



Pathway Senior
Projects Recognized

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Who's Going
Where?

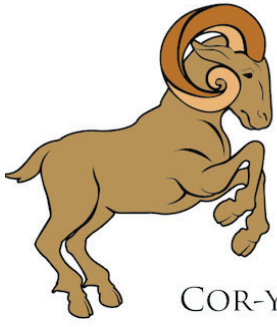
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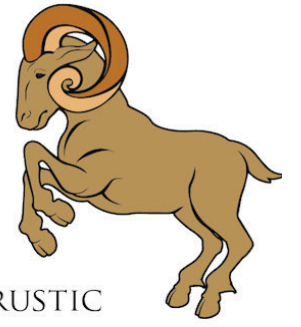
Outstanding Athletes
Honored

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60 YEARS AND COUNTING



CORYDON



MILLIKAN HIGH SCHOOL, LONG BEACH

COR-Y-DON (KOR/IDEN) NOUN. IN PASTORAL LITERATURE, A NAME FOR A SHEPHERD OR RUSTIC

Robert Andrews Millikan High School
2800 Snowden Avenue Long Beach, CA 90815

Volume LXII
<https://millikancorydon.weebly.com/>

Issue 9
June 2019

Congratulations Class of 2019!

The Seniors Behind the Paper

By Kezziah Hernandez
Web Editor

After months of dedication and publication, the *Corydon* seniors are signing off to college.

Co-Editors-in-Chief, Hannah Torres and Michael Malinski, have worked tirelessly to develop and distribute the paper.

Torres states that it was “rewarding to build a community and get back to the roots of journalism.” She adds, “Journalism gave me a lot, and I’m grateful to have the experience.”

Copy editor Dayquan Moeller states, “I’m tired and ready for college.” He checks off mistakes in the articles and brings bright smiles to the class.

Noah Devine, Julian Murillo, and Sofia Bouzarif, our Web Editors, upload monthly videos to our YouTube channel, *Millikan Corydon Plugged In*.

Feature Page Editor, Sara Steichen, helps put pages together to distribute monthly *Corydon* issues.

After graduation, the seniors will be attending a variety of colleges. Hannah Torres will attend UC Berkeley, and Michael Malinski is enrolling UCI’s Campus-wide honors program.

Dayquan Moeller will depart to Whittier College, while Cal Poly SLO will greet Sara Steichen and Julian Murillo; Noah Devine and Sofia Bouzarif will attend UCLA.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARA STEICHEN & AP STUDENT XANDER LEIGH

This year’s *Corydon* seniors (from left to right), Dayquan Moeller, Sara Steichen, Noah Devine, Julian Murillo, Michael Malinski, Hannah Torres, and Sofia Bouzarif, leave the *Corydon* in capable hands.

A Genteel GREEN Goodbye

By Chance Paxton
Asst. Video Editor

GREEN was founded with a focus on environmental issues and bettering the world around us. It was actually a bonding of two different academies that truly allowed GREEN to come alive.

“One was called KEY-UP and the other was called STELLAR,” head counselor Lolo Saldana says when discussing the creation of the GREEN academy.

KEY-UP had an emphasis of partnering students with LBCC, similarly to the dual enrollment process available to students. STELLAR helped second-language learners better understand and become fluent

with the English language. The teachers of these two academies merged to create the GREEN academy.

Despite its successful ten-year run, a multitude of factors lead to its downfall. First, according to Millikan co-principal Michael Navia, was the creation of specialized high schools and a reduction of the amount of kids in LBUSD schools.

Specialized high schools such as McBride and Browning reduced the number of students at Millikan by a considerable margin.

“When we got 2,000 less kids [enrolled], we knew we had to close down at least one SLC,” says Navia.

Navia said that the process of choosing which

SLC to drop was a handful of work, where they had to look at total SLC enrollment, total SLC applications, and the overall GREEN course.

“When we looked at the data it was obvious to [almost] everyone, including the teachers, that GREEN would be the one that would be closing.”

The end for GREEN was gradual. Last year marked the end of applications for GREEN. Thus, when GREEN shut down its doors, the graduating class of 2019 became the last students to ever be part of the SLC.

Now, those last 90 GREEN students are graduating, and GREEN is coming to a close.

A Note From the Class of 2019

By Hannah Torres and Michael Malinski
Co-Editors-in-Chief

On behalf of the class of 2019, the *Corydon* staff would like to thank all the teachers and faculty that provide the education and experience that we the students receive.

For the teachers that have been teaching at Millikan for several years, we thank you.

For the new teachers that joined the Ram Family, we thank you.

For the staff that protect

the health and well-being of the students, we thank you.

For the principals who have transformed Millikan and its culture, we thank you.

Thank you for shaping us into young adults who are prepared for the real world and all of its challenges.

We could not have done any of this without you.

We wish all teachers and staff the best in their future endeavors at Millikan and beyond.

With much admiration and gratitude,

- The Class of 2019



Teaching the Talented



PHOTO COURTESY OF MADISON GEORGE

By Sara Steichen
Feature Editor

For Madison George's QUEST Senior Project, she produced and directed Marshall Academy of the Art's Middle School Talent Show. She rehearsed with 30

middle school students twice a week for months. There were 25 acts in the show, and students had a variety of talents which included dancing, singing, and comedy. George states, "My favorite part was having a relationship with the

kids. They would come to me with all of their troubles whether it be about their act or not and it made me feel so good." George is excited to be going to UCSB in the fall to major in Political Science and plans to go on to law school.

Making Waves with Mariachi Mares

By Andrea Prado
Front Editor

The idea behind Millikan's new and beloved mariachi band came from QUEST senior Alexander Avalos. For his QUEST Senior Project (QSP), Avalos and five other seniors came together as Mariachi Mares and have performed for students, parents, and faculty on QSP Night back in April. The mariachi was my main idea [for QSP] since May of last year," says Avalos. "There wasn't a particular person that inspired me to form the mariachi, but I saw this as an opportunity to both embrace my Mexican heritage and continue to listen to some of my favorite music."

The other Mariachi Mares members are violinists Kevin Huynh and Dayquan Moeller, trumpeter Adrian Diaz, guitarrón player Jazmine Ruiz, and lead singer Ruben Jacinto. Avalos plays the vihuela, an instrument similar to the guitar that only has five strings and a convex back. Trumpeter Adrian Diaz says, "As a group, the biggest problem was consistency. We only met

together as a complete group with our mentor once and that backtracked us in progressing with our songs." Almost every Friday, the group would meet with their mentor, Martin Saavedra. If they weren't learning a new song, they would practice the ones they knew how to play. Saavedra would point out any mistakes or make suggestions to improve their performance. Besides QSP Night, Mariachi Mares performed at Millikan's Cultural Fair on March 22 and for teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. The mariachi also plans to perform for a charity event with Millikan's Childhood Cancer Club towards the end of the school year. "If one of your goals seems too ambitious, you should still try to achieve it," Avalos says. "You'll never know if things will turn out in your favor and you'll actually be able to accomplish it."

Avalos will be attending the honors program at CSULB and majoring in Biology. He plans to go to medical school and hopes to become a pediatrician in the future. He is thankful for all that his QSP taught him.

Millikan's Rising Star

By Zoe Renner and Julia Mueller
Staff Reporters

Evan Coulter chose to write, shoot, and produce his own mystery suspense film here at Millikan for his QSP.

The short film is about a boy going through his daily life. The story is set during the 1950s which makes it all the more interesting when odd events occur throughout his day in this idyllic setting. Events such as missing children and a mysterious man end up making what at first seems like a normal day turn into a dark and interesting story. While at Millikan, he

was the president of the film club. He was also nominated by the principals and staff for the Most Inspiring Student Award this year and was proud to receive that honor. Coulter says, "I learned a lot from creating this short film. Putting together this project has taught me life skills such as managing my time during a hectic schedule, working with others and simply having confidence in my own abilities. After graduating from Millikan, Coulter will be attending UCLA to major in economics and minor in film. He aspires to be an actor and director and plans to go on auditions once at UCLA.

Research on Social Media Influencers

By Noah Devine
Web Editor

For her AP Research project, QUEST senior Peyton Beeli looked into the relationship between social media influencers and the purchasing habits of high school girls.

Her initial interest in the topic spurred from "seeing my little sisters watch videos of beauty influencers on YouTube trying to sell them makeup products."

Her research question was, "to what extent do social media beauty influencers have an effect on the purchasing

habits and brand perceptions of high school girls?" "She used a survey of 400 Millikan girls to get to the bottom of her inquiry.

Beeli found a correlation between the recognition of a brand and



PHOTO COURTESY OF PEYTON BEELI

are the primary source of knowledge about trends and have a stronger effect on purchasing habits than traditional advertisements for high school girls. She believes influencers are "a huge part of the new marketing landscape," and wants "young people to be able to identify who is marketing to them, whether the post is an ad or not, and why they are being targeted so they can be better informed consumers."

Her biggest surprise during the process was how unwilling brands were to offer her even the broadest sales data in the name of research. In the fall, Beeli will be attending Williams College and is considering majoring in history or political science.

Melissa Sahlin Takes on the World of Health and Technology

By Chloe Pullman
Athletics Editor

The AP Research class implores students to further their knowledge in topics of interest or topics that affect our world. QUEST Senior Melissa Sahlin is in AP Research and has spent her year in the class researching the relationship between technology and healthcare.

Sahlin says that, this project "not only unveiled the rising power of technology and its dynamic impact on the healthcare field, but also strengthened [my] interest and passion for medicine." "I studied the use of smartphone mobile apps that are currently being developed for the treatment of schizophrenia and I compared them to traditional psychiatric treatment for schizophrenia."

"I aspire to attend medical school and become a psychiatrist. This project truly allowed me to explore the medical sphere and foster my interest in psychology." Sahlin is talented in many ways, and has also been in Intermediate dance at Millikan for all four years. Melissa Sahlin will be attending UCSB in the fall and majoring in Biological Psychology.

COMPASS Capstone's Greased Lightning



PHOTO COURTESIES OF MARY MASSICH AND SKYLAR AIMERITO

By Londyn Phillip and
Madison Letts
Staff Reporters

Due to COMPASS's focus on the arts, many would assume that seniors would do projects revolved around the arts. However, there is a different type of senior project that COMPASS students get to participate in. This year, the project was the Greased Lightning dance.

"It's the kind of experience you want to

help others," COMPASS senior Keyla Campos said. "It gives you a heads up for the future."

This dance was a way for students to enjoy some 50's themed fun.

The food, refreshments, and both retro and modern music also contributed to the fun.

COMPASS seniors spent the entirety of the year preparing, waiting for the day it would come to life. In the Capstone class, it became their top priority

to make the dance the best it could be. The dance took place on April 12th.

"Setting up the dance was a long process," Campos said. "There were papers, permits, and a car show that we had to coordinate."

All of their hard work paid off in incredible ways, making Greased Lightning one unforgettable dance.

Along with the dance, COMPASS Capstone put on the annual COMPASS mixer in October, in which

over 300 students were able to get to know others in the program. The class also has an Arts Partnership with the Comprehensive Child Development Center.

"Once a month, our seniors design arts based projects and work with preschool children that are transitioning out of homelessness," COMPASS lead Mary Massich says. "They mentor the children and get to watch them grow all year long."

"They self select committees and take on leadership roles according to their interests," Massich continues. "They also lead all COMPASS events, including helping design and build the World War I museum."

Students in the COMPASS Capstone class learn more than just how to lead. They learn how to take their creative minds and turn ideas into a reality that can help the lives of others.

Reindhart Reigns Supreme as MIT Senior

By Sara Steichen
Feature Editor

Luc Reindhart is a MIT senior who put a tremendous amount of effort into his MIT senior project.

"My senior project was building a game from scratch, and I chose to build snake, starting from square one then building it all the way up to a functioning game," stated Reindhart.

Reindhart said, "It taught me a lot, mostly about how to draw

graphics on a screen and getting them to actually function properly without it causing the whole game not to work."

Reindhart said he's always wanted to get into computer programming, and this class "taught me there are more options to go into game designing now that I know how to use graphics more properly."

Reindhart is planning on attending LBCC for two years before transferring to a four year university to continue his Computer Science major.





Arizona State University
Annora Taylor
Grace Culqui



Boise State University
Madelyn Roberts



Brigham Young University
Kallie Richards



California Lutheran University
Isabella Garcia



California Maritime
Cade Bowers
Trey Bowers



California Polytechnic Pamona
Anami Patel



California Polytechnic San Luis Obispo
Andrew Abdelnour
Macey Coffman
Axel Gonzalez
Julie Hernandez
Jackson Kay
Madison Miranda
Veronica Mendez
Julian Murillo
Salice Sage
Sara Steichen
Brendan Stratford
Joshua Terlaje
Sara Wong



California State University Channel Islands
Maxwell Miller



California State University Dominguez Hills
Kayla Sanchez
Alejandra Suarez



California State University East Bay
Allen Rivera



California State University Fullerton
Diana Garcia Ordenez
Justin Reagan
Seth Severtson



California State University Long Beach
Habid Abdelkrim
Alexander Avalos
Jennifer Barba
Andrea Benitez
Alicia Bond
Alicia Casey
Carlos Castaneda
Abigail Callejas
Kathaleeya Chhay
Samantha Corbin
Angelica Cortez
Raven De Jesus
Sarah Fleishman
Sarah Furlong
Axel Garcia
Natalie Gissel
Kyra Gonzalez
Monica Gonzalez
Brandon Hartman
Drew Helms
Lani Hemsley
Autumn Hobbs
Emily Knopf
Brandon Lopez
Jasmine Lopez
Wendy Lopez-Mojica
Kaylee Leflinger
Kylie Mathes
Natalia Meksomphone
Luis Roberto Meneghin
Lindsay Mize
Ivan Morales
Jesselle Carl Ocampo
Julian Morales Oliva
Elizabeth Noel
Brooke Robinson
Jovana Robledo
Katherine Rodriguez
Jesus Romero
Elle Simon
Liane Tiangco
Anthony Torres
Marianna Torres
Alyna Valenzuela
Jafet Valles
Madison Quintana
Christopher Vital
Katherine Wasson



California State University Monterey Bay
Kayla Arakawa



Cerritos College
Priscilla Garduno
Alan Tabales



Chapman University
Calista Kirk
Alyssa Romero
Eva Simpao



Clarke University
Jamie Albertson



Cottey University
Maya De Sota



Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Matthew Winters



Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
Kali Sanders



Laguna College of Art and Design
Aaron Baldwin



LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE

Long Beach City College
Carlos Acha
Jaime Araiza
Rebecca Beltran
William Bui
Sarah Bulmer
Joshua Carpenter
Yesenia Contreras
Paola Chavez
Cole Davis
Alannah Enriquez
Evelyn Elias
Owen Fahringer
Ellen Flores
Josue Gomez
Mikel Gonzalez
Eli Howe
George Jimenez
Julianne Jimenez
Benjamin Kay
Nicolette Love
Hailie Martinez
Steven Marsico
Jonah Melgosa
Cameron Mercado
Martin Mora
Joel Neder
Kaitlin Noel
Gintaras Oropeza
Michelle Ortega-Salazar
Mariene Perey
Brendon Perez
Carolynn Pritchard
Samantha Ramirez
Alfredo Rangel
Luc Reinhardt
Yesenia Rodriguez
Noah Rounds
Dylan Schwartz
Dylan Scriven
Julian Shea
Diego Smith
Mark Tapia
Chris Trinidad
Ashby Ulloa
Harley Wade
Ian Williford



Loyola Marymount University
Carolina Salcedo
Karli Slater

Missionary Trip for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Noah Astle

WHERE?



Northern Arizona University
Nicholas Watkins
Charlotte Willin



San Diego State University
Annaliese Guthman



University of California Davis
Taylor Ichikawa
Osiris Murillo



University of California Santa Cruz
Anna Becker
Abigayle Casarez
Vanessa Garcia
Kaitlin Kealoha
Mia Laskan
Ronan Mauldin
Jake McGlynn
Ellie Wilson



University of Pennsylvania
Isaiah Williams



Northern Illinois University
Nicolas Gonzalez



San Francisco State University
Veronica Gutierrez



University of California Irvine
Elijah Castro
Jacqueline Fausto
Jasmyne Hernandez
Michael Malinski
Tiffani Pope



University of Toledo
Madelyn Worden



University of Colorado Boulder
Bianca Byrnes
Lanna Jenkins
Emilie Mousseau



University of Utah
Abigail Netter



Occidental College
Juliette Ruau



Santa Barbara City College
Amanda Wenzler



University of California Los Angeles
Rachelle Bishay
Sofia Bouzarif
Evan Coulter
Noah Devine
Kevin Huynh
Caroline Lunt



University of Toledo
Mandy Betts



University of Washington
Gabby Wood



Pennsylvania State University
Julian Covarrubias



Sonoma State University
Jenna Shehan



University of California Merced
Matthew McCarthy



University of La Verne
Rachel Rubio



Wagner College
Cody Bey



Pepperdine University
Autumn Johnson



Stanford University

Stanford University
Ismael Castro



University of California San Diego
Candice Hernandez
Delasia Nazzaro
Jenna Nhean
Brandon Vinhnee



University of Missouri Kansas City
Timothy Barnes



Whittier College
Grace Arnsperger
Megan Bruce
Dayquan Moeller
Samantha Pearson



Regis University
Kobi Cannata



University of California Berkeley
Jordyn Carpenter
Helene Gurewitz
Erick Marchena
Esmerelda Sandoval-Olguin
Prarie Stilwell
Hannah Torres



University of California Santa Barbara
McKenzie Goetz
Lily Leventhal
Melissa Sahlin



University of Southern California
Hannah Rodriguez
Joseph Tate



Rocky Mountain College
Isabella Velasco



Williams University
Peyton Beeli

PEACE Presents Projects at Open House



PHOTO BY DAYQUAN MOELLER

By Dayquan Moeller and Kezziah Hernandez
Copy Editor and Web Editor

The more we teach young people to research and advocate,” says PEACE ELEVATE coordinator Ms. Glenn, “the more we are creating a stronger society.”

This can be interpreted as a mission statement for the ELEVATE project, a PEACE senior class in which students conduct research and participate in activism revolving around a single global issue.

For example, senior Emily Eaglesham and her peers focused their research on clean water scarcity and availability in Liberia.

“It really surprised me

how many people die, especially children, from lack of access to clean water,” says Eaglesham.

“This is a crisis,” she continues, “people are dying from this every day. It should be prioritized everywhere.”

While the bulk of the projects were focused on issues abroad, many students also came to realizations about issues here in the United States.

Some students applauded their home country, such as Austin Tubbs who expressed “how thankful [he] is to live in America.”

Others were shocked by injustices in America, including Brook Swanson who was surprised by the prevalence of child marriage in America, ex-

plaining that “it’s a serious problem that [people] would not expect in the United States.”

Either way, all students agreed there was work to be done and things to be improved upon. “I learned that every country can not live up to U.S. standards, and there is a clear gap between first and third world countries,” says Timothy Barnes, “This is frustrating because we have the resources to make every country equal and we don’t that.”

Speaking proudly about her students, Ms. Glenn states, “One thing I really love about this project is that every student gets to work on something they are passionate about and this year I saw a lot of passion.”

Being Your Own Businesswoman

By Paris Blanco
News Editor

MBA Virtual Enterprises is a simulated business ran by MBA seniors. This helps them to prepare for working in a real business.

Students use current business software, electronic communications, and the Internet for business transactions. With the help from their teacher, Carri Valdez, students also determine the nature of their business, its prod-

ucts, and its structure.

MBA senior Jasleen Marie Sandoval created a business called Simply Safe. Her goal was to create customized safety kits for natural disasters.

The process Sandoval went through consisted of, “looking for an idea, coming up with an audience you want to target, and figuring out what will work best to help your business succeed.”

A challenge Sandoval faced within her virtual enterprise was target-

ing her product towards teens since the product worked better for adults.

“I’ve learned how to reach out to people and try to persuade them to buy a product they actually needed. I’ve learned how to create a business plan and how to pitch it,” says Sandoval.

According to Sandoval, MBA Virtual Enterprises is a really helpful in seeing the business side of a company. “I would really recommend anybody that is interested in business to take this class,” she states.

Enveloped in Virtual Enterprises

By Emma Sharman
Asst. Feature Editor

Blake Bayliss, MBA senior and CEO/President of his Virtual Enterprises class, has found that the difficulty of balancing the responsibilities of being a leader and a friend has contributed to his significant growth as a person.

Bayliss took three years of business classes prior to his senior year, and found that the best use of his expertise would be to apply for advanced Virtual Enterprises.

“The best part of being in Virtual Enterprises is probably having access to business professionals who mentor us and help us develop stronger skills to prepare us for the competitions we take on at mock trade shows in Orange County, Pasadena, Bakersfield, and San Francisco,” Bayliss explains.

He elaborates, “The class was definitely not easy - at least for me. This class is set up like an actual company, everyone in the class has a position: either executive or associate level.”

The class president states that the course taught

him plenty about leadership and team building.

He explains that his responsibilities entailed “making sure everyone did their work quickly, while ensuring that the quality of work turned in was the best it could be.”

He also mentions that he had to balance being friends with his classmates outside of class, and essentially being their boss during class.

The classwork he supervised consisted mainly of preparation for trade shows and competitions for “numerous things, including website design, salesmanship, and even creating entire business plans from scratch.”

Bayliss was responsible for many of the functions of the class, which proved to be a challenge. He managed it by communicating openly with the other class executives and holding weekly meetings to discuss what each of the departments needed to get done.

He also mentioned that his experiences this year in his Virtual Enterprises class have contributed to his desire to become a business major in college.

Life Below Water

By Danielle Paulson
Staff Reporter

One of the central focuses of the PEACE SLC is solving world problems and searching for possible solutions to global issues. The ELEVATE senior project revolves around solving one of the seventeen U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.

The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals can be summarized as a series of seventeen goals that together represent a blueprint that has the potential to someday result in the construction of a better more sustainable future for all.

For instance, Brandon

Lopez’s group focused on goal 14: Life Below Water. This goal aims towards reducing water pollution, protecting marine life, and ending overfishing.

Lopez says, “This project is a lot of work, but knowing that I am apart of a cause that is so important to our planet makes me excited to help.”

Lopez is working on a presentation that focuses on the Pacific Ocean. After his presentation finished, he even presented his findings at Whittier College. His ideas were on how to make the Pacific Ocean less polluted, and a better environment for all the marine life that live in it.

Rachel Moreno Shines In The Spotlight

By Londyn Phillip
Staff Reporter

Many young girls are entered into dance classes, but only a small amount will continue their dance career after their childhood.

It takes a special kind of athlete to continue their passion, dedicating their life to becoming the best dancer they can be.

Being a dancer requires more than physical strength. It requires the mental capacity to spend long hours working nonstop on a daily basis. It requires the ability to put emotion into movement to create a

story unlike any other. That is exactly what senior Rachel Moreno does.

“Dancing has helped me become



such a disciplined individual, both inside and outside of the studio,” Moreno said. “I think it’s taught me a lot of what it means to be responsible, respectful, and a team player with a sense of healthy competition.”

“I started dancing when I was four, and continued for thirteen years at Long Beach Ballet,” Moreno says. “Now I spend my time dancing primarily at school, and am taking some classes at Onstage Dance Center.”

After high school, Rachel plans to continue dancing on the CSULB dance team and at a studio. “Dancing has been such a large part of my life, and I can’t imagine myself ever giving it up.”

Rachel’s career in dance has been a long one, but the dedication has paid off in tremendous ways.

Rachel Moreno will be missed.

Dreams Over Dollars

By Katie Hull
Staff Reporter

Kate Noel is a PEACE senior on the Millikan Girls Volleyball team. After a major injury last year, she received scholarship opportunities to multiple colleges.

However, she has turned down these scholarships to attend Long Beach City College in order to be coached and mentored by Olympic athlete, Misty May-Treanor and Noel’s “all-time favorite Long Beach State player,” Ty-

ler Jackson, who is the assistant coach at LBCC.

Going to a city college will open up more opportunities and allow Noel to possibly transfer to a four year college.

Noel says, “I never imagined that I would end up playing at a city college, but I view it as a place where I can start my collegiate volleyball career.”

Noel’s inspiring decision shows each of us that no amount of money can buy the fulfillment of life-long dreams.

“Champ” Wrestles Out of Highschool

By Madison Letts
Staff Reporter

Wrestling is a sport for the tough and ruthless. It takes a lot of strength and strategy to win. MIT senior Nate “Champ” Munoz has been wrestling since freshman year, stating that he enjoys “wrecking on kids.”

His wrestling experience was memorable due to all of his previous

wins. “I love winning... I have 35 varsity wins this year.” says Munoz.

He fought most of his matches while 15-20 pounds underweight compared to his opponents.

“I recommend wrestling if you are a hard worker and willing to take a beating.”

After highschool, Munoz plans to train to be a part of WWE (world wrestling entertainment) and inspire kids who also love the sport.

Marianna Torres Vaults Towards the Future



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIANNA TORRES

By Andrea Prado
Front Editor

As the school year comes to a close, gymnastics team captain and QUEST senior Marianna Torres wraps up her senior year with the First Place All-Around title from Gymnastics’ Moore League finals for Junior Varsity.

Torres has participated in Millikan gymnastics for three years. She has also been a member of club gymnastics for six years.

“I wanted to try out for Millikan’s gymnastics team [sophomore year] and see what it was like. I’ve always been passionate about the sport.”

Torres says that she

usually placed on certain events like vault, but winning first place all-around was “an exciting and cool experience” because all of her hard work paid off at the meet.

Her devotion to gymnastics is also reflected in her QUEST Senior Project. Torres hosted a gymnastics clinic at Millikan with Selah Copp, another captain of the gymnastics team.

“The clinic was open to all children ages five to twelve; we had about forty kids show up,” says Torres. “We introduced them to the sport and helped them learn the basics. Overall, we had a good time.”

Although Torres has been practicing gymnastics for nearly a decade, she

doesn’t plan on continuing the sport after high school.

“College gymnastics is on another level, but placing First All-Around was a nice way to end the season,” says Torres.

Torres will be attending CSULB in the fall. Though unsure of what to major in yet, she is interested in entering either General Business Management or Nursing.

For those interested in trying out for gymnastics, Torres says “You can learn a lot from joining high school gymnastics. Whether you have experience or not, it’s nice and important to get involved with the bonds you make.” Marianna Torres will be greatly missed by her teammates.

Maya DeSota: A Softball Inspiration

By Chance Paxton
Asst. Video Editor

As the year comes to a close, the Millikan softball team is seeing one of their beloved members graduate and pass on the torch to the next generation of players.

This student, Maya DeSota, a QUEST senior, has always had a history with softball. “I started playing when I was five years old and I was first baseman. My first year of Millikan softball was as a freshman and I was a catcher,” says DeSota.

She has given her full effort and attention both on and off the field. “Softball forces you to step out of your shell and be vocal. It really allowed me to become a leader in and off of the field” says DeSota.

DeSota has also become a natural leader

through softball, inspiring her teammates to perform with the same tenacity and passion as she did during her softball career.

Yet, DeSota does not just inspire and teach her fellow Millikan athletes, but also aids children from other countries across the globe. DeSota’s QUEST Senior Project was to teach kids from Africa how to play softball.

She does this by creating YouTube tutorials instructing kids how to play the sport, from holding the bat to catching and hitting the ball.

Her efforts in teaching Millikan students at home and children in need abroad helped her to become a reliable mentor for many people, despite age and location.

“Play with your heart and leave everything on the field,” advises DeSota.

Millikan Says Goodbye to a Tennis Star

By Sara Steichen
Feature Editor

Bianca Byrnes is a QUEST senior at Millikan who has accomplished a lot in her four years here. She has had both a successful academic and tennis career, and has an ever brighter future ahead.

Bianca has played tennis all four years and even made it to be Team Captain, leading her team to 3rd place overall in Moore League, and played doubles.

She says, "I really enjoyed tennis all my years because of my friends and how nice my coaches are,

especially Mrs. Frapwell."

As far as academic success, Byrnes also has a lot to brag about. She finished off senior year with a 4.0 unweighted GPA and a 4.67 weighted GPA; taking a total of 13 AP classes.

Bianca is very excited for her future, as she is going to University of Colorado Boulder and majoring in Chemical Engineering. She also received the very prestigious Presidential Scholarship.

Bianca notes that it was difficult to balance academics with tennis and enjoying her team, with hard work and dedication she was able to get it done.

Putting Her Heart Out On and Off the Golf Course

By Dayquan Moeller
Copy Editor

This fall, only three incoming Freshman will have the privilege of playing on the D3 CAA Golf team at Occidental College. Two of them are coming from Guam and Singapore, the third is Millikan's own Juliette Ruaux.

Having played tennis since the age of seven, the QUEST Senior says she is "very excited to continue my golf career." She adds that at Occidental "the golf team is really friendly and nice."

On her decision to attend Occidental College, she explains that it was "close enough to home for

me to feel comfortable but far enough for me to be independent and grow."

In addition to golf, Ruaux will be double majoring in Biology and French. "I like studying living things and learning how they work," she states explaining her interest in the field.

Her dreams include eventually living in France and becoming a researcher in the STEM field.

To underclassmen she recommends that everyone "get involved in clubs or sports to establish a support system that they can count on," in order to get the best experience out of high school.

Her engagement with golf and Millikan lives on.

Future Collegiate Athlete



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMIE ALBERTSON

By Danielle Paulson
Staff Reporter

This past season, Millikan's girls soccer team won Moore League for the first time since 1985, and made it to the second round of CIF.

After their incredible season came to an end, Millikan ended up with three Moore League players of the year and five First

Team All League Players.

Out of the 11 seniors graduating, only a few have plans to continue their soccer careers in college. Jamie Albertson is one of them. At the start of the season Albertson was on the team, but she was injured and unable to play. Despite this she did not let her injury stop her.

Once she was cleared to start playing, Albertson began working on getting

back into "game shape." she was back starting every game at left defense by the middle of the season.

Albertson was able to help her to win the League title. Because of her efforts, she has been offered a spot to play soccer in college.

Committing to playing soccer at Clarke University, a four year liberal arts college in Dubuque, Iowa.

Hard Hitting Harding

By Nick DeLucca
Editorial Editor

For the past two seasons, Millikan football has seen a recent spike in success displaying consecutive winning records. A key component to this success is PEACE senior John 'AP' Harding.

Harding played for the team all four of his years at Millikan and started at the defensive end position on varsity his senior year.

As for the nickname 'AP', Harding explains, "I

missed practice for an AP study session my freshman year and after Coach Utupo called me that, it stuck."

Harding stated he was proud to be part of a program that did better than any other in recent years and describes his past four years as difficult but he knows it made him a better person.

When recalling the relationships developed over the past years, Harding said, "Five of my best friends were all football players and I know I'll always look to Coach Utupo and Coach

John Rockmore as mentors."

Harding will be attending UC Davis in the fall to pursue a political science major and says he's most looking forward to the new opportunities that will open up for him.

In his last message to the Millikan football community, Harding stated, "We changed the culture of Millikan football the last two years and I sincerely hope that this new generation can continue that path."

The team will remember Hardings wisdom.

Alicia Bond: Bonded With the Beach

By Emma Sharman
Assistant Feature Editor

Alicia Bond began surfing during her freshman year at Millikan, and the unique sport has served as a remarkable form of therapy for her, even despite the many challenges that came with it.

"I joined the team because it combined the two things I love: sports and the ocean." Bond explains,

"I have always wanted to try surfing and it looked like a lot of fun, but also relaxing at the same time."

Bond mentioned that, as a passionate athlete, she had been searching for an opportunity to try individual competing. The Millikan surf team seemed like the perfect environment for her to try her hand and discover a potential new outlet.

She quickly fell in love with the sport and the energy

of the surf team. "Everyone is there to have a fun time in the ocean together. I also love the unique feeling you get when you ride a wave that you cannot control and all you can do is go with it and enjoy the ride."

Despite her love of the sport, it comes with its own special set of challenges.

"If there aren't any waves for a long time after you've fallen over and over, it gets difficult to fo-

cus on the task at hand. It's also difficult to get enough sleep because of how early we have to wake up."

Bond feels as though the surf team and community have brought much joy and a newfound love of surfing into her life.

"I keep at it and keep paddling out after I fall down even though it feels like it's impossible," Bond states, "The feeling of accomplish-

ing a new maneuver for the first time is so overwhelmingly amazing that it drives you to want more"

"I have learned to manage my schoolwork so I can go to bed early and get up early. It is essential to get enough sleep in order to excel in the things you love."

The love Bond brought to surf every morning will be remembered in the Millikan surf program and Millikan as a whole.