

THE AUGUSTINIAN

“Tolle Lege”

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In Memory of My Best Friend Robby Baughman



Photo credit: Michael Cali ('13)



By Joe Keane ('13)
STAFF WRITER

I've known the one and only Robby Baughman since first grade. Let me tell you, he deserves to be Saintsman of the century. And I don't exaggerate. He was the real deal, the embodiment of Saints values at their finest, and an all around role model. Listen up freshmen, because this young man was a legend, one whom you'll want to remember whenever you think life is getting tough.

Born in the Lone Star State of Texas, he was the son of a Navy captain, Robert, and a dedicated home mom, Cathy. True to the naval lifestyle, he lived in and visited various locations across the globe, including Guam and Japan.

He settled in San Diego in 2001, where he attended Nazareth Elementary School. Though he arrived to Saints looking like your typical freshman, it wasn't long before Robby stood out.

As a student, he maintained a 4.0 or higher for the past 3 years despite challenging himself with many AP and honors courses. He also served on the ASB staff since freshman year, and was elected Executive Secretary for this school year. He was a dedicated student and varsity swimmer, and participated in many other extra-curricular activities such as the Hogar Infantil Club and *The Augustinian*. As a staff writer, he wrote a total of nine articles, most notably about Saints sports. He represented our school in an Augustinian convention in Philadelphia, and he served the poor in Guatemala.

Here at Saints, it seems there wasn't much he didn't do, which is amazing when you consider that much of what he achieved was accomplished while he was fighting cancer. And fight valiantly he did.

Robby beat cancer twice. Not once. Twice. Think about that. You typically go straight home and start homework, right? Not if you were Robby—he had a chemotherapy or radiation session to which he had to go. Need to get to school early for tutoring or to finish up some work? While you were doing that, he had a checkup with his doctor. Can you imagine Robby's struggle to keep balance in his life? But did he ever let it get him down? Not in the slightest. In fact, it made him stronger. Not once did he ask for extra time on an assignment or for any sort of leniency from his teachers because of his treatment. Robby made up the work quickly and efficiently, with a little help from friends who were always more than willing to share notes or fill him in on a lecture. Whenever Robby could be at school, he was there. Even if he finished a treatment at 1:00 pm, he rushed to school as fast as he could to spend a little time in his last block. Robby loved it here, and he never wanted to miss a second of the Saints experience.

Robby's incredible dedication to his schoolwork was inspiring. Robby had, in effect, successfully lived a double life during most of his high school career. He dedicated his time and effort to academics, athletics and extra-curriculars, all while battling cancer with a bravery rarely seen in a 17 year old.

Anyone who talked to Robby knows how ecstatic he was about life and the friends with whom he shared it. You never came away from a conversation with him without a smile on your face. He was cordial to everyone, and always willing to offer his time. If anyone ever had a problem or needed some help with homework, Robby was the go-to guy.

Robby always found ways to make
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Saints Gets a New Six-Pack



By Alexander Danilowicz ('15)
EDITOR



And Michael McRoskey ('14)
STAFF WRITER

Many beloved teachers departed at the end of the 2011-2012 school year: Mrs. Dickerson, Mr. Ranney, Mr. Haggerty, and Mr. Coffey. We tragically lost Mr. Healy, our freshman counselor, to pancreatic cancer. To fill the empty places in our hearts, the administration hired a talented group of individuals to resume their work. Or as I like to call them, the Dream Team.

Mr. Gary Osberg, identifiable by his highlighter-colored wardrobe, is teaching English II, Honors English II, and English IV this year.

"I enjoy teaching literature because it offers insight on how people live their lives. A million different people can read the same book, but each individual takes something personal from it," said the hardcore fan of *The Lord of the Rings* and the Green Bay Packers.

But English Literature, Gandalf, and cheeseheads are not the only things about which he is passionate. Mr. Osberg is also this

year's Assistant Wrestling Coach and Freshman Football Offensive Line Coordinator.

"I would live at Saints if it were possible," said the 2004 Saints alumnus. "I believe this is the best high school in the country."

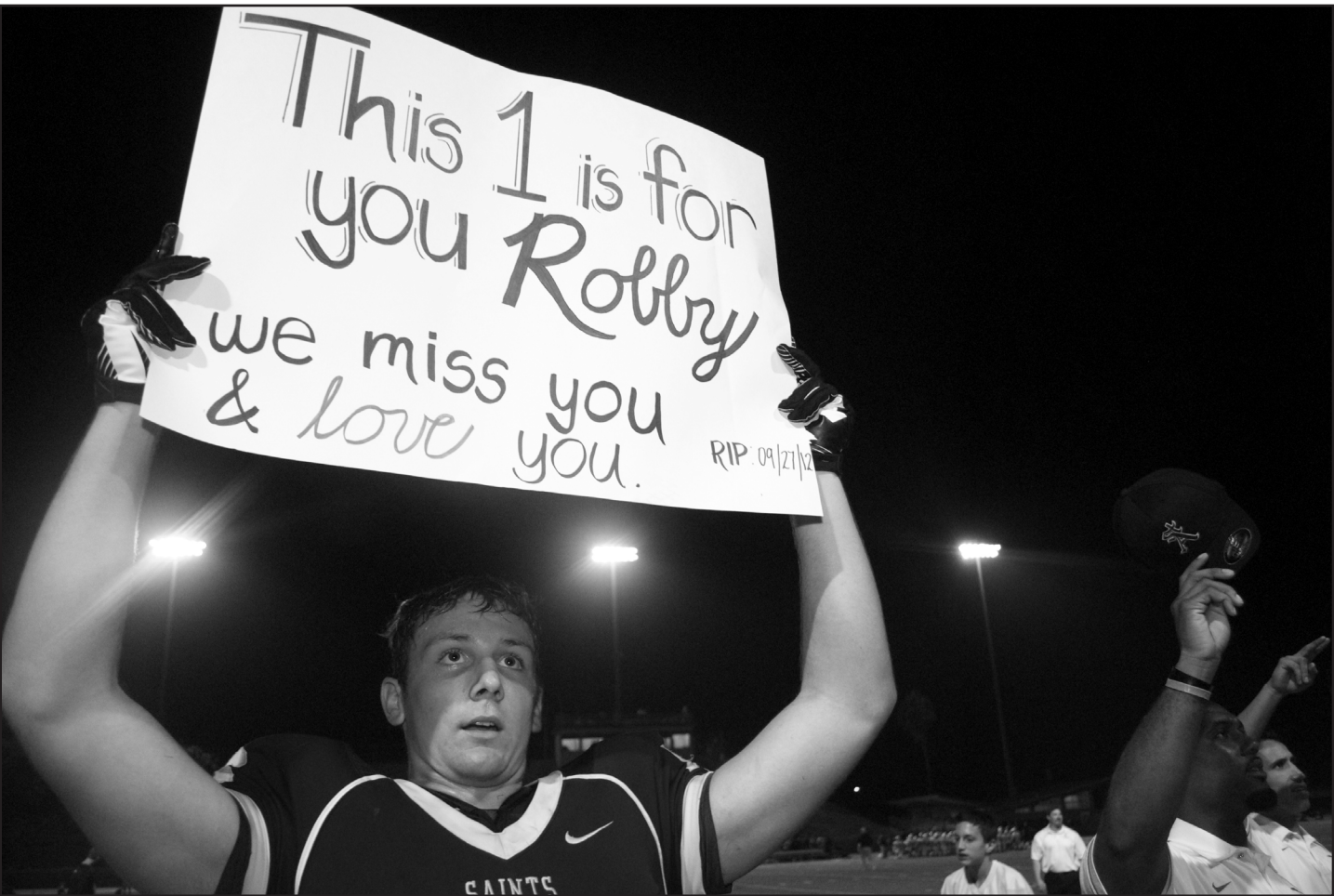
Mr. Andrew Pruter and his classic aviator sunglasses were both football teammates with Mr. Sipper at St. John Bosco High School in Los Angeles. A Bruin at heart, he gradu-

ated in 1997 from UCLA where he worked as the team manager for the basketball team. This gives him bragging rights to winning the 1995 National Championship team after UCLA defeated Arkansas 89-78. After teaching for 15 years at his previous high school, he decided it was time for a change.

SEE New Teachers, pg. 8



Which new teacher looks the meanest? Mr. Osberg for sure. The least mean? Mr. Eleuteri. Think about it.
Photo credit: Aaron Balin ('14)



➤ **Robby** Robby De Cort ('13) and the football team show their love for Robby. Photo credit: Michael Cali ('13)

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light of serious situations. Even when Robby and I were up till the crack of dawn working on some big project like a math lab, he was all smiles, and making jokes all night. I believe you'd be hard pressed to find anyone who has ever even seen Robby angry. What we always saw instead was the easy-going, compassionate young man he was. Robby was too sure of himself to let others' opinions get him down, but at the same time, he never boasted or bragged about his incredible achievements, or his ability to succeed against all adversity. In fact, he was the most humble person I've ever known.

Had Robby never come to Saints, my life, and the lives of many other Saintsmen and teachers would never have been the same. May we now and forever honor his

strength and his commitment to live out the Saints value of Community.

We all remember when Mr. Horne announced the very sad news over the PA: "It is with a heavy heart that I must tell you..." and the rest faded off as a sea of emotion and a dark gloom overcame the campus. The grief was immense, and many of us took to anger or questioning. But with time, we responded to Robby's death in the way he would want us to: as Saintsmen. We talked our way through it, leaned on each other, and with Robby smiling down upon us all, we picked up the pieces and resolved to carry on. Our relationship with Robby has not ended—it has merely changed.

And so brothers, I am able to say that surely he is with us each and every day, urging us to reach new heights and to live for one another. If all of us imitate his

courage and selflessness, Saints will be a perfect community.

So whenever you lack motivation, think of Robby. Think of him also whenever you are tempted to hate or judge. And when the going gets tough, and you want to pity yourself or get mad at the world, just think, "If Robby could handle it, so can I." He truly was—and remains—a shining role model for us Saintsmen.



Chaplain's Corner



By Fr. Bob Gavotto

**To Grieve or Not To Grieve?
There is no question!**

Our prayer for our fellow Saintsman, Robby Baughman.

Father in heaven, we praise you for the life of Robby, and bless your mercy that has brought his suffering to an end. In your loving providence you have called him to yourself. Give him full stature in Christ. Grant him the happiness of everlasting youth in your kingdom of peace and joy, which he continually witnessed to all of us. Amen.

Our heartfelt condolences and prayerful support go to his parents Bob and Cathy Baughman, his sister and brother Megan and William, and all the members of his family. May they all know our love and support at this time of grieving. And may the Lord give them his strength to sustain them now and in the days to come.

There is no question that we all must grieve. Here are some thoughts that we all might find helpful at this time.

- Grief has been described as the emotion or complex of emotions we experience when we lose anyone or anything we care about deeply. We, as a Saints community, are experiencing that grief now with the passing of our brother Saintsman, Robby. His passing is a most terrible loss for his parents, sister, brother, and all his family. It is also a terrible loss for us as individuals and as a community, especially for the members of his senior class.

- We have a need and a right to grieve. We should not be surprised that it affects us all. We are all linked together as one body. It cannot be otherwise for us who are members of the Body of Christ. "None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself." (Rm 14:7) "Now you are the body of Christ and

SEE **Chaplain's Corner, pg. 4**

Words of Tribute From Students and Faculty

"Robby was the definition of what every Saintsman should strive to be: Always having a smile on his face and ready to help anyone." -Rico Dominguez ('13)

"Every so often a teacher meets a student out of the ordinary, brighter, funnier, or more creative than others. Robby had to grow up too fast and knew he was going to be robbed of his youth, yet behaved as if there was going to be a tomorrow: he continued studying in spite of his pain and fears, never asked for any favors. Some teachers were lucky to know Robby as a student or athlete; others like myself wish they had, but ALL of us feel that our lives were touched by an angel." -Mrs. Allen, French Instructor

"Robby was the definition of friend, idol, and Saintsman. He left us all early and nobody has the potential to fill the gap that he left." -Mariano Laguna ('13)

"He was always so happy and positive about everything that he changed my attitude about life. He was always positive through all his pain, and he always pulled through." -Adam Kosen ('14)

"We all were privy to Robby's joyful countenance. But did you know that Robby was a talented artist? He had a lovely and unique vision, manifested in a very precise and clean graphic style that was memorable! Today I can still close my eyes and see the pages of his sketchbook!" – Mrs. Carson, Art Instructor

"Robby knew that everyone has good in them, and he tried to find that good even if it was difficult. He was such a genuine person." -Kathleen Croke ('13)

"The guy was a true Saintsman. He was always smiling and laughing. A real optimistic guy. It seemed like no matter what he was doing, he would never be too busy to help somebody else." – David Tran ('13)

"When I went to the Hogar Infantil orphanage with Robby, he would always put a smile on not just the faces of the kids but also everyone who visited. He loved nothing more than taking time out of his Saturday to make sure all the orphans were having fun and enjoying themselves." -Nick Muñoz ('13)

"His outlook on life was truly spectacular. To say that you were an incredible person, Robby, is truly an understatement. You are gone, but your spirit is not; and it will always live in our hearts. Heaven is lucky to have you on its team." - Kevin Cotant ('15)

"I've known Robby my whole life. From Nazareth to Saints I've always been around the guy. Whenever I'd see him he would take the time to say hello and to see how I was doing. We always got along pretty well, but I think that the same could be said for anyone who met him. The guy loved and was loved, it's as simple as that." – Mike Rougas ('14)

Photo credit: Mike Stumpf, Assitant Headmaster for Student Life at Villanova Prep, Ojai

Use of Electronic Devices Expanded



By Eric Lujan ('15)
STAFF WRITER

If you're a freshman, then you don't remember the days when you had to hide from teachers during lunch when you wanted to make a quick phone call or send a text. That's because up until this year, there were much tighter restrictions on electronic devices.

But the Saints faculty acknowledges that school policies must change to accommodate society's technological evolution. They have reviewed the past policies concerning electronic devices and have decided to allow for their expanded use.

Currently, in-class cell phone usage is at the individual teacher's discretion. After all, cell phones are now research tools as well due to their ability to access the web. iPads and Ebooks can be used in lieu of textbooks. The faculty concluded that electronic devices are a great learning tool, especially as they are becoming a necessity for many teachers.

According to Mr. O'Beirne, use of cell phones and other electronic devices is now allowed during lunchtime for two main reasons: to allow students to contact their friends that are off-campus, and to allow students to contact their parents if need be. In case you didn't know, cell phone use is not allowed during the passing period. Uh-huh.

There is, however, a notable restriction regarding the use of cameras. It is forbidden to use cameras in certain areas: "The use of camera phones is strictly forbidden in specific areas, such as, locker rooms, washrooms, dressing areas, classrooms, and offices at any time" (Student Handbook, pg. 42).

Despite all the changes, some things are still the same. So you can forget about texting your girlfriend in class or bringing in your personal television set.

Campus Ministry Gets More Unpaid Help



Photo credit: Aaron Balin ('14)



By Jason Mapa ('13)
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Those of you who frequently pop in and out of the Campus Ministry office probably noticed a new face. It's Ms. Katie McAloon, our new Augustinian volunteer for this school year. In addition to reminding students to complete their service hours and handing out candy, she will be helping coordinate

numerous retreats with Mrs. Crachy and Fr. Kirk.

Born in New Jersey, but raised in Houston, Texas, Katie attended Kingwood High School.

"I went to a public high school, which is definitely a different experience from Saints. I really enjoy the focus on community here," said Katie.

She then moved on to Villanova and graduated this past year with a degree in Communications and a minor in Peace and Justice. During her time at Villanova, she was involved with campus ministry where she went above and beyond by participating in six different service trips to North Carolina, South Carolina, Arkansas, Tennessee, New York, and the Dominican Republic. If that was not enough, she was involved with the nonprofit organization, Water for Wasala. Started by Villanova graduates, this organization aims to raise funds and increase global awareness about the water crisis in Wasala, Nicaragua.

"All the time spent in the Villanova Campus Ministry Department inspired me

to continue my service after graduation, and that's how I came across Saints," said Katie. Naturally, she expects her time at Saints to be both the most rewarding and enjoyable.

When she isn't busy being Wonder Woman, Katie enjoys listening to music, especially One Direction. Perhaps the most interesting Augustinian Volunteer on campus, Katie enjoys the time right before sunset, loves cats, and pronounces orange like "ahrange". She even studied abroad in Spain, and maintains a mild proficiency in the Spanish language. Her favorite sport is baseball, and feels a strong loyalty to the Houston Astros. Extremely friendly and charming, she was voted "Most Likely to Get Away With Committing Murder" in high school. Katie also enjoys a passion for reading and writing, and was the editor of her high school newspaper.

"I enjoyed writing and kept myself fairly busy throughout college. Now that I've graduated, I don't do much," she said laughing. On the contrary, Katie has now taken one of the most pivotal roles on campus. These retreats don't organize themselves, so the next time you walk by Campus Ministry stop by and thank her for all the hard work. Which she does, of course, free of charge.

Are you a girl?
Do you attend OLP?
Do you enjoy writing?

If you answered yes to all three questions, then we invite you to be a writer for The Augustinian. Just send an email to saintsnews-paper@gmail.com along with a sample of your writing and you can be our next OLP correspondent.

Everything You Need to Know About the Beanie



Photo credit: Aaron Balin ('14)



By Michael Balourdas ('13)
EDITOR

Do you remember the first time you wore a beanie? Some of you may have hated it at first, while others felt proud. It certainly took some getting used to. Toward the beginning of Welcome Week, you're so self-conscious of the beanie on your head; toward the end, you hardly notice it at all as it seems to fuse with your skull. And then there are all the jokes about being Jewish for a week.

But how are the beanies made, and who makes them? How long has it been a tradition at Saints? This article will tackle the mystery of the time-honored beanie tradition.

Who makes the beanies? Are they factory made?

No, these unique purple and gold headpieces are not churned out of a factory. They are hand-made by one person every single year, Mrs. Jean Shaw. For those of you who don't know her, Mrs. Shaw is the Alumni and Advancement Secretary. She works behind one of those many hidden doors in the main office.

When did the "beanies for freshmen" tradition get started?

Mrs. Shaw does not know exactly when or how the tradition began, but she does know that Deacon Hardick had a beanie as a freshman in 1957. Her husband, however, did not have one as a freshman in 1949.

How did Mrs. Shaw come to make the beanies?

The woman who had been making them before Mrs. Shaw did not want to make them anymore, so in 1973 the ASB Moderator at the time, Deacon Hardick, asked her to take on the project and she accepted.

Have beanies always looked as they do today?

Originally, she told me, the beanies had only four different panels of alternating purple and gold, but she later decided that a six-panel beanie was more attractive. Chuckling, she added that that a six-panel beanie is a lot more work, though.

How long does it take to make them?

She said she has never kept track because she takes so many breaks during the project. She needs the breaks because the cutting and sewing causes her hands to ache. She did say that the whole process from start to finish takes "quite a while." She then

SEE Beanie, pg. 8

Freshmen Beanie Experiences

"The beanies were really cool! I thought mine would be falling off my head all the time, because I have an oddly shaped noggin."

– Fred Smyth ('16)

"I loved my beanie until people started slapping it on the wall. I don't have that kind of hops!"

– Vincent Nguyen ('16)

"Freshman Welcome Week brought our freshman class into the Saints traditions of Unitas, Veritas, and Caritas. At the end of the week, I believe all the freshman felt united with the school."

– Sean Panish ('16)

"I will keep my beanie the rest of my life. It shows others how I am and always will be part of Saints."

– Ivan Woestman ('16)

"I found it funny that seniors would try to knock the beanie off my head...I'm 6'5" so they had some difficulty."

– Jack Allard ('16)

Why We Moved to Follett



Photo credit: Aaron Balin ('14)

By Andrew Gaylord ('13)
EDITOR

“We have to buy our own textbooks this year? But it’s going to cost so much money! Why would they do that? I can’t afford to buy books!”

These were some of the initial reactions students had upon hearing of the new Follett book system. Many of them still wonder why the administration would make such a change.

For freshmen and students unfamiliar with the old system, this is how it used to work: the school would buy the textbooks in bulk every few years, estimating the number they would need, and would use both school funds and a student rental fee of about \$200 at registration to pay for them. They would give out the books required for each class and students would return them at the end of the year. Students with lost or damaged books would be charged a fee. For

about two decades, this system had been both simple and efficient.

The new Follett system, however, allows each student to act in his individual best interest. Students can pass down books to friends or siblings. Others can save money by renting their books and returning them at the end of the year. For those books that do not have a rental option, Follett will typically buy them back at the end of the year so that the student gets some money back. E-books, a category expected to grow, can now be purchased or rented (though availability is still limited and most teachers prefer that students obtain a hard copy).

Mr. Linville, speaking for the administration as textbook coordinator, said, “Follett is our preferred textbook provider. They guarantee the correct version. They guarantee returns and refunds. They guarantee that they will buy it back.” (Follett’s Q&A states that they will usually buy the book back, based on student demand.)

Nevertheless, students are still allowed to buy their books wherever they choose. Students have reported that Amazon, for example, typically offers lower prices, though rental options are not always available. Students using third party vendors also run the risk of ending up with the incorrect editions of textbooks.

What inspired the change, in part, was the improper care of books. Now that students are responsible for the book costs, the hope is that students will be more protective of their texts. Despite the \$200 rental fee, due to its subsidization of textbooks, Saints consistently lost money on damaged or lost books. Now that students are held accountable, the school saves money.

Moving to a new system has not been without its difficulties. Old textbooks have been sold, kept for summer school, donated, or, unfortunately, thrown away. About two dumpsters worth were thrown away, even though some were still in decent shape. Some books cost far more than others, a reality that may influence which classes students take. For example, the AP Physics book costs \$174 to rent, while the regular Physics book costs only \$10. For those on the fence between the two, this could be a deciding factor. If the cost differential is too extreme, the trend might be to take less demanding courses.

It remains to be seen whether Follett is the school’s best option. The Follett system saves the school money while offering more flexibility while encouraging responsibility. However, the system has negatives, such as increased costs and work for students, the potential for book theft (pretty easy way to make 200 bucks), and high price variation among textbooks. Our contract with Follett will last three years. By that time we should know whether or not the new system's benefits outweigh its detriments.

► **Chaplain's Corner**
Continued from Page 2

individually members of it. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.” (1 Co 12:25-26)

- “Jesus wept.” The shortest verse in the Bible. Yet those simple words speak volumes about the inner feelings of Jesus and his reaction to grief. “Jesus wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. Seeing his tears, friends of the family remarked, ‘See how much he loved him!’” (Jn 11:34-35)
- Yet, as St. Paul reminds us, we do not grieve without hope. “We want you to be quite certain, sisters and brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like other people who have no hope.” (1 Thess. 4:13) We grieve, but we have hope and the assurance of the resurrection and trust in God’s power and goodness.
- A simple story: A little girl lost a playmate in death, and one day reported to her family that she had gone to comfort the sorrowing mother. “What did you say?” the father asked. “Nothing,” the child replied, “I just climbed up on her lap and cried with her.”



Photo credit: Michael Cali ('13)

In Search of... The Coolest Summer Jobs

By Robert Aragon ('13)
STAFF WRITER

As much as we hate realizing that next summer isn’t for another couple hundred days, it’s still great to reminisce about our time away. Many will remember fondly the days spent basking in the sun at the beach or hanging out with friends. Others will miss visiting family or vacationing across the far corners of the world. Some, however, spent their summers hard at work.

This summer beheld a 17.1% national unemployment rate for those 16-24 (as provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics). While nowhere near the 50% rate Greece is stuck with, it’s the highest America has seen since the early years of President Ronald Reagan. Despite the odds, many Saintsman were able to find jobs over the summer. In search of the coolest, I sat down with a few who actually enjoyed their jobs.

Adrian Zavala ('13) had the opportunity to work at Hollister Clothing Co. He heard about the job from fellow Saintsman Chris Carlin ('13), a model at Hollister. Adrian enjoyed many perks while working there, including hefty discounts on clothes, getting chatted up by the cute girls who usually inhabit stores like Hollister, and, of course, a healthy paycheck. Adrian’s duties involved folding and hanging clothes and helping customers. When asked what he thought the best aspect of the job was, he told me it was “the people.” Adrian felt the interaction between customers was the most interesting aspect of the job and the one that kept him awake on the really tough workdays. Adrian spent the sum-

mer helping customers, making friends, and earning money – not bad.

Lance Martin ('13), however, may be able to one-up Adrian. Lance worked at a local RV dealership. When his father noticed a job opening for a handyman, Lance jumped at the opportunity. He became the go-to worker, doing jobs all over the dealership, from cleaning the lot to painting the chassis of the vehicles. Because Lance grew up with an RV, he already had a decent knowledge of how they were built and how they needed to be maintained. He put this knowledge into practice by sanding the bodies, coating them with primer, and even painting them. Lance said his favorite parts of the job were making an honest living and the freedom that having money brings. Sorry Adrian, but as cool as tight shirts,



It’s all work and no play on the field for Ryan Stamper ('13).

Photo credit: Aaron Balin ('14)

half-naked men, and overwhelming male perfume are, Lance’s rugged mechanic job gives him the lead.

But Ryan Stamper ('13) has never been one to fold in the face of competi-

SEE **Summer Jobs**, pg. 8

Mr. Hecht Offers Words of Advice to Students

By Alan Burnett ('16)
STAFF WRITER

I recently interviewed Mr. Hecht regarding his new role at Saints as Assistant Principal of Academics. He shared his goals and offered some advice to the student body.

“Here at Saints it is my mission to help students succeed while maintaining our core values: Unitas, Veritas, and Caritas,” Mr. Hecht said. “For this upcoming year of 2013, my personal goal is to get to know the new students who are joining our Saints community.”

He also stressed the importance of introducing this year’s freshmen to the Saints brotherhood, and emphasized the use of the counseling center and meeting your teachers.

“If any freshman has problems with classes or even social issues, they should talk to the new 9th grade counselor, Mr. Eleuteri. It is vital that students to get to know their teachers and faculty—especially new teachers who are just joining our school. Participate in class, join different clubs or sports. Ask questions and seek help if needed. The teachers at Saints will always help a student in need. Our mission is to help you develop as students but also as people.”

Living in this ever-progressive digital age, Mr. Hecht discussed how Saints on the Web is a beneficial organizational tool

SEE **Mr. Hecht**, pg. 8

Sudafed's Relief



An Advice Column by
Evan Suda ('15)
MANAGING EDITOR

Dear Sudafed,

I sit behind a basketball player and I can't see the board. My grades are slipping. I keep trying to ask to move to a different seat, but Johnny Tall-Guy in front of me is so tall that Mr. Bachynsky can't even see my hand! What do I do?!!

Signed,
Short and to the Point

Dear Short and to the Point,

I have several ideas that can help you see the board.

Option 1: Bring a booster seat. They are practical, lightweight, and fun! Just make sure you get one from a haircut place because those have a really awesome steering wheel that you can play with when you're bored.

Option 2: Bring your laptop to school and place it in the front of the classroom on that empty desk that everyone always avoids. Then Skype with your iPhone back at your desk and you can see everything like you're up in the front seat.

Option 3: Tape a mirror to the ceiling at the exact angle to where you can see the board perfectly from your own seat. And when Mr. B asks why you are constantly staring at the ceiling, tell him that you are contemplating the vastness of his infinite wisdom. Learn to read upside-down.

Option 4: Every time Mr. B goes to write something on the board, run up behind him and copy the notes. Then before he turns around, sprint back to your seat and sit down. Not only will you get the notes, you'll also get a great workout.

Hopefully one of these four options will be able to help you out. If not, you always have the option of asking him politely to shrink just a little bit.

Signed,
Sudafed

Dear Sudafed,

I have some issues. For some reason I can't stop hiding all my stuff. When I walk into a classroom, I go behind the teacher's desk and hide my phone, my wallet, my keys, and my backpack all in different places. I don't know why. I just do. But recently I've begun to forget just where I put all my stuff. Why, just last week, Coacher's week-old hardened oatmeal started to buzz. It was my mom texting me to remind me to look for my lunchbox (which I found later that day inside one of the guitar holes in the band room). What should I do?

Signed,
Where's My Stuff

Dear Where's My Stuff,

Dude you have problems. Everyone knows that cellphones hide much better inside of your Freshman Honor's English Vocab book. No one opens those.

If you want to stop hiding your stuff, I'd recommend Velcro. It works wonders at keeping everything together. You can actually buy a really cool jumpsuit from the traveling circus and if you put some Velcro tape onto whatever you don't want to hide, you can stick it right on your back. Plus if you wear it while you give an OLP girl wearing a fleece sweater a hug, she will not want to let go of you.

Oh and by the way, I think I found your planner stapled to the roof of the parking garage above my spot. Can you come get it down?

Signed,
Sudafed

Sports in the Works



By **Joe Howder ('13)**
STAFF WRITER

There have been some rumors brewing about a potential water polo team in the Saints sports program. To make sure, I got the whole story. I talked to John Joe Bacino ('14), who has been pushing to make water polo a sport at Saints since his freshman year.

What stopped us from having a water polo team this fall?

"Water polo first needs to start as a club team. CIF regulations prohibit club sports from starting in the fall. We are hoping to get the club team started this winter or spring," John Joe said.

All this talk about water polo and new sports got me thinking about what one needs to do to start up a sport here at Saints. I turned to Mr. Stephenson for answers.

"The sport needs to be popular," Mr. Stephenson said. "If we are going to try to put a new sport in a league, we need to make sure it has enough players. The sport also needs to have a place to practice, such as a field or a pool. In reference to water polo, financial issues arise because pools are more expensive to use as opposed to a field. It is also important for the new sport not to drastically interfere with other sports teams. The Athletic Department needs to make sure the other sports in that season stay competitive. Also, new sports don't need to be bringing in championships every year but they

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need to stay in the hunt. Although, championships are never a bad thing," said Mr. Stephenson, chuckling.

Another question lurking around campus: Why isn't rugby a CIF sport? Over 60 Saints athletes and several clubs around San Diego County have made rugby remarkably popular in recent years. Currently, rugby is a club sport.

For starters, there are various qualifications a sport like rugby needs to meet in order to participate in the CIF. Generally, moving a club sport to a CIF sport is a 4- or 5-year process. First, it has to be taken up with the CIF section for which your school qualifies. Once the section passes it, the decision goes up to the state. Then the state decides if they are going to declare it a CIF sport or not. Also, the sport's chance of becoming a CIF sport diminishes tremendously if it's not popular. Although the guys on the rugby team will tell you, "It's nothing!" or "No pain, no gain," the obstacle rugby faces is its intense physical aspect, which hinders some students from trying out.

Will rugby become a CIF sport soon?

We all hope so, but in the meantime, let's relish the thought that our rugby team will smash the Dons this upcoming winter and the water polo club will become an official club sport any day now. I mean hey, if the lax bros could do it, anyone can.

Comments? Criticism? Praise?

We welcome your thoughts and invite you to write letters to the editor. Every submission will be considered for publication. Just email us at saintsnewspaper@gmail.com, or drop it off in Room 318.

If your letter gets printed in our next issue, Mr. Bachynsky will give you \$5.

New Football Team Kicks Off



By **William Raines ('13)**
STAFF WRITER



And **Tom Allen ('16)**
STAFF WRITER

Everybody loves football season, and there is no better brand than Saints football. Coming off another strong season last year, our Saintsmen are looking to improve the Saints football prowess that is well known all around San Diego. How do our Saintsmen plan on doing that this year? We'll soon find out, so throw on your pit t-shirt and hold on to

your seats because the Saints are marching in!

A few things have changed since last football season. Our team lost several starting seniors, including star running back Aaron Anderson, record-setting kicker Seamus McMorro, and an electrifying all-purpose player, Nick Gonsalves. This year the team will be led by returning seniors Patrick Lavelle, Ben Piorkowski, and Pat Dixon, all of whom made a huge impact last year and intend on having the same effect this season. This year, Coach Sanchez will look for the younger players to step up and make a name for themselves. Juniors will fill two key positions:

Jojo Hudson at quarterback and Nick Sinclair at kicker—both valuable assets to the team. A few underclassmen will look to make an impact this year as well: defensive back Frank Buncom IV ('15), running back/kick returner Elijah Preston ('16) and linebacker Quinn Seau ('16), nephew of the late Junior Seau. Also, for the first time in school history, the Saints football team has been practicing on an upgraded turf field, thanks to donations from Saints alumni and parents.

The biggest change for Saints football is a move from Division III to Division IV, based on new rules put in place by the commissioner of the CIF. Instead of playing against traditional rivals Cathedral Catholic and Lincoln in the postseason, we will see teams like Valley Center and Madison.

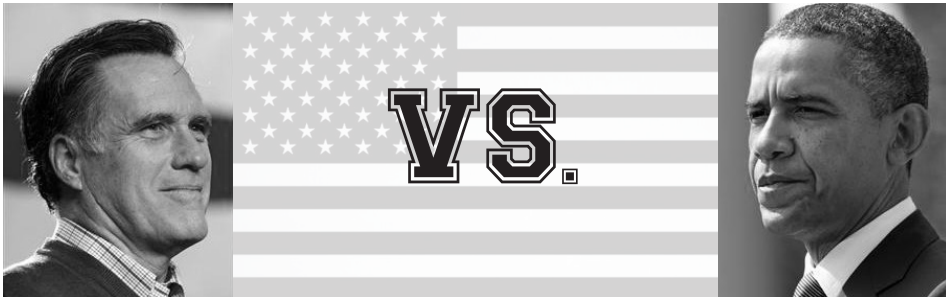
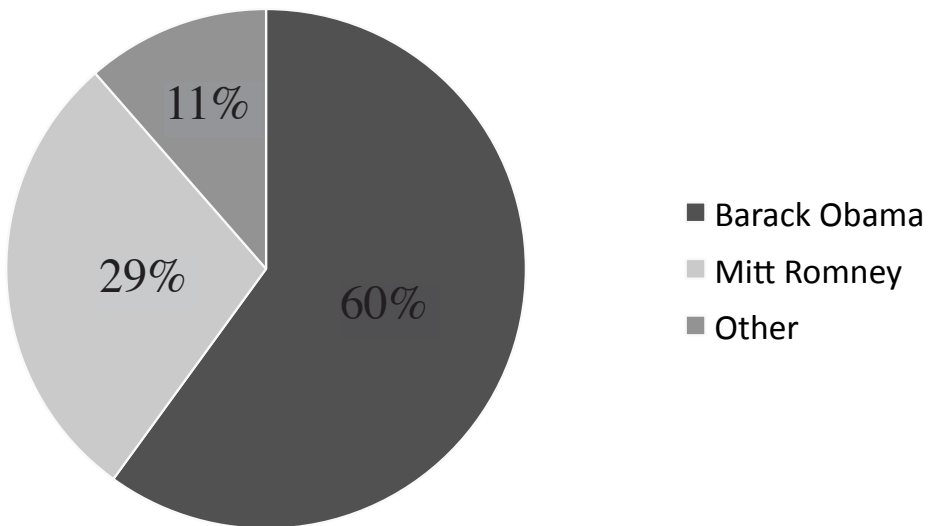
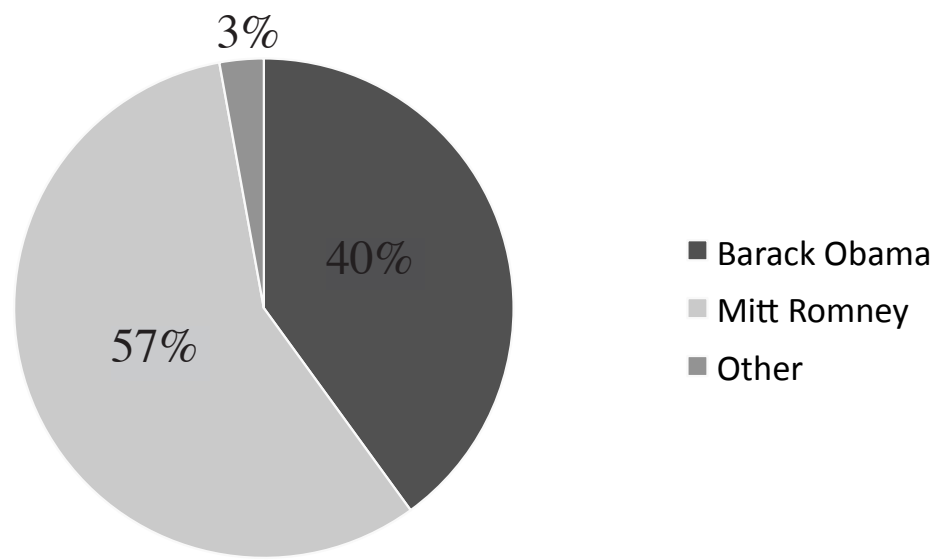
Coach Sanchez says that the team's secret is their unity. He says that they are a tight-knit group which has used determination and hard work to come back from deficits. This has become evident with our current record of 7-2. Although Saints suffered a couple of disappointing losses to Otay Ranch and Cathedral, the team remains adamant to win! In order to do so, the team is relying heavily on Coach Sanchez's expert guidance. He plans on taking each game week by week and admits that the team's strongest attribute is its linemen. Coach Sanchez expressed his thanks to the entire Saints community for their tireless support. He looks forward to seeing each and every Saintsmen at the games.



Patrick Dixon ('13) shows the opposing team they're out of their league. Photo credit: Michael Cali ('13)

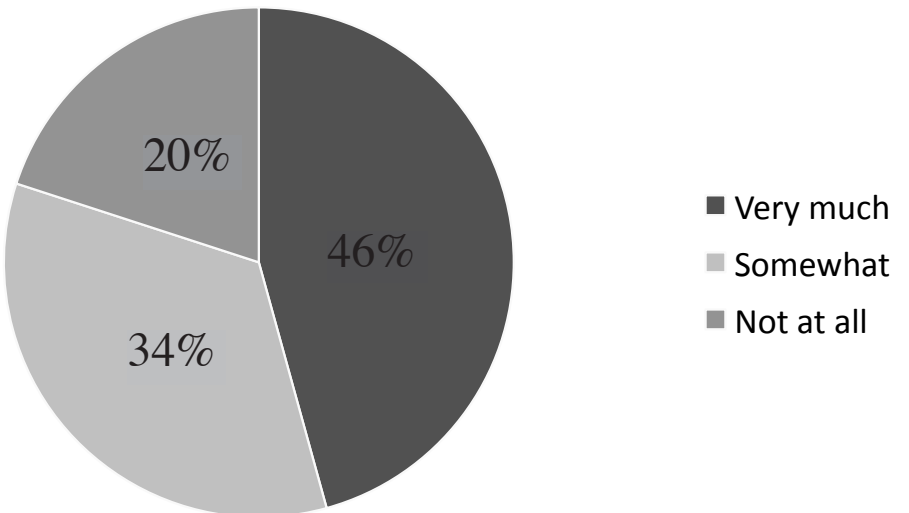
Who do you **want** to win the Presidential Election?

Who do you **think** will win the Presidential Election?



- 10% of upperclassmen (juniors and seniors) were polled
- 86% of those who think Obama will win actually hope he does
- Only 50% of those who think Romney will win actually hope he does
- 60% of respondents think Obama will remain the Big Boss, correctly reflecting how politics play out in real life: the incumbent rarely loses

How much do you care about the upcoming election?



Brainstorming for a Better Saints: Homeroom As It Should Be

Saints is a wonderful school and we love it here. But no institution is perfect, so this year we present a new series called "Brainstorming for a Better Saints." This series is meant to offer constructive ideas on how to make the Saints experience even better from a student perspective.



An editorial by Nick Vitha ('13)
STAFF WRITER

Once upon a time, there was no homeroom. Or at least not homeroom as we know it. Homeroom used to be just a place for students to huddle so the teachers could take roll before sending them off to Mass or assembly. Back in those days, homeroom typically lasted

a mere 5 to 10 minutes. The only time it lasted longer was on PSAT testing day.

Three years ago, homeroom was restructured to last a entire hour, which is the homeroom we have today. The big question is: How ought that hour be used to the greatest benefit of the students?

Homeroom is perhaps most often used for activities, such as rallies, assemblies, college prepping, or Club Day. But when such activities aren't scheduled, teachers spend that valuable hour with the students in their respective homeroom classrooms, where they are expected to follow a leadership curriculum, and to help students set goals for the school year.

Teachers are provided with a hand-

book filled with quotes about leadership to spark discussions. Many teachers have followed—and continue to follow—these leadership plans week after week. Others bring up relevant articles from Time magazine or other national news sources to foster meaningful discussion.

Still other teachers take a more liberal approach; while they still help students with their academic goals, they also give students the ability of doing their homework, or studying for an upcoming test.

All this results in students having a different homeroom experience from their peers, and a diverse range of homeroom experience throughout their time at Saints. Sure, students benefit from homeroom, but

to continue what is already being done, only adding a grade. Teachers would teach a leadership and study habits curriculum, and the assignments would be turned in and graded. The problem with this, though, is that it would turn homeroom into a sort of seventh block, with more work for teachers and students alike.

Another idea is the previously mentioned approach where homeroom becomes a study period. This would mean no extra work for the students or teachers. It would provide students an opportunity to get help on challenging assignments or seek peer review in English or other writing assignments. This would even give teachers a chance to get work done, such as correcting papers or updating Saints on the Web. But critics of this approach see it as nothing more than an expensive daycare which potentially could get out of hand. Perhaps it would work if there was a strict rule of silence.

OLP takes a different approach to their homeroom which we might consider. They use it as a club meeting time. Or, alternatively, if a student is not in any clubs, it becomes a study hall period.

A popular idea among many students and more liberal minded teachers is to do away with homeroom altogether and have a late start. (This of course would have to be on the days that activities and rallies are not scheduled.) Many articles have been written about how teens don't get enough sleep, and such an approach would give students that extra hour they need. Yet some administrators are hesitant to enact this plan because the time difference would force many underclassmen parents who drive their children to work to rearrange their schedules. But then again, parents would be given notice of such late



Photo credit: Aaron Balin ('14)

for different reasons: some because of thought provoking discussions on leadership, others because they get to catch up on their studies—or even sleep.

Making homeroom longer was a good idea, but what is the best way to make use of that time? There is room for improvement, and I would like to suggest a few ideas for change based on my discussions with students and teachers.

One idea is

SEE **Homeroom**, pg. 8

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► New Teachers

Continued from Page 1

“I wanted to move to San Diego because it’s just better here,” he said.

He currently teaches U.S. History and Ethics II. In future years, he hopes to travel with students to Europe during Intersession, but this year, he will teach the Racquetball course in Sorrento Valley.

After graduating from Saints in 1975, **Mr. David Knoll** became the first Saint Augustine alumnus to attend Harvard. He acquired an interest in photography after working for his college yearbook.

“Photography was a way of showing my parents what the East Coast was like,” said Mr. Knoll who is, of course, teaching digital photography this year.

Before taking a position at Saints, Mr. Knoll taught a Confirmation class for 10 years at Saint Pius X Parish in Jamul. In 2003, he was selected “Wedding Photographer of the Year” by the Professional Photographers of San Diego County. An active alum and now full-time teacher, Mr. Knoll says, “This is the dream job that I never really dreamed of having.”

Mr. Jason Michelkamp joins us as a chemistry and physical science teacher.

“You tend to gravitate towards your strengths,” said Mr. Michelkamp. “I absolutely loved science in high school.”

This year, Coach “Kamp” is serving as Director of Football Operations (alongside Coach Sanchez), Video Coordinator, and Tight-End Coach.

“I love teaching at Saints, could not ask for a better place to be at. It’s truly a blessing,” said the University of Wisconsin-La-Crosse graduate. “The students here are the best students you could ask for – the cream of the crop.”

Mrs. Kathaleen Walp, who is also teaching chemistry this year, is an OLP grad. “Mr. O’Beirne was actually my swim coach,” she said.

After earning a degree at the University of San Francisco, she went on to serve in the military before becoming a teacher and moving to Texas.

Her favorite part about Saints is the sense of community and faith, especially after teaching at two public schools.

“You guys know how to have fun,” she said.

She wants to send her two sons, Matthew (age 3) and Michael (age 6), here when they’re older.

The new Freshmen Counselor and AP Calculus teacher, **Mr. Robert Eleuteri**, hails from the Jersey Shore. He sold ice cream to Snooki and The Situation when they were getting popular. He received his BA at the College of New Jersey and two different Masters’ Degrees from Villanova University and Indiana University. He went on to teach at Loyola High School in LA, until he was contacted by Mr. Hearn and learned of an opening in the Math Department at Saints.

“I’m actually part of the class of 2013,” remarked Mr. Eleuteri, who is currently studying for a degree in Marriage Counseling at Pepperdine University-Irvine.

When he’s not hitting the books, he is playing the bass guitar and listening to his favorite artist, Rush, a popular Canadian rock band. In high school, he performed in a heavy metal rock band named A.W.O.L. (Absent Without Leave). He’s extremely excited about the changes he plans to bring to our campus, including the new PSAT pilot program for juniors. His favorite part about Saints?

“I love seeing the community come together at weekly Mass. That’s a really important part of the experience here.”

Our new teachers promise to bring new ideas and experiences to benefit Saintsmen for years to come. We welcome them and look forward to all that their talents and hard work have to offer.



Mrs. Shaw...weaving love into the beanie since 1973.
Photo credit: Mrs. Shaw's grandson, Robert Clay

► Beanies

Continued from Page 3

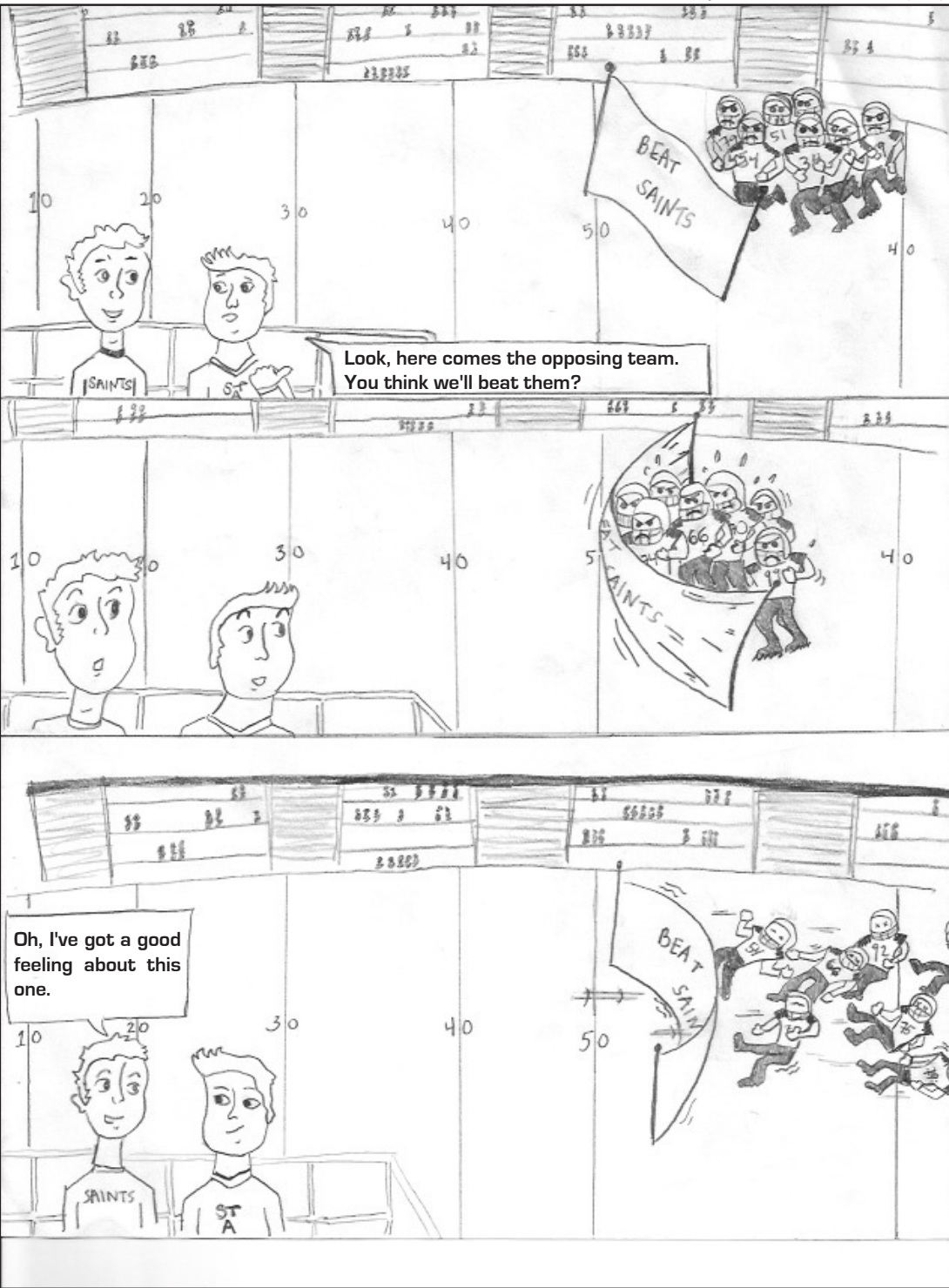
said “I love doing it. I put on a good murder mystery movie and hope it’s raining out and away I go.”

As for me, I know I will keep my beanie for the rest of my life as a reminder of my time here at Saints, and I'm sure many of you feel the same way. Like many Saints-

men before us, some of us will probably choose to be buried with our beanies. Most Saintsmen also wear their beanies under their caps at graduation. This is all because of Mrs. Shaw, whose hard work and continued dedication we all truly appreciate. The Saints Experience would not be the same without her contribution.

Life at Saints

by Mr. Vladimir Bachynsky
Artwork by Sebastian Torres ('15)



► Summer Jobs

Continued from Page 4

tion. This summer, he worked as a referee for a youth soccer league, keeping the competition on the field in order.

“I’m passionate about soccer and jumped at the opportunity to make some money while being a part of a sport I love,” said Ryan. “The coolest part of the job is that it doesn’t even feel like work,” he said. “Plus, I make bank (300 bucks in two weekends) and get to watch eighteen girls in soccer shorts run around for an hour and half.” Girls, money and soccer? Ryan, you’re hands-down the big winner – but you probably didn’t need anyone to tell you that.

Random Thought of the Issue:

Why do people always say, “I’m gonna smack you upside the head”? Why not downside? Don’t people ever get smacked from a descending, rather than ascending, direction anymore? What if your target is shorter than you? Then swinging upwards makes little sense.

- Mr. Bachynsky

► Mr. Hecht

Continued from Page 4

for all grade levels.

“Saints on the Web will help students succeed this upcoming year. With Saints on the Web, students are able to keep track of their grades and assignments. If used with fre-

► Homeroom

Continued from Page 6

starts well in advance.

The final idea, which I believe to be the most creative, is this: one teacher each week would come up with a “curriculum” and present it to the entire student body much like a lecture circuit. For example, if Mr. Davis was the teacher that week, students would learn about the current issues in Guatemala and the chaos caused by civil war. The next week Mr. Bachynsky might present the latest scientific discoveries that point to a Creator. Any topic of interest to students could be chosen by a teacher, and then approved by an administrator for an all-school homeroom assembly. The result would be a series of informative and exciting lectures that would captivate the entire student body. Sure it would require work on the part of the teachers, but most likely the teacher would present something he is very knowledgeable and passionate about so it would be a labor of love.

Homeroom as it is works well enough. It allows the school great flexibility in the scheduling of rallies and Mass days. But for the most part, students and teachers alike seem to agree that the current format needs some tweaking. So I pose this question to you, the readers: How would you like to see homeroom change?

To make your homeroom ideas known, send them to saintsnewspaper@gmail.com. We hope to print your submissions in our next issue.

quency, this can be a very useful tool for all students.”

His last bit of advice concerned nutrition and sleep.

“Get enough sleep,” he said. “It will help repair your body, reduce stress, and even improve your memory. It is very important that you eat enough food. Getting enough sleep and eating healthy will help you succeed here at Saints.”