YOUR MONTHLY REPORT ON THE ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE
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OCTOBER 2026

SAINTS SCENE

High Five Saints Merit Scholars



SCHOLARS. (L-R) Michael Gomez, Oliver Winn, Erik Johanson, Lorenzo Simon, and Gannon Hayes.

St. Augustine High School is proud to recognize five outstanding Saints for their exceptional achievement in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Michael Gomez, Gannon Hayes, Erik Johnason, and Oliver Winn have been named Commended Scholars, while Lorenzo Simon has earned the prestigious distinction of National Merit Semifinalist.

These honors recognize students whose performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) placed them among the highest-achieving students in the nation.

Lorenzo Simon will now have the opportunity to continue in the National Merit Scholarship competition and be considered for Finalist status and scholarship opportunities.

Continued on page 15

The Saints Experience; Beyond the Classroom

Dear Parents and Friends,



Principal James Horne

A Saints education has never been confined to what happens inside a classroom.

Academic excellence is central to our mission, but the Saints Experience is intentionally much bigger. Some of the most important lessons of high school are learned on an athletic field, on a stage, during a club meeting, through Christian service, in a Priory competition, or simply by working alongside classmates toward a common goal.

Extracurricular activities give young men opportunities to discover interests and talents they may not yet know they possess. They

Continued on page 15

College Topics Night: "Getting In & Paying For It"

For many families, the college admission process can generate as many questions as it does opportunities. What are colleges really looking for when they review an application? What helps one student distinguish himself from another? And perhaps just as importantly, how can families prepare for the financial realities associated with a college education?

St. Augustine High School invites parents from **all grade levels** to join us for:

College Topics Night: "Getting In & Paying For It"
Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
Raymond Center for the Performing Arts Theater.

Continued on page 16

Cheers for Pope Leo's Mitre

Photography by Mr. Bill Hill, Saints Parent.

A baseball cap is easy to lose in a crowd. A mitre is another matter.

At recent St. Augustine High School football game vs. Mater Dei High in San Diego, students turned the tall ceremonial headpiece into Saints cheering gear. White and gold mitres rose above the "Pit" student cheering section, and one Saints player wore his for a photograph beside a cutout of Pope Leo XIV.

The pictures make the point at a glance: when your school is Augustinian and the pope is an Augustinian, even the hats can join the celebration.

Chicago took the idea to major league scale on August 11. The White Sox gave mitre-shaped hats bearing their logo to all 38,113 fans at their game against the Cincinnati Reds. The promotion had begun as a limited offer for 2,500 ticket buyers. Demand was so strong that the team ordered enough for the whole ballpark.

The connection is genuine. Pope Leo XIV grew up near Chicago, has long supported the White Sox and attended a game during their 2005 World Series run. He has also visited St. Augustine High School several times, including for its 90th anniversary celebration in 2012. Two very different sets of fans have good reason to claim him.

The White Sox made an evening of it. Sister Mary Jo Sobieck threw a ceremonial first pitch, former Sox pitcher Donn “The Pope” Pall helped start the game, and fans exchanged a sign of peace during the fifth inning. The Reds won 5–4 in 10 innings, proving that even a stadium full of pope hats cannot guarantee a save from the bullpen.

One of the White Sox hats eventually reached the Vatican. Back in San Diego, the Saints have given the look their own colors and their own spirited setting. Whether the student section makes its mitres a regular sight is a story still to come. For now, the photographs capture a cheerful meeting of school pride, sports and a pope with ties to both teams.



Saints "The Pit" cheering section goes Vatican during Frosh Week football game.



Senior Varsity Lineman cut-up Duke Gonzalez poses with his Holiness cut-out.

Continued on page 14

Noah Zamora Shares Court with Tennis Star Alex Eala

Saints alumnus Noah Zamora ('21) recently enjoyed a memorable opportunity at the U.S. Open in New York City, where he practiced with rising international tennis star Alex Eala.

Eala won the U.S. Open girls' singles championship in 2022 and has since climbed to a career-high No. 18 in the Women's Tennis Association rankings—the highest position ever achieved by a Filipino or Southeast Asian player in WTA Tour history. This year, she advanced to the third round of the U.S. Open and the fourth round at Wimbledon.

Zamora built an impressive tennis résumé of his own while attending St. Augustine High School. As a senior in 2021, he captured both the Western League singles title and the CIF San Diego Section singles championship. He became the first Saints player to win the CIF singles crown since Ignacio Martinez accomplished the feat in 1990.

Zamora continued his success at UC Irvine, earning Big West Freshman of the Year honors in 2022. Three years later, he was named the 2025 Big West Player of the Year as well as UC Irvine's Male Athlete of the Year.

From the Saints courts to a practice session at one of tennis's grandest stages, Zamora continues to make his alma mater proud.



Remodeled Ceramics Lab Fires Up

NEW ON CAMPUS. The ceramics lab was remodeled this summer what an amazing teaching space. The new lab is equipped with pottery wheels for all students, two electric kilns and one gas fired kiln, and it even has a skylight to flood the room with natural light.







Faculty Chronicles

Welcome to Campus

New Saints Faculty 2026–27



Jeff Kirschbaum
Religion Instructor



Bethanny McGuire
English Instructor



Danny Ramirez ’15
Social Studies &
English Instructor



Emily Stehly
Campus Minister



Joey Rougas ‘19
English Instructor



Juan Cabrera
Painting & Drawing Instructor



Jared Izidoro ‘05
Library Services / Social Studies

Photography by Mr. Bill Hill, Saints Parent.

PURPLE & GOLD. Saints varsity football seniors joined their favorite teachers and administrators for Faculty Appreciation Night. The pairs were introduced to fans before the Saints faced Helix High School at Mesa College Field. Helix won, 27–20.





Ed Hearn with Dario Montoy.



Veronica Gormly with Ian Kunda.



Gary Osberg with Roberto Datilles, Team Manager



Mr. Mike Haupt with Pai Polamalu



Mr. Matt Linville with Havend Shirwani.

BIGGEST LIST OF HIGH SCHOOL CLUB ACTIVITIES IN THE COUNTY

Join a Saints Campus Club

A classroom is only one place to discover what interests you at St. Augustine High School. Campus clubs give Saints a chance to meet classmates, try something new and take an active part in school life. Some students join to pursue a longtime interest; others arrive knowing little about a club and leave with new friends and skills. There is room for both. Browse the clubs listed below, find one that catches your eye and attend a meeting. You may discover that the best part of your school day begins when the final bell rings.



Bennett Wilson and Joseph Walker (seated) sharing with fellow Saintsman information about Robotics Club and displaying the competition robot they built last year for the San Diego regional contest sponsored by Qualcomm.



(L-R) Joey Shwayat, Hugo Hunt Amezquita, and Koji LaPoint sharing with other Saintsmen their interest in Medicine and leading the Medical Club.



Saintsmen Ian Kunde (left) and Andrew Samarkos working the table for the Baja Waterman Club.



(L-R) Enzo Simon, Bryson Morris and Erik Johanson were busy recruiting new members for the Academic League Team.



Mexus President Sebastian Guttierrez (seated, center) explains to other Saintsmen the activities of the Club.

Club Name	Moderator	Moderator Email	Student President
Key Club	Dr. Rey	jrey@sahs.org	Nicolas Ramirez
MexUs	Mr. Osberg	gosberg@sahs.org	Sebastian Gutierrez, Rommel Quintana, Max Escalante
Black Student Union	Mr. Adams	jadams@sahs.org	Zavier Cooke
The Augustinian	Mr. Bachynsky	vbachynsky@sahs.org	Enzo Simon
Cinema Club	Mr. Manley	kmanley@sahs.org	Jose Manuel Prado
Academic League	Mr. Raines	wmraines@sahs.org	Enzo Simon
Saints Mock Trial Team	Mr. Barnes	jbarnes@sahs.org	Benito Bayona
Improv Club	Mr. Blumer	tblummer@sahs.org	Xavier Flippin
Italian Club	Mr. Carini	GCarini@sahs.org	Matteo Toriello
Vinyl Club	Mr. Chesser	bchesser@sahs.org	William Kennedy
Fishing Club	Mr. Christian Da Luz	cdaluz@sahs.org	Marco Kalil
Asian American Alliance	Mr. Cudal	tcudal@sahs.org	Roberto Datiles Jr
BuildON	Mr. Cudal	tcudal@sahs.org	James Botz, Logan Tran
Baja Watermen	Mr. Dent	edent@sahs.org	Andrew Samarkos, Ian Kunde
The Creators Club	Mr. Tompkins	mtompkins@sahs.org	Sean Wiggins
Debate Club	Mrs. Palafox	jpalafox@sahs.org	Xavier Flippin
Car Club	Mr. Granados	sgranados@sahs.org	Nathan Jacobs
Art Club	Mr. Hecht	ghecht@sahs.org	Dominic Sabaga
The Esports Club	Mr. Hickey	jhickey@sahs.org	Sotiri Kanakaris
Finance Club	Mr. Hickey	jhickey@sahs.org	Cole dolin
History & Geography Club	Mr. Oliwa	eoliwa@sahs.org	Benjamin Carolin
Tijuana sin Hambre	Mr. Pruter	apruter@sahs.org	Carlos Bosdet
STAvians	Mr. Raines	wraines@sahs.org	Oliver Winn
Chaldean Club	Mr. Wallace	bwallace@sahs.org	Nick Asker, Augustin Attar, Landon Salem
Hibernian (Irish) Club	Mr. Wallace	bwallace@sahs.org	Joseph Quinn
Trading card club	Mr. Wehbe	jwehbe@sahs.org	Gabriel Myers
Interact Club	Mrs. Allen	mallen@sahs.org	Eduardo Saenz
Hogar Infantil	Mrs. Brophy	jbrophhy@sahs.org	Roque Sanabria Manjarrez
Water Polo Club - Archangels	Mrs. Crachy	kcratchy@sahs.org	Dylan Jensen
The Godzilla Fan Club	Mrs. Walp	kwalp@sahs.org	Elias Turner
Hiking Club	Mr. Okuley	aokuley@sahs.org	Ethan Simmons
Climbing Club	Mr. Adams	jadams@sahs.org	Alexander Zwolinski

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Club Name	Moderator	Moderator Email	Student President
St. Augustine Golf Club (SAGC)	Mr. Kirschbaum	jkirschbaum@sahs.org	Marco Torres
Saints Sticks	Mr. Okuley	aokuley@sahs.org	Noah Westfall
Pickleball Club	Mr. Osberg	gosberg@sahs.org	Alvin Shao, Luke Taylor, Marco Kalil
Sports Engineering Club	Mr. Adams	jadams@sahs.org	Juan Camilo Gallego
Saints Business and Investment Club	Mr. Yoakum	cyoakum@sahs.org	Nicholas Goode
Saint's Drama Club	Mr. Blumer	tblummer@sahs.org	Sebastian Rodriguez
Saints Formula 1 Club	Mr. Christian da Luz	cdaluz@sahs.org	Joaquin Mendoza
Saints Horse Racing Club	Mr. Yoakum	cyoakum@sahs.org	Gabriel Sauque, Brady Sipper, Alessandro Lemus
The Champions League Club	Mrs. Gormly	vgormly@sahs.org	Esteban Morfin
Robotics Club	Mr. Hickey	jhickey@sahs.org	Joseph Walker / Bennet Wilson
Saints Rugby	Mr. Dent	edent@sahs.org	Matt Walp
Muscle Club	Coach Sweat	msweat@sahs.org	Sean Fitzpatrick
Wiffle Ball Club	Mr. Wehbe	jwehbe@sahs.org	Liam Sartain
Nos Sumos Tempura	Mr. Barnes	jbarnes@sahs.org	Miguel Covarrubias, Peter Graves
MemeCoin Trading Club	Mr. Hitchcock	ahitchcock@sahs.org	Guillermo Romo, Andres Salazar
Guitar Jam	Mr. Chesser	bchesser@sahs.org	Dominic Perry
Saints X OLP	Mr. Hitchcock	ahitchcock@sahs.org	Jameson Fabiszak
Trading Card Club (Neubrand)	Mr. Rougas	jrougas@sahs.org	Cash Neubrand
Operation Caritas	Mrs. Brophy	jbrophy@sahs.org	Evan Kliber
Military Kids Club/Outreach	TBD	TBD	Ronin Rush
Astronomy Club	Bennett Poiset	bpoiset@sahs.org	Colt Neubrand
Medical Club	TBD	TBD	Joseph Shwayhat
National Honor Society (NHS)	Mr. Hickey	jhickey@sahs.org	Dominic Sabaga



ALUMNI EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 30–OCTOBER 3 — HOMECOMING WEEK

- 9/30 School Mass 7:45–8:45am in Sanders Gymnasium
- 10/1 Happy Hour at Mission Brewery Miramar 5–9pm
- 10/2 Tailgate & Football Game at Mesa 5–9pm
- 10/3 Reunion Night on Saints Campus 5–9pm

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14TH — CORNHOLE & BOCCE

- Cornhole and Bocce Ball Tournaments on Saints Auxiliary Field
- 2-man teams; food and drink included in registration

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH — PAROCHIAL FOOTBALL TOURNEY

- 30th Annual Parochial Flag Football Tournament
- Hosted on the Saints Football Field
- Volunteers for concessions and scorekeeping always needed!

RSVP and Register for events at alumni.sahs.org.

HOMECOMING WEEK 2026

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

- Happy Hour at Mission Brewery Miramar 5pm–9pm
- Special tastings of the NEW Augustinian Lager!

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2

- Tailgate at Mesa College 5pm–7pm
- Football Game vs. University City 7pm kickoff
  (tickets available on gofan.com beginning 9/28)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3

- Reunion Night on the Saints Campus 5pm–9pm
- Food, Drinks, and Tours offered of the school
- 21+ event, significant others welcomed!

RSVP and Register for events at alumni.sahs.org.

The Sports Page

Saints Scene's updates



Saturday night under the lights at the recent Canyon Crest Academy Ravens Invitational.

Cross Country Starts League Action

1. How did the Saints preseason preparation go?

Summer preparation for cross country is always a little bit of an unknown. We have runners that leave San Diego for the summer, some take a much-needed rest from a grueling track or baseball season, some live in Tijuana, and many work or participate in internship opportunities. Fortunately, cross country is a sport where athletes can train on their own. This summer we offered summer conditioning every Saturday beginning mid-June and had around 12 runners that were able to make consistently.

2. What excites you most about this season?

The most exciting thing thing for me about the upcoming season is the unknown. The team is a combination of experience from our 2025 team, seniors Nico Sanchez, Tim Huschke, Victor Castan, juniors Devon Ferreyra-Macpete, David and Robert Jacobsen, and sophomore Jonny Anderson along with a collection of young runners with talent that lack any varsity experience. I feel this team is a cohesive unit that is excited for the upcoming season, work extremely hard and all have a positive attitude. We are hoping to make some noise at both the league and CIF championship.

2026 Cross Country Varsity Eastern League Schedule

Date	Meet Name	Location & City
Thurs, Oct 1	Eastern League Cluster 1	Morley Field Sports Complex ▪ San Diego, CA
Thurs, Oct 8	Eastern League Cluster 2	Morley Field Sports Complex ▪ San Diego, CA
Thurs, Oct 15	Eastern League Cluster 3	Morley Field Sports Complex ▪ San Diego, CA
Fri, Oct 23	77th Annual Mt. SAC Cross Country Invitational	Mt. San Antonio College ▪ Walnut, CA
Thurs, Oct 29	Eastern League Cluster 4	Morley Field Sports Complex ▪ San Diego, CA
Sat, Oct 31	UC HOKA Postal 2 Mile	University City High School ▪ San Diego, CA
Thurs, Nov 5	Eastern League Cross Country Finals	Morley Field Sports Complex ▪ San Diego, CA
Sat, Nov 14	CIF - San Diego Cross Country Championships	Morley Field Sports Complex ▪ San Diego, CA
Sat, Nov 28	2025 CIF State Cross Country Championships	Woodward Park ▪ Fresno, CA

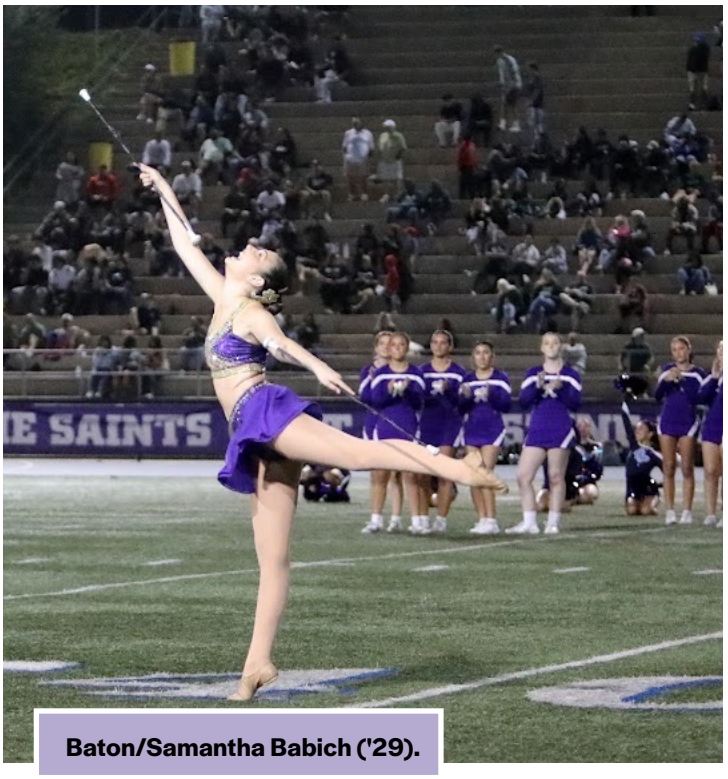
Two Schools, One Spirit

Photography by Mr. Bill Hill, Saints Parent.

Friday nights at Saints football are more than a game—they're a celebration of Two Schools, One Spirit. The OLP dance team, cheer squad, and feature twirler bring energy, talent, and school spirit to the sidelines, creating unforgettable moments for players and fans alike. Though we are two distinct campuses with different uniforms, we come together as one community to support the Saints Football team under the lights. From the stands to the field, the spirit of St. Augustine and the Academy of Our Lady of Peace shines bright.



Dance.



Baton/Samantha Babich ('29).



Cheer.

Saintsmen Forever

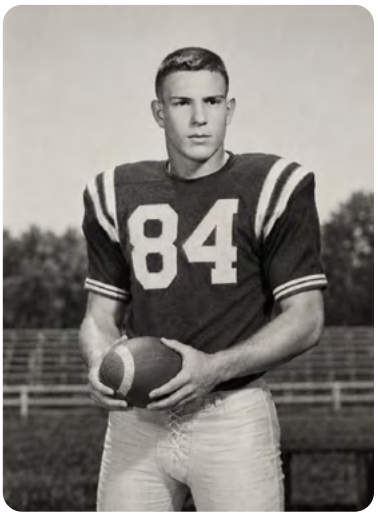
2026 St. Augustine Hall of Fame Inductees

On Friday, Sept. 18, the St. Augustine Athletic Hall of Fame inducted three new members: Nicholas Vitalich from the class of 1961, Armando Favela from the class of 2005, and Tom Cudal from the class of 1972.

The Athletic Hall of Fame was started in 1995 by then-athletic director Mike Stephenso and then-principal Father John Sanders. With the help of the Alumni Association, it was decided that Saints needed a way to begin honoring the incredible achievements of some of its athletes, coaches, and teams. In the fall of 1995, Saints inducted its first ever Hall of Fame class. Over the next few years, inductions happened on an every-other-year basis before shifting to an annual basis in the early 2000s and to coincide with an assembly in front of the entire student body.

This year marked the 28th induction into Athletic Hall of Fame. All three of these inductees represent great athletic achievement, service to the broader Saints community, and embody the charisms of St. Augustine High School and Unitas, Veritas, and Caritas. Saints is proud to introduce the Hall of Fame class of 2026:

Nicholas Vitalich, Class of 1961, Football and Track & Field



Nicholas Vitalich, Class of 1961

Nick was a 4-year varsity letterman in both football and track and field. Upon graduation, he was awarded the St. Augustine Gold Medal for Athletics.

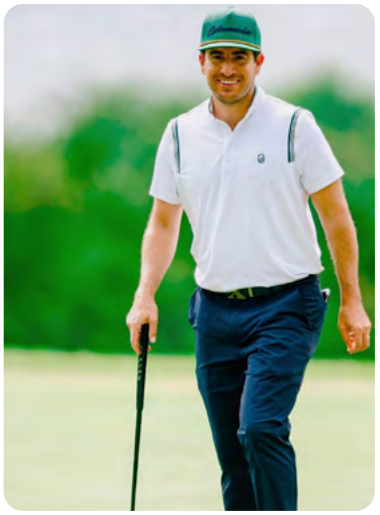
In football, Nick was a skilled lineman on both sides of the ball. He was a key member of the undefeated 1959 team. In 1960, as a junior, Nick's defensive play was cited as the primary reason for Saints' first win over perennial power, San Diego High School. That win officially put Saints Football on the map and ultimately helped lead to Father John Ahern in getting Saints accepted into City Conference and CIF recognition a few years later. In his senior year, Nick was named Defensive Player of the Year by the Breitbard Association. He was also named 1st Team All-County. The Alumni Association awarded him with their Outstanding Lineman award. That winter, he was named as team captain for the annual San Diego – Los Angeles All-Star Game.

In track and field, Nick competed in multiple events over his four years. However, he was best known as "the giant lineman who ran the mile." Back then, the mile was the longest event at a high school track meet. Most teams rarely entered a runner into the mile race. For many schools, including Saints for a time, the mile event was often viewed as a "punishment event." But for Nick, he viewed the mile as an opportunity to earn points for the team, so he regularly volunteered to run the mile at track meets. His efforts in the mile as a senior saw him become one of the team's highest scorers for the season.

After Saints, Nick went to Notre Dame and joined the storied football team as a walk-on. After Notre Dame, he went to Columbia University, where he earned his Master's Degree in Social Work. He dedicated his life to community empowerment, volunteering for a time in Kansas City as part of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty program. He spent two years in Peru with the Peace Corps, followed by some time spent as a community organizer within California's agricultural community.

Eventually, Nick took over the family business at the Chesapeake Fish Company, seeing the family business through its 100th year anniversary. He remained an active competitor for decades in the annual La Jolla Rough Water Swim.

Armando Favela, Class of 2005, Golf



Armando Favela, Class of 2005

Armando Favela, from the class of 2005, was a 4-year letterman in golf and a key member of the 2005 State Championship Golf Team.

When Armando first came to Saints as a freshman in the fall of 2001, he wanted to play both golf and baseball. For two years, he was able to successfully juggle pitching on the JV baseball team while also playing golf (during the same season). But as a junior, with his golf scores vastly improving, it was time for him to make a decision. Thankfully, he chose golf.

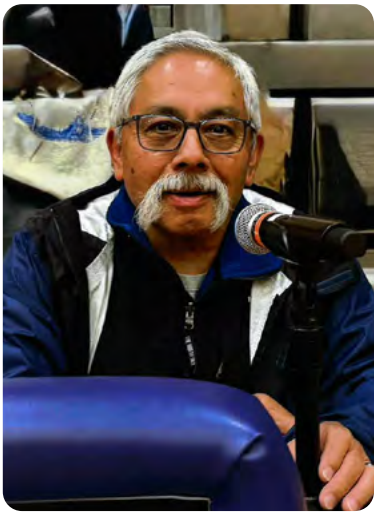
He earned 1st Team All-Western League honors as a junior and was a key member of the team's 2004 league and CIF titles. In his senior year, he was again named 1st Team All-Western League, as well as 1st Team All-CIF.

But the team did not win league or CIF that year, as that other team that wears red took those honors. As the CIF runner-up, Saints still qualified for the Southern California Regionals. There, the team got hot and went on to win both the SoCal Regional and State Championship titles, defeating Murrieta Valley and future PGA superstar, Ricky Fowler, both times. In both events, Armando shot the team's second lowest scores with a 73 and 74, respectively.

Armando's golf prowess earned him a scholarship to Loyola University of Chicago. As a freshman, he was a Top-5 scorer in league play. As a sophomore, he was the team's lowest scorer for the season. As a junior, in 2008, he won the PGA Minority Collegiate Classic tournament, as well as being the first golfer in school history to qualify for the US Amateur at Pinehurst. Upon college graduation, his career stats saw him earn All-League honors all four years. He also finished with seven career collegiate tournament wins. He was voted Loyola University's Male Athlete of the Year in 2009.

In the summer of 2009, Armando turned professional. In fourteen years, he was a full-time member of the PGA Latin Tour, the Canadian Tour, and the Korn Ferry Tour. Six times over his career, he qualified to play in PGA events. In 2014, his first professional victory came at the Stella Artois Classic on the PGA Latin Tour. Before retiring from the tour in 2024, he totaled seven professional wins.

Tom Cudal, Class of 1972, Meritorious Service



Tom Cudal, Class of 1972

Tom Cudal, from the class of 1972, is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for over 40 years of meritorious service to the athletic department. He is affectionately known as "The Voice of Saints Athletics."

Tom first started attending Saints football and basketball games in 1966, when he was just a 6th grader at St. Didacus. A couple of years later, he was here as a freshman. Tom participated in football, wrestling, and track and field over his four years at Saints. In his words, he was never a standout in any one particular sport, but his eyes were opened to the brotherhood, community, and the realization that something bigger was happening and he truly relished in the opportunity to represent Saints.

He quickly decided that he wanted to pursue a career in teaching and to return home to Saints as soon as an opportunity presented itself. In 1978, that opportunity knocked and Tom answered. Over his first ten years, Tom coached football at all three levels. When Tom got promoted to the role of Assistant Principal for Academics, his coaching career came to an end. But still looking for a way to be involved, Tom accepted when then-athletic director, Mike Stephenson, asked him to announce a basketball game.

For the next 37 years, Tom has announced about 99% of every home varsity football and basketball games, earning the unofficial title of "The Voice of Saints Athletics." Tom has been a witness to Saints history as he has watched generations of Saintsmen run onto the field or the gymnasium to compete, succeed, struggle, grow, and become better versions of themselves. And because Tom understands what it means to be a Saintsman, he knows that high school athletics at Saints is not simply about victories; it is about the brotherhood, belonging, and representing something bigger than oneself, and about loving the school.

Cheers for Pope Leo's Mitre

Continued from page 2



Saints "The Pit" cheering section goes Vatican during Frosh Week football game.



Augustinian mitre fits Saints Chaplain Tony Moreno just fine.



Here we see the regular Saints irregulars cheer a touchdown.



Saints win! Saints win!

The Saints Experience; Beyond the Classroom

Continued from page 1

learn to lead and to follow, experience success and disappointment, develop friendships, and practice responsibility, teamwork, perseverance, and creativity.

Just as importantly, they become more deeply connected to the Saints community.

For these reasons, extracurricular activities should not be viewed simply as "extras." They are an important part of how we educate and form young men.

Our encouragement to every Saintsman is simple: get involved. Try something new. Join a club. Participate in a Priory event. Serve others. Support your classmates. Take a chance on something that interests you. To see the complete Saints Club List on page 7.

James Horne,

James Horne

Principal

ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL

ACCEPTING BOYS AND GRADUATING MEN WHO CHANGE THE WORLD!

High Five Saints Merit Scholars

Continued from page 1

"We are tremendously proud of Lorenzo, Michael, Gannon, Erik, and Oliver," said St. Augustine High School Principal James Horne. "Their achievement reflects not only their academic ability, but also the discipline, curiosity, and commitment to excellence that we hope to cultivate in every Saints student. We congratulate these young men, their families, and the teachers who have encouraged and challenged them throughout their education."

St. Augustine High School celebrates these five young men as examples of the intellectual curiosity, hard work, and pursuit of excellence that are central to the Saints experience. Their accomplishments bring great pride to the entire Saints community.

Congratulations to Lorenzo, Michael, Gannon, Erik, and Oliver. Go Saints!



College Topics Night: “Getting In & Paying For It”

Continued from page 1



The evening will provide Saints families with an opportunity to hear directly from **experienced college admission officers**, who will share their wisdom and professional experience about some of the most important questions families face during the college planning process.

The discussion will focus on several important areas. How do college admission teams actually read applications? What makes a student stand out to colleges? How do families pay for college, and what types of financial aid are available?

Whether your son is just beginning his high school experience or preparing to submit college applications, College Topics Night offers parents an opportunity to gain a clearer understanding of both the admission and financial sides of the college process.

One of the great benefits of attending a program such as this early in a student’s high school career is perspective. Families do not need to wait until senior year to begin asking important questions about college. Understanding how admission professionals approach applications and becoming familiar with the financial considerations surrounding college can help parents and students engage more thoughtfully in the process as high school unfolds.

For parents of juniors and seniors, the evening provides an especially timely opportunity to hear from individuals who work directly within college admission. Rather than relying solely on anecdotes or secondhand information, families will be able to benefit from the experience and perspective of professionals familiar with the admission process.

For parents of freshmen and sophomores, the program can provide a valuable introduction to questions that will become increasingly important in the years ahead. The goal is not to rush the college process, but rather to help families become informed and prepared as they accompany their sons through their years at Saints.

At St. Augustine High School, helping young men prepare for life beyond Saints involves more than simply arriving at a college destination. It is also about encouraging students and families to approach important decisions with reflection, intentionality, and a clear understanding of the opportunities before them.

We hope parents from every grade level will take advantage of this opportunity to learn, ask questions, and gain valuable insight into two of the most significant aspects of college planning: getting in and paying for it.

College Topics Night: “Getting In & Paying For It”

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

6:30 p.m.

Raymond Center for the Performing Arts Theater

Parents of students in **all grade levels are invited and encouraged to attend.**

For questions or additional information, please contact Dr. Jerry Rey at jrey@sahs.org or (619) 282 2184, ext. 5531.

St. Augustine High School

College Topics Night

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Raymond Center for the Performing Arts - Theater

"Getting In & Paying For It"

How do colleges admission teams read applications?

What makes a student stand out to colleges?

How do you pay for college and what types of aid are available?

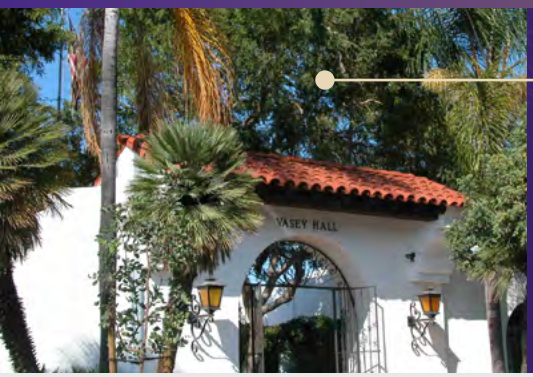
Parents of all grade levels are invited to join experienced college admission officers as they share their wisdom and experience on this important topic.

Questions? – Contact Dr. Jerry Rey at jrey@sahs.org or (619) 282-2184 ext. 5531

SAT and PSAT school day testing on October 7th

- **12th Grade:** Seniors have the option to take the SAT on this day. If they choose not to test, they have the day off. The deadline to register is September 23rd. Registration takes place through the Saints website, NOT College Board. Students should see Dr. Rey with questions.
- **11th Grade:** All juniors are required to take the PSAT at Saints on this day. Registration has been taken care of by the Saints Counseling Department. Students should plan to arrive at school by 7:30am. Testing will begin promptly at 7:45am, and students typically are done for the day around 11:00am. Students and parents should be attentive to email communication regarding additional test details. Contact Bill Sullivan with questions.
- **9th and 10th Grades:** All freshman and sophomores will take a digital practice PSAT from home. They will not report to campus on this day. The test will be organized by one of our test prep partners, Revolution Prep. The online testing session on that will begin at 9:00am, and students will be done by 12:00pm. Students and parents should be attentive to email communication regarding additional test details. Contact Bill Sullivan with questions.

More information and reminders will be sent as we approach test day. Please contact Bill Sullivan, bsullivan@sahs.org, with questions.



AROUND CAMPUS



STEP CLOSER. Brother Tony Moreno OSA, our Saints Chaplain, made his solemn profession of vows to the Order of St. Augustine on August 28, 2026, the feast day of our patron. The next milestones for Bro. Tony will be his ordination to the diaconate in Dec. 2026 and to the priesthood in June 2027.

Frosh B'gosh

Big Brothers (Seniors) and Freshman Celebrate Annual Beanie Week

Beanie Week gave Saints freshmen another chance to build spirit and camaraderie, this time through costumes. The tradition has welcomed new Saintsmen for decades, and the school pairs each freshman with a senior "big brother" during Welcome Week. This year's costumes brought plenty of imagination and laughter to campus.



(L-R) Alberto Spencer and Dylan Teixeira.



AROUND CAMPUS



(L-R) Sebastian Aguilar Nunnink and Kristian Allos.



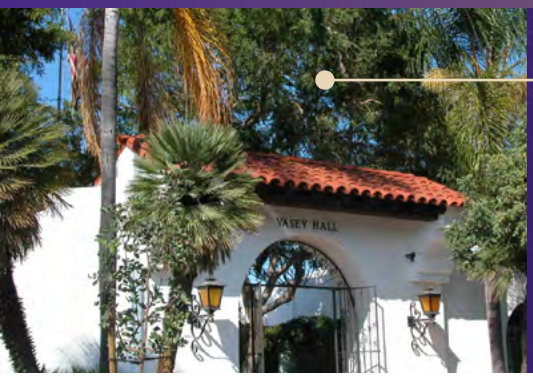
(L-R) Lucas Audish and Ty Purtell.



(L-R) Benjamin Hartage and Greyson Seavey.



(L-R) Jared Hamawandi, Mario Vitale, Jackson McCall, Micha Nona, Max Mohr, Eric McCafferty, Brody Brown and Grayson Bell.



AROUND CAMPUS

Nutmeg Street Ballroom

Saints gym taken over for annual Frosh dance lessons

Photography by Mr. Bill Hill, Saints Parent.



The decades old tradition of Freshman Dance Lessons continues to be a staple of the Saints Experience.



Saintsmen were paired up with a young lady from OLP and the dance instructors (center) offered instructions for a portion of the dance... students switch partners periodically.



Freshman Thomas Datilles and his dance partner are all smiles while learning this dance how to “dip”.



Freshman Adrien Vigil listening to the instructors as he learns to twirl his dance partner.



AROUND CAMPUS

New Home Room "House System" Explained

For newbie parents/guardians the Priory System is St. Augustine High School's newly established form of homeroom. Each student belongs to a small Priory led by a faculty adviser and connected to one of the school's larger Houses. Priory periods provide time for announcements, prayer, mentoring, service projects, school activities and friendly House competitions. The purpose is to strengthen brotherhood by giving every Saintsman a consistent group of classmates and an adult adviser who will support him throughout his years at Saints.



Senior Jose Miguel Martinez describes and answers questions for parents about the recently added House System on Back to School Night. Jose is one of 24 Priory Captains who will be leading Saintsmen this new school year. All 24 Priory Captains made similar presentations.



HOUSE ALIGNMENT. Students gather by House for school events in the gymnasium. During the recent Frosh Week, the newcomers were easy to spot.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Gracen Halton, Class of 2022

A standout at St. Augustine High School and later a defensive tackle at Oklahoma, Saints alumnus Gracen Halton ’22 was selected by the San Francisco 49ers in the fourth round of the 2026 NFL Draft with the 107th overall pick.

Halton excelled throughout training camp and the preseason, earning a four-year contract with the Bay Area team. In his preseason debut against the Tennessee Titans, he recorded four tackles, including one tackle for a loss.

Halton then suited up for the NFL’s first game in Melbourne, Australia. In the 49ers’ season opener against the Los Angeles Rams, he played a pivotal role in stopping All-Pro quarterback Matthew Stafford on fourth-and-goal. The defensive stand shifted the momentum in San Francisco’s favor and helped propel the team to a 27–7 victory.

Keep an eye out for No. 93 roaming the interior of the San Francisco defensive line as this former Saint’s promising football career continues to unfold.



NUTMEG ST. TO NFL. Gracen Halton ’22, middle #93 celebrates a sack against the Tennessee Titans in the second quarter of their preseason game at Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., last summer.

SAINTS SCENE

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

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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
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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.