



# SAINTS SCENE

## WE'RE TALKING HISTORY

Saints Athletes Capture 2 Same Day CIF Open Titles



**BACK TO BACK.** Saints awesome Basketball Team captured its second Open CIF Division championship in a row. And on the same Super Saturday [Feb. 25] a gritty Varsity Soccer team was crowned CIF County champs for 2022 and 2023. Turn to Page 11 for coverage of this historic day for Saints Athletics.

Page 1 photo by Bill Hill.

## If You're on a College Waitlist Maybe It's Time to Do Some Wooing

By Mr. Tim Golden

**Seniors** – Decisions from colleges you are still waiting to hear from should arrive before the end of the month. With record-high numbers of applications, many schools will utilize the waitlist rather than giving acceptances and denials at this time. If you are still interested in a college that has offered you a spot on the waitlist, make sure to accept the spot on the waitlist, express your strong interest in the

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## Saints Hosts Augustinian Educators Dear Saints, Families & Community



Principal James Horne

In February, Saints played host to The Augustinian Values Institute, an annual gathering of Augustinian educators. Educators visited from North America,

Ireland, and Australia and took a deeper look at our core values of Unitas, Veritas, and Caritas (unity, truth and love). In particular, the 120+ guests examined how these values can be integrated into campus life and provide a common tradition and experience for students in Augustinian schools.

Being united in purpose and in the pursuit of our faith and beliefs is contrary to many societal messages. We live in a world that seems to thrive on difference. In trying to identify ourselves we often tend to look past our commonalities and look for some unique expression of difference.

Our conference for these Augustinian educators was an expression of our commonalities. It was a celebration of the strong communal atmosphere in our schools; one that expresses love and promotes the search for truth. Each of these visiting schools shared wonderful and heartwarming stories about the “community feeling” on their campuses. And now they got to experience first-hand the sense of community and hospitality at Saints, one that impacts our campus, our Church and the San Diego region.

Thanks for being on this journey with us and please pray for the continued success of our Augustinian mission.

Yours in the Spirit of Catholic, Augustinian Education,

James Horne  
Principal

### MEETING OF MINDS.

The Augustinian Secondary Education Association hosted its annual meeting of the school leaders for each of the 10 Augustinian high schools in North America in San Diego.



# Augustinians in the News

## Ex-Top Augustinian Named to High Vatican Post



Bishop Robert Francis Prevost O.S.A.

Pope Francis has named Bishop Robert Francis Prevost O.S.A. to head the Dicastery for Bishops, the Vatican announced earlier this winter. Prevost will succeed Cardinal Marc Ouellet as lead of the department which oversees episcopal nominations and discipline.

Prevost, 67, a canon lawyer with experience as both a missionary and diocesan administrator, has been serving as bishop of the Peruvian Diocese of Chiclayo, since 2014. Along with his appointment as prefect, the Vatican press office announced, Pope Francis has granted Prevost the personal rank of Archbishop, and he will take the title of Archbishop-Bishop emeritus of Chiclayo when he takes over at the dicastery on April 12, 2023.

A Chicago native, he was previously appointed by Francis as a member of both the Dicastery for Bishops and the Dicastery for Clergy. He also served as head of the global Augustinian order from 2001-2013.

### Friars Elect Province Council



**ELECTION.** The Province Council was elected to a four year term at the recent meeting of Augustinian Friars in the West. L-R Fr. Max Villeneuve, Provincial Fr. Gary Sanders ('67), Fr. Carlos Medina, Fr. Barney Johns, and Fr. Kirk Davis. The meeting was held on Saints campus.



**SPEAKER.** Fr. John Keller ('55) addresses the Augustinian Province gathering of the west coast Friars at the recent Province meeting. Last month, Fr. Keller was one of the Alumni Achievement honorees for 2023.



# Importance of Being Well Spoken

By Edwin Hearn, President / St. Augustine High School



President Edwin Hearn

At Student Mass on the Wednesday just after the beginning of Intersession, Fr. Max in his homily positioned the month of January for the young men who had just returned to school from Christmas Vacation. He noted that sometimes in our culture we are defined by who we are and by what we do. As he stated, When we meet someone for the first time, the usual questions are, 'What is your name?' quickly followed by 'What do you do?'

He noted a Saints history teacher or student is much more than the answers to those two questions of identity and that our being without doing is loved by God despite what we do. While stating that being a great history teacher and student is important, he also expressed that the Sabbath is a day of rest during our work week and in a way Intersession is a break from the ordinary school year—a place to explore high-interest subjects in a more relaxed atmosphere.

The homily theologically placed Intersession into the curriculum that addresses the normal anxiety and stress that is present in a high stakes college preparatory course of study that can have a harmful effect on the good development of a young man—to be more than what we do and rest is always an important factor in the recovery of the first semester of study.

During January every freshman takes a speech class. One morning upon arriving on our campus, I saw a group of freshmen hanging out before class and asked them who their Speech teacher was.

The first student to remark said he was in Mr. Wehbe's class. After class started, I made my way across Tolle Lege Patio to Mr. Joseph Wehbe's classroom. When I arrived and walked into the classroom, the boys stood as they are taught when a visitor enters the room. I was going to ask Mr. Wehbe if he could have the boys write on a 3x5" index card the reasons they take speech.

Just as I was going to make the request, it occurred to me that these boys probably have no idea why they take speech so instead I asked Mr. Wehbe if I might speak to his students. He said yes and sat down at his desk as the boys sat down. I did not have a speech ready to give so it went impromptu. Given the fact that I have never taken a speech class, I felt these boys were extremely lucky to have formal training to gain the experience of giving a coherent speech.

I recalled my first speech and recollected the disaster. I was speaking but not breathing. When I finally sat down, the President of Loyola High School, a Jesuit Priest dryly remarked that bets were being taken about how long I would speak before I passed out. With parents, coaches, and administrators in attendance, I freaked out and was very embarrassed.

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# AROUND CAMPUS



**AUGUSTINIANS UNITED.** Members of Augustinian Schools in North America, Ireland, England, and Australia gathered at Saints for the Augustinian Values Institute.



**TEAM SPIRIT.** St. Augustine's baseball team joins in a prayer circle at each game. Be sure to check next month's *Saints Scene* for a season update.



**KAIROS 56.** Quite a view of God's plenty from atop of Palomar Mountain, the site of Saints annual Kairos retreat. Photo: Fr. Max Villeneuve, Saints Chaplain.



# AROUND CAMPUS



**SENIOR NIGHTS.** At a recent Saints Basketball game, the school honored team Seniors, who were an important part of repeat Western League champions in Soccer and Basketball. Top: Soccer and Below: Basketball.



**ANOTHER BANNER YEAR.** Saints Varsity Soccer rolled to a fifth straight Western League Soccer championship by defeating Point Loma High earlier this winter. Coach Brandon Johnston's dynasty relaxes on the turf after wrapping up another sensational season.

**INTERSESSION ITALY.** Saints traveling squad during Intersession, included Fr. Guillermo Hernandez (Saints Class of 2010) and Saints Chaplain Max Villaneuve. The group celebrated a private mass in the crypt of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.



**NICE GOING.** Saints Alumni Director, Chris Cashman ('93) wants to let everyone know that the school's 37th annual Alumni Golf Classic has sold out for 2023. Surprise. Surprise. The 4 person scramble event is set for Friday, August 11 at Steele Canyon Golf Club in Jamul. IS there a waiting liSt? Contact Mr. Cashman at the school.



# AROUND CAMPUS



**PROUD POAs.** The Parents of Alumni Saintsmen (POAs) recently held a social ahead of the Mission Bay Basketball game. Pictured here are some of the alumni parents in attendance. Front row (l-r) Susie Menas, Kim Erpelding (seated), Laura Walsh, Mark Menas, and Larry Walsh. Back row (l-r) Joe Erpelding, Janelle Whitton, Linnie Gavino and Noli Gavino.







SAVE THE DATE  
31ST ANNUAL

# Grandparents Day



MARCH 24, 2023

11:30 AM

FR. SANDERS GYM

ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL

3266 NUTMEG STREET, SAN DIEGO, CA 92104







# PORTUGAL *Lisbon*



## Sign up for World Youth Day Adventure to Portugal

Fr. Max has opened registration for the Saints 2023 pilgrimage to World Youth Day and Augustinian Youth Encounter in Lisbon, Portugal to join the world's young people to celebrate our faith with Pope Francis.

Trip leaves July 24 and returns August 9.

Please email Fr. Max for more information and to register.

*Mary arose and went with haste Lk 1:39*



## If You're on a College Waitlist Maybe It's Time to Do Some Wooing

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school, and give them any new information that you'd like to share (i.e. January internship updates). You will likely have to deposit at a college that has accepted you by May 1st, but you can always switch your enrollment to a different school that has admitted you off the waitlist even after you've deposited somewhere else.

### Juniors

Your parents should have scheduled a family college planning meeting with your counselor this spring. If this has not been scheduled yet, please contact your counselor as soon as possible to get a day and time booked on the calendar. This is a significant meeting to get the college process started ahead of senior year.

### Sophomores

Please share your career assessment results with your parents from the SCOIR/YouScience activity you completed in English class. This is a great opportunity to see how your aptitudes and interests match up to careers and college majors that may be a great fit for you.



## Importance of Being Well Spoken

*Continued from page 3*

Continuing, I told them about a conversation I had had with my oldest son who was a philosophy major at Santa Clara University during his junior year. I expressed to him my anxiety about how he would make a living as a philosophy major. He laughed and said, well it is wide open—I am learning to think, to speak, and to write. Wow did he make me feel ridiculous! Of course, those three skills would lead him through his entire life and most likely place him in a position of leadership someday.

I concluded the speech to the class and to my surprise, they clapped. They readily saw the advantage. Later I spoke with Mr. Wehbe about speech. Interestingly, he was a math major and math teacher and had this to say about speech. "While our boys will master skills in Mathematics, English, and other disciplines, there is no life skill that will open more doors than the ability to speak cogently and tactfully." His

hope for his students is "for his boys to step out of their comfort zone, improve their speech skills, elevate their level of self-efficacy, and a newfound confidence in their ability to communicate with their peers."

Just before I left the class, I told the boys they could come by my office anytime they needed to speak to me. The next day there was a knock at the door and Georges Daniel, a freshman came by to introduce himself to me. Given the opportunity I asked him about the importance of taking a speech class, he remarked, "Speech can boost confidence and lower stress in a high-pressure situation and is a way to push myself to do more." It was nice to see a young student understand the importance of intersession and the new speech skills he would learn.

While I am not sure Georges would have said that before my speech, I am encouraged he understood the importance of public speaking.





## SAVE THE DATE

for a wedding right out of the Roarin' 20s!

St. Augustine High School Players proudly present our spring musical

### **THE DROWSY CHAPERONE!**

Winner of the 2006 Tony Awards for Best Original Score and Best Book.

Playing April 21, 27, 28, 29 at 7pm, and April 22 at 2pm,  
at the Raymond Center for the Performing Arts  
on the campus of St. Augustine High School  
3286 Nutmeg Street, San Diego, CA 92104

The musical within a comedy is light as air; the characters and relationships have the density of cotton candy, the plot twists are ridiculously simple and easily spotted from the back row of the highest balcony, and there is (of course) a happy ending. It's all about being whisked away to the Roarin' 20s and place that is more joyous and full of color than everyday life in the present.





Historic Day for School Athletics

**Saints Wins Two  
Open Division CIF  
Titles in One Day**

Photos by Bill Hill, Saints Parent

*See coverage on following pages.*



Saints Varsity Basketball and Soccer teams concluded 2023 winter league action by winning Open Division Championships on the same day. Open Division is the top league in prep CIF competition.

By capturing the basketball crown over a young Montgomery High squad 85-53, Saints Varsity made history by becoming the only team to win back-to-back Open division titles in CIF annals. This year, the hoops finals were held in front of 3,000 fans at Cathedral High, the CIF's neutral site gym.

Until Saturday February 25, 2023, no prep basketball team ever won consecutive titles since moving to an Open Division format in 2013, said Saints Athletic Director Matt Linville.

For basketball, this is the 9th overall CIF title in program history (4th Open title).

But the music doesn't stop there.

An hour before tip off of the basketball final game Saints Varsity Soccer upset San Dieguito Academy 1-0 on what may have been the coldest day of the year.

Yes, that was the weekend the federal weather service declared for the first time in the bureau's history "blizzard conditions" for San Diego County. Not only did Saints Coach Brandon Johnston's squad have to battle icy winds and intermittent rain but they had to slug it out with pre-tournament favorites.

San Dieguito entered the fray with a 20-2-3 season record and were ranked number one in all the polls.

And adding to the drama was the fact the North County Mustangs had defeated Saints twice during regular season play.

The win gave the Saintsmen a 16-5-1 going into the Statewide playoffs. For Saints soccer, this is the 8th overall CIF title in program history (2nd Open title, 2017).

Player of the game was the match's only scorer Andres Brambila ('23).

Said Mr. Linville,

***“At the beginning of the seasons, we could tell that both of these teams were special. And for both the win an Open Title, let alone on the same day, is pretty remarkable in of itself. It's a testament to the hard work, players, camaraderie, focus, and coaching that went into both teams. I couldn't be happier for both teams, as well as both Coach Haupt and Coach Johnston.”***



**CHAMPS.** Saints Varsity Soccer team won't forget this day as they surround another championship banner.





Meanwhile back to the basketball game.

While maintaining a modicum of modesty, Saints ran Montgomery off the court. True, the Aztecs made the championship game, even with fielding four Sophomores on the court.

TV broadcaster, alum and exNBA pro Jelani McCoy ('95) noted:

*“Experience is key, plus Saints had the edge in speed, and a unselfish, relentless style of play. Opponents have to fight for every point. Saints is unforgiving on defense especially when Montgomery was out rebounded 39-17. Kudos to Saints for its season long constant intensity. That intensity on offense and defense is something to behold, wears you down.”*

Saints won by 32 points. It could have been more. Reason for the difference. No team in CIF San Diego section had Saints experience this season. They entered the final game as defending Open division champions. All five starters and an excellent 6th man returned from last year.

Principal James Horne added, “Coach Mike Haupt and his staff have worked so hard and deserve this championship. It is no stretch to say this is one of Coach Haupt’s finest teams in his twenty-nine years coaching Saints Varsity Basketball.”

Varsity Head Coach Mike Haupt said “This team has a lot of grit. I want to congratulate our Seniors, Jaden Matingou, Derrius Carter-Hollinger, Jurian Dixon, LoLo Rudolph, Ian de la Rosa and Vince Ricchiuti, who have pushed us all season.” To the Union-Tribune Coach Haupt added, “Being on top two years in a row is hard to do...we played a tough schedule, a national schedule, and it helped us stay focused against the San Diego teams.”

Saints win-loss record stood at 27-4 going into the State Playoffs. The Saintsmen stretched their winning streak against San Diego Section teams to 33.

Player of the game was Senior Jurian Dixon, who scored 17 points to match Junior LoLo Rudolph 17 points.

#### **BANNER FOR THE BOYZ.**

A joyful team, coaches and supporters accept second San Diego Section Open Division Championship banner in two years. Photo: Mr. Jim Horne.







**PLAYER OF THE GAME.** Andres Brambila holds CIF Open Division Soccer Trophy next to Coaches Brandon Johnston (left) and Patrick Thomsen.



**THE BEST.** Player of the Championship game Andres Brambila.



**JUNIOR SCORER.** Iain Wagner emerged as one of the team's best scorers this year.



**STONEWALL JOHNSTON.** Junior goalkeeper Owen Johnston is quick to credit a stout Saints defense for his success.





**AUTOMATIC.** Saints top three point scorer Vince Ricchiuti seldom missed. Playing most of the season as the team's sixth starter, he provided Coach Haupt even more scoring options.



**MR. EVERYWHERE.** It seems Junior Ian de la Rosa is the glue that bonds Saints amazing basketball season. He's a big scorer, he's relentless in the paint grabbing rebounds and second chance points. He makes things happen.



**TEAMWORK.** Lightning quick LoLo Rudolph takes advantage of a timely screen by fellow Junior Ian de la Rosa.



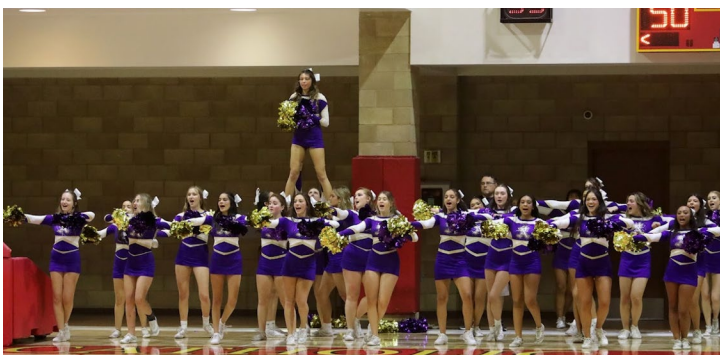
**SOARING.** Jurian Dixon ('23) is a force on offense and defense. That's why he's CIF Player of the year for last season. This year his unselfish playmaking role just might garner him a second player of the year honor to go along with the team's back-to-back Open Division titles.



**DOMINATION.** Playing above the rim for most of the season, like Derrius Carter-Hollinger, Saints powerful Varsity Basketball did not lose to a San Diego team for the entire 2022-23 season. He's shown here dunking against San Ysidro.



**CLEAR PATH.** Senior Vince Ricchiuti blocks off a Montgomery player allowing Saintsman Jaden Matingou to score another layup in championship game.



**CHAMPIONSHIP CHEER.** Saints/AOLP Cheer Squad in action at haltime of the CIF final game.



**PROUDLY WE HAIL.** Following the National Anthem, Saints Pit Crew raises its own flag as media and Coach Haupt look on.



# SAINTS TRADITIONS

## The Noiz Boyz

Note: *Saints Scene*, as part of celebrating the school's 100th anniversary of its founding, is featuring a yearlong series of articles highlighting the school's beloved traditions. Last month: The Weekly Mass.

They are simply known as the PIT. The student section at Saints athletic contests has a reputation and a following, much like the teams they support. This rowdy but nice bunch of sports nuts arrive at contests with tremendous enthusiasm and creativity and certainly play a role in "the outcome". Interestingly enough they have won titles of their own, winning the National Basketball Student Section Championship in 2021-22.

The Pit simply put is the top cheering section in the nation. Whether at football, basketball or baseball the PIT is known to visiting teams. Sometimes it is the costumed theme, sometimes the chants, and other times the antics to distract a player. Whatever and whenever, the PIT is an integral element of the Saints Community and a tradition for many alums and decades of graduates to come.

When asked about the impact of the PIT at games Saints Basketball Coach, Mike Haupt said, "I think they're the best fans in San Diego. They're creative. They're funny and they help us."



**THE WAR ZONE.**

**THE BLING.**



**COLORFUL CAST.**

**CROWD SURFING.**



**CUSTOMIZED MAYHEM.**



**DRESSED FOR SUCCESS.**

## 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. 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 Photographer:** Bill Hill, Saints Parent

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

