

The Eagle Eye

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El Camino Fundamental High School

December 2024

History in hysterics: EC's '1776'

By Emery Lewis
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With the presidential election this year and autumn parading the streets, many changes are happening. El Camino Theatre Company felt that the musical "1776" would be a fitting production for the fall musical. Opening night for the musical "1776" was Nov. 1 in the Performing Arts Center.

"1776" is about the founding fathers facing the decision to either declare independence from Great Britain or remain ruled by the crown.

The musical starts with the members of the constitutional congress voting whether or not it would be best for the colonies to claim independence from Britain. After much debate the congress couldn't come to an agreement and decided to elect Thomas Jefferson to write the Declaration of Independence. The musical follows John Adams in his pursuits to convince some of the other members of the congress to sign the declaration.

The musical portrayed vigorous debates between the congressman, the value in compromises, and what hard work and dedication can bring you.

Michael DiSalvo, the drama teacher, is now in his second year of teaching at EC. With "1776" being the 3rd musical that he has directed for EC, and the first one this year, he is very happy with how it turned

out. The final show had sold out and had the biggest audience for any of DiSalvo's productions yet. He mentioned how this musical is atypical since it holds the record for the longest scene without music, which was a good challenge for the actors.

"I think it was a step forward in terms of what we were able to build on stage and what we were able to do from a tech standpoint," he said.

A lot of preparation and hard work was done before the opening night of the musical. The cast had rehearsal for about two months, working on music, blocking scenes, and the dances, which this year Disalvo brought in choreographer Jacob Gutiérrez-Montoya, who works with the B Street Theatre.

Quinn Reynolds ('26) who has been a part of various different productions and played John Adams in "1776," did historical research on Adams and reviewed previous productions of the musical in order to prepare for his role.

"I looked at a lot of how they portrayed the character, and then eventually came up with my own concept," he stated. Quinn continued by stating, "it was very different from a lot of the roles I had previously performed. However, it was very fun."

Unlike Quinn, this was **Hayden Gillespie's ('25)** first musical he has been in. He took this musical as a learning experience and found

that putting in hard work and setting your mind to something has payoffs. To Gillespie he found that the musical calls attention to the importance of voting and to really consider what you're voting for.

"America was built upon this basis that was decided that night in 1776 and you need to understand everything that you are voting for, why our government has democracy," he said.

The musical had a good turnout selling around 500 tickets and a sold out show. To learn more information you can find DiSalvo in room S-4. The next play by the ECTC will be in May called "She Kills Monsters."



PHOTOS BY EMERY LEWIS
Percy Tidd's ('26) character Caesar Rodney passes out during Act 1 of 1776.



PHOTOS BY EMERY LEWIS
Hayden Gillespie ('25) and other members of the play perform "Molasses to Rum". Gillespie's character, Edward Rutledge wanted to continue slavery in the U.S.

Choir spreads holiday cheer at winter concert

By Emme Hogge
NEWS EDITOR

El Camino's choir put on their annual Winter Concert, "Sounds of the Season," on Dec. 5 at 7pm in the Performing Arts Center. The Concert featured performances from both the concert and madrigal choir, as well as combined performances.

The show opened with a combined performance from both concert and madrigal choir of "Song of the Earth" and "Angels We Have Heard

on High." The concert choir then sang "Do You Hear What I Hear," "Once Upon A December," "Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Feliz Navidad," which the audience was encouraged to sing along with. During intermission, attendees could bid on items in a silent desert auction in the auditorium entrance.

The concert continued with performances from the Madrigal choir, including "Carol of the Bells," "Fum, Fum, Fum," "Gloucestershire Wassail" and "Hot Chocolate." This was broken by a second intermission, and the madrigal choir finished with "Hydom, Tiddlydom," "White Christmas" and "The Farewell Song."

The concert ended with a combined performance of "Silent Night."

Choir Director Tessa Kelly is in her second year here at EC. She teaches madrigals, which is an audition choir,

concert choir, which is beginning choir and music appreciation.

"It went really well—they all sounded fantastic," Kelly said. "Compared to last year, everybody was just a little bit more comfortable, including myself."

President of Madrigals choir **Diamond Barbee ('25)** is in her third year in choir and her second in madrigals. Out of all her years in choir, Barbee enjoyed this year's choir concert the most.

"This [year] was probably my favorite. I think we had the most fun with it—we had a lot more energy and we've all gotten closer over the years," Barbee explained.

Although this is choir's last event before the winter break, students can look forward to choir's Themed Cabaret on March 8.



Haunted house

NEWS, PAGE 2



Winter talent show

NEWS, PAGE 3



Boys varsity soccer

SPORTS, PAGE 11

In this issue

News 1

Opinion 5

Spotlight 6

Entertainment 8

Sports 10



PHOTO BY EMME HOGGE
Members of the concert choir sing and dance to "Feliz Navidad" during the annual Winter Choir Concert in the Performing Arts Center.



Students get spooked at the 2024 haunted house

By **Emme Hogge**
NEWS EDITOR

On Friday Oct. 25, El Camino’s student government held its annual haunted house in the small gym, which was themed this year after the popular anthology series “American Horror Story.”

Student government member **Zoe Daffron (‘25)** was lead of the Haunted House after being second in command her junior year. Daffron explained that the process for choosing leads of certain events begins at the start of the year; those who want to lead an event give their argument why they should be chosen to lead it, and the rest of student government votes on who they believe to be the best candidate.

“I just love [the] haunted house, it’s so fun. That’s definitely one of my favorite events here, so I just wanted to make it better,” Daffron said.

Admission into the haunted house costs either one dollar or two cans of food. A lot of the money that is earned is used to pay for the expenses of the haunted house, like decorations and food that is provided to the actors. Student Government advisor Sara Turner estimated the Aotal amount spent on the haunted house was about 450, and so cash collected was used \$to repay those funds. Any leftover money and the cans are donated to the Sacramento food bank.

The haunted house is set up by Student government after school the day prior and before the school the morning of. The layout consists of hallways that wind throughout the small gym, and each hallway

features actors whose jobs are to scare students who walk by. Being that the theme was American Horror Story, the hallways were decorated and the actors portrayed different aspects of each season of the series.

Student government initially goes to drama to acquire actors, and students in drama can sign up for certain roles. Leftover slots then go to AVID, and lastly the general student body. Actors who do not show up or need subs are usually covered by members of Student government.

Daffron explained that this year, she focused a lot of her efforts on being organized and making sure everyone knew their role.

“I chose one person [as a lead] for each hallway, and we chose costumes for the [actors]. Then I created a script for each hallway, so each person had a script; what to do, what to say,” she said.

Actors were instructed to arrive at EC at seven a.m. the morning of the haunted house to get into costume and character.

Actor and student government

memeber **Trip Allshouse (‘27)** was a monkey in a cage in the Freak Show hallway, which is the fourth season of American Horror Story.

“I would jump out of my cage and bang on the cage—I’d say I was pretty scary,” Allshouse said.

During the school day, many teachers will take time out of the period to

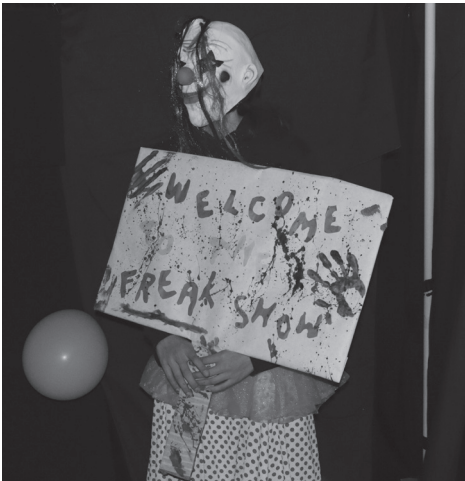
take their class to the haunted house. Members of student government, known as “tour guides,” lead groups of students through the haunted house. Many students also go during lunch.

Not only is the haunted house a great way to get students excited about halloween, but it also gives back to the community.



PHOTOS BY GRACE GOLLIHUR

ABOVE AND AT LEFT: Actors in the haunted house perform their role for their assigned “American Horror Story” themed hall.
BELOW: A prop sits in the one of the hallways, which Student Government set up the morning of the haunted house.



EPI hosts annual costume contest

By **Sarah Edwards**
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Eagle Polytechnic Institute recently held their annual halloween costume Cntest on Oct. 31 for El Camino students to show off their costumes to get everyone in the Halloween spirit.

EPI Club Tech has been hosting the costume contest for the last four years but it has been a tradition here at EC for over 20 years. Before EPI began hosting it, the RadioTelevision class ran it for many years. Every year

Club Tech picks out judges, categories, decorations and brings an air cannon to the contest to shoot candy for students to catch. The judges this year were English Teacher Samuel Valine, Art Teacher Amanda McDonald, and Physics Teacher Steven Markley.

EPI Club Tech Secretary, **Faith Doe (‘26)**, was one of the students who helped organize the event. This was her second year in EPI and also her second year running the contest.

“At our meetings, we’ve been doing

what prizes we are going to give out or what categories we’re going to specify for the costume contest, [and] who are going to be the judges,” Doe said.

Many teachers are a big part of running the costume contest as well, like EPI teachers Ryan Tompkins and Timothy Peppel. This was Peppel’s first year taking over but Tompkins has helped plan and run the contest for many years.

“I’ve been a part of the contest, behind the scenes, for eight years. I’ve

always participated either as a judge or a contestant,” Tompkins said.

There were five different categories students could win in the contest; Horror, Comedy, Pop Culture, Sci-Fi/Fantasy or Group Costumes. Both students and teachers could compete to win in one category. Winners received many different gift cards to different places like Dutch Bros or Crumbl Cookies.

Joanna Gayoba (‘26) was the winner for the horror category as Georgie from the horror clown movie “IT”. This wasn’t her first year winning; she has won every year she’s signed up.

“I just saw [costume contest flyers] around school and I really like doing weird creepy makeup and I was like ‘I think I got a chance.’ Then, I won and I was like ‘okay cool, let’s do it again next year,’” Gayoba said.

If students are interested in competing in next year’s costume contest, there will be flyers around the school with a QR code leading up to the event.



PHOTO BY LUKAS SCOTT

Participants in the Costume Contest stand on the stage in the back quad to show off their costumes.

The Eagle Eye

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2024-2025



Students show off their voices at talent show

By Emery Lewis
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Friday Dec. 6, El Camino’s student government put together the annual talent show held in the Performing Arts Center. Six students performed a song of their choice and a panel of judges rated their preformance on a scale of 1-10. The talent show is a way for students to get out of their comfort zones and have fun on stage while doing something that they are good at.

Student Government took about a month to plan the talent show. First they held auditions for the show where students would perform the song they chose and student government would determine if it was appropriate. They also spent time brainstorming decorations, lights, and what role everyone would play. **Lucas Waddell (‘25)**, the lead for the talent show and senior class student government president, said deciding on decorations was one of the harder parts of planning the talent show. They decided on doing a winter theme and made snowflakes out of paper bags. Waddell also had to learn how to work the technical side of the operation.

“I talked to Mr.DiSalvo to figure out how to run the Performing Arts Center tech,” he said.

The winner got to take home a prize consisting of a \$20 gift card to Skips Restaurant along with some candy canes, chocolate, hot cocoa and other small treats. The winner of this year’s Talent Show was **Akemi Jamison (‘25)**, who performed her own version of “That Funny Feeling” by Phoebe Bridgers. She performed on stage with her guitar and shared that although she was nervous she was able to overcome that as her song went on. She got the idea to change the lyrics of “That Funny Feeling” from a video she



AT LEFT: Winners in the Talent Show stand before the audience in the performing Arts Center and applaud each other. AT RIGHT: 2024 Talent Show winner Akemi Jamison (‘25) sings a rewritten version of Phoebe Bridger’s “That Funny Feeling.”



PHOTOS BY JOHANNA HERNANDEZ-ARISTEO

AT LEFT: Winners in the Talent Show stand before the audience in the performing Arts Center and applaud each other. AT RIGHT: 2024 Talent Show winner Akemi Jamison (‘25) sings a rewritten version of Phoebe Bridger’s “That Funny Feeling.”

“I rewrote the lyrics to ‘That Funny Feeling’ about high school,” She continued with, “ [It took] 10 minutes, words just started rhyming,” she said.

After all the performances had finished, the judges added up the final scores and the person who ended up with the most points in the end was announced the winner. Third place went to **Mia Anderson (‘25)**, second place was given to **Saphire Butler (‘28)**, and first place was Jamison. There was one judge from each grade and one teacher. **Mason McGee (‘26)** was the judge from the junior class, he mentioned how being a judge wasn’t about what song they chose but about how well they were able to sing the song and demonstrate their talent for the school.

“I got to experience good songs being sung,” Mcgee said.

If you want more information or are looking to participate in the next talent show visit Sarah Turner in Room 40.

Measure P: the long awaited campus rebuild

By Emme Hogge
NEWS EDITOR

During the November 2024 election, voters in Sacramento County voted on many proposed local measures. One of these measures that passed was Measure P, which was a school improvements bond measure for the San Juan Unified School District. Since it has passed, SJUSD will issue \$950 million in bonds to fund school improvements for schools in the district. Property taxes will be levied \$60 for every \$100,000 in assessed value to account for the bond.

Before any work can be done on schools, the district will come up with what is called a Facilities Master Plan, which takes into account the physical state of all the buildings in the district. From there, they will be able to determine which schools need what type of repair, anywhere from a small fix to a complete rebuild. Since the money that is being used to refurbish and repair these schools is public money, the district will have to create a plan that describes what needs to be done to certain schools and how much that will cost. This way, taxpayers are able to access this information.

Due to the state of disrepair that El Camino is in, it is assumed that the school will be rebuilt. To fix leaky roofs and dry rot, the building would still need to be essentially gutted and then repaired, so a full rebuild would be more practical. A proposal is available on the disrtict website.

Principal Evelyn Welborn is excited about Measure P passing, and thinks the effects stem beyond just a better quality building.

“The building doesn’t match the level of teaching that’s going on in the classrooms,” Welborn explained. “We have great quality programs, and our teaching staff is fantastic, but I think it’s hard for people to

look past the building and see the teaching that’s going on.”

Although the physical quality of a school does not reflect the academic quality, it is true that appearances can have an effect on which school a family chooses to send their kids to. Recently, EC’s student population has been dropping, and many believe this can be attributed in part to the old, worn out look of the school. EC was built in 1951 and has not been rebuilt since. Things like leaky roofs and faulty heating and air systems can have a negative effect on those at EC, but the overall look of the building also gives the impression of unprofessionalism that can sway families to choose a better-looking school, according to Welborn.

Due to the amount of time it takes to produce a Facilities Master Plan, Welborn estimates that work starting on EC will not begin until about a year from now, whether that is extensive repairs or a rebuild. Depending on the extent of the repairs, construction could stretch into the school year, so some classes could potentially move into portables temporarily. If the school is fully rebuilt, it is estimated to be around three years before staff and student body move into the new building.

Welborn also explained that the actual structure of the building is commonly reused for schools within a district so that district does not have to go through the approval process for blueprints and plans many times over. However, Welborn thinks it’s important that the surrounding community should have some say in the new building.

“I’m going to push for community input—the teachers should have some input, the students should have input because we’re the ones who are using it everyday,” Welborn said.

Social Studies teacher Tyler

Financial aid for California Kids

By Grace Gollihur
MANAGING EDITOR

California has 146.7 billion dollars in student loan debt. Every-day students are taking out loans in order to get education to obtain a job to pay off this debt. This cycle is one that the California Kids organization is attempting to solve.

California Kids is a program that makes it easier for families to save money for their children’s education. The program essentially offers new-borns and low income public school children money to pay for college tuition. It also provides college savings accounts for students for college tuition, housing, food and so much more. Newborns born in California after 2022 will automatically have an account opened. Students who want to apply now simply have to enter their ten digit statewide student identification number, and the website will tell the student if they are eligible or not. Visit the Q student portal to find the statewide students identification number.

The California Kids program started in 2022, but it was added into the state budget in 2020. The statute allocated 25,000,000 dollars for this program which will be used to help children born in California.

This is Sarah Vieira’s first year

as the college and career counselor at El Camino. She specializes in helping with college applications and choices. She explained her knowledge of California Kids.

“The Cal Kids money can be used to pay for college necessities—books, tuition, room and board,” Vieira explained.

Financial aid can be a task that many students struggle with, whether it’s signing up and filling out all the required paperwork, or not knowing who to ask for help. One Young Invin-cibles article explained the ‘stressful’ process that many students have to go through. The article describes how students experience more anxiety when filling out the forms needed to apply for Federal Application for Students Aid, or FAFSA. California Kids has attempted to eliminate this anxiety surrounding the process.

Vieira is also offering help for students who want financial aid.

“Don’t be afraid to ask questions—they can check and see if they can do it on their own, even if they don’t feel comfortable doing it with me,” Vieira stated.

Information about California Kids is available for students on multiple platforms, and Sarah Vieira is always available to speak to in room 25.

Support El Camino students!
Join PTSA and Boosters



Incoming Eagles visit EC at open enrollment night

By Keaton Yost
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

On Oct. 29, El Camino hosted its annual Open Enrollment Night, where families and youth congregated to learn more about what the school has to offer.

Open enrollment is the system in which parents and guardians can enroll students in a school within their district that they are not assigned to automatically. This process has been legalized all across California, and the choice made by families must be respected by the district, as long as the school has sufficient capacity to accept the new student.

The Tuesday night brought a great deal of activity to the school, with EC students from sports, band, cheer and student government seen all over campus. Families visiting the school first arrived in the large gym, where several speakers reflected on the benefits of attending EC.

Principal Evelyn Welborn was one of these speakers, helping facilitate the event and introduce other orators.

“I gave a broad overview of—the programs that we have at the school,” Welborn said.

Welborn was there to hand over the mic to a variety of others, including educators, class presidents and EC boosters.

Among the introduced, history teacher Robert Waldo was one of the two teachers to speak. Focusing on the staff at EC, he marketed the benefits of attending the school to the audience.

“I talked about the teaching staff at El Camino— why our [teaching] staff is strong,” Waldo said.

He provided just one of many angles put forth to advertise EC to interested families; the different speakers at the event all discussed a different aspect of the school.

Rob Oates, president of the EC Boosters, also spoke at open enrollment night, giving insight to some of the programs and academic features available on campus.

Oates reflected on talking “about the block schedule [and] the ability to take more classes,” and even a bit on “the relationships that [stu-

dents] can build with teachers.”

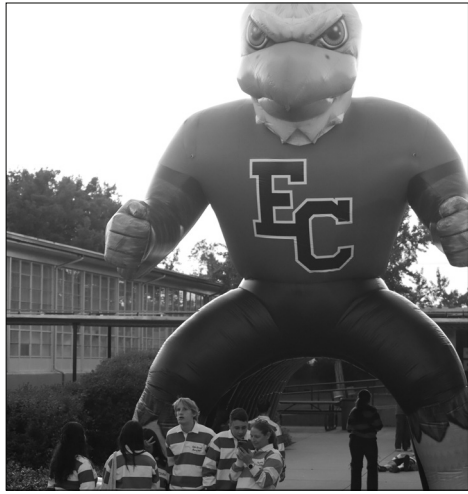
The large gym was not the only room on campus that held activity that night; both the cafeteria and the library had parts to play in the event. While the former held long rows of booths for academic programs and clubs, the library was filled to the brim with booths where sports were repre-

sented, as well as a great many people.

Open enrollment night was set a safe distance away from the enrollment cutoff date, Jan. 25. Principal Welborn has made quite a change over the past couple of years when it comes to this event, and shows no intention of reversing her effects by next year’s open enrollment night.



AT LEFT: Principal Evelyn Welborn stands before the audience of possible incoming EC freshman to encourage them to come to EC.
AT RIGHT: Student Government waits to greet the audience under the eagle.



Coach Sarah Vieira takes over College and Career Center

By Ana Diaz
STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 23, Sarah Vieira started her first day as a college and career tech at El Camino because she enjoys working with students and helping them pursue their goals.

The purpose of a college and career tech is to assist students with their educational and future plans. In addition to these plans Vieira also wants to do more for her students while she’s in the college and career tech position.

Not only does Vieira have history with the school she also has experience on how to work with students.

“I’ve had two kids that both graduated from El Camino, one in 2022 and 2024, and I’ve been coaching volleyball for boys and girls for over 10 years at the school,” Vieira explained.

Meghan Wilson, the Vice Principal at El Camino, explained that the main reason for choosing Vieira was her ideas for growing the center.



PHOTO BY ANA DIAZ
Sarah Vieira smiles for a picture during her first year as college and career tech.

“She was really eager about the position, and has lots of really wonderful ideas about transforming the college and career tech position and making it a place where it’s open to all students seeking assistance,” Wilson said.

Wilson goes on to explain more of Vieira’s plans. One is that she plans to work with vocational trade groups to help bring more options to students at our campus. This will help give students a better idea of training options for various trades and skilled jobs that different community colleges and private colleges offer.

Vieira explains that the college and career center does so much more than specific guidance and how it’s also about being passionate about the future.

“The college and career program is not just an emphasis on college and career but it’s also a lifetime pathway and getting students excited about their future,” Vieira explained.

Not only will Vieira’s guidance help establish career paths for students but it will also help them recognize the benefit to being proactive in choosing what’s best for their future.

Avery Cox (‘25) is a student and a player on the same volleyball

team that Vieira coaches, and says that she plans to work with her. Although they haven’t worked together yet, Avery shares the main reason she plans to meet with Vieira.

“I want to go to college but I’m struggling with which one to choose, so I decided I should meet with her,” Cox said.

Vieira shares how she values a community of inclusivity when it comes to different types of students and specifically enjoys working at EC for this reason.

“The inclusive environment here and how everybody can be so different yet all be a part of the El Camino family is rare, and it’s really something I enjoy about the school,” Vieira said.

With the start of the new school year, the EC staff will be preparing us for our future and this includes Vieira. She will continue to express her passion for the community through her work with her students.

Winter Audiothon gives back to kids in need

By Grace Gollihur
MANAGING EDITOR

On Dec. 6 El Camino students gathered in S-1 to go live on KYDS for 24 consecutive hours. This happens twice a year, once in the winter and once in the spring. This holiday season KYDS collected toy donations for Mustard Seed School. These toys went to children in need to bring some joy to their holidays.

Students that are in the KYDS club take shifts on the radio for the whole 24 hours. Each student or group of students has 30 minutes to an hour of time that they go live and play their favorite songs. While this is happening, most of these students stay overnight to hang out and celebrate.

Fall Audiothon is a charity, whereas spring Audiothon is a fundraiser for KYDS and the Eagle Eye News-

paper. KYDS Vice President Joanna Gayoba (‘26) was in charge of the planning for Audiothon. She spoke about her experience doing this job.

“I handled specific events, I reached out to a couple of charities—it was really fun,” Gayoba said.

Gayoba also explained the drive by donations. The club set up a table for community members to drop off their donations. This table was in the entrance to the senior lot, allowing people to easily donate to the cause.

This year, KCRA 3 News came on campus to cover the event. They came into the classroom to interview students and visited the drive by donation site. KYDS President Lucas Waddell (‘25) and VP Gayoba were interviewed live on the news.

Club advisor and media teacher Matt Sumpter explained his pride for the students and how he is happy that

they were given the opportunity to learn from people in this profession.

“I thought it was awesome—after they were done being live, they showed the kids their new truck—[it’s] an additional learning opportunity for them,” Sumpter said.

KYDS DJ’s have the opportunity to play whatever songs they choose, as long as it is school appropriate. This allows for a variety of different music to be played throughout the 24 hours. The club also has a long standing tradition of gathering in the radio room at midnight to sing ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ by Queen live on the radio.

This year’s winter Audiothon is widely considered as a success, and KYDS is already working towards the spring event. To learn more about the radio, or how to help the club, visit club advisor Matt Sumpter in room S-1.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOANNA GAYOBA
KYDS President Lucas Waddell (‘25) poses with consultants from Mustard Seed School at the donation table.



Youth on motorcycles is a bad idea



By Sarah Edwards
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On Sep. 14, 2023, I was in a hotel room in Los Angeles for a family trip. It was early in the morning. I was still asleep, but was awoken by a phone call my mom was receiving. I had no idea this phone call was going to change my life forever. Sep. 14, 2023 was the day I lost a very close friend of mine to a motorcycle accident.

My friend, Billy Diaz-Upton, was only 18 years old. He had his motorcycle for just three days before he got into his accident. He was such a light in my life, so caring and loving. He had so many passions, just started college and had recently been hired for a great job. But, all that was taken away because of the dangers of motorcycles and the life threatening accidents they can cause. If the laws around motorcycles and the licensing were

stricter, this may have been avoided.

One of the biggest problems with the requirements for getting a motorcycle license is the rider's age. In California, someone as young as 15-1/2 years old can get their permit and 16 year olds can get their motorcycle license. Someone who is 15 or 16 is way too young to be driving a motorcycle.

Human brains don't fully develop until a person is in their early to mid 20s. Meaning, younger drivers, 16 to 24 year olds, most likely aren't able to make good decisions when riding a motorcycle. Motorcycle riders have to think more quickly and efficiently compared to a car driver. On top of that, cars have more built in protection than a motorcycle does.

If someone is driving a car and they get in an accident, they have steel and plastic shielding them from being injured, while motorcycles have almost zero protection to shield the driver. Motorcycles are also harder to control and more difficult to correct mistakes while driving. This is an issue we have in our society that isn't talked about enough. The law allows teenagers and young adults to get their motorcycle license knowing that they have an increased chance of getting seriously injured or even killed if they are in an accident. Alternatively, car drivers who get in an accident will likely walk away with a few bruises or scratches. Many people driving cars

don't realize the risks motorcyclists are taking and think they can drive around them like they are just another vehicle when a motorcycle is not.

The amount of new cars licenses issued each year is 25 times greater than the amount of new motorcycle licenses issued. Because there are so many more car licenses issued each year, the ratio of licenses to accident fatalities for cars and motorcycles are drastically different. Specific to car drivers, for every 100,000 drivers, 16.2 died in the years 2016 to 2020. That statistic is hard to comprehend - one death is already too much - but the amount of motorcycle licenses to crash fatalities is even more jarring and upsetting. For every 100,000 motorcycle drivers, 44.8 died in 2016 to 2020. That means for every 100,000 motorcycle and car licenses issued, motorcyclists aged 16 to 24 are 9 times more likely to be killed in an accident.

A specific part of the brain called the prefrontal cortex doesn't finish maturing until a person is in their 20s. The prefrontal cortex is where a person's personality, decision making skills and response time are determined. It uses their past experiences and surroundings to make up the person they will become. But if a younger person doesn't have those past experiences to learn from, they are more likely to

SEE EDWARDS, PAGE 10

Outdated tech: a desire for physical media?



By Alex Fox
OPINION EDITOR

Generation Z grew up in the era of physical media slowly becoming obsolete in favor of digital media. I remember having all my favorite movies on VHS, but I was no stranger to the iPhone as a child either. Many people were excited at the idea of being able to access whatever media they wanted without having to store physical copies of everything.

This begs the question, why is physical media so popular in the year 2024? Digital media has absolutely taken the entire entertainment industry by storm, almost no one is releasing music or movies purely on a CD or DVD anymore, rather it's all available online.

One of the main issues that has been realized in the past 20 years of digital being so heavily emphasized is fear of a "digital dark age," or the mass loss of information due to inaccessible technology. Many think of this as if the internet were to disappear one day, as anything not copied onto a physical drive would be lost immediately.

However, this is something we are already experiencing on a smaller level with outdated file formats and corrupted files. Many people who are passionate about media have taken it upon themselves to collect physical forms of media so that they can ensure that they do not disappear.

This is not the main reason why analog has become so randomly popular though, storage of media has been an issue for centuries. This is something that had never been seen before the internet's conception, that being the concept that digital access to anything can be taken away at any time.

The idea of having access to thousands of movies on a streaming service for around \$10 a month sounds like a great idea in theory, however these services have gotten greedy with their pricing and selection of entertainment. Suddenly, young collectors also love the idea of physically owning media, because it has been shown that when media is available online in subscription form it can be taken away without any warning. **Mick Schrodetzki ('25)** is a young collector of CDs and vinyl records who agrees that owning a physical copy of something is beneficial in that it cannot be taken away.

"I love [physical copies] because you always know that you have it. I mean, yes, you can lose it, yes, it can get damaged. But there are songs that aren't on Spotify that I have to listen to on YouTube. It's nice to have it so that you know you're never gonna not have it if it gets

SEE FOX, PAGE 10

Bill 599: the ban on tobacco suspension



By Emery Lewis
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Tobacco use in schools has been prohibited in California since 1994 under federal law. Following the ban, disciplinary actions were taken against the use of tobacco products including suspension and expulsion in all schools from grades first through 12.

It is well understood by students, staff, and families that when a student decides to have possession of or consume a form of tobacco on campus, they will be subject to disciplinary proceedings. However, following Senate Bill 274 which stated that students can no longer be expelled or suspended for willful defiance, Bill 599 has been introduced to California legislature stating that students can no longer be suspended or expelled for the possession or use of tobacco.

If the bill is passed students will still face consequences for failing to comply with the ban on tobacco, it simply means that faculty members will have to decide on alternative consequences for the student.

Students are not allowed to have controlled substances on campus, however, suspending the students for having nicotine has become an ineffective way of preventing stu-

dents from bringing it on campus.

If suspension and expulsion have been unsuccessful it is safe to assume that most likely other forms of disciplinary actions will be found just as, if not more, unsuccessful. Because the concentration of nicotine in e-cigarettes is high and unpredictable according to the National Library of Medicine, along with the plethora of flavors to choose from, they are highly addicting. Students will most likely continue to use the products even after they face consequences set in place by the school.

Punishing students who have this addiction isn't necessarily going to stop them from using e-cigarettes. El Camino's current consequence for students having possession of tobacco products in school is a detention for a first offense. However, after the first offense, a student may be suspended from school for a couple of days or get put on social probation.

Although there isn't a current plan at EC if the bill gets passed, having an intervention program in place can be an effective way to have a bigger impact on students choosing to stop using nicotine products.

The Addiction Prevention Coalition has listed some ways for schools to effectively make a difference for students. The first way that was mentioned was to start tobacco education classes, which is already present at EC with the Health class teaching tobacco education to freshmen but can be reinforced more throughout school. Some other ways of prevention that were stated were peer-to-peer education, and provide access to smoking and vaping cessation programs.

The source of the problem isn't students vaping in schools, it's the addiction and e-cigarette

companies marketing their products towards a younger audience.

Having students share what exactly they think about vapes and why it has youth so interested can help administration decide on the best course of action to help find the most beneficial solution to this issue. Along with that, having student peers work against vaping in schools can be powerful as well. Students are more likely to listen to their classmates and be influenced by them because it removes the power dynamic between a student and administration.

Having a student committee or club that works to spread awareness and work with other students can make a huge difference.

Back in 2019 before COVID-19 there was a large teens against vaping trend showing up throughout school districts, including in the San Juan District. The students would share their own stories about their experience with addiction to vaping and work hard to spread information about the serious consequences vaping has on a person's health. Hearing from students personal stories with vaping will help other students find the courage to seek help and quit, while also creating a space for students to feel less alone and judged while wanting to make a change.

Having a program for students against vaping will also help students to stop thinking it is fashionable and do it because they think it makes them look cool.

Although Bill 599 isn't meant to fix any of these issues and won't do much to help schools try and solve the tobacco problem, hopefully it will encourage schools to begin working on programs that are made to help students instead of punishing them.



THE INCREDIBLE

By Grace Gollihur
MANAGING EDITOR

Many students at El Camino have pets that they love and care for every day. Little do they know, pets have many more benefits than just being cute. These animals can help highschool students be more successful than they would be without them.

Pets can help kids learn how to be responsible by teaching them how to care for another living thing. These valuable skills can transfer over to daily life. Skills like sticking to a routine or getting tasks done will

help highschool students transfer into adulthood more easily.

These furry friends can also increase a students empathy and encourage them to be themselves. The Animal Humane Society explains that the love that students can get from their pets will help them become more caring and responsible. Students can benefit from cuddling and hanging out with their pets because these animals can calm down a persons nervous system.

All in all, pets are proven to help their owners in many aspects of life, and they will undoubtedly sty a part of the human experience for a long time.



Boyd Decker ('25) sits on his pet horse named Max.



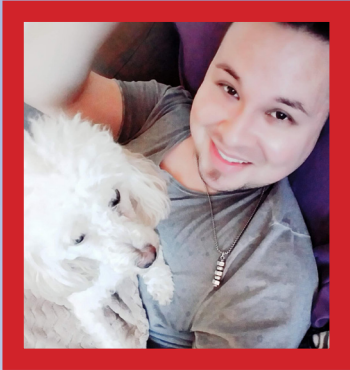
Betty and Nugget like to cuddle in their spare time.



Mr. Tomkins's son poses with his fish.



Mrs. Ortiz's dog smiles for the picture.



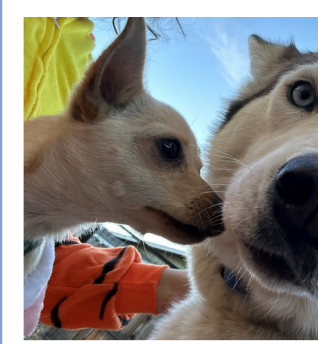
Mr. Beedy takes a selfie with his dog.



Mrs. Fox's cat named Doc hides under a rug.



Joanna Gayoba ('26) poses with her cat.



Ms. Swartz's dogs get up close to the camera.



Ms. Sheehan takes a picture with her cat named Samantha.



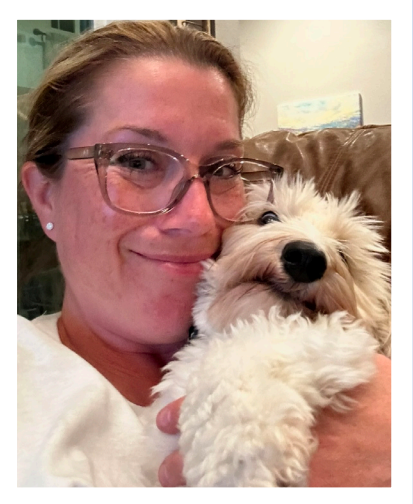
Belle lays out in the sun.

198 PE

77 PE

30 PEOPLE

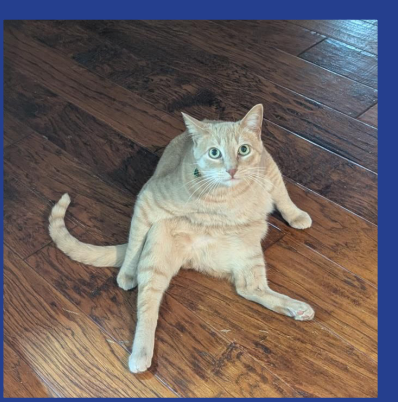
7 PEOPLE



Mrs. Mc Donald cuddles with her pup.



THE PETS OF EC



Emma Fetcher's ('26) cat named Keet poses for the camera.



Ms. Cain hugs her corgi.



Mr. DiSalvo's dog shows off his bandana.



These goats are hanging out at home.

OUT OF THE STUDENTS WE ASKED...

PEOPLE HAVE DOGS

115 PEOPLE HAVE CATS

PEOPLE HAVE OTHER ANIMALS

OUT OF THE STAFF WE ASKED...

PEOPLE HAVE DOGS

17 PEOPLE HAVE CATS

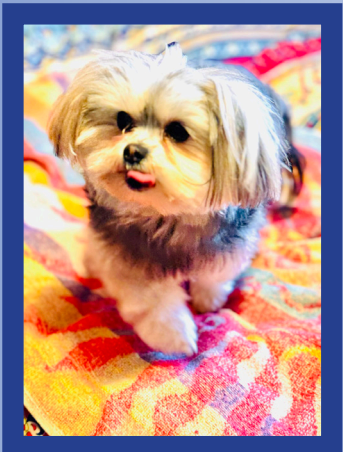
PEOPLE HAVE OTHER ANIMALS



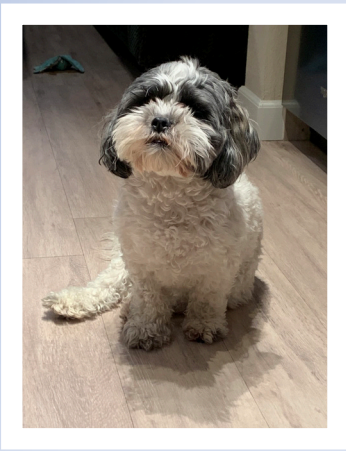
Mr. Marshall's cat is relaxing.



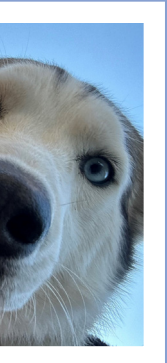
Mr. Roddewig takes a picture with his dog.



Mr. Zysk's pup is stylish!



Mr. Welsh's dog named Panda.



ose to the



Bailey and Tank Jr. dress up for Christmas.



Mr. Lake's cats gather for a group picture



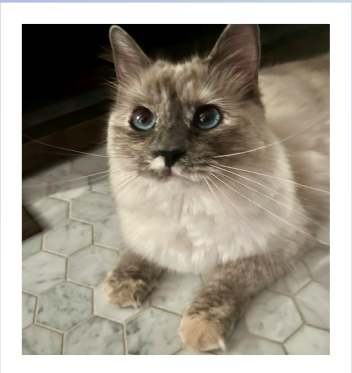
Alfie smiles on Thanksgiving.



Bear smiles from ear to ear.



Miso climbs a tree.



Ms. Wilsons cat.



By Sarah Edwards
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On Oct. 10 and Nov. 7, part one and part two of season four of hit Netflix TV show, *Outer Banks*, was released and many fans were shocked by the twist and turns of the new season.

Outer Banks is a dramatic TV show on the streaming platform, Netflix, about a group of teenagers on an island in North Carolina hunting for different lost treasures and the troubles that come their way. The teens have searched for a lost shipwreck

with \$400 million worth of gold in it, the Cross of Santo Domingo, El Dorado, and most recently the missing amulet of the Blackbeard's wife. All while they are searching for these different treasures, other people try to take them down and get to it first.

Season four begins 18 months after season three took place with the six teenagers, who are called the “Pogues,” trying to live life with their new found gold and dealing with the deaths of two of the dads of the group. But then, a mysterious man offers the Pogues \$50,000 for in return the teens find

the Blackbeard's wives amulet in an old sunken ship. At first they are hesitant to take up the deal. But, the Pogues run into some financial problems, so they decide to agree to the offer.

Throughout season four, many different twists and turns happen that several fans did not see coming. The most recent season was the deadliest season Outer Banks has ever had with 6 unforeseen deaths. One of the deaths was one of the members from the Pogous which left numerous fans heartbroken and devastated.

Many people were also shocked

about the unplanned pregnancy between two of the main characters in the group of teens. Fans suspect that they will meet the baby in their last season of *Outer Banks*.

Netflix recently released an announcement that there will officially be a season five of *Outer Banks* which season four perfectly set up for. A premiere date has not been announced yet but people are expecting the new season to come out around late 2025 or early 2026.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NETFLIX

The cast of *Outer Banks* poses in character for promotion of the 4th season. A 5th season has been confirmed and will begin filming in the Spring of 2025.

Letters from a juvenile

By Collin Carruth
GUEST ILLUSTRATOR

YOU CANT BEAT THE CLASSICS
MAN. THE BEATLES BASICALLY
INVENTED MUSIC.



NAH MAN, HIP HOP'S THE
BEST, CANT BEAT
KENDRICK, DRAKE AND
TYLER MAN.



DUDE YOU CANT BEAT INDIE,
MAC DEMARCO, FAYE WEBSTER
AND TV GIRL!



NO I LOVE POP MUSIC. I
LOOOVE TAYLOR SWIFT
AND ARIANA GRANDE



Everyone KNOWS TIKTOK MUSIC
IS THE BEST THOUGH RIGHT?





‘Aftershock ‘24’: The most popular rock festival of the year

By Alex Fox
OPINION EDITOR

“Aftershock” is a metal and hard rock music festival that has been held in Sacramento’s Discovery Park since 2012. It’s the largest rock festival on the west coast, but has a heavy metal overlap with the bands that play each year. The 2024 headliners for the festival included Slayer, Slipknot, Iron Maiden, and Mötley Crüe, each playing as the last show of the day with a longer time slot. Other popular bands that played this year included Evanescence, Pantera, Insane Clown Posse, Disturbed, and many more. Since Aftershock is the biggest rock festival on the west coast, it’s not surprising to see this many huge bands in attendance all in one place. The festival is four days long and attracts hundreds of thousands of people; in 2022 over 160,000 were in attendance.

Fans of these music genres come from across the country every year to Sacramento just to attend the festival, and it’s even more popular among people who live here. In a poll among El Camino students, an astounding percentage of students were at the festival this year, even though many of the bands got their start much before today’s high school students were born. **Justin Blunt** (‘27) was one of these students that attended Aftershock, stating that his favorite bands that he saw were Grandson and Lorna Shore. He was there all four days of the festival, and was pleasantly surprised by seeing other students had attended. “I would say a lot of students went. I recognized a lot of people wearing merch from it the following week or a couple of people that still have their wristbands,” said Blunt. A popular reason as to why so many people love going to festivals

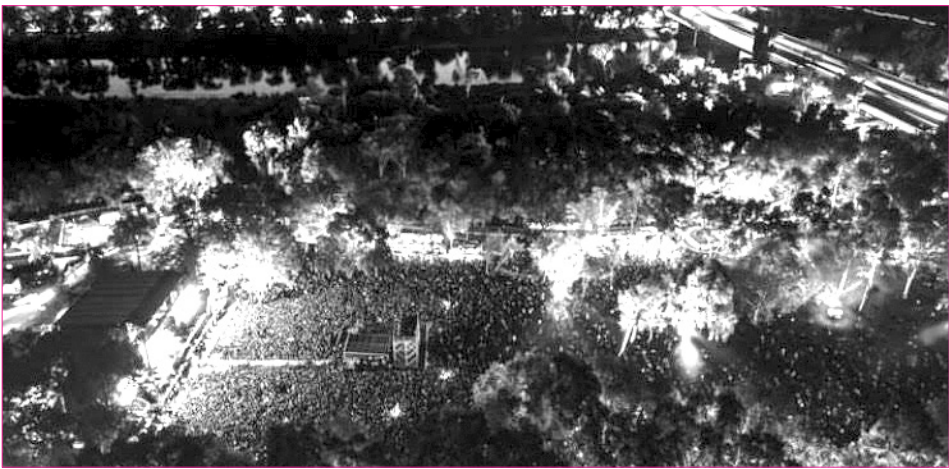


PHOTOS COURTESY OF AFTERSHOCK INSTAGRAM

ABOVE: The Aftershock sign at the entrance of Discovery Park.
BELOW: A birds-eye view of the Afterhock festival at Discovery park in Sacramento. Thousands of metal fans are in attendnace every year to see their favorite bands.

like Aftershock is because of the communities based around the bands and music. Metal communities generally have a culture of caring about those around them at shows, making sure to pick people up if they fall. Blunt agrees with this, attributing his enjoyment to the vibe around the shows. “My favorite part of the festival is just the overall vibe. Everyone seemed fairly chill. I mean, there was obviously a couple people that weren’t, but that’s how it goes,” Blunt said. As with any event as big as Aftershock, though, there’s always room for improvement. One thing that was mentioned was that water could be more readily available, because the water refill stations can get a bit crowded between headliner shows. **Jackson Bravo** (‘27), whose favorite band was

Slipknot, expressed that he wished the stages were also bigger, because the crowd gets compacted a lot with so many people trying to squeeze in to be in front of a smaller stage space. Even with room to improve, the consensus from fans seems to be that the festival is a huge success. Many fans love to decide their dream lineups of bands, and both Bravo and Blunt shared theirs. Slipknot, Mastodon, Blink 192 and Slayer were Bravo’s top picks, while Blunt shared Bring Me the Horizon, My Chemical Romance, System of a Down, and Slipknot. They both seem to agree that Slipknot should continue to make their appearance at Aftershock. If you’re interested in attending Aftershock yourself, tickets for 2025 are on sale now.



The biggest concerts of the year

By Sarah Edwards
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With the 2024 year close to an end, it also means it’s the end of a year with many iconic concerts. Several students here at El Camino went to some of the concerts that took place this year. Here are some of the most popular tours and music festivals of 2024:

The rock/metal music festival, Aftershock, took place this year in Discovery Park in Sacramento. Aftershock is a four day music festival with numerous different metal and rock bands perform. For more information about this festival, see above to read Alex Fox’s article all about it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GHOSTS CULT MAGAZINE



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER POLK FOR BILLBOARD

Country artist, Zach Bryan, toured around America for his “The Quittin Time Tour.” He toured around America for his new album titled “Zach Bryan”. Some students at EC got the chance to see Bryan perform here in Sacramento on Nov. 30. Bryan started his tour in early March in Chicago, and will end in Brooklyn, New York, on Dec. 19.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER POLK FOR PENSKE MEDIA

Teen pop artist, Olivia Rodrigo, went on her Guts World Tour for her recently released second album, “Guts.” She started her tour in Palm Springs, California in February and ended the tour back in California in Los Angeles in August. Rodrigo toured all around America but also several other different countries, with around an attendance of 1.4 million people in total. A documentary about her “Guts World Tour” was released on the streaming platform, Netflix, for everyone who didn’t get the chance to see her live.



Wrestling competes in dual competition

By Wyatt West
STAFF WRITER

El Camino’s wrestling team returned to dual competition for the first time since 2019 against Casa Roble on Dec. 4. While the junior varsity boys and the girls wrestling team won most of their matches, the boys varsity did not share the same outcome.

Although this is JV boys first dual, that didn’t stop them from winning the majority of their matches, going 4/7. Head Coach Allen Blomquist, in his 19th season coaching, emphasized effort and growth over results.

“They’re all new, but they tried moves we’ve been working on, they put in effort, and they weren’t scared and all I can ask for is that every kid would try their best, and I feel like they did,” Blomquist said.

He later talked about the girls’ team performance. “Same thing with the girls. Girls went out and wrestled their butts off,” Blomquist said.

Among the girls, **Karol Aguilar (‘26)**, who left soccer to start wrestling this year, described the dual as nerve-wracking but rewarding.

“I was [really] nervous because there were people from our school watching,” she said.



PHOTO BY WYATT WEST

A member of EC’s boys wrestling team competes against a Casa Roble wrestler.

Aguilar, who won first place in her first tournament last weekend, compared wrestling to her soccer experience, saying, “Wrestling is [much] better.”

For the varsity boys, the dual served as a starting point for growth.

Jayson Rivas (‘27), who has wrestled since middle school, noted the challenges of being under pressure.

“I was nervous because I haven’t wrestled in a while, so it’s just a lot of pressure, especially under the spotlight,” Rivas said.

Looking ahead, he hopes to im-

prove his wrestling stance and speed.

Blomquist acknowledged the varsity boys’ struggles but expressed optimism.

“Casa Roble has always had a solid team,” he said. “It was like trying to push a dead car...it takes a little while to get that car moving.

But no matter how you start the race, it matters how you finish.” EC’s wrestlers are focusing on progress as they prepare for upcoming tournaments and duals. If you’re interested in seeing a home dual at EC for yourself there will be one on Jan. 15 at 6pm.

Boys Basketball stays in the game against Rio

By Anthony Rando
SPORTS EDITOR

El Camino Boys Basketball played the Rio Boys Basketball team at Rio Americano on Dec. 5, losing 71-50. The Varsity game started at 7:30 and ended around 9 PM.

Despite the loss, the members of the Boys team felt as though they still had a successful game and contributed to the team and its culture overall.

Hunter Laird (‘25) a new addition to the varsity team, spoke about the beginning of the EC season.

“I think we’re off to a good start so far but we just gotta keep working,” said Laird

Despite a record of 2-4, many on the team still see the positive of the season and still had some takeaways that weren’t necessarily negative from the losing game.

Eli Oakden (‘27) stated what his main takeaways were from the game.

“There’s definitely improvement we need to all do as a team but I think it went good in the end though it’s just that we had

a rough start,” said Oakden. The season for the EC Boys team started just last month at the time of writing with the first game being against Johnson on Nov. 22.

Out of the six games played so far the team have won two, the first being played against Cordova on Dec. 7 with a final score of 45-37 and the second being against Delta with a final score of 93-24.

Tolu Olotu (‘26) spoke about the difficulty and reasoning behind the teams 4 losses.

“We played teams in high divisions to start off so we had good games and then some rough games—we’re looking to go 3-4 this week,” Olotu said.

Despite the rough game and the rough start to the season, many on the team firmly believe that the Basketball program at EC can finish off their 2024-2025 season successfully. The overall atmosphere of the EC players seems to be resolve and determination coming into the next season.

For more information on the El Camino Boys Basketball team, visit the El Camino Athletics Office.

EDWARDS: endangering youth

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

struggle to make better, split second decisions. For these reasons, young motorcycle drivers statistically are more likely to suffer a fatal accident.

I’m very passionate about this topic because maybe if Billy was aware of this before getting his motorcycle, he might still be here today. My family and I, his friends, his parents and his three brothers miss him every day. I would never wish this hurt and pain on anyone else, which is why I wanted to write about this.

People who are thinking about getting a motorcycle or know someone who has or wants a motorcycle should be more informed about the dangers. Statistically, 20% of people driving cars are likely to get injured or killed in an accident. While for motorcycles, 80% of riders are likely to get into an accident and get injured or killed. The facts show that driving a car is safer and riding a motorcycle is far more dangerous. Motorcycles give many people this adrenaline and free feeling, but that comes with consequences. These deadly machines aren’t to be taken lightly.

FOX: rollback to simpler times

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

removed.” Schrodetski stated. Having the physical copy in your hands means that you will always have it and no one can realistically take that away, and it will be guaranteed that you’ll be able to view or listen to the media in higher quality than a reposted digital file that many have had to opt for.

Another factor is that Generation Z is at the forefront of this physical revolution, so it’s important to mention a phenomenon seen mainly in younger people that has contributed to this rise in popularity.

Anemoia refers to a feeling of nostalgia for a time that you didn’t live through and experience. This is often seen in collectors of physical media, as they feel this sense of nostalgia for the 80s and 90s even if they did not live through that era. This is one of the reasons that there has been an all around revival of 80s and 90s styles in popular culture, with physical media just being another thing from the era that is being brought back.

A potential reason for why there’s

this sense of anemoia in the younger generation is the feeling that things are currently so complicated and times were simpler in the past. Schrodetski also agrees that there is a sense of nostalgia for a time that was simpler, even if many of us didn’t live through it.

“If we’re being entirely honest, everyone’s depressed, genuinely, everyone has their struggles and everyone is sad because the world is going crazy right now. I think going back to times that in our mind were simpler, because even if they weren’t simpler, it’s not happening right now so we consider it less messed up.” Schrodetski said.

In the wider popular culture, many things from the late 1900s are being brought back in style for this exact reason, we live in chaotic and confusing times where sometimes it just feels nice to go back to the basics. I believe that we will see more of this rollback to simpler times, especially with vintage fashion and flip-phone styles coming back. Collecting things like vinyls, CDs, vintage cameras, and vintage clothing is just the beginning of this cultural reset.



PHOTOS BY ANTHONY RANDO

AT LEFT: Varsity Player Tolu Olotu (‘26) drives with the ball against a rio guard. AT RIGHT: Mitchell Stevenson (‘25) goes for a layup and is blocked by rio players.



Girls Soccer stays optimistic

By **Nora Seevers**
STAFF WRITER

On Dec. 9, El Camino girls soccer came out to play their first home game of the season against Sutter, where the Eagles won 2-0.

Varsity player **Zoe Dafron ('25)** speaks on how she thinks the team did exactly what they needed to in order to win this match.

“What we worked on in practice showed out on the field,” Dafron said. “We finished out passes, we talked so much... and we took a lot more shots.”

While she agrees there is still progress to be made, Dafron as well as the coaches are proud of what this team has already accomplished this season.

While some players were worried about this match, Assistant Coach Haley Norlie claims to have been looking forward to it and having confidence in her players.

“I had pretty high expectations because we’re in a new league and I was excited to see how these girls were going to play against them,” Norlie said.

With EC keeping the ball on the opposing side of the field for the majority of the match, they made multiple shots on goal and had roughly half a dozen corner kicks.

The first goal was scored by



AT LEFT: Varsity Player Chloe Woods ('26) goes for a goal against the opposing team.
AT RIGHT: Varsity Player Chelsea Edgell ('25) dribbles the ball down the field and looks for a pass to her fellow teammates.

Natalie Graciano Padilla ('25), which was the result of a corner kick taken by **Madysen Porter ('28)**.

The second goal was scored by **Kennedy Stowell ('28)**, who is playing her first year of highschool soccer on varsity.

“I think I played good, considering I got a goal,” Stowell said. “I wasn’t thinking ‘oh I’m 100% going to get a goal in that game’ so I played good.”

While this was a game the team is proud of, they know that they can always improve. Players as well as coaches have formed ideas on what changes and developments should be made for their next match.

Coach Norlie explained that later in the game, players occasionally care less about the small details of their play, which is something she hopes to change.



“We need to work on our clearances more in the box and then just work on better passing through our final fourth,” Norlie said.

Overall, this team is proud of the outcome of their match against Sutter and looking forward to continuing this season.

The next home game against Grant on Dec. 16 with a six dollar entry fee.

Boys Soccer fights in the rain against West Campus

By **Anthony Rando and Brandon Flohr**
SPORTS EDITOR AND ASSOCIATE EDITOR

As the winter approaches, The El Camino Boys Soccer team begins another season. The boys are coming into this season against a new league off what many in the program see as a good playoff run last year when they defeated Galt 1-0. The team played a few scrimmages before coming into this first non-league game against West Campus.

Trevor Hokanson ('27) spoke about the team’s start to the season.

“I think the first few games have gone really well. We have more chemistry than we expected, I really like it and think we can continue that and take it into the playoffs,” said Hokanson.

Despite playing in pouring rain, the match carries on as usual with no disturbances. **Porter Fales ('25)** is their new goalie who will be taking his skills from the boys varsity water polo team into this soccer season.

As the game began no one

seemed to be able to score as they were going back and forth from one side of the field to the other. The first half ended with a score of 0-0. As the second half started West Campus scored first making it 1-0.

EC hit them back with a quick

goal by **Mohammed Jasim ('25)**. As the clock ran down, the game ended with a tied score of 1-1.

Cesar Duran ('25) thought the weather impacted their performance.

“I think the game went well. I think the rain definitely had an impact

on how we played” said Duran.

The varsity boys current record comes to 0-2-2 with a recent 3-1 loss to El Dorado as well as a tie against Rosemont. If you’re a fan of Boys soccer the next home game is on Jan. 13 Vs Dixon.



Members of Varsity Boys Soccer compete against West Campus. The boys played all of the game in the pouring rain, and ended with a tied score of 1-1.



Girls Basketball strives for a second year at playoffs

By **Brandon Flohr**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With the winter sports season beginning at El Camino, the Varsity girls basketball team has been widely regarded as more successful. They are coming off of a playoff run last year beating Natomas 54-31. The team went into this game with a win-loss ratio of 1-1 against Sacramento Waldorf and a tough loss against Twelve Bridges.

Team captain **Savea Allison ('25)** spoke about their playoff chances.

“I think we will do pretty good, I think we have a really good chance of making playoffs, a lot

of our opponents we have already beaten and I think we can dominate the new league.” Said Allison.

The girls arrived at Burbank at 5:30 p.m. on a cold, dark, and rainy day on Friday, Dec 6 as they began warm ups. The team was confident that they could win this game because they’ve beat Burbank several times before. As the game began **Taylor Stake ('27)** got some quick points on the board. When the game ended the Eagles won 51-27.

Sophomore guard **Hayden Craun ('26)** explained the team’s mentality.

“I think that the Burbank game was great and got team morale up and hopefully we can carry that energy

into the upcoming game,” Said Craun.

The girls then got a good win on Tuesday, Dec. 10 against Delta high school 55-36. They hope to go far in the playoffs and make it to sections for the first time since the late nineties.

Second year varsity player **Calista Wold ('27)** talked about how they will do in the new league.

“I think we will be one of the top competitors and we have more drive than the past years and yes I think we will win the league easily” said Wold.

The girls overall record comes to 3-1 on the season as they come into their final non-league games.

If you are a fan of girls basketball come to the girls next home game against Rio Americano on Dec. 17.

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EC rewinds the year: 2024 Sections Recap

By **Anthony Rando and Brandon Flohr**
SPORTS EDITOR AND ASSOCIATE EDITOR

As winter begins and fall comes to a close we reflect on another year of El Camino fall sports. Fall 2024 was the start of a new beginning for fall sports, as all but one team made playoffs.

The girls volleyball team went 14-11 overall while going 12-2 in the Golden Empire League. The girls first defeat in league came at a close 2-3

loss to Sutter. They came back against them in the last league game of the season beating them 3-2, finishing second in league out of eight teams.

Elizabeth Newman ('26) led the girls varsity volleyball team in almost every statistic.

“I’m so proud of our team for being able to come back and beat Sutter high school because they were undefeated before that,” Newman said.

Girls flag football is only in its second year at EC and they made the

division three playoffs. They finished fifth in league out of eight teams and got to be the number 12 seed. They lost the first round of playoffs to the fifth seed Fairfield High School.

Captain and Quarterback **ZaNiyah Smith ('25)** shared her opinions on her final season.

“Overall we did pretty good and they do have things to improve on next season, but I’m incredibly proud of the team chemistry we gained this season,” Smith said.

EC Boys and Girls water polo were both in the division three playoffs. The boys water polo team was defeated by Roseville in the second round 16-13. The girls water polo team beat Del Campo in the first round by a score of 15-2, they then lost to Buhach Colony 6-4.

Water Polo and Swim coach Corey Stowell compared the most recent water polo season to seasons past.

“Unbelievable in regards to success, undefeated in league and the guys’ record is the best we’ve seen in a long time. This has been one of the most fun and most competitive groups of boys and girls water polo that I’ve ever seen,” Stowell said.

Stowell also had a few words to say about the overall feel of this year’s team.

With the combined success of both boys and girls teams this year, many people who participate in EC Water Polo drew comparisons to last year such as **Charles Snyder ('25)**.

“I mean it’s been really impressive to watch—it’s so much exponentially better than it was last year,” Snyder said.

Overall, EC had what many describe as a successful fall season. To those who enjoyed fall sports at El Camino this year check out winter sports including basketball, soccer and wrestling.



AT LEFT: EC girls and boys water polo cheer for their seniors at Senior Night against Rio Linda. Both teams made playoffs.
AT RIGHT: EC girls flag football player Ilaina Yavrom ('26) jogs on the field at an EC girls flag football game.

PHOTOS BY EAGLE EYE STAFF

Feature Ryn Marbach: swinging sectionals

By **Keaton Yost**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Being sick is one of the worst feelings someone can have. Even just catching a cold can make people change their routines or force them into their beds.

Exerting strength during a time of illness surely takes a physical toll on the body, and can render it in worse shape than before. Playing a sport, any sport, while suffering in this way seems not just unpleasant but also difficult.

Ryn Marbach ('26) experienced this kind of challenge on Oct. 28.

Marbach was the only El Camino girls golf player to attend division four sectionals at Mather Golf Course, having qualified as an individual. Aside from accepting the top teams from each league, divisionals also allow for six individual players to advance. Marbach took the fifth of these spots, having scored 137 league points over the season.

Marbach was only able to



PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT SUMPTER

Ryn Marbach ('26) takes a swing during practice for EC Girls Varsity Golf.

play 12 out of the 18 holes at the tournament before being forced to disqualify herself due to physical illness. She believed that if she had been able to finish the course she would have scored well.

“My dad and I went to the

course to—scope it out, and we played nine [holes]. So I think that helped a lot,” Marbach said.

Marbach later mentioned how EC player **Ava Dwyer ('26)** almost accompanied her in divisionals, but lost in a tiebreaker round for the last individual qualifier spot to the tournament.

Dwyer discussed how Marbach was never late to practice and always showed up with a positive attitude.

“She definitely grew the most in the time that we had,” Dwyer said.

Dwyer wasn’t the only person to highlight Marbach’s play over the season; second year EC Golf Coach Matt Sumpter pointed out her consistent scores.

Marbach’s average score for nine holes was just under 55 strokes, which is better than the traveling teams’ individual average of about 60.

“I don’t think she ever finished outside the top three on any given day,” Sumpter said.

Sumpter later talked about

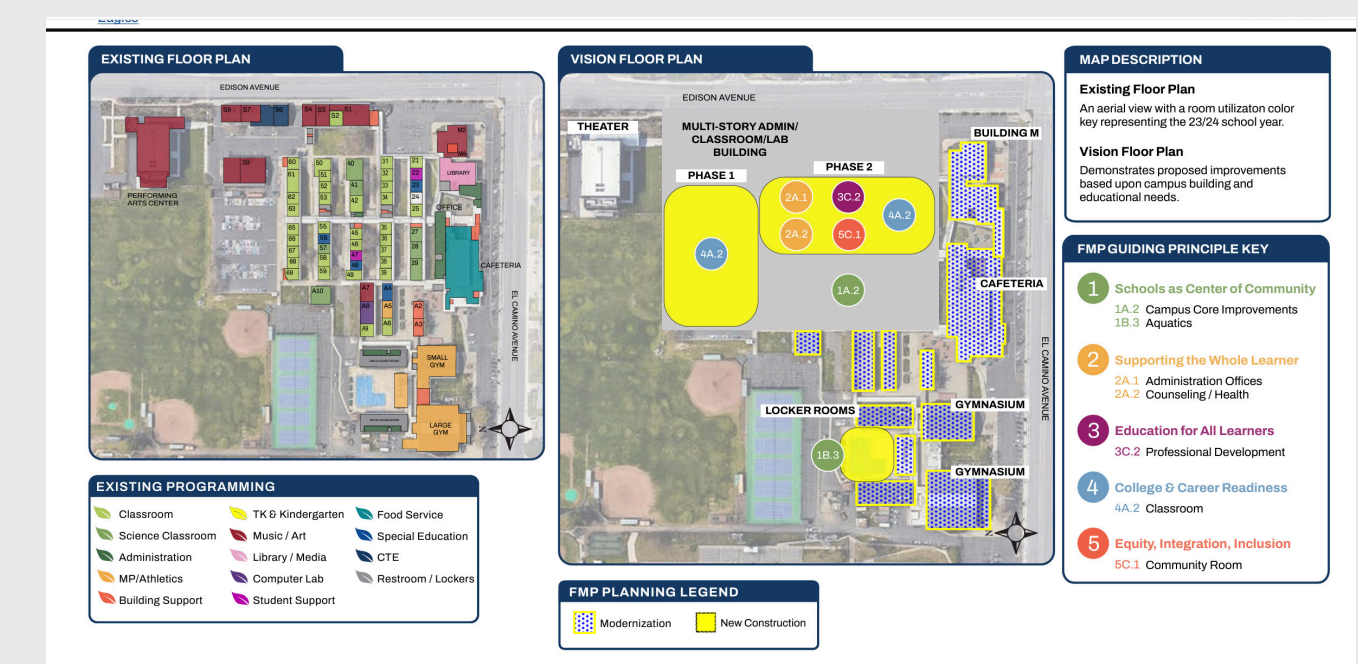
Marbach’s evenness, how she never really went “up or down” from her normal play.

Second year Assistant Coach Paul Giacomotto concurred with Sumpter on the matter while also explaining how Marbach’s great character translates into her golf game.

“[Ryn] is a great teammate who everyone enjoys playing with because she’s kind, encouraging, and always smiling,” Giacomotto said.

He later mentioned Marbach’s resilience, determination and openness to change, which all worked towards her play and improvement over the season.

While girls golf will not resume until next year, boys golf games will begin in March and continue until the end of April. All games are free to attend and watch all the way through, usually lasting two or three hours. To learn more about the next season of Girl’s Golf, visit the El Camino Athletics website.



HOGGE: New campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Grinager is looking forward to the changes Measure P will bring to EC. He also stressed the importance of educating students leading up to the election on candidates and bills that can be voted on.

“People in general, when they vote, they don’t vote based off of policy or actual facts. They vote based off of vibes,” Grinager explained.

Although nothing is guaranteed as of now, EC students and faculty can look forward to at least essential repairs of the building, and most likely a new school in the years to come.