



SAINTS SCENE



Coming off a successful and Covid-19 safe summer session for 400 students, St. Augustine High School filed a lawsuit against Gov. Gavin Newsom and state officials earlier last month to allow the school to reopen for in-person learning. The lawsuit is now winding its way through the courts.

Doing What Needs To Be Done

St. Augustine High School Completes Safe and Successful Summer Programs; Files Lawsuit to Allow Reopening of 2020-2021 School Year.

By Jeannie Groenveld

St. Augustine High School has safely and successfully completed both its summer school and summer athletic programs for more than 400 students.

Complying with county health requirements and implementing rigorous safety measures, Saints was able to offer in-person learning for 214 students and athletic training programs for 192 athletes without any reports of on-campus Covid-19 cases.

Moving forward, Saints is exploring all options to offer the best educational experience for their students. Saints filed a lawsuit, August 6, 2020 against California Governor Gavin Newsom, and related state officials, seeking to prohibit the enforcement of Governor Newsom's discriminatory school shutdown order, thereby allowing Saints to bring its students back to campus for in-person schooling.

Seven families of students attending Saints, including Timothy Cabana, Juan and Gabriella Enciso, Cesar and Blanca Gonzalez, Martha Hernandez, Thelma Villasenor, Tomasa White, and Antonio Zazueta, have joined in the lawsuit. Saints will offer a distance learning option for those families who don't want to send their children back to school.

Continued on page 14

Working to Make the Saints Experience Jump Off the Screen

Ways to Make the New School Year a Success in an Online Environment

By Mr. Gregory Hecht
Assistant Principal for Academics
St. Augustine High School

The start of any school year is a very exciting time filled with anticipation, reunions, and new beginnings. But this can also be a stressful time of year laced with anxiety and apprehension, especially in this era of COVID-19.

While we all acknowledge that being online is not the ideal situation, rest assured, the Saints faculty and staff remain dedicated as ever to our mission of developing the whole student; mind, heart and body.

Continued on page 18

We Call Everyone "Coach"

Dear Saintsmen, Families & Community,



Principal James Horne

If you hang around long enough, someone on campus will call you "Coach". It is a common greeting here on Nutmeg Street, whether a priest, a counselor, a teacher, a volunteer or indeed a coach. We call everyone "Coach".

Some think it's a tie to athletics and the prominence of sport at our all boys campus,

Continued on page 5

Lasting Legacy Series: Mr. Ronald Weismann ('54)

School Salutes a Most Generous Alum

By Edwin J. Hearn, President St. Augustine High School

In the latter part of 2019, I answered my phone and the voice at the other end of the call identified herself as Karen Weismann. She informed me she was administering Ronald Weismann's Trust who had died on February 28, 2019, of a massive infection that eventually shut down his body. She announced that Ronald had bequeathed \$250,000 from his estate to be used in the Saints Endowment Fund to provide underserved boys with financial assistance to attend Saints. As Karen and I continued our conversation, I discovered Karen was Ronald's sister-in-law and was married to his twin brother Donald.

The Weismann twins graduated from Saints in 1954.

Prior to this phone call, I had never heard the name Weismann. In our conversations since Ronald's death, it was interesting to discover that neither Ronald or Donald had ever attended a class reunion even though for most of their lives resided in East County. So what was the connection for this generous donation?

It seems the music program at Saints re-established their quiet relationship with the school. As it turned out, their niece, Celeste Woestman, had three boys who attended Saints. Although Augustus was not involved in music, Konrad learned the Oboe, while at Saints and played the drums and younger brother, Ivan was a percussionist in the orchestra and 32nd Street Jazz Band. Donald, Ronald and Karen would attend their music concerts at Saints. On these occasions, they observed that the musicians were polite, engaging, happy and confident and the Woestman boys were benefitting from their association with Saints. It also rekindled their memories of Saints and helped them realize their association with the school had set the stage for their lives.

Ronald's story is Donald's story in large part. Through the course of their lives, they have been rarely apart and were best friends through life. Their story begins in Cold Springs, Minnesota on February 16, 1936, the day of their birth. They were born into a large Catholic family of four girls and five

boys. When Mary, their mother, first started feeling the beginning of labor with what she thought would be her tenth child, she had no idea she would have twin boys that day. The big surprise occurred right after Donald's birth when there was a surprise with the birth of another baby boy.

Although the boys were identical twins, Ronald was smaller and was not expected to live. With great worry and more care, Mary nursed her baby to health and the twins were off and running. The boys spent the first 14 years of their lives living in Cold Springs, Minnesota, where they attended Catholic school. Mary dressed the twins alike and while they might have rebelled, they did not.

There was only one time there was a problem at school. It turned out Donald was punished for one of Ronald's misdeeds, which caused Donald to have to stay after school. When Ronald came home alone, his mother asked where his brother was causing Ronald to burst into tears where he blurted out that he had gotten his brother in trouble. This was a personality trait that would play out throughout Ronald's life. He was a gentle giant with a compassionate heart and a strong desire to help others.

In the spring of 1951, Henry and Mary moved their family to Spring Valley. As the youngest children in the family, the boys started Saints as sophomores. They missed the beanies and all that comes with being a freshman at Saints. Although they both wanted to attend public school, their mom and dad would not hear of it and they were enrolled at Saints. Henry, their dad, was a finish carpenter and built a house close to Santa Sophia Catholic Church. For the twins, the commute back and forth to school precluded them from playing after-school sports, but they played Intramurals and were kept busy by their father's business as he always had things for them to do. Henry was one of the original Catholic men involved with building Santa Sophia Catholic Church in the early 1950s. The Crucifix, above the altar, was made by Henry and is still the largest Crucifix in any church in the Diocese of San Diego.



Don and Ron - Confirmation



Ron and Don looking spiffy in front of 1949 Chevy.

Continued on page 16

“The Ed Show”

Important Saints Community video dialogues hosted by School President Edwin Hearn, Summer/Fall 2020.



Looking ahead toward Fall class options, School President Mr. Ed Hearn interviews Mr. Greg Hecht, Assistant Principal/Academics.



School President Mr. Ed Hearn on the set (Vasey Patio) of his new school video series with Principal Mr. James Horne.

School President Mr. Ed Hearn is spearheading a multi-media communications effort to keep the Saints Community informed on the changes which have occurred because of the Covid-19 epidemic.

The news blitz, which includes online efforts with daily bulletins, alumni outreach, student publications and the San Diego Press Club award winning Saints Scene parent/community online magazine, there's something new hitting the airwaves this Fall.

Saints Network, a media collaboration of the ASB and faculty has put President Edwin Hearn in front of the camera. Mr. Hearn's ongoing series titled "On the Patio—a Video Series with President Hearn—continues into the Fall.

So far, he's taped segments on a cross section of school leaders discussing the impact of the Corona virus on campus, plus a wide ranging discussion aimed at getting to know the interviewees better.

The series began with an interview with Mr. Horne, our principal, and captured some of his work history and focused on the administrative team's plans for the reopening of school.

Next, President Hearn invited Asst. Principal of Academics, Mr. Greg Hecht to the patio to share news about our new engineering and robotics classrooms. These spaces were designed last year and developed over the summer. These fantastic new science spaces also forged the establishment of a Science and Technology partnership with the University of Texas, Austin. The videos are available on the schools Facebook and YouTube pages.

The following is a list of YouTube online addresses where readers can tune into video programing we affectionately call "The Ed Show."

- 1. MR. HEARN EXPLAINS SCHOOL REOPENING**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8a5x8JcfM4>
and/or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQRjX3lVgV4>
- 2. MR. HORNE LEADS HYBRID TRANSITION TO ONLINE**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNQ4VYFQWZE&t=7s>

- 3. MR. HECHT UPDATES FALL ACADEMIC OPTIONS**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KW6d4g8SS6A>

- 4. INTERVIEW WITH ASB STUDENT COOPER LANCE ('21)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=870CP2h8yG8>

- 5. INTERVIEW WITH FINANCE & FACILITIES DIRECTOR MR. KEVIN DERIEUX**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdkqhxTM7b4&feature=youtu.be>

- 6. INTERVIEW WITH SCHOOL COUNSELOR DR. JERRY REY**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Z1Uju3o1vw>

- 7. INTERVIEW WITH ENGLISH TEACHER MR. JOHN LAMERATO**
https://twitter.com/saints_info/status/1296668998390689794/photo/1

- 8. INTERVIEW ASB STUDENT ALEX ALCALAY ('21)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQXewuLGbNM>

AROUND CAMPUS



NICE CATCH. Sophomore Jack Boetjer attended last year's Alumni fishing trip meeting Saintsman from across the decades while catching some sizeable tuna. Jack was on deck in last year's Annual Saints Alumni Fishing Adventure. This year the event on the high seas off the Coronado Islands will take place Sept. 13 aboard H&M Landing's new boat "Relentless."

CIF Sports Calendar

The local governing body of high school athletics has announced December 12 will be the first day the following sports may begin practicing for new Season 1 Fall sports: Cross Country; Football; Volleyball.

Spring Season 2 sports may begin practice on:

- Baseball (March 13)
- Basketball (March 13)
- Golf (Feb. 15)
- Lacrosse (March 19)
- Soccer (Feb. 22)
- Swimming (March 13)
- Tennis (Feb. 22)
- Track & Field (March 13)
- Wrestling (March 13)

More details as they become available from CIF.

Bye Bye, Bocce (For Now)

In case you missed the news here's a repeat of a memo from Peter Reck, Alumni Bocce Tournament coordinator:

Hello Friends of the Tournament,

I am sorry to have to inform you that because of the pandemic, which as an understatement, I presume you have heard about, we have to cancel this year's tournament. We have been delaying making this announcement in the hope that it would abate in time to hold the event. This is not happening, at least to the degree need to proceed with planning the event to take place this year.

Again, I am sorry to be the bearer of this sad news.

Kind regards and saludos,

Peter Reck ('68)

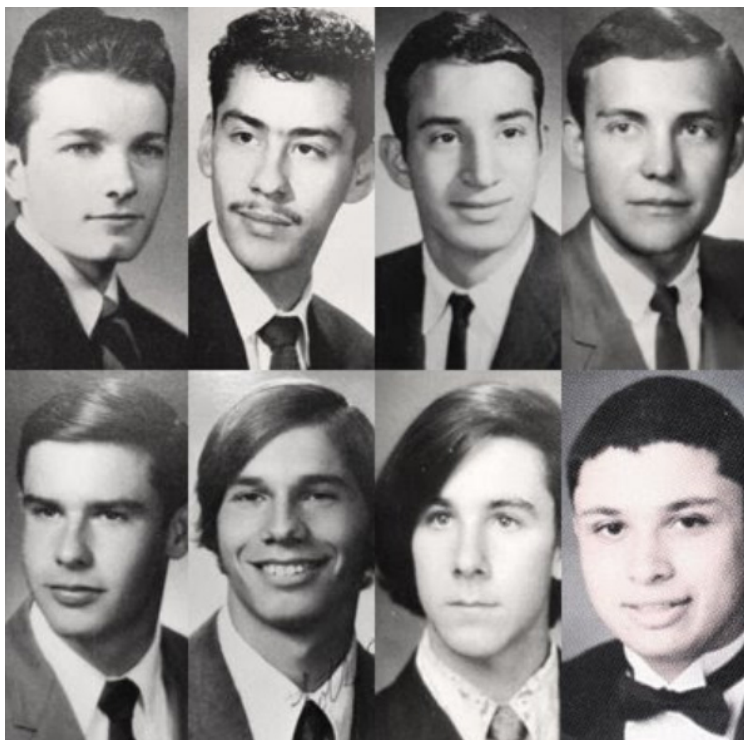


MULLIGAN. There will be no Alumni Golf event in 2020.

New date for the Saints Alumni Association Golf Tournament will be April 30, 2021 at Riverwalk Golf Course in Mission Valley. The decision on the new date was based on guidance from the school's Board of Directors, County health department and the tourney's golf venue partner.



AROUND CAMPUS



GODSPEED. So far in 2020, the following Saintsmen have passed. Top row, left to right: Rev. Richard Brown ('44); Humberto Loera ('56); Armen Hodoyan ('61) David Matt Green ('67). Lower row, L-R: Don Parent ('67); John Kosich ('74); Jim Russell ('75) and Carmen Aguiniga ('95). Rest in peace, gentlemen.



The Names

Tanner Battikha, a recent grad of University of New Mexico was named to the All-Academic Team (yes, nationwide) by the U.S. Track & Field Coaches Association. Tanner, a track standout at Saints graduated in 2016.

Top Varsity football defensive end **Gracen Halton** was out fishing when his cellphone rang with the news that he "landed" a scholarship from the University of California, Berkeley.

We Call Everyone "Coach"

Continued from page 1

but it's not. It is because, as mentors to young men, we are actively coaching them, all the time, as they develop themselves in mind, heart and body.

Our classrooms and extracurricular activities are not places for young men to absorb and learn purely by watching and listening, we want them to learn by doing. If we are going to develop critical thinking in our students, we must "coach" them in that ability. Our students, whether in class, an activity, an internship, a service project, or in competition will learn best by their own active engagement and disciplined approach to the task at hand. As such, our faculty and staff are regularly on the sidelines "coaching" and guiding students to perform the assigned task in the right way and in the right spirit.

Our unique approach with boys allows us to teach them the fundamentals in reading, writing, thinking, speaking, praying, serving, and loving and then we challenge them to use these skills in meaningful ways; over and over again.

Schools everywhere teach. We are moving beyond learning and coaching them how to live, how to be and how to become. Here at Saints we go a bit further because we know that great success for young men is more likely if we take our "coaching" seriously.

Yours in the Spirit of Catholic Education,

James Horne
Principal



THE Quietude.

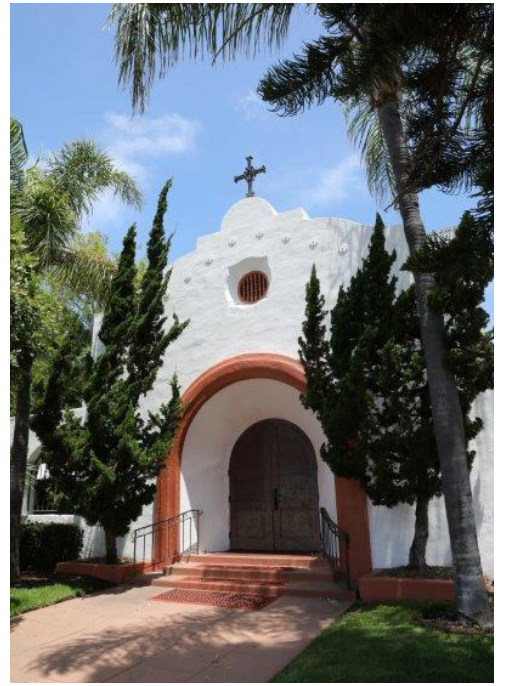
The halls of St. Augustine High School are all but empty as are many student seats during this pandemic era of social distancing. But, with faith in God, community and the will of the people to overcome adversity, once again there will be laughter in the hallways,

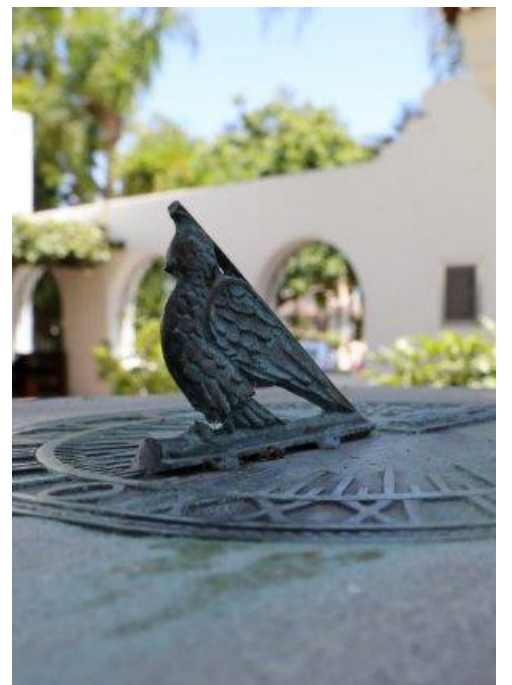
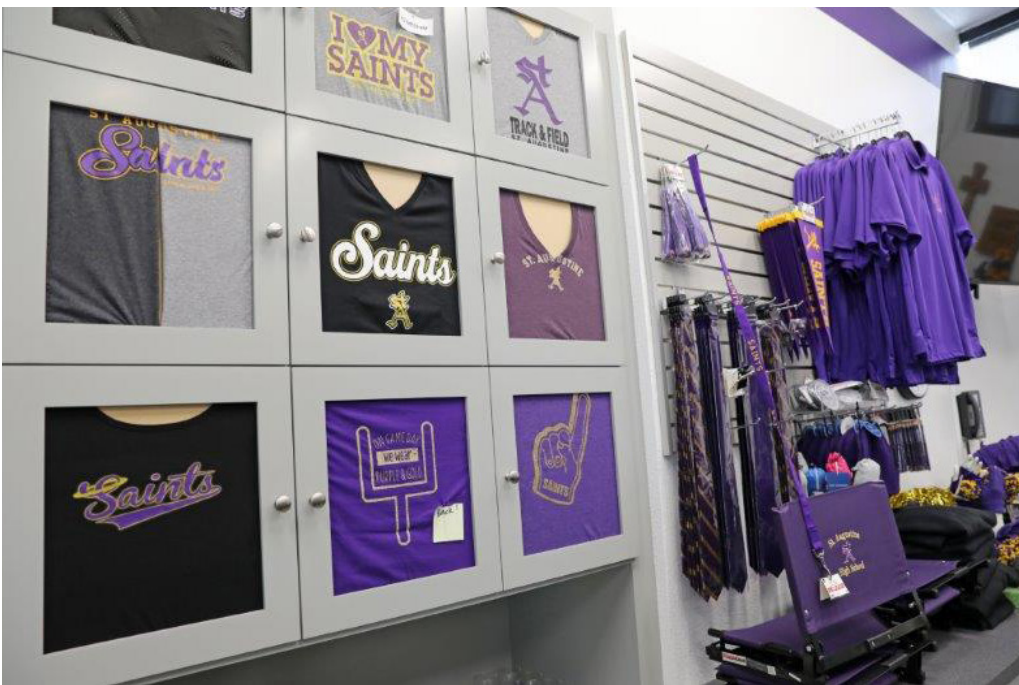
cheering in the Gym and prayers at Student Mass and in our hearts.

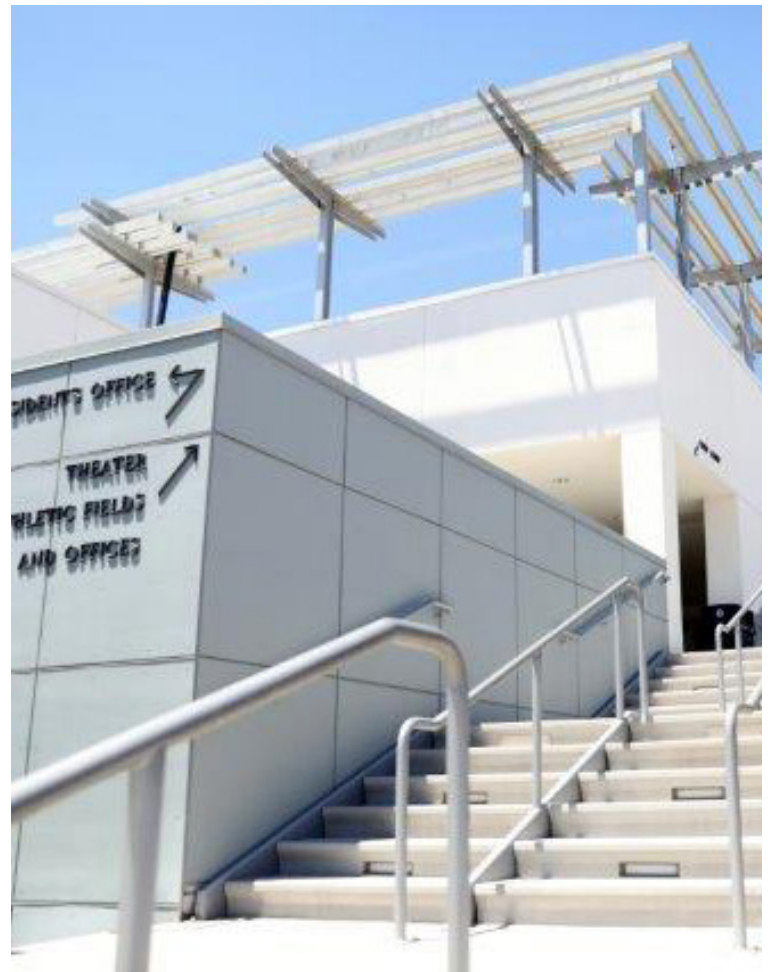
Saints parent Mr. William Hill, a regular contributor to Saints Scene visited the campus before the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year began.

His photography is an introduction to the campus to those who are new and a reminder to the Saints Community of what one of the best schools in the land looks like.









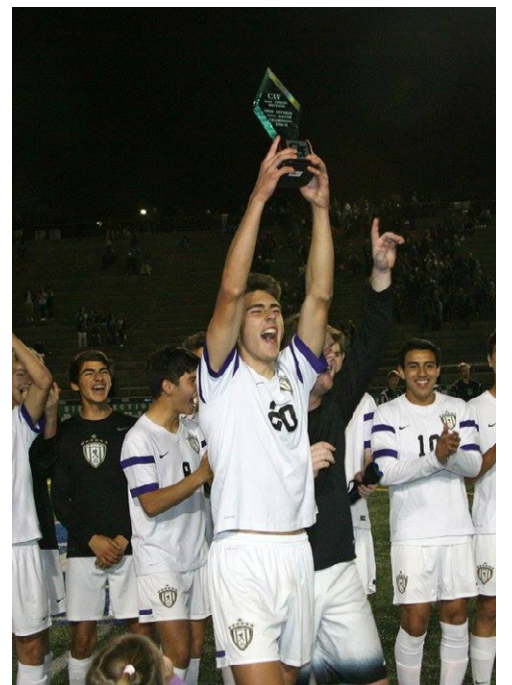
THE Noise

As students, alums, teachers, administrators and parents, we don't have to be reminded of how loud our Saintsmen can be. Here's a few images of what we're missing and what will soon return. Speaking of

noise and the Boyz here's a student video of the famous Saints Pit cheering section from a few years ago. Paste to your browser: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbLJdFapI_E









The Beanie and Beyond

One of the school's long standing traditions is to hold a Freshman orientation to introduce ninth graders (Class of 2024) to the world of St. Augustine High School. Called the Freshman Retreat, the annual event in recent years has been staged by Saints office of Christian Ministry (CM).

A big question for the event is how will the ongoing pandemic impact the 2020 version?

Good news. Freshman Orientation is in capable hands. Led by CM Director Nicole Yoakum four student coordinators are onboard. "I have been working hard with Alex Alcalay, Eamon Goodnough, Angel Perez and Kyle Wesseln, all Seniors, to adjust the retreat to be safe and memorable for the incoming Freshmen," says Mrs. Yoakam.

Freshman Retreat will now be a one-day event on Saturday, September 26.

Students will not be going off campus this year but CM's frosh committee is finding creative ways to bring the community to them.

"The students will be spending more time with their small groups to limit exposure and to allow them to grow even closer with new friends," says Mrs. Yoakum.

A spokesperson for the campus Big Brothers group added they are looking forward to welcoming the Class of 2024 into the Brotherhood that includes the beanie and beyond."



In days of yore Frosh Retreat overnights were held in Dougherty Gym

Doing What Needs To Be Done

Continued from page 1

"At Saints, we don't believe remote learning is sufficient to provide a quality education our students are entitled to and our families have come to expect," said Principal James Horne. "We are confident we can open our school safely, consistent with CDC and San Diego County health guidance. We ran a safe and successful summer school program and believe it is an indicator that we can safely return to school in the fall."

Saints encourages open communication with its families in an effort to fully understand its students and their families concerns. It is clear that many families fear the negative mental health impacts by keeping kids isolated in a distance learning environment, while some fear exposure to Covid-19.

Many Saints' families have two working parents that want to ensure their children are in a safe learning environment during the day. Many students also come from low income families that deserve the right to a quality education; the virtual learning environment has proven more difficult for children of low-income families.

After appeals from many families to

return to the classroom, Saints is pursuing the best way to offer opportunities that are the right fit for all its students and families.

With the success they achieved during their summer programs, Saints intends to implement the same rigorous measures that will provide a safe return to the classroom for those students that choose in-person learning. Each student will be required to wear masks and adhere to social distancing requirements, the air conditioning systems will use UV lights that were installed over the summer to sanitize the air circulating in classrooms and buildings, and buildings and classrooms will be routinely sanitized with an electrostatic disinfecting mist system.

All measures will promote a safe and healthy environment.

"The 2020 Summer School session was modified to adhere to the local, state and National health guidelines," said Saints' summer program leader and Asst. Principal John O'Beirne.

"The faculty and staff did an excellent job providing a safe and healthy environment while creating an active and rigorous curriculum. Both students and faculty were

excited to be part of the Summer Program."

The majority of students want to return to in-person learning in the fall, having their confidence bolstered by the success of the summer school programs. "I felt safe in my environment," said rising sophomore student, Michael Tompkins, of his experience in summer school. "I was not scared to come to school, because the guidelines the school set for our return made me feel good about being back in class."

Saints uses a teaching technique called relational teaching. It emphasizes the importance of connectivity and relationships between the student and teacher as well as their fellow Saintsmen. Saints believes in "The Brotherhood" in which students remain bonded for life. For these reasons, the faculty and staff are committed to doing what it takes to return to this type of environment for learning.

The mission of St. Augustine High School is to provide a Catholic liberal arts education for young men in an environment that promotes the development of the mind, heart and body in the Augustinian tradition.

Augustinian Heritage

Continued from page 2

They were studious, did their homework and stayed out of trouble. Their connection to Saints was limited. As transfers migrating to San Diego from Minnesota and living in Spring Valley, it was difficult for the twins to form friendships with teachers and other boys. Daily they were dropped off Saints where Highway 94 now runs and had to walk the rest of the way to School.

Donald did remember Fr. Charles Danaher as his English teacher and walking his boxer on campus. His love of using proper grammar resulted from Fr. Danaher's teaching and would lead to Karen allowing Donald to edit all of her college papers.

In reminiscing about their time at Saints, Donald and Ronald realized their teachers gave them a sense of purpose, were held to high expectations for academic achievement that was established for the rest of their lives and their faith strengthened from their Saints Experience. The rigor of the school forced the development of disciplined work habits. When they graduated Ronald was 9th in a class of 109 graduates, while Donald was number 8. It should be pointed out a mistake was made with Ronald's name in the 1954 Yearbook. His middle name was listed as "Mathias" instead of "Matthew." After all these years, let the record be corrected. It is correctly listed in the most recent Alumni Directory.

After graduation in 1954, both Donald and Ronald entered the Air Force but stayed stateside. Once again, they were together through their training and assignments.

They went to Technical School at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois where Donald became a Radio Maintenance Technician, and Ronald became a Radio Operator Technician. Eventually, they were stationed at Griffiss Air Force in Rome, New York, and as one might assume, they roomed together.

When their Air Force commitment ended, Ronald and Donald returned to San Diego and became city bus drivers. In time, Ronald was promoted to Routing Director and Donald became the Manager of Transportation. They both married and then divorced about the same time. While Ronald did not remarry, Donald married his wife of 30 years, Karen. Neither of the twins had children. Ronald moved into the home his dad had build years before in Spring Valley and Donald and Karen live in La Mesa. When they retired, Donald went to work at The Home Depot and Ronald became the "go-to" handyman at Santa Sophia's. They formed a business with their older brothers, Cold Springs Investments. This partnership invested in apartment buildings fixed them and rented them. Donald and Ronald supported each other, were frugal, invested wisely over the years and lived simply. At the time Ronald was working on his Trust,



Don and Ron with Fr. John Glynn, O.S.A. on Vasey Patio

there was a conversation between Ronald, Donald and Karen about where the funds would do the most good. There were their warm feelings of watching Konrad, Ivan and the other Saints boys performing at Music Concerts. These moments helped them to recall their high school days at Saints where their value system was strengthened, and the sacrifice of their parents to provide a Catholic education was understood. After years of graduating Saintsmen, their alma mater had stayed true to its values of "accepting boys and graduating men." Saints is a school that transforms lives and Ronald wanted to see it flourish long into the future to continue the work that was the bases of his success.

Note: The leadership of the school would like to include you in our Core Unum (One Heart) Legacy Society. This group gathers annually to attend Mass and have breakfast together. (619) 764-5541 or CCallery@sahs.org



Don and Ron Air Force baseball days



Don, Mother Mary, and Ron

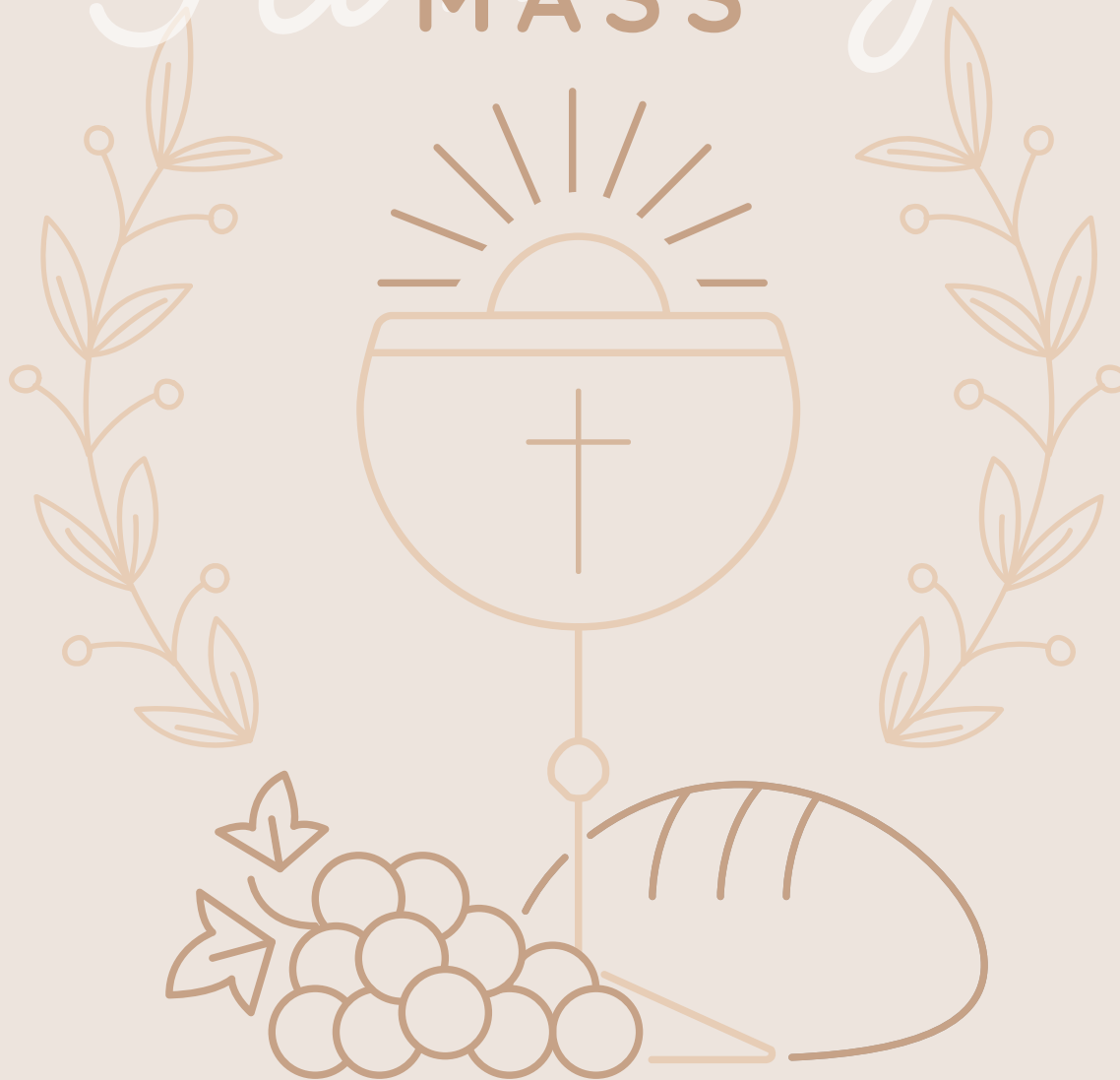


The seven Weismann Brothers



Family

MASS



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH AT 5:30 P.M.
on the Saints Football Field

Come together with members of the Saints Community
to pray for a successful school year for our sons.

Bring your beach chair, sunscreen and a hat.

Working to Make the Saints Experience Jump Off the Screen

Continued from page 1

Until such time as we can all be back on campus high-fiving one another and jumping around in the PIT, we are working tirelessly to making sure that the 'Saints Experience' jumps off the screen! So, to get the school year off on the right foot and to help alleviate unnecessary tensions and worry, I would offer the following suggestions as to what you can do as a Saintsman to find success as we begin the year in an online environment.

First, it is important to approach the school year with a positive attitude and an openness to learning new things and making new friends, even in a virtual environment. The 'Saints Experience' is fundamentally based on our common connection of love, community, and the brotherhood! This means the 'Saints Experience' depends on you! Participate in your classes, ask questions, be the first to reach out and offer assistance to another Saintsman, approach each day with a growth mindset, be enthusiastic, and remember that you can learn and improve in anything with perseverance and hard work. Do not be afraid to get outside your comfort zone and never be afraid of failure!

Second, and I know you have heard this before, but especially with online learning, stay organized and create a plan for success! Be sure to check CANVAS on a consistent basis to stay current with grades, assignments, and teacher communications. Utilize a calendar and input important dates such as assignment deadlines, quizzes, and tests. Your leaning space should be quiet, well-lit, and comfortable.

If you are having tech issues or challenges with ZOOM, CANVAS, or MYSCHOOLAPP, please reach out to your teachers so they can point you in the right direction to get your issues remedied in a timely fashion. Make sure every assignment has a home and if utilizing an option such as Google Docs, keep your work clearly labeled and delete any unnecessary clutter that can cause confusion or undue stress. Also, consider laying out clothes the night before and plan lunches for the week.

Third, rest up, fuel up, and do not neglect exercise! As you will likely be logging a considerable amount of screen time, it is even more important than ever to pay attention to these three areas. According to the National Sleep Foundation, "Teens need about 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night to function best. Most teens do

not get enough sleep — one study found that only 15% reported sleeping 8 1/2 hours on school nights. (<https://sleepfoundation.org/sleep-topics/teens-and-sleep>)." In our fast-paced, constantly on the go lifestyles, getting the necessary amount of sleep and exercise is indeed a challenge; however, sleep deficits and lack of exercise are detrimental to health and can have adverse and unwanted outcomes on performance at school. Make sleep and exercise a priority!

Hand-in-hand with sleep and exercise is nutrition. Do not skip breakfast and be sure to make healthy choices when at all possible. Research is clear on the impacts of both sleep and nutrition on cognitive function. "Food is like a pharmaceutical compound that affects the brain," said Fernando Gómez-Pinilla, a UCLA professor of neurosurgery and physiological science who has spent years studying the effects of food, exercise and sleep on the brain. "Diet, exercise and sleep have the potential to alter our brain health and mental function. This raises the exciting possibility that changes in diet are a viable strategy for enhancing cognitive abilities, protecting the brain from damage and counteracting the effects of aging." https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2008-07/uoc--slh070908.php

Finally, be sure to seek out help when needed. If you do not understand a concept, ask questions or attend tutoring hours with the instructor. If you are dealing with a personal crisis (e.g. feelings or anxiety or depression) do not suffer in silence. The teachers and counseling staff at St. Augustine High School are here to support you and help you through those challenging times, be they academic or personal. The teachers and counselors stand at the ready to assist you and are happy to set up ZOOM conferences or phone calls to address your needs.

Even though we are online to start, I am as thrilled as ever that another school year is upon us and that cranium expansion is on the horizon! Everyday is a chance to learn something new and grow as person. Commit to viewing every Monday with the same joy as you do Friday! Every Monday is a launching point for new discoveries, inquiries and opportunities to think critically. T.G.I.M! and have a phenomenal school year!



When in class education returns, proper student social spacing in class is demonstrated by students in one of Mr. John Lamerato's English classes on campus shown here during Summer Session.



ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL

2020-2021

ACCEPTING BOYS AND GRADUATING
MEN WHO CHANGE THE WORLD!

CARING, CREATING, COACHING.



Hebrews 12:11



To schedule family tours or for more information please contact
the Director of Admissions, Paul Sipper: psipper@sahs.org

FIRST IN A SERIES

Teacher Standout: Mr. Christian da Luz

By Angel Perez ('12) ASB Outreach Coordinator and is an editor with student newspaper, The Augustinian



Mr. Christian DaLuz



Angel Perez ('21)

As my junior year approached, I was eager to question many upperclassmen about their experiences with teachers that I would soon encounter in order to prepare myself for the coming year. With each student I talked to, I heard yet another raving review of Mr. Christian da Luz, and it became increasingly apparent that he was an extremely well-liked and well-respected teacher.

Exceeding my sky-high expectations, Mr. da Luz's class truly never failed to impress me. His ability to connect with students as he passionately spoke about a wide range of subjects created an ideal learning environment, and his tendency to draw modern connections to often antiquated U.S. history topics made the class even more captivating. Mr. da Luz was successful in making his class as interactive as possible, and his unique style of teaching allowed for an atmosphere that was highly conducive to learning.

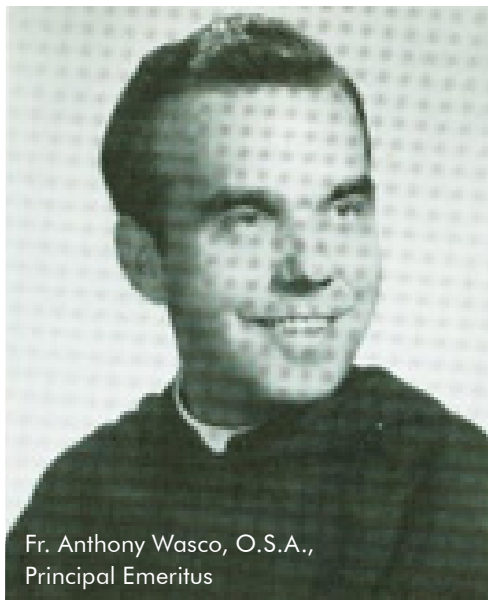
Mr. da Luz's class was engaging, informative, and highly enjoyable, and I will indubitably recommend it to any students looking for a transformative learning experience.

Saintsmen interested in contributing to this teacher appreciation series contact Mr. Horne.

Change is Good

Recent Leadership Changes Bode Well for Future of Saints Alumni Association

Dispatch from the President's Office



Fr. Anthony Wasco, O.S.A.,
Principal Emeritus

First a bit of history. Former Principal, Fr. Tony Wasco OSA, is remembered for many things; he started the Saints Blazers, the Freshman Dance Lessons, the Seminary Guild and he is credited for reigniting the St. Augustine High School Alumni Association. The organization had been around since the late 1940's but over time activity had its ups and downs.

"In 1965, Fr. Wasco discovered an Alumni directory that Fr. John Blethen OSA had created 12 years prior with a list of alums contact information," says our beloved former staff member Jean Shaw '91 H.G (2019 Augustinian Achievement Award Recipient), "With that original list, Fr. Wasco gathered a few alums for a meeting to discuss how to re-start the Alumni Association to help the school with funds."

Jean went on to tell us that her husband Leo Shaw '49 was one of the original Saintsman who Fr. Wasco called in and made him the Alumni Association President. "Leo volunteered me to come in as well and help Father since I was a stay at home mom at the time. We spent our days looking for alums through graduation announcements, yearbooks and the phone book." Jean shared with us a funny story how she and Fr. Wasco spent a full day looking for a Saintsman by the name of Bill Sullivan. "Do you realize how many Sullivans there are in the phone book?! And Guess what? He was right next door to my office as the Vice Principal Fr. William Sullivan, OSA. Father and I had a lot of fun doing this." Mrs. Shaw ended up working at Saints for 50 years! Over that time, she collected thousands of names for the

Alumni database, put together countless reunions and sewed some 8,000 Freshman Beans!

In the 1970's the Association became a separate 501c3 non-profit independent organization from the school. This was so the group could open their own bank account and receive donations directly. Over the years the Association has put on numerous events for our alumni. Bringing our brothers from near and far together. The following annual events have been attended by thousands of Saintsman; Alumni Golf Tournament, Bocce Tourney, Parochial School Football & Basketball Tournaments, and Deep-Sea Fishing Excursion.

Current events. The Alumni Association has seen recent change in leadership and with added expenses to operation costs the Board Members on July 14th, 2020 voted to join the school and close their separate 501-C3 to a vote of 11 to 7 with 1 abstain. It was a hard decision for some, but a necessary decision for the survival and growth of the organization. Some are concerned that joining the school is going to change things. But President Ed Hearn reassured everyone, "Nothing is going to change, we love our association and appreciate all the hard work they given back to Saints. This transition will be seamless and will only help the group."

So, what does the future hold for this new change in the Alumni Association? "We are going to continue to hold all the same traditional Alumni events that we have had in the past," stated our Director of Alumni Relations Chris Cashman '93. "We hope to create some new events and bring in some new members." Cashman went on to say, "we want to grow the Alumni Association Endowment Scholarship that goes directly to supporting the needs of Alums with sons who would like to attend Saints. Tuition is no longer a couple thousand dollars and there are a lot of Alums out there who need the support to keep their family's Saints tradition alive."

Important. If you are an Alumni of Saints and would like to get involved in Alumni Association please contact Mr. Cashman at ccashman@sahs.org It's a great way to reconnect with your brothers and network with Alums of all years.



SAINTS SCENE

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

*Awards: Saint Scene has been voted by the San Diego Press Club as the Best Community Newsletter by an Organization, 2011. Second Place in 2006 and Third Place 2012.

Publisher: Edwin J. Hearn, Jr. Saints President
Editor-in-Chief: James Horne, Saints Principal
Senior Advisor: Fr. Gary Sanders, O.S.A., 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 Photographers: 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.