

The Paracletian

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Two Birthdays And A Victory!

By Becky Singleton

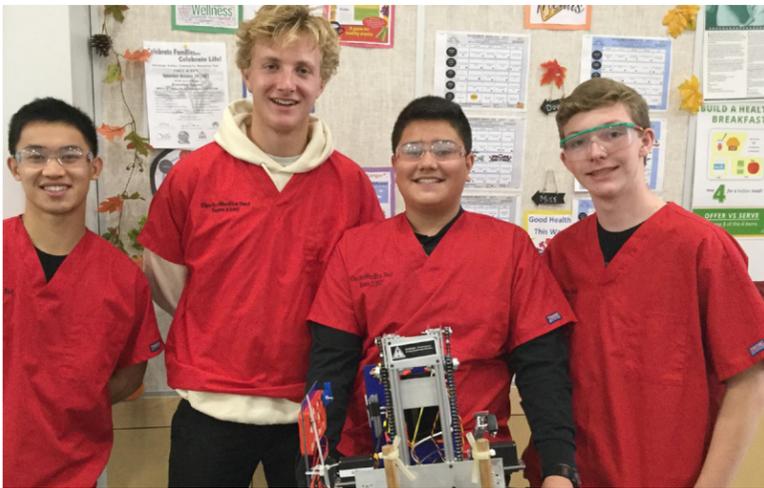


The Paraclete Robotics Gold Team from left to right: Oscar Chinchillas, Daniel Campbell, Alec Justice, Bruce Loh, Ryan Hambro, and Nathan Davis
Photo From: Mrs. Erickson

The Paraclete Robotics ElectroMedics Red and Gold Teams competed in a scrimmage at The Palmdale Aerospace Academy on Saturday, November 11th, where both teams placed. The Gold Team took home first place, and the Red Team took second. But what made this competition extra special for the teams? The birthdays! Not only was Saturday Veterans' Day, but it was also Red Team member Annikka Rodriguez's birthday, and Gold Team member Nathan Davis's birthday. How lucky for them to be able to celebrate their birthdays with a victory!

During the competition, there were five rounds, each against a different school from around the Antelope Valley. To win the round, the robot must complete a task before the other team's robot can. Each year the task changes. In preparing for the competition, teams are split into two groups: the programmers and the builders. Builders spend hours welding, 3D printing, and planning out the perfect robot. As a result, every robot at the competition looks different, varying on different attachments, sensor placement, and even color. Once the robot is built, programmers write code, plan the path, and use numerous problem solving skills allowing the the robot to complete the task, and ultimately, win. During the competition, robot "drivers" control the robot using a remote.

ElectroMedics Red Team member Annikka Rodriguez considers the scrimmage, an unofficial match, a learning experience, "We're proud of our accomplishments and hope to improve our robotics in the next few months." Not only is the team here at The Paracletian proud of the Robotics teams, but we also wish you immense luck on your future competitions!



The Paraclete Robotics Red Team from left to right: Aaron Vigilante, Luke Schatz, Jonathan Justice, and Christopher Worrell
Photo From: Mrs. Erickson

Sophomore Retreat

By Rachel Guzetti

The Sophomore class had the wonderful opportunity to experience their Sophomore class retreat at St. Serra Parish Hall on November 7th, 8th, and 9th in order to encourage healthy relationships through prayer and group activities.

The retreat mainly consisted of four stations which each had a different activity to help students understand and develop healthy relationships.

The "Heartbreak" station allowed students to be vulnerable and share their stories of heartbreak. After sharing, each student would "break" their paper heart to symbolise their pain. A peer in the group would then take a piece of tape, "mend" their broken heart, and the group would pray over them. The whole experience was very emotional for some students and allowed many to receive support from their peers.

The "Letter to Jesus" station helped students grow in their faith and develop a relationship with God. It helped students reflect on their faith and share with others.

The "Hero" station was to help students recognize a hero in their life. Students shared stories of their hero and were able to pray and reflect on their relationship.

The outdoor walk helped students develop a friendship with a peer they otherwise wouldn't have talked to. It helped students get to know each other by having each Sophomore pick something to symbolize their partner. It personally helped me develop a friendship with someone that I'm now very grateful to have in my life.

After the stations, the Sophomores split into girls and boys to prepare affirmations for the other gender. They presented gifts to an individual and to the group as a whole in order to show friendship, respect, and support.

The students then were granted with wonderful talks by select Seniors about relationships in high school. Many people were touched by their talks and advice.

The Sophomore retreat affected many students in different and positive ways. Janelle Lannarz says, "the most important thing learned from the Sophomore retreat was to be more open with my peers and that it's okay to be vulnerable sometimes." Healthy relationships are very important and the retreat helped Sophomores learn about them with their friends and supportive role models.



Sophomore retreatants gathered in the hall
Photo By: Rachel Guzetti



Sophomore retreatants having fun at the Letter to Jesus station
Photo By: Rachel Guzetti

What is Día de Los Muertos?

By Gabriella Palomino

Day of the Dead, more popularly known as Día de Los Muertos, is a Hispanic holiday celebrated in several Latin countries. Día de Los Muertos takes place on November 1-2. This special holiday, however embraced in a certain way, coincides with the Catholic holiday known as All Saint's/Soul's Day. As the years have progressed Day of the Dead has become very well recognized by several new people and the act of honoring passed loved ones has created a sense of unity.

The belief surrounding Día de Los Muertos is that the gates of Heaven open at midnight on October 31. The opening of the gates allow the spirits of deceased children to reunite with their families for 24 hours. This reunion gives the family a sense of peace and brings a lot of joy to the kids. On November 2, the spirits of passed adults come to enjoy the celebration prepared for them by their family. Some of the festivities that occur during these celebrations are parades with music, prayer services, altar preparations, and a large amount of eating.

The altars for Day of the Dead are garnished with things such as candles, flowers, fruits, nuts, tortillas, mole, and the holiday's signature bread, pan de muerto. The altar also has sodas, waters, and hot chocolate to ease the visiting spirits. Along with all the food and beverages the burning of sage is also practiced. The celebration is purely a tribute to loved ones who are no longer physically here.

The afternoon of November 2, the altars at the celebration are taken to the cemetery. The people clean the tombs, play cards, and listen to music, the celebration is still continuing. Families are reminiscing on the memories of the dead whom they loved very much. The holiday of celebrating Día de Los Muertos keeps families close and showcases one of the most important traditions in the Latin community.



A Dia de Los Muertos fiesta!
Photo From: monipag.com



A Dia de Los Muertos parade!
Photo From: monipag.com

AV Hospital Measure H Passes

By Ben Haering

On Election Day, November 7, Los Angeles County voters passed Measure H, which will result in Antelope Valley Hospital being owned by a "public benefit non-profit corporation, pursuant to state law," according to the County Clerk's website. The measure passed with 73.26% of the vote in its favor.

The hospital will be under the jurisdiction of a non-profit board of nine members. According to proponents on avmeasureh.org, funds collected will be invested into the community. Nurses and doctors will be able to receive better training through the redirection of funds. The hospital aims to provide better pay and services to attract and maintain new employees. Finally, no new fees or taxes will be added to residents as a result of this change.

The website ballotpedia.org, citing the Los Angeles County Counsel, states that this lease of ownership will be effective immediately after the measure is passed, and will expire on November 7, 2048 (thirty years later) if not ended sooner.

The National Anthem: A History

By Charlene Gallagher

On the stormy night of September 13, 1814, the entire British armada gave Fort McHenry an ultimatum: take down the flag and surrender or we will take the flag down for you. The British armada then proceeded to fire shells at the Fort for 25 hours. About a week earlier, Francis Scott Key boarded a British flagship in order to free his arrested friend. He was successful, but the British could not let them off the ship because they had found out their plan to fire on the Fort. Key watched the attack from about 8 miles away. 25 hours later, on September 14, he saw the American Flag still standing. He noticed it was at a very odd angle and once let off the flagship went to investigate why that was. He found out that during the night people, both military and civilian, died trying to hold up the flag so as not to surrender to the British. Men and women gave their lives to hold the flag up, the only thing holding up the flag after the attack was their dead bodies. Almost two centuries later, our flag is still standing.

Catholic Hierarchy

By Caitlin Chan and Becky Singleton

Although Paraclete High School is a Catholic institute, many students (Catholic and non-Catholic) do not understand the nature of the structure of the Roman Catholic Church. We all know Father G and Father Jei, but they're just the tip of the diocesan iceberg.

In the Catholic hierarchy, the authority mainly derives from the bishops, while priests and deacons serve as their assistants in specific parishes. In thinking about the hierarchy in governmental terms, priests are the mayors and the parishes are the cities. The archbishops are essentially the governors in charge of priests in specific regions.

As of December 31, 2014, the Catholic Church consisted of 2,998 dioceses, each overseen by a bishop. Approximately 22% of all parishes do not currently have a pastor and 3,485 parishes are entrusted to a deacon.

In charge of all the bishops is the Pope, chosen by Cardinals, who represent different countries and continents.

If you have any more questions about the Catholic hierarchy and how it functions, please feel free to ask Father G and Father Jei or any of your religion teachers!



Photo From woodlandsjournal.com

Astros Take the Win!

By Juan Fuentes

The 2017 World Series has been one of the best World Series performances by two teams in recent history. There were outstanding plays, memorable moments, and most importantly shattered records. This year's World Series contestants, the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Houston Astros, had broken the 21-Home Run record set in 2002 by the Anaheim Angels and the San Francisco Giants. Both teams hit a combined 22 Home runs. Another record was set this World Series for the longest game ever played in a World Series. Game five of the World Series lasted five hours and seventeen minutes with a grand total of 417 pitches from both teams combined.

Baseball fans were interviewed and asked about their thoughts and opinions on the World Series. Mr. Kelley was asked on how he felt about the crowd and the how the games were and he said, "The crowd was electric through six games of the seven. In game seven the Los Angeles crowd died down a bit. The crowd was dead and it was extremely silent for the most part." Evan Uccellini was also asked on how he felt about the World Series and he told us, "It was a pretty good World Series. I feel like the Dodgers made a mistake by not saving Kershaw for game seven, but overall it was intense all the way through."

The Houston Astros won in seven games of the World Series. It was a great time for both ball clubs, especially Astros fans because they won their first World Series ever in franchise history. It was a long road and difficult road for this year's champions but they managed to pull through and succeed in their hard times.

Dean At Bat!



Mr. Kelley, Paraclete boys' dean and volleyball coach, was ecstatic to find that the L.A. Dodgers, his favorite team, had made it to the World Series. Above, he's pictured at Game Seven, which took place at the L.A. Dodgers Stadium. Mr. Kelley also attended the first game of the World Series, which was also at the L.A. Dodgers Stadium. Mr. Kelley had high hopes for his favorite team but unfortunately for him, they were not victorious in the end. There's always next year, Mr. Kelley!

The World Series: Minute-by-Minute

By Juan Fuentes

Game One Recap: Game one was one of the best and most memorable games played at Dodgers Stadium in recent history. The crowd was electric and both teams were ready to go to war. Both the Dodgers and the Astros sent their best starting pitchers out to try and shut out the opposing team's line up. Clayton Kershaw got the start for the Dodgers while Dallas Keuchel got the start for the Houston Astros. Clayton Kershaw had a stellar performance for the Los Angeles Dodgers allowing only one run on three hits through seven innings of the game. Houston's starter Dallas Keuchel allowed a first pitch Home Run to Chris Taylor in the bottom of the first inning. Keuchel managed to recover and ended up pitching five shutout innings after the first inning. Fast forward to the bottom of the sixth inning with Dallas Keuchel still pitching and Justin Turner up to the plate with two outs and a runner on first base for the Dodgers. Keuchel throws the pitch and Turner rips the ball into the right field bleachers putting the Dodgers up 3-1. That was the end of the night for Dallas Keuchel. The Dodgers end up holding off the Astros 3-1 in game one of the World Series.

Game Two Recap: Game two was a roller coaster of emotions for the fans in Los Angeles and Houston. Rich Hill got the start for the Dodgers while Justin Verlander got the start for Houston. The Astros were the first to put a run up on the scoreboard. It was the top of the third inning at Dodger Stadium with runners on first and third base. Alex Bregman was hitting for the Astros while Rich Hill pitching. Bregman roped a line drive to center field and center fielder Chris Taylor was unable to come up with the ball allowing a run to score for the Astros. Fast forward to the bottom of the fifth inning with Joc Pederson coming up to the plate for the Dodgers and Justin Verlander pitching for the Astros. Verlander delivers the pitch and Joc Pederson buries it deep into the right field bleachers to tie the game up at 1-1. Move on to the bottom of the sixth inning Justin Verlander is still throwing a great game but he starts to crumble here. Verlander allowed a two out walk to Chris Taylor. This allowed Corey Seager to come up to the plate with two outs and a runner on first. Seager ended up pounded a ball deep into the left field bleachers giving the Dodgers a 3-1 lead over the Astros in the sixth. Move on to the top of the eighth inning with relief pitcher Brandon Morrow throwing for the Dodgers and Alex Bregman coming up to bat for the Astros. Bregman sliced one down the right field line and ended up getting a double on a well placed hit. Later this inning Bregman is at third base and the Dodgers' closer Kenley Jansen is coming in to try and finish the game. Jansen came in with the one of the Astros' best hitters coming up to the plate. Carlos Correa is up with a runner on third and one out. He grounded a ball back up the middle and allowed a run to score making the score a one run game at 3-2. In the top of the ninth inning Kenley Jansen had the opportunity to end the game and give the Dodgers the win but Astros hitter Martin Gonzalez did not let him. Gonzalez took one deep into the center field bleachers tying the game up at 3-3 in the ninth inning. The Dodgers did not score in the bottom of the ninth inning. This caused the game to go into extra innings. The Astros hit two back to back home runs in the top of the tenth inning giving the Astros a 5-3 lead over the Dodgers. In the bottom of the tenth inning the Dodgers rallied back and tied the game up at 5-5. In the top of the eleventh inning Cameron Maybin hit a leadoff single to start things off for the Houston Astros. This brings up George Springer to the plate and he hits a ball over the right field fence causing the Astros to be on top again 7-5. The Dodgers tried to tie the game up in the bottom of the eleventh but failed to do so. The end score was 7-6 Astros on top.

For more play-by-play of the World Series, go to page 4.

The World Series: Minute-by-Minute

By Juan Fuentes

The Los Angeles Dodgers and Houston Astros in the World Series. Baseball analysts across the league would not have guessed either of these two teams making it that far in their playoff runs. This year's World Series will go down as one of the greatest playoff performances in baseball history.

Game Three Recap: Game three of the World Series took place in Houston Texas at Minute Maid Park. Lance McCullers Jr. took the mound for the Astros at home while Yu Darvish took the mound for the Dodgers. Lance McCullers had a fantastic start to his game. Yu Darvish on the other hand did not do so well for the Dodgers. Yu Darvish allowed a home run to Yuri Gurriel in the bottom of the second inning. This gave the Astros a 1-0 lead early on in the game. In the second inning the astros rallied and scored 4 runs in total that inning. Move on to the top of the third Corey Seager is up for the Dodgers with bases loaded and a chance to capitalize but he ends up grounding into a double play and only scoring one run. Later in the game during the bottom of the fifth inning an error on a ball thrown by Yu Darvish allowed the Astros to score another run making the game 5-1 Astros. In the top of the sixth the Dodgers rallied and scored two runs making the game 5-3 Astros. The Astros were able to hold off the Dodgers and defeat them in game three 5-3.

Game Four Recap: Game four of the World Series was also an extremely close game. The Astros gave the start to Charlie Morton while the Dodgers gave the start to Alex Wood. Both pitchers had great outings. It wasn't until the bottom of the sixth inning when the first run was scored. Alex Wood was pitching for the Dodgers and George Springer was hitting for the Astros. Springer cranked a ball deep into left field and gave the Houston Astros a lead of 1-0. Go on to the next inning. Top of the seventh with one out Dodgers' rookie sensation Cody Bellinger doubles with one out allowing Logan Forsythe to come up to the plate. Logan Forsythe singled and ended up scoring Cody Bellinger causing the game to be tied at one. The Dodgers had a massive rally in the top of the ninth inning and ended up scoring five runs that inning making the game 6-1 in favor of the Dodgers.

In the bottom of the ninth inning only one run scored for the Astros. The Dodgers took game four of the World Series 6-2. The Dodgers tied the series at 2-2 in a best of seven contest.

Game Five Recap: Game five was an eventful night for both teams. This game ended up breaking records for being the longest game played in World Series history and having the most homeruns in a World Series. Dallas Keuchel took the mound for the Astros again and Clayton Kershaw took the mound for the Dodgers again. In the top of the first inning the Dodgers had a massive offensive inning scoring three runs in the first inning making the game 3-0. Fast forward to the top of the fourth inning with two outs and Logan Forsythe on second. Austin Barnes was up to bat for the Dodgers at this time and he hit a line drive single into the left field grass making the game 4-0. Move on to the bottom of the fourth inning with Kershaw throwing an excellent game for the Dodgers. He started slipping up and he allowed a run and then a three run home run that tied the game up at 4 runs each. Now skip far ahead into this insane and unbelievable game. Let's take it to the top of the ninth inning. Both teams are frustrated and both teams are running out of players and pitchers to use. The score is 12-11 Astros leading but the Dodgers are up. Dodgers catcher Austin Barnes hits a double with one out away in the ninth. Joc Pederson is up and he hits a ground ball to the left side. Austin Barnes advances to third base. Two outs runner on third base and the Dodgers have their most clutch hitter up. Chris Taylor comes up to bat with two outs. He ended up falling behind in the count and then took a few pitches in the dirt to even up the count. The Dodgers were down to their last strike. The pitch came to Chris Taylor and smashed a line drive back up the middle and scored Austin Barnes from third base. This game was getting out of hand. The crowd was tired and exhausted but they were still in the game emotionally. They got exactly what they payed for. They got an emotional roller coaster of a game. Chris Taylor tied the game up at 12. The Dodgers had a rally of a lifetime to get back into this game. Move on to the bottom of the tenth inning with two outs and runners on

first base and second base. The had their Dodgers best closer Kenley Jansen pitching against Houston's best hitter during the playoffs Alex Bregman. Alex Bregman is in the position every child wants to be in growing up. He is in the game saving moment that will make him be remembered as a hero. Two outs in the bottom of the tenth inning Kenley Jansen throws the pitch and Bregman lines the ball to left field and scores the game winning run. The stadium erupted into screams and yells of joy. The people of Houston lost their minds after five hours of baseball. Every single fan stayed glued to their seat watching attentively during those five hours screaming and yelling for their players. The Astros won game five. The Astros beat the Dodgers 13-12 in game five. Giving them a 3-2 lead over the Dodgers out of a best of seven series.

Game Six Recap: The Dodgers made it back to LA and gave the ball to one of their best pitchers. This was do or die for Los Angeles. If they didn't win here they would upset all the fans rooting for them. The Dodgers sent out Rich Hill. He faced off against Houston's best pitcher Justin Verlander. Go to the top of the third inning. George Springer is up and he hits a rocket into right field giving the Astros a lead 1-0 in the third. The Dodgers had a quiet night all the way up to the bottom of the sixth inning. There were runners on first and second base with no outs and Chris Taylor up. Taylor lined the ball down the right field line and scored a run to tie it up. This allowed Corey Seager to come up for LA and score another run due to a sacrifice fly out to deep right field giving the Dodgers a 2-1 lead. Now take it to the bottom of the seventh. The Dodgers have nobody on with one out. Joc Pederson gave the Dodgers an even bigger lead with a solo home run to left field. The Dodgers held off the Houston Astros 3-1 and tied the series and three games each. The Dodgers forced a game seven.

Game Seven Recap: Game seven was an absolute heartbreak for fans in Los Angeles. The Houston Astros blew the Dodgers out 5-1. The entire state of Texas celebrated wildly and enjoyed life because they finally found a happy moment in their

incredibly rough times. Game seven was a lesson to all baseball fans. It taught the city of Los Angeles to never give up even though they were down 5-1 and it also taught the entire state of Texas to never give up even when life is at it's worst. This World Series will be one for the record books. It has been one of the best if not the best World Series Games these last six years.



The L.A. Dodgers and the Houston Astros fighting to win!
Photo From: thegamblersreport.com



The L.A. Dodgers celebrating one of their victories
Photo From: betlabssports.com



The Houston Astros in great jubilation over their win
Photo From: conceptnewscentral.com



The view of fans from the L.A. Dodgers Stadium
Photo From: localnews8.com



Clayton Kershaw admiring the crowd's dedication
Photo From: infoforyour.com

More Than A Ring

By Becky Singleton

Junior Ring Ceremony is an annual formal event held this year on November 16th, serving as a proper induction of the junior class as upperclassmen.

Each November, Paraclete High School holds a very unique event. Though once widespread, the formal rite of junior rings has become a staple of the Spirit experience. Individual juniors design and order their rings, each individual to their personality and high school experience. Ring designs range from panels with clubs such as Robotics and Mock Trial, to sports such as football and water polo, to hobbies such as singing and painting, and even to animals that students feel special connections to, such as dolphins and cats. Once the student receives their ring, a one-in-a-million piece of jewelry, they then ask a senior student to present their ring to them. The seniors chosen have usually had a special impact on the junior's high school experience, whether it be a team captain, family member, or simply a close friend.

Though Junior Ring Ceremony may seem confusing to those who have yet to experience it, it has truly made an impact on Spirits through the ages. Senior student Atira Shenoy described it as "an amazing way to bond with the upper class," comparatively, junior student Destiny Camarillo describes the excitement leading up to that night, "I've been thinking about this day since I found out about it freshman year... that thought makes me happy." Junior Ring Ceremony has always been, and will remain, a symbol of the Paraclete experience. It's a formal event that emphasizes the bonds students form as a class, and their devotion to the time spent on campus. Junior Ring is about more than receiving a ring, it's about immortalizing the experience.

Spotlight Proposal

By Kaylin Scoles

The Junior Ring Ceremony was a special opportunity for the juniors to ask a special senior to give them their ring. One of the proposals that happened was with junior Jaylene Tejada who asked senior Maya Kurian with a sign that said "It would be an unbelievable sight to have Princess Jasmine as my senior on Thursday night." Along with a pie that said inside "Junior ring?" Jaylene said she chose Maya because she "admires her as a person who is a kind heart and shows genuine love towards anyone she meets. Maya is 'unbelievably' amazing person inside and out!"



Senior Night

By Vanessa Fabela

Shining lights, funny balloons, and school spirit: the 2017 Senior Night for the class of 2018 was said to be nostalgic. Whether a football player, a cheerleader, a student, or a family member, many felt as if they were truly a part of this memorable night. Though this night brought many people joy and smiles, there were a lot of obstacles along the way to maintain this special night.

The football players were nervous to win the game against McCullough High School, especially because their parents were watching intently, hoping for a glorious victory to heighten the excitement of the senior night. Though it was very intense, Paraclete prevailed with an incredible win of 49-8. The football players were very excited about their win, and content with the proud look in their parents' eyes. Star quarter-back, Brevin White, said in an interview that "as I walked down the field, escorted by my parents Andrea White and Daron White, I felt very honored and respected." The Paraclete football players felt honored and were glad they could show their families gratitude for all their hard work.

The Paraclete cheerleaders worked tirelessly to produce a dance, make a mum (a ribbon decorated in the style of their mother), and a candy lei for their fathers. A captain cheerleader, Chyna Harper, said "it was a fun night, even though the cheerleaders were not able to perform during half-time." The half time clock had run out of the time, and the cheerleaders were not able to perform the dance on the field. They still stood together and to show their parents the dance, they banded together and performed the dance on the track area.

The Paraclete students, especially the seniors, felt sentimental about the event as a whole. A senior, Brenna Berghoff, said that "interactions affect the way people perform, since the whole community interacted, the players and cheerleaders performed well. I enjoyed the night." All the students, as they saw their cherished friends walking down the field, were bittersweet. As Paraclete is a stop along the journey of life, the Senior Night will always be a unique part of that journey for the senior class of 2018.

A Talk With Bishop Brennan

By Ben Haering



Bishop Joseph V. Brennan
Photo From: la-archdiocese.org

Bishop Joseph Brennan visited Paraclete on November 1 to celebrate the All Saints Day Mass. He is the auxiliary bishop of the San Fernando region in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, of which encompasses Paraclete.

Brennan felt especially called to the priesthood after coming out of high school. His uncle was a priest in Los Angeles for over 50 years, and a role model to Brennan. A vibrant Irish priest at Brennan's parish also inspired him. In his freshman year in college, Brennan felt compelled to talk to someone about his calling. Directly after talking to the campus minister for about an hour, Brennan assisted in the mass service. The readings, "hit me right between the eye(s)," the other priest considered. Gresham year in college, campus minister suggested helping with mass, the readings "hit me right between the eye: Ephesians 4, "I plead with you as a prisoner of the Lord, to live a life worthy of the call you have received." The Gospel was of Jesus calling the tax collector Matthew to follow him. Brennan reflected, "It answered a lot of my objections because I thought I wasn't good enough, holy enough, smart enough to be a priest." In a show of his humility, Brennan also added, "That's all true by the way. But it doesn't matter to God, He chooses us anyway."

Brennan's message to Paraclete students on All Saints Day is that all are called to holiness. "In spite of ourselves, we really (would) do all of ourselves a favor if we'd respond to that call to holiness because you can't get out of it."

Special Spirits Dance

By Becky Singleton

The annual Special Spirits Dance, held this year on Saturday, October 28th, invites the mentally and physically disabled of the Antelope Valley community to celebrate Halloween with Key Club. Each year, the Paraclete chapter of Key Club, an organization dedicated to serving the community and spreading goodwill and happiness to the less fortunate, spends weeks organizing and preparing for the event. As the whole first floor of the St. Joseph's Building is used as a trick-or-treating path for the guests, and the dance itself is held in the multipurpose room, pounds of decorations and hours of preparation from the dozens of volunteers in the hours before the event. Regarding event set up, senior paracletean and active Key Club

member Edward Sabalbuero describes it as "an amazing bonding experience with my peers as well as a heartwarming task that was gladly undertaken for the special needs community." Soon after set up, the dozens of guests began arriving with their families and friends. Many of the guests came dressed up, excited to celebrate Halloween.

Coinciding with the Halloween theme of the event, the Paraclete community donated pounds upon pounds of Halloween candy. In addition, local businesses, such as Pizza Hit and Subway, graciously donated pizza and sandwiches to be served to the guests. But food wasn't the only reason they were there! The night was filled with music and dancing

between the guests and the volunteers, junior and Key Club President, Jade Phoreman, described the dance as a "fun... safe, judgement-free environment" and "a wonderful experience for all involved." When asked about her experience with the guests, senior student and active Key Club member Hannah Marin responded that she "enjoy[s] dancing with them and seeing their smiles."

The Special Spirits Dance is truly a one of a kind event, special to the Spirit community. This dance allows student volunteers to bond with the guests, a bond that really can't be formed anywhere else. So while this year's dance was truly a success, here's to the success of all the future Special Spirits Dances in the years to come!



Paraclete's friendly Key Club, who organized Special Spirits along with various other events around the school!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan

Sean Larimore, The First Senior to Sign!

By Gabriella Palomino

On November 9, 2017, our very own senior, Sean Larimore, signed his National Letter of Intent to play division two basketball at the University of Mount Olive in North Carolina. Sean has been a Paraclete Varsity Basketball Star since his freshman year in 2014. After an accumulation of several years of hard work and dedication to the sport he loves, Larimore has been blessed to receive a full scholarship for his future attendance at UMO.

Sean signed during Thursday's lunch period (November 9) alongside his mom, Michelle Larimore, dad, Jason Larimore, and sister, Cailin Larimore. With the support of his team, friends, family, coaches, and the Paraclete staff, Sean's special occasion was made an eventful ceremony. All the members of the Larimore family were seen wearing Mount Olive apparel along with a large smile of approval. It was evident to all the attend-

ees that a vast amount of stress (because who isn't stressed their senior year?) was removed and replaced with utmost satisfaction.

When Sean was asked, "Why did you choose the University of Mount Olive?" He replied, "I chose to attend UMO because I felt it was the best decision and best fit for me overall. The players, coaches, and staff have already made me feel welcome and the campus, facilities, the close-knit environment, and athletic winning history can't be offered at many other schools. My decision to attend UMO makes pursuing my goal of becoming a college coach easier." Later when asked, "How does it feel to be the first senior in the graduating class of 2018 to sign?" He answered, "Being the first senior to sign is an awesome feeling. I'm very happy that I'm able to be in this position. Even though my decision is final, I can't get ahead

of myself worrying about college basketball too early. I still have my final season at Paraclete and I want to make this the best one yet."

With Paraclete having several gifted and passionate athletes, the Spirit Community is more than thrilled to congratulate their very first senior on being officially committed to the University of Mount Olive.



Senior Sean Larimore signing to University of Mount Olive!
Photos Courtesy Of: Sean Larimore



Get Your Christian Service!

By Fatima Serrato

Attention Paraclete students! We are reminded that Christian Service hours are due before first semester. Each Freshman and Sophomore student is required to complete 10 hours of service per semester of attendance. Each Junior and Senior student is required to complete 15 hours of service per semester of attendance. Make sure you check with your religion teacher to fill in your service hours on your personal record. Christian Service hours are graded on a passing or failing scale, therefore it is crucial to turn in your service hours or it will result in a failing grade on your transcript.

Christian Service hours is an important aspect of our learning here at Paraclete High School. This “program is based on the teachings of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 25—practicing charity in the world around us as an act of social justice, compassion, and Christian love.” This is how the school defines our Christian Service program. It is our duty to represent our school and the Christian Church as a whole.

Campus Ministry offers many opportunities for Christian Service hours. Next semester opportunities include the Walk for Life in San Francisco, One Life L.A., Youth Day, and the 30 Hour Fast. Your local church or parish may also have programs that reach out to the poor, homeless, elderly, and children. Volunteering at the hospital or a convalescent home also counts towards your service hours. If you have any questions regarding what is considered Christian Service, please ask your religion teacher or Mr. Landa.

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for these least children of mine, you did it for me.”
(Mt. 25:45)

The Guardian Angel Initiative

By Fatima Serrato

Campus Ministry has offered the Guardian Angel Initiative, which is a program that was introduced at Paraclete about two years ago. In the beginning of the year, seniors are asked to choose a freshmen, or have one assigned to them, to be their “guardian angel”. The purpose of this program is to “make the freshmen feel welcome safe, accepted, and appreciated at Paraclete”.

As a guardian angel, the senior will do any of the listed activities: participate in daily mass with his/her partner, invite his/her partner to lunch in the senior lawn at least once a month, invite the freshman partner to sit by him/her at one all school mass, choose a game to attend together with his/her partner, meet with the partner in the chapel to pray during break or lunch at least once a month, or participate in communal gatherings and activities organized specifically for Guardian Angel Initiative registered students.

This is a great opportunity for freshmen to get to know how things work around Paraclete and have a senior friend to guide them through their first year of high school. Having a guardian angel can be helpful and encouraging whenever you have any questions or just need someone to talk to.



Freshman Belen Trejo and her Guardian Angel Senior Lauren Rivas
Photo Courtesy Of: Lauren Rivas

Save A Life!

By Alyssa Gallagher

options for donating which are giving whole blood or giving platelets. It is said that with each pint of blood donated, three lives are saved. Paraclete students are always excited to jump at the opportunity to help others. One volunteer named Mardoqueo Lorenzo claims that “It’s a good cause and they have good snacks”. One of the first donors of that day, Cody Czulak, stated that “It tickled and I’m glad I did it”.

Paraclete’s Key Club hosts blood drives twice a year where every student that is 16 or older has the opportunity to donate blood to the American Red Cross. This years first blood Drive was a huge success with too many donors that the line was backed up and some were even turned away. The process of donating blood takes about an hour, including testing hemoglobin levels, blood pressure, pulse, and then settling down after giving the blood. There are two



Senior Fatima Serrato donating blood!
Photo Courtesy Of: Fatima Serrato

Want to Recommend Someone to Become A Spotlight Spirit?

Spotlight Spirit Application

Fill this form out and bring it to room 205 to submit.

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Why do they deserve the spotlight? _____

Print out and return to Room 204 to submit your recommendation!

Death

Poem By Reno Wilson, Grade 12

When taking in your last breath

Comes a sin named Death.

At any time, it can come

To steal the shine, of the rising son.

From a father, it can take a child.

'Tis a bother for which none have smiled.

With no liberation, comes the end-

An apparition that is no friend.

Hurry now, find Absolution.

Say goodbye somehow, before your Execution.

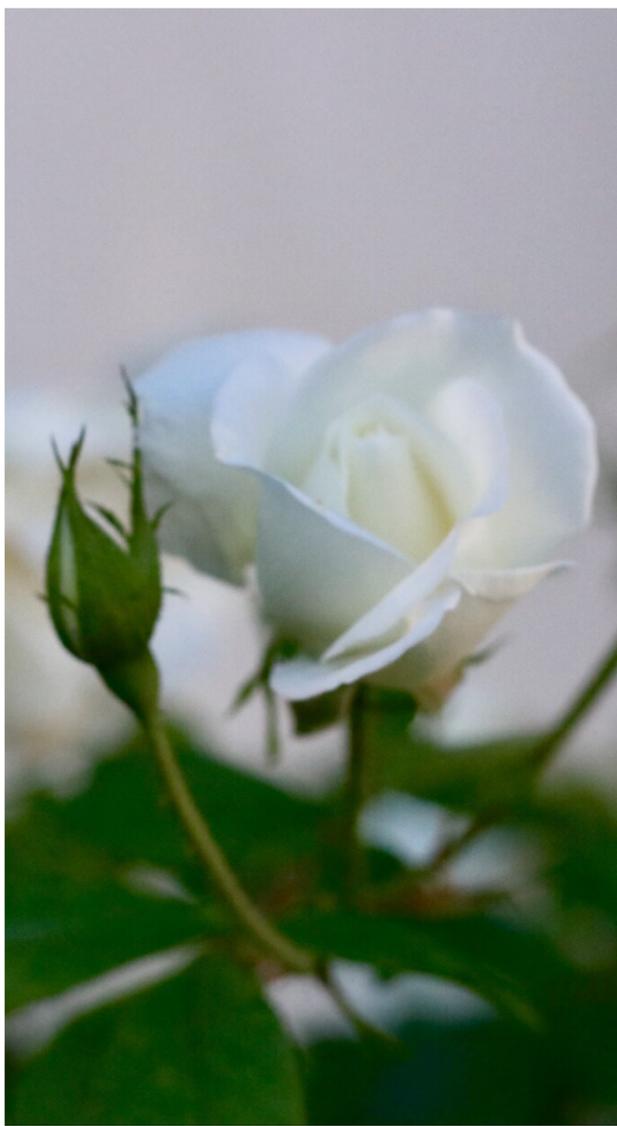


Photo By Cassity Columbo, Grade 11

Have a photo, short story, or poem you want featured in The Paracletian?

Submit to [cletenews@avphs.net!](mailto:cletenews@avphs.net)

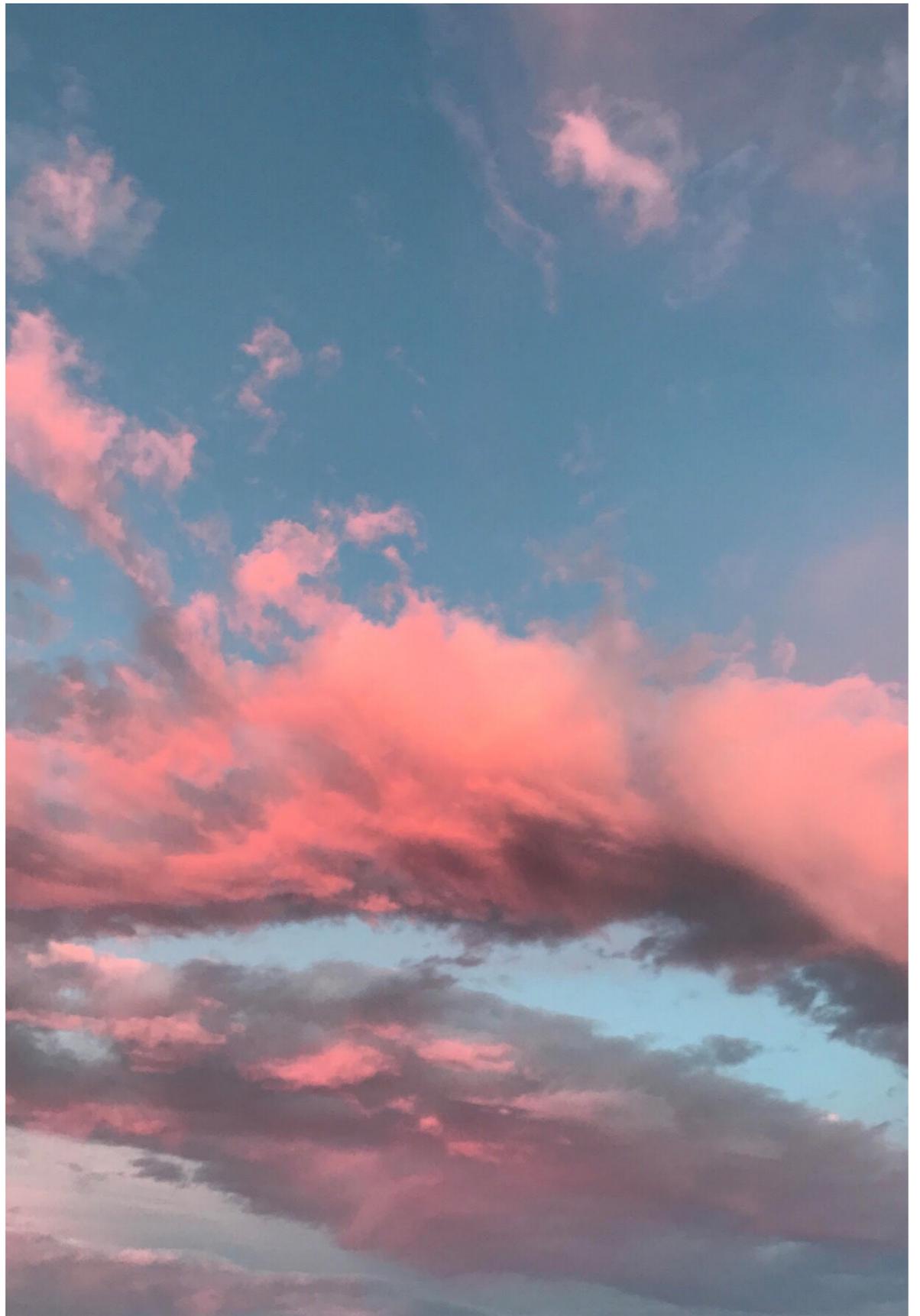


Photo By Taylor Richardson, Grade 11

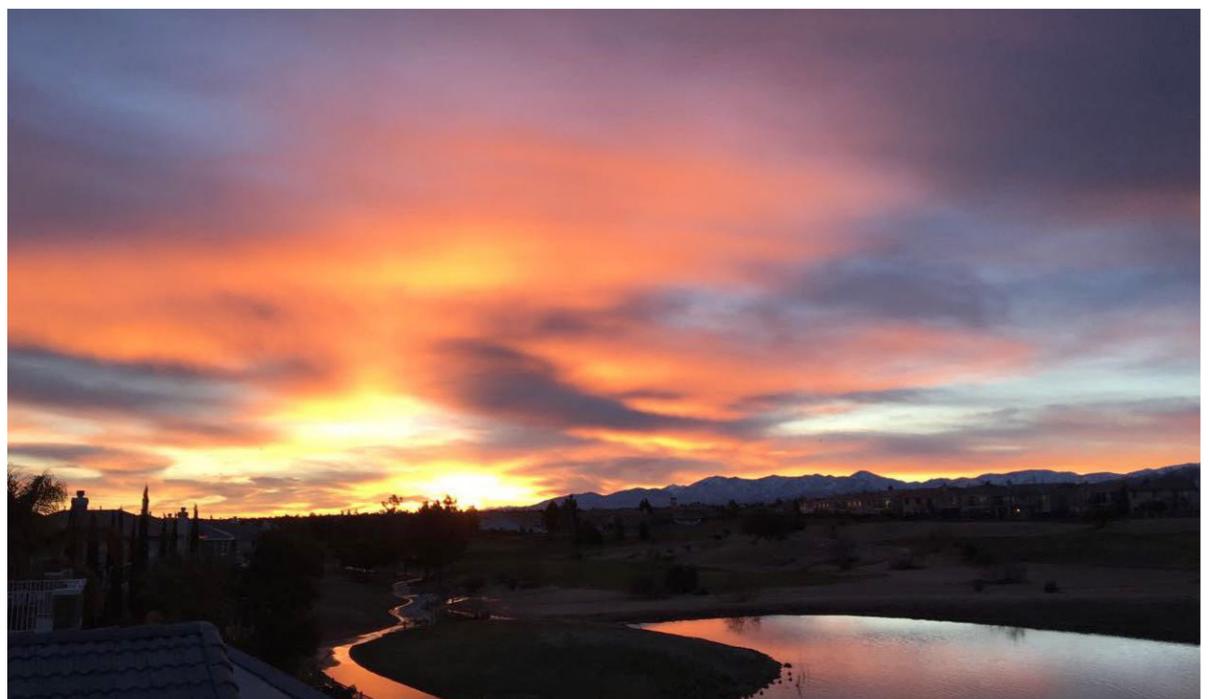


Photo By Catherine Singleton, Grade 9



“Clubs are a great way for the Paraclete family to express themselves in different ways.”

-Reno Wilson,
VP of Club Affairs

Mock Trial

By Kaylin Scoles

Mock Trial held its first test trial here at Paraclete’s library on Wednesday, October 11. Test trials are practiced in the beginning of the year to prepare the club for their trials in the spring and have a chance to practice cases. The case was based off of “The People vs. Awbrey” in which a prosecution is being argued for on the arrest of defendant Cameron Awbrey for his two charges on human trafficking and false imprisonment. “The defense brought up doubt as to Cameron Awbrey’s guilt and as expected, this kept the defendant from being charged on both accounts,” stated Destiny Camarillo. At the end of the trial, the defense team won. This was their first practice round on this case and they hope to improve before trials start in the spring of 2018. Family and friends came to support which also reduced their nerves and gave them something to get used to in the future. Mock Trial is working very hard this year and are in the hopes of being champions again in the Annual/AV Bar Association Mock Trial Competition!



Mock Trial discussing history topics
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Michael Cheung practicing on the stand
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Mock Trial President Edward Sabalbuoro
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Mock Trial Secretary Destiny Camarillo reviewing opening statements
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Co-Creators of Athletes’ Retreat, Senior Payton Anthony and Sophomore Madelyn Cruz, posing in excitement!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Athlete Retreatants celebrating the completion of the first ever Athletes’ Retreat!
Photo Courtesy Of: Hannah Marin

Athletes’ Retreat

By Caitlin Chan

For the first time at Paraclete, the campus is holding Athletes’ Retreat, a two-day getaway for students who play sports on November 9th through November 10th. Although Paraclete often holds various retreats throughout the school year - class, Veritas, COR, Girls, Wilderness, and Campus Ministry - this year’s Athletes’ Retreat will be the first of many. The event was organized by senior Payton Anthony, who plays volleyball and basketball, and sophomore Madelyn Cruz, who plays basketball.

Athletes’ Retreat is meant to form a bond between students who participate in a broad spectrum of sports. The retreat highlights the difficulties that come with being an athlete and how it can strengthen your faith through God. Students require not only faith to practice and compete for as many hours as they do, but they also require teamwork and comraderie, which is why Athletes’ Retreat also serves as a valuable bonding experience between athletes.

“Athletes’ retreat allows people who may have never experienced a retreat to feel comfortable and enjoy a team-like spirit in a religious setting. It welcomes a whole new group of people to participate in Campus Ministry,” said senior Hannah Marin, a leader on Athletes’ Retreat and a runner for Track & Field along with Cross Country.

From the co-creator of Athletes’ Retreat, Payton Anthony: “All retreats at Paraclete have a central focus. We intend to adhere to this focus of faith, love, and family in creating the Athletes’ Retreat. This retreat is an opportunity for any individual who participates in sports through school programs to have a weekend experience reserved for engaging in activities to strengthen their faith and their relationships with their teammates. The creation of it was inspired by the idea of getting those who would not normally consider going on a retreat to engage in such an experience. The process has been very long and very stressful, but it will all be worth it in the end. Bringing Christ into the lives of his athletes at Paraclete High School is a truly incredible gift. We can not thank everyone enough for their help and support, especially Fr G.”

See You on the Field!

By Gabriella Palomino

It's November, which means we're sadly saying goodbye to our fall sports, but happily saying hello to our winter sports! Girls and boys soccer are both ready to get their seasons started and the coaches are excited to see what kind of heart, drive, and spirit the teams will bring this year.

Although games and scrimmages are quickly approaching, both teams would love to see some new faces out on the field! The soccer program also encourages our Paraclete family to come support the teams at the recently scheduled games and scrimmages. The Girls Varsity and the Boys Varsity Soccer teams have their first games at 3:15 P.M. at the Lancaster National Soccer center against St. Genevieve on Tuesday, November 28th. We hope to see you out there!

Both the boys and girls teams have been putting in hard work at their trainings and intend on pursuing an improvement from last year's season.

The Varsity Girls Soccer team would also like to congratulate alum, Miranda Ruiz, 2015-2016 & 2016-2017 Varsity Captain, on her success playing for Ottawa University.

This season should be filled with a lot of spirit and hopefully



Girls Cross Country Finishes Their Season!

By Mercedes Pulos

"We run because we have been blessed with a gift. It is a simple gift one often takes for granted. This gift reminds us that there are people who can't run. We imagine what they would do to do what we do. Through struggles, growths, failures, and victories, we push to run harder. We run harder for those who will never get to experience the unwrapping of such a beautiful gift called miles. In the end it is worth it, because we know that others would do the same for us."

On Saturday November 11, 2017 Paraclete's Varsity Cross Country team raced at CIF Preliminaries in Riverside, CA. Included in this race were Paraclete's top seven girls, Maggie Theologidy, Angela Adelantar, Sheena Eustice, Paisley Todd, Hannah Marin, Mercedes Pulos, and Kiley Gilmer. Paraclete's top seven boys were Reno Wilson, Ernesto Balcazar, Thomas Rivera, Alejandro Carrillo, Edward Sabalbuero, Tommy Cancio, and Shane Fernando. At CIF Preliminaries, only the top twelve teams that cross the finish line advance to CIF Finals. Despite winning their 15th consecutive League Championship the week

before, girls Varsity just barely missed qualifying. They finished in 13th place, losing by only twenty-four points! That's about three opponents per girl that needed to be passed in order to qualify. However, Paraclete Cross Country runner Maggie Theologidy did qualify with a time of 19:03! Maggie is only a freshman, but she made her mark on the course and on the minds of those that watched her as she sped across the finish line taking 15th place. Maggie will be led by Paraclete's Cross Country coach, Coach Andy, and will race at CIF Finals in Riverside, CA on Saturday, November 18, 2017. As for the Varsity boys, they took a solid 15th place in an extremely difficult race. Boys Varsity was led by the one and only Reno Wilson. Reno took 59th place and ran a time of 17:03! Each Paraclete Cross Country runner had an exceptional season. Through each difficult race girls and guys alike cheered their teammates on and never gave up on each other. So congratulations on an amazing season 'Clete XC! And always remember, "Run. Faster. It's that simple."

An Intro to The Basketball Season

By Julia Medina

This season the basketball program is coming out stronger than ever! The boys and girls teams are getting ready for a new season and each team has even had a couple of scrimmages already. The boys first official game is on Monday, November 20th with JV playing at 5:30 and Varsity play at 7:30. The girl's teams also have a game that day against Knight High School, JV is playing at 1:30 and Varsity are playing at 12:00. Make sure you come out and support your basketball teams this year! Exciting things are happening for both teams including an upcoming Hawaii trip for the boy's team and the girls Annual Alumni Game on November 25th. For any more information about

games see the Paraclete website. Go Spirits!



The Lady Spirits having fun at their game!
Photo Courtesy Of: Julia Medina

Sports Spotlight

By Julia Medina

Hailee is a freshman here at Paraclete and was the only freshman on the varsity volleyball team. She is a starting outside hitter and man is she a beast. She said that at first she was a little bit scared of playing with older girls, but she soon came to realize that it was not that big of a deal. Hailee has been playing volleyball ever since she was nine years old. She has thought about playing soccer before, but her true passion is volleyball. She loves it because of its competitive nature due to it being a fast paced sport. Her favorite part about this past season was playing against the tougher schools, she says that it helped her to gain a lot of experience. In the next three years of her high

school career Hailee hopes to gain a scholarship to play volleyball at a D1 college. We wish you the best of luck and we cannot wait to see what you do in the future!



Girls XC posing after their race!
Photo From: Mr. Marin

XC at CIF Preliminaries!
Photo From: Mr. Marin



Volleyball Recap 2017

By Julianna Garcia

This year's girls varsity volleyball season has come to a close but has been one of the best seasons in a long time. The girls managed to pull off a spectacular win at our homecoming game against Brentwood High School, the first win for Paraclete in two and a half years!

This year's team consisted of six Seniors: Payton Anthony, Cheyenne Sumbry, Julia Medina, Jasmyn Vigilante, Lauren Rivas, and Megan Gillis, seven Juniors: Taylor Richardson, Raquel Cordova, Emma Rodriguez, Isabella Galvan, Emily Avrit, London Scott, and Paulette Scott, and one Freshman: Hailee Watts. I got a chance to ask two varsity players, "How did you feel about the win and the year?" Payton Anthony said, "It was great. Much love to my homegirls." Julia Medina said, "The win was something the whole team has wanted for a long time and finally reaching that goal can't be described with words. I'm very thankful to have been apart of this team and proud of the effort and heart everyone put out on the floor every day. I'm going to miss these girls and this sport tremendously."

Coach Mike Kelley shared his thoughts on this year's season as well. After asking what his favorite part of the season was, he said, "I would have to say the Brentwood match here at home. Not only was it my first match back from being out for the birth of my son, but coming back and seeing the girls play at such a high level, spirited, emotional, yet disciplined, gave us what we needed to pull off our first victory in league in over two and a half years." I also asked what he felt was the most common emotion throughout the season. He responded by saying it was frustration, not at the girls, but because they couldn't pull off the victories that he knew they had in them. "So close but they couldn't make it happen."

After watching almost every one of these girl's games, I can safely say they persevered through pain, fought as one united team, played with heart, and, most importantly, had fun.

Congratulations on a wonderful year, Ladies!



Girls Varsity Volleyball celebrating their win!
Photo Courtesy Of: Julia Medina



Girls Varsity Volleyball huddling during a timeout
Photo By: Inna Tagarino



Senior Cheerleaders enjoying Senior Night!
Photo Courtesy Of: silvashootz

Congrats to the defending CIF Champions!



Andre Hunt playing on Senior Night!
Photo From: ladaailynews.com



Cheerleaders just doing their thing!
Photo Courtesy Of: Hailey Keidel

#CleteFaces



Seniors Maya Kurian and Sophia Estrada enjoying Spirit Night!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Junior Brandon Gumayagay and Sophomore Annalee Matulac having fun in API!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Senior Tyler Vogel enjoying the sun!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Juniors Annika Matulac and Charlene Victoria having fun in the quad!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



COR Retreatants and COR Kitchen Crew smiling for the camera!
Photo Courtesy Of: Tiffany Delfin



Seniors Hailey Keidel and Hannah Marin enjoying lunch on Senior Lawn!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



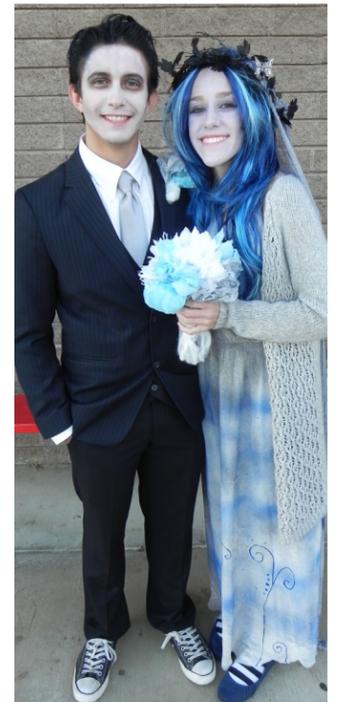
Seniors (from left to right) Reno Wilson, Annikka Rodriguez, Hannah Marin, Becky Singleton, Malak Jaffal, and Caitlin Chan celebrating the completion of the senior section at Spirit Night!
Photo Courtesy Of: Caitlin Chan



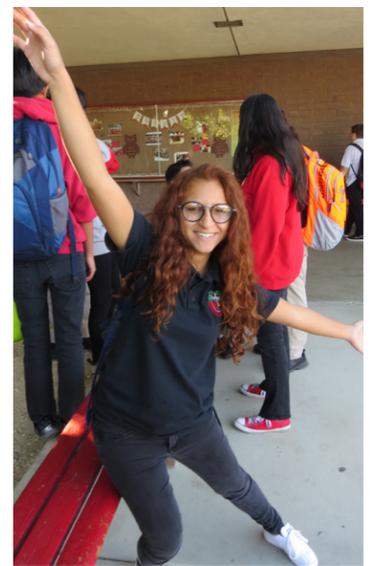
Girls Cross Country excited for their season!
Photo Courtesy Of: Mercedes Pulos



API President Tiffany Delfin and Secretary Annikka Rodriguez practicing for the upcoming Advent performance!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Seniors Joel Landa and Hannah Marin all dressed up for Halloween!
Photo By: Caitlin Chan



Sophomore Rachel Guzetti loving life!
Photo Courtesy Of: Rachel Guzetti



Freshman Mary Dybdahl posing on Veritas Retreat!
Photo By: Giuliaanna Garcia



Seniors Alejandro Carrillo and Mardo Lorenzo supporting the Journalism article!
Photo By: Gabriella Palomino

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