

# Refugees need a home

*America struggles to adjust to admitting refugees into the country.*

STEFFANI GAONA  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Within the past two years, many Americans have misjudged people of Syria due to the actions of the terrorist group ISIS. Uncertainty of the motivation of Syrian refugees has stirred a debate across the nation of whether to take pity on this group of people.

"The responsible thing is to take a pause in this particular aspect of this refugee program," Speaker of the House Paul Ryan said. "In order to verify that terrorists are not trying to infiltrate the refugee population."

Some Americans have become so terrified of the possibility of terrorists entering the country that they are willing to close the door on all Syrian refugees to ensure public safety. Others have given the idea to provide a test to incoming refugees. Some politicians have suggested a screening process to determine to ensure entrance into this free country.

After the terrorist attack on Paris, people such as Jeb Bush have stated that America should open our country to Christians.

"You're a Christian, I mean you can prove you're a Christian," Republican candidate Jeb Bush said. According to Bush, to ensure that these people entering the country do not have malicious intentions, they should be able to prove they are Christians.

However, it is very unlikely for a reliable religious test to be able to be made to guarantee this Christian identity. Also, this religious test is unconstitutional as in the First Amendment citizens are given the right to religion.

According to CNN.com, as of Nov. 16, over two dozen states have been in opposition of admitting refugees in their states after Obama had stated plans in September for 10,000 refugees to be admitted into the United States by the end of the next fiscal year.

Although there is a major opposition to allowing refugees to enter the United States, it is not really up to the states to decide. The crisis over immigration is on a federal level.

"It's the federal government, states don't have a right to prevent that from happening," Government teacher Bruce Garabedian said.



## Warstler's warmly welcomed

DANIELLE PARRA  
*Staff Writer*

Dennis Warstler is Memorial's newest freshman and sophomore English teacher. His 20 years of experience

has included teaching in Nevada, Indiana, and South Korea. The student body and staff have welcomed Warstler with open arms.

"I get a lot of support from my colleagues, a lot of help from the English teachers, the PLC meetings and just

sending emails and getting ideas and materials," Warstler said.

Warstler appreciates the dedication students have in their studies. He believes it is evident that the college-prep atmosphere motivates students to excel in school.

"The aspect I enjoy the most is just the feeling of high expectations," Warstler said. "It is college prep, sort of like it is our own college community in a sense."

His freshman and sophomore students also enjoy his class and his teaching style. Being the new teacher on campus may be intimidating to students, but that is not the case for his students.

"He's a cool teacher and a scholar," sophomore Alan Diaz-Barrida said. "I enjoy the people in his class and the way he teaches."

Warstler has an extensive background in teaching English. His career includes instructing English as a second language. While in Korea, he taught conversational English and language development--skills he implements in the classroom today. Students affectionately call him the War Man.

"The War Man is a scholar teacher and pushes us to be better writers," sophomore Tony Fagundes said.



Mr. Warstler is ecstatic to work another day at SJM. Photo by Danielle Parrat

Art students finish up mural

DANIELLE ROZNOVSKY

Sports Editor

Seniors Brittany Loughney, Kayla Cipriani, Gianna Cardella and Brendan Warmerdam work hard to finish the new art mural in the 50s arcade. Loughney, Cipriani and Cardella are the ones that are painting the mural, while Warmerdam was the one that designed it. The mural has been something the school wanted for a long time now, but never could find the time to do.

“The school has been asking me since last year to design this mural, and I finally got the time to do it this



Sketch from two months ago:  
Photo by Danielle Roznovsky

year,” Warmerdam said.

The students wanted to put a more modern touch on the school. The mural in the 40s arcade is a little outdated, so they wanted to design something more trendy and that represent students and activities on campus.

“We made the mural with a little more modern feel to it,” Cardella said. “We wanted it to pop and stand out”.

This is a student run project. These four students had no help with the design or painting. After being approved by administration, the students started painting the mural.

“These four students have been working hard in finish-

ing up this mural,” Zanutto said. “This mural was all done by the students, I only suggested things that could be fixed or changed.”

The mural contains the logo of SJM, the panther and symbols for the visual and performing arts and all of the sports that are played at Memorial. With the mural's intricate design, it took a lot of time and a lot of detail. They are hoping the mural will be done before Christmas break.

“We were hoping the mural would be done right now, and expected it to be but we didn't realize how much little details would take to get this done,” Cipriani said.



Actual rendering as of today:  
Photo by Danielle Roznovsky

Colleges face racial issues

VICTORIA VIDALES

Out of Uniform Editor

In recent months, an outbreak of protests regarding minority discrimination from college students and faculty have swept through United States colleges, specifically the University of Missouri, culminating in the resignation of the school’s President.

“I am a revolutionary!” Students yelled as a chant during protests.

The University of Missouri has been protesting on race topics since early September of this year. One of these protests began on Sept. 12 when student body president Payton Head claimed a group of individuals made

racist remarks toward him. Students believed that nothing had been done by campus officials to take Head’s remarks seriously.

“White silence is violence, no justice no peace.” Protesters said, according to the Columbia Missourian.

Following this protest, a group of minority students at the university reported that an individual made inappropriate racial comments. On Oct. 8, Missouri Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin issued a plan to prevent further racial harassment on campus that would include students and faculty attend inclusion and diversity training courses.

“Change comes from listening, learning, caring, and conversation.” former Uni-

versity President Tim Wolfe said, according to CNN.com.

However, tensions continued to grow as students began to push for Wolfe to resign from office. Students believed he did not take any actions to stop or fix those issues.

“Mr. Wolfe had ample opportunity to create policies and reform that could shift the culture of Mizzou in a positive direction but in each scenario he failed to do so,” student leader Jonathan Butler, said according to CNN.com.

Protests from students continued with little progress made, and believed oppression was still on the rise. Students continued to fight for Wolfe’s removal. On Nov.

Are more California students headed to a UC?

ALLISON SAFFOLD

Sports Editor

As of Nov. 19, The University of California Board of Regents approved UC President, Janet Napolitano's plan to increase the enrollment of in-state undergraduates by 10,000 students over the next three years starting in 2016. This change will allow more SJM students an opportunity to get into a University of California.

“This change is truly a blessing not only for myself, but for any other California students that want to attend a UC. This will make the more competitive schools less intimidating,” senior Philip Mendoza said.

The UC admittance rate for California students has dropped 2.9 percentage points in 2015 from 2014 according to Mercury News. In 2015, the University of California admitted 1,039 fewer in-state students than it did the year prior. However, the UC's new admittance plan is set to replenish the universities with California residents.

According to recent UC admission data for incoming freshmen, 45 percent of UC Berkeley's offers went to out-of-state and international students, 42 percent at UCLA, 39 percent at UC San Diego

and 35 percent at UC Davis.

However, with an additional funding of \$25 million by the state of California, the University of California is striving to improve these admission rates for California residents and fulfill their mission of providing California students higher education in their state.

“The University of California is committed to ensuring educational opportunity for current and future generations of students,” Napolitano said. “That imperative is the driving force behind the proposal to increase access for Californians.”

Despite the UC's exciting promise to admit a greater number of California students throughout all nine of the UC campuses, the admission process will still remain very competitive for SJM students. In 2014, the University of California received 148,688 applications, and only 86,865 students were admitted. Admittance rates, of course, beginning in 2016, will improve for California students, but admittance will not be guaranteed.

"It's very exciting that new spots will be opening up [for our students], but [our students] need to continue to be diligent about grades, activities, and being a competitive applicant," counselor Debbie Arceo said.

Do not miss next issue where we feature boys and girls basketball!



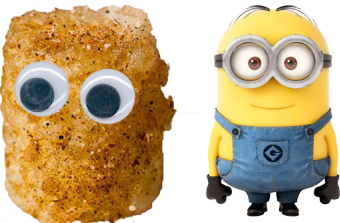





2015 Wrap-up

MADISON LAVAL  
Editor-in-Chief

Most Memorable Moments:

Theresa Giudice of the New Jersey Housewives is serving time in prison for fraud  
Calvin Harris and Taylor Swift gave us the ultimate relationship goals.  
Zayn Malik ditched One Direction  
Subway lost their poster“child”  
Miley Cyrus and her array of costumes hosted the 2015 VMAs and started a feud with Nicki Minaj  
Kanye West announced his presidency!! #KANYAY2020  
Iggy (almost) came to the Savemart center  
#SaintWest  
Drake released the music video for Hotline Bling, emphasizing his dance moves

<p><b>Bad Trends:</b></p> <p>Hoverboards- these are scooters, and they are not cool.</p> 	<p>“WHAT ARE THOOOOOOOSE?!” - those are shoes, so please keep your unwanted comment to yourself.</p> 
<p>Minions- Don't get me wrong, I love potatoes, but these undercooked tater tots make me cringe.</p> 	<p>The selfie stick (and the selfies that go along with it)</p> 
<p>“JOHN CENA”- CE-YA later.</p> 	<p>Man buns- they are like bad puns.</p> 

Worst Songs:

Watch Me- silento- Watch me unplug the aux cord and smack you with it  
Cheerleader- OMI- Oh I think that I may go bonkers if I hear this song again  
Lips are Movin- Meghan Trainor- If your lips are movin' to this song, I may slap you  
Worth it- Fifth Harmony- It is not worth it to play this song because you may get thrown out of the car.

Uptown funk- Please stop flaunting your bad dance moves to this song. @mom

Star Wars strikes back

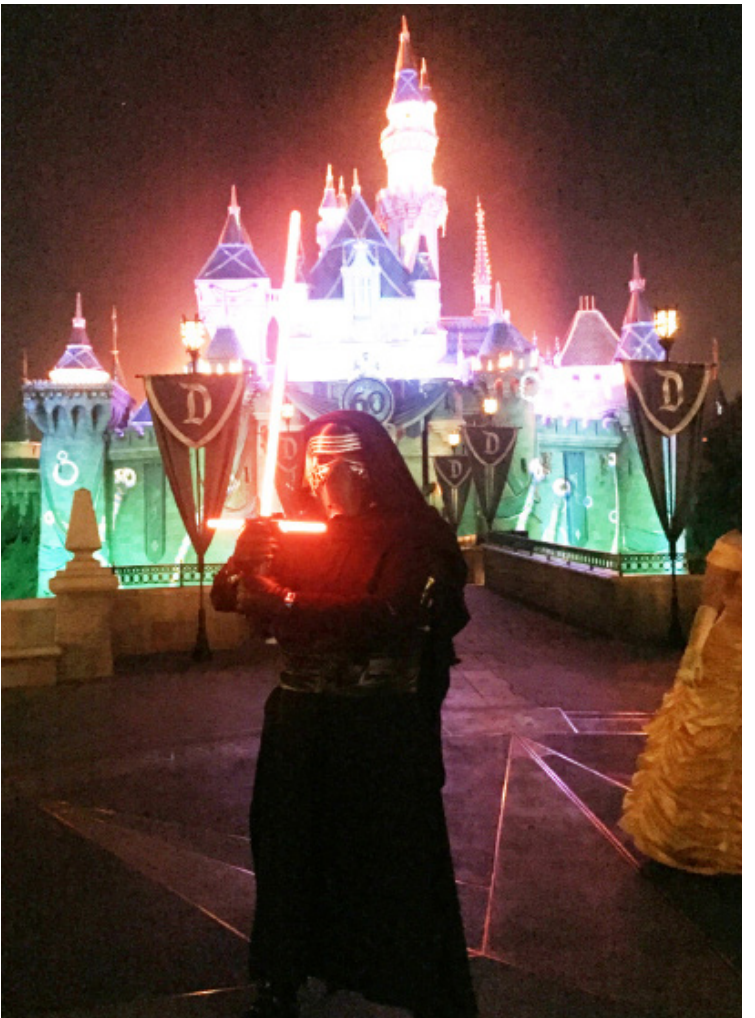
The first Star Wars sequel in over 30 years is arriving in less than a week.

LIAM MARTIN  
StaffWriter

Star Wars: The Force Awakens is set to release on Dec. 18. The film stars Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Oscar Isaac, Adam Driver, and Andy Serkis, as well as returning cast members Mark Hamill (Luke Skywalker), Carrie Fisher (Princess Leia), and Harrison Ford (Han Solo).  
The Force Awakens is shaping up to be not only the most anticipated movie of 2015, but the most anticipated movie of all time. The seventh Star Wars film has broken nearly every box office pre-sale records including Fandango's pre-sale ticket record by eight times the previous number and AMC Theaters' pre-sale ticket record by ten times the previous number. Why is there so much excitement for a movie that no one really knows anything about besides the fact that there will be lightsabers in it? It is because Star Wars spans generations. From grandparents

who took their children to see the original films in the 1970s and 1980s, to adults who were children when they first watched the films, or the current generation that grew up with the prequel trilogy and the television series, people of all ages want to see this film.  
“The first movie I ever saw in the theater was (Star Wars Episode VI:) Return of the Jedi,” English teacher Gregory Bamber said. “I was born in 1976, so I was born with the original trilogy.”  
Another reason so many people are excited for The Force Awakens is that the Star Wars saga appears to be going back to the ways of the original trilogy. Director J.J. Abrams has emphasized that this new film will use costumes, props, real robots, real locations, and a limited amount of computer generated visual effects.  
“I’m excited for The Force Awakens because I’m hoping that it will be all that I originally expected the prequels to be. It has resurrected my hope for the return of good

Star Wars movies again,” Bamber said.  
Star Wars is a franchise that has influenced many people throughout the years. The characters of Star Wars are part of the reason the films have resonated with so many people since the first film was released in 1977.  
“I always felt like Luke Skywalker. I was the lonely kid trying to find my purpose,” history teacher Joe Olivares said. “When Luke became a hero and saved the galaxy from the Empire, I felt like I could do something great like him.”  
The reason The Force Awakens has been such a world wide phenomenon, and may end up becoming the highest grossing film of all time, is that it has meant so much to millions of people around the world for nearly forty years.  
“The Force Awakens means so much to me because it brings back childhood memories that I never thought I would be able to relive again,” senior Montana Silva said.



Liam Martin regally stands in front of Sleeping Beauty's Castle dressed as the new Star Wars villain Kylo Ren. Courtesy of Alessandra Martin



# Happy birthday Memorial

EDWARD MEDINA  
*StaffWriter*

SJM celebrates 70 years of educating students. San Joaquin Memorial celebrates its 70th anniversary this year after opening in 1945. The school was founded by the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Christian brothers. They established the values of their respective orders. Sister Joanne Bauer, a sister of the Holy Cross, was a former teacher and student of the school and is currently a Family Life Coordinator for the diocese of Fresno. “The charism or gift from the Holy Spirit that I expe-

rienced during my years at Memorial, both as a student and as a teacher, was the sense of joy for life that celebrated God’s love by how we interacted with others,” Sr. Joanne said. The brothers and sisters emphasized service, education and dedication to the students. The values of service, family, faith and dedication have persisted throughout the years. “There was a strong sense of closeness, like that of a family who reaches out in hospitality and service to all, especially to those in need. Especially in difficult times, we felt bonded by our faith and our reliance on God

as a faith community,” Sr. Joanne said. SJM continues to thrive through our strong sense of community, service to others and academic excellence. The school has come a long way in 70 years. Upon opening, the school educated male and female students separately. Many improvements were added over the years, including the cafeteria, the locker room and most recently the 1-to-1 iPad program. “The iPad program really helps in my studies and makes learning a lot easier,” sophomore Troy Collins said. Memorial has come a

The brothers and sisters have since left the school. Although there have been many changes since 1945, Memorial has kept alive its fundamental traditions. The school has always emphasized service and academic excellence. “The teachers always push us to do better and see our full potential,” junior Elizabeth Santoyo said. The school has always emphasized service and academic excellence. Memorial keeps those values instilled, which was the original focus of the brothers and sisters so long ago. Memorial has come a

long way and the administration continues to make improvements to expand educational opportunity for another 70 years. According to Principal Nitchals, the plans for improvement for the coming years include classroom upgrades and a state of the art STEM building. In future years there is also a plan to create a black box theatre. “Memorial will keep evolving as it always has and we will be ready for the next 70 years,” Nitchals said.

# Health Corner: How to survive finals

VICTORIA VIDALES  
*StaffWriter*

With the first semester quickly coming to an end, many Memorial students are stressing over the real Grinch of Christmas: finals. For many students, just the thought of a long and intense final can make them want to lose their lunch. As students and teachers begin to prepare for the upcoming, intense week, one may wonder, what can the school do to help us survive finals? Or maybe the better question is, what has the school already done? Originally the final schedule was set to have three finals on one day. This sched-

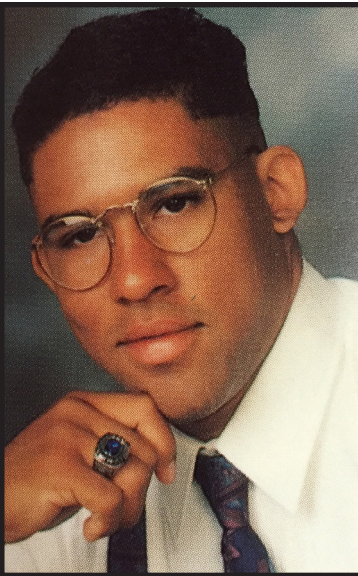
ule would allow for Monday Dec. 14 to be a White Day enabling students to visit each class before they would take the final. This schedule did not sit well with most students and faculty, so principal Stephanie Nitchals, and vice principal Ezequiel Gutierrez decided to change the schedule to eliminate three finals on one day. Students will now leave school early around 12:30 as each final will last 85 minutes. This early release allows students to return home early to study or sleep. Students can also begin preparing for other finals. According to blog.suny.edu, some of the best tips for surviving a final and reducing

anxiety and stress are:  
Get plenty of sleep  
Do not pull all nighters  
Practice time management. Specifically, students can study for a class for timed periods each night instead of in a five hour block the night before the final. Eat healthy. It is so important to prepare your body. Not only mentally but physically for a big exam. Oatmeal for breakfast is a healthy suggestion. Limit distractions. Avoid texting, music or T.V which could all prevent an individual from retaining focus. If students follow these tips they are bound to be ready for any type of question on their exams.



Garrison Quinn and Eric Wiseman study diligently on their iPads. Photo by Victoria Vidales

## Flashback Friday



Guess this teacher?

Answer: Mr. Goston

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# All lives matter

SEAN HICKEY

Designer

Over the past few months, this country has faced some of the worst race related violence since the days of Martin Luther King Jr. As a result of many police incidents, looting, rioting, and the formation of groups such as Black Lives Matter, have dominated conversations about race in this country.

Many advocates of this group portray America as a deadly place for minorities. If one were to only listen to the group's rhetoric, they would think law enforcement's sole mission is to shoot black youth, but this is not the case. This group presents one-sided accounts of the police shootings that are at the fore-

front the news cycle. But what this group fails to mention, is why such minorities are getting involved with law enforcement in the first place. Many high profile shootings have involved victims who committed a crime. Michael Brown, of Ferguson, Missouri, robbed a store and attacked a police officer. Freddie Gray was selling drugs and ran from the police and died in their custody.

The narrative the families of the victims portray is that their loved one was not a criminal, but a loving son or daughter; when in fact, many had criminal records prior to the incident. But that doesn't seem to matter to Black Lives Matter and their supporters.

Black Lives Matter continues to support these criminals even after the police have been cleared of any wrongdoing. A prime example of this took place

in Ferguson, Missouri a little over a year ago. Members of Black Lives Matter looted, rioted, and essentially burned down their own town while the police officer involved was not indicted by a grand jury. They acted like children instead of civilized adults. What Black Lives Matter fails to understand is that in the process they robbed credibility from organizations that truly want to help minorities.

Although it is their right to protest any injustices that they feel have been committed, that right does not allow them to destroy the property of their fellow neighbors. The most effective way to incite change is through peace, just as Martin Luther King Jr did and others after him. What Black Lives Matter is doing undermines the true heroes of the civil rights.

# Mercy for Syrians

TIFFANY LEE

Staff Writer

After the people of Syria broke into protest against the conditions of their government, violent rebellion from armed forces resulted and a civil war began. The turmoil in this Middle Eastern nation has greatly affected civilians through a radical change in the government and forced them to risk their lives and the lives of their families. Some of these refugees have fled from Syria to neighboring countries such as Turkey and Lebanon. Others have migrated to nations as far as Germany and the Netherlands in order

to establish a place where they will feel safe from the troubles of their homeland.

Northern American nations such as Canada and the United States have also been involved in the continual crisis in Syria. While Canada has donated thousands of dollars to the Syrians affected by the civil war, the United States has been accepting Syrian refugees into various cities since 2012. However, after the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and San Bernardino, the American government has been reluctant towards accepting any more of these Middle Eastern refugees. According to CNN.com, 31 of the 50 governors in the United States have turned their backs to refugees in fear of endangering the citizens of their

country.

Some people believe that accepting Syrian refugees not only puts the United States at risk for terrorism, but also prioritizes the life of foreigners before American-born citizens. If we cannot take care of our fellow Americans, how can we take care of others?

It is important that we do not immediately turn away from those in need, especially those who are at risk of death and strife. We need to strengthen our immigration system to reduce any possible dangers that may come across foreign refugees, and do whatever we can to save innocent people from totalitarian governments.

# Staff Editorial: Be gone, finals!

As the first semester of the school year comes to a close, one ominous thought comes into students' minds: finals. It's a make or break for grades. Seniors struggle to make it through their last year of high school, and motivation begins to wane for all high school students. However, some schools have given mercy to students and decreased the studying they

have to do. Certain schools around the country have created a policy involving the omission of finals if students have an "A" in the class going into the final. This way, students don't need to take their full set of class finals and possibly jeopardize their overall grade point average.

San Joaquin Memorial should adapt the omission of finals to its own schedule.

Many of the students are involved in multiple rigorous courses and extracurricular activities. During finals week, students can oftentimes get stressed when assessments for these classes are crammed into one short week. If this "finals omission" were to be implemented into our system, students can reduce this stress. This can also motivate other students

to work hard and achieve the award that they deserve at the end of the semester. For example, if a student wants to take as little finals as possible, their main goal would be to keep their grades up to par in order to have an easier end of the semester.

Some school staff members may believe an omission of finals will not fully prepare students for the

rigor of college. However, the study habits gained in high school are what truly prepares students for college, not the administering of final assessments.

SJM should prepare students by encouraging healthy study habits which will be key for success in any higher education setting.

## What's Trending?

What's the best thing you've ever given for Christmas?

@JuliaGonzalez



Chick-fil-a sauce

@JacobMacias



A hug

@MayaPitta



I gave my cat away



Franko’s Fable

FRANKO ROQUE

StaffWriter

One day, Franko was studying the polar ice caps of the North Pole. Just minding his own business, making sure not to perturb any of the wildlife that inhabit the area when all of a sudden he saw something very strange off in the distance. Franko forgot to bring his canteen of water on his expedition so he thought maybe he was seeing things due to dehydration, so he decided to take a look at the mysterious figure off in the distance. As he crept towards it, he noticed the horse-like creature was wearing a red and green sweater vest. “Vixen” was written in big



Franko feeds the ferociously hungry Vixen.

Photo by: Maddy Laval

white letters. Franko gasped because he knew he found one of Santa’s 12 reindeer. The reindeer turned around when he heard the gasp “Hey there, Franko.” Vixen said. “Hi Mr. Vixen, how do you

know who I am?” Franko said. “Well, Franko I am always spending time with Santa, and he knows you and all the children of the world,” said Vixen, “Because I spend all this time with Santa, I see

things that you would not believe, Franko.” “I know this is kind of off topic Vixen, but I have wondered since my childhood how you and your friends can go around the world in a matter of hours,” Franko said. “Well, Franko, Mr. Claus has us on a strict dietary and workout plan. We have to work out everyday and can only eat oatmeal, carrots, and pixie dust, for flying of course,” Vixen said. “That’s incredible, Vixen! Thanks for clarifying that!” Franko said. “Franko, you are very lucky; you were given a life kids around the world would die for. There are kids your age who do not have smartphones, or iPads, or shoes, or even filtered water,” Vixen said.

“Wow, Mr. Vixen you are absolutely right instead of stressing out about school or sports, maybe I should just stop and be grateful for what I have,” Franko said. “You will be so much happier if you are thankful for what you have instead of worrying about your life,” Vixen said. “The whole point of Christmas is being grateful for what you have and letting people know how much they mean to you.” “That was the most beautiful, thoughtful sentence I have ever heard,” Franko said as he wiped away his tears. Then, out of nowhere, Vixen took flight. “Thank you for doing what you do Franko, Merry Christmas,” Vixen said.

How much is Christmas?

STEFFANI GAONA

Editor-in-Chief

Each year it seems as if the Christmas season starts earlier and earlier. When I was younger, I remember the Christmas season beginning at the start of December, but now, the day after Halloween brings the beginning of the tragedy that is a commercialized Christmas. Thanksgiving has turned into a day of preparation for aggressively buying things for the next holiday. Radio stations now use November as marker to start playing Christmas music non-stop. It seems like once fall hits people stop living day to day and can only think forward to Christmas. However, it’s not the general public’s fault for becoming hyped up for Christmas way too early each year. Companies market solely to Christians, and there has rarely been diversity in commercials during the time of winter. With this marketing strategy, Christians begin to

forget the real meaning of Christmas: Jesus and spending times with the people that matter most. It is sad to watch Christians become side tracked from these important values and become more devoted to whether or not a company adequately celebrates Christmas or not. An example of this is the controversy over Starbucks’ simplistic holiday cup. As a Catholic school, it is important to hold on to our wholesome nature by spending time with loved ones or volunteering to serve food to the less fortunate. Christmas is not meant to be bought, but shared.

Christmas Concert keeps cadence

CATHERIN OTERO

Designer

The Christmas Concert has been a long-standing Memorial tradition. It was a one night event that took place on Dec. 3. The band and choir performed a plethora of songs prepared for the event. Choir member Erika Garcia recounted that her favorite part of the show was, “seeing my family [in the audience] and getting to spend time with my family.” The band kicked off the event, focusing on percussion, with the song Stinkin’ Garbage. The band performed five songs total, with a mixture of both Christmas and non- Christmas music. Following the band was the choir, beginning with Ain’t That a Rockin’ All Night, who performed seven total songs. Choir member junior Sabrina Sukma,



Choir sings Christmas carols.

Photo by: Catherine Otero

enjoys choir because, “It brings me joy when I sing.” Of the songs performed, choir member Heather Vosburg’s favorite was Imagine, which served as an excellent rendition of the classic and a touching beginning to their performance. Vosburg had a solo along with Mikaela Mangente. Throughout the concert, Memorial’s music club demonstrated their range with softer songs, like Fly Me to the Moon, and more intense ones, like Three Jazzy Kings.

Each musical work was followed with a crescendo of applause by the humble audience. The support means a lot to the choir and band, as does the chance to demonstrate their hard work for family and friends alike. Overall, both the band and choir proved their hard work and dedication to the club in their performance. It is strongly encouraged to show support by attending the concert and spreading the word about this division of Memorial talent.



Girls soccer kicks off the season

The team shows promise with experienced returners.

DANIELLE PARRA  
StaffWriter

Girls varsity soccer shows promise on the field for their upcoming season with seven varsity returners. There is a mixture of 18 players on the team from the sophomore, junior, and senior classes. The team won their first pre-season game against Sunnyside High School, defeating them 3-0. "It looks very promising," coach Rick Martinez said.

"We have a mixture of levels on our team and it's working out really well." Last season, the team's record was 1-8 with one tie. Despite the rough season, the team still made it to play-offs. This year, the team is aiming to make it all the way to Valleys. "Last year we had enough to go to the playoffs and we



Allison Boone fights for the ball. Photo by Giordano Primavera

surprised a lot of teams," Martinez said. "I think we're gonna surprise a lot of teams

early this year." Returners are also looking forward to this season. Co-captain, Angelica Anguiano is a four year varsity player who has high hopes for her final year of high school soccer. "I believe that with our team's ability and determination to play as one on the field from the start will help carry

us throughout the season," Anguiano said. Although the team consists of new and returning players, they are still working on coming together as a team. The different levels of experience helps the team overcome their weaknesses. "I believe we have potential to be really good this year," junior Emily Murrell said. "We have some experienced players and a great start from our game against Buchanan!"

Football captains express appreciation

The team ended their season at the Valley Championship on Dec. 4.

KELSI FAULKNER  
StaffWriter

With their first chance at winning the Valley Championship in five years, this



The football team prepares to run a play. Courtesy of Nick Wintz

year's varsity football team ended their season on a good note by going up against Hanford High. This season's record made a lasting impression on players of the team including senior captain Joey Ruiz. "It's been a blessing to be

a part of this team and have had these coaches these past four years," Ruiz said. "I'll remember it all for the rest of my life." The boys felt they had a great ride this season and making it to Valleys was

definitely a great way to end the season. "It's a high school football player's dream to play in the Valley Championship," senior captain Chris Paz said. "I want to thank everyone for their support this season; so many great memories were

made in which I'll never forget." Ruiz and Paz thank their teammates for the love and dedication they demonstrated throughout the season. Senior captain Grant Lilles thanks his team for making this season a great one. "I wouldn't want to play my last season with anyone else. They made my last season one to remember by getting us to the Valley Championship," Lilles said. "I hope the young guys on the team can come back next season and win us a championship." Lilles also thanks the coaches for the commitment to the team and for always pushing them to play to the best of their abilities and for shaping them into the players they are today. "To the coaches, I want to thank them for the great opportunity they gave me these last three years," Lilles said. "They not only made me a better football player but a better person, and I will always be thankful for their belief in all of us."



St. Anthony of Padua Church

Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Wenzinger, Pastor

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