

Unforgettable Bonding With Siblings

By: Camille Cosma '21

Big Sibling Little Sibling Day is that time that freshmen and seniors are paired with a big sibling or a little sibling. Some freshmen may have two older siblings or just one. Seniors are the only ones who know who their little siblings are. Freshmen are not allowed to find out until "the big reveal."

I was so excited to get a big sibling! I was looking forward to making notes because I love making cards. I loved communicating with a senior because they gave me pointers on how to get through high school. We made funny jokes with one another. It felt like we knew one another for a long time. We had things in common and things we both disliked.

I loved buying treats for my sibling! I thought it was really fun. I bought her things like Arizona ice tea, chocolate, and Mamba. My "big" would also buy me things, such as shakes, donuts, and chocolate!!

Exchanging notes was my favorite part. I found out my sibling loved Disney characters like me. She loves Ariel and Minnie Mouse. I was happy because I never sketched them before, and I finally got to draw them.

I found out that my sibling played varsity volleyball and that she knows me. It helped me out a little, but I still knew a lot of seniors on varsity. My big sibling couldn't tell me too much about herself because she said I would know who she was. I tried tricking her a couple times into telling me more about her, but she wouldn't budge. I was dying to meet her!!

The day finally came for the "big reveal." It's the day that we finally got to meet our siblings. I was so happy that the big day came so fast! I bought my sibling a bucket of different candies, a jar with makeup, an eyelash curler, and more girl stuff. I also got her a very nice hat that said "Aloha" on it, along with a picture of a wedding dress that she asked me to draw for her.

When it was time to go downstairs, I was scared and excited. We all went into the Senior Courtyard. We had to look for the senior holding the poster with our name on it.

The person that had my sign was Ciara



Seniors and Freshmen come together for the Big Sibling, Little Sibling reveal in the Senior Courtyard.

Ratum. I was happy that she was my sibling because she is super nice! But, that wasn't the end.

When we all got settled, the seniors all traded and gave their posters to our real siblings. We were tricked!

My real sibling was

Misiona Ribeiro. I couldn't believe that they tricked us. Although, I was even happier that Misiona was my sibling. She's my cousin! Big sibling day was a memorable day that I will always remember.



Big Sibling, Little Sibling comic by Camille Cosma '21



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Queen of the Court



The King and Queen of the court along with the princes, princesses, and attendants after the show.



Queen Serena Lum gets crowned and led by her mother and sister.



King Taka Lautaha and Queen Serena Lum performing "Noho Paipai."



Queen Serena Lum dancing her first solo "He Lei No 'Aulani."

By Rebeca Ziegler '19

Saint Francis School has an annual tradition of bringing together students to dance to great Hawaiian music. Working hard to get the dances down, each division practiced from the first day of school until September 15th. Many students danced in more than one dance for the show. Remembering them all can be stressful, especially for senior and Aloha Show Queen, Serena Lum.

Juggling school work, volleyball, and remembering three dances for Aloha Show can be a lot to take on, but she made it work.

The process of trying to remember her dances while dealing with everything else was very difficult. Serena Lum said, "It has been very stressful and I've had breakdowns a lot. Being the queen isn't as simple as it looks, other people watching you dance, the planning behind it, especially when you have to take care of the rest of the court. It's very time consuming."

The pressure was overwhelming, but she did everything she could to make sure her dances were perfect.

Hula isn't the most important part of Serena's life. Yet,

it is still something she enjoys. Serena danced in her first Aloha Show as a freshman. In preparation, she has also practiced hula outside of school.

Serena Lum says, "I've always participated in Aloha Show because it's definitely fun."

Taking part in this is a big commitment, but to Serena, it's worth it. She will forever have great memories, doing something she loved, that made her feel amazing, bringing joy to her and many others.

Practicing What You Preach:

Sister Barbara Jean Wajda Follows in the Footsteps of Mother Mariame.

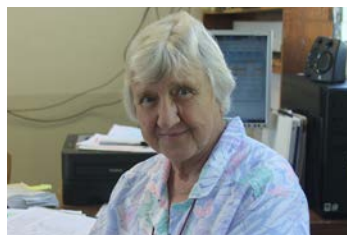
By Kolbee Kealoha '18

After eight years at Saint Francis School (SFS) in Manoa Valley and two years at St. Joseph School in Hilo, Sister Barbara Jean Wajda has taken a new step in her path of following God: one that strays away from teaching. She felt blessed to have shared in the lives of the students she taught while at SFS. However, she questioned "Have I been answering the call of God in my life?"

For Sister Barbara Jean, this second retirement came at a time when she had been asking herself, "God, where do you want me to be and what do you want me to do?"

Throughout her time as a Franciscan follower she says, "I had always been drawn to be in Kalaupapa [Moloka'i]; where I would be able to follow in the footsteps of Mother Marianne and help serve those most in need."

As Sister was heading towards her 75th birthday, a realization came upon her. She said,



Sister Barbara Jean Wajda follows in the footsteps of Mother Marianne.

"I kept hearing this call over the last few years, and finally, the path became clear."

Although there were some nerves about going to Kalaupapa, Sister Barbara Jean knew that this was the time to contribute to the Kalaupapa ministry. She said, "I can do this with God's help at this stage of my life. I can bring the presence of God to this holy place, and hopefully come nearer to God and God's people in the process." She is excited to start her new ministry.

While in Kalaupapa, Sister Barbara Jean hopes to accomplish many things. She hopes to spread the word of Mother Marianne Cope in a number of ways.

Sister Barbara Jean has

been keeping in touch with Sister Joan of Arc Souza, in hopes of arranging a trip for some teachers to have an educational workshop in Kalaupapa. The idea is to prepare students [over the age of 16] to take a service/field trip as well.

Sister Barbara Jean has developed an interest in Marine Biology. She also wants to work as a National Park Service volunteer, Wajda says, "Some possibilities include giving tour information to visitors; grounds upkeep around St. Elizabeth Convent and St. Marianne's gravesite; work in the archives; photography; work in the common garden; collaborating with the naturalist. I'll have to wait and see what the possibilities are."

Sister Barbara Jean is excited for what her new life has to offer. She said that teaching again may or may not be in her future.

We wish Sister Barbara Jean the best of luck and can't wait to see her back at Saint Francis School again.

Sister Barbara Jean said, "This is an exciting new adventure in which I will be able to use creativity, past skills and new insights to continue a ministry of



Ke Alaka'i

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A Day In The Life Of An SFS Student



By Haleigh Macugay '20

If the sun isn't up yet, then why the heck am I up? This is a constant question I ask myself because I wake up around 4 am everyday and the school bus leaves at 5:30.

For most people, waking up can be one of the hardest thing you can ask a person to do in the morning, and it's your first task of the day.

Our school is located in Manoa. I on the other hand, live in Ewa Beach. It is over 20 miles away from Saint Francis.

Every morning is a struggle. I look like the non zombie version of the Walking Dead. When my mom comes into my room and turns on the light, it is not enough to make me get up and stay up, unlike most people. She even comes by and shakes me to try and wake up. It's not until after several minutes of constant shoving that I'll wake up and start my day.

Every morning I am expected to wake up by 4:20 am. Instead, I wake up around 4:45 and have to rush out the house. I do my regular morning routine like brushing my teeth and changing my clothes,

and then we're out!

By the time I get to where the bus is going to pick us up, I barely have time to sit down and rest. Although it's not always this hectic, this is my morning schedule.

The bus ride can either be chill with everyone sleeping or people can be up and listening to music or talking. Recently, I've been bringing my speaker and playing music on the bus. Thankfully, no one minds because my music is good.

Before, everyone would talk with their friends or knock out until whatever time.

When we get off the bus, I thank Uncle Isaac (the bus driver) and walk out. I eventually enter the ASC with the others from the bus and find a table. Everyone pretty much sits in the same place with the same people everyday. Sometimes, I'll do work for my classes that day or I'll walk around and talk with my friends.

For a high school student that attends Saint Francis, it is not that easy to explain to others what a normal day is like. If someone asks, "What's your regular Wednesday?" I wouldn't be able to tell them because

of our 6 day modular schedule.

Every week starts a different day in the cycle. Everyone's schedule is alike, someone can end school at 3:15 pm and another at 2:15. I think all of us students can agree that no matter what time school finishes or starts, at the end, we are drained.

Most of our students do other activities in or out of our school. We have sports like football, volleyball, softball and baseball, bowling, basketball, and air riflery. Everyone is active or does an activity in some way. I love it because there are so many ways to connect to everyone.

At the end of the day, I always learn something new or have a story to bring home. Yes, I live far and school is hard sometimes. But, I can proudly say that, "Yes, I am a Saint Francis Student."

Although most of my friends and family aren't anywhere near here, I've made a tremendous amount of friends and am extremely grateful for everyone of them. Once a Saint, always a Saint.

Saint Francis' Traditional Honoring

By Rebeca Ziegler '19

In honoring Saint Francis, our school brings together all students for our annual Feast Day. We get a day to come together as a class and school, to enjoy entertaining things our school has to offer.

Previous Feast Days were held at Sea Life Park and the Honolulu Zoo. On Feast Day, we celebrate by saying a prayer for Saint Francis, and bless all of the students, staff, and their pets.

Some of the exciting activities we do include dodgeball, kickball, and listening to different organizations and what they have to say. This year, we got to admire and bless a few birds brought in from a sanctuary and create arts and crafts projects. After all of the activities we got provided with bentos.

Many students at Saint Francis enjoy this day, and have a lot to say about it. Junior Jeanai Mackenzie says, "Feast Day is a fun experience, we celebrate, have fun, and just enjoy some of the activities all together as a class and with our friends". Sophomore Camille Cosma added, "I enjoyed the blessing of the animals. I liked



Father Jack Ryan blessing Freshman Maximus Stineman's dogs.



6th grader Zachary Marshall places a lei over the Saint Francis School statue.

to see them, such as the birds and the dogs."

Teachers appreciate and love feast day as well. The art and ceramics teacher Ms. Polly Massaro says, "What I love about Feast Day is I get to bring my dog to school. We get to bless the animals and put leis on the statue. Last year, I got to learn about sea turtles, and I also get to spend the entire day with my homeroom."

Joyful and Jolly Holiday Traditions

By Faith Mafua '20

Tradition is something we all hold dear to our hearts. Every family has their own twist on traditions during the holidays. During Thanksgiving, most families buy and prep a turkey and have a buffet-like dinner. Some families base their food choices from their diet. My family is kind of in between. Thanksgiving in my family is both traditional and creative at the same time. Every year, Thanksgiving has been held at my house for members of my family to come and celebrate.

Tradition is an important part of our family for every Thanksgiving and Christmas. First, we prep the turkey. Usually the women in my family do this while my dad and uncles barbecue the other meat.

While the food is being prepped, most of the other adults are outside mingling and catching up with each other.

What makes my family traditions different from other families is when we pray for the food. My Grandpa prays in Tongan instead of English. Part of my Grandpa's family visits from Tonga this time of the year and we want them to feel welcomed always.

Unfortunately this year most of my cousins weren't able to make Thanksgiving because they all attend college in Oregon. Thankfully, they will be here for Christmas.

December is a month that is filled with joy and Christmas cheer. This month means a whole lot to many families who cherish the holidays together. "Every year on Christmas day, my family and I get together and cook prime rib for dinner", says sophomore Savannah Hall.

People have different traditions that their family do every year. Freshman Earl Yusada says, "My immediate family likes to decorate the house and the Christmas tree together". Sophomore Faith Fautanu says, "My family and I go to church and sing carols on Christmas." Faith Fautanu.

December is looking at everyone's Christmas decorations, singing holiday songs, staying in drinking hot cocoa, and watching Hallmark movies all month. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



Dungeons and Dragons: Rolling To Victory



Nate Ashbrook, Miss Erice, Nadia Boneza, Yumi Nakago, and Chris Shimabukuro go on a quest through the dungeons.

By Chaz Morales '19

Welcome to a land of wonder and fantasy, to go where no one else dares to go. With ghouls, demons, and all sorts of dangerous creatures along the way, you can enter the realm of dungeons and dragons after school.

Dungeons and Dragons is a role-playing game using a fantasy tabletop to bring people together. At Saint Francis School's media center, we sit and listen to the Dungeon Master, who guides thy quest through yonder to choose if you fail or succeed. We have players that join up and do quests of what thy storyteller gives. This game has been going on for 43 years and through those times it has been growing and it's getting better.

So how does dungeons and dragons work? Well first off you get a Dungeon Master, person who is like our storyteller. They tell us what the goals are, and guide us through the quest and sometimes there would be decisions that you need to make which will have the dungeon master decide your fate. You can if you are the dungeon master and you like to add monsters in it there are abundance of monster you can put in. There's a board in the middle which is like our world to view what's there like buildings, trees, people, or even monsters. Anything that the DM (dungeon masters) tells what there is it would be on the board. The DM is an important role because without him/her you wouldn't know what to do.

You need 7 different types of die to play because there are different things you do. Sometimes, you need the right type a dice to use.



The die that you need to require are a D4, D6, D8, D10, D12, and D20, but standard 7-dice sets also include a second D10. When playing your friends, you can decide what to do in your own way like if there's guards up ahead what will you and one person decides to stealth when the other can fight them. It as a life or death situation just for the fun of it. The limit of people you can have depends on the adventure DM they would have. If you don't know how to play and it's your first time playing that's ok because anyone who has any experience with D&D they would help you out.

I played D&D before in my freshmen year I would recommend people to try it out it's really fun. When I first started off playing D&D, I thought it was going to be complicated game. As I got into it, I began having a great time because you can join up with your friends. It brings a lot of acting and humor out of you. You can loot stuff while traveling, and you get to create the name of your character. There many different categories you can pick for your character, such as, an barbarian elf, a dwarf, or a human.

This game is amazing for how long it's been going.

D&D is fun? The reason I think from my point of it brings the inner nerd out of you to express who you are and what your character is. It's like a bonding between friends and maybe even new friends. D&D is a fun experience, even though it involves math. It's not that hard if you keep playing it, you'll get used to it. It can also be a way of making friends. There's humor sometimes if you make it funny. When I played the game I was in a hallway with my partner trying to figure out where to go. We were in this one spooky room and the doors shut. Then, the doors became monsters a rug grabed my leg and I screamed, "I DON'T WANNA DIE BY A DOOR!" Instead I damaged and it got me then I was unconscious, having my partner save me from a door.

Whenever I get the chance to play D&D, I get excited to play with my friends. This fun it's a way to be courageous and to express yourself in your way. The best thing about it is bringing people together to go on adventures, to fight whatever's out theret. D&D is gonna have you

rolling with. I recommend people to play this game because it's super fun. You will enjoy it as I did.

Aladdin Jr: From Practice To Performance

By Haleigh Macugay '20

Lights, camera, action! Our upcoming school play will be Aladdin Jr. Hard work, determination, dedication and memorization are essential for the students that want to be a part of the production. Ms. Minerbi expects all of the participants to be at every practice. She is also trusting that all performers practice at home, too. Being in touch with your character is the key to being a successful actor/actress. Memorizing your lines are very important. You must deliver them properly as the character you're trying to mimic, then you're role is as good as nothing.

Last year's play was "Pirates of Penzance". It was the very first play that I was ever in. It was extremely nerve-wracking. Yet, at the same time, it was exciting and exhilarating. When it came time to do the first performance, my heart was racing so fast. It felt like my chest was closing in by stage fright. It was pretty emotional for some people, such as the seniors, because it was their final play.

Last year, I was a part of the theatre class. Everyone who was in theater class was in the play, but the roles were not set in place yet. Acting was something I wanted to do my whole life, so I felt very determined that I had to be the lead... and I was! When I first auditioned with my friend Faith Mafua, we sang the "floss song" from Zack and Cody. It's not a typical song to sing/perform for an audition, but it surprisingly gave the both of us parts in the play. In class, I was always singing anyway, so Ms. Minerbi already knew what I could and couldn't do. This was actually good for me and the play because if I sang like how I auditioned, it would've been a musical flop.

Vocal rehearsal is extremely necessary. The actors are singing constantly in practice. We had practice every single day and

sang the same song about five times. This year for Aladdin Jr, Ms. Minerbi and chorus teacher Arkom Swamkum set a schedule specifically for vocal rehearsals so that we all know the songs.

Last year, the songs were pretty difficult: some of the girls songs were really high-pitched. When you don't have practice, you should really rest your voice for the performance. There have been times when the actors and actresses lost their voices due to overdoing it. For example, ME! When the performances came around I nearly lost my voice entirely due to constantly singing five days a week for the play. Initially I'm supposed to be the only one singing the high parts in the song "Poor Wondering One", but because of my voice, I told my fellow cast members to help me out on that part.

In practice when it is not your turn, one thing you should be doing is rehearsing your lines. Memorizing your lines is very important. Ms. Minerbi said, "Remembering your lines is more important than remembering your song because you have other people on the stage to help you with the song if you mess up."

During performance time, three out of the five of our plays were during school. Our first performance was right after homeroom. Everyone was so nervous. The little kids were shaking and some of the upperclassmen were hyperventilating heavily. Everyone was super excited.

When the play was over, everyone finally appreciated everything; they had become so humble and grateful to be a part of the production.

All of us would love to do it again, so stay tuned for this year's play, Aladdin Jr.

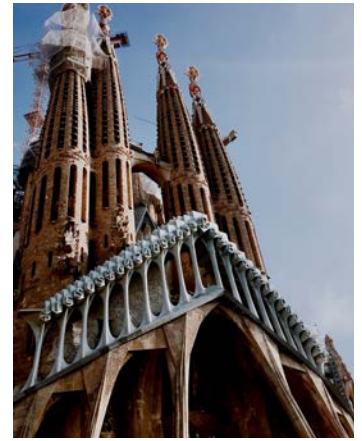
The Beauty of Barcelona

By Chelsey Ishikawa '18

After seventeen hours of flying, I was finally greeted with the beauty of Barcelona, Spain. I can't say I was disappointed—the old brick buildings, intricate architecture, what's not to love? It was almost as if I took a step backward into the past. It had me even contemplating what it would be like living in Spain. The people there have a lot of respect for each other. They're very friendly and polite and go about their day in a very fashionable manner. I tended to notice weaving in and out of traffic with bikes and motorcycles pretty often and no one got upset. To me, it showed how strongly they trusted each other.

However, being a tourist is a little different. Not knowing anyone, unsure of what to do, and how to adjust into an unfamiliar area can be difficult. My advice to you: tours are your best friend. They will help you get comfortable and give you exposure in the new place you're visiting.

The Red and Blue Line are the two bus route options you can take throughout city that will show you all around town, and its hotspots. It even stops right in front of the Sagrada Familia, a popular attraction Barcelona has to offer. It is one of the holiest churches in the world and also one of the most beautiful buildings I've ever seen in



La Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain

my life. The walls have stained glass windows on every side that change color depending on sunlight and the architecture is very detailed with meaningful symbolism behind it.

If you're more of the shopping type, a good spot to hit is La Rambla. It's basically a big maze of stores hidden in a vast number of alleys. In fact, it's so big, it will take you days to walk through the whole thing. Merchandise in Barcelona tend to go for cheap, so be sure to take that advantage.

If any of you students are interested in a very similar experience to mine, our school is not only planning on going to Spain, but also Paris as well. But you better act fast, as this trip is coming up in June of 2018. I have faith that you will not be disappointed and have no regrets.

Haleiwa Joe's Is The Best

By Camille Cosma '21

Don't you want to know where the best place to eat is? The best place to eat, by far, is Haleiwa Joe's. This is the place to go if you want a great experience in Hawaii or an amazing meal. The view is to die for, the food is astonishing, and it's a great place to take the family.

The welcoming feeling when you step through the door of Haleiwa Joe's rushes over you. Then, you see the amazing view of the Haiku scenery, the sound of the local birds chirping, and the site of families having an amazing time.

Every Friday, they have Hawaiian singers perform. Everything is a great experience.

Everyone is family there.

The food is a whole other experience. The taste of warm steak melts in your mouth. They have crab, steak, pasta, salad bars, and more. As you're eating you can also enjoy the scenery while the light breeze rushes over you.

After your meal, the dessert is what you'll want the most. They have a warm lava cake with cold ice cream in the middle. Kona coffee ice cream, little desserts, such as lilikoi, and fruit ice cream. You should try Haleiwa Joe's!



Students line up for "onolicious" food from Blue Truck Teppanyaki.



Seniors Zach Alcos, Savannah Neves, and Misiona Ribeiro getting ready to dig in.

Grindz On-The-Go

By Kolbee Kealoha '18

Exciting times are ahead of us! With the New Year quickly approaching, Saint Francis has taken a bold new approach to our after school lunch menu.

Local food trucks have been making their way over to our little campus thanks to Admissions Director, Melissa Bantilan. She says, "I wanted to bring in different food trucks to help our retention rate. I was hoping that if students got excited for the food trucks, then that would be another reason to stay and continue their education at Saint Francis School."

Oh, is she right! The students have been loving the new addition to their after school lunch choices. Lines for the trucks have been getting longer and longer. Junior Aulani Garcia says, "It's great having the trucks come. I like getting something that's different

from what the market has to offer." Many students are satisfied and can't wait for more.

So far, we've been visited by Jess Da Best Acai, The Blue Teppanyaki Truck, and Sweet Creams. However, Ms. Melissa doesn't want to stop there. She plans on bringing different food trucks every day 4 after school. "Once students return from Christmas break, more food trucks like Ahi Assassin's will come," says Bantilan.

This food truck craze has brightened the spirit around our school. Bringing everyone together in a fun and enjoyable way. Senior Nadia Boneza says, "Having the trucks has definitely been an exciting thing to have for my Senior year."

The trucks have certainly started our school year on a high note. I can't wait to see what the rest of the school year has to offer.



A tasty Prime Rib and Baked Potato



Haleiwa Joe's in Haiku, Kane'ohe



Comic created by Camille Cosma '21

"Last Minute Christmas Shopping"

A Positivity From A Passion

By Chelsey Ishikawa '18

We are blessed to have many resources in the world, from the milk we drink to the food we eat. You could say it is a perfect world for us, but have you ever stopped to think where all those resources come from?

Each year, according to PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) over 16 billion animals are killed for food. Their deaths aren't really painless either. Activist Paul McCartney said, "If slaughterhouses had glass walls, everyone would be vegetarian." This explains the inevitable truth: animals suffer everyday. They are grown abnormally large, uncomfortably stored in warehouses, and painfully killed. Many don't really see the animals side because we're the ones benefiting from all this.

Animals suffering for our food is not the only way they are used for harm. According to PETA, "Hundreds of thousands of animals



Animal cruelty-free make-up brands.

are poisoned, blinded, and killed every year in archaic product tests for cosmetics, personal-care products, household cleaning products, and even fruit juices."

My compassion for animals has pushed me to make a change. There are people like me with a similar interests, many of which are Vegan.

There is more than one way to help these poor animals out. I plan on doing my part by switching to cruelty free make-up. Many makeup brands are harmful

to animals. Guinea pigs, bunnies, and mice are abused in the process could just as easily be our pets.

Senior Noelle Barclay says, "You wouldn't allow it on your pets, but you allow it on other animals just like them." Noelle aspires to help by working for PETA one day.

Make-up is a big passion of mine, and has been for the past 5 years. I see it as taking something I love and turning it into something positive and helpful.

What can I do? I can first vow to never buy make-up that is harmful to animals. Here are some to name a few:

- Too Faced
- Urban Decay
- Tarte Cosmetics
- Anastasia Beverly Hills
- Smashbox
- Be a Bombshell
- Elf Cosmetics

Other ways to help include speaking up for what I believe in. I will use my voice to sign petitions about how I feel and support others who feel the same way.

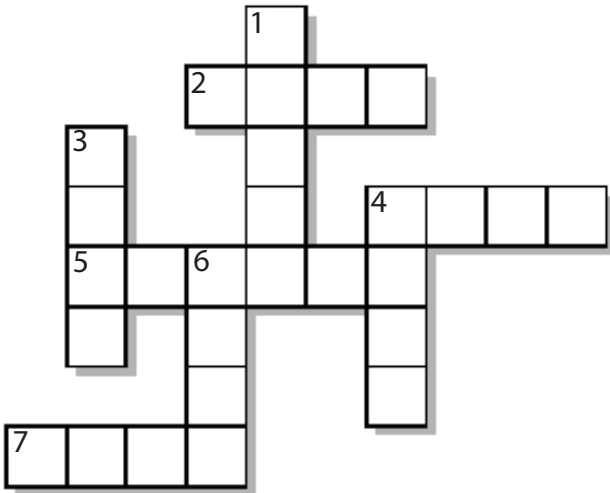
Supporting cruelty free charities who are fighting for the cause of ending the suffering of the animals is another way.

If we all come together, we can make a difference. Animals have feelings just like us. They are living creatures just like us. Imagine how we would feel if we weren't the top of the food chain.

Avatar Character Challenge

By Kolbee Kealoha, Chelsey Ishikawa '18

Use the clues given below to solve the puzzle.



ACROSS

- I am the last of the winged lemurs.
- I am a flying bison.
- I am a water and blood bender.
- I am a retired general of the fire nation.

DOWN

- I have no bending abilities, and wield a machete.
- I am the banished prince of the fire nation.
- I was frozen in an iceberg for 100 years.
- I am a blind earthbender.

Overfishing Is Killing Us

By Camille Cosma '21

Where are the fish? This problem can't be ignored or soon the sea creatures will disappear. We are losing many sea species. Almost 80% of fish are taken from the sea. The only reason people are overfishing is to sell more fish and get a lot of money.

Fish are a big part in our food system. Fish have the fatty acids and Omega-3 oils that our body's need to live a long healthy life. We should preserve the fish in the sea. If we kill them all, we may ruin the ecosystem in the future.

Fishermen should think before they overfish. They should consider the ecosystem. Will overfishing become a bigger problem in the future? Can fish species go extinct from this? Is this worth killing thousands of fish?

These four simple questions can save the ecosystem



easily. People shouldn't be greedy because soon the fish will be gone forever.

Overfishing may not seem like a huge problem now. However, if we continue down this path, it is just going to get worse. There should be a limit for what fishermen can take from the ocean. They can still make money and provide food for their families without killing all the sea creatures.

Overfishing is a major problem in our community and it won't get better without changes. We can end this problem very easily, so let's just end it.





Bubba Akana accepts DI scholarship.

Bubba Akana Accepts Division I Scholarship

By Kayla Kimoto '19

Junior Bubba Akana, recently received a DI scholarship for baseball to the University of Hawaii.

Baseball is "the best sport in the world, but also the hardest sport ever," says Bubba. It's been twelve years since he started playing baseball, however, he says, "I started to actually swing the bat when I was 3 years old." Bubba has an interest in baseball because "no matter what you do or how good you are, there are always going to be challenges throughout your career" He adds, "always new things to learn about the sport to better yourself."

His family is also very involved in his life. His dad, is the head coach and they are very supportive. Bubba states, "At first, we were all about football, until I came to Saint Francis. Then baseball started to take a serious

toll." He is not looking into other schools right now, but if another school has a better offer, he will think about it with his family.

After high school, Bubba plans to focus on baseball and hopes to make it professionally. "That's the dream and the goal," he says. However, he might also look into the medical field or becoming a lawyer.

Receiving the scholarship was shocking and a great chance for him to continue his baseball career. From his experience, he says, "When I first got the scholarship I was in shock. I finally felt like I made it and that



Bubba Akana readies for his next pitch against Damien.

the journey begins now." Once schools began to contact him and his family, Bubba says they were "so happy and thankful that God has blessed us with such an opportunity."

Sitting In The Crazy "Black Hole" At The Raiders Game

By Hunter Robello '18

The New Orleans Saints is my favorite NFL team but I went to watch the Raiders instead. I went to San Francisco to watch the Oakland Raiders play the Jets with my uncle, cousin, and dad.

Our flight was at 11:20pm on Friday and I got the last seat on the plane. We would come home on Monday morning and I would go straight to school.

When we arrived, my parents met up with us in the morning. Then we all went to Napa Valley. The wine place we went to had a barbecue place and their food was very great. I wanted to eat at In & Out, but we didn't really have time to go there. We also ate at PPQ Dungeness Island. This place had the best crab and noodles. It was super good one of the best crab places in San Francisco.

On Sunday, we drove 30 minutes across the bridge to Oakland's side and tailgated before the game. We were with other Raiders fans that were from Hawai'i, too.

We sat in the "Black Hole", where all the crazy Raiders fans sit. I love going to NFL games with my family because we have a



Members of Raider Nation prepare to get crazy.

special bond. Most of the time, his friends would go too. We joke around and have a good time and enjoy every second of it.

Sitting in the "Black Hole" was a once-in-a-life time experience because there was so much that went on. The feeling was different because of the vibe. Crazy die-hard fans surround you. The fans go to every game no matter if they are having a winning or losing season.

In the "Black Hole", no one is sitting down. They stand up and cheer the whole game. The Raiders beat the Jets 45-20.

Loud And Proud: A Cheerleader's Point Of View

By Kayla Kimoto '19

Watching the football game in the stands or stadium has its differences compared to watching it from a cheerleader's perspective. The cheerleading team at Saint Francis practices twice a week for about two hours and attends games usually on a Friday or Saturday. During practices we do several things to get us prepared for the football games. We work hard.

Every practice, we warm up with three laps around the parking lot, stretches, kicks, and jumps. We stretch our legs and arms and work on our jumps. There are about five to six different jumps we do.

After warming up, we work on our cheers for defense, offense, and spirit. After about a month of practicing, we were able to get most of our cheers down with the motions. Slowly, we started to clean up our cheers and make them tight.

When uniforms came, we got our pom poms and began to work on our cheers even more. If we did not do our cheers right, our punishment was to run.

When we arrive at the games, we stretch, kick, and jump before the game starts. Our job is to support the team and school in a positive way and be loud and proud with our cheers.

Being a cheerleader, we have to pay attention to the game and focus on whether our side is on defense or offense and call a cheer for the certain play. There are multiple cheers so we do not repeat ourselves too much. It is very hot and sunny during some of the games, but we try our best to push through the sweat and heat. After the game, and Saint Francis takes the win, all our cheerleading and supporting feels worth it.





Seniors Celebrate Their Season

By Camille Cosma '21

It was the last time that the seniors would ever play on the Saint Francis court. It was the most important game of their season.

The gym was filled with heartwarming posters and confetti that lit up the Saint Francis court. Balloons were all over the walls. Parents and friends flooded the gym.

Fans waved posters of them and shirts that they made for players. The varsity was about to play their last game in their home gym. I knew this was going to be a memorable night.

The varsity warmed up. They looked like they were ready to win, especially the seniors. They were slamming their hits. Everything looked awesome.

During warm-ups, I was helping shag the hits. I was honestly scared to shag because they were slamming! I couldn't stop laughing. My friend kept getting hit in the face. We were glad when they stopped warming up, because we didn't want to end up with bruises all over.

I thought we were ready to win. When it was time for their serves, they looked ready as well. Their serves were bullets, guaranteed to be aces.

When the game started, most of the school was sitting in the bleachers. Most of the football team

came, both varsity and intermediate. I was surprised that they actually remembered that it was Senior Night.

When the ref blew the whistle, the gym went dead silent. The Seniors were doing great, but I could tell they were having a little trouble. Maybe they were nervous that it was their last game. After all, there was a lot of pressure. They fought hard the first set, but sadly lost.

The next set started, and we could tell that something turned on in all of them. They were slamming. They were digging the serves and hits, no matter how hard it was. Matta was roofing all night, Savannah and Misi were slamming and getting a bunch of kills. The back row defense wasn't going to let any balls drop on their side. We could tell that their attitudes changed massively. University Lab School (ULS) was winning, but Saint Francis wasn't going to let them win. They fought hard and played their best. The crowd was at the edge of their seats. We were constantly yelling our heads off. The game was exhilarating. In the ending, Saint Francis loss, but the crowd was still overjoyed.

They played an awesome game! No matter the outcome, they played hard. We were proud of our Varsity Volleyball team for finding their focus and playing an extremely intense game against ULS.

New Season, New Banner for Saints Basketball

By Rebeca Ziegler '19

At Saint Francis, basketball is a sport we succeed in. Last year, our girls varsity basketball team was one game away from being undefeated and finished fourth in states.

Our boys varsity basketball team won the Division II state championship. Junior Kameron Ng says, "We used the loss from the previous year to motivate us to work harder to win a state championship, not just for each other, but for the school as well."

The last time our girls basketball team won a championship was in 2001. It's been way too long. This year, the girls plan to get further. It's time to be ILH Division II champions again and to put another year up on our banner.

The girls varsity basketball team has been practicing and working very hard. We have had three pre-season games, a tournament hosted at Saint Francis, and another tournament at Kaiser High School. Our regular season

opened against La Pietra on December 2nd.

The team wanted to be prepared. It has been worth it because we have won all of our games so far.

We've already put in so much effort and hard work into bettering ourselves. Senior Kaimi Kalei said, "This season I'm looking forward to working hard with all of my teammates and getting that banner up."

There is still a lot to learn. Everyday at practice, the team gets better and learns something new. Head Coach Chris Hoe says, "Each year as a team, we've been improving, with last year making it to the semi final game of the state tournament. This year, we look forward to taking the next step to become state champions by working harder than we've ever worked, and by playing together as a team."

I am personally excited about this season. We all are. We have a great team and are ready to fight together until the end, as a family. It's banner season.

Saints Leave It All On The Field

By Kayla O'Sullivan '19

Since the 2014-2015 school year, Damien has been crowned as the ILH D2 football champions.

This past school year we played them four times. The first game against them we lost, a heart breaker in the fourth quarter. The second game we stepped up our game and beat them. We had the opportunity to play them one last time for the ILH title.

Seniors Roy-Matthew Dacuycuy and Tyson Shimabukuro described their mindset for playing Damien. Dacuycuy says, "It is a mindset I have of life. In life, you have to work hard to achieve greatness. In football, in order to win the ILH or a state title, you have to put in the work to become a champion." Shimabukuro says, "My mindset is to play hard play smash mouth football and to straight up humiliate Damien."

Dacuycuy explains, "It's been a journey for me and my team to get where we are today. From those days at Kapiolani Park during summer and working our butts off in the hot sun." He added, "We are not satisfied because we all know we worked hard to be



Senior Samson Kaleikau runs for a first down and more.

deserving of the ILH Championship and State Championship."

Regarding playing Damien for a last time with everything on the line, Dacuycuy said "I'm happy knowing that it's going to be my last game playing Damien because I know that my team and I deserve to win. I know we are going to leave everything on the field knowing it's the last time us seniors will face our rivals. I'm also super eager to play because I wanna make my school and family proud."

The Saints were not able to complete their quest, losing to Damien 13-12. However, the football team had its best season ever. The team left it all on the field and that's all we can ask.



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