



AcaciaWood

EAGLE FLYER

Preparatory





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BACK TO SCHOOL

By: Alethea Fong

The morning of the first day of school was filled with the bustle and hustle of elementary kids and their families greeting one another, and taking pictures at the galactic photobooth. The day was filled with many smiles and happy faces, as middle schoolers conversed near their lockers, and high schoolers read through the syllabi of classes which would determine their future. Gift bags were handed out to all grade levels to welcome them into the new year, with cute space keychains for everyone to put on their backpacks and display their school spirit. As this school year unfolds, the AcaciaWood community can't wait to see everyone push past their limits, work hard, and make their mark on the community!





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ALL SCHOOL BLENDER

By: Bethel Enriquez and Crystal Lai

On August 22, 2024, the AcaciaWood community kicked off the year with an exciting All-School Blender, uniting students for fun and games! Everyone was split into two groups: Elementary and Upper School, ready to compete in a spirited game of 4 Corners.



In the elementary match, Giuliana Orozco emerged victorious, while Deborah Miller claimed the win for Upper School. The excitement continued with a combined game, where first-grader Joy Yun showcased

her skills and took the title of ultimate champion.



The event was a huge success, filled with laughter and new friendships, as the entire school came together to create memorable connections. What a great way to start the school year!



Big Bear Tournament

By: Nebi Ermias and Sarahi Rincon

Jumping into season!

The Lady Eagles have officially kicked off their 2024-2025 volleyball season! After a weekend of intense matches and thrilling plays, the Lady Eagles demonstrated exceptional skill, teamwork, and determination. The team faced tough competition but showcased their resilience and strategic prowess, earning them a well-deserved spot on the podium, and maintained our amazing streak of third place for the Varsity Big Bear Tournament! The Lady Eagles started off the tournament by beating Cardinal Highschool 2-0, losing a close game to Canyon Springs Highschool 1-2, crushing the coyotes of Indian Springs High 2-0, and making a comeback of the century by beating Norte Vista 2-1!

Super Eagles!

Two of the Super Lady Eagles were recognized during the tournament, our MVP player of the year, Lianna Alvarez Sager, and Ace-a-tron, Esther Jou! Both Lianna and Esther were recognized by the tournament staff not only for their exceptional skills but also for how they motivated and uplifted their teammates. Their achievements filled everyone with pride and excitement.



Big Bear Tournament



The Lady Eagles were guided by magnificent coaches, Coach Susanna and Coach Hearne, and amazing assistant coaches, Coach Chen, Rebekah Rosario, and Sarah Bolton. Below is an interview with Coach Chen and Coach Susanna about the tournament!

Q: What were our strengths during the tournament?

Coach Chen: Bringing yourselves out of a slump to push through the last game during elimination round, especially since most people probably were just tired and wanted to go home. But you all pushed through and endeavored to do your best. Winning definitely helped.

Coach Susanna: Everyone from the team participated and pulled their weight, from the starters to the bench. The tournament was a real team effort.

Q: What was your favorite memory during the whole trip?

Coach Chen: Definitely watching the points go up from 11-20 to 21-21 during that last game!

Coach Susanna: Seeing the determination of each team player and the team dynamics come together during our first tournament.

Q: What were our “wow” moments during the tournament?

Coach Chen: Esther's serving run!!!

Coach Susanna: Definitely our playoff game, coming down from 10 points and winning the match, thanks to Esther's serves, Lianna's offense and defense and all the players on court keeping the ball alive. The team really rose to the challenge and had the mental toughness to come up from a deficit to the win.

Q: Were there any funny or inspiring moments that stood out to you?

Coach Chen: Inspiring - maybe finally seeing some girls I haven't seen play since last year finally play this year and there has been so much improvement!! Some of them are almost like different people!



Season Begins!

By: Sherlock Li and Zachary Lee

Season Begins!

The cross-country season has officially begun, and our team is ready to hit the ground running. Led by senior Emmanuel Quinones, this year's team includes a talented group of runners who are eager to leave their



mark on the course. Alongside Emmanuel Quinones, are Sherlock Li, Zachary Lee, Ezekiel Enriquez, Paul Lee, William Chiang, David Chiang, Bruno Hernandez, River Wang, and Issak Villanueva make up a dynamic team that combines experience with energy and enthusiasm.

Ready to Meet?

This year's race schedule includes three key meets/races: September 10th at the Webb School, October 22nd, and November 6th. The locations are still to be determined. Our competitors are much larger schools, including Samuelli, Fairmont, Webb, Liberty Christian, and Avalon. No matter where and whoever we compete against, we are ready to give it our all and are determined to make the CIF this year.

Heartbeats and Sweats

Although facing difficulties with some teammates giving up, the team is not giving up any chance to make the CIF. We dedicate our time, energy, and passion to every practice. Whether it is the painful 400s and 800s at Barton Park every Tuesday, or the deadly hills and 6-mile challenge at Ralph B Clark Park every Thursday and Friday, we push through the pain, knowing that every drop of sweat is a step closer to success as a team. The journey is tough, but with each heartbeat and every stride, we're driven by a relentless determination to succeed.



ALUMNI ARTICLE: RACHEL KUAI

By: Bethel Enriquez

Q: When did you attend AcaciaWood?

A: I attended AcaciaWood from 3rd grade to 8th grade (2008-2014)

Q: What did you like most about AcaciaWood?

A: My most fond memories were being in ASC and working with Miss Allison - bringing ideas to life for all the school events like Family Fun Night. They were definitely late and tiresome nights, but they were always worth it. Also, all the love and care from the teachers :)



Q: What advice would you give to students who are here now?

A: Build your good work habits now! Putting your best effort in the little things will translate into the big things (and it will make a huge difference)!

Q: How did AcaciaWood prepare you for college, working life, etc?

A: AcaciaWood definitely helped me prepare for college by establishing good study habits and work ethic. AcaciaWood instilled that "high in standard" mindset as well as learning to be disciplined with time-management and work-life balance.

Q: What was your college experience like?

A: Undergraduate college was so much fun. It's a time to learn how to be independent and translate your skills and habits into all aspects of your life. You get the chance to focus and explore topics that you are interested in.



TEACHER TESTIMONY: MR. HAGEMAN

By: William Chiang, David Chiang, and Issac Kim

Q: How long have you been teaching at AcaciaWood?

A: I began teaching at AcaciaWood in 2007. By the end of this school year, I will have taught here for 18 years.



Q: What is your favorite memory from teaching?

A: My greatest reward and favorite memory always comes from the senior speeches at the senior banquet each year. I believe that, as I teach rigorous classes, demanding students to work hard is benefiting them for their future, even if they don't appreciate it now. Whether or not they continue to pursue math or science, they have gained something valuable. This is my vision that keeps me teaching year after year.

Q: Why did you decide to coach cross country?

A: I picked up coaching cross country during the Covid pandemic, mainly because all sports except cross country were shut down, and I wanted to give the students an opportunity to compete in sports. When I grew up, I played water polo and swam competitively through high school and college. Competition and sports was an important part of my life, and I believe it is important for AcaciaWood students to be physically active and learn important lessons, including how to lose. More recently, I have enjoyed running with the cross country team every practice. In fact, outside of coaching I signed up for a marathon, and I have found great pleasure in running on my own. So far, my longest single run was 17 miles. Even though it is painful and exhausting, I find it energizing and rewarding. I want to share that joy with the students at AcaciaWood.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS: SAM BERHE & SILVIA ARAMBURO

By: Andrea Villanueva and Brooke Nguyen



Sam Berhe

My favorite memory of the year so far is probably taking a bunch of my boys to basketball practice. It was a fun car ride just hanging out with the little ones, laughing, listening to music, screaming, and just having a good time. This year, I want to win the league for basketball. We were so close last year, so I want to get it back this year. It's definitely possible; we just have to train and give it our all this year. If I could give my younger self some advice that would be to not be too stressed about school. Definitely still do your best and do well but you only go through high school once, so enjoy hanging out with friends and playing sports.



Silvia Aramburo

One of my most cherished memories from my time at AcaciaWood is undoubtedly the day we won the CIF Round 1 after what felt like an eternity of waiting for such a victory. Alongside this victory, another aspect of my time at AcaciaWood that I hold dear is the homeroom time. As I approach the end of my senior year, one of my key goals is to avoid falling into the trap of senioritis and to stay focused on maintaining the best grades I can possibly achieve. I would tell my younger self to appreciate the opportunity that was given to me to be able to attend AcaciaWood. It's a privilege to be able to attend this school, and I'm so thankful to my parents who worked hard to put me in this school. I especially thank the Lord for making it His will for me to come to this school.





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Credits

Editors-in-Chief

Karissa Lim
Alethea Fong
Crystal Lai

Managing Editors

Mr. Miller
Mr. Kuan

Writers

Bethel Enriquez, Crystal
Lai, Sarahi Rincon, Nebi
Ermias, Zachary Lee,
Sherlock Li, William
Chiang, David Chiang,
Isaac Kim, Brooke Nguyen,
Andrea Villanueva

Thank you for reading this
edition of the Eagle Flyer
2024! We hope to keep you
updated with school
events and help you get to
know our community a
little better.