

# THE AUGUSTINIAN

“Tolle Lege”

Issue 5

March 26, 2024

St. Augustine High School

## Saints Soccer Wins State Championship



By Ben Nault ('26)  
EDITOR

Saints soccer triumphed in the CIF State Championship dominating Mater Dei High School (Santa Ana).

This was also the first time in Saints history that the team has been ranked in the top ten high school soccer teams in the nation.

Last year, Saints bolstered a 17-6-1 record, winning the San Diego Western League Conference, San Diego Open CIF championship, as well as being semi-finalists for the California D1 State Championship.

This year's team, however, also had to undergo major work to compensate for losing 14 seniors at the end of their '22-'23 season. Among these seniors was team captain Jack Elgas '23 who won the Gold Medal for Athletics at Saints.

The '23-'24 Saints soccer team evidently pulled through and putting in the work to outplay the competition, posting an astonishing 21-2-3 record, going 7-0-1 in League play.

Almost as incredible as winning state, Saints also beat Saints North (Cathedral) twice. Their first matchup was an easy 4-1 win, followed by a commanding 5-0 domination in their second matchup.

This year, as previously mentioned, is the first time in Saints history that a Saints soccer team was ranked in the top ten teams nationally.

St. Augustine was ranked ninth, which shows how far they've come from being ranked inconsistently in the top 300 teams nationally just four years ago. In fact, over the past four years, Saints never



Saints soccer celebrates winning the CIF State Championship.

left the top 75 teams nationally.

Part of Saints' success has been being readily prepared for tough competition in Open Division and state competition.

"We scheduled the best teams possible," said Head Coach "Chief" Johnston.

Chief said that they did this so they wouldn't be surprised in those higher up tournaments, especially in the Open Division, where opposing teams get exponentially better.

This year, the team was composed of many different players but had the same overall mindset.

"Having won last year, they experienced the satisfaction, the joy as a team that comes with winning Open," Chief said, "Wanting to win again was a huge focus for the team this year."

This highly successful team has a lot of work to do going into next season.

Similarly to last year when they lost 14

@sdprepinsider on Instagram

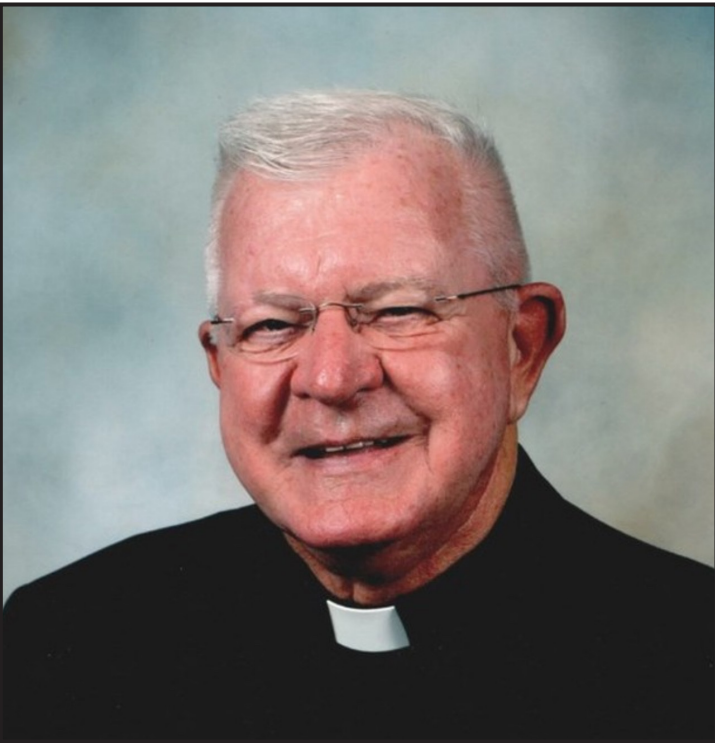
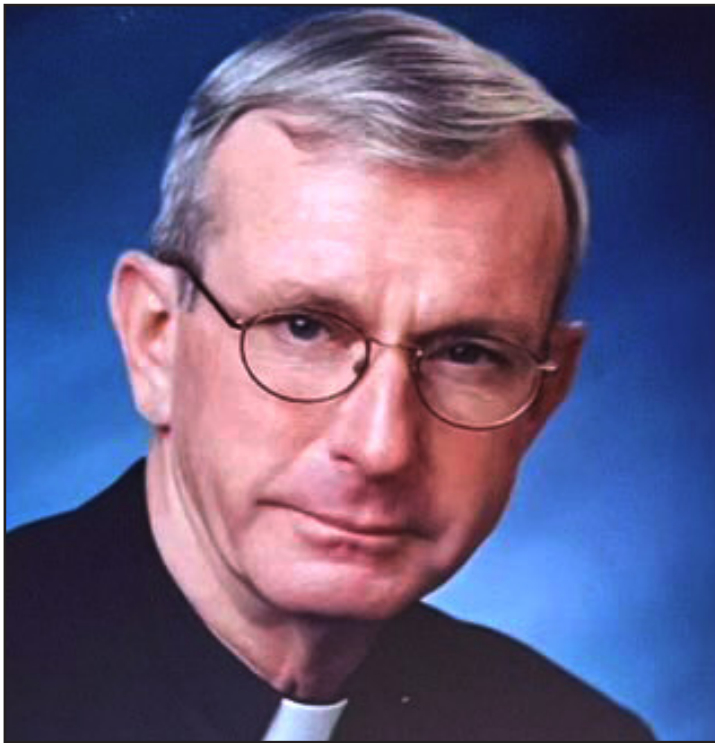
seniors, they will be saying goodbye to ten more seniors, eight of whom are starters for the team. For context, there are only eleven starting positions on the field, so that is losing a vast majority of the starting players in one season.

Chief, however, doesn't believe that this loss of so many starters will cause the team to fall into a digression.

"Success and winning has a hangover

SEE SOCCER, pg. 3

## Saints Mourns Loss of Augustinian Classmates



Fr. John Keller, O.S.A. (left) and Fr. Bob Gavotto, O.S.A. (right).



By Liam Olds ('26)  
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The recent passing of Fr. John Keller, O.S.A. and Fr. Robert "Bob" Gavotto, O.S.A. marked two of the greatest losses in the 100-year history of Saint August-

tine High School. Both Saints men from the class of 1955, Fr. Bob and Fr. Keller passed away within the span of about five weeks of one another.

Their journeys were intertwined from the beginning, filling a wide variety of roles at Saints and shaped the lives of everyone who knew them. They graduated

from Saints as valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively. Both won Bank of America Trophies that same year. And yes, both were editors for the prestigious newspaper *The Augustinian*.

After being ordained in 1964, Fr. Bob served as the Director of Recruitment at Saints for a time before filling the role of

president at Villanova Prep in Ojai, California. He eventually returned to Saints as chaplain, a position he held for several years.

Fr. Bob was best known for his simplistic lifestyle and became a student fan favorite through his short homilies. He believed that if you could make a short and concise point, it would prove to be much more effective than flipping between multiple ideas.

This philosophy was present in much of his life. Along with his homilies, his cars and lesson plans were well known to be the essence of simplicity.

That is, however, not to say that Fr. Bob didn't enjoy indulging a bit in life's pleasures here and there. He loved his annual trips to Hawaii, during which he pursued his passions, namely painting.

"He liked the nicer things in life without being ostentatious," Mr. Cudal, who knew Fr. Bob since having him for a geometry teacher in his sophomore year at Saints, said.

Fr. Bob treasured the relationships he forged with his fellow Augustinians in the monastery. According to Fr. Max Villeneuve, O.S.A., Saints chaplain, Fr. Bob took the social times at the monastery very seriously, seeing them as "integral to

SEE PRIESTS, pg. 6

@saints\_info on Instagram



# IVIV Films: An Oscar Winner in the Making

 **By Jonah Villafana ('25)**  
STAFF WRITER

There are plenty of videographers here at Saints, but one of them is arguably a cut above: Oliver Rivera, creator of IVIV Films.

Started by senior Oliver Rivera in 2022, IVIV has grown to become one of the most viewed Instagram profiles at Saints.

Growing up, Oliver actually developed a passion not for videography, but for film directing. Directing was his main interest while he attended St. Patrick's School in North Park and throughout his middle school years.

In 2020, Oliver came into Saints not filming sports, but playing them. He was an active club soccer player, but he suffered a serious injury that prevented him from ever playing again.

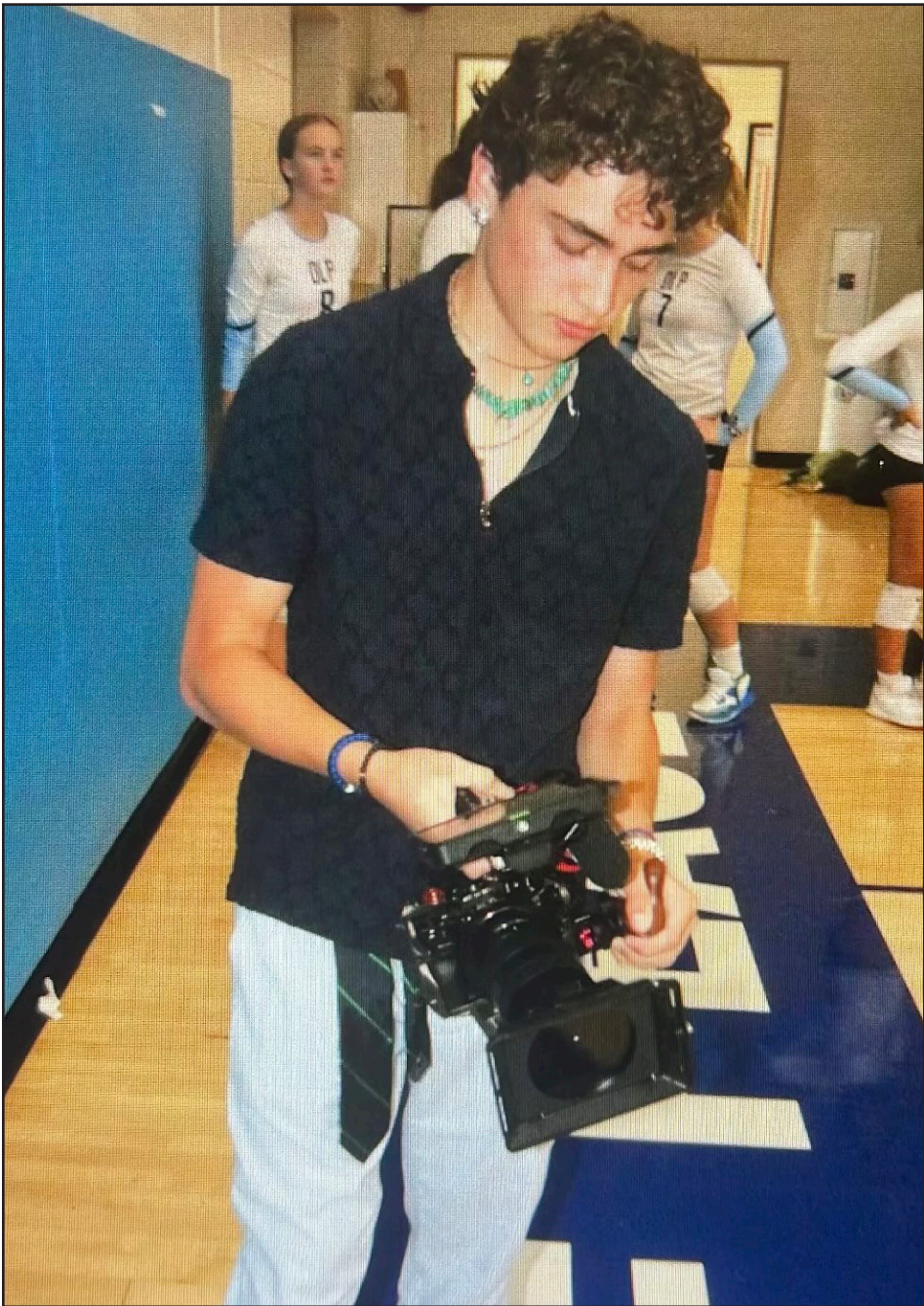
After his injury, Oliver was unsure how to proceed now that he couldn't play sports. Intent on finding a new outlet for his sports interests and seeing other videographers' work, he decided to throw his own hat into the ring.

In February 2022, he got his first camera and posted a Saints basketball clip on his Instagram account. He was soon hooked, and he began to put more time into his new hobby.

"I wanted to be the best videographer in Saints history," Oliver said.

That's a daunting challenge for anyone, especially a new, up-and-coming filmmaker. Oliver soon found his footing, realizing the most important aspects of video production which, according to him, are style and work ethic.

As a newer videographer, Oliver did not have the same technical skills as many of the older and more experienced filmmakers, but he recognized the



**Oliver Rivera filming at an OLP game.** *Jameson Grohman ('26)*  
importance of coming up with an original and unique style. Oliver's style of videography focuses on high energy and bold clips de-

imaginative clips that many videographers fall into the trap of using. The other half of videography comes down to work ethic and demeanor. Oliver learned that it is impossible to be a successful videographer if you act scared or indecisive. To gain the upper hand over competitors, you must work quickly and efficiently to film and upload a video. As a videographer, he has learned many valuable lessons about himself, others, and life in general. Getting involved in videography has elevated his time at Saints, as Oliver can enjoy incredible sports moments from a perspective that is completely different from everyone except perhaps the athletes themselves. Nothing embodies his experience as a videographer better than the recent Holy Bowl win. After Saints achieved a remarkable victory over Cathedral, Oliver's role in such a momentous occasion made it one of his favorite experiences at Saints. "I was so excited to capture such a huge moment in Saints history," Oliver described. Oliver plans to attend the Savannah College of Arts and Design to pursue his first love, film directing, but he intends to use the videography skills he has developed at Saints as a side hustle. Oliver's success as a videographer demonstrates how anyone can accomplish great things through confidence, determination, and grit. For young videographers seeking to make a similar impact, and for anybody trying to succeed, he offered some keen advice: "Present yourself with confidence and decisiveness, and outwork everyone."

# The Electric Return of Saints Drama

 **By Enzo Simon ('27)**  
CONTRIBUTOR

After returning from his epic quest of raising newborn twins, Mr. Blumer once again stands at the helm of the Saints Drama Department, ready to jump back into action for this spring's production.

Thus, ladies and gentlemen, grab your tastiest olives, warmest fleeces, and comfiest sandals, and get ready to dive into the magical world of Percy Jackson with Saints' electrifying spring show: *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical!*

The acclaimed musical is based on Rick Riordan's iconic book series, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*, and it follows the exciting adventures of the young, titular Percy Jackson.

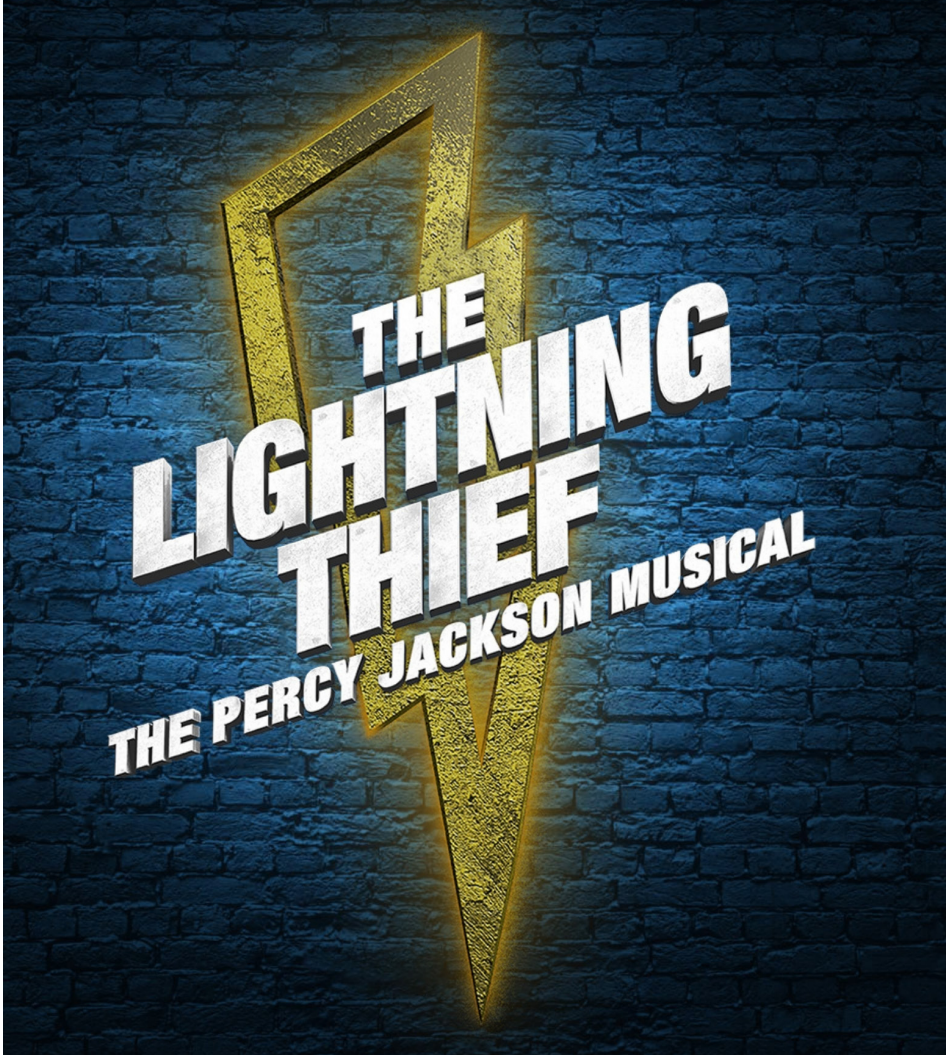
He has a knack for getting into trouble, even getting kicked out of six schools in six years, but through his kindness, courage, and determination he overcomes any challenge – no matter how monstrous it is. He demonstrates a true hero's qualities: passion, intellect, and most importantly, righteousness, disproving all those who doubted him.

One of the few who never doubted him, however, is his mother, Sally, who tirelessly raised, supported, and believed in him all on her own because of his absent father.

Percy learns that his absent father is, in fact, Poseidon: god of the sea, Earth-shaker, Stormbringer, Father of Horses (which means Percy's related to horses?), and Big Fork Wielder.

Accused of stealing the prized lightning bolt of Zeus, the supreme king of the gods, Percy goes on a perilous quest to find

the real thief, prove his innocence, and prevent a destructive all-out war between the gods. Percy embarks on his journey alongside his closest friend, Grover, who happens to be half-goat, and Annabeth, a tough, smart daughter of Athena. Whether you resonate most with Percy's unwavering bravery and ever-present sarcasm, Grover's unyielding loyalty and optimism, Annabeth's impressive toughness and intellect, or even Poseidon's relaxed and chill surfer-dude attitude, this show's colorful cast consists of a wide variety of characters, ensuring you'll see yourself in at least one of them. Starring in the show is Saints junior Braeden Steele as Percy Jackson, OLP junior Anna Jacobsen as Annabeth Chase, and OLP senior Cassie Mayberry as Grover Underwood. "Even though I'm the lead, I don't feel more important than anyone else, and it's really amazing to be a part of this type of production that enforces our brotherhood and sisterhood," Steele said. Teaching the young actors in a fun and safe environment is one of the primary goals. Mr. Blumer directs all of the acting on stage, as well as the numerous stage fight scenes, while Colden Lamb, the cast's choreographer and music director, works with actors on their singing and dancing. "This is a very challenging show," Mr. Blumer said, "Probably our most ambitious [show] so far, but I chose it because it really gives everyone a moment to shine, and allows me to showcase our entire talented program." Thanks to the tech crew, the typically unsung heroes of theater, the magic and splendor of the world of Percy Jackson is



successfully brought on the stage. OLP sophomore Jordana Cashman is the student director this year, assisting the stage manager, OLP junior Addy Evans, and tech manager, Saints senior Ben Wenhe. "It's very challenging to transport the audience into the world of Percy Jackson, making this a tech-based show, with its many unique costumes, creatures, and overall-atmosphere," Cashman said. So get ready and mark your calendars, folks, to experience this entertaining extravaganza, filled to the brim with witty lines, catchy rock songs, and stunning visuals. We'll see you at the Raymond Center for the Performing Arts on April 19th, 20th, 25th, 26th, and 27th.



# Mr. Okuley: Just Be Better



**By Kieron Scanlan ('26)**  
STAFF WRITER

This issue, *The Augustinian* has decided to highlight a commendable member of our teaching staff here at Saints. This issue we decided to feature the one and only Mr. Okuley, our wonderful religion teacher, JV baseball coach, and sophomore class moderator. If you haven't had the pleasure of being in one of his classes yet, I hope you get the opportunity. Even if you haven't, you probably know him for always wearing a smile and being one of the friendliest teachers at Saints. Mr. Okuley is full of kindness and is always eager to help a Saintsman.

*This interview has been edited for clarity.*

**The Augustinian:** Please tell us a bit about yourself.

**Mr. Okuley:** I was born in Toledo, Ohio. I attended an all-boys high school, St. Francis de Sales. I developed a passion for baseball from an early age, encouraged by my father. I played in high school and Division III level college while attending John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio.

**TA:** What was it like growing up in Ohio?

**Okuley:** I liked growing up in Ohio. It was nice living near my family. There is plenty of space and many things to do. There was a quote by one of the Wright Brothers, when asked how to live a successful life, he said, "To find a good mother, to find a good father, and to grow up in Ohio."

**TA:** What is the most significant difference between living in San Diego



Mr. Okuley is one of the most popular teachers at Saints.

Jameson Grohman ('26)

and Toledo?

**Okuley:** When I'm in San Diego, I'm the nicest guy people know, and when I'm in Toledo, I'm the biggest jerk people know. In Ohio, the skies are mostly gray for six months of the year, and in San Diego, it seems like there are only six minutes of gray skies. People in Toledo are very friendly and welcoming.

**TA:** How similar is Saints compared to the high school which you attended?

**Okuley:** Saints and St. Francis are eerily identical; they have similar classes and staff sizes. They both hold strong values of brotherhood and community.

The main difference is that Saints is far more crazy regarding lunch events and rallies.

**TA:** What position did you play in baseball, and which one was your favorite?

**Okuley:** I played three positions: first base, third base, and catcher throughout my baseball career. I enjoyed catching the most because you had to be very involved in the game. It's like being the conductor. This is why I learned so much about the game and why I decided to become a coach.

**TA:** Do you have any notable memories of playing baseball in high school

and college?

**Okuley:** I enjoyed the practices and the fun that could be had there. It was fun to compete with my teammates, hold each other accountable, and grow in our skills.

**TA:** What was your college major?

**Okuley:** I began my undergraduate studies focusing on math and education. Later, I switched my major to theology when I realized that the math classes kept getting more complex and became a grind. I went on to earn a Master's Degree in Theology and Ministry from Boston College.

SEE OKULEY, pg. 8

## Baseball Slugs Competition



**By Michael Luzi ('25)**  
EDITOR

Welcome to *The Augustinian's* Team Feature article! This month's sport is baseball. Baseball is led by Head Coach Craig da Luz, who has been at the helm of the program since 2009.

In the 2023 season, the Saints baseball team was able to make it to the CIF Open Division Playoffs. Last season's team was led by three senior starters, one of whom was their ace starting pitcher. This meant that the rising upperclassmen had to step up their game and take on new leadership roles.

"I think we were able to fill those voids with guys that had some experience last year. I don't think it was too detrimental just because we were so young with so many starters," Coach da Luz said.

Unfortunately, the team ended last season with a series loss in the playoff games that stopped them from moving to the CIF championships. Now, the team has the playoff mentality, and they hope to prove that they are able to sustain it this season.

Currently, the team has a record of 7-1, losing only one game against San Marcos which was shortened by weather conditions. The team has shown consistency with last season's success, with many skilled players leading the team.

"We're playing pretty good baseball. We're getting good pitching and timely hitting... We're young in spots, but so far, eight games in, I'm happy

with where we're at. We've got work to do," Coach da Luz said.

One of the most notable players on the team is Justin Heffler '24, who will be playing baseball at Saint Mary's College of California.

"He's a talented kid, he is our team leader for sure. He's setting the pace right now, tearing the cover off the ball, doing everything that he needs to do to carry us," Coach da Luz said.

Other star players include juniors Drake Konja, who has an impressive 0.556 batting average, and Grayson Boles, who will be playing for the University of Texas after high school. Junior Shane Miranda is also leading the team as the starting catcher, and he has started for the team since his freshman year.

"We've got a lot of leaders. And so far it's been a different guy each game which is good. You'd like to see that knowing that everybody's kind of totting the rope. We've got a lot of really good players," Coach da Luz said.

The coaches also play a big role in the development of the team. Assistant Coach da Luz is Cyrus Fullen, who is an alumnus from Saints. When he attended Saints, Coach Fullen played baseball under Coach da Luz. The newest coach introduced to the team is Michael Judd, who is the new pitching coach. Coach Judd used to play in the major leagues with the Los Angeles Dodgers in the late 1990s as a pitcher.

"The coaches always want us to get better. They always push us to be our best person. And it's not specifically

about just baseball, but they also obey the person in each baseball player," senior Dan Feiner said.

The Saints baseball team focuses many of its efforts on making the most out of every player on the team. With the mentality of leaving no man behind, the team hopes to fight hard and win the league and CIF championships.

They also hope that players learn enough to keep their winning baseball mentality through the summertime and into the next year. They plan to make sure that every player on the team loves the game of baseball, and that they are prepared and want to continue to play it throughout their life.

Brotherhood is another main focus of the team. Since baseball is a team sport, everyone needs to work together and have perfect cooperation with each other if they hope to win a game.

"I mean, our team chemistry is something unlike any other baseball team I've ever been to. Our bond is strong because we're brothers there," senior Thomas Fuller said.

The Saints hope to build off their strong start to the season and continue to dominate their competition on the way to more playoff success.



### SOCCER

*continued from page 1*

effect," Chief said.

He believes that the remaining guys on the team from this year will want to win just as badly, and with that motive to win – and keep winning – they will continue to work hard and make up for lost talent.

In the upcoming season, Chief wants to focus intensely on all their league matches in particular.

"The focus of winning league keeps the guys focused on every game," Chief said.

Putting an emphasis on league play encourages playing at maximum effort for every game, so improvement takes place every time the boys step out onto the pitch.

Chief specifically highlighted senior Alonso Somohano who tore his ACL playing for his club team last year. The way that he had battled back from his injury so rapidly was inspiring to watch and helped boost the team when they really needed it.

ACL recovery is typically nine months, so he wasn't in 100% form all the time, but to watch how effective he was in game at whatever percent he was at was inspiring to Chief in particular – showing perseverance and a true sacrificial love for the sport.

After Saints soccer won state, there were no longer any other competitions to win for this season, so we wished their seniors well and congratulated them on their stellar performances and accomplishments.

Next year we look to improve and have repeat victory years to bolster yet another prestigious accomplishment in the name of Saints athletics.



# Opinion: Why New Movies Suck



Why can't Hollywood make movies like this anymore?

 **By Ben Nault ('26)**  
EDITOR

Why do movies suck nowadays? They all share the same plot and are so unoriginal.

I asked my little eight-year old cousin to write a script, and his tiny, terribly edited rendition of tiny stuffed dogs fighting *Harry Potter* wizards would probably be a more interesting film than having to sit through another two hour bore that these multi-billion dollar companies have been putting out recently.

For example, I saw the latest *Thor* movie, *Thor: Love and Thunder*, and I did something I never thought I'd do while watching a movie: I fell asleep. Mind you, this was at three in the afternoon, so there's no way I should've been able to snooze off in the middle of such an "action-packed" movie.

I went on a bit of a Marvel craze last week, watching all of the *Captain America* movies, *Avengers*, *Infinity War*, *Endgame*, among many others. Out of all the Marvel movies I watched, the older ones shined while the newer ones tended to blend together. Why is this? Simple - the older movies were original with new plotlines, but the newer ones were just worse recycled versions of their originals that share the same dull structure.

Movies have gotten so predictable that I can tell you exactly what will happen when *Star Wars Episode 153* comes out – there will be a big ship chasing a little ship, someone evil appears, and then the character has to deal with the struggle of fulfilling what they were meant to do.

PLOT TWIST, the character is distantly related to the villain, and all of a sudden has a hundred more things to think about when facing off with them,

when, eventually, they win. Big whoop.

Disney is getting so lazy that they started remaking, yes, REMAKING originals such as *The Little Mermaid* and several other classics. While it is fun to see what these animated movies would look like in real life, I've already seen the story told a million times and I liked it just fine – I don't see why they need to keep remaking the same movies just because they can.

Now, I will cut the movie corporations a bit of slack. To come up with an amazing and fully original film is incredibly hard to do. There have also been, as some may recall, limitations with certain shows and industries with many different strikes occurring in the recent past, which has prohibited the moving forward of any original productions.

On top of this, COVID really put a halt to live action projects as actors weren't safely allowed to resume their

work, seriously though, how hard is it for someone to create a wonderful movie that no one had ever thought of?

I get that at this point, you, the reader, are probably thinking something along the lines of "But Ben, this article has no facts to support your reasoning."

Now this is where I do something surprising and totally unpredictable (just like modern movies) and provide some of that amazing evidence.

According to bennaultopinions.com, movies are much worse than they used to be. Take that.

In all seriousness, throughout 2023, only 852 million tickets were sold, which may sound like a lot but compared to 2019 before the pandemic with 1.23 billion tickets sold this is a massive 31% decrease.

Moviegoers clearly aren't inspired to go and view a new movie in a theater anymore, and why is that? In fact, since 2002 the market for selling tickets has decreased by 46% with 1.85 billion tickets being sold throughout 2002.

Why do you think this is? Well, so many original movies were being produced back then that there was always something new and fun to go see. Nowadays? It's all remakes or sequels to an already struggling movie franchise.

So, after my great rants, I hope you see how movies are terrible. If you don't agree with my opinion, please contact Michael Luzi at LuziMi25@sahsonline.org.



## One Love: A Movie for a Musical Icon

 **By Matthew Cramp ('26)**  
CONTRIBUTOR

Almost all of us know the name Bob Marley. The legacy of the legendary reggae artist is renowned worldwide for his message of peace and love that he spread throughout the world during the 1970s.

Marley's legacy was recently immortalized by Reinaldo Marcus Green's movie, *Bob Marley: One Love*, starring Kingsley Ben-Adir, Lashana Lynch, and James Norton.

*One Love* is a biographical drama about the rise of the reggae star from his humble beginnings until his death as a world-beloved music legend. The movie takes the viewer on a complex and deeply intriguing journey through Bob Marley's life from the 1970s, starting with his assassination attempt in 1976, until his death in 1981.

Actor Kingsley Ben-Adir flawlessly portrays Marley's struggles with his newfound fame and how it impacts his religious beliefs, patriotism, past, and family life.

*One Love* begins in Bob Marley's hometown of Kingston, Jamaica in 1976. Jamaica at the time was on the verge of civil war, and Marley, famously a peace-loving person, wanted to prevent conflict.

To ease the tensions he planned a free concert for all of Jamaica called "Smile Jamaica." However, only two days before the concert, Marley and several members of his band, including his wife, are shot in an assassination



attempt.

Marley, disappointed that his own people would try to kill him, performs the concert, but then exiles himself from Jamaica.

It is from here that Marley begins to write one of his most famous albums, *Exodus*, and begins his journey to fame, fortune, and success. Marley's work on his new album, however, causes him to distance himself from his wife and children.

Gradually, as Marley earns more and more success, fame, and money from his album, he begins to lose sight of the reason he was singing in the first place. He begins to disregard his original goals of peace and spreading his religion of Rastafarianism in favor of fame and fortune.

Marley realizes his mistake after he is diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, followed by a fight with his wife, Rita Marley, played by Lashana Lynch, who represents Marley's good and potential. His new illness causes Marley to struggle with his own mortality in the realization that he only has a few more years left to live.

In an effort to revert his ways, Mar-

ley fires his corrupt manager Don Taylor, who represents Marley's mistakes and dark side, and returns to Jamaica where instability still rules the country.

The gunman that shot Marley in the beginning of the movie then returns and asks Marley for forgiveness, which Marley grants in an act of vindication.

Finally, the film ends with Marley performing the 1978 *One Love Peace Concert* in Jamaica and reconciling the leaders of the Jamaican political parties bringing peace to the island.

Throughout the film, Marley has flashbacks to his childhood, where he was raised by his mother who was forced to raise him alone since his father was a disinterested colonial officer.

By the end of the movie, Marley moves on from his past and realizes that he doesn't care who his father is since that doesn't change who he is. The movie seeks to take a unique stance on Bob Marley's life and show his human side rather than the idea of a distant perfect singer most of us get caught up in.

The actors do an excellent job of showing not only Marley's strengths, but his flaws.

*Bob Marley: One Love*, is an excellent film that gives an in depth perspective on the life of one of the greatest music legends of all time and reminds the audience that they must hold on to their values and that no matter how famous a person is, or how wealthy they are - they are still just a man.



# Cook Cooks: *Rye So Serious?*



**By John Cook ('26)**  
STAFF WRITER

To bread or not to bread, that is the crouton. Everywhere, across all cultures and time periods, bread is a staple food. It ranges from thousands of years ago, to today, and its popularity has only risen over time.

In fact, archeologists in Turkey have found a bread that is 8,600 years old, proving that it has been a loafable treat throughout the ages. Bread’s long history also comes with many different variations, so crumb along with me on a journey to explore some of the world’s best breads.

Arguably the most popular type of bread is one of the most simple: white bread. Its simplicity in both baking and in taste allows its vast variety of uses.

The dough only requires some flour, water, and yeast, which is present in most types of breads, with some salt and sugar added in for taste. This is the most popular type of bread for home-bakers, as it does not require too much setup.

There are many reasons for people to want to bake their own bread, whether they want to avoid preservatives, fit it to their own taste, or just have a hobby to do in their free time.

The largest bakery brand currently is Bimbo Bakeries. They are a branch of Grupo Bimbo, which was created in Mexico. They own 31 other companies, and are the largest baking company in the world.

Bimbo’s largest competitor is Grupo Maseca or GRUMA, which also has its headquarters in Mexico. While Bimbo may have the leg up in bread, GRUMA sweeps the competition in tortilla making. Just like white bread, tortillas have endless possibilities with what can be created.

The best part is that they are even



easier to make than white bread. To make them, two parts are needed: a dry mixture of flour, baking powder, and salt, along with a wet mixture of softened butter and hot water. After the two are mixed, the dough will be formed, but still needs to sit for 10 minutes to let the gluten rest. Once it has rested, and the tortillas have been rolled out, cook the raw tortillas on a skillet with a tiny bit of oil, and they will come out really nicely.

However, that is just for flour tortillas. For corn tortillas, the flour is substituted for masa harina, also known as nixtamalized corn. For the corn tortillas, the masa harina does all the work, and only needs some salt and hot water to get things roll-

ing. After that, the rolling and cooking process is the same.

These two types of tortillas have vastly different flavors. The unique flavors are the main selling point for each type. There is one bread, however, which is known and named after its taste: sourdough.

This bread is special in that it does not need commercial yeast to rise. In fact, the bread raises itself, as it is a live fermented culture, called a starter. It has natural yeasts and friendly bacteria which do the job of store-bought yeast.

When the starter is fed with water and flour, the microorganisms feast on the carbohydrates, and produce carbon diox-

ide, along with lactic and acetic acid. The carbon dioxide is what raises the bread, and the acids provide it with its sour taste.

Out of the breads talked about in this article, sourdough is by far the hardest to make. It requires many separate steps and hours of waiting to make a single loaf. The first step is to activate the starter. Once it has been activated, mix in water, olive oil, bread flour, and salt. Knead the dough, and let it rise until it about doubles in size. Put some parchment paper in a pot, and put your loaf in. Score the bread to allow for expansion, then bake.

Because the starter is alive, it needs to be maintained on a regular basis. Feed it

SEE COOK, pg. 8

# The New Game Taking Saints By Storm





**By Cole Dolin ('27)**  
CONTRIBUTOR

Have you ever been walking around campus and seen a Saintsman with their phone tilted sideways, seemingly glued to their phone?

It’s no secret that Saintsmen love to play video games, but which game currently holds the honor of Saints’ Most Popular Game? The answer to this question lies in one mobile game: *Brawl Stars*.

In the fast-paced mobile gaming market, *Brawl Stars* seems to stand out.

The game was developed by the Finnish gaming company, Supercell. Many people already know, or at least have heard of Supercell from their other ex-

tremely popular games such as *Clash of Clans* and *Clash Royale*.

*Brawl Stars* was released globally in December of 2018, and quickly gained many players because of its unique style – the game uses a combination of battle royale and battle arena formats to entice both casual and competitive gamers alike.

The gameplay is very simple, yet very enjoyable. Players choose from a selection of different characters, or Brawlers, and can play a variety of unique game modes across several differently-themed maps.

By far, the most popular game mode is Showdown. In this typical battle royale style mode, players race to be the last Brawler standing. Eliminating other player’s Brawlers boosts the power of your Brawler, and the map gets smaller as

Brawlers are eliminated. The game ends when there is one Brawler left.

Showdown comes in two varieties: Solo and Duo. In Solo Showdown, it’s every man for himself as players individually battle against nine other opponents, while in Duo Showdown, players work in teams of two to eliminate four other teams.

*Brawl Stars* also has many other 3v3 modes. Some of these modes replicate sports, such as soccer or basketball in Brawl Ball. In other modes, for example, Heist, players work to destroy the enemy team’s safe while defending their own safe.

The game utilizes the popular battle pass system to earn in-game rewards. Players must progress through the Brawl Pass by completing different tasks, or Quests, to gain tokens, which advance you along the Brawl Pass track.

A common criticism of the game is the increase in “Pay to Win” mechanics.

While Supercell claims that the game is “Free to Play,” players that choose to engage with in-app transactions often have a significant advantage over players that do not. The paid Brawl Pass (which can only be purchased with the use of real-life currency) offers a substantial amount of exclusive rewards that give players a substantial edge.

As you progress you will be given different rewards, including cosmetic items, like Brawler skins, or in-game currencies, like Coins, Gems, or Power Points, that can be used to increase the power of your Brawlers.

These rewards also include credits, which allow you to unlock new Brawl-

ers. Each Brawler has a different rarity, ranging from Rare to Legendary, which signifies how many credits are required to unlock it. In total there are seventy-seven unique Brawlers, with Supercell constantly adding more.

*Brawl Stars* also has a reward system for winning games. When a player wins a game, they get a certain number of trophies. By earning trophies, players advance along the Trophy Road, which also gives players rewards, similarly to the Brawl Pass.

Trophies can be used as an indication of how good another player is at the game. More experienced players will have more trophies than newer players, so players with higher trophy counts tend to be more skilled at the game.

Like other Supercell games, *Brawl Stars* offers players a chance at social engagement while playing the game. Players can play with their friends by joining a club.

Clubs are typically open to anyone, with some exceptions at the highest level of competition, and often participate in special club events.

Supercell adds bimonthly updates to add new Brawlers, skins, maps, and game modes to keep the game feeling fresh. All of these new additions give players a reason to keep playing. They also ensure that players never get bored with the game, and will continue to play for years to come.

Saintsmen are fond of the *Brawl Stars* experience, and even some teachers, like Mr. Segura, enjoy playing this game. If you haven’t already, download *Brawl Stars* and try it out with your friends!



# Leave It to Luzi: *The Holluminati???*



**By Michael Luzi ('25)**  
EDITOR

Easter is right around the corner, but how many of you are actually going to celebrate this holiday to the degree that you celebrate others? Most people overlook Easter compared to other holidays such as the Fourth of July and Halloween. I am here to tell you that this matter is actually a part of a plot that is trying to control you and spread misinformation.

Most people say that Easter is not like other holidays; however, this could not be further from the truth.

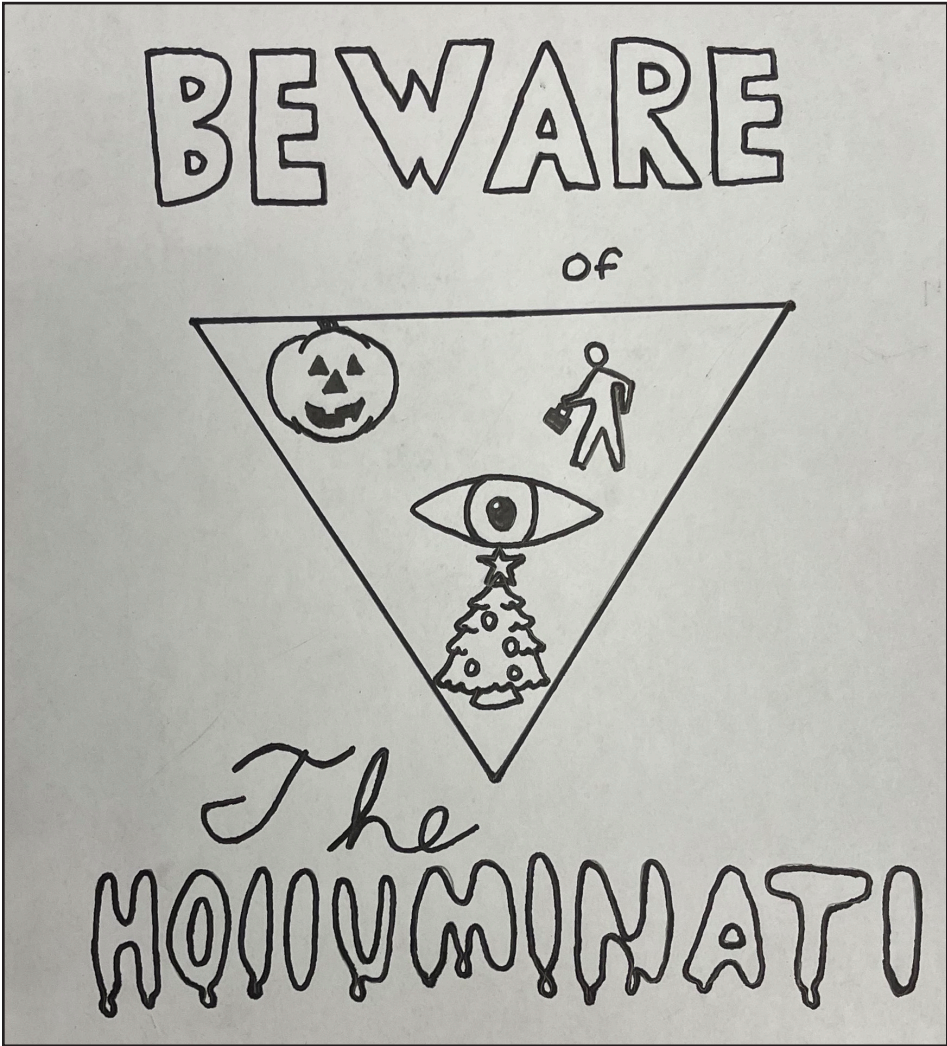
Let's look at Christmas. Its main appeal is gift giving. What is one of the most popular gifts to give on Christmas? Candy (do not fact check that). Easter also has its type of gift giving with a unique twist on it. It makes you hunt for your candy, which are put in plastic, egg shaped containers. Now that seems similar, perhaps even superior to what they have going on at Christmas time.

Next, let's look at Thanksgiving. Its main appeal is family gathering and being grateful. And what do we see on Easter? The same thing, with family gatherings at Church and being thankful for Jesus dying for our sins then resurrecting three days later on Easter Sunday.

Now you may be wondering, "Why is Easter so overlooked compared to other holidays when it's just like them?"

The answer may shock you.

It all has to do with an underground group called "Holluminati" who hope to control the holiday business, which will let them take over the world. They first try to secularize a specific holiday, as seen with Christmas and the creation of Santa Claus. Then they try to make it all about "values" and "culture" and other stupid stuff to eventually make you think what



they want you to think. Basically, holidays are just tools for spreading propaganda around the world.

How does Easter fit into all of this? Well, when the Holluminati was secularizing Easter, they were rushing to meet the deadline of sending out the new story of Easter. They only had three days to get a whole story together, finalize it with the head of the Holluminati and rush it out before any other news about Easter came out. This led to bad story-writing, which made the story of Easter less appealing to those of Christmas and Halloween.

Come on people, did you really think that there is a big bunny that carries plastic eggs around, comes into your house, and leaves those eggs for you to find on Easter morning? No, it's all propaganda to make you follow the Holluminati. I mean, bunnies don't even lay eggs.

Nobody would ever say that their favorite holiday is the one where a big bunny with a basket of eggs for the whole

world just walks around and gives candy for free? I mean, Santa carries around a large bag on the back of a sleigh with magical reindeer just to move all of the world's presents, and you're telling me that one bunny carries over eight billion eggs in a tiny basket?

The Holluminati knew this, and they were getting desperate. They knew that they had to cover up this giant mess before someone caught on to what was happening. If somebody had found out these inconsistencies, then they would have realized that these stories were not true. This would only lead to the Holluminati being exposed. They had to orchestrate a plan to make the whole holiday of Easter overshadowed by all of the other holidays of the year. This is why you often don't think about Easter as much as you do Thanksgiving or Labor Day.

They did not, however, take into consideration that I, the harbinger of truth, would find out their little act. I call unto you, my loyal readers, to stop being sheeple and rise against the evil Holluminati.

If you want to fight against the evil lies, you must reject all secular ideas of holidays. This means no more Arbor Day or Groundhog Day.

Celebrate Easter more than you have ever celebrated in your life. If Easter is celebrated more, then people will start to see how ridiculous the secular story is, and start to question how such an insane story could even be true. Hopefully, those who figure out these lies find this article and start to follow my cult...I mean group of truth seekers – and stomp out the Holluminati.

If you want to stop being lied to and only hear the truth, then continue reading Leave it to Luzi, to obtain deception-free facts.

**PRIESTS**  
*continued from page 1*

Augustinian life."

Fr. Bob loved his brothers and was keen to show his support for his Saints family at any opportunity he could find. He was often spotted on the sidelines of football and basketball games cheering on his fellow Saintsmen.

"He was all in on supporting the kids even though he may not have understood the game or what was really transpiring – his commitment to young men and their

dream in athletics was pretty impressive," Mr. Horne said.

Jen DePoy was Director of Campus Minister from 2004-2008, and worked closely with Fr. Bob.

"The day before his passing I was lucky enough to visit Fr. Bob and surprising no one, when I arrived he was in a Hawaiian shirt and greeted me with a warm smile! He was warmth and friendship personified. No one walked away from him without a smile, a laugh or a fun, random fact!" DePoy said.

Just like Fr. Bob, Fr. Keller served as a jack of all trades, spending time as a teacher, principal, and president at Saints. He was responsible for the shift from religious to lay administration that positively shaped the school's journey over the last 20 years. He hired both Mr. Horne and Mr. Hearne, principal and president of Saints, respectively.

In the early 2000's, Fr. Keller was crucial to both the physical redesign of the school and its spiritual rebirth. He was pivotal in the identification of the core values of Augustinian education as the unity, truth and love that we all know today.

"Fr. Keller's contribution to Augustinian education is unmatched and this school will benefit from it for literally generations to come," Fr. Max said.

this microphone." To this, the entire congregation replied, "And also with you," sparking a tradition that lasted for years at Fr. Keller's Masses.

"He would always make me laugh, and he knew not to take himself too seriously, even though he was a serious person," Fr. Max said.

Despite his massive intellect, unending humility, and notorious sense of humor, Fr. Keller is most remembered for his friendship.

## Chaplain's Corner

### *We Are Easter People*



**Fr. Bob Gavotto, OSA '55**  
FORMER CHAPLAIN

*In honor of the memory of Fr. Bob Gavotto, O.S.A., we have decided to reprint one of his Chaplain's Corner columns from his time as chaplain of St. Augustine High School. This column was published on April 1, 2008.*

We recently celebrated Easter Sunday. However, in fact, the Church celebrates the feast of Easter for fifty days, until Pentacost. So, I am still in time to with you a blessed and Happy Easter! Now, we might ask: What has the celebration meant to me and to you? Was it just another day to go to Mass? Was it just a time to get together with family and friends? Was it just a time for a short spring break from school?

Here is a story that I found in the USA Today. A woman had just suffered the loss of her sister; her two brothers were seriously ill; her best friend was leaving town; and she had just begun to question the work she was doing. At Easter she

went to church in downtown Manhattan, New York City, and she heard the priest say: "We live in a Good Friday worlds but we are Easter people." She could really relate to the fact of living in a Good Friday world! At times we probably feel the same way when we have suffering, sickness, and disappointments. Yet, we are Easter people. St. Augustine says: "We are Easter people and Alleluia is our song."

What does that mean? That we have encountered the risen Lord and have in the central Easter mystery of our faith: the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our first encounter was on the day of our baptism when we received new life that was/is a new relationship to God our Father through Jesus Christ and in his Holy Spirit. We have a new way of living: loving God, our neighbor, and ourselves. We encounter that Easter mystery in all the sacrament and especially at our celebrations of the Eucharist each Wednesday at school and on Sunday in the parish. Jesus makes us and we truly are an Easter people who lives in a Good Friday world! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fr. Keller was a mentor to many and a friend to all. He was known for his gift to make everyone he encountered feel heard and respected, and he was well renowned for his humility.

Sharp as a tack, Fr. Keller was an incredibly intelligent man though he never used his wit to claim superiority or to seek the spotlight.

"He was one of the smartest men I ever knew, but he was the most humble," Mr. Horne remarked.

Alongside his humility, Fr. Keller was adored for his sense of humor. Every faculty member who worked with him seems to have their own favorite story of his antics. From pretending to be senile for extra airplane snacks, to multi-year gimmicks at Mass, Fr. Keller brightened the days of countless Saintsmen.

As you likely know, many priests would greet their congregation with the words, "Peace be with you," to which the congregation would reply, "And also with you." One day, however, Fr. Keller began Mass struggling with technical difficulties. His first words into the mic that day were "There's something wrong with

"He was this really warm person who was always smiling," Mrs. Crachy, religion teacher and former Campus Minister at Saints, said. "He always made you feel like what you said mattered to him."

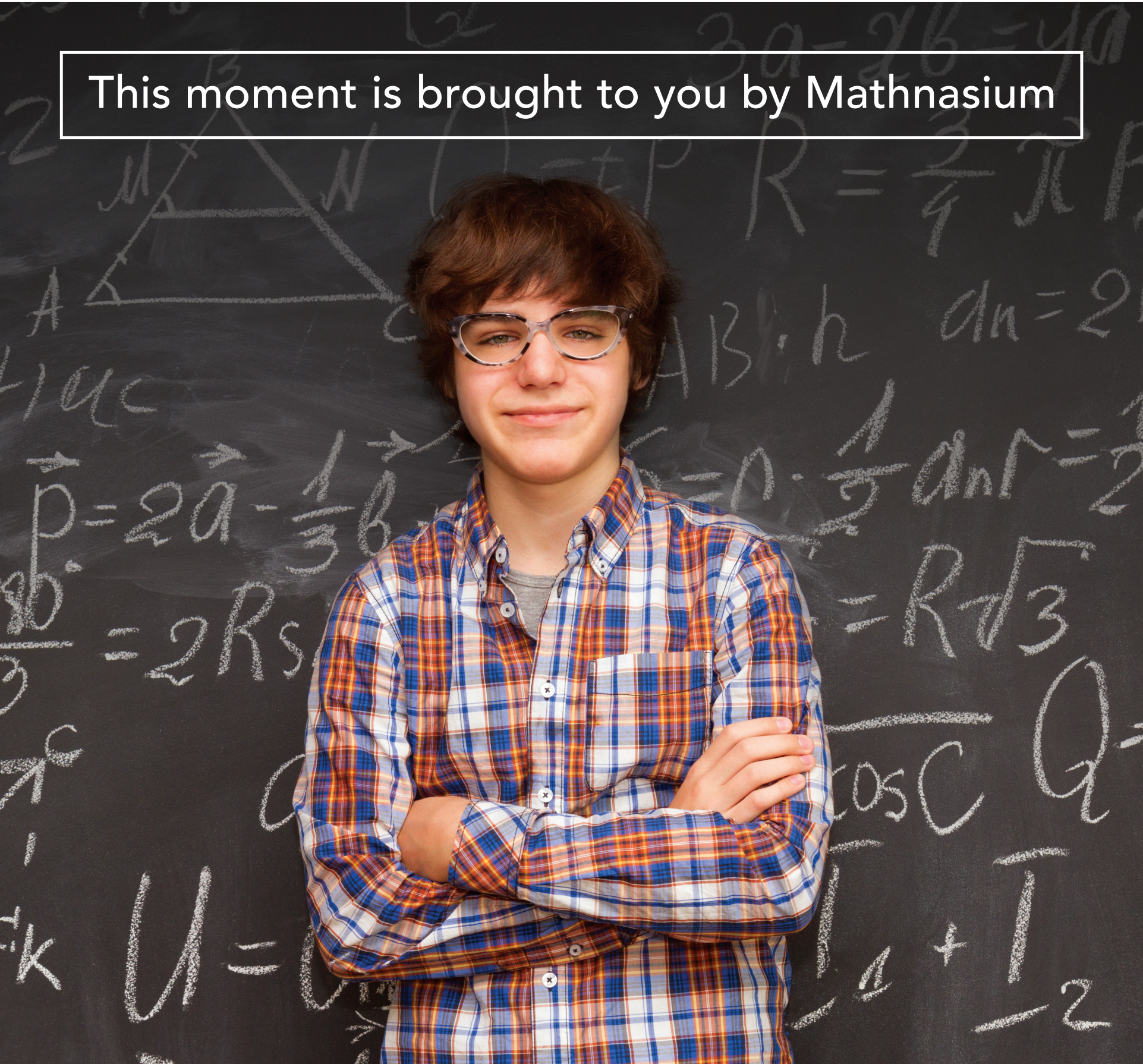
The importance of Fr. Keller to the Saints community can never be captured. He defined the lives of so many around him, instilling admirable values and deepening the faith of his friends.

"There's been nobody other than my parents or my wife that's played as big a role in my life. He deeply impacted both my professional career and my family career. He baptized my children; he was at everybody's First Communion; he was the priest my wife would seek out as a confessor. For me, he was a leader and a mentor, but he was also a colleague and a source of wisdom," Mr. Horne said.

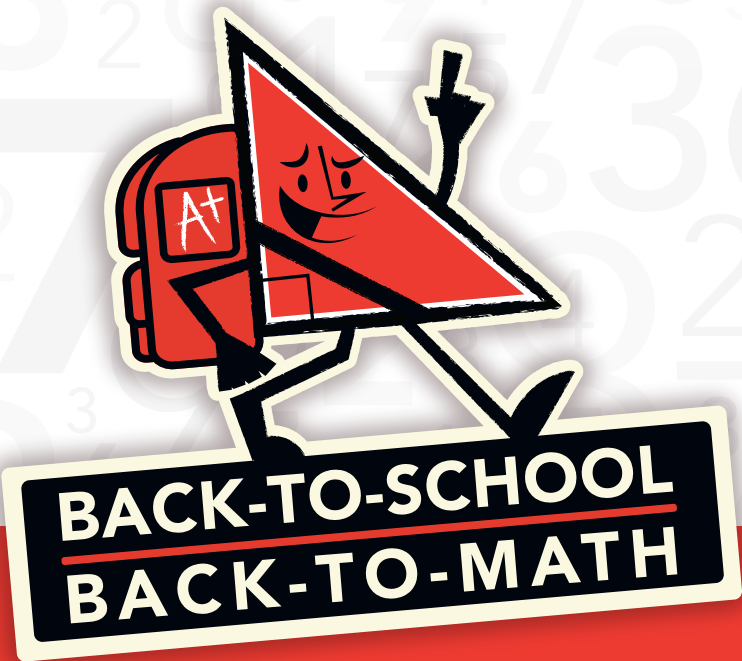
"Other than my dad, when I look at the most influential people in my life he is top three... and I think he's number one," Mr. Hearne added.

Fr. Keller and Fr. Bob had always put others first – they consistently stood by their Saints brothers, beginning when they first set foot on campus as freshmen all the way until the end of their lives. Their passing was a tragedy to the Saints community and they will be dearly missed, but their leadership and accomplishments in life will be celebrated for years to come.





A child who continues to develop their math skills can feel confident that they're on track for a successful school year. Mathnasium gives students the instruction they need to reinforce what they're learning in school, work on concepts that may pose a challenge, and take their math knowledge to a new level. In other words, we got this.



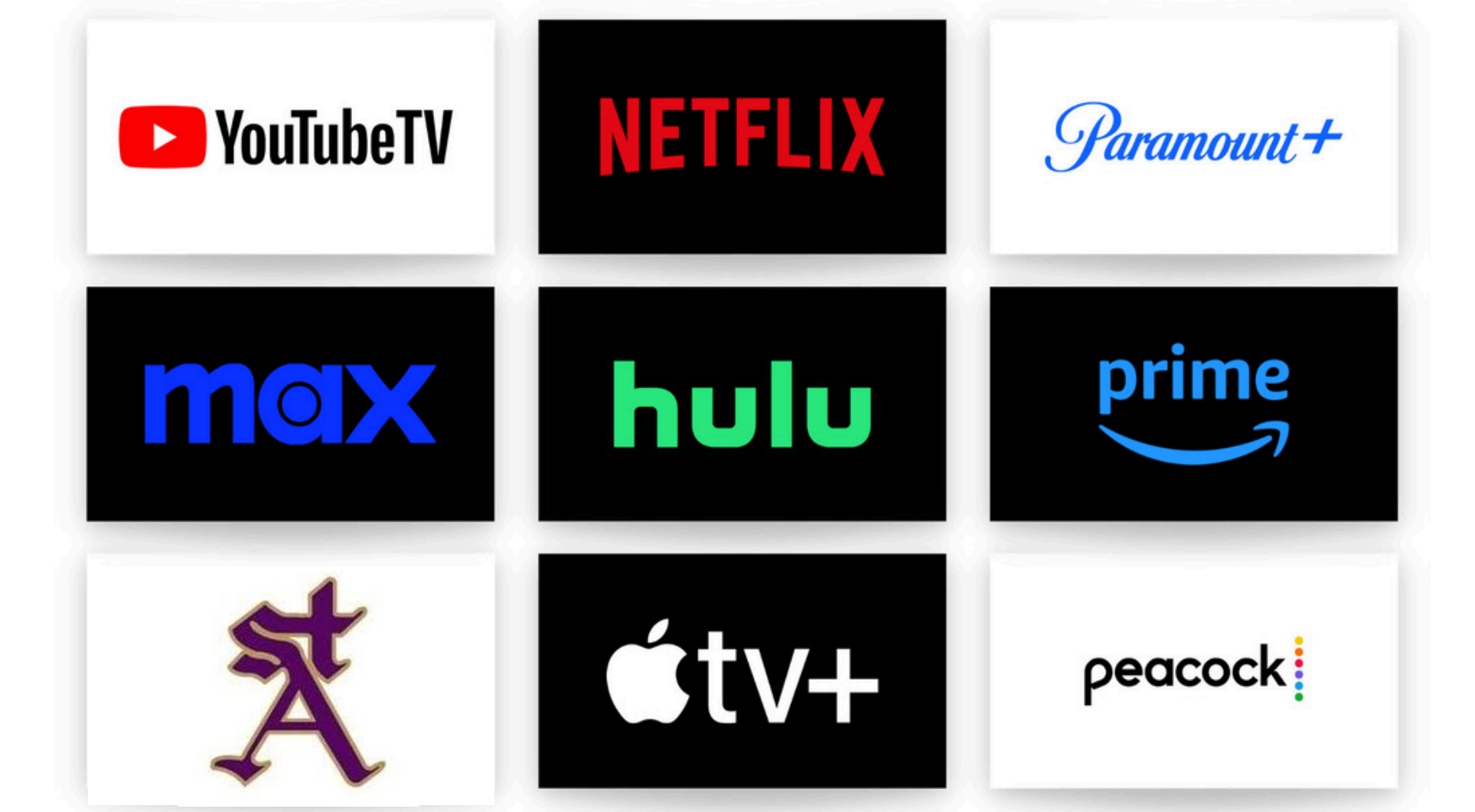
**Mathnasium of Mission Gorge**  
**(619) 281-MATH (6284)**  
**mathnasium.com/missiongorge**  
**10330 Friars Rd. #109, San Diego, CA 92120**

**MATHNASIUM<sup>®</sup>**  
The **Math** Learning Center

Contact Us for a Free Assessment  
[www.mathnasium.com](http://www.mathnasium.com)



# Announcing the Saints Cinematic Universe





**By Griffin Cappiello ('24)**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As more and more television networks begin to set their sights towards streaming, our very own Saints News Network is excited to announce the release of their brand new streaming platform: Saints Max Plus!

This exciting new collaboration with Canvas allows SNN to release their usual daily news content to a totally necessary separate platform that is incredibly convenient to use and not at all overpriced!

SNN is also partnering with other production companies to re-release entertaining content for Saintsmen and families to enjoy. Gone are the days of endlessly searching on YouTube for the next Mr. Manley pre-calculus video – all you need to do is sign up (and pay) for Saints Max Plus, and all of his lessons are right there for you.

Mr. Bachynsky’s famous podcast lectures will also be available on Saints Max Plus with a refreshing new twist – ex-Pixar employees have added animations to each lecture, so you can now watch Mr. B in high resolution 3D animation.

Of course, no streaming service would be complete without the release of its own high-quality original content.

The owners of Saints Max Plus have finally announced that the pinnacle of their new streaming platform will be the long-awaited arrival of the Saints Cinematic Universe, a fresh new franchise spanning

across several movies and television series.

Kicking off this new franchise is the feature film Wehbe, starring Nick Jonas as the titular Mr. Wehbe.

As the first movie in the SCU, Wehbe doesn’t dive too deeply into the surrounding world of Saints, instead focusing on Mr. Wehbe’s adventures in the classroom.

In his quest to share the wonders of statistics and probability with his students, he faces off against his arch nemesis – an insufferable school newspaper editor who wrote\* increasingly inflammatory articles about Mr. Wehbe’s questionable attitude towards orphans.

*\*For legal reasons, I must clarify that these articles were purely fictional and do not necessarily reflect Mr. Wehbe’s character and/or his feelings towards orphans.*

The post-credits scene features a shadowy figure who tells Mr. Wehbe that he is part of a much larger universe.

The next SCU movie, Crachy, stars Margot Robbie as Mrs. Crachy.

A fast-paced action film, most of this movie is spent outside of the classroom as Mrs. Crachy tracks down people walking outside during the Angelus and frightening them with a flurry of follow-up questions.

She may have gotten snubbed at the Oscars for her performance as Barbie, but after seeing Crachy, the Academy will have no choice but to give Margot Robbie

the award.

Next comes Adams, a fresh twist on what the SCU has to offer. Starring Donald Glover as Mr. Adams and featuring original music by Childish Gambino and the Chunky Hustle Brass Band, Adams takes the audience on a musical adventure as Mr. Adams wrestles with himself on the trustworthiness of the youth of America.

A heartwarming sports comedy, Chief stars Ben Affleck and Matt Damon as Mr. Johnston and Mr. Thomsen, respectively.

Similarly to the cult classic Will Ferrell film Kicking and Screaming, these two coaches lead a wholesome group of players to greatness, ultimately winning a CIF State Championship. The only major difference between these two movies is that Mr. Thomsen never played in the NFL.

The NCU starts its expansion into the realm of television with Campus Ministry – a workplace comedy inspired by The Office and Parks and Recreation.

With a cast featuring Blake Lively as Mrs. Brophy, Jennifer Lawrence as Ms. Hammock, Jason Sudeikis as Mr. Bier, Pedro Pascal as Br. Mauricio, and Jason Momoa as Fr. Max, this is a show that you won’t want to miss.

The release of the show The da Luzes is highly anticipated by audiences. Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson takes on his most challenging role yet as he plays all three of the da Luz brothers that teach at Saints. The makeup and costume design team on this show have preemptively been given

Emmy Awards for their work.

Finally, after all the groundwork has been laid, the SCU culminates in its first major team-up movie: Saints vs. WASC – a movie with a magnitude that surpasses the grandeur of the Avengers franchise.

All of the actors of the previous movies and shows return, along with many new faces. Mr. Lamerato, played by John Cena, joins Mrs. Crachy and Mr. Hecht, played by Steve Carell, in leading the WASC accreditation team.

As they help prepare for the visiting committee, they work with Coach Casey (Zach Galifianakis) and Mr. Carini (Seth Rogan) to make sure everything around campus is working as intended.

Dr. GO, played by Jack Black, is the school’s hype man, as he single-handedly keeps morale high by wearing the authentic golden jacket that has made appearances at the rallies in years past.

The ultimate SCU film also features cameos from major celebrities – Steph Curry plays Mr. Theilacker, and Mr. Cudal plays himself.

All of this high-quality entertainment content can be accessed through the Saints Max Plus app, which is available on the App Store and the Google Play Store.

After a short free trial, a subscription is required. For the small annual fee of \$28,000, anyone can have access to this incredible streaming service, with unique content that cannot be rivaled by any other platform.

## OKULEY

continued from page 3

**TA:** How did you end up in San Diego?

**Okuley:** My wife received a job offer from the University of San Diego. I looked in the area for work and quickly found a special connection with St. Augustine High School. Saints’ vibrant atmosphere and energy, whether early in the morning or just before the bell rings, energizes me.

**TA:** Tell us why you wanted to teach at Saint Augustine High School.

**Okuley:** I had many positive influences by attending an all-boys high school. Teaching at Saints was a personal decision. As a teacher at Saints, I can create a supportive environment

for my students to thrive academically and athletically. I had my first experience with coaching back in Ohio when I helped a former coach run a summer program. In addition to teaching, I wanted to have an opportunity to continue coaching baseball here at Saints.

**TA:** What was one of the funniest moments for you at Saints?

**Okuley:** I recall a funny moment during a Mass at Saints when I was serving as a Eucharistic Minister. I offered Communion to a freshman who, instead of saying Amen, said, “Thank you, Mr. Okuley.”

**TA:** In my religion class, you mentioned a protest that you organized

while at Boston College. Could you share some of that story?

**Okuley:** In grad school, I became very passionate about Environmental Justice and became involved in local organizations. I found out that there was a lack of funding, so I got more involved. This was at a time when it wasn’t a very mainstream topic. On the day we planned a protest, I was on the Boston T, the public transportation system in Boston. An FBI agent sat beside me and asked if I was Aaron Okuley. He said I would have been arrested if we had proceeded with the protest plans. So, it became a good opportunity to talk and work together to organize it peacefully.

## COOK

continued from page 5

a small amount of equal parts water and flour. For a person living in an apartment, or a place which doesn’t allow pets, a sourdough starter is the perfect companion. It can keep you company when you are alone, and will never interrupt when you are talking with it. It truly is man’s best friend.

Bread is a universal food, which can fit with any meal. It is easier to make than people think, and can be all one kneads to have a simple snack. You should try to bake some bread this season. There are hundreds of types of bread not listed here, so let your imagination run wild. The best time to start baking is now, for everyone knows that the best time to pick up baking is Yeaster.