



Headline Banner by Cami Pyo '26

VOL 73 ISSUE 9

THE NEWSPAPER OF ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREPARATORY

MAY 22, 2025

A Letter from Your 2024-25 Inside SI Editors-in-Chief

Dear SI,

What makes *Inside SI* truly special isn't the ink or the paper—it's the heart of young writers behind every article.

As your Editors-in-Chief, we've cherished the moments of witnessing pieces emerge as drafts before emblazoning the front page. It has been an honor to share Volume 73 with you, and we thank you wholeheartedly for an incredible year!

The people alongside us who have filled Room 119 with laughter and chatter are the reasons why saying goodbye feels so bittersweet. We are immensely grateful to our benevolent censors Ms. Nickolai, Ms. Boland, and Ms. Lundy, who

recognized the power in our team and encouraged us to lead boldly and brightly. Our fellow student journalists inspire us as they voice their perspectives on the changes in our campus and country. The presence of youth experiences in the media is important now more than ever, and we are proud of our staff writers who express their diverse stories in SI's newsroom. Keep searching, keep writing, keep adding to journalism's heartbeat.

Have the happiest summer and congratulations to the graduates of the Class of 2025!



Shay Moriarty

Shay Moriarty

Kate Quach

Kate Quach

Sierra Murphy

Sierra Murphy

PHOTOS

FINAL CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS



c/o; Slick Pic

Spring Pops Concert,
May 1-2

Prom at The
Exploratorium,
May 3



c/o; Slick Pic

Magis Senior
Celebration and
Sash Ceremony,
May 7



FAREWELL

ODE TO SENIORS

Beatrice Sopko '26

Contributing Editor

Teachers finish their curriculum. Students challenge themselves emotionally with AP tests and finals. Friends sign each others' yearbooks. The end of the 2024 to 2025 school year is here.

Just as the sun moves around the world, bringing light to each new area her rays caress, SI's senior class of '25 will go forth to shine their light in new communities beyond SI. While we, the SI community, still have time with the class of '25, let us thank them for the culture they brought to SI. Thank you to the seniors who were a part of SI's competitive athletic department and to those

who helped support.

Thank you to the seniors who brought passion and spirit to Wildcat Nation, whose white overalls and DJ remixes will continue on as SI tradition. To the unforgettable Friday Night Lights of the 2024-2025 season, with the help of the team's new edition, the giant blow-up Wildcat tunnel where our varsity football team beat the St. Francis Lancers to win CCS.

To the seniors on SI's crew teams who deserve a great deal more recognition than they receive for their year-round hard work in a sport which gives back blistered,

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c/o M. Gazulla

Senior students smile for their class photo.

SEE INSIDE



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CEREMONY

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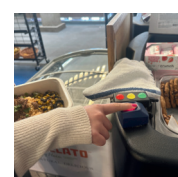


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TEACHERS AND FACULTY

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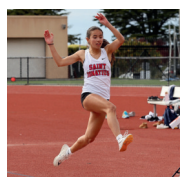


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McCann O'Brien '26

STROLLING AND STUDYING IN THE VILLAGE

Contributing Editor

The end of the school year marks a year in the Village for the Class of 2026, and they have some thoughts.

Entering the school year with construction and without the Commons was an immense change for the school as a whole, but especially for the junior class. Being separated from the rest of the school in the Village has definitely been a unique experience, and the students have voiced their opinions.

Emma Perrotti '26 commented on first hearing that she was going to be taking classes in the Village: "I wasn't too excited at first because I felt disconnected from the real building and the other students who got to have classes there. It was a big change." Other students felt the same way about the Village when they were first adapting to the change. Ellie Abbott '26 described her feelings, stating, "I felt very discouraged because I thought it would make classes more difficult." After an entire school year, through lots of rain and sun — and even a tsunami warning — many opinions of the students

on the Village have shifted.

Abbott said, "I am indifferent now. It has become part of my daily routine," while Perrotti stated, "I like it; it's a good change of pace to have. It feels like a whole new experience. I only have had classes in the building, so now, it kind of feels like I'm at a different school."

Most of the junior class has come around to the reality of classes in the Village, especially considering the convenience of time.

Overall, classes outside seem to have been a divisive issue for the junior class, since initially, students stated they "didn't want to be outside." The rain made the experience difficult for some, but the benefits of time in the fresh air have been a net positive for the Class of 2026.

Another aspect of the Village that most juniors enjoy is that it has been a space allotted for just their grade level. Emma described her favorite part of the Village as "how the juniors are all in the same area. Our class got a new sense of community."

Indeed, community is the word to describe the Village, above all. For the most part, after a year of being in their own separate area, the junior class has been able to foster a deeper sense of connection in an environment that most thought would cause isolation. With a couple weeks remaining in the 2024-2025 year, the time left in the Village for the Class of 2026 is coming to a close. As the door to these temporary spaces closes, the junior class is sure to look back on this experience with appreciation and positivity.



Students head to their next class in the Village.

KEEPING UP WITH THE CHORAL ROOM

Connor Comolli '27

Contributing Editor

For the past school year, sophomore-level academic classes, including Modern World History, have taken place not in a standard classroom, but in the Choral Room. With instruments stored in the back and tables arranged for two students each, the setup has created a unique learning environment that comes with both pros and cons.

In some class periods, more than 50 students are packed into the space, making movement and focus a daily challenge. The Choral Room, while larger than most classrooms, is not designed for traditional instruction. Thus, the sheer number of students can cause difficulties in concentration and participation.

Despite these challenges, this room has offered some unexpected benefits. The larger space and table pairings have encouraged collaboration between students. Group work in the Choral Room tends to flow more naturally and many students enjoy the more relaxed setup. For subjects that involve discussion and partner activities, the room's configuration has helped build stronger communication and teamwork skills.

"It's easier to collaborate with my classmates," commented Mason Wong '27. "But I do struggle to participate sometimes—it's harder to focus in a space that doesn't feel like a normal classroom."

As the year wraps up, many students are reflecting on this learning experience. While the Choral Room has brought new opportunities for connection, it has also served as a reminder of the importance of organized and flexible environments in one's education.



Frosh get ready to leave the Choral Room after class.

CALLAGHAN ESSAY CONTEST PROMOTES COLLABORATION

Sophie Barsoian '26

Managing Editor

The annual Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan Essay Contest invited SI students to reflect on the power of collaboration in the face of disagreement. In memory of Admiral Callaghan (class of 1907)—a Medal of Honor recipient who gave his life at Guadalcanal—the contest celebrates



Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan '97

leadership, service, and unity. This year's prompt challenged students to explore how common ground can be found in times of conflict, echoing the spirit of both Callaghan's legacy and the social movements of the 1960s.

Congratulations to the winners of this year's contest: Sophie Barsoian '26 earned 1st Place, Sebastian Huerta '26 took 2nd Place, and Chase Kendall '26 received 3rd Place. Autumn Ragone '27 was awarded the Top Sophomore Prize and Alexandra Innes '28 received the Top Freshman Prize. These students were honored for their thoughtful, well-crafted essays that captured the importance of dialogue, empathy, and shared purpose in today's divided world.



Callaghan Essay winners pose with their awards.

SI LIGHTS UP THE SKY AT PROM

Evelyn Conboy '26 & Jordan Liu '26

Associate Editors-in-Chief

On Saturday, May 3, hundreds of juniors and seniors attended prom. Excited upperclassmen filled the Exploratorium, experimenting with the venue's various science exhibits; students played with pendulums, mirror optics, and magnets, adding to unique photo opportunities and experiences.

The theme of the night was "City of Stars." The venue proved to be popular with students. Sebastian Huerta '26 commented, "I liked the location because it was really elevated." Princewill Onyebuchi '26 stated, "Prom was really fun; I enjoyed the food they had, and it was interesting because we had things to do other than just dance."

Student council surprised prom attendees with the much anticipated "big surprise" – fireworks over the San Francisco Bay. Students marveled at the impressive five-minute spectacle. Jeremy Hornik '26 gave his opinion on the fireworks, saying, "The fireworks were really colorful, and it was a good way to end the night."



Students enjoy prom at The Exploratorium and watch the fireworks at the end of the night.

WHAT'S THE 411 ON THE PHONE POLICY?

Sebastian Huerta '26

Contributing Editor

SI students have been getting used to putting their phones in a phone caddy at the beginning of class. This policy was rolled out with the logic that phones are a distraction to classroom learning. While students have largely gotten used to the policy, there is a mixed opinion among students on the policy's effectiveness, with some touting its benefits and others emphasizing its drawbacks.

Autumn Ragone '27 is bothered by the policy's ambiguity, stating, "The phone policy is useless; the school should do an all-or-nothing policy instead." She went on to recognize a grievance that many students and teachers alike have with the phone policy, highlighting, "Oftentimes people's phones go off in the middle of class, which is bothersome." Students have also found that the policy remains unenforced in many classrooms, which Autumn Ragone '27 went on to acknowledge when she stated, "People who want to use their phone will just not put it in the caddy, and teachers don't enforce it." While the phone caddy policy has led to mixed opinions among



Phones settle in the caddy during class time.

students, it remains popular among teachers. Ms. MZ stated that she has "heard nothing but praise from my colleagues about the policy," and went on to note: "I think it's been an overall positive impact and helpful in that students know pretty consistently not to have phones out. It helps stop some of that distraction of constantly checking it while it's on your desk." This new "phone-less" reality inside her classes has inspired her to get students off of their iPads and Laptops more, instead of doing 100% of classwork online. Ms. MZ acknowledged the benefits of physical classwork over digital classwork, noting that it helps increase student concentration and engagement and decreases reliance on iPads and Laptops.

All in all, while there are obvious drawbacks and imperfections to the phone caddy policy, it remains popular among teachers. In all likelihood, phone caddies will continue to be a common sight in SI's classrooms in the years to come.

BLESSINGS DURING PRAYER SERVICE & IMMERSION SEND-OFF

Lucas Liang '26 and Evie Chen '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor

On April 29th, SI students gathered in the gymnasium for the school year's final quarterly prayer service. Zoe O'Neal '26, EJ Gantz '25, and Caroline Krol '27 acted out Jesus's encounter with two followers on the road to Emmaus. The story about Christ's resurrection was timely, as our community had just celebrated Easter the previous week.

After the Bible reading, Principal Michelle Levine gave a heartwarming speech about her uncle, Jimmy. He was a constant presence in her times of hardship and reminded her to be grateful for the people she did have in her life. Music ministry then led us in several beautiful songs, featuring the voices of Samantha Yost '27 and Cassandra Conde '26. Overall, the service focused on sitting at the table with the people who love us, allowing them to help and support us.

SI students participated in another important religious service on May 5th at the Immersion send-off liturgy which was attended by students who plan to attend Immersion along with parents and teachers.

During the service, Ms. Audrey Gomes led music ministry, composed of Emma Kiehn '25, Cassandra Conde '26, Kawai Jenks '27, and Pablo Gracia-Caceres '26 on the piano. Maya Briones '25 shared her story of how the Tenderloin Immersion trip changed her perspective on perfection, especially with regard to her art.

Additionally, Corey Lemmer '25 said, "Truly immersing myself in the Tenderloin was the best choice I could have made- I learned to see the beauty in the depths of chaos while remaining to acknowledge the dignity of each and every person. I hope people in the upcoming immersions recognize how much of a privilege it is to be in this position."

Then, former Immersion leaders drew a cross in oil on each future participant's palm. They used the oil to bless the students and teachers, and with that, the students of the 2025 Immersions were sent off, blessed and inspired for what they would learn on their own experiences this summer.



Juniors listen to reflections during the Immersion Send-Off.



Principal Levine speaks about her Uncle Jimmy in the prayer service.

QUILLCHELLA RETURNS TO SI

Alva Fahlgren '26

Contributing Editor

On May 1, members of *The Quill's* Editorial Board and moderators Mrs. DeBenedetti, Ms. Miller, and Ms. Narvaez distributed copies of *The Quill* to the SI student body.

After months of work and careful consideration, the Board chose the upper and lower division literary award winners and the art winners featured on the front and back cover. Aisha McCullough '27's brilliant piece, "Wildfire," won the Dede Maioli Memorial Poetry Award as the lower division prize winner.

The lower division honorable mention went to Elizabeth Foster for her eye-opening poem, "The Salt of the Earth." As for upper division poets, Natalie Brady won the upper division prize through her thought-provoking poem, "As Women," and Chloe Lucey received an honorable mention for her heartfelt poem, "Missing." Art winners include Cameron Ko with the front cover art titled "Self," and Serena Fan with her piece featured on the back cover, "Leisurely Village."



Gussie Robillard '26 and Beatrice Sopko '26 hand out copies of *The Quill*.

SI ARRUPE CENTER PARTNERS WITH THE CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT

Aida Artasheyan '28

Contributing Editor

At SI, we are always working to be people with and for others. This year, SI has collaborated with the Children's Book Project and hosted a book drive! This organization works towards equity in literacy by giving free books to youth and families in underrepresented communities.

Starting on April 22 and running for two weeks, the SI community collected books from students of all grade levels, hoping to beneficially change the lives of many children. Any book in new or like-new condition was donated to support this meaningful cause.

Sophie Barsoian '26, who organized the drive, said, "The goal of the book drive is to promote equity in literacy by providing children in under-resourced communities with access

to books that inspire learning, imagination, and self-worth. It's not just about collecting books; it's about advancing justice, dignity, and opportunity for every child."

Far too many children grow up without access to books, a strong tool for academic success. Through this drive, SI has hoped to impact the lives of children who do not have such access to these resources that promote learning and growth.

The book drive also aimed to gather books that empower characters of color and books that are beginner-friendly texts, early chapter books, and graphic novels. Just one donation truly made a difference and is on its way to sparking a sense of joy and imagination in a child.



A handwritten thank you card for receiving a book through the Children's Book Project.

A NIGHT OF MUSIC: SPRING POPS 2025

Janice Yan '27

Managing Editor

The Spring Pops concert is a cherished annual tradition at SI, celebrating the arrival of Spring with captivating performances from the jazz band, orchestra, multiple choir ensembles and the newly formed concert band. This event held May 1st and 2nd offered students a chance to showcase their musical talents to an audience of friends, family, and teachers, highlighting the vibrant musical community at SI.

The orchestra opened up the stage with Duke Ellington ("A Medley for Orchestra"), arranged by Calvin Custer, which features a blending of sophisticated orchestral tones with a passionate jazz swing rhythm. They also featured some classics, "Stand By Me," featuring soloist Gwynn Conde '26, "Eleanor Rigby," and "Call Me Maybe." The choir featured

diverse performances, with some student conducted songs from the Chamber and Treble singers who recently showcased their talent at the 2025 SCU High School Choral Festival. They included the powerful "The Word Was God," by Rosephanye Powell, and Don Macdonald's "When the Earth Stands Still," as well as the "Apple Tree," featuring two soloists and percussion accompaniment.

The Mixed Chorus performed "On Children," and Billie Ellish's "What Was I Made For?" The concert and jazz bands closed with a bold and varied number of pieces from the uplifting "For a New Era" and the thrilling "Raiders March" to the jazz band's takes on classics like "Perfidia," "Walk Tall," and "Sway."

Students led pieces, such as "Amanda," added a personal touch, showcasing creativity and leadership. These multiple evenings gave an opportunity for musicians to show off their talents. In addition, parents and students got to enjoy a wonderful night—or afternoon of music!

Dr. Clements, the Performing Arts Director who is also the Orchestra director says, "The Spring Pops concerts are always such a joy! It's fun to get together with choir, orchestra and band to put on these shows featuring light-headed, pops style music and celebrate the end of the year together in music."



Julien Ozaeta, Joshua Nangle, and Tanner Wan play in the Spring Pops Concert.



Trombonists add their flair to the performance.



The Chamber singers show off their talents at Spring Pops.

Managing Editor

AUG 8-10 • 2021

OUTSIDE LANDS

SAN FRANCISCO • GOLDEN GATE PARK

BLEACHERS
JOLIA SMITH + STILL WOOLZY
THUNDERCAT
MARINA + ROYCE OTIS
FINESSE CLAUDE
ARTEMIS VONSTROKE
FLOATING POINTS
BAKAR • 2HOLLS
LEVITY • BUNT
DI KOZE • MARK AMBOR
JESSICA PRUITT
CLAPTONE • REBECCA BLACK
MAYER HAWTHORNE • NOTION
CATRIEL & PACO AMOROSO
BIG FREEDIA
VANSIRE • LUNA LI
STRINGS • NIGHI SHARON
NININO • NEAL FRANKS
WUNDERHORSE • LEXA GATES
TWO ARCY DRIVE • THE ARKAY
THE NAVY
MIDDY • ALMOST MONDAY
NOURISHED BY TIME • BLACK PARTY
ALEXANDRA SAVIOR • ALEMANA
ALEX AMEN • INFINITE JESS • AUDIARD

TYLER • CREATOR
MOZIER
DOJA CAT
JOHN SAMMIT
A • PERSON PARK & THE FREE NATIONALS
VAMP:RE WEEKEND
GLASS ANIMALS
GRACIE ABRAMS
JAMIE XXX
DUECHN
GESAFFELSTEIN

LUDACRIS
BLACK SAMMY
COFFEE VIRJI
WALL VOWS
ARMSTRONG • ROLE MODEL
BIGXTHAPUG
FLEET ISN
WALKER & ROYCE
JULIEN BAKER • FUJII & TORRES • KAZE
BLONDISH • DOMBRESKY
MARNEQUIN PUSSY
DU BEE • WEE • WASH PRINCE
JULIE • LARUSSELL
FOUKERS • KLANGOPHONICS
GIRL MATH (VNSA B2B NALAI)
KATE BOLLINGER • HOPE TALA
ESTROY BOYS
INJI • SARAH KINSLEY
MATT CHAMPION • ATRIP
AMELIA PACO
MOORE • VERRALLS
GIGI • LANTANA • GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD
BALZAI • GAY LEDGES • DI MANOV
NEWDAD • VINCENT LIMA
MIDNIGHT GENERATION • BANKISA
VAMPIRE WEEKEND

©/c Outside Lands on Instagram

This year's Outside Lands line up.

Will you be in Golden Gate Park this August?

Contributing Editor

The top photograph shows two dancers in white tutus performing a high kick against a blue background. The bottom photograph shows four dancers in white shirts and black pants performing a synchronized pose against a pink background.

From ballet to hip hop. The Spring Dance Concert featured a variety of performances.

FAREWELL

Contributing Editor

So, thank you Class of '25 for your individuality. Thank you for your rays of sunshine. To the class who represents the true spirit of being a Wildcat, thank you.



Zoe Omar '25

A TRAILBLAZING LEGACY: MS. MCGOVERN

Managing Editor

My first honors science class at SI was Chemistry Honors with Ms. Deirdre McGovern. While Chemistry was a daunting subject for me to tackle, I felt ultimately supported every step of the way as soon as I walked into the classroom. The atmosphere wasn't just welcoming, but also lively. There was never a dull moment to sit alone and panic, and I loved participating in this active and interesting class.

Ms. McGovern has been working at SI for around 36 years, making her a trusted institution in the science department. A fun fact about her is that she even taught Mr. Stecher, another beloved science teacher, on her first day teaching at SI! Her class can be easily identified through her flourish of energy and enthusiasm as well as her boisterous voice that projects throughout the small space.

Throughout her years at SI she has certainly made her mark as a science teacher and through her involvement in co-curriculars such as Yearbook Co-Moderator. When asked about her best memory at SI, she responded, "You mean best memories, right?" further showing her enthusiasm as a teacher and value for being able to participate in the SI community. It will truly be a great loss to see her go, but I know we have all enjoyed the time she has chosen to spend with us thus far. She has worked hard to make the SI community a better place and to make each of her students feel worthwhile, so all I can hope for now is that she will be able to live her retirement to the fullest.

Ms. McGovern was also the "first female member to be hired to the SI science department," coming in to teach the same year the first co-ed class entered SI. Her time at SI, even at the beginning, marked a very formative time in SI's identity. She got to see how co-ed classes brought in hope for the education of future generations, and I am sure it was even better experiencing this promise in person.

Ms. McGovern will be deeply missed, but she will also miss the SI community in return. She said, "I think I will miss my friends and colleagues the most. I don't go



Ms. McGovern (left) guides students through labs in Honors Chemistry.

to work everyday, I go to school. I go to be with my friends and colleagues who 'understand' and who will do whatever it takes to support me—no questions asked. I hope that I have served them, too, to the best of my ability."

The thing that really hit me the most was her statement about going to "school." It's so easy, too easy, to forget that going to school means we get to see our friends everyday. As a senior now, I realize how I have personally taken this for granted. Like Ms. McGovern, many of us come to school and are the most excited to rejoin our communities, our own places of belonging within SI. Some of us have not found these places yet, and that is still okay. We have our whole lives left for us to live and find them.

I think that I will miss Ms. McGovern's exuberant energy the most. Her absolute positivity and conversational smile can make anyone feel welcome, even in a stressful class like Chemistry. As her chapter as a teacher at SI comes to a close, her advice to incoming faculty surrounding anxiety is that "being

nervous every morning is a good sign that you want to do your best." This is not only true for teachers, but also for students. Being nervous means that we care about the event, the test, the presentation, or whatever it is on our minds. We should only worry about the moment we stop caring.

Furthermore, Ms. McGovern concluded by saying "once my student—always a part of me. Teacher time is all the time." I can only hope to follow a passion similar to the one Ms. McGovern has found through her years of teaching. There is no greater hope for us as students, and as human beings, than in finding something we love, and following it to the end. We can always find a way to make money from it later.

The important part is the passion and the love, and with these both, fulfillment. Ms. McGovern is and will forever be a deeply loved teacher at SI. And if you were lucky enough to know her or be her student, then I hope you will follow in her footsteps and find a worthwhile passion that will touch the lives of others just the same.

FSA PRINCIPAL REESE BAYZE BIDS FAREWELL

Evelyn Conboy '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Principal Reese Bayze has dedicated 32 years of service to St. Ignatius and five transformative years to Father Sauer Academy (FSA) as its inaugural principal. Her visionary leadership has provided under-resourced students with an academically rigorous, inclusive, and tuition-free Jesuit middle school experience. First founded in 2017, FSA was named after St. Ignatius' longtime president Anthony P. Sauer, S.J., and has flourished into an integral cornerstone of St. Ignatius' legacy. Principal Bayze has decided to retire, effective at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

When reflecting on her initial goals for FSA, Principal Bayze recalled, "My role was to take the school and get it on track," adding that, "it was a new school, so the idea was, as you begin anything new, you have to put in systems that work for longevity." Her approach blended practical strategy with a deep-rooted commitment to Jesuit values. Communicating her appreciation for Jesuit foundations she shared, "What

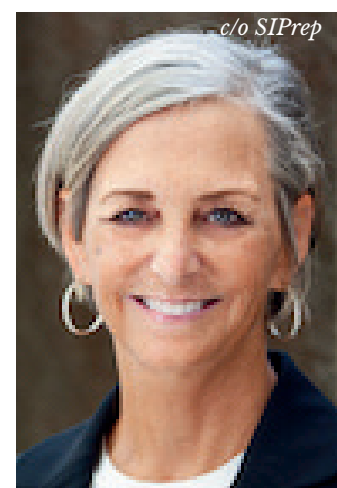
made it great for me ... was the Jesuits' dedication to putting education in the forefront and teaching the whole person."

Leading a new school is no easy feat, especially during a global pandemic. However, Principal Bayze stepped up to the pandemic's challenges, acknowledging, "I would be remiss if I didn't mention the pandemic... it was a difficult time for everybody." FSA families, many of whom work in essential roles, faced uniquely difficult circumstances. Bayze shared, "Our students had a particularly tough time because many of their parents were not at home with them. They were out doing those jobs that had to be done."

Yet, amid adversity, Principal Bayze saw an opportunity to create long-lasting traditions. When asked about her proudest moments at FSA, she shared that FSA parents, "want the best they can give their kids," and that, "giving their students an opportunity to have a private Catholic school education" is one of her proudest achievements.

Shaping students academically and emotionally during this critical time was never easy, but Principal Bayze shared that her role "never felt like a job." Instead, she found immense fulfillment in supporting her students, adding, "We're really trying to shape them" during a really tough time for students sixth through eighth grade."

Before moving to the FSA, Ms. Bayze taught high school Spanish and was popular with students because of her engaging classes. In so many areas of the school, Ms. Bayze has left a positive impact on the community, and as St. Ignatius Principal Michelle Levine shared with the faculty, "it is bittersweet to bid farewell to such a beloved colleague and leader."



FSA Principal Reese Bayze

WILSON CHEN '25 LEAVES LASTING MARK AT SI

Madison Dela Rama '27

Managing Editor

Depending on who you are around SI, you've likely heard the name "Wilson Chen" when associated with robotics, orchestra, or the Class of 2025.

This goes to show how deeply involved Wilson is with the SI community. He does so many things around campus: the electrical lead on the Robotics team, the TA for AP Calculus BC and AP Physics C, the pianist at Music Ministry, the member in the Competitive Math Club, an arranger and conductor of Orchestra in Fall '24, and so much more. He is well-known for all his work, and his efforts have touched the hearts of students and staff alike. With his graduation coming up, I wanted to dedicate an article to spotlight Wilson for everything he has done this year.

When I personally first met Wilson, I remember one of his friends making a very specific comment about his outfit: "Is Wilson ever going to untuck his blue polo with that belt?" And everyday I saw him afterward, I realized how true the comment became. This goes to show that Wilson is a guy of routine and consistency. When I joined CMC, I learned how much effort he puts into things he's passionate about—whether that is school-related, AMC grinding, or his famous cycling sprees.

On the note of academic efforts and cycling, Newton Wong '25 included this visual of Wilson's impact on students and friends alike: "I'd say the best quality of Wilson is his helpfulness. He's constantly in Mr. Moy's room, helping out with BC Calc. Students are always crying about the test they're about to have, and he'll be like, 'Oh, don't worry—it'll be easy!' That's what he always says. But genuinely, he's a helpful guy—he saves the BC Calc students more times than they can count."

Wong continued, "As his friend, I guess one thing about Wilson is that he's really good at biking. He did 100 miles in less than 6 hours—it's very impressive. Bike-riding is his method of bringing the entire friend group together. He'll organize

a group message like, 'Hey, I'm going biking here, does anyone want to come?'. It's always a lot of fun."

Aimee Mao '27, a fellow CMC leader, added, "My first impression of him was, 'Who is this guy clicking our slides for us?' Since the onset of CMC, he always took the initiative to be present and of help. I remember being stressed about the entire AMC prep process. When I pestered Wilson with questions, he was know-ledgeable and patient. Despite knowing him only through CMC, he is generous in finding ways to make you feel like he cares about you as a person. Whether it be from saying hi in the hallways, asking about your day, or offering help in classes, I think Wilson is the epitome of the upperclassman mentor anyone would ask for."

The piece about the hallway is true. Regardless of the route I take to Mr. White's 4th period, I somehow always see Wilson, and he'll greet me with a, "Hey urchin!" or "Ohh, you have an in-class write? Good luck!" It's become my routine that whenever I pass room 207, I'm bound to bump into him.

Speaking of room 207, Mr. Patrick Moy himself added, "Students like Wilson are why I love teaching. He embodies SI's ideals of intellectual excellence, leadership, and service, all while staying true to himself. Including his semi-truck driving simulator."

As a person, Wilson is extremely supportive and will always back anyone up and offer advice. Surviving classes, passing finals, literally anything—Wilson knows the answer to it. Ms. Haley Sanchez, one of the Dean of Students, commented on Wilson's



c/o Jacky Hui Zeng

Wilson Chen '25 poses next to a piano.

passion: "Wilson always comes by to say hi, which brightens up my day no matter what's going on. And he gives really good advice; he's just very talented. He always has the best attitude and makes me smile. I feel lucky to have gotten to know him, because I know that in the future I'm gonna be like, 'Oh yeah—I got to teach him.' 'Cause he's going to do something special one day."

Fellow CMC and Robotics members, Emma Ishimoto '27 summed up Wilson's impact, stating, "Wilson's guidance helped the competitive math clubs members hone their critical thinking skills and I wish him luck in college." Natalie Wong '27 added, "Wilson is a great friend and mentor for everyone around him. Whatever it is, he is always ready to help and support. His presence in the SI community is well cherished. Good luck in college, Wilson! We will miss you."

I'm extremely grateful to have met Wilson this year, and I'm going to miss that familiar face walking to 4th period. We all wish you the best of luck on your journey after SI! You're going to do amazing at Berkeley. Don't forget about your four urchins who will be here no matter what!

THAT'S A WRAP FOR WILDCAT CLUBS

Genevieve Arcenio '27

Contributing Editor

Competitive Math Club (CMC) :

In the Spring, SI's Competitive Math Club participated in the Catholic Math League. The Catholic Math League is a math competition between Catholic schools nationwide. It consisted of four tests of increasing difficulty. The highest three scores for each test were tallied and added to the total number of points for each school. CMC excelled in the Catholic Math League despite the fact that all participants were underclassmen, and the competition was open to students of all high school levels. CMC placed 25th overall in the advanced math division and had the highest score in California with 201 points. Additionally, Emma Ishimoto '27 was awarded for being the highest-scoring student at SI across the four tests.

Model United Nations (MUN) :

Delegations from SI participated in the 73rd Berkeley Model UN (BMUN) conference from March 7-9th. Founded in 1952 and run by Berkeley undergraduates,



c/o Kate Ozaeta '26

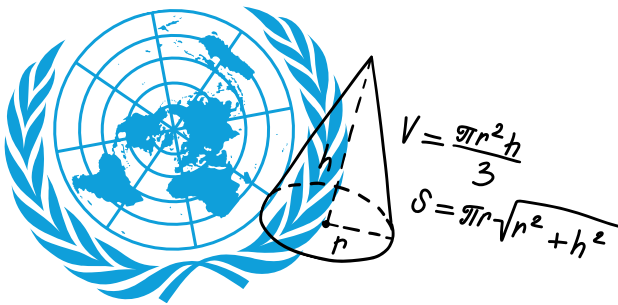
SI students pick up litter along Sunset on the Green Team's litter walk.

BMUN is one of the most prestigious conferences that high school ModelUN participants can attend. It is considered the oldest high school ModelUN simulation in the world and the largest on the West Coast. At BMUN, Nathan Rose '26 won a Commendation Award for his strong performance and debate skills. Receiving an

award at BMUN is an exceptional feat, considering that over 2,000 students from across the world participate in the conference each year.

Green Team :

The Green Team wrapped up the year with their final litter walk on the morning of April 30th. This was one of nine litter walks held by the club this school year. The impact that the Green Team has made on the SI and Outer Sunset community is undeniable. The work of SI students has helped to preserve our environment and protect wildlife. We applaud the Green Team for their efforts and commitment and look forward to the club's contribution in the 2025-2026 school year.



A FAREWELL TO FRANCIS

Pioneering Pope Dies at 88

Lucas Liang '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Pope Francis, a trailblazing leader of the Catholic Church who pushed for reform, died on Easter Monday, April 21. He was 88 years old.

Although he was the leader of an ancient institution, Francis was still a pope of many firsts. Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio on December 17, 1936, to a family of Italian origin in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Francis was the first pope from the Americas and the first from outside of Europe in more than 1,200 years.

He was the first pope since the 10th century to take a completely novel papal name. His name, Francis, came from St. Francis of Assisi, a medieval preacher known for living a life of poverty. Francis was also the first Jesuit pope, coming from the same Catholic order that sponsors SI.

"As fellow members of the global Jesuit community, we shared a special connection with Pope Francis," SI President Edward A. Reese, S.J., wrote in a letter to the school community shortly after Francis's passing. Fr. Reese continued, "His humble leadership, commitment to the marginalized, and dedication to faith and justice embodied the very ideals we strive to instill in our students here at St. Ignatius."

Indeed, Francis was a constant champion for the marginalized during his papacy. As much of the church's traditional European heartlands were consumed by anti-immigrant populism, Francis stood out for his support of migrants.

"I was inspired by the deep commitment Pope Francis had to immigrants and refugees," Dr. Kelley McCann, a program manager at SI's Arrupe Center for Social Justice, told *Inside SI*. "He visited the US and Mexico border to call for 'bridges, not walls,' similar to the call from Rev. Ben McBride earlier this year."

Francis also addressed migration in his first trip outside of Rome after assuming the papacy in 2013. On that trip, he visited Lampedusa, a tiny Italian island at the heart of the deadly European migrant crisis. Less than three months after Francis's visit, a single shipwreck near Lampedusa killed over



Pope Francis waves to the crowd as he approaches Manila Cathedral in the Philippines on January 16, 2015.

360 migrants

Speaking in Lampedusa, Francis decried "globalized indifference" and a "culture of comfort, which makes us think only of ourselves, makes us insensitive to the cries of other people."

Francis also connected Catholic theology to the protection of the environment and action against climate change. In his landmark 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si*, Francis criticized a "throwaway culture" of consumerism and profiteering that harmed the environment and said that "a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."

This advocacy found admirers in environmentalists around the world. "Pope Francis was really important to the environmental movement because, as a global leader, he put the issues of climate change and the environment at the forefront of his papacy," said Kate Ozaeta '26, a co-

leader of SI's Green Team. "He tried to include all people in environmental justice."

Francis's push for inclusivity extended beyond the environment and migration. He allowed priests to bless same-sex couples for the first time and opened up influential church conferences to laypeople, including women.

On these issues and many others, some conservative Catholics ardently opposed Francis's changes. Infighting between conservative and liberal factions within the Catholic Church plagued Francis's papacy, with intense disagreements on issues ranging from homosexuality to more niche subjects like restrictions on the old Latin Mass, which is preferred by many traditionalists.

Meanwhile, some liberal Catholics were disappointed in Francis for not going further in his reforms. On issues like priestly celibacy, communion for divorced and remarried Catholics, and the ordination of women as deacons, Francis opened new discussions but left Catholic doctrine largely unchanged.

"A true ecological approach always becomes a social approach."

-Pope Francis

Francis also made the church's leadership more representative of the modern makeup of the approximately 1.4 billion faithful around the world, appointing a record number of cardinals from the Global South. The late pope also rejected clericalism in church leadership, denouncing "airport bishops" and calling on priests to be "shepherds with the smell of the sheep."

Francis's most striking personal trait was his humility. The day after being elected pope, he returned to his hotel to pay his bill himself. Francis also chose to live in the Vatican guesthouse instead of the opulent papal apartments. At the Vatican, Francis moved around in a budget Ford Focus and opted for more simple papal clothing than his predecessors.

This remarkable humility may be Francis's most enduring legacy as the 266th head of the Catholic Church.



Pope Francis prays with priests in the Vatican during the COVID-19 pandemic.

AN AMERICAN POPE

Chicago-born Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost Defies Odds, Becomes Pope Leo XIV

Alexander Salentine '26Managing Editor



Pope Leo XIV greets the public for the first time as pope on the main balcony of St. Peter's Basilica.

On May 8, 2025, at 10:15 AM PDT, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was announced as Pope Leo XIV. He stepped out onto the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica in the traditional garb of mozzetta and stole, and said his first word: "Peace."

Instantly, his election shocked the world. He was not on any *papabile* (an Italian term roughly translated to "popeable") radar, and he was an American. A native of Chicago, he is a member of the Order of St. Augustine, and holds three degrees in math, divinity, and canon law.

Prevost chose the name Leo, an intentional choice that showcases his concern for the poor and marginalized, and his doctrinal orthodoxy.

He also brings a global perspective, as he has served for two decades in Peru as a missionary and bishop. Leo is also fluent in five languages: English, Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese. These experiences and traits display his international perspective.

Further, he was also in charge of the Dicastery of Bishops, which shows his ability to positively work with other prelates and manage administration. This is further exemplified in his leadership of the August-

inians, as he was their superior general and in charge of the entire order.

The SI community reacted quickly to the news of the new pope.

SI President Edward A. Reese, S.J., in a letter to the school community just hours after Leo's election, wrote, "The Holy Spirit has blessed our Church with a shepherd who embodies the compassion, wisdom, and humility we seek each day in our Ignatian tradition." Fr. Reese added, "May Pope Leo XIV's leadership bring the peace he immediately proclaimed to our world."

Catholic student Giovanni Gonzalez '26 stated, "I think [Leo] will be a more behind the scenes pope than Francis, but I am optimistic that he shares similar values and goals as Francis. He just might have a more modest manner of working towards them."

Russian-Orthodox student Gregory Sokolov '25 commented, "I'm encouraged to see Pope Leo boldly proclaim the Christian faith. I wish him many years of fruitful service and outreach as we all seek to follow Christ."

Mr. Christian Rodriguez, a teacher in the Religious Studies Department, hoped that Leo will be "a bridge-builder; pontifex in the deepest sense of the term."

GET TO KNOW POPE LEO XIV



Pope Leo XIV's official portrait.

- Born in Chicago on September 14, 1955, to parents of French-Italian and Creole descent.
- Grew up in Chicago's south suburbs and went to school at his Far South Side parish, where he was in the choir and an altar boy.
- Graduated in 1977 from Villanova University with a bachelor's in mathematics.
- Ordained a priest in 1982 as a member of the Order of St. Augustine.
- Joined the Augustinian mission in Peru in 1985.
- Became prior provincial of the Midwestern Augustinians in 1999 and prior general of the Augustinians in 2001.
- Appointed bishop of Chiclayo, Peru, by Pope Francis and naturalized as a Peruvian citizen in 2015.
- Created cardinal and appointed prefect of the Dicastery of Bishops by Pope Francis in 2023.
- Elected pope on May 8, 2025.

COMMENTARY: LEO IS A GREAT CHOICE AS POPE

Alexander Salentine '26Managing Editor

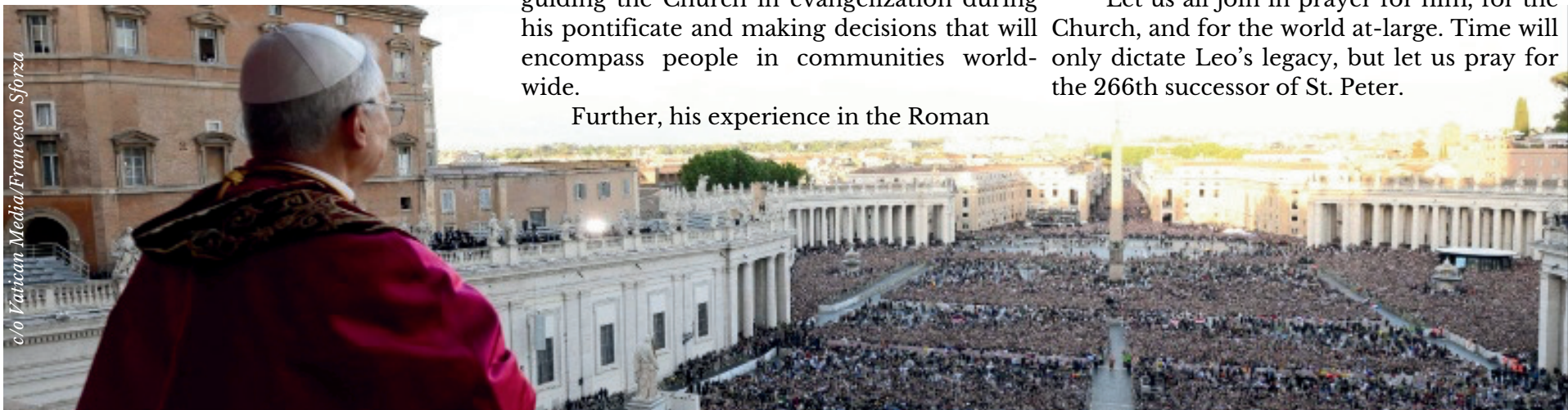
Pope Leo XIV is a great choice for the papacy because he combines strong doctrinal orthodoxy with a strong concern for the marginalized.

He very much follows as a continuity candidate from Francis, and his commitment to synodality reveals this. His missionary and global experience will also be helpful in guiding the Church in evangelization during his pontificate and making decisions that will encompass people in communities worldwide.

Further, his experience in the Roman

Curia in organizing bishops makes him a superb and skilled bureaucrat. This will be essential in fixing the Vatican Bank's historical mismanagement and deficit.

Let us all join in prayer for him, for the Church, and for the world at-large. Time will only dictate Leo's legacy, but let us pray for the 266th successor of St. Peter.



Pope Leo XIV looks over the crowd at St. Peter's Square in the Vatican during his first public appearance as pontiff.

CELEBRATING AFFINITY WITH MAGIS SENIORS

Lucas Liang & Jordan Liu '25

Associate Editors-in-Chief

On Wednesday, May 7, SI seniors celebrated the annual MAGIS and Affinity End-of-Year Celebration.

The MAGIS program serves to support a diverse community of students who have been historically underrepresented at SI and institutions of higher education. MAGIS provides mentorship, preparation for college, and cultural enrichment. Affinity groups, established for over 50 years, support the intersectional identity formation of members and provides a safe space for students who self-identify within each affinity group.

At the ceremony, families and teachers celebrate graduating seniors. Students receive affinity sashes that honor their cultures and represent the culmination of their work at SI. Students walk down the runway to receive their sashes, while their colleges and future plans are announced. We congratulate graduating seniors for all of their accomplishments.



Students receive Magis awards.



Senior sashes set up for the event.



Ms. Hernandez addresses the crowd at the Magis/Affinity Graduation Ceremony.

HALLWAY HERITAGE: A MONTH FOR AAPI HEROES

Annika Watkins '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

The journey to officially recognize the contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) in the U.S. started in the late 1970s and took over a decade to become a full month of national celebration. It began in 1977 when Representative Frank Horton from New York proposed setting aside the first 10 days of May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week.

That same year, Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii introduced a similar proposal in the Senate. Although neither resolution passed at first, Horton tried again in 1978 with a new proposal asking the president to declare a week of celebration during the first part of May. This time, the resolution made it through Congress, and President Jimmy Carter signed it into law on October 5, 1978.

For the next decade, presidents continued to issue annual proclamations celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Then, in 1990, Congress expanded the observance to a full month. Two years later, May was officially declared Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month under President George H. W. Bush with the passing of Public Law 102-450.

In 2009, the celebration was renamed AAPI Heritage Month to better reflect the diverse communities it honors. AANHPI individuals have made lasting contributions across many areas of American life — science, medicine, politics, art,

sports, activism, and more.

Japanese and Korean immigrants arrived in the U.S. as early as 1885, working in railroad construction, farming, and fishing. However, Japanese immigration was restricted in 1907 due to a “Gentlemen’s Agreement” between the U.S. and Japan. The civil rights movement played a key role in changing immigration policies. The 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act ended discriminatory national origin quotas, allowing more Asians and Pacific Islanders to immigrate and reunite with their families. Then, during the 1970s, refugees from Southeast Asian countries, such as Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, arrived.

In recent years, AANHPI representation has grown. In 2021, Kamala Harris made history as the first Asian American Vice President of the United States. In entertainment, South Korean director Bong Joon Ho’s *Parasite* won Best Picture at the Oscars in 2019, and Marvel introduced its first Asian superhero in *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings* in 2021. Today, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the fastest-growing racial group in the U.S. Between 2000 and 2019, the Asian American population increased by 81%, according to Pew Research. As of the 2020 Census, there are roughly 20.6 million people of Asian or Pacific Islander descent living in the U.S., making up about 7% of the population.



SUNISA LEE

c/o SI Instagram



SHILA SAHA

c/o SI Instagram

ASC members created posters on their personal AANHPI heroes. The posters included a short biography and the students’ personal connection to their heroes.

THE POWER OF PRIDE

Jordan Liu '26

Associate Editor-in-Chief

The advent of June marks the start of Pride Month, a period of celebrating the LGBTQ+ community and remembering the Stonewall Riots. Pride month was formalized in 1999 by former President Bill Clinton when he declared the month as “Gay and Lesbian Pride Month.” However, the origins of the month go much deeper.

On June 28, 1969, a series of riots and demonstrations ensued in response to a police raid in the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village. The Stonewall Riots amplified the political and social concerns of the gay community, and it sparked a wave of protests. Inspired by these riots, supportive organizations furthered their commitment to fight for gay rights.

In America, the LGBTQ+ community is extremely diverse and colorful; the tapestry

of LGBTQ+ is composed of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning members, and the “plus” is used inclusively and expansively to acknowledge that our understanding of gender and sexual diversity continues to develop. This aspect of being a spectrum distinguishes the community; the diversity is a testament to its inclusivity and advocacy for acceptance.



The Pride March kicks off on Market Street.

Estimates report a population of around 20 million LGBTQ+ Americans, underscoring the strength of the community that spans borders. Pride Month serves to remember the sacrifices of early protestors and activists such as those involved at Stonewall.

Pride Month also commemorates the culture and identity of the LGBTQ+ community. San Francisco hosts an annual Pride parade with this year marking the 55th anniversary of the event. On Sunday, June 29, the parade will start at the Embarcadero and snake its way towards Civic Center. A momentous occasion for many San Franciscans, the parade caps off Pride Month, a period of jubilant cultural celebration and intimate reflection on those who fought for gay rights.

NEXT STOP: BUDGET CUTS

Lauren Yu '27 & Amanda Oberto '27

Contributing Editors

Most students and faculty members have taken public transportation and may even take it regularly, and it is undoubtedly a staple of San Francisco's identity. However, due to the effects of the financial crisis in San Francisco, this summer Muni is enforcing service cuts and may rollback programs like Free Muni for All Youth.

San Francisco is still struggling with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and, because of this, funding for the SFMTA is severely low. While inflation grows while federal and state pandemic relief funds decline, the SFMTA faces a looming \$322 million budget deficit.

Another factor in the SFMTA's budget deficit is the lack of fare compliance, which has led to an increase of fare inspectors to combat this issue. The SFMTA said, "Currently, almost 7% of SFMTA revenue comes from fares. Historically, almost 15% of our revenues were from fares, so there is still room to grow." Increasing fare inspectors while still trying to keep Muni accessible has led to an increase of fare compliance.

According to the SFMTA, there has been a 6% increase in fare compliance since a year ago. While this does provide hope for Muni's situation, financial issues are still very prominent and Muni cannot remain the same for the coming future.



San Francisco struggles to keep the Muni financial system stable.

A potential victim of the SFMTA's budget woes may be the Free Muni for All Youth program. Out of four proposals that the SFMTA Board is considering to balance the agency's budget, two call for the elimination of reduced fare programs like

free youth Muni.

Last month, the SFMTA Board of Directors voted to consolidate six Muni bus lines to address the budget deficit. After the vote, District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood urged the board to reconsider, citing the disproportionate impact on communities of color, low-income riders, and people with disabilities. A recent study found that among the 479,000 monthly riders of these six lines, 69% are people of color, 43% are low-income, 7% are seniors, and 5% are disabled. While the board approved the motion to move forward with service cuts, they won't take effect until this summer.

As Muni balances fare education with financial challenges, the future of San Francisco's public transit remains uncertain. While efforts to increase fare compliance aim to boost revenue, service cuts risk deepening inequalities for the very riders who rely on public transit the most. The coming months are crucial in determining how the city meets both its budget goals and its commitment to accessible transportation.

THE AMERICAN DOLLAR UNDER TRUMP'S TARIFFS

Bobby Mullin '26

Contributing Editor

One of the most important parts of President Trump's campaign for a second term was his promise to substantially increase tariffs in order to stimulate the American economy. Few predicted the gravity of the effects on the economy. Immediately following the announcement, the stock market had one of its worst days ever, though it would recover due to the president introducing a waiting period on the tariffs.

One reason that the tariffs had such a shocking effect was the failure of the administration to factor in the immense value of software exported from the United States when determining the trade deficit with a given nation.

Kieran Devlin '26 expressed a similar opinion, as he believes "our country's economy should remain soft-

ware oriented, while continuing to import manufactured goods from overseas."

The new tariffs had an effect inverse to their intention, as the United States trade deficit saw an increase due to companies stockpiling before the tariffs hit.

Now, the first ships with cargo is impacted by the tariffs are arriving from China in US ports, though the number of ships arriving has decreased due to some being unwilling to pay the steep tariff. One major impact of this for consumers is that many major corporations are electing to store their products overseas until the turmoil of the current trade war settles down, resulting in less access to said products for consumers.

It is difficult to predict the long term effects of such economic policies; while many experts are sure Americans will see the price of everyday goods increase over the coming months and inflation continue to soar, some are more optimistic about the long term effects on economic growth for domestic businesses.



President Trump announces his new tariffs on imported goods.

T&T SUPERMARKET SETS OFF EXPLOSIVE FLAVORS

Mika Cinco '27

Contributing Editor

Do you like fresh seafood and wide selections of snacks and candies? The Asian Canadian supermarket chain T&T announced on March 28 that it will be opening a new store in the heart of San Francisco!

The grocery store T&T contains a large selection of foods: hot food, baked goods, and fresh produce. They sell over 200 different kinds of confections at their bakery, making the supermarket a great place to grab a delicious snack.

Founded in 1993 by Cindy Lee, T&T was named after her two daughters, Tina and Tiffany. They have projected their opening will be in Winter 2026. This will be the supermarket's second location in the Bay, with a San Jose T&T would opening in Fall 2025.



Design plans of T&T Supermarket excite interested customers.

The San Francisco T&T will occupy the space that was formerly Best Buy, located at 2675 Geary Boulevard.

CEO Tina Lee said, "The city offers a unique and eclectic food scene, and the neighborhood we've chosen is a vibrant retail hub. We're looking forward to serving food-loving San Franciscans with our fresh foods, delicious meals, and baked goods."

With high anticipation, Janice Yan '27 said, "I really am excited to get to experience one of the biggest Asian supermarkets in the world!"



ISTANBUL STRUCK BY A 6.2 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE

Heather Yee '27, Farrah Almajdalani '27

Managing Editor, Contributing Editor

At around 12:49 PM on April 23, shrieks and cries filled the streets of Turkey’s biggest city, Istanbul, as the 6.2 magnitude earthquake shook the ground. “I was in the supermarket with my family when everything started to shake...We rushed outside. I don’t feel safe going back inside, our building doesn’t look strong,” Zeynep Akincioglu, a student who experienced the disaster first hand, exclaimed to BBC News.

The earthquake in the Sea of Marmara lasted 13 seconds, and over 50 aftershocks took place within the following days. According to the Istanbul governor’s office, 151 people were injured, but no deaths were reported.

Located between two major seismic faults, the North Anatolian and the East Anatolian, Turkey is highly susceptible to major earthquakes. A 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck nearby Izmit in 1999, and more recently in 2023, a 7.8 magnitude quake shook southern Turkey.

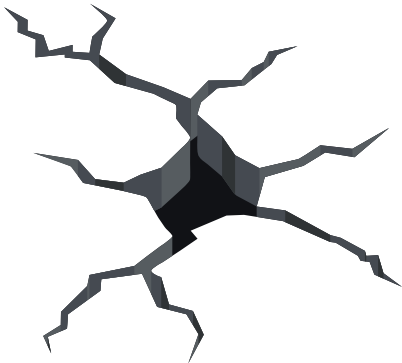
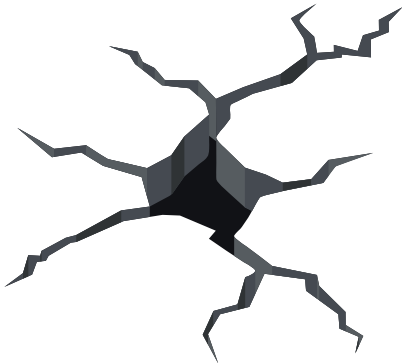
April’s quake reminded the citizens of Istanbul about the strong quake of 2023, which killed over 53,000 people in southern Turkey and an additional 6,000 people in Syria. Baran Demir, who lives in Istanbul, shared with Al Jazeera how, “You could see it on people’s faces, that same fear. My building didn’t collapse then, but the memory came rushing back.”

With a national holiday taking place on the day that the earthquake struck, many people were at home at the time of

the incident. Furthermore, many camped in Macka Park in Istanbul’s Nisantasi district to spend the night outdoors in fear of another strong aftershock.

The earthquake prompted many to question the security of buildings. As many currently pray for their loved ones in Istanbul hospitals, the Turkish government is facing increasing backlash regarding poor building construction. Moving forward, the government plans to rebuild around 488,000 affected homes and other buildings under the supervision of the Turkish Housing Development Administration (TOKI).

Maddie Dela Rama '27 “hopes everyone in Istanbul is safe,” and is relieved that “there wasn’t that much damage.” She added, “I hope for a safe recovery for everyone affected.”



The city of Istanbul was struck by a devastating 6.2 Magnitude earthquake on April 23.

OP-ED

BACON’S DILEMMA

Alexander Goldberg '26

Contributing Editor

The English philosopher Francis Bacon once said, “Hope is a good breakfast, but it is a bad supper.” Since SI prioritizes its lunch service, where does that leave us?

SI’s kitchen is among the most intricate systems in the school. Not only are there two different stations to serve lunch, but there is presently one small kitchen for food preparation. The progression from moving from the commons to the small kitchen in the foyer this year has had a great impact on food service at SI.

It was spring of last year when we learned of the awe inspiring project that was about to ensue and change our SI experiences forever. The Commons was closing, and we learned that the Junior class next year would be in what we call “The Village.” As a result, we knew we would have to obtain our food in different ways. The biggest problem now was that the food was being made in a smaller kitchen within the foyer.

However, it was easier to adapt than previously thought, as St. Ignatius Food Director Mr. Yang explained: “It has been much smoother than anticipated for providing student lunches. We had some challenges initially in terms of space, but we have adapted to operating out of a smaller

kitchen.” Despite the kitchen being much smaller, SI food has continued to be served at similar speeds. There were also new foods introduced, such as Swedish Meatballs. During the first semester, there were mixed opinions among many students

about certain meals.

The most controversial food was the focaccia pizza. Throughout the months of the pizza being on the menu, people expressed strong opinions. As my Italian friend at SI expressed, “questo non è il cibo della mia nonna,” which translates to “this is not my nonna’s food.” He did not enjoy the pizza, but that may be due to his immensely high expectations of all Italian dishes. However, another SI student emphasized, “The food’s good. If you love school lunch food, it’s convenient.” He essentially explained that SI Lunch Food matched or exceeded expectations. For many students, no one expects a Michelin star meal, but a meal that fills the body. Perhaps it may not be exactly farm to table, but it certainly does the job.

Despite criticisms, I believe SI has done very well in its food area. However, the one thing they did not cut back from is love, which I can taste in every bite. The food feedback form issued on February 19th has led to a lot of progress. Not only was the focaccia replaced with regular pizza, but there are now protein drinks. If progress continues, even Francis Bacon might finally be encouraged to include lunch in his philosophy.



Students line up at the Cat Cafe to purchase lunch.

A LAUGH IN TRAGIC TIMES

Nora Shaskan '27

Contributing Editor

For centuries, philosophers have asked whether life is a comedy or a tragedy. For an answer, let's examine the convergence of media and politics. Over the past few years people across the globe have been biting their fingernails in front of their TV's, watching a variety of news stations covering a variety of topics.

American politics have historically raised tensions and deepened divisions, causing bipartisanship, and challenging respectful diplomacy and access to liberty. Unfortunately, mainstream media, like *Fox News*, *CNN*, or *MSNBC*, easily overwhelms Americans and muddles the reality of the current political situation, even when basic human rights and national dignity are at risk.

Unfortunately, the news and the appalling feelings it seeks to provoke won't evaporate anytime soon. But, when receiving chaotic news, sometimes the form of presentation can make a significant differ-

ence for the viewer.

Even in the days of William Shakespeare, humans have used comedic relief to lighten the load for the audience. Comedy has been used in many ways to confront sensitive and difficult topics when delivering the bad news, interrupting the chaos, or addressing issues of inequality and oppression.

Known for its wild movies and hysterical skits filled with randomness and sarcasm, the Monty Python collection is a classic example of satire and social criticism. Beyond its hilarious dialogue and goofy characters, Monty Python confronts issues of present day by satirizing them. The famous "She's a Witch!" scene in the film *Monty Python: Search for the Holy Grail* laughs at the accusations towards women who possessed dominant culture's perspective of "non-feminine" qualities. This use of comedy addresses oppression by demonstrating the

absurdity and insanity of accusing women of witchcraft just because they threaten men's authority.

More recently, talk shows like *Late Night with Seth Myers*, *the Daily Show*, or *Saturday Night Live* use comedic relief to tackle current American politics. Rather than analyzing the information in a dark mood of hopelessness, the hosts and guests, who are often comedians, satirize the news and current headlines. Not only do they blatantly reveal how absurd American society has become, these shows add a comedic lens to make consuming the news more bearable. Knowing that others recognize the nonsense of the current circumstances can offer an unexpected form of hope.

Is life a comedy or a tragedy? In what ways can humor provide levity or enlighten audiences? I encourage you to think about integrating some satire into your life.



"Monty Python confronts issues of the present day by making fun of the stupidity of discrimination."



SNL cast members frequently satirize politicians.

SI LIVE POKES FUN AT SI



St. Ignatius' comedy sketch group, SI Live, performed on May 15th and 16th, providing a comic review of the year and leaving the audience laughing uproarously.

WHY YOU SHOULD WORK IN FAST FOOD

Tai Morganson '26

Managing Editor

As the St. Ignatius community enters the final sprint at the end of the school year, students are rushing to pack their summers, often with prestigious programs, work opportunities, or internships. A proposal: students should also consider working in the fast food industry.

Even though the San Francisco minimum wage for fast food workers is \$20 an hour, working in the food business offers many more benefits than an ample wage, particularly the opportunity to develop invaluable basic job skills and see American labor dynamics through a new lens.

Since the end of last summer, I've worked at Noah's Bagels, which is a fast food institution. Working in the local food industry offers students a chance to develop crucial job skills that have career-long applications. My experience with district and regional managers at Noah's Bagels exposed me to the importance of magnanimity and humility in positions of power, and my bosses showed me what proper leadership looks like.

Employees are introduced to the concept of time management and the importance of being on time to work, and

they will develop proficiency with time-based payments systems like clocking in and out. Spending time in a team-based environment develops certain virtues, particularly garnering compassion and altruism, which are instilled and reinforced in the food industry. Finally, working a register and dividing tips familiarizes employees with the responsibilities that

come with working with money.

More importantly, working in the local food industry, especially in fast food, opens one's eyes to the realities of American social, economic, and racial dynamics, altering my perspective on fast food workers. Since the At Noah's, one of my coworkers worked the maximum shift from six in the morning to two in the afternoon, before crossing the street and working until night at a neighboring restaurant.

During my time at Noah's, I've earned wages that have granted me monetary literacy and financial agency. However, more importantly, I've acquired basic job skills that are transferable to multiple industries, and have had experiences that inform my view of politics and my priorities, which I will express at the ballot box next election.

St. Ignatius rapidly elevates its students to higher education and white-collar jobs, often before they can learn the valuable lessons working in food service offers. However, as you schedule your summer, consider working at a fast food restaurant. You'll learn important working skills, enjoy extra cash, and pick up important virtues along the way.



Noah's Bagels in Lakeshore Plaza.

SPRING SEASON BRINGS RECORD-BREAKING SUCCESS ACROSS SI ATHLETICS

Lilly Eugster '25 and Chloe Fisher '26

Managing Editor and Contributing Editor

From track and field to lacrosse to swim and dive, St. Ignatius' spring sports have brought lots of excitement for athletes in every grade during the last semester. There is so much opportunity for all different kinds of students to excel, whether that be on the track, in the pool, on the field, or on the court.

We spoke with athletes from a variety of different sports to find out just how amazing these programs are doing. Declan Mahoney '26 is a member of the Men's Varsity Golf team and summed up the season stating: "We are doing great as we just finished up our second season in a row going undefeated." This is a huge accomplishment for the golf team as all of their hard work has paid off.

Moving from grass to turf, we talked to Sophie Ghosh '26, a member of the Women's Varsity Lacrosse team shortly after she was nominated as player of the week, scoring 9 out of 14 goals at the SI v. SHP game. She said, "I am really proud of this team and I think we put in a lot of hard work at practice every day, and that shows in the games." Both the women and men's lacrosse teams got to travel to the East Coast during spring break to face competitive opponents.

Speaking of competition, the Men's Varsity Swim team beat St. Francis in a very close meet, with many of the members achieving personal records. Dylan Dunn '27 recalled the meet and said, "We went into it knowing that the results would be close, and I am really happy we all pulled through in the end." They not only pulled through; they excelled.

From personal records to school records, check out Ellie McCuskey-Hay '26, who is a member of the Women's Varsity Track and Field team. On March 22, McCuskey-Hay broke her own school record at the meet against San Ramon Valley, running a 200 meter race in 24.17 seconds. Talking about the season, she said: "Our 4x1 boys team has proven their potential on the national stage, our jumpers have excelled, our sprinters and

distance runners are growing in depth...the team has been so encouraging this season and I hope we carry that camaraderie through states." She went on to relay an impressive stat from Zylah Coleman '27. Zylah placed 2nd in the triple jump at the Arcadia meet, 37'10." In

47'6" leap which is now leading the CCS by over a foot and a half. Gonzalez is also tied for the #1 spot in CCS for Long Jump with a mark of 23'1." When asked about his athletes' success, jumps coach, Coach Kennedy couldn't help but smile, stating, "The growth



Ellie McCuskey-Hay '26 sprints off of her starting blocks.

that same meet, Ellie placed in both the 100 and 200 meter races.

The girls' 4x1 relay—featuring McCuskey-Hay, Avery Hui-Bytof, Sophia Boudraa, and Breion Glaspie—has also emerged as a force, currently holding the #2 spot in CCS after clocking an impressive 48.39. The chemistry and speed in this relay squad have made it one of the most exciting events to watch each meet.

Additionally, Noah Gonzalez '25 shattered his own Triple Jump school record with a

this season has been unreal. These athletes are not just competing but they're consistently outdoing themselves."

Our spring sports athletes have been impressive, and St. Ignatius is so lucky to represent these young adults. With multiple athletes ranked at the top of the CCS and school records continuing to fall, the Wildcats are making their impact felt throughout the Bay Area.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL HITS IT OUT OF THE PARK

Lilly Eugster '25

Managing Editor

The St. Ignatius women's softball team is on a roll this season, turning heads across the league with an impressive start and high hopes for the weeks ahead. With a blend of strong leadership, talented players, and relentless energy on the field, the Wildcats have emerged as a dominant force in the region.

"Our season started off really strong with a 9-game winning streak with victories over Cappuccino, Notre Dame, and Marin Catholic," said Delilah Berry '26. "We are still finishing off the second half of the league hoping to get victories against Mitty, Valley Christian, and SHC."

The early season momentum set the tone for what's become a standout campaign. Behind excellent pitching, consistent hitting, and a tight defense, the Wildcats have quickly built a reputation for playing fast, smart, and competitive softball. Their early wins weren't just flukes because they came against some of the toughest teams in the Bay Area.

As the team enters the second half of the league season, the stakes were rising. The Wildcats won lost games against Archbishop Mitty and Valley Christian but defeated Sacred Heart Cathedral twice on May 7th and May 12th.

Fans and coaches alike have been impressed with the team's chemistry and determination. With strong leadership and a super positive mindset, the Wildcats are not just chasing wins but also chasing history.



The Women's Varsity Softball team groups up in the dugout.



SPORTS UPDATE

All records as of 5/15

Nick Luongo '25

Managing Editor

TRACK AND FIELD

SI showed out at WCALs. Both Men's and Women's Track won first place in the 400M relay. Ellie McCuskey-Hay '26 won first place in three different events.



SI sprinters prepare to race.

BASEBALL

Record: 17-9-2

The Varsity Baseball team ended the regular season in May. Two-way prospect and Stanford commit Archer Horn '26 leads the team with a 1.200 OPS and 6 home runs on the year. Stay tuned for WCAL and CCS playoffs soon to come later this month. As the 3rd seed, pitcher Luke Miller '25 said, "We have a good shot in the WCAL playoffs if we play our best."



The team prays before the Bruce Mahoney game.

SWIM AND DIVE

Swim & Dive had their Senior Day on April 10 where they celebrated 14 seniors. The women were runners up in WCAL this year, and both men and women competed in CCS on May 8, 9, and 10.



SI senior swimmers smile for Senior Day.

MEN'S GOLF

Record: 15-0

Men's Golf dominated WCAL with an undefeated record and reclaimed the trophy once again. They were a top 3 finalist at CCS and look forward to NCS on 5/27.



The Varsity Men's golf team poses with their CCS trophy.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Record: 8-26

Men's Volleyball celebrated its senior day on May 1st. The season proved to be developmental with a new coaching staff. The JV team had a historic season with the best season that they have had in three years.



Men's Volleyball team on Senior Day.

MEN'S TENNIS

Record: 15-6

The Men's Varsity Tennis team ended their regular season with a 12-2 league record, finishing WCAL in 2nd place. Callum Mahoney '25 and Finn Murphy '26 made it to the WCAL doubles semifinals, and Devin Stuppin '26 and Marco Magnano '27 placed first in WCAL doubles. The team also won their first round CCS playoffs match on Wednesday, May 7 against Branham High School.



The team smiles for Senior Day.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Record: 16-4



Women's lacrosse huddles up before their game.

Women's lacrosse finished the regular season with a Senior Day win against SHP and headed into CCS playoffs on May 13 against Woodside.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Record: 21-3

The men's lacrosse team easily won the WCAL championship. Jack Duffy '25 said, "We should win CCS too."



The team lines up before a game.

CREW

c/o @stignatiuscrow

Men's Crew qualified a boat for scholastic and youth nationals. They hope to take a win at scholastic nationals.



Men's Crew rows in the West Coast Scholastic Championships.

Women's Crew had three boats qualify for the SRAA National Championships, and one boat will go to the Youth Nationals in Florida.

SOFTBALL

Record: 12-9

The softball team has had a great season with an overall record of 12/9 as they head to their final regular season game against Presentation.



The softball team poses for Senior Day

STRANDS

Rini Saha '25Contributing Editor

Find hidden words and uncover this issue's theme!



TODAY'S THEME
The Final Goodbye!

E H A O S Y
T V F R I E
A H S T H A
O N K M U R
O G R E M S
D R A N D S
T N I Y A L
S G A M Y P

__ of 11 theme words found.

Hint: it's a message!

- How to Play:
- Bubble **theme words** to fill the board
 - Find the **"spangram."**
 - (The **spangram** describes the puzzle's theme and touches two opposite sides of the board. It may be two words.)

DEANS' ATTEMPTED CRACKDOWN

I am in favor of **banning** sandals, flip flops, and/or slippers. *

Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 Agree

IT'S NOT TOO LATE. VOTE NO.
MARCO AND HIS RAINBOWS APPROVED THIS
MESSAGE.



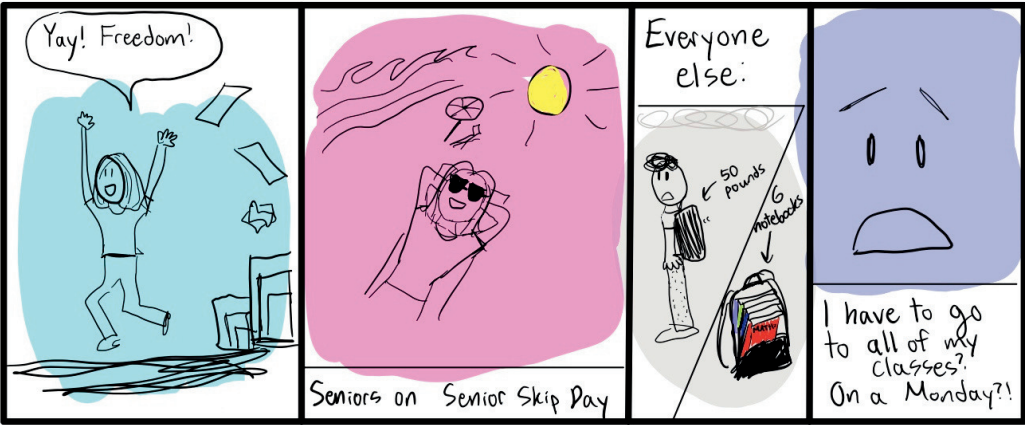
DAY IN MAY W/ IGGY

Geraldine Segura '27Contributing Editor



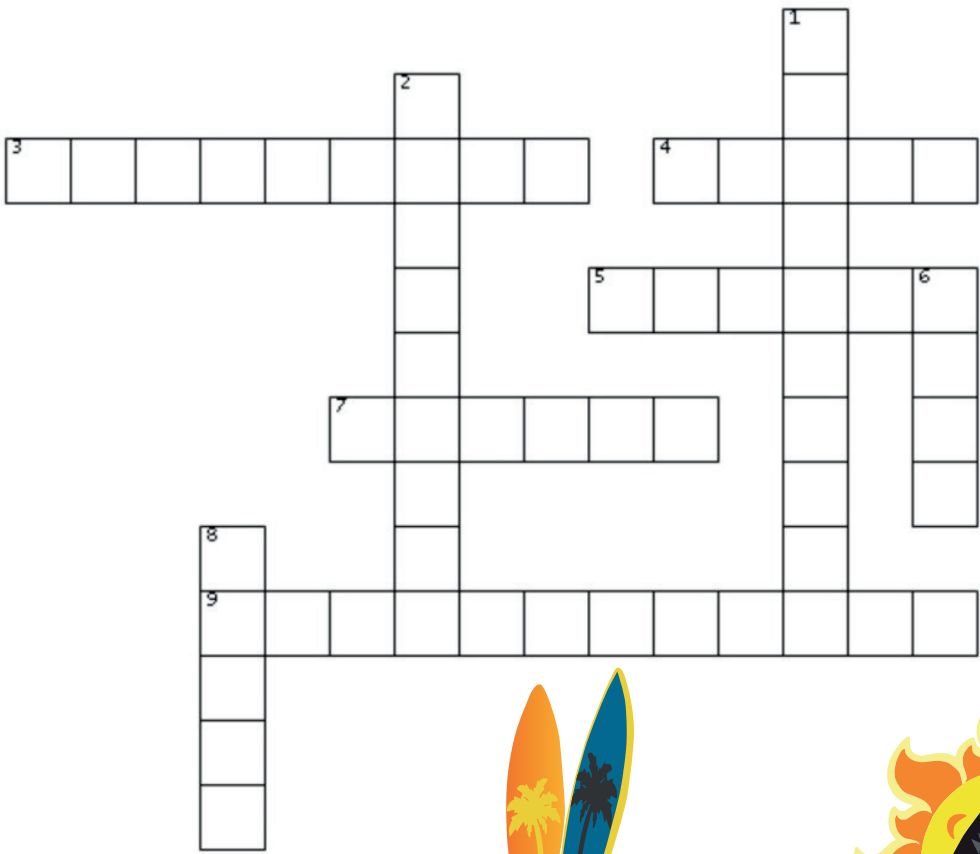
SENIOR SKIP DAY

Evie Chen '26Managing Editor



SUMMER IN THE CITY

Evie Chen '26Managing Editor



ACROSS

3. Summer program led by the Arrupe Center for Social Justice
4. One can build sandcastles or go surfing at the _____.
5. "Cherry blossom" in Japanese.
7. May the _____ be with you.
9. The event that Hozier and Doja Cat will perform at this summer.

DOWN

1. Gowns, caps, and diplomas.
2. Invented in ancient China and used to celebrate Independence Day.
6. The month of May celebrates _____ heritage.
8. The orange California state flower.

VOLUME 73 ISSUE 9
MAY 2025

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