



# The Eagle Eye

Volume 15, Issue 4

El Camino Fundamental High School

May 2025

## Girls swim wins sections for the first time ever



AT LEFT: Girls swim team members stand together in the big gym with the section championship banner.

AT RIGHT: Girls swim team winner take a picture together after their events located at the Elk Grove Aquatic Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORY STOWELL

By Sarah Edwards  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On May 7-9, at the Elk Grove Aquatic Center, El Camino's Varsity Girls Swim team placed first in Sections for the first time ever.

Sections is a three day long event

where swimmers compete in different swim relays for the qualifying time to go onto the next swim event. Some of the different events at Sections include breaststroke, backstroke, and freestyle. Girls competed on Wednesday, boys competed on Thursday, and the finals were on Friday.

This year, many girls and boys from both teams qualified to compete.

"We took seven girls in varsity and four girls in frosh, soph, but then took ten boys too," Cory Stowell said, the head boys and girls swim coach.

Sections give girls many chances for working to improve their time,

opportunities for colleges, and preparation for the next year. At this most recent Sections event, there were some college recruiters for the students that want to pursue swimming after high school. Additionally, Sections prepares girls for the next year by showing the girls what they are up against and what they can do to improve for the next season.

"It's one of the things for a couple of the girls. They see where they're at, getting to Sections, and they're changing their focus to be like 'I can do something a little bit more in this next year to go a little further'," Stowell explained.

One of the Varsity Girls Swim team swimmers that qualified for Sections, **Jordana Gayoba ('28)**, placed 14th in the 200-meter individual medley (200 IM) and 8th place in the 100-meter breaststroke. The times she earned in both relays were state consideration times. Gayoba hopes to get a swim scholarship for college and found that Sections was the perfect way to help with her goal.

"It [Sections] is a good way to get recognition for college and it was just really fun because I got to see a

## Senior class bleeds green after Powerpuff victory



PHOTOS BY EMERY LEWIS

The Junior cheer team runs and jumps into the air to get the crowd excited.

her teammates learn a few skills through drills she was taught in her flag football season. However, even though the sport is the same, being on a Powerpuff team is very different from a regular flag football team.

"We know that we weren't going in for competitive reasons. We just wanted to have fun and just come together as seniors," Davis said.

On the junior team **Emi Kuwabara ('26)** was a wide receiver. This was her first time being on a flag football team. Kuwabara is typically cheering during sports events, so this was a very different experience for her as the one being cheered for. Being a part of the main event of the night was not only exciting but also fun.

"I really enjoyed it. All the girls are really nice and supportive, they were really open to helping. I liked it a lot," Kuwabara stated.

For the first time in recent years instead of the cheer team being the

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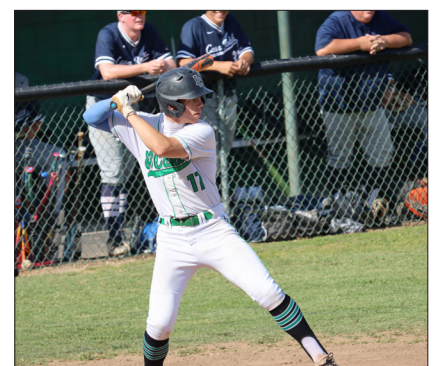


Flag football player Zaniyah Smith ('25) runs across the field with the football.



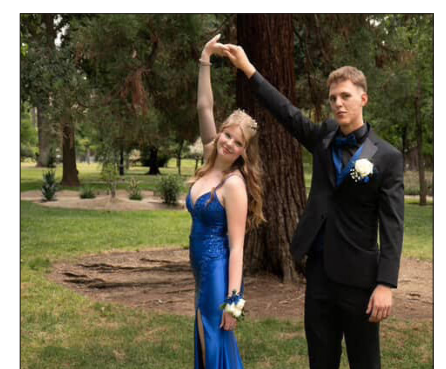
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By Emery Lewis  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On April 11, El Camino students gathered in the football stadium to watch the annual Powerpuff game. The game began at 6 p.m. with students dressed either in pink for the juniors or black for the seniors. Each ticket costs \$6 for entry and the proceeds from the game were split between ASB (Associated Student Body) and the flag football team. The senior team left the field celebrating their win of the night with the score ending 51-31.

Powerpuff is a flag football game once a year where any junior or senior girl can join their team and play. Girls Flag Football members helped coach as well as played in either of the two teams. The senior team was coached by Todd Cardoso and the Junior team was coached by Moki Fujita.

**Jay Davis ('25)** who played in the powerpuff game on the senior team, also plays for the flag football team at EC. Because of her experience in flag football, she was able to help





# Hotrods and classics ride to EC for car show



PHOTOS BY ALEXA FOX

AT LEFT: Many classic cars are parked and lined-up in the Junior lot with different parts on display for all the event attendees to see and enjoy.  
AT RIGHT: One classic car is parked with its’ hood popped for people to view the engine.

By Alexa Fox  
OPINION EDITOR

On Saturday, March 29, the El Camino student government seniors held the 6th annual senior car show. The event raises money for the senior classes’ senior ball and breakfast, and it was a smashing success. Students and car enthusiasts alike came together to show off their prized cars and build community through their love for all things automotive.

With an entry fee of \$15 for anyone hoping to show off their car, the car show raised the most money it ever has in its history. This year, they raised a total of \$2,600 dollars, surpassing last year’s \$2000. This helped to cover the senior ball costs, keeping ticket prices reasonable for those attending, as well as funding senior breakfast.

EC has lost some of its funding for senior events since losing the ability to sell senior parking spots, so student government had to come up with ways to make up lost revenue. Luckily, the car show was able to contribute to most of that funding alongside some other fundraisers and donors.

However, the biggest challenge that the car show dealt with was student participation. Most of the cars presented were owned by members of local car communities, and not students. As a school event that fundraises for other senior events, student participation should be at the forefront behind raising money, according to student government organizer **Madilyn Dalizu (‘25)**.

“I would like it to be an event that is more marketed towards students, it’s just a very niche group of

students that would want to come and be a part of it. Just like with everything else, it’s hard to get the student body involved, we can’t force them to come.” Dalizu stated.

Additionally, some of the organizers hope to open the show to all car enthusiasts in the future, rather than just classic car owners. A classic car is a vehicle that is 25 years old or older, so only enthusiasts have traditionally felt welcome at the car show. As the person who came up with the idea for the car show originally, french teacher David Manigart would like to change that.

“The mistake we made is that we advertised ‘classic cars’, which next time we’re gonna say all cars are welcome. What that means is we’ll see more Lamborghini, Ferrari, and sports cars. I think we’ll bring more revenue and more people.” Manigart explained.

All in all, the car show was a great fundraising success for the senior class. Many who attended enjoyed seeing the groups of car communities with their cars, namely the Volkswagen club and their bugs and buses, and a very special tractor brought by EC student **Joe Hernandez (‘25)**.

“It’s a pretty old tractor from 1947 that was purchased by my great grandfather, and he’s done a lot of work on it. It kind of fell into disrepair for a while, but then my dad and I worked on it together and gave it a nice paint job, so I figured it might look nice for the car show.”

If you are interested in the senior car show for next year, look out for flyers around spring for information on entering your car or attending the show, all are welcome.

# EL Camino becomes a Title I school

By Grace Gollihur  
MANAGING EDITOR

Starting in the 2025-2026 school year, El Camino High School will be classified as a Title I school. This title comes from the Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which was later updated through the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Title I school receives federal funding to

help support students who are in low income families. In order for a school to be a Title I school, the district must consider the percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced price lunch, the area’s poverty estimates, and other environmental factors.

The Title I funding is used to supply students with resources to aid in their academic experience. For example, the school could create more programs, offer tutoring, or

purchase more materials and technology. The money must be used only to improve academic outcomes. The school must complete a needs assessment, by looking at CAASPP scores, English language learner scores, and college and career readiness.

Principal Evelyn Welborn is working on the future plans for EC. She presents her ideas at the School Site Council meetings for review and deliberation. Welborn

believes that there is a stigma surrounding Title I, and she wants to combat this with her methods.

“I want to implement strategies that lift all the students who qualify under Title One, but also—because the strategies can apply to anyone, will lift everyone,” Welborn explained.

Essentially, she wants the money from Title I to benefit and uplift the entire student population. Welborn also explained the specific programs that she wants to implement to bring up EC’s math and english scores.

“An instructional coach—for example, if a student has a better understanding of reading and writing, those skills don’t just apply to English, they apply to every single subject,” Welborn said.

Going into next year, students and families should not expect many drastic changes, but students who need help in a number of areas should expect help in their academics.

The purpose of Title I is to uplift students with academic help and opportunities so that they can be successful despite circumstances in their lives. EC will see many positive changes in the years to come thanks to the money given by the federal government and the meticulous planning being done by EC’s Site Council. Site Council meetings are open to students and family members who are interested in hearing more information about the school. The last Site Council meeting for this school year was on May 13.

## The Eagle Eye

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2024-2025





# EC celebrates students with culture fair and rally

By Emery Lewis  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Friday May 2, El Camino was filled with spirit, celebrating the different cultures on campus with the culture rally and the culture fair held during 4th period in the front quad.

The rally consisted of a performance from the band followed by two games. One was a geography quiz with teachers and students working as a team. The second game was a baguette fight between four students and the winner being Charles. The events also included a musical performance from members of Latinos Unidos, and students in their traditional Muslim attire walked around the gym to show off their beautiful clothes.

The rally ended with students from Del Campo’s Kids Helping Kids program celebrating the amount of money that EC was able to raise to help a child with cancer. The DC students walked in the gym with a very large cardboard check with over 1,000 dollars made out on it to show the successful fundraiser.

Rally lead **Alina Ortega (‘25)** planned the agenda for the rally such as the games and performances, however her favorite part of the rally was getting to see it all come together.

“The performances and everything, like seeing the Muslim Student Association club showing off their cultural attire, the song that played



PHOTOS BY EMERY LEWIS

AT LEFT: The Philippines booth members and friends pose for a picture located in the front quad with food for students to grab.

AT RIGHT: The Muslim Student Assotiation’s members are at their booth dressed in their traditional attire.

for Latinos Unidos, and then the games, were interesting,” she stated.

After the rally ended student gov. began setting up tables and decorations for the culture fair. The fair consisted of all kinds of foods, drinks, decoration, music, and other activities to celebrate all the different cultures at EC.

When planning for the Culture fair, **Tayeeb Jailani (‘25)**, the president of the Muslim Student Association, worked with student governemt to decorate the halls and talk to other clubs. He wanted to bring everyone together among different communities, ethnicities, and religions.

“Everyone could come in at the same time and see what other people do, like what their beliefs are. See life from a different perspective. A different lens. That’s my favorite part,” Jailani said.

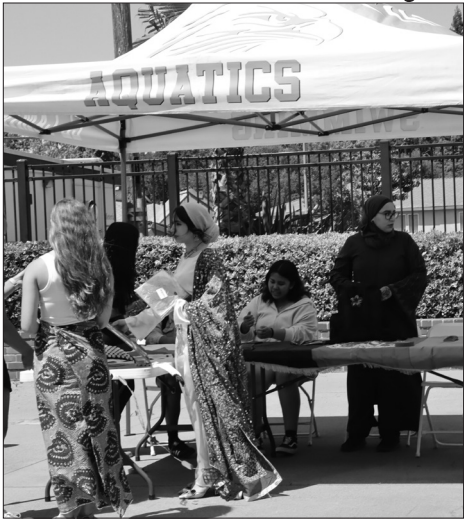
Students got to enjoy the culture fair during their fourth period classes. The attendance was high with students enjoying cuisine from all different regions. The sweets and snacks went fast but attendees got to try other aspects of different cultures such as getting henna.

**Ivy Hunnell (‘25)** the president of the Latinos Unidos club, really enjoyed being able to share

her culture with everyone. Her clubs’ booth had loads of food and drinks like aguas frescas, flan and chips.

“People really enjoyed it. We kepts running out of cups and stuff. We were trying to keep up with people,” Hunnell said.

This year’s culture fair was a hit and enjoyed by all students. If you are interested in joining a club, the next club fair will be held next school year. If you would like to attend a Latinos Unidos or Muslim Student Assotiation club meeting, you can find MSA in room 47 Wednesday at lunch and Latinos Unidos in room 37 Fridays at lunch.



# KYDS hosts biannual Audiothon fundraiser

By Emme Hogge  
NEWS EDITOR

On Friday, May 2, El Camino KYDS club held their second Audiothon of the year to help raise money for media and journalism. Audiothon is a 24-hour event during which members of the KYDS club and the media class spend the night at EC and publicize the fundraiser on air.

According to KYDS club president **Lucas Waddell (‘25)**, Audiothon raised about \$2,500 to be split between KYDS and the newspaper. Waddell also explained that it was bittersweet experiencing his last Audiothon as a senior.

“It was pretty sad. I’ve done it for all four years, so it’s pretty meaningful to me,” Waddell said.

Vice President **Joanna Gayoba (‘26)** also enjoyed this year’s Audiothon, but wished that she could have been more present as she spent most of the day working the French booth at the Culture Fair which was held the same day.

“Because Culture Fair is an

annual thing compared to Audiothon, which is biannual, more people were focused and more excited for [Culture Fair] because they landed on the same day,” Gayoba explained.

Gayoba, who will continue to be an important figure in the KYDS club into her senior year, hopes that the club can learn from this lesson and use it to improve future Auditions.

“I’ll definitely make sure Audiothon is on a normal Friday,” Gayoba said. “I would plan months in advance, and I’ll start brainstorming with Mr. Sumpter.”

The brainstorming concerns special events that the spring Audiothon features. Since the spring Audiothon isn’t centered around a fundraiser, members of KYDS have done things like karaoke and student performances to encourage engagement and donations.

This year, **Owen Leanertz (‘25)** played guitar during lunch, yet it was planned at the last minute. Members of the KYDS club hope to, in upcoming years, spend more time on the selection process to decrease



PHOTOS BY EMME HOGGE

KYDS club members **Alyssa Joiner (‘28)** and **Eliza Wray (‘28)** work in the radio room located in S-1 for Audiothon.

stress leading up to Audiothon.

Despite complications in planning and interference from the Culture Fair, members of KYDS agreed that the event was fun and the shift changes ran smoothly.

For more information on Audiothon or how to become a member of KYDS, visit Matt Sumpter in room S-1. The next Audiothon will be in the fall block of next school year, with the charity yet to be determined.

# EC seniors honored at Senior Awards Night

By Grace Gollihur  
MANAGING EDITOR

On May 21. El Camino seniors gathered in the performing arts center to receive various awards within different departments and programs. The event was three and a half hours long, and families cheered for their students as awards were given out. There are many types of awards, including the California State Seal of Biliteracy, Valedictorian, Academic Top 10, California Scholarship Federation, and Lyceum honors. There were

also awards given out for students in Career Technical Education pathways, such as Eagle Polytechnic Institute and Medical Assisting Pathways. Students in Link Crew and Student Government were also honored.

All of the seniors who were honored sat on the stage in the performing arts center, waiting to receive their awards. To begin the event, Vice Principal Meghan Wilson spoke about the seniors and the various awards being presented. Then, different teachers spoke about the nature of the award and handed them out to students.

**JJ Doolittle (‘25)** received an award for Link Crew and was honored as one of EC’s Valedictorians. He described the event as fun but bittersweet,

“To see a lot of my friends or people I’ve gotten to know over the past four years go and get their own moment in the spotlight—was really special, but there was a level of sadness to it,” Doolittle explained.

In contrast to Doolittle, English teacher Elizabeth Sansone felt very excited about handing out the English department awards. These honors

were given to high achieving students with a passion for the subject and kindness in the classroom.

“I love to be able to award students who have worked really hard—whoever gets selected should know it’s a really big award.” Sansone said.

The seniors awarded at this event have shown incredible work ethic and skill throughout their highschool career. The Senior Rally and Senior Sunset will take place on May 30. Their last day is June 5 and graduation is on June 6.





# Actors kill it on stage at spring play

By Ana Diaz  
STAFF WRITER

The El Camino drama club finished performing their last play of the year, “She Kills Monsters,” on May 10. The play ended the year with a relatable message about identity and was held at the El Camino Performing Arts Center. It concluded with a goodbye to all of the seniors who have been working hard in theater this year.

The play was about a teenager in high school named Agnes who had a sister, Tilly. Agnes was considered a “typical teenage girl” who loved music, boys and clothes. However, in her eyes, her sister was the complete opposite of her, especially because she played dungeons and dragons which she felt made her even more different.

Agnes barely had a relationship with Tilly and wished she could’ve had a “normal” sister. Shortly after, Tilly dies and Agnes had no idea who her sister was. She decides to follow something that Tilly wrote in her diary and play dungeons and dragons to somehow connect and truly understand who her sister was. Agnes is helped by “Dungeon Master” Chuck and meets a few of Tilly’s old friends, who in the end also help Agnes learn about her sister’s sexuality. The play focuses on how hard it



PHOTOS BY SAM STOTTE

“She Kills Monsters” star, Mick Schrodetski is on stage battling dragons with a sword.

can be for teenagers to express their identity and sexuality at a young age.

Director Micheal DiSalvo chose “She Kills Monsters” for many reasons. “She Kills Monsters” is currently very popular and a lot of high schools and colleges around the country are doing it. DiSalvo felt that it would be easy to get approved to perform this play. However, the key reason DiSalvo chose “She Kills Monsters” was the message behind the play and how

relatable it could be for high schoolers.

“I really love what the play had to say about identity, who we are, who we want to be, who we pretend to be and who we wish that we were,” DiSalvo said.

**Mick Schrodetzki (‘25)**, who played the lead role of Agnes, performed her last play with EC with this show. As a senior, this play was very important to Schrodetzki, especially since she’s been performing all four

years at EC. Schrodetzki had started performing in third grade but didn’t quite fall in love with it until she reached high school, and it became her second home. Not only was it her last performance, but this part was very important to Schrodetzki because the character was very different to who she normally played and it was her chance to show her true acting potential.

“I liked that it was really funny, but that it was also very deep because I feel like I’m always the silly character and so it was kind of fun to get to show that I can also act serious.” Schrodetzki said.

Among Schrodetzki’s family she built within the EC theatre club is **Quinn Reynolds (‘26)**. Reynolds played Orcus and Ronnie, Orcus being the dungeons and dragons character for Ronnie who was also a close friend of Tilly. Reynolds felt that this performance was very emotional because it will be the last time that Reynolds and Schrodetzki both perform on the same stage at EC. Not only did it build a strong connection with others he also felt that the community that this program has built is full of dedication and talent.

For more information on joining the drama club visit Mr. DiSalvo in room S-4. The club is held in S-4 every Wednesday at lunch.

# CTE Overview: what EC has to offer

By Alexa Fox  
OPINION EDITOR

Career Technical Education are classes offered in high schools across the nation to teach students technical and broad skills for their careers. El Camino offers four pathways for students to choose from in

which students get certifications or credits and a CTE stole to wear at graduation. CTE is beneficial for students to learn skills not otherwise offered in their coursework.

## EPI:

## Medical Assisting:

## Media Arts:

The Media Arts pathway is 3 blocks long, where students learn audio and video production skills, as well as communication skills on EC’s radio station and Youtube live streams.

“Students work in LIVE broadcasting on KYDS 91.5 FM and covering events on Youtube streams. Those who complete the three-class pathway learn industry skills like linear video editing and multitrack audio mixing, camera composition,

lighting and microphone use, as well as soft skills like problem solving, teamwork, project management. Students’ resumes are built out with broadcasting, technical experience, public relations, journalism and creative endeavors. The classes are “activity” classes and not a “sit-and-get” style class. Our curriculum and class format is advised by industry partners like news and radio stations, film crews and local government agencies.” Matt Sumpter, head of Media Arts.

## Theatre Arts:

Theatre arts is the newest CTE offered at El Camino where students learn acting skills and theatre production skills that they then can put to the test in school plays and musicals.

"The CTE Theatre Pathway offers students an opportunity to explore the many various elements that make up professional theatre. In Intro to Theatre we strive to find confidence using our imaginations, voices, and bodies via different types of theatre games and exercises; in Professional Theatre Practices we do a deeper dive into the professional actor’s process; in the Capstone Class, Directing & Design, we focus on visual and auditory aspects of theatre; costume, set, lighting and sound design, as well as how to direct actors and create pictures on stage. Also, we produce 2-3 main stage plays and musicals

we focus on visual and auditory aspects of theatre; costume, set, lighting and sound design, as well as how to direct actors and create pictures on stage. Also, we produce 2-3 main stage plays and musicals a year." Michael DiSalvo, head of Theatre Arts.





# History repeats itself. Education should not



By **Emme Hogge**  
NEWS EDITOR

I have always felt like there has been something missing in my history classes. I don't know why; I've never disliked the teachers, I almost always understand the concepts, and I often have success in class.

Learning historical lessons is crucial to be able to understand current events and make educated decisions on such events. So why is it, then, that I and so many other students have a reluctance to learn history?

After 12 years of history classes, I can explain to anyone in detail the political and social states of Medieval to Industrial Europe, the American Revolution and Civil War, the second World War, including the Holocaust, and the Great Depression and its impact on the American Government.

Yet, If I were asked about nearly any other region, historical period, or significant event, the best I could produce would be a couple poorly-developed sentences.

I am reminded of something I heard from one of my teachers at El Camino whenever I think about my history education: "If it happened, it's history."

Of course, there are thousands of years and a vast world of human civilization that can be studied, and there is no way to fit all of this into 13 years of public education. The California Board of Education publishes "History/Social Science Standards" for educators to follow and the most recent set of standards was published in 2016.

These standards include a basis for both analysis skills (including chronological and spatial thinking; research, evidence and point of view; and historical interpretation), as well as content standards, both varying depending on the grade.

On paper, these standards seem to encompass a sufficient amount of diversity between regions, civilizations, concepts and events. However, in my experience, they become distorted in practice. My history education has been consequently eurocentric despite the push in recent years to widen the scope of our learning.

El Camino is a very diverse school, both in cultures and ideas, and what I have experienced is that history classes do not reflect this diversity. Although it is true that since we live in the U.S., there should be a greater emphasis on American history, this does not take into account that many citizens, especially those in California, are from different countries and have different pasts.

There will be things, events and ideas, that are left out of an individual's historical education. Therefore, a decision has to be made about what is most important and impactful.

Advanced Placement U.S. History teacher Tyler Grinager explains that although the classes he teaches have a set curriculum, teachers have a lot of say in what is taught and how. Grinager explained that a method he uses to decide which topics to teach is what he wishes he had learned in his own education.

"I think [bias] is beneficial for the kids [because] if they see I'm really interested in something, they're more likely to be interested as well because they'll see the passion from the teacher," Grinager said.

Grinager recommends that anyone wanting to learn more in depth about history should take AP U.S. History, as they cover much more material than regular history classes.

This raises the question of whether or not it is fair to tell students that to have a sufficient history education, they must take AP classes. Many students don't have the resources, support or motivation to take AP classes, especially such material-heavy ones like AP U.S. Yet still every student should have the opportunity to be educated.

There is an issue with time, as it takes much more time than four or five months to be fluent in history, it can still be taught in such a way that gives students a broader picture of the world. It is not necessary to reteach the same eurocentric events from grade school through high school; if the Industrial Revolution is taught in eighth-grade U.S. history, it does not need to be taught again in 11th grade. Instead of drilling a small breadth of historical events and merely touching on or completely ignoring others, students should get a general understanding of a wider range of topics.

I have spent weeks in every history class I've had since the seventh grade on World War II, yet I still do not know what the Vietnam War was about. I can understand why World War II is such a popular topic among history teachers, as it had and continues to have a lasting effect on modern governments in a way that not many other events have. However, history classes should reflect a broader range of the past while also taking into account current events.

This brings me back to the phrase I mentioned earlier: "If it happened, it's history." A fundamental understanding of the modern world and the steps it took to get here is essential for all citizens to make decisions about the future of their own lives and the future of their country. But this becomes challenging when key parts of our history as a nation and as a species are swept under the rug.

How is that I have been in school for 12 years and have not once learned about the genocide of the Native Americans? Why is slavery not one of the most important units in U.S. History? Why has the Vietnam War not been a part of any history class I've taken? Why is the fight for civil rights that is still ongoing summarized merely in a lesson on Martin Luther King Jr. and lacking the complexity of decades of protest by many different groups? And these things only apply to American history; there are many other countries that have significance in today's world and are simply looked over.

SEE HOGGE, PAGE 8

# Student government isn't perfect - but we're listening and ready to do better with your participation

Opinion by **Madilyn Dalizu**  
ASB SECRETARY GUEST WRITER

Within Student Government, the topic of school spirit is something that comes up when planning any event where the student body is involved. School Spirit at El Camino isn't just fading- its unraveling. Behind the low turnout at events and growing disinterest, there are deeper issues we as a governing body need to address as highlighted by EC Journalism's article "A Divided School".

Every student within our class acknowledges the low turnout rates at dances, the low enthusiasm during rallies and the low participation rate of any event we attempt to host on campus. This is important not just because we want people to come to our dances, but because it also affects our ability to host future events and activities for students.

Instead of turning a blind eye to these underattended, under-spirited events, we want to acknowledge them- and open a conversation that stretches out into the entire student body of how we can do better. However, in the past when we have asked for student involvement or participation we are met with little to no engagement from students.

Each individual within our class works hard. With **Alina Ortega ('25)** planning our various rallies throughout our year, Associated Student Body President **Breanna Cabral ('25)** working tirelessly to plan our spring dance this year, and **Katie Sue Amerine ('27)**, next year's ASB Vice President, creating massive artistic advertisements to get students excited about upcoming events. These are just a few examples of students working to engage the student body. However, I can assure you, each individual in Student Government genuinely cares about making El Camino a school students are excited to be a part of. But good intentions don't always necessarily mean great results. We admit to making mistakes -some big, some small- but what it boils down to is our core issue: connection. However, we cannot force a connection, it needs to be mutual.

Many students at El Camino feel that Student Government does not reflect the whole school. Just like any other program at EC, we are guilty of falling into routine, what we expect people within the class to act like, who we expect them to get along with, and how they answer questions in our application interview. Familiar faces are sometimes more likely to get back in or be able to join than people who are completely brand new. We realize this bubble is impactful to our reach of students within EC and that when most of us are from similar friend groups or classes, it creates blind spots. I and my classmates want to break this cycle as we never meant to make people feel excluded or feel like events aren't "for them".

With the change of advisors from this year to next there will also be a change in how we connect with students in order to have a broader reach.

Future advisor Shannon Fox says she genuinely wants students to know they are needed, their ideas are valued, and school is much better when they're involved. She plans to do this by sharing her enthusiasm and smile, being crazy, silly, and doing the things suggested in EC Journalism's article. Things such as having more interaction with students through games with prizes and having fun competitions at lunch.

Fox also acknowledges the "selective environment of student government" and is working to address this issue by having teachers recommend students they think would benefit the student body within student government, bringing in a diversity of ideas and points of view. We want each student to know who's representing them in ASB and their own individual classes as well. Next year this will be communicated to the entire student body through assembly, introducing student government, officers and what they do to benefit everyone.

Acknowledging voting issues is a harder thing to change within our class. Many positions require prior experience within the class in order to fill the position responsibly and to meet the needs of the class. This includes all of our ASB positions which require students to be well versed in how the Student Government accounts, events, contracts, fundraisers and any other event pertaining to El Camino that happens on and off campus. These are all things that future ASB officials learn in the year prior to being elected. We believe this system works for us and are not open to change in this area.

However, when it comes to our elections for class presidents, we just aren't seeing enough people wanting to run for positions, and we are unable to drive up competition without help and input from the student body. Voting for class presidents is traditionally done by grade with voting taking place in class, however, in the past 2 years students have been running unopposed for these positions. Due to lack of competition, students have been less informed of who their representatives are. We hope to have more elections in the future providing more students the opportunity to come into the class who are inspired and willing to run.

Student Government cannot manufacture student participation. We are not responsible for the low attendance of students at our events. To provide an example, spring dance was worked on by many committees in the class and came together wonderfully. At the event we had five inflatables, a food truck, Hagen's Orange Freeze, Leathery's Ice Cream, a photo booth, and even glow stick necklaces and bracelets for students. However the attendance was so low, Student Government made enough from ticket sales only to break even on spending. This low attendance leads to a lower budget for future events which in turn leads to less activities for students at these events.

Additionally, to address the lack of respect at rallies, that is on you, the students. Students are going to listen

SEE DALIZU, PAGE 8





# SENIOR ST

## Upcoming Senior Events:

- SENIOR SUNSET MAY 30TH, 7:30-8PM
- SENIOR BREAKFAST JUNE 6TH, 8:15-10:15AM
- GRADUTION JUNE 6TH, 7:30-9:30PM

## Senior map







# POTLIGHT







## DALIZU: Stud. Gov. calls for action



PHOTO COURTESY OF MADILYN DALIZU  
All student governemt members smile for the picture at annual end of the year dinner located at the Palladio shopping mall.

to their peers way more than they will listen to adults. The teens reading this need to be that leader and encourage disruptive kids to knock it off or set an example by participating and not being “too cool” for rallies and other school events that require an extraordinary amount of time and effort to prepare. Don’t trash talk our ideas or gripe about something if you aren’t prepared to help make it better or let someone in charge know your ideas. To the writers of “A Divided School Student Gov Opinion” criticizing Student Government, and all other students who feel the same, you must be involved in suggesting ideas and turn in your Student Government applications.

So, what are we asking for? While

I do feel it is redundant, we are asking for student input and participation, this article is the start of something bigger. School spirit isn’t something Student Government can create on its own, it’s something we have to build and work towards together, with all of us involved. This starts with being more open, more inclusive, and more connected. If you have ever felt you didn’t have a place in Student Government or at school events, I want you to know: you do. We want to hear your ideas, feedback, and your voice. Because at the end of the day, school spirit isn’t about how many posters we make or how many socials we’re advertising on; it’s about we the students. All of us.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

## HOGGE: informing future generations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

To be clear, I am not downplaying the significance of what I have been taught in my earlier history classes. However, there seems to be an underlying bias among the American people in general about what is and isn’t important in terms of the past. World War II and the Holocaust, the Great Depression, the Industrial Revolution; these are all extremely important topics to be taught in history classes. Yet, students would be better served learning new, equally important things.

World History teacher Tim Peppel gave insights into his style of teaching, which he believes gives students a better understanding of historical thinking and less on historical content. “Student engagement is big, so getting to work [in groups],” People said. “I think in the type of questions asked: you can ask just basic on the surface questions, and then you can go below that.”

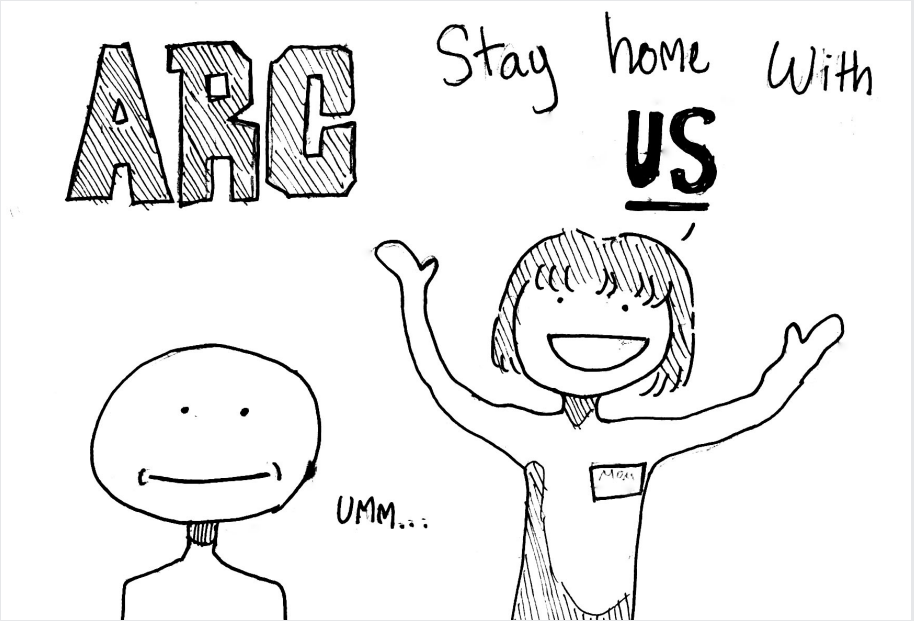
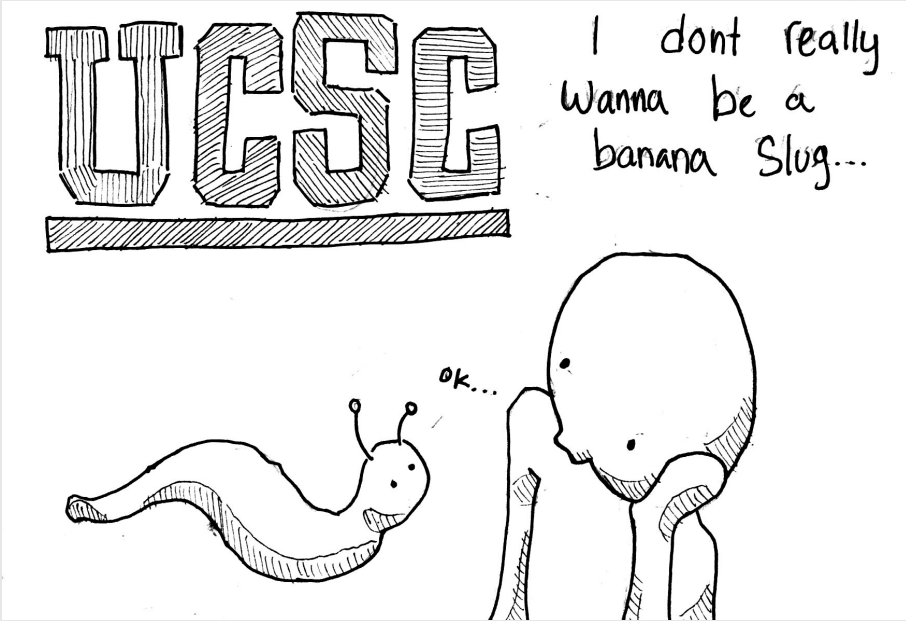
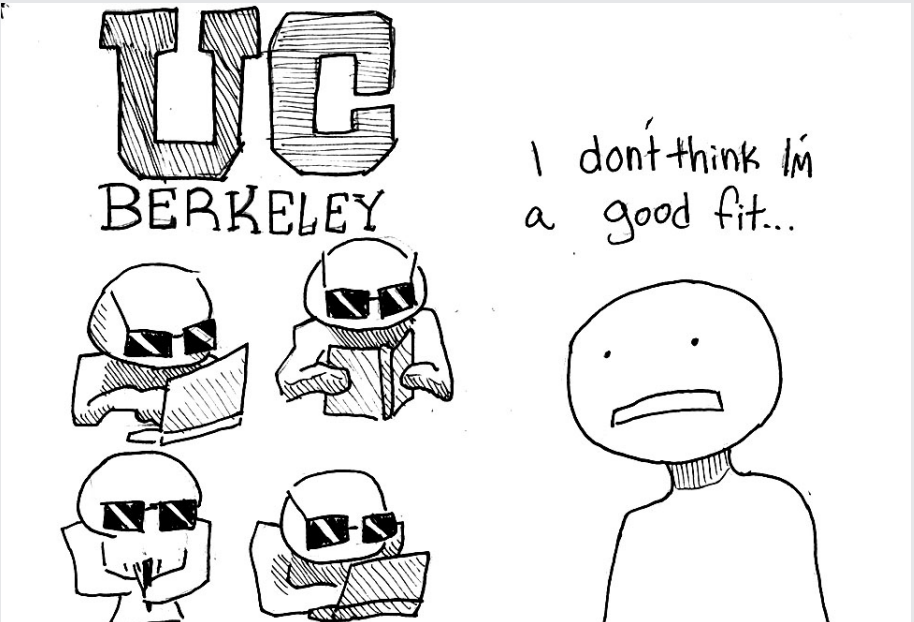
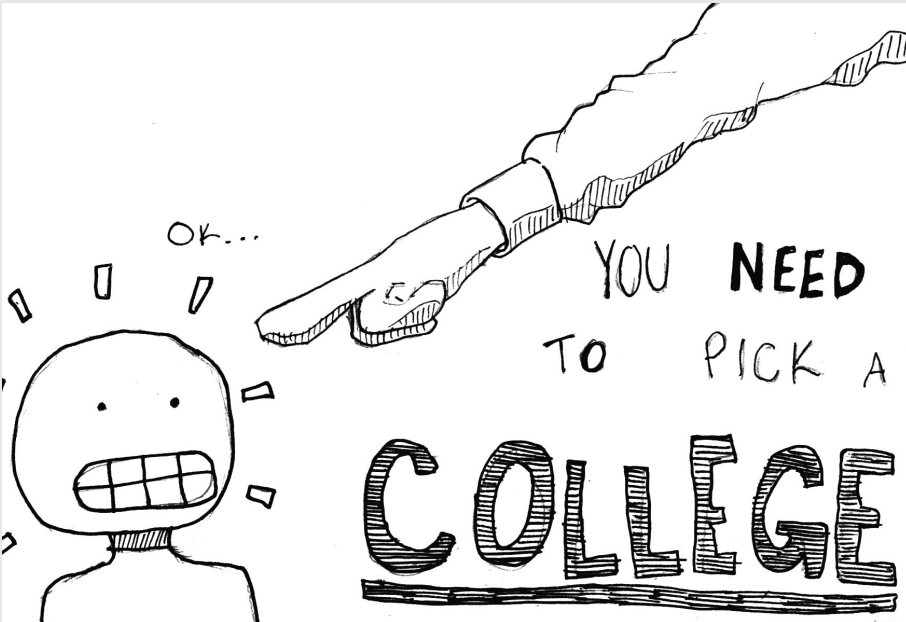
History teachers should focus more on developing student’s ability to think historically. This means more interaction with historical materials, class discussions, an emphasis on cause and effect and the ideas that shape our modern world. Essentially, this is a focus on why and how, not just what. With an increase in technology, people have greater access to infor-

mation. Students should be given the tools needed to interpret and gain a deeper understanding of historical topics that they have the ability to learn about themselves. However, educators cannot completely rely on student’s doing this, and so history classes will always need to include content as well as skill practice.

Moving forward, the California history standards should be re-evaluated to account for the fact that many periods in history are being overlooked. More time should be spent on periods of human exploitation, such as Native American genocide, American slavery and other instances of wartime cruelty, including the continuation of instruction on the Holocaust. Students should not just be informed on these events but should be encouraged to develop their own opinions and understand why these things were wrong and how they continue to affect us. Especially when it comes to genocides and exploitation, what happened in the past shapes how people exist in society today. Many of the victims of these events are still discriminated against and experience cultural trauma. Acknowledging and understanding their past will help future generations to address these issues and hopefully achieve social justice.

# Letters from a juvenile

By Collin Carruth  
GUEST ILLUSTRATOR







# An unforgettable night in Paris: Junior Prom

By Rain Cummings  
STAFF WRITER

On April 26, El Camino students got dressed up and celebrated Junior Prom together. Prom was held in the cafeteria from 7 to 10PM, where many students gathered with friends and danced for hours. The cafeteria was decorated with Paris themed displays as the theme was “A night in Paris,” with decorations and lights filling the room. Many students danced the night away, saying the event was fun and a night to remember.

Each year, EC juniors get the opportunity to celebrate with their peers and take them to prom. Many

students take each other as dates to prom withholding the prom traditions.

One student, **Ilaina Yavron (26’)**, described the prom experience as one of the most fun dances she’s been to since her freshman year.

“I think they are really fun,” Yavron said, “I think they give you a space to be goofy and have fun, relax and dance with everyone.”

Overall, Yavron described the dance as a fun experience and recommends attending dances to future EC juniors. Not only is prom a fun event, it can be a fun way to step outside your comfort zone. By buying a fancy dress or suit, participating in



Junior boys stand together in suits for pictures on the day of junior prom.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BELLA MACHADO

four juniors take pictures in a flower garden and pose for a silly photo.

the process of getting ready, taking pictures and just involving yourself in the process is a fun experience.

It is highly recommended that most students attend this event as the student government spends lots of time and effort setting up this dance. They took the time to prepare the cafeteria, surrounding the room with huge French themed decorations, like the recreation of the Eiffel Tower which reached the ceiling.

Another student, **Demarian Holmes (26’)**, described prom as a fun environment and a good way to hangout with friends.

“My favorite part about prom was looking awkward while the couples were all slow dancing,” said Holmes.

Overall, he described prom as a good dance with beautiful decorations and a good way to connect to other EC students.

Those who attended the dance this year said they enjoyed it and thought it was a great prom. Many recommend future juniors to participate in these dances as it’s a good way to connect with the EC students and staff, a good way to make new friends, and a fun way to get out of your comfort zone and dance.

# Student-made movie: “Thus with a Kiss, I Die”

By Sarah Edwards  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Before they graduate El Camino, film students **Lucas Waddell (‘25)** and **Savea Allison (‘25)** are working together to make one last short film called “Thus With a Kiss, I Die” to show everyone what they’ve learned.

Back in February, Waddell wanted to make a new short film so he decided to reach out to Allison to be his co-producer, and the rest was history. He saw some of her other short films she has made and thought she would be a great partner for producing a new short film. Waddell became the assistant director, producer and helped with the storyboard while Allison became the lead editor and director. Allison proceeded to create the plot for their short film and had some inspiration from other works along the way.

“She [Savea] was really inspired by the show “You” and its stalker kind of stuff. So that’s where it stemmed from. Then we also took inspiration from “Romeo and Juliet” too,” Waddell said.

Their short film follows two seniors in high school that live in Sacramento. One of the main characters, Isaiah, is struggling with mental health issues from his girlfriend passing away recently. The other main character, Eden, is the new, mysterious girl at their school that just transferred from Oregon. One night they happen to be at this bridge at the same time and Isaiah becomes infatuated with her

and begins to stalk her. EC students **Noah Elston (‘25)** and **Olivia Olmos (‘25)** play as the main characters of the short film. For Olmos, this is her first time acting in a film before but she has been really enjoying it.

“It’s kind of awkward. I’ve never really acted before in my life,” Olmos explained, “but it’s really fun, it’s a new perspective.”

The two directors went down similar paths to becoming young, striving directors. Both Waddell and Allison took all three years of the Media CTE program taught by Matt Sumpter. Additionally, they both used to make short movies on apps like iMovie as kids. This led to their love in creating, directing, and editing short films.

“I’ve been filming and making movies since I could walk,” Allison explained, “I was making those iMovie movies when I was younger and I’ve been using Adobe Premiere Pro since I was 10 because I love everything editing and video.”

Throughout their whole filming process, the directors and their actors have been filming in several different places to create more depth in their film. They’ve filmed at places all around Sacramento and EC, like the Fair Oaks bridge and Ray Marshall’s classroom, room 69.

“We filmed downtown, we filmed here [EC], we filmed at a park. We’re not done filming yet, we’re gonna film at Lucas’ house. It’s just in the general Sacramento area,” Allison said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAVEA ALLISON AND LUCAS WADDELL

**AT LEFT:** The official movie poster with the premiere date and credits. The film stars Noah Elston (‘25), Olivia Olmos (‘25) and Ariana Gonzales (‘25). Written, directed and produced by Lucas Waddell (‘25) and Savea Allison (‘25).

**AT RIGHT:** A behind the scenes shot during the filming for “Thus With a Kiss, I Die” with the two stars of the movie.

To film and edit all of their footage, they’ve used a lot of equipment from their media class and Adobe Premiere Pro. However, this equipment from their media teacher is not the typical filming gear he gives to any student. They’re using advanced cameras and lenses to film the perfect shot, angle, and lighting.

“Mr. Sumpter, he’s letting us use the really nice black magic cameras and I’m really happy about that because it takes really good [footage],” Waddell said.

Waddell and Allison look forward to everyone watching their film for the first time soon. “Thus With a Kiss, I Die” will be premiering in the Performing Arts Center at EC on June 9 at 7PM if students are interested in watching their film.





# Boys golf

By Rain Cummings  
STAFF WRITER

This Feb. through April, El Camino’s boys varsity golf team had their season, with the team averaging their hits at 267 in the first half of the season versus 247 in second. This change, struck by improvements from the previous half of the season has led many of the team’s players to be pleased with their performances overall. Next year, the varsity team has high hopes, aiming to make third place in the league.

One player, **Keaton Yost (‘26)**, has been playing for the EC varsity team since freshman year and has watched major improvements take place. He explained that the team worked well together and they built great friendships while playing. He stated that this season had been the best in years, as this year he made it into sectionals.

“This year was definitely the best, in terms of bonding with the team and progress” Yost stated. “This was the first time in three years that we actually were winning matches.”

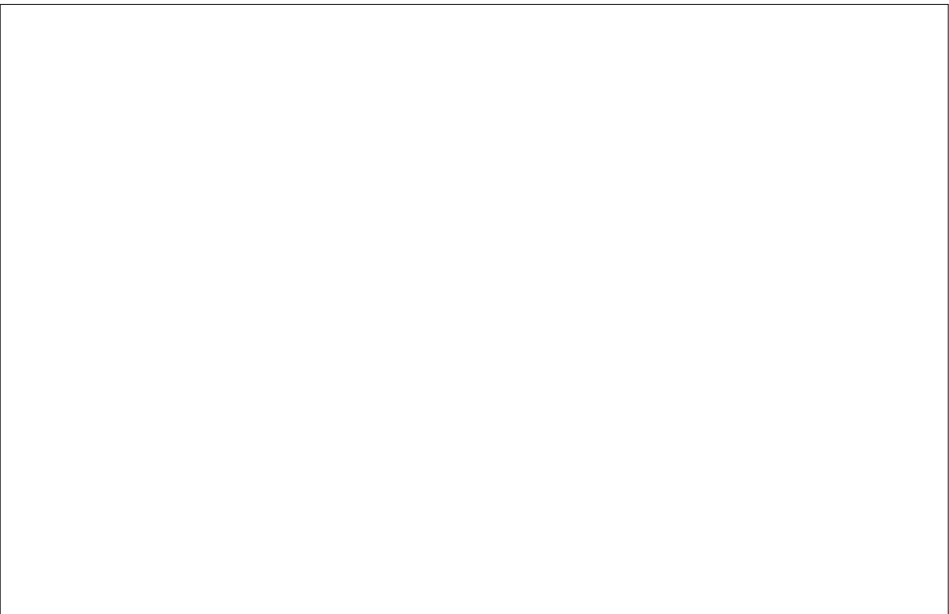


PHOTO COURTESY OF KENNEDY STOWELL

Girls varsity soccer finished 6-1-5 in the Golden Empire League, taking second.

Yost also encouraged more students to join the team as it’s also a good opportunity to connect with peers, also mentioning that the golf team is seen as a positive environment for all golf players and an oppor-

tunity to play golf inexpensively.

Another player, **Andrew Potratz (‘28)**, a freshman on varsity mentioned that he enjoyed being able to improve in his skills as the season progressed.

“At the beginning of the season, you learn and practice, by the end of the season you’re shooting a lot better,” Potratz said.

Overall, Potratz saw this season as a success and feels accomplished on the improvements he has made.

Matt Sumpter, the current golf coach for El Camino, has been coaching for 2 years and has led countless students these past years in golf. Sumpter mentioned the strong connections built between the students and coaches, as they are able to connect on the same level.

“No one is going to accuse us of not having a good time,” Sumpter said. “They were all great with each other.”

After the season ended in April, many players left the team feeling pleased as they ended the season with great successes. The EC golf team is a great aspect to the community as it brings people together and is a fun way to step outside your comfort zone and try new things. Whether you have experience in golf or not, EC encourages students to join the team so it can be a guaranteed sport for years to come.

# Boys Volleyball

By Nora Seevers  
STAFF WRITER

As the spring sports come to a close, Boys Volleyball celebrates the victories and success they’ve had this season. Making it all the way to playoffs, coaches, families and players on the team celebrated how far they have come and their positive representation of El Camino.

Last year, the team had a difficult season with a record of 5-10 in the CAL league.

This year, however, they had a record of 11-8 in the GEL league and made it to the playoffs. Many of the players appreciate the community created, along with how quickly they bonded.

First year player **Chris Reyes (‘28)**, who was the one freshman on varsity, claims they began the season with a slight struggle due to the team forming later in the spring.

“We had our first game days after our tryouts ended,” Reyes stated. “Instead of a slow and steady start to our season, we had to go in at 120%.

We had to collaborate, work as a team, and get to know each other in a matter of weeks while still trying to understand each other’s playing style.”

Along with him, many other players agreed that the team bonded in a short span of time in a way that benefited them on the court.

Second year player **Collin Carruth (‘27)** who joined varsity this year seconds Reyes’ claim that the team connected quickly but thoroughly. He also mentioned that a reason for the significant improvement in the team could’ve been from the players taking much action in the off season to better their performances.

Carruth stated, “most of our boys played club teams in the off season and we had some new players that meshed really well with the team.”

The team finished third in league, with many players being proud of the improvements they made this season.

Coach Sara Vieira is optimistic about the seasons to come and the possibilities the future holds for the team. Because of the quick start to

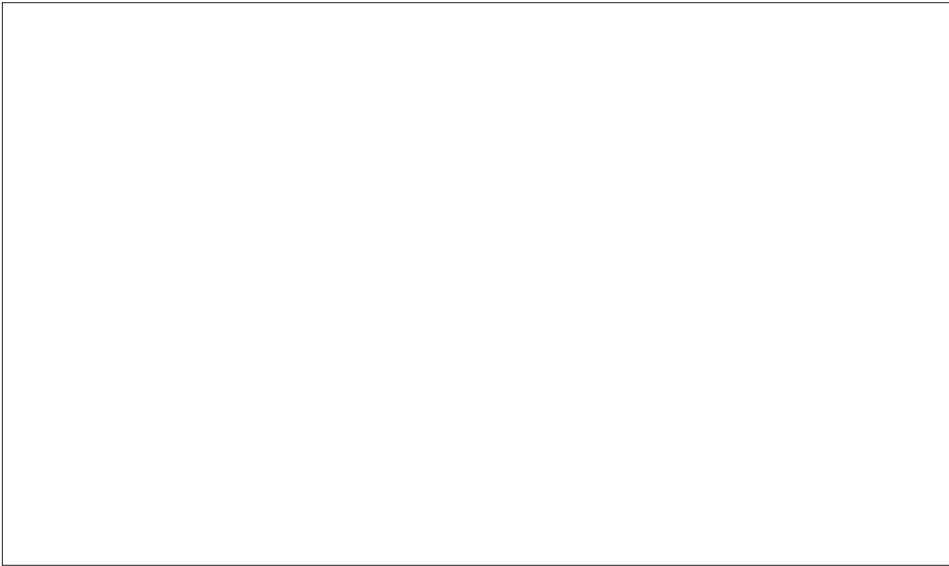


PHOTO COURTESY OF KENNEDY STOWELL

Girls varsity soccer finished 6-1-5 in the Golden Empire League, taking second.

the season along with the general lack of experience on the team, she hopes for the team to make improvements as they progress.

“Our team will be much stronger next year as the boys learn to play together as a team,” Vieira stated.

Even with the chance of bet-

tering the team, the coaches and families of EC Boys Volleyball are proud of the season they had and look forward to seasons to come.

Games for next season will begin in March and have a \$6 entry fee.

# SoftBall

By Keaton Yost  
SPORTS EDITOR

El Camino’s varsity softball team finished 6th in league this season, with 4 wins and 10 losses.

Three year softball player **Ilaina Yavrom (‘26)** commented that even though the record might not suggest it, the team had a great season.

“This new league is a lot more competitive because the teams we’re playing now are around our same level,” Yavrom said, later noting how the more level playing field made the season generally more enjoyable.

Freshman varsity player **Claire Schwartz (‘28)** corroborated Yavrom by explaining how even though the team didn’t do well playing wise, the season was great friendship wise.

“The team energy was—really good,” Schwartz said, adding

that the team members were all “really good friends.”

Having noted Schwartz as the offensive player of the year, Coach Stephanie Saylor agreed with the players in that the team enjoyed each other’s company.

Even though the team had a great season, Saylor discussed how confidence is something the team could work on.

“If we had to work on one thing, I would say it would be believing in ourselves,” Saylor said.

The coach has high hopes for next year’s team under the condition that the members continue to perform well with one another.

Even though there were early season attempts at putting an entry fee on the softball games this year, it is unlikely there will be a charge next season.

# Powerpuff: Boys bring cheer to the crowd

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cheerleaders, an all boy squad took on the task of cheering. The two cheer teams were made up of any male students from EC. The senior cheer team had seniors and sophomores and the junior cheer team had juniors and freshmen. The cheer teams were dressed with their teams colors and completed with matching pom poms and their name on their shirts. Some of the boys did flips and showed off their tumbling skills.

Student government member **Colin Carruth (‘27)** helped organize this year’s powerpuff cheer team. He got around eighteen students to

participate in cheering. The routines were taught by a few of the senior varsity cheer girls. Caruth described his experience as a cheerleader being light-hearted and fun.

“If we mess up horribly it’s whatever, it’s supposed to be funny.” He continued by saying, “It was the most fun event I’ve been to so far.”

Powerpuff is an annual event which helps support EC’s ASB and the flag football team, and will be held again in the spring of next school year. For more information on Girls Flag Football, which is a fall sport, contact Cardoso or Fujita.





# Track team thrives making new personal records

By Keaton Yost  
SPORTS EDITOR

El Camino had a large track team this year, with about 80 student athletes and 35 students setting new personal records across different events. Head Coach Andy Sullivan shared how this year’s track season was one of the best he has been a part of, pointing out how much of the team did well at the May 10 meet at Casa Roble. “We had a lot of [personal records],” Sullivan said, “and JV boys won... the meet for their area.” Sullivan also mentioned how many individuals and relay teams qualified for D4 and D5 subsections, including the four by eight hundred team and the girls four by one team. **Raven Joiner (‘28)**, a hurdler and high jumper for EC, held high hopes for the event even before it was over. “I expect the females four by one to actually do really well... I understand how hard they’ve been working,” she said halfway through the meet. Joiner, like Sullivan, discussed the four by eight hundred team,

which she said had done well and had taken third place in the event. One of the relay runners for the four by eight hundred team, **Nora Seevers (‘28)**, is disappointed that she didn’t make it further than section finals. “I could’ve ran much better this season but we didn’t have many meets so there wasn’t much time to improve,” she said.

Seevers also went into detail about the lack of adequate coaching that led to some shortcomings throughout the whole team. “We have very supportive coaches right now but they don’t know the specifics on how to better their athletes,” Seevers stated. She also shared how lack of equipment was occasionally an effect the team felt, hoping for more “fund-

ing and support” next year, which she claims will improve the team when mixed with the already solid pool of underclassmen athletes. The first track meet for next season will most likely be in March, with all meets having no entry cost.



PHOTO BY KEATON YOST

ABOVE: Issac Bennett (‘25) gets ready to swing at golf practice.  
BELOW: Track and field meet on the football feild for practice.

## Baseball has an unlucky season

By Emme Hogge  
NEWS EDITOR

On Wednesday, April 30, El Camino Varsity Baseball played their last home game against Casa Roble. The game ended with a score of 10-16, with EC taking the loss. EC Boys Varsity ended with a record of 5 wins and 23 losses. Players agree that it was not their best year and expressed disappointment in

the team’s overall performance. With that said, many players were proud of their individual performances and are excited for the future of the baseball team at EC. One of those players was **AJ Maldonado (‘25)**, who is going on to play baseball for Consumnes River College. “I had a lot of improvement [from last year], and I was a lot better at hitting this year and



PHOTOS BY EMMIE HOGGE

Girls varsity soccer finished 6-1-5 in the Golden Empire League, taking second.



pitching,” Maldonado said. Maldonado explained that one of the team’s biggest challenges this year was that they were divided as there was a stark difference in skill, making it hard for the team to develop good chemistry. Another player, **Charles Snyder (‘25)**, believes that the team lacked the passion needed to have a good season. “If you’re in a fight, you’re not just gonna heap over and let them kick you. You gotta at least toughen up a little

bit and try to fight back,” Snyder said. Snyder, although disappointed in the team’s overall performance, is very hopeful for the future of the baseball program. He explained that the team has been interacting with incoming freshmen interested in playing baseball and building up the culture. Snyder believes the incoming class has a lot of potential and will improve the team’s performance in upcoming years.

## EC’s first co-ed tennis team

By Kodi Schultz  
STAFF WRITER

El Camino’s varsity tennis team has had a very successful season this year. They made it to playoffs and had their first playoff game against Sutter on May 8. This year has been different for the team, as it is their first time becoming co-ed. This means that instead of a girls team and a boys team, they have combined to form one EC tennis team. According to Coach Justin Marshall, this season has been a lot more competitive than the past years and they’ve had a more even playing field. Marshall encourages those with many different backgrounds to sign up for tennis. “You don’t have to be athletic or have an athletic background to

play tennis—to be a successful player you do need some sort of athleticism, but it can be something you develop,” Marshall explained. Tennis players describe training throughout the week in many ways. According to **Chloe Woods (‘26)**, the key is to practice everyday, and **William Alcala (‘25)** said that he rallies and makes sure he stays consistent. The Eagle tennis team has a lot of support, with multiple students and parents showing up to their games to cheer them on. The support from the school and the increasing skill of the team has made EC finish with nine wins and only one loss in league. There were four seniors this year, and they were all honored on senior night. The tennis season is now over, but to sign up for next year, visit Justin Marshall in the finance office.

## Girls swim team becomes champions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lot of people I know,” Gayoba said. Another important opportunity swimmers have is making it to States after Sections. At the States championships, there are more college recruiters, providing swimmers with even more chances at different colleges. This year, two of the girl’s relay times were state consideration times. Having only missed the qualifying time for States by half a second, some of the team members are aiming to qualify by next year. “There are two girls that are talking about going year round and doing a little more so that they maybe can drop some time and maybe get into States,” Stowell said. One other swimmer on the Girls Varsity Swim team that went to Sections was **Eden Gill (‘28)**. She also had state consideration times, placing 5th in the 100-meter

backstroke. Gill has been swimming since she was 6 years old and started competing when she was around 8 years old. In hopes of making it to States next year, she plans on working to improve her backstroke more. “My backstroke [is] pretty fast but I get tired halfway through and I want to give up, so I think I need to work on not giving up,” Gill said. Next season, Stowell and his team have high hopes to go even further with their swimming and records to hopefully qualify for States. “I think that not only winning it [Sections] again, but I want to have kids make it to States next year,” Stowell said. If a student is interested in learning more about Sections or joining the swim team, they can talk to Stowell in the Vice Principal’s Office or wait for tryouts next year during the spring.





# Senior Ball

By Emme Hogge  
NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday, May 17, the senior class of 2025 attended their last high school dance, Senior Ball, at the Tsakopoulos Library in downtown Sacramento. This year’s “Diamond Ball” was Bridgerton themed, a popular period television show that takes place in the early 1800’s.

Leading up to the ball, a promposal competition was held. Many couples submitted their promposals to the class of 2025’s instagram, and seniors voted on their favorite. The winners, **Diamond Barbee** (‘25) and **Baden Blaser** (‘25) were granted free admission into the ball.

Also leading up to the dance, there were campaigns for ball royalty. To begin, anyone could run for royalty nominations, and seniors voted from the participants on which were their favorite. A second vote with the top three pairs then took place. The three finalist pairs were brought up to the stage at the ball and the winners were announced. The finalists were **Zoe Daffron** (‘25) and **Madilyn Dalizu** (‘25), **Barbee** and **Blaser**, and **Alexa Fox** (‘25) and **Evan Cockrum** (‘25). At the ball, the winners were announced to be Fox and Cockrum. The couple was awarded with crowns and sashes.

Fox explained that she and Cockrum had campaigned leading up to the dance by telling their friends and posting on instagram to



PHOTO COURTESY OF MADILYN DALIZU

encourage people to vote for them.

“[Winning] was awesome, I was super excited. I really wanted to win,” she explained.

Senior class President and Dance Lead **Lucas Waddell** (‘25) said that, since the Library is already a nice venue, there was not much work to be done in terms of decorating.

“They had tables set up and we brought our own tablecloths, and then we had the centerpiece with flowers and we put little tea candles around it,” Waddell explained.

At the dance, the bar was also open, serving non-alcoholic mocktails. The seniors hired a DJ, and many

attendees were pleased with the music played and spent time dancing.

Waddell expressed pride in the outcome of the ball and the hard work put in by the senior student government class.

“I think this is our best dance for our class. I think everyone did their job well, and it was just executed really well,” he said.

The Diamond Ball was the last dance at EC for this school year. The next dance will be Homecoming in the fall of 2025, with the date yet to be determined.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXA FOX  
Senior Ball Royalty Alexa Fox (‘25) and Evan Cockrum (‘25) pose after being awarded with crowns and sashes.



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