



#### Annual Austin Scholars Announced



WELL EARNED. (L-R) Luke O'Leary, Trent Gorsich, Jonah Villafana, Nathan Brosnan, Kelvin Vu, Nicholas Dolin and Simon Sanders were invited by the school to sit for this year's Austin Exams.

Seven Saintsmen were recently named Austin Scholars by the school. They are Luke O'Leary, Trent Gorsich, Jonah Villafana, Nathan Brosnan, Kelvin Vu, Nicholas Dolin and Simon Sanders were invited by the school to sit for this year's Austin Exams.

The "Austins" are rigorous oral examinations in English, mathematics, religion, science, social studies, and visual and performing arts. The exam also assesses the participants' understanding of the Integral Student Outcomes.

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#### **Prunes Are Good for You! Dear Parents and Friends**,



This column first appeared in 2008 and l re-run it periodically because it continues to be among my favorites.

If you want to extend the life of a tree and encourage it to grow better fruit, you have to prune it. Pruning fruit trees is the thing to do, because it allows sunlight to reach all areas of the tree.

Pruning comes in many forms including thinning, snipping, shearing, pollarding, lopping and topping. All, however, are performed with the same desired outcome in mind; to rid a tree of unwanted or diseased foliage and to prepare the way for new growth in an

Continued on page 8

#### **Villanova Scholar Named**



Jonah Villafana

We're proud to share that senior Jonah Villafana has been awarded a Villanova University Scholarship, a distinguished academic honor that covers tuition at the esteemed Catholic research oriented university in Pennsylvania. This highly competitive award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and dedication to community values. Well done, Jonah-we're excited to see all you'll accomplish on your next journey!

#### **ROSTER OF IMPORTANT EVENTS Graduation Update** for Senior Parents

Four years go by in the blink of an eye, and I know that many of you can hardly believe your son is graduating. We have prepared a listing of important events which relate to Graduation, Senior Exams, the Prom and other end-of-the-year activities.

#### **Augustinian Heritage**

## Junior Pilgrimage: A Day of Reflection

By Rebecca Hammock, Campus Minister/ Religion Department

Last month, the fifth annual Junior Pilgrimage brought together the junior class for a meaningful day of reflection and fellowship. Traditionally, this grade-level retreat invites students to step away from their usual routines and journey in small groups—each guided by student and faculty leaders—through the neighborhoods surrounding Saints.

Along the way, groups visited sites of historical and spiritual significance to our school and the Augustinian tradition. Notable stops included St. Patrick Catholic Church in North Park, operated by the Augustinians, and St. Vincent Catholic Church in Mission Hills, the original home of St. Augustine High School.

The Junior Pilgrimage adapts these opportunities to the lives of the members of the junior class, allowing them to grow in fellowship with their classmates and teachers and providing time for students to reflect both on their relationship with God and on their time at Saints as they prepare to enter their senior year and become the leaders of the school community.



**GATEWAY.** Among those students and faculty participating in the recent Junior Pilgrimage are: Mr. Tom Isaak, Mr. John Hickey, Mr. Jason Alcoser, student leader Max Leadley, and Juniors Kurt Ambrosius, Emiliano Bello Muriel, Santiago Diaz, Santos Gonzalez, Luke Huelskamp, Flo Ledesma, Guillermo Morales, Rafael Pulido, Joshua Ryan, and Thiago Valagao.



PARK PILGRIMS.

One of the blessings having the school located in North Park is that it is so near to Balboa Park. A group of Saintsmen on their pilgrimage through Morley Field's Bird Park at 28th & Upas.

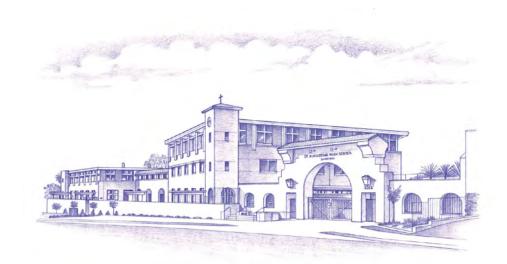


HISTORY. Mr. Paul Sipper, Director of Admissions and Social Studies Teacher, interprets the history of Saints at St. Vincent Catholic Church in Mission Hills, the original site of St. Augustine High School.

## **Welcome Future Frosh**

#### Ten 8th Graders Earn Entrance Scholarships

Per a long standing tradition, Saints is happy to announce and celebrate the following young men who had the highest test scores on the High School Placement Test in January and earned a Principal's scholarship at entrance worth \$40,000. The current eighth graders will enroll in September 2025 as Freshman members of the Class of 2029.





Jack Guenther, School of the Madeleine



Logan Perry, School of the Madeleine



Mateo Maese, St. Mary's School (Annapolis)



Mateo Valencia, St. Rose of Lima



Ray Leelavarodo, St. Rose of Lima



Zachary Tarman, St. Therese Academy



Oliver Whited, St. John's School, Encinitas



Francis Winn, St. Joseph Academy



Logan Owoc, The Museum School



Simon Kramp, Heritage Charter



## Let's Get Started!

#### YOU'RE APPROVED! EMAIL

Receive an email from your school giving you access to get started at sahs.carpooltoschool.com

2 CREATE PROFILE & LOGIN Create a profile to ensure you get matched perfectly!

GET MATCHED

Based on distance, your student's grade, schedule, and exclusively with your school.

4

3

**CREATE A POOL** 

Get started creating your first trip today!





LiveChat and 800-514-3808 Available Monday-Friday 7am-7pm

## **Advanced Placement Exam Dates Set for May**

The 2025 AP Exams will be administered in schools over two weeks in May: May 5–9 and May 12–16. AP coordinators are responsible for notifying students when and where to report for the exams. Early testing or testing at times other than those published by College Board is not permitted under any circumstances.

Week 1	Morning 8 a.m. Local Time	Afternoon 12 p.m. Local Time
Monday, May 5, 2025	Biology Latin	Microeconomics
Tuesday, May 6, 2025	Chemistry	United States Government and Politics
Wednesday, May 7, 2025	English Literature and Composition	Computer Science A
Thursday, May 8, 2025	Statistics	World History: Modern
Friday, May 9, 2025	United States History	Macroeconomics

Art and Design: Friday, May 9, 2025 (8 p.m. ET), is the deadline for AP Art and Design students to submit their three portfolio components as final in the AP Digital Portfolio.

Week 2	Morning 8 a.m. Local Time	Afternoon 12 p.m. Local Time
Monday, May 12, 2025	Calculus AB Calculus BC	Music Theory Seminar
Tuesday, May 13, 2025	French Language and Culture	
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	English Language and Composition	
Thursday, May 15, 2025	Spanish Language and Culture	Computer Science Principles
Friday, May 16, 2025	Physics 1: Algebra-Based Spanish Literature and Culture	Psychology



ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL

## AROUND CAMPUS



#### Junior Class Speakers

By Mr. Bill Morstad, Saints Alumni Director

Role models Jelani McCoy ('95) and Saints Parent Troy Polamalu recently imparted their experiences and words of wisdom to members of the Class of 2026 at a Junior Career Day event. Excellent speakers, former professional athletes, McCoy NBA and Polamalu NFL, addressed what it took to succeed as a career pro and how students could apply what they learn on the sports fields in their daily lives. The school appreciates all alums, faculty and parents who participate in career day program.



**IN THE NEWS.** The following mob scene photo appeared in the San Diego Union-Tribune sports pages recently after Saints won a penalty shootout against Del Norte High to win the CIF San Diego Section Boys soccer Open Division championship. That's goalkeeper Archie Gonzalez (in green) being swarmed by fellow champions after making three saves for the title. *Photo: Hayne Palmour IV for the U-T.* 

#### Underclass Over Achievers

Roar of the crowd still in their ears Varsity Basketball players from St. Augustine High School whoop it up after winning the school's ninth CIF Basketball tile in school history.



THE SENIOR CLASS SAINTSMEN CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

## The AnnualMother & SeniorTribute Brunch

Sunday • April 6, 2025 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Held in honor of the Mothers' support, encouragement and love at the Bahia Resort Hotel

Cost of attendance is \$60.00 per person (\$120.00 for mother and son).

If replying in the affirmative, register online at *sahs.org* or please remit the bottom portion of this page, as well the payment for attendance by March 28, 2025 by personal delivery or via mail to:

The Senior Class c/o John Lamerato St. Augustine High School 3266 Nutmeg St. San Diego, CA 92104

Direct questions or concerns to John Lamerato, Senior Class Moderator, by emailing: jlamerato@sahs.org Yes, my son and I will attend the Annual Mother and Senior Tribute Luncheon.

My son's name is \_\_\_\_\_

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_

(Checks should be made payable to St. Augustine High School)

Please submit payment and reservation form by March 28, 2025 or register online at www.sahs.org after March 3, 2025

#### **Annual Austin Scholars Announced**

Continued from page 1

Seniors with the highest weighted academic cumulative grade point average at the conclusion of the seventh semester (P.E. excluded) are automatically invited to sit for the Austins. The remaining students, normally five, are selected by the Academic Council\* from the top 10% of the graduating class.

Faculty chairpersons of the academic departments recommend specific academic distinctions for participants. The administration ratifies these recommendations.

These academic distinctions include: Austin Scholar Summa Cum Laude (with highest praise) Austin Scholar Magna Cum Laude (with great praise) Austin Scholar Cum Laude (with praise).

At the conclusion of the oral exams for these young men, the chairpersons of the academic departments will then recommend graduation with specific academic distinctions for each participant. The administration ratifies their recommendations.

#### Villanova Scholar Named

Continued from page 1

When asked about Saintsman Jonah Villafana being named a recipient of this year's scholarship to the University of Villanova, Principal James Horne said, "Jonah represents the best in academic excellence and demonstrates a care of others that will positively impact the environment at Villanova."

Some of Jonah's many highlights:

- Principal's Honor Roll 8 semesters 4.42 GPA
- Gold Medal for Academic Excellence 9th and 11th grade studies: and honorable mention for the Academic Gold medal in the 10th grade
- Rensselaer Medal for excellence in Science and Math studies
- Academic awards Honors English I, Honors English II, Old and New Testament, Biology, Algebra II/Trigonometry, Ethics I: Morality, AP English Language, AP Us History, Spanish I/II/III and Honors Pre-Calculus.
- President of the Chess Club and Academic League team
- National Merit Hispanic Scholar



#### Prunes Are Good for You!

Continued from page 1

#### improved shape/form.

Trees don't have to be pruned, but pruning can aid in the development of a strong framework. Training is a better word to describe development, and it needs to start when trees are young. Shade, fruit and ornamental trees need to be trained while they're young to get the desirable shape and framework (not unlike teenage boys). Tree experts agree that pruning of trees in the early years will result in better shape and less expense later in life.

Our school and the environment we provide for a student is aimed at helping them develop their own capacity to become fruit bearing members of a broader community. And indeed, the training we provide does create a strong framework as we develop Saintsmen in mind, heart, and body. Our goal is not to prune young men, but rather to train them, and give them the guidance and tools to identify the need for pruning in their own lives, so that they can prepare the way for new growth and become fruitful contributors to a world in need.

In the Spirit of Catholic Education,

James Home

James Horne Principal



## **Graduation Update for Senior Parents**

We have tried to include all the pertinent information. All events will be publicized on the school website and registration and payment will be available online for select events. For additional information, contact Leona Stearns at extension 5515 or email lstearns@sahs.org.

#### **Mother/Son Brunch**

Seniors invite their mothers to join them Sunday, April 6th at 12:30pm for brunch. The event will take place at the Bahia Hotel in Mission Beach. It is a beautiful location for pictures with your son and brunch with his friends and yours. The cost is \$60 per person and activities end by 3:00pm.

#### **Senior Prom**

A joint venture of Saints and O.L.P., will be held at the Westin Gaslamp on Saturday, May 3rd. Check-in begins at 6:30pm. The prom begins with dinner served at 7:30pm. Couples must be in attendance by 7:00pm and will not be allowed to leave the prom until 10:30 pm. The dance will end at 11:00pm. The cost is \$180 for a bid (Saintsman + date). There will be no school sponsored event after prom. Parents are strongly cautioned against renting hotel rooms for their sons for prom parties before or after the prom. Registration for all events that have a cost will be available online at sahs.org/asb by the beginning of April.

#### Senior Grad Bash and Ditch Day

Senior Grad Bash will be on Wednesday May 14th. Seniors will have a regular school day, then leave for Grad Bash at Universal Studios, by bus, on Wednesday evening, May 14th at 6:30pm. Buses will return to Saints on Thursday May 15th. Senior Skip Day is Thursday, May 15th. Universal Studios is very strict regarding dress requirements. Young men are required to wear regular student attire. No jeans, denim shirts, or Saints outerwear is allowed. NO guests are invited to this event. The cost for Grad Bash is \$200 and will include round trip bus fare and entrance into the park and Grad Bash festivities.

#### **Senior Awards Assembly**

will be on Friday, May 16th at 8:50am. Winners of a variety of awards will be announced at this assembly. Though space is limited, parents are welcome to attend. Graduation practice and Senior March will take place after the awards assembly from approximately10:00am until 12:00pm. All seniors must be present for this practice. Caps, gowns, graduation tickets and yearbooks will be distributed immediately after graduation practice and the Senior March.

#### **Final Exams**

will be given on Monday, May 19th (Blocks 1 and 2), Tuesday, May 20th (Blocks 3 and 4) and Wednesday, May 21st (Blocks 5 and 6). The first exam each day is 8:30am-10:00am followed by the second exam from 10:30am-12:00pm. There is no school on Thursday, May 22, 2025.

#### Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement Exercises

will take place at 9:30am on Friday, May 23rd in the

Fr. John R. Sanders Gym. Parents and relatives of graduating seniors are invited to attend. It is always a beautiful event. Each graduate will receive 8 tickets for Baccalaureate and Graduation seating with seating available on a first come basis. There will be NO additional seating. Only ticket holders will be admitted. Senior Conduct: The conduct, dress and grooming code is in effect for seniors until the end of the year. Seniors who have detentions to serve will be required to do so before receiving their diplomas.

#### **Tuition and Fees**

Your account with the school must be current before your son can sit for final exams which begin on May 19th. Diplomas will be given to students when they return their gowns to school the Tuesday after graduation provided their accounts are clear.

#### **Book return/buyback**

- Students/parents should receive a reminder email from Follett about 3 weeks prior to the end of the year. The reminder email will also contain instructions on how to download and print a free shipping label for all rental books.
- 2. All rental books must be shipped within 2 weeks of the end of the semester. Purchased books can be kept or sold back through www. valore.com. Buybacks are solely based on demand.
- 3. Students/parents should make sure their Follett account is active and that they have an accurate email address on their account.

## ROSTER OF IMPORTANT EVENTS Graduation Update for Senior Parents

#### **Caps and Gowns**

Graduation gowns must be returned to the office no later than Tuesday, May 27th during regular office hours, 8:00am until 2:00pm. Once gowns are returned, all fees paid in full, and any school issued equipment is received, the student will receive his diploma.

#### **Pictures**

Saints will hire a professional photographer for graduation to catch a great shot of each graduate with his Diploma. A complimentary 5x7 copy of this picture will be mailed to your home.

Additionally, the school will stream the entire Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation live on the Saints News Network YouTube channel. A link to the live stream will be available as we get closer to the date of the graduation.

#### **Summer Trips**

The school does not sponsor and does not encourage graduation trips to Mexico or other places sponsored by travel agencies who are out to make a profit with no regard for student safety or growth. There is little or no adult presence at these events. Alcohol is plentiful. Your son's involvement is a family decision. We believe it is unwise to participate.

Graduation marks the end of a very special four years in the life of a Saintsman and is also the gateway to the future. It signifies that the four-year passage from youth to manhood has been completed. We all look forward to the events associated with graduation and the celebration of your sons' journey and his Saints experience.

I thank all of you for your faithful support of your sons and the St. Augustine High School community. My personal and sincere congratulations to you and your Saintsman.

In the Spirit of Catholic Education,

anes Home

James Horne Principal



#### **Soccer Wraps Up Trophy Season**

Fresh off winning the Western League title and the San Diego Section CIF Division I championship, Saints Soccer advanced to the Southern California Regionals in style. In the first round, Saints hosted Santa Monica High, battling the Vikings to a thrilling 2-2 draw. The match was decided in a dramatic post-game shootout, with Saints emerging victorious.

However, the team's postseason run came to an end in the second round, where they faced the undefeated J. Serra Catholic Lions. Despite a strong regular-season showing, Saints Varsity fell short, losing 4-0.

The loss snapped a three-game winning streak and brought St. Augustine's final record to 19-5. J. Serra Catholic, meanwhile, remained perfect at 19-0.

**CIF CHAMPS.** Exuberant Varsity Soccer team rejoices after winning 2025 CIF San Diego Section Championship. Raising the trophy is newly named CIF Player of the Year Senior Emiliano Postlethwaite.





## APRIL 4TH & 5TH AT 7PM APRIL 10TH & 11TH AT 7PM APRIL 12TH AT 2PM

RAYMOND CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS 3266 NUTMEG ST.

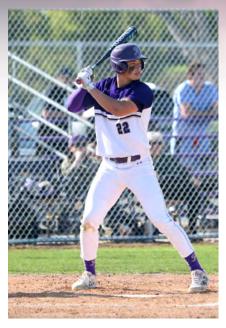
> She Loves Me Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

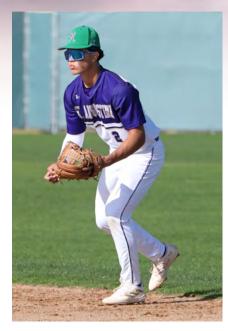
## Varsity Baseball Defends Crown

The Saints Baseball, led by Coach Craig Da Luz, is coming off a 2024 Western League Championship and the quarter finals in the Open Division Playoffs.

High expectations for Saints this Spring with returning upperclassmen position players\* Tyler Wick (Oregon);Raphael Dunne (UCSD), Shane Miranda (Notre Dame); Anthony Tompkins, Mikey Ruiz ('26), and Drake Konja and starting pitcher Grayson Boles (Texas).

Unfortunately, two starting pitchers are out due to injury, but opportunity knocks for a bevy of returning pitchers who are more than capable of stepping up. The 2025 schedule pits the Saints against the top teams not only in the San Diego Section and the state of California, but some of the top teams in the country. \* Parenthesis indicates college commitments.





Tyler Wick

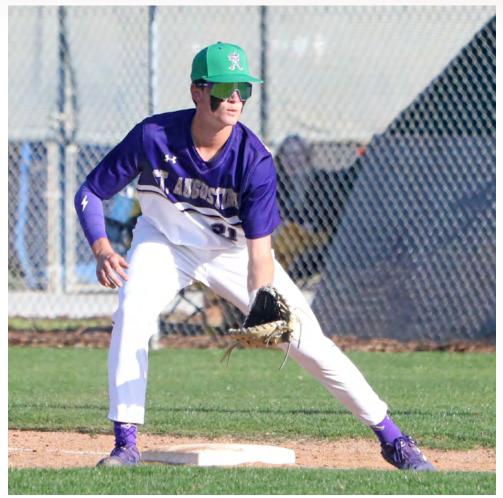
**Raphael Dunne** 



Shane Miranda



**Grayson Boles** 





Mikey Ruiz

# The **Sports Pages**

## Saints Scene's updates on:

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Rugby
- Lacrosse

- Golf
- Swimming
- Track
- Tennis
- Volleyball

#### Soccer

#### **Breaking News**

Saints Soccer phenom Senior centerback Emiliano Postlethwaite (above) was named CIF Player of the Year, reports Saints Soccer Coach Brandan Johnston ('94).

Emiliano has been part of an extremely successful run during his four years at Saints.... 4 Western League Titles, 3 Open Division, and a Division 1 So-Cal State Championship. He leads by example as our team captain. Emiliano believes in what we do and played his best in the biggest moments this year. Guys like Emiliano are the backbone of our program. Being honored as the San Diego Player of the Year is a testament to the work he puts in and the overall success of our program. I am extremely proud of Emiliano for this well-deserved honor. Photo: Bill Hill, Saints Parent.



#### **Basketball**

#### Poly Stuns St. Augustine with Buzzer-Beater

In a heart-stopping Round 2 showdown of the Southern California CIF Boys Division 2 playoffs, Riverside Poly edged out St. Augustine High with a dramatic 68–67 victory, sealed by a last-second buzzer-beater. The packed home gym erupted as the final shot swished through the net, capping one of the most electrifying finishes of the season.

Despite a roster heavy with underclassmen, St. Augustine battled valiantly. Their varsity season concludes at 19–15, highlighted by a Western League title, the San Diego Section CIF Division 1 championship, and a commanding 60–40 opening-round win over Canyon High (Canyon Country, CA) in the opening round of Division 2 State CIF Regional playoffs.



**OVER ACHIEVERS.** Roar of the crowd still in their ears Varsity Basketball players from St. Augustine High School whoop it up after winning the school's ninth CIF Basketball tile in school history. (L-R) Tanner Kamencik, Peter Hanna , Luciano Fiorentini, Anthony Etheridge, Gus Carranza-Tellez (rear), Kai Blue, Grayson Bell, Drew Parker, and Johnny Stone. Not pictured: Jaden Bailes, Pai Polamalu, Lincoln Grogan, Manny Cortez Photo thanks to San Diego *Union-Tribune* Xavier Hernandez.

#### Baseball

#### **Opening Day**

Saints Baseball started the season on St. Patrick Day (hint: the cool green caps). Varsity players line up for the national anthem.



[Left to right]: Cristian Mares; Declan Higgins; Philip Knapton; Kapono Nakanelua; Lorenzo Haros; Spencer Taylor; Jonah De Perro; Guillermo MacFarland; Wyatt Weldon; Payton Del Toro; Ryan Popkins: Christian Ledesma; Chris Black; Liam Veeramallu; Mario Vitale and Jonny Haskett. For more baseball coverage see page 12. Photography by: Bill Hill, Saints Parent.

#### Rugby

#### **Rugby Recap**

The Saints Rugby team had a solid pre-season and played in the West Coast Sevens Tournament for the first time. Once the Winter Sports Season began the team secured 2 victories before the Christmas Break. Coming back from the break, the team faced the strength of the schedule, including division matches with La Costa and Cathedral in January. The boys suffered a divisional loss to LCC, as well as Cathedral, but the team rallied to close out the season with an impressive victory over Mira Costa in Huntington Beach. The Mira Costa match saw the boys play their most complete game of rugby and finish on a high note.



Among those attending this year's Rugby Awards Dinner on campus were [left to right] Brock Benson, Nate Gaston, Nate Bui, Diego Izidoro, Paddy Ward, Jonathan Morrill, Benny Wilson, Bryson Morris, and Ezra LaCoursiere. Photo: Mr. Strack, Saints Parent.

Overall, the team finished with a 5-2-1 record on the season. Additionally, Senior Alex Kemp elevated his play and was named All League. Fellow seniors Caelyb Aguirre and Geno McKenna were also recognized for their performances over the campaign. Finally, juniors Gavin Lowe and Kekoa da Luz also earned All-League honors.



#### Lacrosse

Another team with a lot of returning players and high expectations. Although just 2-4 right now, all four loses have been close loses to top-ranked teams. Some of the top players on this year's team are: Luke Graulich (D), Stephen Cota (M), James Steiner (D), Nick Kiesel (G), Parker Wickstrand (M), and Kyle Shaeffer (A).



#### Golf

Hasn't had too many matches yet as the regular competitions are just now getting started. Kimo Crisostomo (10) and Lucas Younes (12) are the top returners.



#### **Swimming**

Much like golf, their competitive season is just getting underway as they've only had one meet so far. Top returners for the swim team are: Kenan Bier (10), Marcelo Mier y Teran (12), Aidan McKerring (11), Santiago Garay (11), Levi Clair (12), and Adam Camarena (12).



#### **Track & Field**

Going for a 5th league title in the last seven years. Senior pole vaulter Joseph Sbuttoni IV is a returning state-qualifier and is one of the top-ranked vaulters in the state. The strength of this year team is the running events with a lot of upperclassmen returners in the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1600m, 4x100 relay, and 4x400 relay.



#### Tennis

Last year's Open Division runner-up team is hoping to have another strong season as they are going for a fourth-straight league title. The team is currently off to a 6-0 start. Junior Mattie Gosling leads the way in singles play, while the senior-duo of Jacques Allende and Javier Guillot lead the way in doubles. All three of them have just received an invite to play in the prestigious Ojai Invitation over Easter Break.



#### Volleyball

Another team off to a strong start at 4-1 and with a lot of key returning players, should be poised to make a strong run in the playoffs. Top returners are: Owen Adams (12), Nick Boeh (11), Oliver Fendley (12), Luke O'Leary (12), Ryan Reichenberg (11), Trent Gorsich (12), Noah Heuring (12), and highly-touted freshman setter Noah Pabarcus.

#### Where Are They Now?

**Determination Wins the Day** 

Noah Zamora, a proud alumnus of Saints, has charted an impressive path in the world of tennis. Currently enrolled at the University of California, Irvine, he is a standout member of the Anteaters Tennis Team. During the 2022-23 season, he earned the prestigious title of Big West Conference Co-Freshman of the Year and was recognized as an all-conference selection in both singles and doubles. In NCAA singles, Noah led the Anteaters with a stellar 17-4 overall record, including an exceptional 13-2 mark in dual matches. His undefeated 3-0 performance at the Big West Championship helped secure the team's first conference title in over a decade.



But Noah's journey to success wasn't always smooth. Those familiar

with St. Monica's prayers to guide a wayward St. Augustine might see parallels in the challenges and triumphs of his early life. Growing up in San Diego, Noah's path to tennis began thanks to his aunt's suggestion, prompting his mother to enroll him in lessons at a young age. By the time he was eight, Noah was competing in local tournaments. However, his early days were marked by struggles—not with talent, but with temperament.

"I had anger issues; I used to cheat and get really mad," Noah recalled. "My parents didn't like the person I was on the tennis court."

His coaches issued a tough ultimatum: they wouldn't work with him unless he changed. Even his father, always a source of support, considered pulling him from the sport. But his mother, unwavering in her belief in his potential, saw the difficulties as an opportunity for growth. She believed that beneath the frustration was a good-hearted boy who just needed time and guidance to let his true character shine.

Her faith paid off. Over time, Noah transformed not just as a player, but as a person. By 2020, he was one of the most respected junior tennis players in Southern California, earning the prestigious USTA Evelyn Houseman Lifetime Junior Sportsmanship Award. Watching him on the court today, you'd never guess the struggles of his past. His calm demeanor, easygoing attitude, and genuine enjoyment of the game stand out. He's often seen smiling, interacting with the crowd, and savoring every moment of competition.

"I'm eternally grateful to my mom because I truly love playing the sport. I just didn't know how to handle myself," Noah shared.

From a fiery young competitor to a model of sportsmanship, Noah Zamora's story is a testament to perseverance, personal growth, and the unwavering belief of a mother who saw the greatness within her son.

#### SAINTS SCENE

Your Award-Winning\* monthly report on the St. Augustine High School Experience

Publisher: Edwin J. Hearn, Jr. Saints President Editor-in-Chief: James Horne, Saints Principal Senior Advisor: Fr. Barnaby Johns, OSA, Augustinian Provincial Senior Editor: Kevin DeRieux, Finances & Facilities Director Senior Editor: Gregory Hecht, Assistant Principal for Academics Saints Scene Coordinator: Thomas Shess, Alum Parent ('05): Thomas.Shess@gmail.com Art Director: Kristin Hardy, OLP ('05), Kristin Hardy Design: kristinhardydesign.com Circulation Director: Casey Callery, Director of Community Relations and Special Events Editor Emeritus: John D. Keller, O.S.A. ('55) Staff Photographer: Bill Hill, Saints Parent

Correction Policy: While every effort is made to be accurate, we occasionally err. We do apologize to those impacted and kindly ask that you notify Saints Coordinator: Thomas.Shess@gmail.com for any corrections.

\*Awards: Saints Scene has been voted by the San Diego Press Club as the best Community Newsletter in 2011, 2019 and 2021.

Mission of St. Augustine High School – Our mission is to provide a Catholic liberal arts education for young men in an environment that promotes the development of mind, heart and body in the Augustinian tradition. By helping to form loving disciples of Jesus Christ we communicate to the world the gospel values of community, truth and love.