. Students are missing out on the long-standing tradition of making lockers their own personalized space.

cision to remove lockers. EC is one of the few schools in the San Juan Unified School District that still currently has lockers. This is due to many different factors. More and more teens have taken up vaping or smoking e-cigarettes. Teenagers often use lockers to hide their profanities. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, there has been an increase in the use of electronic cigarettes by 21%.

Students also tend to congregate at lockers, this would be normal and fine if the world wasn't still struggling with COVID-19 and the Delta Variant.

"The reason for not using the

lockers this year was for congregation purposes because of COVID. We are not allowed to have kids congregating in a small area," former Vice Principal Jennifer Petersen stated.

Lockers can also help teenagers with LBP or lower back pain. Backpacks, which everyone carries daily, can tear and wear muscles, ligaments, and joints. Most often other muscles in the body try to compensate for extra strain. But muscles can't help for excessive periods of time. This causes muscles to actually degenerate, causing stiffness and lack of motion. A study by *Health Day* shows

that as many as one in three kids between the ages of ten and eighteen suffer from LBP due to backpacks.

This is what lockers were made for in the first place. Not for decoration or to line the halls. They were made to store text books and lighten the load for a teen or child's backpack.

As of right now, lockers will not be a part of this school year. Teachers and staff have also not decided if lockers will be used next school year. Students should have the choice to use lockers, and have more normalcy at school, rather than carrying around a backpack and damaging their health.

COVID-19 'infects' the flow of classrooms

By Logan Castro
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

With COVID-19 still having a large presence within El Camino High School and Sacramento, it has been hard for some teachers to work around this issue while still providing a safe, fun, and educational environment for their students.

Certain classes such as Physical Education (PE), Band, Choir, and Drama are designed to be very social which within the San Juan Unified School District COVID-19 Prevention Program are harder to manage.

Drama Teacher Christopher Travlos is trying to find a balance between giving great performances and keeping him and his students safe. His classes are "non-traditional" in the sense that they are much more interactive than normal classes.

He explained that he has to be very aware of social distancing while he teaches his classes.

"There's plenty of hurdles that we have to cross and we are doing what we can to make sure students get the best experience they can have," Travlos said.

Normally this is not how a drama

class would be taught, especially since a big part of drama and theatre are performances, which are not typically COVID-19-friendly.

Band Teacher Gabriel Read, has very unique classes that aren't frequently taught in the same way one's math teacher would teach. Since the world has changed considerably over the last year, school bands have had to make several adaptations to make sure students still can pursue their passion of playing instruments.

Read has made additional precautions to help prevent the spread within his class. Such as giving his students more distance, special masks, and bell covers—small pieces of cloth that cover the holes of the instruments—which all help keep students safe from contracting the virus.

"I think the students have been really good about being flexible and taking all the changes and kind of rolling with the punches," Read said.

Cami Wolthuis, a PE teacher at EC, feels students' behavior towards physical activity, running, and sports have not changed even though the classes have been modified to fit the current safety requirements.

"We're trying to get the kids



PHOTO BY LOGAN CASTRO

Band Teacher Gabriel Read directs masked musicians during a recent class.

outside as much as humanly possible," Wolthuis discloses.

She explains that PE right now is a really important class for all EC students, coming back after quarantine where students

probably lacked exercise.

Additionally, PE allows time for students to take a mask break in between academic classes.



New teachers join the flock during COVID-19

Mr. Bill



Ceramics Teacher Sean Bill is starting his first year of teaching at El Camino after being a substitute teacher for three years. As a new teacher, he is excited to learn and grow beside his students.

-Maya Black

Mr. Fujita



Computer Applications and Math Teacher Moki Fujita earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics at Sacramento State and is teaching his first year at El Camino. Fujita is enjoying his work at EC, claiming it has definitely been a big and positive change from his last school.

- Zainab Al Magsoosi

Ms. Morlan

For Librarian Meaghan Morlan, becoming a librarian has been a dream since kindergarten and she continues to pursue that at El Camino. Now a librarian at EC, Morlan expresses her love for adding her own style and flair into her workspace to create a unique environment for everyone.

-Emma Canillo



Ms. Zarnick-Ryan

Biology Teacher Hannah Zarnick-Ryan says that she is on a mission to "bring science back to the dinner table." She hopes to make a lasting impact on the lives of her students through science this school year.

-Joshua Potratz



Ms. Lewis



Rachel Lewis is one of the new ceramics teachers at El Camino this year.

"I wanted to do something where I can share that passion with other people and teach it to them and hopefully inspire other students to become passionate about it as well," said Lewis.

-Zainab Al Magsoosi

Ms. Saylor



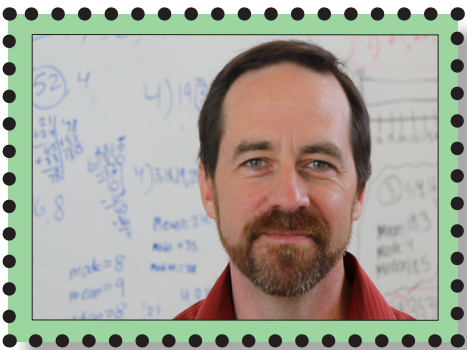
Stephanie Saylor is the new PE teacher at El Camino this year and she couldn't be happier. She graduated high school at EC and loved it so much that she knew she wanted to come back. Saylor graduated from Sacramento State and majored in child development. Shortly after graduating she realized that she wanted to teach PE for high school students.

-Ryan Nash

Mr. Woodward

Math teacher Nathan Woodward is in his tenth year of teaching but his first year at El Camino. Before EC, he taught at Encina High School, Elk Grove High School, and a junior college. Woodward is excited and looking forward to the rest of the school year.

-Joshua Potratz



Ms. Mc Donald

Creating art projects since she was six years old, Beginning Drawing and Painting teacher Amanda Mc Donald has continued her passion for art here at El Camino. Mc Donald enjoys the stress free environment in her classes and loves implementing her passion for art here at EC.

-Emma Canillo



Ms. Bustos Cardoso



Maribel Bustos Cardoso is the new Spanish teacher this year at El Camino. She went to Sacramento City College before and did student teaching and volunteering to get teaching experience. Cardoso brings a fresh new environment to students who wish to learn about Spanish and its many different customs.

-Ryan Nash

Mr. Bolles



Photography Teacher John Bolles, most recently graduated from University of Phoenix online after going to more than five different colleges. Bolles says that being new to El Camino has been a great experience so far. He appreciates how friendly the staff has been.

-Maya Black



Students and teachers show Eagle pride during modified spirit week

By Logan Castro and
Yoyo Michaels
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITERS

A typical El Camino tradition is to host a spirit week before the homecoming dance, where students and staff participate in different themed days to show off their school spirit. Spirit week looks a little different this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Normally, the week of homecoming consists of one single rally and an indoor dance, but with the district having multiple guidelines that restrict large gatherings, EC's Student Government class found a loophole to continue the fun tradition. Instead of one big rally, multiple lunchtime rallies were held, which divided up what would normally be in one rally into five different days. This gives the school a chance to still raise school spirit and have chances for games and other activities that would otherwise be missed out on.

EC Student Government Advisor Sara Turner is the teacher in charge of advising school activities such as spirit week and rallies. Turner and the Student Government worked hard to make sure everything goes smoothly and is enjoyable for everyone despite the restrictions.



PHOTO BY LOGAN CASTRO

Sophomores pose as soccer moms for soccer mom vs. BBQ dad day.

Starting off the week, Monday was pajama day. On pajama day, students wore pajama attire and others had fun with pajama onesies. Pajama day is generally the day that most students participate in due to how easy and comfortable the outfits are.

On Tuesday, the spirit theme was "Soccer Moms vs BBQ Dads." Students from all different grade levels dressed up in aprons, sandals, cargo shorts and other typical "barbecue dad" wear, along with yoga pants, sweaters, athletic shoes, and other typical "soccer mom" wear.

Wednesday was "Country vs Country Club," where students dressed up in country style, or "preppy" style for country club. Students showed up in polos, khakis, and tennis skirts for Country Club. For Country, many students showed up with jeans, cowboy hats, boots, belts with buckles, and flannels.

Thursday was "Anything but a Backpack" day, where students could bring anything to keep their books



PHOTO BY YOYO MICHAELS

Freshmen show their spirit by wearing fun pajamas on pajama day.

in, other than a backpack. Some students brought anything from laundry baskets, trash cans, coolers, and even multiple wheelbarrows. This specific day is new to EC, as it became a popular theme for spirit weeks across the nation through the social media app Tiktok.

Connor Gasper (22'), likes to participate in spirit week, dressing up for most days. This year was no different, as he dressed up for 3 out of the 5 spirit week days (Pajama day, Soccer Moms Vs. Barbeque dads, and Country vs. Country Club).

Gasper enjoyed seeing the creativity of each student and how they interpreted each spirit day, especially during the "Anything but a Backpack" day.

"I think that the 'Anything



PHOTO BY LOGAN CASTRO

Seniors pose with their "backpacks" for anything but a backpack day.

but the Backpack' day stood out a lot," Connor shared.

Finishing off the spirit week, Friday was Halloween costume day, which allowed for students to wear their halloween costume as long as it remained within the dress code policy. This is new to spirit week as well because traditionally, Homecoming falls earlier in the month which also means the Homecoming spirit week falls earlier too.

Students and staff who participated this year for the homecoming spirit week did a great job. One of the teachers that participated this week was Joel Carson, Physiology



PHOTO BY LOGAN CASTRO

Juniors dress in country and country club attire on country vs. country club.

and Environmental Science teacher.

Carson loves participating in spirit week and always dresses up to par for each day.

Especially during this year's spirit week, Carson went all out everyday during the week, but other teachers sometimes don't participate during any spirit week, or at least don't participate often.

"I wish more teachers would participate in it. Like this wing [Room 26-29] is really good, I think we all participated everyday," Carson said.

Although participating in spirit week is not a requirement, it still brings a fun element to the classroom for both students and teachers. Carson explains that not only does it show school spirit, but students and staff get a kick seeing all the creativity and variety that spirit week has to offer.

"I enjoy being here, I want my students to enjoy being here and a part of that is engaging in the fun, silliness, which doesn't mean they're

not learning," Carson explained.

Freshman at EC like Mateo Guthridge (25), are new to the activities related to spirit week and homecoming.

Spirit week along with other schoolwide activities brings a fun aspect to the school and can make it much less stressful for kids that are new to the school in general.

"Seeing people feel like they can [participate in spirit week] and have fun with it gives [EC] a very positive feeling," Guthridge stated.

One of the days that seems to be a favorite among a multitude of students was "Anything but a Backpack" day.

"When we did the 'Anything but a Backpack,' people were bringing microwaves, wheelbarrows, it was just very fun," Guthridge mentioned.

Having so many different activities going on throughout the week along with themed days allowed for a fun, spirited week at EC.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOEL CARSON

Teachers get creative with their attire on Halloween costume day.



Junior is El Camino’s newest entrepreneur

By Annika Clinciu
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

Paige’s Bookstore and More is an El Camino student’s dream come true. Paige Haworth (‘23), a student at EC, is now co-owning a new business with the help of her mother, Melissa Haworth. Paige’s Bookstore and More is an online shop consisting of books for all ages and one of a kind, handmade ‘bookish’ gifts. “Opening it was really stressful but now that it’s open it’s so relaxing and fun to do things like package everything,” says Paige Haworth. Elizabeth Sansone is Paige’s AP Seminar teacher at EC, and she has been a huge supporter of Haworth’s vision. “I’m a former business owner, so I know how hard and how much of a risk it is to open a business,” Sansone says. She explains that she is super happy for the Haworths, as a huge book lover herself. Band teacher Gabriel Read is another teacher at EC that has supported the Haworth’s with the opening of their new business. “I think it’s super great that that kind of entrepreneurial spirit is very much alive and well. I think that if anyone would be a good fit for it, it would be Paige,” Read states. Eventually, the Haworth family is hoping to expand to an in-person bookstore near the El Camino campus,

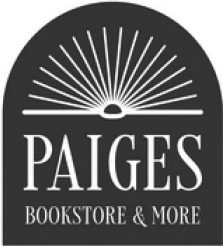


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAIGESBOOKSTORE.COM

Paige Haworth (‘23) and her mother, Melissa Haworth, smile together as their newly opened bookstore takes off.

but for now, the bookstore remains online and can be accessed by anyone. “We’re hoping because the school is near, students might be attracted to it because it’s a little hard to get kids to order from an online store,” says Paige Haworth. When the building is set up and in-person, they hope for it not only to be a book and gift shop, but also a place to grab a snack or drink. “We want to have it be a com-

munity space. One you could rent out for your knitting club. We are hoping to have a little snack bar and bakery area with stuff like tea, coffee and boba,” Paige Haworth says. The books at Paige’s bookstore are new, but the Haworths are hoping to include used books into their store in the near future. Besides the uniqueness in book choices and gifts, there are also many original ideas incorporated into the store. Paige’s featured book buyer of the month program, or FBB, is a fun program that Melissa Haworth came up with. With the program, book lovers can sign up and be featured on their website. Becoming the buyer of the month means you get to pick 15-20 book recommendations for the website. The store can currently be found at <https://paigesbookstore.com>. The website has lots of items to browse through as well as updates on the in-person store location when it begins to develop. The Haworths are available at paigesbookstore.sacto@gmail.com for any questions about the business.



Must see shows for anime fans: old and new

By Logan Castro
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

Hunter X Hunter (1998)

Hunter X Hunter was adapted from manga form to the TV show in 1998, and then ended in 2001. In 2011, the popular show was entirely rebooted, lasting all the way until 2014. Having 6 different arcs and 148 episodes, Hunter X Hunter follows the story of young Gon Freeccs and friends trying to become “Hunters” in a world with unusual and mythical beasts.

Naruto: Shippuden (2007)

Following the story of a ninja named Naruto in his trials and tribulations, the 500 episode series has 21 seasons. There are also 10 total movies based on the Naruto storyline, two of which are canon and provide to the series as a whole.

Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood (2009)

The 64 episode long series ran from April 2009 to July 2010, following brothers Edward and Alphonse Elric, who after their mother’s death, try to resurrect her using alchemy.

Demon Slayer (2019)

The Demon Slayer anime adaptation was first announced in mid 2018. The first season (26 episodes) aired in 2019 following the story of Tanjiro Kamado through his hardships and battles against demons. The second season is planned to air in early December of this year.

Jujustu Kaisen (2020)

The first season of 24 episodes aired in early October of 2020, follows the story of a teenage Yuji Itadori in his quest of killing a powerful curse by joining a secret organization of Jujustu Sorcerers. The new season of Jujustu Kaisen will be released in early December of this year.

Attack on Titan Season 4 (2021)

Attack on Titan has 4 seasons with the second half of the 4th and last season coming out in early January of 2022. The first episode of the anime adaptation aired in early 2013, following the story of Eren Jaeger and his close friends during their struggle to survive and protect humanity against the world-ending threat of the monstrosus titans.



GRAPHIC CREDIT MAPPA.CO.JP



Girls volleyball sets up players evacutated from Caldor fire



El Camino girls volleyball brought gifts to their match for the players displaced by the fire near El Dorado High School.

By Dracos Chism
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

The Caldor Fire ravaged through El Dorado County, leaving many students attending El Dorado High-school without homes. To support the families, the El Camino Girls Volleyball team brought gifts for the victims of the fire to the high-school in late August of this year.

With a fire being so close to home, it was easy to imagine what it would be like for the victims of the fires. Before travelling to El Dorado High School for a game, El Camino’s Volleyball Team made sure they went prepared.

They brought gift baskets full of basic necessities to the girls on the opposing team. Fundraisers put on by the EC volleyball team helped raise money for the gift baskets, getting most of their donations from the EC community.

These donations happened during a Snap Raise fundraiser to

buy new equipment for the team, which then the money was decided to be used for some good. During a three day span of online fundraising to go along with the baskets, the El Camino community raised over 2,000 dollars for the gift baskets.

The students, parents, and surrounding neighborhoods are filled with many people who all felt the need to help make change.

Head Coach Paul Giacomotto enjoys that the EC community has been so willing to give back.

“There’s a lot of good people who want to do something and make a difference where we can for these kids’ experiences in general,” Giacomotto said.

In the baskets were a variety of things such as socks, dental care, lotion, Q-tips, gum, and some candy.

Giacomotto explained how this plan began to come together.

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 12

Vaccine mandate will sideline students



Opinion By Joshua Potratz
SPORTS EDITOR

The halls were a little emptier on Monday, Oct. 18 as students participated in a state-wide school sit-out in response to the vaccine mandate imposed by Governor Newsom.

The mandate applies to all private and public schools. Any unvaccinated students will be banned from attending in-person school in all of California. However, many people see this vaccination mandate as both unnecessary and an abuse of power.

Statistically, children under the age of 18 are a lot less likely to die of COVID than adults. Since January 2021, 280 children have died of COVID, making the survival rate 99.999 per cent for children under 18. To put that into perspective, if 100,000 kids contracted COVID, 99,999 of them are going to come out fine.

Any number of children may seem like a lot, but 280 is lower than adolescent deaths from motor vehicles, firearms, drownings, heart disease, and even the flu over the same time period.

According to the CDC web site, current data suggests long-term effects from COVID for kids sits at about 0.001 percent of cases, though the CDC emphasizes the small sample size.

This is why many people are against the mandate for children to receive the vaccine. It is completely unnecessary seeing that children

are extremely unlikely to die from the disease in the first place.

Kids can also have a wide variety of different reactions to the vaccine which range from heart inflammation, headaches, fevers, and an overall feeling of sickness. In a lot of these cases, the symptoms from the vaccine are worse than the symptoms of COVID-19, which some argue would provide them more immunity in the first place. These side effects from the vaccine, specifically heart inflammation, can be devastating to a kid’s health, especially if that kid is an athlete.

According to the CDC, about 1 in 10,000 males between ages 16-19 developed myocarditis from the second dose of the vaccine. To put that into perspective, a male aged 16-19 is 10 times more likely to get myocarditis from the vaccine than to die from COVID while unvaccinated.

Myocarditis can weaken the heart and in serious cases can cause heart failure and sudden death. There are many cases of this happening to healthy teens after taking the second dose of the vaccine.

One concerned student athlete is **Braden Chandler (‘22)**. Chandler plays water polo, soccer, and swim for El Camino. He was one of the students who showed his disapproval of the mandate by protesting at the State Capitol Building. According to Chandler he was joined by roughly 10,000 people all peacefully protesting outside the capitol building. He describes how many people there were not against the vaccine, but strictly against the mandate of the vaccine.

“I’m not anti-vax, I’m anti-vax mandate,” Chandler said.

Many view the vaccine as safe

SEE POTRATZ, PAGE 12

Fall sports wrap up their seasons

Girls golf

By Joshua Potratz
SPORTS EDITOR

The Girls Golf team has just finished off their 2021 season.

In her first season, **Mia Randall (‘23)** had a fun time learning how to play the sport.

“I think it went really well for my first year. I learned a lot from the girls and I had a lot of fun,” said Randall.

While Randall was enjoying her first season at El Camino, some players were enjoying their last. **Tori Szabo (‘22)** and **Julia Friedman (‘22)** did very well in their last season, both qualifying for sections along with sophomore **Madison Paulson (‘24)**.

“I’m sad it’s over but I’m happy with how I played,” said Szabo.

Szabo continues to learn and grow her own game while also hoping that the golf team carries on and grows as well.

Cross country

By Zoe Evans
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

El Camino Cross Country has had a beneficial and productful season. They did not receive any awards but they worked hard and were able to improve throughout the season. Because Cross Country is entirely an outdoor sport, they haven’t had to deal with Covid restrictions and were able to have a relatively normal season.

Cross Country this year was coached by Doug Barnes and assisted by Joyce Bernhoft.

Cross country athlete **Lucas Waddell (‘25)** finds Coach Barnes’ mindset to be encouraging and helpful through the season.

“I like him because he doesn’t yell at us, he’s a lot more calm than some other coaches are and he’s really encouraging,” Waddell said.

Barnes and Bernhoft have done an amazing job training their athletes.

Girls water polo

By Logan Castro
EAGLE EYE SATFF WRITER

The Girls Water Polo teams at El Camino, led by Coach Cory, Coach Shelby, and Coach Greg Verzona, went positive for both Varsity and JV the fall season of 2021. The Varsity girls water polo team played 3 Home games, 8 away games, and 12 neutral games, winning 13 out of 23 matches.

Ending 4th in the league, against schools like Del Campo, Christian Brothers, Bella Vista, and Mira Loma, EC fought each team and played each school once or twice.

The El Camino Girls Varsity Team’s Coach was Coach Cory, who has been coaching at El Camino for 4 years, and has been working with a lot of the team members since their Freshman year.

“This is my 4th year here as the girls coach so I lose that group that I’ve had since they were freshman, but we’ve been building for this [season].” Coach Cory said when discussing

the future of girls water polo.

Coach Cory commends all of the work done by his team but took a second to appreciate Della Baldwin 22’ and Kendra Mohle 22’ who had outstanding performances through this season.

“I would think that all in all Della Baldwin and Kendra Mohle are two of our players that were closely MVP’s on our [Varsity] team.” Coach Cory explained.

According to Baldwin, Varsity won most of their games thanks to their amazing coaching staff who took time to work with the girls not only with actual water polo gameplay help but also with mental health and team bonding.

“Coach Cory is very intense when he is coaching, his head is in the game, and he’s only thinking about the game. Greg is kind of like a rock who is kind of for the emotional support.” Baldwin described.



From bullets to barbells

El Camino weight room has a unique origin story

By Maya Black
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

The weight room at El Camino was not always a weight room. It was actually a shooting range that was created for the Cadet Program.

The Cadet Program is a military program that prepares students who want to join the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program in college.

This program started in 1953 and was removed in 1973 due to financial issues within the district.

The program was led by Colonel Armstrong and any student, boy or girl, was able to join.

When you walked into the shooting range there were two sides. The left side was a classroom with lockers and the right side was the range.

The ceiling of the range had a target where they could shoot at. The ceiling's target was at the far end of the room, with a steel plate from the ceiling down to the ground. The plate was placed at a 45 degree angle which allowed the bullets to go down into the gravel. The windows placed were originally just open spaces in the wall for ventilation.

The weapons they used were placed in a highly secure container that almost always remained locked. If you look now in the southwest side of the building, you could still see the nail marks from the container. The only person who had access to the container was Colonel Armstrong. Fred Gibson was a teacher at EC from 1970 to 2010.

Gibson contributed to taking out the shooting range. He remembers having to carry out, in a wheelbarrow, pounds and pounds



PHOTO BY JACKSON PONDER

El Camino's weight room sits uphill above the track and turf field. 48 years ago the shooting range became the weight room.

of lead from bullets. Gibson then hired a company to put in cement.

In the 90's, they broke down a wall in order to have enough space for a weight room and put in windows.

"It was a very well-respected and admired program," Gibson said.

When the program was taken out, parents were outraged. Before games, cadet members would run across the field with their flag while everyone cheered.

Currently, there are at least six seniors at EC who plan on going into the military.

Gibson has mixed emotions about whether or not the Cadet Program should come back, but he feels that there are many other electives that should come back and he is not opposed to the idea of the program resurfacing EC.



Meet EC's running backs

Key players Gesyrus Scott ('22) and Rashid Tanko ('23) lead El Camino to victory over rivals.

By Ryan Nash
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

El Camino defeated Rio Americano High School at Del Campo High School on Saturday Sept 18 at 1 pm by a close score of 19-18.

There were several important players throughout the game but **Rashid Tanko ('23)** and **Gesyrus Scott ('22)** were arguably two of the best.

Scott had what many people consider to be one of his best games he's played at EC so far. His ability to be a consistent and reliable asset for the eagles proved to be key in the win, and he did that mainly through his rushing ability.

"The amount of yards after contact he had were incredible," Head Coach John Dolliver said.

Scott was not only able to get yardage at a consistent rate, but also at the right time. Late fourth quarter is where he made the biggest influence over the game.

"Being able to get the last two first

downs at the end of the game was the highlight moment for sure," Scott said.

Scott had 3 receptions for 36 yards as well as an impressive 112 yards on 20 carries amounting to 148 all purpose yards. The longest carry he had was 26 yards, being his longest up to that point in the season.

As the game was winding down in the fourth quarter, the Eagles were trailing 13-18 and were in a desperate position to score.

"That was when we caught the corner with his eyes in the back field and they didn't have safety help in the top, so quarterback **Luke Coleman ('22)** knew to pull the ball at that point and Rashid took it and did the rest," Dolliver said.

Tanko an all purpose player had winning on his mind when he caught the touchdown reception that would put the eagles ahead

"It was a good throw from my quarterback Luke. The only thing going through my mind was getting this win, and I did it," Tanko said.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY GESYRUS SCOTT

Scott the ball carrier with Tanko blocking. El Camino backfield helps bring Eagles to victory.



Boys waterpolo makes it to sections

By Dracos Chism
EAGLE EYE STAFF WRITER

The boys varsity Water Polo team squeaked into sections with a 13-13 record this season. They won their last game against Mira Loma by a score of 17-13. Discluding the shortened and eventually cancelled 2020 season, this will be the fourth time in the last five seasons that the Eagles have made sections. **Braden Chandler ('22)** is very proud of how this season has gone.

"Honestly, it's been a great season and I've had a lot of fun," said Chandler.

The Eagles finished third place in league and had to face a tougher team in the first round of sections but that didn't discourage Chandler of his team's chances.

"I don't think it'll necessarily be a problem, but it will definitely force us to get our heads in the game."

Another person that shared similar beliefs is the teams' captain

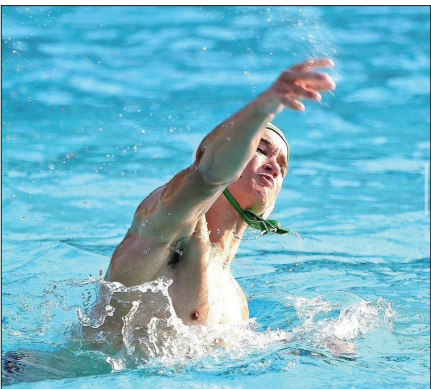


PHOTO COURTESY OF BRADEN CHANDLER

tain **Jack Larsen ('22)**.

"I think we'll at least win the first game, we've been playing really good recently," said Larsen.

The Eagles played against Bear River on Friday, November 5th in the first round of sections and unfortunately lost by a score of 12-4. Regardless of the score, the Eagles still had a solid season and are looking forward to an even better season next year.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRADEN CHANDLER



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN CARILLO

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

"I was already talking about it with the coach, and then the parents reached out so I was like 'ok let's try and do something,'" Giacomotto explained.

Hearing about how the players were affected gave the EC volleyball team an idea on how to help these girls while they were going through such a tough time.

"The basket idea was something that our JV coach and my wife came up with," Giacomotto said.

Eventually, the baskets were sorted together and individually passed out at the volleyball game, leaving many smiling faces in the stands and on the court.

POTRATZ: It's about the loss of education

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

and even have gotten it themselves, yet are standing up to the mandate as an abuse of power.

Some, however, see the vaccine mandate as a positive thing. One person who shares this ideology is Varsity Girls Golfer **Piper Finnerty ('22)**.

"It's about protecting yourself and protecting other people," she said.

Finnerty believes that all students

should get the vaccine whether they want it or not for the safety of others.

This, however, ignores the fact that, according to the CDC, fully vaccinated people can still get and spread the virus.

This puts the credibility of the vaccine mandate into question. Children under 18, though less at risk from the illness, can still spread it when they are vaccinated, which makes students and families correctly wonder the purpose of getting the vaccine in the first place.

Students should not be forced to get a vaccination they don't need, and certainly should not be threatened with the loss of education if they fail to comply with the government's questionable vaccine mandate.

Eagles win big in the nest for Homecoming

By Joshua Potratz
SPORTS EDITOR

There was much excitement in the air as the Eagles had their first homecoming game since 2019. Homecoming royalty was announced, each class built floats, and the Eagles defeated the Bella Vista Broncos by a score of 50-6. This win has propelled them into the playoffs for the first time since 2016.

Offense was on full display with the Eagles scoring seven touchdowns. **Marque Gains ('22)** started off the Eagles tremendous offensive night by returning the first punt for a 91 yard touchdown. Gains also had one reception for 24 yards.

Rashid Tanko ('23) had an outstanding game with 150 rushing yards on five carries with two touchdowns. He also had 53 receiving yards on just one reception.

Joshua Hamilton ('23) had a breakthrough game with 81 rushing yards on five carries totaling three touchdowns. Hamilton only had one touchdown on



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRI SHAW-HACKMAN

Justin Williams ('22) gets the team hyped up after the finish of the National Anthem.

the season before this game.

J.C Gill ('22) also had a good game with 111 all purpose yards which earned him one touchdown. This touchdown was 65 yards, his longest of the season.

The Eagles coaching staff had to switch their gameplan up on Special Teams because both of their kickers **Jackson Ponder ('22)** and

Nick Golden ('22) were out due to sickness and injury. **Gesyryus Scott ('22)** and **Nolan Oates ('24)** had to step up to take kickoffs, nine in total. They didn't go for any field goals, instead they only went for 2 point conversions. They scored four of these, totalling their conversion points to 8.

Defense was also very crucial to winning this game. The team totalled 54 tackles, eight of these coming from **Robert Scott ('22)**, all of them being unassisted. **Justin Williams ('22)** forced one fumble and recovered it as well, and ended up leading to Tanko's 61 yard touchdown.

At halftime each class paraded their floats around the track in front of the cheering crowd while teachers Mr. Waldo, Mrs. Ortiz, Mrs. Pefley, and Ms. Narayanan judged the floats. The floats were judged on appearance, attention to detail, overall percentage pumped, and a small skit that was performed on each of them. After all of these factors were taken into consideration, Freshmen finished in fourth, Juniors in third, Sophomores in

second, and the Senior class took first.

Homecoming Royalty was also announced during halftime. The king was **Brady Clements ('22)** who had a great defensive game, getting 8 total tackles, 6 of them being solo. The Queen was **Camille Pesin ('22)**, a foreign exchange student from France.

As mentioned before, this win qualified the Eagles for division 5 playoffs. They played their first playoff game against the 5-4 Casa Roble Rams on Friday, November 5. They lost by a score of 51-34 and were knocked out of the playoffs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRI SHAW-HACKMAN

Join the **Athletic Boosters Club** and help support El Camino's athletic programs!

\$20 Individual / \$30 Family

Go Eagles!

