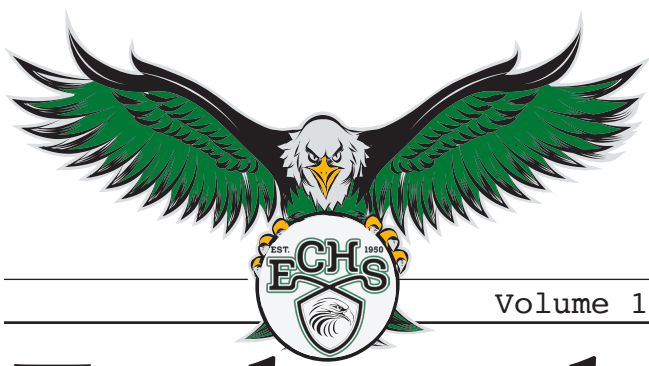




Eagle girls battle at Powerpuff



By Ryver Marbach
SPORTS EDITOR

On April 17, junior and senior girls joined up on the football field to participate in the annual Powerpuff flag football game, a high-stakes competition between the two upper classes.

EC students gathered in the football stadium dressed in either pink, to support the Juniors, or black, to support the Seniors. Both teams had

been practicing three times a week since March to prepare for the game.

Ticket proceeds were given to student government and EC's flag football team, but student government also had a face paint fundraiser going for \$1. Both junior and senior powerpuff teams also featured a cheer squad composed of all boys that performed a halftime dance, as well as leading cheers and doing stunts during the game, keeping spectators

engaged. In the end, the junior team beat the seniors, winning 19-7.

The juniors were led by unofficial team captain **Raelyn Dalizu ('27)**, who scored for the juniors in the fourth quarter after intercepting the ball on defense for a pick-six. Dalizu spoke about what winning was like for the junior team.

"I think we were really surprised, because usually the seniors will cheat just to win, or

something like that, but somehow we still won," Dalizu explained.

Dalizu also mentioned that she noticed a lack of attendance from the Juniors to practice. She explained how that affected their team.

"The game was really fun—it

SEE POWERPUFF, PAGE 5



PHOTOS BY RYVER MARBACH

ABOVE: Lucas Matthews ('29) displays the game score to the crowd. AT LEFT: Gabriela Cooper ('26), Kalli Porter ('26), Carmen McCoy ('26) and Camila Martinez ('26) celebrate on the field.

EC Theatre Company deliberates during '12 Angry Men'

By Grace Gollihur
EDITOR IN CHIEF

This year for their spring play, El Camino Theatre Company put on a production of '12 Angry Men' by Reginald Rose. The company put on a total of six shows April 16-18 and April 23-25.

The cast was made up of a total of 13 students, including 12 jurors and one bailiff. There were no scene changes during the production, and the set was modeled to look



ABOVE: The jurors gather to deliberate the fate of the boy charged with murder. BELOW AND AT RIGHT: Quinn Reynolds ('26) plays juror number 3, a man whose judgment is clouded by personal trauma.

like a jury deliberation room.

The story follows 12 jurors as they deliberate the guilt of a young man charged with the murder of his father. Initially, all but one of the jurors believes the man is guilty, but by the end of the discussion, they unanimously decide he is not guilty.

Director Micheal DiSalvo chose this play for a number of reasons, one of which being that he himself participated in the national tour of the play in 2007 and 2008, playing the bailiff and understudying jurors 2, 5 and 12.

"I knew the show really well, so it seemed like a good opportunity—it's also a challenge that's unique for high school kids, in that you never



PHOTOS BY GRACE GOLLIHUR

SEE THEATRE, PAGE 5



Dinner is served at Crab Feed

NEWS, PAGE 2



Cars on display at car show

NEWS, PAGE 4



Track seniors celebrated

SPORTS, PAGE 10

In this issue

News 1

Opinion 5

Spotlight 6

Entertainment 8

Sports 10





Undergraduate students honored at awards night



ABOVE and AT LEFT: Students awarded for their achievement in the Science Department stand with their certificate on the stage of the Performing Arts Center. ABOVE and AT RIGHT: Isaac Rex ('28) and Sam Cardwell ('29) show off their Metal Tech awards. AT RIGHT: Biology Teacher Kelly Kissling and Principal Evelyn Welborn present Arianna Lorenzo-Garcia ('29) with her Science Department award.

By Emme Hogge
MANAGING EDITOR

On April 29, select El Camino undergraduate students came together in the Performing Arts Center to be honored for their hard work throughout the school year. The ceremony started at 6 p.m. and ended around 8 p.m., followed by dessert in the foyer. Each academic department at EC selected multiple students that adhered to the school's values of respect,

responsibility, and readiness, as well as showing an overall commitment to working hard and staying positive. **Sam Cardwell ('29)** received an award for his achievements both in physical education and metal tech. Cardwell enjoyed being recognized for his efforts throughout the school year. "I try to do whatever I can to stand out," Cardwell said. "I try as hard as I can." Undergraduate Awards are held every year, usually in late April.



PHOTOS BY EMME HOGGE

EC Boosters rakes in the cash at Crab Feed



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTA MAYFIELD

EC student volunteers pose for a picture at the crab feed. The volunteers had a variety of responsibilities, including food running, serving and set up and cleanup.

By Grace Gollihur
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On March 14, El Camino Boosters held their annual crab feed at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center to raise money for various programs at EC. This event is among the most lucrative for the club, bringing in around \$20,000. Programs like athletics, band, choir, drama, and the Eagle Polytechnic Institute (EPI) all benefit from this fundraiser. Food and drink donations were made by WinCo foods and River City Brewing Company. During the event, the president of EC

Boosters Rob Oates gave a speech, and french teacher David Manigart DJ'ed. There was also an auction, including prizes donated by the public. This is Justin Marshall's third year in the booster club, but it was his first crab feed. As the event chair, his job was to gather donations and to work behind the bar on the night of the event. "I poured drinks, I talked to people, I met a lot of people—I did a lot of networking—trying to help keep our alumni engaged," Marshall said. This networking is part of Marshall's other position as Vice President of the booster club.

Along with Marshall, **Mariah Ruelas ('28)** worked at the event as a student volunteer. She ran food to tables and helped with setup and cleanup, receiving community service hours for her work. "We got to eat everyone's leftover food—that was definitely fun—I was also asked to participate from the El Camino Cheer team," Ruelas said. Ruelas explained that the cheer team receives fundraising from the tips gathered at the event. There were around 50 student volunteers at the crab feed, all of them taking different jobs such as food running and serving. Ruelas advises student volunteers to wear comfortable shoes and be friendly to guests. The crab feed is a vital part of fundraising for boosters that continues to be successful and enjoyable for attendees and student volunteers. To learn more about next years crab feed, or to learn about EC boosters, visit Justin Marshall in the finance office.

The Eagle Eye

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

Editor in Chief..... Grace Gollihur ('26)
Managing Editor..... Emme Hogge ('26)
News Editor..... Virginia Hogge ('29)
Opinion Editor..... Editorial Staff
Entertainment Editor..... Sarah Edwards ('26)
Sports Editor..... Ryver Marbach ('29)

Advisor: Matt Sumpter ('94)

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

2025-2026



EC celebrates diversity at culture fair

By Emme Hogge
MANAGING EDITOR

El Camino students gathered in the cafeteria on March 26 to experience the diverse culture here on campus at the Culture Fair. With the help of student government, many cultural clubs set up booths with information about their heritage and customs, and some clubs even brought food to share with EC students. The clubs featured included Latinos Unidos, Native Youth Club, the French Club and Black Student Union, and there were also tables representing Fijian, Muslim, Japanese and Jewish culture. Students were allowed to come with their class by appointments lasting 30 minutes, which were available during third and fourth period. The fair was also open to anyone after school. Female members of Latinos Unidos and others dressed in their quinceañera dresses and danced while students browsed the array of booths. **Ravyn Seibles ('27)** is a member of student government and was responsible for organizing the culture fair. Seibles explained that most of her preparation involved reaching out to culture clubs and coordinating

arrangement of the large gym. The set up of each club's booth, however, was up to the members themselves. Seibles gave insight into the importance of having a Culture Fair at such a diverse school as EC. "It just gives everyone a chance to represent where they're from and bring the school together," Seibles said. **Ashley Leilua Bola ('26)** and **Joanne Karavaki ('26)** got the chance to represent their Fijian heritage at the culture fair with a booth on traditional Fijian culture. Despite it not being a club, Leilua Bola decided to reach out to student government and ask for a booth. "It's my last year, so I wanted to represent our culture," Leilua Bola said, given that the previous year, her junior year, she had decided not to ask for a booth out of nervousness. Leilua Bola and Karavaki made an informative poster on Fijian culture and each brought artifacts from their families, including a Fijian war club and a ceremonial Kava root bowl. During assigned time slots, Leilua Bola and Karavaki performed a traditional Fijian dance called Meke, which Leilua Bola explained is her culture's way of storytelling. Leilua Bola enjoyed the op-



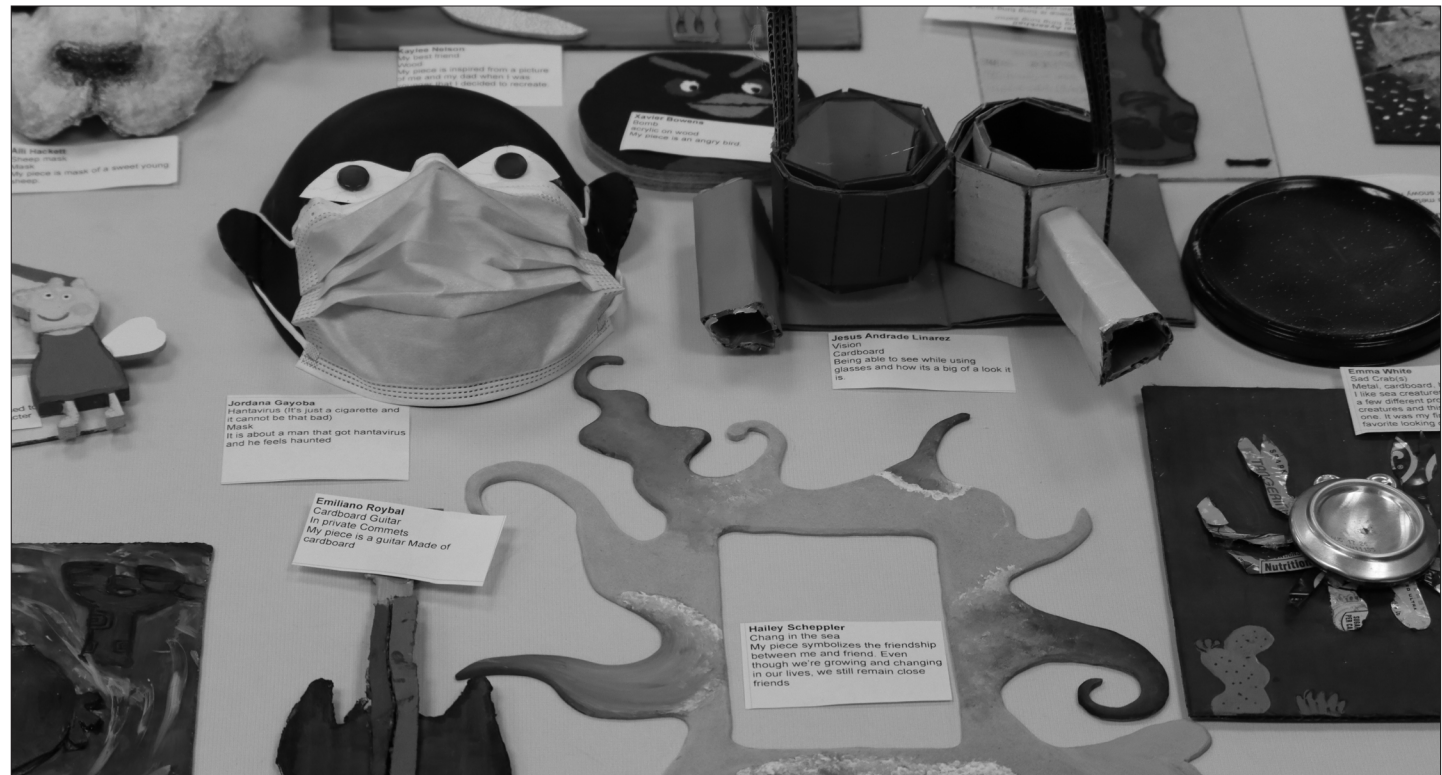
ABOVE: Ashley Leilua Bola ('26) and Joanne Karavaki ('26) represent Fijian culture with traditional clothes, artifacts, and food. They also made an informational poster for browsing students. AT RIGHT: Posters lining the awalls of the cafeteria were made by student government for the event.

portunity to educate her fellow students about her culture. "A lot of people group all the islands together, so it was nice to give people a bigger perspective on how big the world is and how many different cultures there are," Leilua Bola said. Join a club at EC in the fall block during Club Rush at lunch.



PHOTOS BY EMME HOGGE

Students show their creativity at art show



PHOTOS BY EMME HOGGE

AT LEFT: Different paintings and sketches are hung up at the art show. Each piece usually sports a title, artist, and a description or explanation. Vi Berbeneva ('29) painted the child titled "Little me in a Wig," and Alex Barajas ('29) painted the piece above titled "Alex." AT RIGHT: Mixed media peices are displayed in the library. These peices are made up of a multitude of different mediums and styles. Pictured are pieces by Jordana Gayoba ('28), Jesus Andrade Linarez ('27), Emiliano Roybal ('29), Hailey Schepptter ('28).

By Ryver Marbach
SPORTS EDITOR

The week of May 18 through May 22, El Camino students in mixed media and art classes picked their best creative works to showcase in EC's annual Spring Into Summer Art Show. The show was held in the library, with displays of ceramics, paintings, drawings, and other mixed media projects from students of all grade levels. EC's art program holds two showings in the library per year, one in December and one in May, to display art students' pieces from the previous block. Advanced Placement art students have their own showcase in June to display

the pieces in their AP portfolios. Prior to the show, art teacher Amanda Mc Donald does lots of work to prepare for the event. She begins ordering supplies for the displays and coordinating with librarian Meaghan Sheehan about dates and showcasing space all before the school year begins. Mc Donald focuses on including every student in the art show, regardless of what level class they are in. Students have the opportunity to pick which piece they would like displayed in the library, then they create a title and an artist's statement for the work, which is typically one or two sentences about what inspired them to create their piece. Mc Donald talked about what

the importance of displaying students' work is for them. "I think the satisfaction of seeing their work up and having their friends come and visit and see their stuff is great," Mc Donald explained. "It's very important for this to happen, just to show what we're working on because our curriculum is great." All types of pieces were featured in this block's art show, including paintings, drawings, ceramics and other types of two-and-three-dimensional art. **Ke'Maria Coaley ('29)** picked her piece, "Charcoal Self Portrait", to be featured in the show. As a freshman, this is her first time having her work displayed in the show. She mentioned that she

was inspired to create the piece by her friends, who recommended her a photo to recreate using charcoal. Coaley explained why she chose that piece to display in the show. "I spent a lot of time on it—charcoal is very hard to work with, so I had to make sure that the darker values were actually dark enough. It turned out really good, so I'm really proud of it," Coaley stated. The Spring into Summer art show is now over, but next school year's Fall into Winter show will take place in December, featuring next block students' artwork. For more information about EC's art shows and program, talk to Mc Donald in room A-7.



Start your engines: senior class hosts car show

By Sarah Edwards
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On the morning of April 25, El Camino student government put on a car show in the junior parking lot for locals to showcase their cars to raise money for upcoming senior events.

The Senior Class Car Show is an annual event that started around 15 years ago. The car show is a public event where people from all over Sacramento can participate and show off their car for a fee of \$15. The student government senior class runs this event every year to raise money for Senior Ball and Senior Breakfast.

This year, they made \$1,100 by selling pancakes, hot chocolate, and coffee to participants in the car show. Most of their food was donated and prepared by Scott Schubert and the Optimist Club. Student government advisor, Shannon Fox, appreciated these donations and the support from the club.

“People can eat for free, or people can choose to donate money towards our lovely cause in exchange for the food. But it’s just nice to have the option,” Fox said.

While most of the cars there were from people outside the school,



PHOTO BY SARAH EDWARDS

Cars are gathered in the junior lot with posted information about the make, model, and history. These cars were on display after their owners paid the entry fee of \$15.

there were a few EC students that participated. **Riley Hollis (‘26)** and her stepdad brought their 1980 Chevrolet K5 Blazer to display for everyone to see.

“Everyone was really nice when you drove up, they were great with directions, credit marks, and everything,” Hollis said.

When people stopped by at the car show, there weren’t just cars there

for visitors to enjoy. They had a ping pong table, a voting competition between the cars, tables of food, and music DJ’d by french teacher, David Manigart. Student government senior class president, **Lily Dron (‘26)**, helped plan many of these activities.

“We had a little competition and they got a little plaque that said ‘best truck’, one of them was ‘most ugly car,’” Dron said.

Student government has many new ideas and plans for next year’s Senior Car Show to increase attendance. Fox hopes to add more activities, clubs, and food to the event.

Students should look out for other student government events and their Senior Car Show next year. If a student has any questions about upcoming events, they can ask Shannon Fox in room A-8.

Music flows at spring Audiothon

By Virginia Hogge
NEWS EDITOR

On May 15 El Camino’s KYDS club hosted their biannual Audiothon at which the students in KYDS and media stay on campus for 24 hours and stay live on the radio.

Audiothon happens twice a year; once in December, which was a fundraiser for a charity, this year the Children’s Receiving Home of Sacramento, and once in May, to raise money for the radio station and for the school newspaper. KYDS 91.5 FM is the only student run radio station in San Juan Unified School District and it has been running since 1978.

The KYDS students do a lot of preparation for Audiothon, such as creating social media posts and posters all around school to promote the event. The students also hosted a performance that goes on during lunch and after school. This year they had **Rain Cummings (‘26)** and **Chance Murdock (‘26)** perform a couple of songs.

KYDS club President **Joanna Gayoba (‘26)** believes in the importance of promoting Audiothon.

“It outreaches the program to other students who may be interested in it in the future, but also people who might not have heard of our program—people who might be interested in the fact we have a student-run radio station,” Gayoba stated.

During Audiothon, students each have a shift on the radio station, and the rest of the time they get to hangout with their friends and can bring games to play and snacks to share.

KYDS club Vice President **Will Tomlin (‘26)** thinks Audiothon is a great opportunity to bring students together.

“I think Audiothon is the celebration of radio and it’s our chance to both hang out together and to



PHOTOS BY GRACE GOLLIHUR

ABOVE: Rain Cummings (‘26) and Chance Murdock (‘26) perform during lunch. BELOW AND AT RIGHT: Members of the KYDS club gather in the radio room for a picture. Each DJ who participated had a live radio shift.



Part 2: A story still unwritten



Column by Emmie Hogge
MANAGING EDITOR

As June draws near, graduating seniors are likely exhausted with questions about their future. When I hear this, I turn toward the past. I think back to middle school, when I dreamt of a college life at a prestigious Ivy League School. Later, when I realized that was unrealistic for me, I turned my hopes west and closer to home, but still striving for some of the top schools in California. I set my sights on UCLA.

I have worked for success throughout my entire early education, evidence of which, like dollars accumulated in a bank account, lie in the library of A’s on my transcript. Yet this success

is surface-level: what lies beyond is the sacrifice of countless hours of late night studying, of tutoring sessions in Starbucks while my friends were tanning, of lab work on plane flights to vacation, and of lunches spent finishing the newspaper layout.

In late March of this year, I logged into my UC application portal to “after careful review of your application for admission...”

I was rejected from UCLA, my top college choice, and my dreams of living in Los Angeles, of becoming a successful writer at a top college, were crushed in a moment’s glance.

But then I got into Berkeley.

In a rush of excitement I told everyone I could, anyone who would listen, and it was like proof: *See, it was not all for nothing, all this hard work did mean something.*

Now, I had been lucky enough to get into both of my second choices, the private school Loyola Marymount University and UC Berkeley. LMU carries a huge price tag, but with a sizable academic scholarship offer and admission to a student worker program, the cost for both schools was nearly the same. The decision laid heavy on me.

People want to know what we seniors are going to do with our lives, but I have a better question.

How do we measure success?

Clearly I had two paths ahead of me: I could attend LMU and pursue a job in film, working closely with people in the industry and spending any extra time working on campus. Or, I could attend Berkeley, and pursue my ultimate dream of being a writer in one of the best English programs in the world. Good problems to have, but still a tough decision.

Despite its prestige, Berkeley felt like more of a risk. At LMU, there is a strong chance that I could work for or at least build my resume at Loyola Productions, the non-profit production company closely associated with LMU’s school of film and television. At Berkeley, I would have no such certainty, and would be pursuing a career with a very low success rate.

I understand that out of all aspiring writers, only around 1-2% becomes published, and it is estimated that only 4% of books published actually become successful—on top of that, authors of multiple books only have a 5% chance of making a significant breakthrough, and roughly 80% of authors stop writing within three books.

As a writer, the odds are stacked against you from day one: even finishing a book is extremely rare, and to be able to make a living as an author, even more so.

How do we measure success? Seeking the answer to this question led me to a decision.

Over the years, many adults around me defined success in monetary terms, measuring the future in figures: how large is your salary, how comfortable is your home, how nice

is your car? But many of my peers in class recognize the absurdity of working a job you don’t enjoy for a salary that is sometimes not even enough to support yourself. We see that there is more to life, and yes, we are young, and still have a lot more life to live and lessons to learn, but also there is some truth in

being young and judging the “real world” from the outside.

I came to realize that luxury would only be comfortable for me for so long until I realized that I’d be happier taking the bus and working a job I love than settling for misery in the name of stability.

The odds are against me. But the odds are against anyone who is not persistent. 80% of writers quit after three books. How many of those just had to keep trying in order to be successful? How many were on the brink of something wonderful but had their spark snuffed out by the winds of uncertainty? In that 20% that do not quit, the chance of publishing a successful book increases greatly. The key, then, like anything else, is not pure talent, but passion, dedication, and resilience.

So I chose Berkeley.

There is a common saying: “Do what you love and the money will follow.” I believe this is true, to an extent. People love what other people are passionate about. As humans we love art; we go to museums and stare at paintings and we go to concerts and listen to music and we go to national parks and listen to people talk about nature; we do not go to offices and watch people type at their computers. If you are truly passionate about something, you will find a

“I want to write,
and I want to feel
my book,
finished and
bound, in the
palms of my
hands, and that
would be enough.”

THEATRE: Guilty?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

leave the stage,” DiSalvo explained.

This characteristic of the show provided the cast with something new and challenging to explore and to grow as actors.

DiSalvo also spoke about the choice to keep the characters’ genders’ as men, as opposed to 12 angry women or 12 angry jurors. He believed that this choice is important for the message of the play, and it also allowed for the majority female cast to learn challenging acting skills.

Malia Romias (‘27)

played juror number 10, a man who brings his internal prejudice into the courtroom.

“It was definitely hard to get into that feeling—I just thought about what led him to be like that,” Romias said.

Romias and the rest of the cast used their rehearsals to practice more masculine mannerisms, making every movement and every word said on stage meaningful to the story.

Sienna Morris (‘27) played juror number 8, the voice of reason that did not believe the boy was guilty from the start.

“He’s the one trying to convince everyone that the boy on trial is innocent—he’s really led by morals and a deep belief in justice,” Morris explained.

Morris also enjoyed responding to the other characters in rehearsals, allowing for a more natural conversation throughout the play.

DiSalvo says El Camino’s production of 12 Angry Men is widely regarded as the program’s most successful production yet. For more information, talk to Micheal DiSalvo in room S-3.

way to support yourself through it.

This is why I came to choose Berkeley. I wanted to be immersed into the world of literature, to attend a university with likeminded people who would challenge me to work harder, to write better. I am choosing to dream.

The commencement struggle is the same for all of us: the uncertainty of our future, the fear that the choice you are making is the wrong one, the perpetual tug-of-war between what everyone around you thinks you should do and what you know is best for yourself.

In the end, all we really want is to be successful. That word means something different to everyone, which is part of the beauty. I urge you not to think of your future in terms of quantity. The prestige of your college, your salary, the size of your house, the fanciness of your vacation should not be the goal; it should be the product of the goal, a pleasant byproduct of an already fulfilling life of doing what you love.

The most peace I have ever felt in my life was when I realized that I wouldn’t care if my books ever made much money, even if I had to work other jobs to support myself. I want to write, and I want to feel my book, finished and bound, in the palms of my hands, and that would be enough.

I wish the same upon anyone reading this.

We all have something we want to fulfill, something that is tied to who we are, and I hope that you chase this above anything else. High school is

POWERPUFF: Friends on the field

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was kind of unorganized, and it wasn’t just on our coach, but on everybody, because not a lot of people showed up to practice. But the game was really fun anyways, and we won,” Dalizu said.

Despite this, Dalizu encourages future Juniors and Seniors to sign up and participate in next year’s Powerpuff game, and mentioned that she will most likely play in it herself.

The seniors were unable to bring home a win to the graduating class, but both teams still had fun and enjoyed their experience. Senior player **Gabriela Cooper (‘26)** played running back for the Powerpuff game, but is also a varsity flag football and soccer player, similar to many of the other Powerpuff girls. Cooper talked about the enhanced competitiveness that both teams felt to beat their teammates.

“I play soccer, so I know a lot of the [Juniors] as friends, so there was definitely lots of competition, especially because [our class] lost last year,” Cooper stated.

Cooper also encouraged students—specifically Seniors—to participate in the annual Powerpuff tradition, saying that she had a lot of fun meeting new people in her last two months of high school.

Powerpuff happens each year in the spring, typically taking place in April, but sign-ups for players and cheerleaders begin in March. To learn more about next year’s Powerpuff game, talk to Shannon Fox, student government advisor, in room A-8.

really about building a foundation and learning how to work hard, not the individual successes or mistakes. The true success is perseverance.

Not of the A but of the change from the B to the A.

Yes, it’s the grade, but the hard work that was expended earning that grade is what makes it truly worth it, what makes it feel like success and not just luck. It is easy to get caught in the pursuit of perfection, where any grade less than an A or any college that isn’t an Ivy seems like the end of the world; it’s a difficult mind-set to break, and I am still trying.

Two months ago, rejections from UCLA, University of Southern California, and New York University were crushing. I placed all my worth on these acceptances, failing to realize that it wasn’t the college I was chasing, it was the title.

Now that I have chosen Berkeley, I can say with certainty that things worked out how they were meant to. Why? Because making this decision has led me to determine what I truly value in life, and to make sense of all I have sacrificed to get here.

I am writing this as a teenager about to graduate and move, although a short distance, away from home to pursue a career that is highly uncertain. I am writing this for everyone else like me, testifying to years of hard work on behalf of all my peers, and telling you what I have learned: it’s not the prestige that matters, it’s the passion.





Fly high Eagles!



what are we majoring in?

We asked the eagles...



3 said : Law

4 said : Arts

4 said :

Psychology

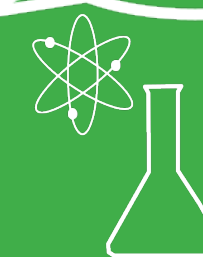


10 said :

Medical Field

6 said :

sciences



5 said :

Engineering



What do we want to remember?

"Playing waterpolo with my friends"

João Oliveira ('26)
Favorite Year: Senior



"Making a lot of new friends my senior year"

Jayden Aguillon ('26)
Favorite Year: Senior



"Mr. Thompson's last class—we all got A's on the final"

Emma Fechter ('26)
Favorite Year: Junior



"Being in Suessical"

Maggie Brown ('26)
Favorite Year: Senior

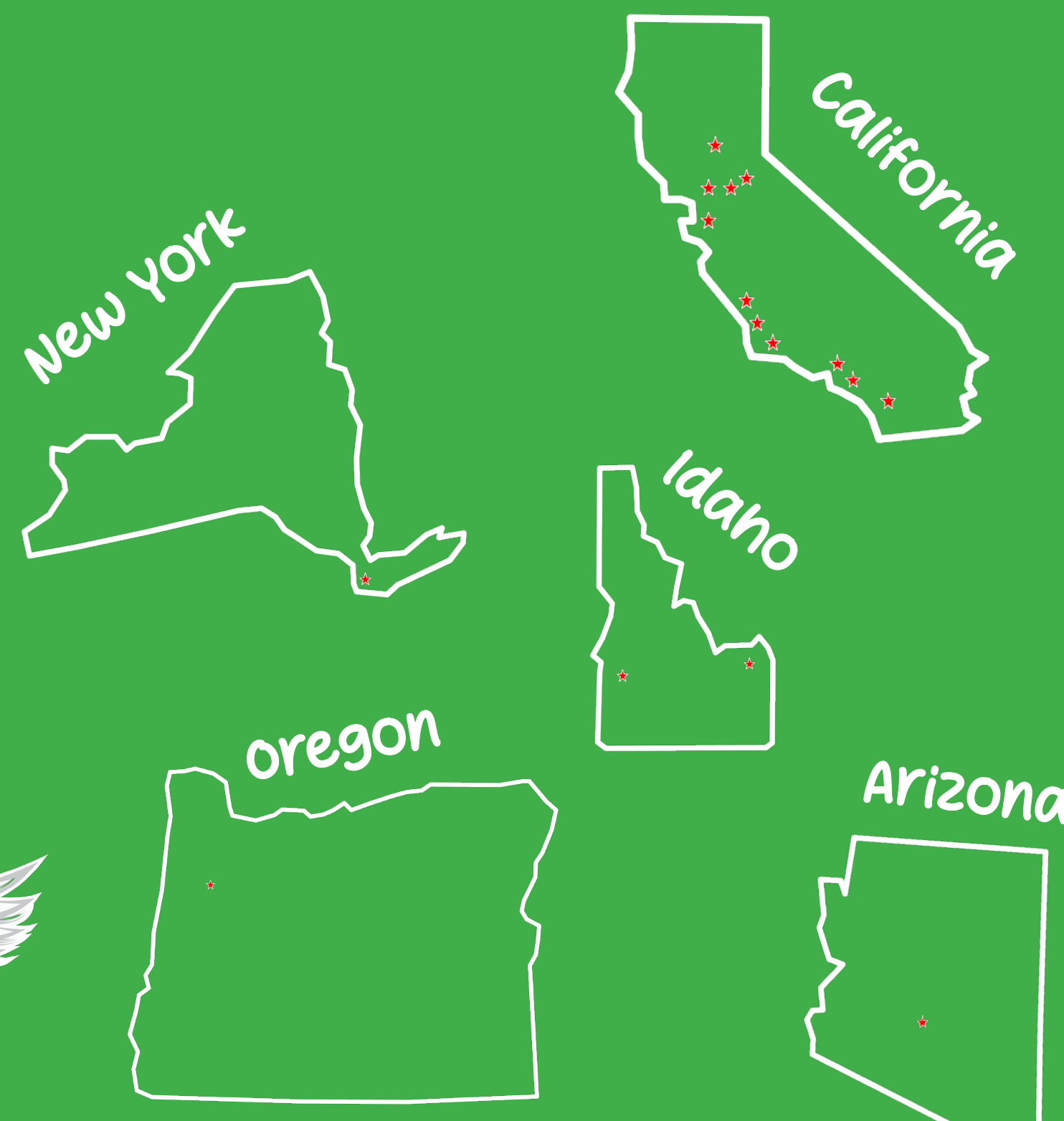


"Hanging with all the dudes during Powerpuff"

Jackson Brule ('26)
Favorite Year: Senior



Where are we going?





Junior prom at risk of removal

By Grace Gollihur and Emme Hogge

EDITOR IN CHIEF AND MANAGING EDITOR

On April 15 El Camino student government representatives polled classrooms in order to determine whether or not Junior Prom and Senior Ball will be combined. After the vote was taken, student government advisor Shannon Fox met with administration and other teachers to discuss the situation. After deliberation, it was decided that both Junior Prom and Senior Ball will remain on the calendar for the 2026-2027 school year, but this is subject to change.

The combination of Junior Prom and Senior Ball essentially gets rid of Junior Prom as it stands currently. This means that students will have the opportunity to attend a formal dance in the Sacramento Public Library both their Junior and Senior year.

The separation of Junior Prom and Senior Ball is a long-standing tradition at El Camino, almost as old as the school itself. Junior Prom is held yearly in April, and takes place on campus usually in the cafeteria or front quad. Ticket prices typically range from \$40 to \$50; this year, they were \$50 by the end of the sales period. These tickets pay for the expenses of a DJ and decorations. Additional funds may also be used to pay for food or drink to be supplied at Prom. This year they served dessert.

Senior Ball is held yearly in May

at the Sacramento Public Library. This dance is significantly more expensive than Prom as the student government must also pay to rent out the Library ball room for the night, in addition to the cost of a DJ and decorations. To account for this, ticket prices are also raised, starting at \$45 and increasing to \$55 the week leading up to the event.

Even though these separate dances are traditional, there is no written rule that the student government must put on two separate dances. As of right now, ticket sales are down.

“The negotiation we came to was a placeholder for prom next year—students need to know this is what is at risk if the classes can’t get participation increased, or raise the money that they need,” Fox explained.

Essentially, the coming school year will be a chance for students to increase participation and raise more money. While this is not the only consideration for the decision, it was an important one.

Fox also wants students and faculty to know about the future of student government.

“We don’t want student government to be looked at as a singular class that’s all by itself—I want to be more inclusive. I want to have more of the departments represented—that is the goal, ultimately, but that’s not going to happen instantaneously in one year,” Fox said.

MAP students test positive at the NCCT

By Grace Gollihur

EDITOR IN CHIEF

On April 28 El Camino’s Medical Assisting Pathway seniors received their test results to be certified as a Medical Assistant. The National Center for Competency Testing Medical Assistant test has a pass rate of 66.7% percent. This year’s class however, had an 87% pass rate that is expected to increase.

The entire three-year program has led to this test, but students have spent the past three weeks studying intensely for the exam. The national average score is 586, but the class excelled with an average score of 631. These students are now certified Medical Assistants, or MAs. This means they are healthcare professionals qualified

to perform various clinical and administrative duties. They perform clinical functions including but not limited to direct patient care and preparation, ECG, phlebotomy and pharmacology while maintaining patient safety and confidentiality. They may also perform administrative duties such as scheduling appointments, maintaining patient records, bookkeeping and billing and insurance processing.

Medical Assisting teacher Erica Carruth remarked that every single one of her students were motivated to do the work required of them and excel.

These students have many different career paths to embark on. Some are being hired at their externships as Medical Assistants, some are going to nursing school and some are going to medical school.



MAP students celebrate passing their NCCT test for Medical Assisting, receiving their first medical license during their senior year of high school.

PHOTO BY GRACE GOLLIHUR

Student government takes Ralph Richardson ‘Under the Sea’



ABOVE: Emily Martin (‘29) Madeline Van Den Enden (‘29) and Sophie Partin (‘29) celebrate with a student and the center’s mascot, Ralphie the Rabbit. AT LEFT: Student government members dance with students from Ralph Richardson Center.

By Grace Gollihur

EDITOR IN CHIEF

On April 24 El Camino student government put on their annual dance at the Ralph Richardson Center, a public special education school within the San Juan Unified School District.

The school provides specialized instruction, therapeutic services, and a nurturing environment that focuses on student independence, often serving children with severe disabilities or special needs.

The theme of the dance this



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHANNON FOX

year was ‘Under the Sea,’ with music and decorations provided by EC student government, and dinner and refreshments provided by the Ralph Richardson Center Parent Teacher Association.

To begin planning, student government chose the theme and then got into contact with the PTA president at the school.

This is **Ravyn Seibles’ (‘27)** second year being in charge of planning this dance, coordinating with the president of the

PTA and the school’s principal.

“The dance is really fun. I would love for more people to come from our school, just to get more of their students involved,” Siebles explained.

Along with Seibles, **Chance Murdock (‘26)** had fun at the dance as the resident DJ. The DJ booth was set up behind a cardboard pirate ship, and they took requests from the crowd throughout the evening.

“It was a lot of fun being back there, managing all the sounds and the audio, because it was an aspect of

the dance that wouldn’t have been the same without it,” Murdock explained.

Murdock also emphasized the importance of more EC students attending the dance.

“It’s not strictly for student government. It’s a community thing, and it has a big impact on people’s lives,” Murdock said.

The Ralph Richardson Dance is held in the spring every year. For more information on how to help with or attend this dance, talk to student government in room A-8.

Seniors engage in water warfare

By Sarah Edwards

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

For the last few weeks of school at El Camino, the senior class banded together to create one last memory: a game of Senior Splashin.

This game of Senior Splashin, once known as Senior Assassin, is a competition between seniors bearing water guns with the goal of winning a large sum of money. Any senior who joined must pay the fee of \$10 to add to the prize pool for the winner. Later in the game, there were \$20 buy-back-ins for students that were eliminated. A student is eliminated when another sprays them with a watergun while recording it to send to the admin of the game, **Chance Murdock (‘26)**.

The admin of Senior Splashin had many jobs throughout the game, including watching over submitted elimination videos, handling the money, calling purges, setting rules, and answering any questions students

had. Murdock found himself in this role when he took the initiative of starting the game when he saw that other high schools were participating.

“I felt like it would be a fun thing to do for the senior class, because that’s what I’m really trying to do these last few months of high school, is to just have fun,” Murdock said.

Since this game involves many people from the senior class, several rules were added to make the game clear and safe for everyone. One of the main rules was that participants must eliminate their target within a week to move on to the next round, if not, they were eliminated from the game. Other rules included no elimination attempts on school property, during school hours, during sports, work and school activities. There was also no trespassing and immunity items must be worn in a visible manner and student’s location must be on at all times.

“[The game] was really fun. I think the rules need to be

a bit more clear at the start,” **Mason Mcgee (‘26)**, a Senior Splashin participant, said.

Towards the end of this game, the last three seniors standing were **Dylan Fox (‘26)**, **Dakota Horn (‘26)**, and **Richard Mejia (‘26)**. During one of the purges, Mejia eliminated Fox, which left him and Horn left. But since Horn didn’t have any other eliminations that round, she automatically got eliminated, which left Mejia as the winner. In the end he won \$965, which he will put into his car for modifications and fixing issues. Even though Mejia won, he wasn’t confident about his chances of winning until later on in the game.

“Not for the first three rounds. After that, I started taking it more seriously. I was pretty confident after that,” Mejia said.

To learn more visit instagram page, @ech.snr. splash2026, to see rules, elimination videos, and updates.



PHOTO BY GRACE GOLLIHUR

Richard Mejia (‘26) poses in his floaties with his car and his water gun. He plans to use his winnings for car modifications and issues.

Band Spring showcase shines



PHOTO BY SARAH EDWARDS

Conductors Susan Hamre, Gabriel Read, and Ellie Lewis receive applause at the end of the performance. EC’s Jazz, Concert, and Honors Concert bands were joined by The Capitol Pops conducted by Susan Hamre.

By Sarah Edwards

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On Mar. 12, El Camino’s three different band classes performed their annual Spring Band Concert in the Performing Arts Center to showcase what the students have learned during the school year.

EC’s Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Honors Concert Band were joined by a special guest; The Capitol Pops conducted by Susan Hamre. Gabriel Read, EC’s band director, met Hamre because they are both band teachers, one for high school and the other for American River College. They had discussed collaborating with their two bands but never got around to it. After a few years had gone by, they reconnected and decided to try to collaborate again, this time with The Capitol Pops.

“It was kind of this full circle moment where we got to do a collaboration concert again. It was really nice to hear them and to see them,” Read said. Ellie Lewis, the EC band candidate teacher, or student teacher, conducted a few of the songs during the night. This was her first year at EC.

“I think [The Capitol Pops] inspired the students. They came away feeling inspired for their own performance,” Lewis said.

Alex Moborez (‘26), the president of the band council, played the trumpet in Jazz Band and the french horn in Honors Band for the Spring Concert. He enjoyed watching the guest band and learned a few things from them.

“The group demonstrated options for band opportunities post high school. The excellence the group showed inspired senior students,” Moborez said.

The different bands performed a variety of songs ranging from “You Make Me Feel So Young”, “Salvation is Created”, and “Among the Clouds.” Choosing songs for their concerts later in the year takes a lot of thought and consideration. Read and Lewis both considered what the students are capable of and what would give them a challenge.

“When we’re choosing repertoire, you look at all these pieces, and it’s got to be this combination of, ‘are we going to like this?’, ‘is it appropriately challenging, but not too difficult that we won’t be able to get it together in the amount of time that we have?’,” Read explained

For upcoming band events visit Read in room M-2.

San Juan Sings brings students together

By Grace Gollihur

EDITOR IN CHIEF

On April 10, El Camino Choir joined hundreds of other students in the San Juan Unified School District at Arcade Church to collaborate and celebrate the joy of singing. This annual event, San Juan Sings, brings together students of all ages to learn and perform songs together all in one day.

Choir teacher Tessa Kelly explained that the choir chooses the music for the event in September, allowing time for students to practice these pieces. The music also has to be something that children of all ages are able to learn and perform, as the event centers around musical collaboration throughout different ages and schools.

“We’re one of the only high schools in the area that has a choir, so it’s really fun for the kids to see

another high school,” Kelly said.

For next year, Kelly plans to have more student input regarding the music they choose for the events, especially because there is a high school set.

EC Choir member **Tyson Lozano (‘27)** also enjoyed the collaboration with other students.

“Working with the elementary schoolers was fun—and the middle schoolers were fun too, it was nice to be working with other people that you don’t know and being in such a big group like that,” Lozano said.

Lozano is also excited to have more input in the songs they choose for next year’s event.

San Juan Sings happens every year, with around 600 students joining in the musical fun. For more information, talk to Tessa Kelly in the choir room.



Five Friends. One Fading Summer.

EXCLUSIVE PREMIERE
JUNE 2 @ 7PM | ECHS PAC
doors open at 6:30pm | free admission



Track celebrates seniors in home meet



PHOTO BY RYVER MARBACH

Elizabeth Wingate ('28) and Kaaliyah Dean ('28) take off to run the 100-meter race.

By Ryver Marbach
SPORTS EDITOR

El Camino's track team hosted their final regular season meet on Apr. 22 in the football stadium, where the team also honored 12 seniors on their senior night.

This meet was the third and final of three Golden Empire League meets this season. EC's varsity girls placed

third overall, with the varsity boys placing sixth overall. After this meet, GEL Championships were held on May 1 at Casa Roble High School, where eight EC boys and ten EC girls advanced on to the Sac-Joaquin Section divisional trials meet.

At the trials, EC competed against students from 31 other schools, and just two players advanced to the division finals, also known as masters

trials: **Adelyn Haines ('29)** in the long jump and **Anaya Watson ('26)** in the 400 meter race.

During the regular season, Watson competed in the 200, 400, 4x400 and 4x800 meter races. At masters trials, she placed ninth overall in her race, with a time of 1 minute and four seconds. This season was her first on the team. Watson mentioned that throughout the season, she has felt a bit of pressure, specifically in her relay races, to do good because her teammates were relying on her. She spoke about how that pressure affected her performance in all of her events.

"[There was] definitely a lot of pressure, but I feel like the pressure kind of motivated me, and thankfully, it paid off," Watson said.

Both of Watson's relay races qualified for divisional trials, but did not advance to the divisional finals.

Haines is also new to the team this year, and only began competing in the long jump just one week before the Apr. 22 meet. Prior to this meet, Haines had been participating

in the 100 meter race, 200 meter race, and high jump. She explained that she was resistant to trying the new event because of previous ankle injuries from gymnastics, but her coach pushed her to try it.

"My coach put me in long jump because high jump was giving me really bad shin splints—I was really adamant about [not doing] it because of my ankles, but then my coach put it in the perspective of landing more on your butt than your ankles, so it takes more pressure off them if you know how to do the landing properly," Haines explained.

Most recently, Haines placed second in division four in the masters meet at Sacramento City College with a distance of 15 feet and 11.25 inches. With this score, she will not be moving on to the state meet.

Though track season has now come to an end, conditioning is expected to begin in February for next season. For more information, talk to track and field coach Damaree Morris in his office in the weight room or in the hall monitors' office.

Swim competes in division two sections



PHOTO BY RYVER MARBACH

EC swimmers dive in at senior night. Prior to the meet, a ceremony was held.

By Ryver Marbach
SPORTS EDITOR

Members of El Camino's varsity swim team participated in the Sac-Joaquin Section Championships at Elk Grove Aquatic Center from May 4-8, competing against 51 other schools in their individual and group events.

Prior to this, the team hosted their senior night on April 9, where the team honored 14 graduating seniors in a win against Woodland. Many of the team's seniors have been swimming at EC for all four years, and many even longer than that outside of EC. Then, on April 22, the Eagles brought home the Golden Empire League title after competing in the championship meet at Woodland.

At the sectional meet, EC's top performers were **Jordana Gayoba ('28)** and **Eden Gill ('28)**.

Gayoba placed fifth in the 200 yard individual medley and eighth in the 100 yard breaststroke races in the section finals. Gayoba's score in the breaststroke race earned her a spot as the fourth alternate in the 100 yard breaststroke race at the California Interscholastic Federation State Swimming and Diving Meet.

Other than her individual

races, Gayoba also competed in the 200 yard medley relay race and the 400 yard freestyle relay race, where both of the relay teams placed eighth in the section final. Gayoba talked about how she performed at sections.

"I think I did good. I placed higher than I thought I would, but I expected to do better than last year," Gayoba explained.

As for Gill, she placed 12th in the 100 yard freestyle finals and seventh in the 100 yard backstroke finals. Gill also participated in the 200 yard medley and 400 yard freestyle relay finals alongside Gayoba.

Last year, EC's varsity girls swim team won the sectional title. This year, the team went into the season excited to hopefully repeat that same achievement. Head coach Cory Stowell mentioned that going into the season, the team had two goals that they hoped to meet this season.

Stowell spoke about what those goals were and how they accomplished them.

"Our first thing was to win league, which we did—the second thing was to qualify as many people to sections as we did the year before, which we end-

Boys Golf ends the season proud

By Virginia Hogge
NEWS EDITOR

The El Camino's boys golf team finished off the 2026 season on May 4 with a record of 8-5, excluding dual competition, and three members who advanced to the sectional round.

Last season, the boys had a team average of 255.2 strokes and this year their team average is 246.6 strokes. The team finished fourth overall in the Golden Empire League. With the three players who advanced to sections, none made it to masters. One of those players being senior **Keaton Yost ('26)**.

Yost has been on the team all four years. His senior year, he made it to sections shooting a 92 in the round. This season Yost scored 112 individual points for his team. He will be going to American River College in the fall and hopes to continue playing golf for ARC's golf team. Yost talked about the highlights of the season and what he'll miss.

"There's a lot of people who are pretty cool on the team, so meeting all the new underclassmen that came on the team," Yost said. The most valuable player, or

ed up qualifying more," Stowell said.

The team ended up sending 20 swimmers to sections this year, including relay teams. Some swimmers swam multiple events in the meet.

Stowell also mentioned that after the team's success in winning the girls sectional championship last year, the team was moved from division three to division two for this year's sections. The team placed fifth in sections this year.

Swim season has now concluded, but conditioning for next season is expected to begin in January. For more information, talk to coach Cory Stowell in his office in the VP hallway.

MVP, **Andrew Potratz ('28)** is a sophomore on varsity; he made it to sections but could not play in the match. Potratz had the most individual points on the team, scoring 132.5 individual points for his team in 11 matches. He shot an average of 46.7 strokes on nine holes, the lowest average on the team. Potratz's highlight of the season was the two league tournaments which took place in the middle and end of the year. Potratz talked about the hardest team they went up against, "Probably Destiny Christian.

They have the hardest course, so all our scores went high and it was very windy, so we lost to them," stated Potratz.

Despite ending in sections earlier than they hoped, Yost is proud of how the team performed this season and looks forward to how they can improve next year.

"I'm really proud of the team, and I think [head coach Matt Sumpter] has been doing a really good job, and I hope he continues to coach. They're going to do good things, and I'm hoping the team is going to get even better," explained Yost.



Co-ed tennis takes home a win for their seniors

By Ryver Marbach
SPORTS EDITOR

El Camino's co-ed tennis team celebrated their seven seniors in their last home match of the season on April 16, bringing home the win against the Dixon Rams 5-4.

The team is now 12-2 in league at the end of their season after a successful previous season, in which they brought home the Golden Empire league title. This year, they finished second in league, behind Woodland. Woodland also gave them their only two losses of the season.

The team honored their seven seniors with flowers and a short ceremony before the matches began, in which players reflected on their EC tennis memories and coaches announced what the team's plans after high school would be.

After this meet, just one player advanced to playoffs for the San-Joaquin Section tournament. On May 18, team captain and #1 girls singles player **Chloe Woods ('26)** competed in the sectional tournament in Stockton. Woods had participated in the section qualifiers tournament prior to this, cementing her spot along with 15 other girls from the section in the sectional finals. Woods lasted until the quarterfinals of the tournament, where she was eliminated.

Woods spoke about what finding out she made sections was like.

"Once the season ended, I expected it because the qualifying tournament was just everyone in our league and I had already played all those girls," Woods explained.

Tara Hewitt ('26), another senior on the tennis team, has been playing tennis for six years now, four



PHOTOS BY RYVER MARBACH

ABOVE: Tara Hewitt ('26) winds up her serve. She plans to play tennis recreationally after high school.

AT RIGHT: Chloe Woods ('26) poses for a picture in front of her senior banner. Woods made it to the San-Joaquin Section tournament with other girls.

of those being at EC. Hewitt won her match on senior night in two sets, those scores being 6-3 and 6-0. Hewitt mentioned that one of her strongest tennis skills is her energy to get to every ball.

Hewitt spoke about why having that energy is so important.

"I don't really see people hustle as much anymore, so they don't really get to the ball. Even if you know you're going to miss it, just getting to it most of the time is the best thing to do," Hewitt stated.

Hewitt mentioned that although she will not continue her tennis career in college, she hopes to play it

recreationally in her spare time.

For more information on next year's tennis season and off season practice, talk to head coach Justin Marshall in the finance office.



Softball stays strong as season ends

By Emme Hogge
MANAGING EDITOR

On May 6, El Camino softball played against Casa Roble at home for their last game of the season. The girls also honored their three graduating seniors **Emi Kuwabara ('26)**, **Oaklee Schwartz ('26)** and **Ilaina Yavrom ('26)**.

The girls ended the season with a league record of four wins and ten losses, putting them at sixth place overall in the Golden Empire League. This secured them a spot in playoffs, which they ended up forfeiting due to not enough players to field a full team.

Yavrom explained that this playoff game was supposed to take place after senior night, and so the girls didn't know at the time that they were playing their last high school softball game.

"In the back of my mind I was like 'I still have one more game to make it up'—so I don't think any of us were really playing to their full potential," Yavrom said.

The girls lost their senior night to Casa Roble after a tight score for the first two innings. The girls ultimately ended with a score of 2-12 after five innings. Schwartz explained that after they gave up a home run, spirits were low.

"Everyone got disappointed—we never were able to recover from that fully," Schwartz said.

A highlight of the game were two back-to-back home runs from first-year varsity player **Synxier Knight ('29)** and **Claire Schwartz ('28)**. These were also both of their first home runs of the season, which the girls agree made the game very exciting.

Although senior night did not turn out as hoped, the wins that the girls did have throughout the season were rewarding, with two blowout games against Natomas and close matches against Woodland. The team also beat Rio 14-4 in a home game towards the beginning of the season, which the girls were especially proud of after losing 0-10 in their very first game against Rio.

Katie Sue Amerine ('27) reflected on the season, and what it was like having such a close-knit team.

"We did really good as a team overall, with teamwork and enthusiasm and keeping each other hype," Amerine said. "I feel like we really were a close community and [were] really connected this season."

The remaining team members are looking to carry the positive energy into next season, while also striving to win more games.

Amerine described some of the goals the girls hold for the coming year.

"We're hoping to make playoffs—I really want to continue to keep the community feeling really high, with lots of energy," Amerine said.



PHOTOS BY VIRGINIA HOGGE

ABOVE AND AT LEFT: Oaklee Schwartz ('26) fires a pitch. ABOVE AND AT RIGHT: Emi Kuwabara ('26) swings the bat at the game against Casa Roble.

BELOW: Claire Schwartz ('28) gets out a runner at home plate in her position as catcher





Boys volleyball wins league

By **Ryver Marbach**
SPORTS EDITOR

On Apr. 15, El Camino’s boys volleyball team celebrated their seniors in a 3-2 loss at home to Rio Linda, following an undefeated streak.

Prior to the game, the team had won all ten of their league games, and continued to win the rest of their matches except for this one loss. The team finished the season with an overall record of 14-6 and a league record of 11-1, which landed them the Golden Empire League title. The boys gave up just five sets in all of league, winning every game besides their two against Rio Linda in straight sets.

The team’s winning record advanced them on to the Sac-Joaquin Division IV Section Playoffs, where they were matched up against Encina in the first round. EC won the match 3-0 and advanced on to the section semifinals. Outside hitter **Roman Tanasiev** (‘26) spoke about what fueled the team’s win.

“I think we just had the hunger for revenge because early in the preseason, we previously played Encina, but we lost in five [sets], so I think we were just excited to play them again in playoffs and get our revenge on them,” Tanasiev explained.

Tanasiev led the GEL league in kills this season and also won the league’s Most Valuable Player award after being a finalist for the same award last year.

“It was a really good way to end high school; I had a good career—it felt really good especially to share it with other seniors that I’ve played with all four years,” he said.

In the second round of play-offs, the Eagles were matched up against the Livingston Wolves, the first seed in the bracket; EC was

the ninth seed. The Eagles lost in three sets to the Wolves, who went on to become section finalists.

Anthony Perry (‘26) spoke about his experience playing against another winning team after a streak of easy wins.

“We were first overall in league, so we were used to winning over and over. It was one of the first games we played where the other team was also really offensively good—they had so many hard hitting players, so I think that was new for us,” Perry explained.

Despite not being able to maintain

their undefeated streak, the team is still proud of the season and what they were able to accomplish. Head coach Sarah Vieira mentioned that the team’s goal going into the season was to make playoffs, then it changed mid-season to be league champions. Vieira reflected on the team’s success, and how the group affected the outcome of this season.

“I think the emphasis behind why [EC] finds success in volleyball is because we draw such great kids and athletes. The kids don’t want to just do good for themselves,

they want to do good for each other, and that’s what makes them so good,” Vieira explained.

Despite having seven graduating seniors this year, Vieira is still confident going into next season. She mentioned that she doesn’t think the team will really have a “rebuild year”, but instead hopes to go back-to-back as league champions and make playoffs again next season.

Though volleyball season is now complete, off-season open gyms will begin soon. For more information, talk to Coach Vieira in room 25.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAVIER CEJA

AT LEFT: Jett Doell (‘27) sets the ball to the opposite hitter.
ABOVE: Roman Tanasiev (‘26) jumps in the air to spike the ball.

Baseball struggles under player injuries

By **Ryver Marbach**
SPORTS EDITOR

The El Camino boys baseball team ended their season with a record of four wins and 20 losses, and a league record of one win and 17 losses. The team earned their first league win in their last game of the season on May 1, against Casa Roble, despite their losing season.

Two-year varsity player **Fernan-**

do Ruelas (‘26) spoke about what he thinks went well in game, and explained how it affected the team.

“I loved the energy in the dugout. We were constantly shouting and supporting our teammates from the dugout onto the field, and that translated onto at bat. We were doing really well hitting the ball, putting it in play, and putting pressure on their defense,” Ruelas explained.

Ruelas batted in the one run the Eagles scored against Casa Roble in April 27 matchup, with the run being scored by senior first baseman **Isaac Hernandez** (‘26).

This year, the team faced a challenge when some of their senior player suffered injuries. The absence of these players affected the team on and off the field, hurting their gameplay as well as the energy in the dugout. **Dominic Nelson** (‘27) explained the impact that losing these players had on the team.

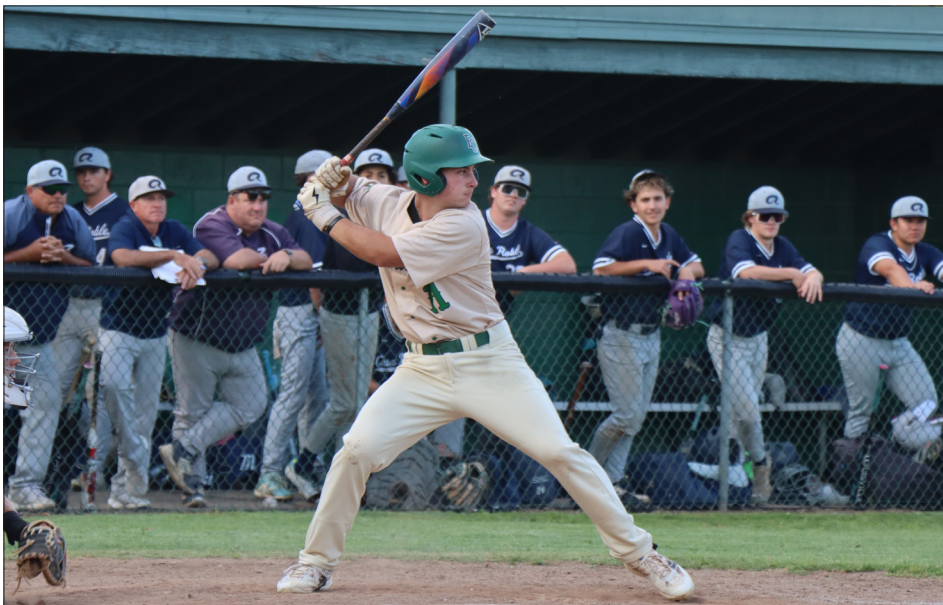
“I think before some of our better seniors got injured, they were really impactful with pitching

and hitting, and then once they got injured, it definitely started deteriorating,” Nelson stated.

Ruelas also mentioned the positive and influential impact that the seniors had on the team this season, mentioning how they hopefully inspired some of the younger players.

Some of the graduating players are hoping to be able to come back to EC to help out and coach the next generation of EC baseball players.

Next baseball season will not begin until early March. For more information on fall ball and other off-season activities, talk to Moki Fujita in the Athletics office.



PHOTOS BY RYVER MARBACH

ABOVE: Colton Nickols (‘29) prepares to swing the bat.
AT RIGHT: Anthony Allen (‘27) pitches the ball to the batter.

