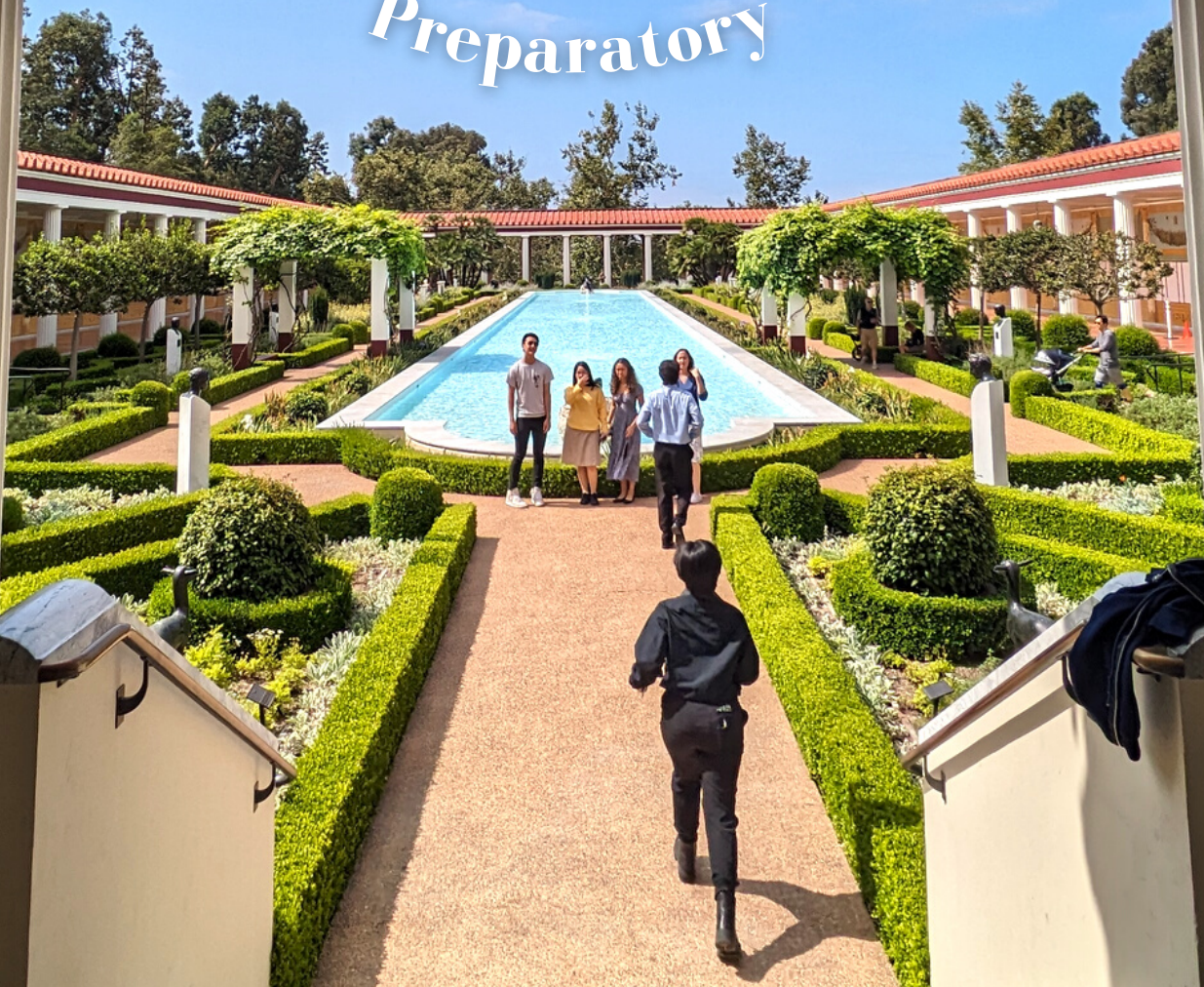


Acacia Wood

EAGLE FLYER

Preparatory



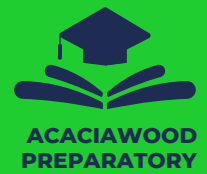


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EAGLE ADVENTURES: THE GETTY VILLA

By: Sarah Bolton, Arwen Dy Buco



On September 6th, the senior class embarked on their first field trip of the year to the scenic Getty Villa. The Getty Villa is a museum found in Los Angeles, California, and the students visited to expand upon their knowledge on Greek pottery. Under the supervision of their art teacher, Ms. Chen, they captured candid photos of the statues, engaged in analytical activities, and deepened their appreciation for the beauty and history behind these pieces.





ANNUAL OAK GLEN RETREAT

By: Silvia Aramburo, Lianna Alvarez-Sager



From September 9th-10th, AcaciaWood's high school students trekked up to Oak Glen to have their annual retreat. During this event, the students were separated into four groups: the Commanders, the Visionaries, the Dynamos, and the Masterminds. The teams competed in a multi-activity tournament that included volleyball, girls and boys basketball, ping pong, chess, and capture the flag. Additionally, the teachers organized a life-size version of the card game Dutch Blitz where the students raced to empty their card piles as quickly as possible. After three rounds of competition, the Commanders, led by Vincent Chiang, emerged victorious with a total of twenty-eight points. Overall, the weekend retreat served as a fantastic bonding experience and a great way to start the 2023-2024 school year!





LACE UP, FACE UP!

By: Sherlock Li, Emmanuel Quinones

Bang! The runners followed the direction of the bullet and rushed forward. Everyone was filled with anticipation, their breath visible in the crisp autumn air. The scent of freshly fallen leaves mingled with the earthy aroma of damp soil as the cross country meet unfolded. The course stretched out before them, a winding labyrinth of rolling hills and meandering trails, each path promising a unique challenge. As the runners approached the final stretch, the intensity in their eyes began to burn brighter. The finish line beckoned like a beacon of triumph. With every ounce of strength they could muster, they charged ahead, legs pumping and hearts pounding. No one would ever forget Mr. Hale and Mr. Hageman's unwavering mentorship and their support throughout the race. The coaches lit up the passion inside the runners' heart, as they pushed their exhausted bodies with perseverance and mental toughness. Despite the fatigue and great humidity, our AcaciaWood runners conquered the mountainous terrain, and finishing first was Vincent Chiang with an excellent time of 19:57. Following soon after was Daniel Nicasio with an impressive 20:13. Up next came Sherlock Li, delivering a decent time of 21:17. Emmanuel Quinones followed suit and finished at



21:42. Issak Villanueva clocked in at 22:33 and Paul Lee crossed the line at 34:35, both racers pushing forward until the very last step. Through the adversity, Henry Liu came in at 37:27, winning the final sprint against the next runner who got 37:28.

AcaciaWood placed 9th out of thirteen schools, and the team plans to work even harder in order to climb the ranks.

THE FINAL SET

By: Crystal Lai, Bethel Enriquez, Zoe Lee



The Lady Eagles continue to persevere and demonstrate resilience in their intense volleyball season. After sweeping the league's 2nd place Newport Christian 3-0 coming from behind sets on September 15th, the Lady Eagles were faced with a double header the next morning against Liberty Christian for first place in league. In the first game, they narrowly lost 2-3, coming up short by just two points in the fifth set. However, they came back stronger than ever by winning the second game with a score of 3-0.



Additionally, the Lady Eagles placed 3rd in the Liberty Christian Tournament and 4th in the Orangewood Tournament, where they lost a close battle for 3rd place against 8th ranked Loara High School. In the Lady Eagles' first home game, they also beat Eastside Christian 3-0. Despite illness and injury, the Lady Eagles currently hold the first place title in league and are ranked #9 in the latest CIF polls. The Eagles are determined to win League Champions and climb their way to the top in the CIF playoffs.



CAPTAIN INTERVIEWS



Get to know our captains, seniors Sarah Bolton and Rebekah Rosario, and junior Lianna Alvarez-Sager, and what they have to say about their experiences.

Q: How long have you been playing for? How many years of varsity have you played?

SB: I've played volleyball since 2020 after the pandemic and I've played varsity for the last 4 years since my freshman year.

RR: I've been playing for 4 years and have been in varsity for 4 yrs.

LAS: I've been playing volleyball since freshman year officially, this is my third year playing varsity for AcaciaWood.



Q: What has been the hardest part of being captain?

SB: The hardest part of being captain is working through mental blocks during the games so we don't drag down the team's energy.

RR: The hardest part is putting aside negative feelings and replacing them with something positive because you know how much it can affect the team.

LAS: It's doing the coin flip or rock-paper-scissors.



Q: How has your role as captain contributed to the development of your character?

SB: Being captain has caused us to stay strong under immense pressure and to take on the responsibility of motivating the team when they needed it the most.

RR: Being a captain made me realize that you need to put your team first before yourself and set an example of what a teammate should be.

LAS: Being co-captain made me realize how much my attitude, on or off the court, can make a difference. Being a team is really important, and it's not just about your performance but also the atmosphere you create.

Q: What advice would you give the younger girls playing volleyball and what are some words of encouragement?

SB: Some advice I would give would be to always put in the work. Only relying on school related practices is not enough to help you fulfill your potential, so be willing to join clubs, go to clinics and open gyms, and practice individually at home. Putting in the extra time and effort is what will set you apart from your fellow teammates and help you grow stronger, not only as an athlete but also humanly.

RR: I advise the younger girls to join outside clinics and private lessons that can work on their skills individually. Also playing volleyball in general like rallying with another teammate or playing during your free time also leads to improvement.

LAS: I advise that you seek help outside of the team and school practices and maybe join club or get private lessons to work on your own individual skills. Find something that makes you stand out from the team and also be a volleyball player that knows all skills so that you can be ready to be put in when needed.

TEACHER TESTIMONY: MR. MILLER

By: Esther Jou, Karissa Lim



Q: How many years have you been teaching at AcaciaWood?

A: I began teaching at AcaciaWood in August of 2013. I became principal on April 1, 2014.

Q: What are some things you do as the principal?

Hmm...there are a lot of things I have to do. Meetings with the school districts (both elementary and high school), annual reports for the districts, overseeing the school, meeting with prospective students and parents, trying to maintain a safe and positive atmosphere for the students and faculty, board meetings, faculty meetings, parent meetings, cleaning up a lot of the mess my wonderful (but sloppy) students leave around campus, and a big one this year is working on the WASC report to ensure we maintain our accreditation.



Q: Why did you decide to be a teacher?

That's a good question. I don't know that I ever had the thought, "When I grow up I want to be a teacher." I wanted to be a paleontologist, an engineer, an astronaut, a professional athlete, but teacher never topped my list. I don't think it ever even made my list. I did have a lot of "teaching" experience growing up as a swim instructor all through junior high and high school. I also chose majors in college and graduate school that really only led to one career choice - teaching, so I never really "chose" or decided this career path, per se, but I knew that was what I would be doing once I entered graduate school. I can definitely say, though, that I never had the thought to become a middle school or high school teacher. I was much more interested in teaching at the university level, which I did for over 10 years before coming to AcaciaWood. That was a big transition for me. I do and have always enjoyed teaching and being with my students. I hate grading essays (UGH), but it's part of the job.

Q: What are some of your goals for your students this year?

I always want my students (regardless of grade level or subject matter) to learn to work hard and push themselves to be better and succeed at what they are asked to do. I don't care much about making sure they like what we do. I want them to learn to do what needs to be done and not just focus on fun things. For my English students, I really want them to begin to enjoy reading more. I think most students these days don't really enjoy reading (anything longer than a few lines on social media), so I try to give them a wide variety of books, poems, short stories, etc. with the hopes that they will enjoy at least some of it. I know they will be bored out of their minds and will hate a lot of what we read (because I did when I was their age), but I also want them to learn to push through those feelings and not just give up.



Q: What is your favorite memory of teaching at Acaciawood?

Tough question. I've had so many great memories here as both a teacher and as principal. I think one of my favorite memories was when Miss Allison and I had the idea (Miss Allison more than me) to do a flash mob (of sorts) with all the faculty during Spirit Week. We were all dressed up as Disney characters and lip-synced a song from Brother Bear entitled "Welcome". The students were stunned but enjoyed it and got into it after the initial shock of seeing their teachers "dancing" around and "singing" (some of our teachers, by the way, are pretty good dancers!). Every once in a while I pull out the video of that flash mob, watch it, and laugh at how ridiculous it was but how much fun we had doing it. That's a great memory!

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: REBEKAH ROSARIO

By: Anamaria Viana, Alethea Fong



Q: When did you come to AWP?

A: I started first grade at Acaciawood in 2012. I don't remember any first impressions I may have had because I was too young.



Q: What is your favorite memory at Acaciawood?

A: My favorite memory is meeting a little blond girl with a mom bob who was being pushed on a mini trolley by her father. She seemed very interesting at first, but life has great surprises. We love you, Sarah.

Q: If you had a million dollars, what would you do with it?

A: If I had a million dollars, I would save the money and invest in order to retire early.

Q: How much have you changed from your freshman year to your senior year?

A: Since freshman year, I experienced plenty of mental and physical changes, and have developed a strong character. I learned how to be a leader and a teammate from my time on the volleyball team. I consider them my second family.

Q: What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

A: I enjoy playing volleyball and spending time with my family and friends. I encourage you all to appreciate the time you have with your loved ones because you never know what could happen to them.

Q: What are your plans for the future (college, career, etc)?

A: My plan is to attend community college and then transfer to a UC. Right now, I'm planning to major in business.

Q: What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

A: I enjoy playing volleyball and spending time with my family and friends. I encourage you all to appreciate the time you have with your loved ones because you never know what could happen to them.



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Manager

Managing Editors

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Bethel Enriquez, Zoe
Lee, Sam Berhe, Issak
Villanueva, Sherlock Li,

Thank you for reading the
second edition of the Eagle
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keep you updated with
school events and help you
get to know our
community a little better.