

# The Mandolin

St. Francis High School

October 22, 2013

“Spread the word.”

Issue 72

## SPIRIT WEEK

By DANIELLE VILLALUNA '15

It was the photos we remember seeing before we became Troubies: colorful, vibrant candid photos of students with intensely passionate, red-faced expressions; hands flailing everywhere in the air; bright, fun decorations scattered throughout the gym. You could almost hear the deafening roar of the crowd and the pulsing thump of stomping on the bleachers. Ah, Spirit Week. Just one look at this event and anyone, Troubie or not, could immediately sense that this event is like no other. And yet, it's difficult to understand the hype lying behind St. Francis Spirit Week unless you have truly experienced the thrill and excitement behind each day. Spirit Week is one of the defining events of being a Troubadour—it exemplifies all our school's main values: passion, good spirit, strong determination, and above all, faith.

Though it's an event often associated with competition between the classes, the entire school comes together to begin the first day of Spirit Week with a prayer service and a canned food drive. Not only does the drive count for points for each class, but it also serves as a great incentive to give back to the community, as well as to have fun while doing it. (Winning for your class *and* helping others? Everybody wins!) The next day is jam-packed with energy as one of the most intense parts of Spirit Week: the epic Sports Day. From insane Tug-of-War matches to the Troubie-famous Dodson Says, the players, as well as bystanders, leave the gym at the end of the day with their hearts still pounding. The fun continues as Troubies show off their style as well as their spirit by dressing up to their own class themes on Theme Day. Last year, the Class of 2014 impressed with their crazy clown costumes, going along with their circus-themed “A Night In

the Big Top” Homecoming. Then finally, after months of preparation, it all builds up to the huge grand finale: the Homecoming Rally. Each class gives it their all: the actors act out an original skit, the dancers show off striking choreography, and the freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors belt their hearts out in song. It's a valiant effort on all parts, but only one class can win



Last year's can food drive.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES

Homecoming. Spirit Week is now. Are... you...ready?

## Sports Day 2013

By ASHLEY SUTTER '15

It's that time of year again! The St. Francis High School gym hosts the 2013 Sports Day Rally on Tuesday October 22nd at 1pm. This is an event you don't want to miss! The four classes—freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors—

have been a variety of most intense games for homecoming points. In the past, there classes who have won Sports Day, not all being seniors. Each class has an equal chance of winning; it is up to their determination and desire to bring in the gold. This year 13 sports are planned to increase school spirit, class unification, and fun memories: Dodson Says, Limbo, Musical Chairs, Obstacle Course, Marshmallow Toss, 4 Legged Race, Steamroller, Tug-of-War, Bob-Sledding Bodies, Nervous Nelly, Soccer Juggling, High as a Kite, and Cup Stacking.



Last year's Junior, Athena Nguyen, competes in the limbo during Sports Day.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

most intense games for homecoming points. In the past, there classes who have won Sports Day, not all being seniors. Each class has an equal chance of winning; it is up to their determination and desire to bring in the gold. This year 13 sports are planned to increase school spirit, class unification, and fun memories: Dodson Says, Limbo, Musical Chairs, Obstacle Course, Marshmallow Toss, 4 Legged Race, Steamroller, Tug-of-War, Bob-Sledding Bodies, Nervous Nelly, Soccer Juggling, High as a Kite, and Cup Stacking.

Troubadours have said goodbye to multiple games, like Balloon Pop and Face-Off, throughout the years due to various reasons. You might have heard, MUSICAL CHAIRS ARE BACK. After a year of suspension, this epic, passionate game has returned. The struggle, the strength, the willpower, and the triumph involved in battling for the last seat standing is coming to you soon. Like Musical Chairs, Cup Stacking has been a dormant game for 3 years now. Well, not anymore! On the 22nd, you will witness girls hurrying to stack the most plastic cups in a set amount of time. But, there is a twist: girls from op-

posing classes will be bowling to knock over other class' cups with balls. In the end, whichever class possesses the largest amount of cups standing, wins. Along with these reincarnated sports, new ones have also been added. A Minute to Win It is a new concept describing shorter games but with the same intensity. This includes High as a Kite where girls wear hats with a kite tied to each. The objective is to keep the kite in the air for as long as possible in the given time by running around the gym. For Nervous Nelly, one girl per class has a pedometer, a device that counts walking steps, tied to each of their wrists and ankles. The goal is to get the most steps counted on the pedometer by shaking and moving as fast as possible in the time given. Soccer Juggling is a competition to touch a soccer ball the most times without using hands or arms and without letting it touch the ground. This year's Sports Day is expected to be the best yet. Whether participating in the games or cheering on your class, you will find the day is filled with enjoyment and excitement. Get ready, because it's going to be a day to remember!

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# Celebrating a Birthday Party on St. Francis' Feast Day: Happy St. Francis Day!

By DIANE MENARDO '15

St. Francis's Feast Day, which is like Halloween part 1, is a day when the St. Francis community gathers to celebrate the life of St. Francis of Assisi. There are no academics on that day and teachers are allowed to bring their families to partake in the big party. Out of all the St. Francis days throughout my years at St. Francis, this year is by far my favorite. The day started off with a school-wide mass with special guests from



Freshmen Monica Penalosa and Isabel Montemayor dress up as Winnie the Pooh and Piglet for St. Francis Day.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

St. Robert's and St. Mary's. The atmosphere started out lively and exciting, especially with the participation of the adorable elementary school students that garnered many "awws" from the Troubadours.

This year's theme was a Child's Disney Birthday Party. Students and teachers came to school dressed as their favorite Disney character or dressed up as a child going to a birthday party. Princess royalty graced the SF campus and almost 101 Dalmatians were seen around school (although they were mistaken for cows by a couple of guests). Regardless of how people dressed up, everyone took a break from the stress of school and took a trip back to their childhood. There was a magic show in the CLC, a bounce house in front of the gym, a tie-dying station, bubble blowing, face painting, hula-hooping, a photobooth, and a Disney dance party with Mr. Williams. There were so many different activities to do in so little time; it was hard to decide where to go. Many people, including myself, hit the food stations first. There were hot dogs, cotton candy, fresh popcorn, snow cones, nachos, carrots, and churros that disappeared a little too quickly. The day was pretty much an SF girl's dream. The TrouBuddies had an even more fulfilling experience. The reactions of the little kids were priceless. Athena Nguyen '14 says "Having a kid was awesome! We went to the magic show and he was so impressed that he wouldn't stop talking about it. After the show, we got some snacks and explored

the campus together."

The closing assembly led by the Christian Service Leaders, or now famously known as the 'Mom Squad,' presented a cute video to wrap up the day and then announced the winners of the costume contest. The winners included: Cami Cunningham '15 and Xan Oliva '15 won for most creative costume as the slinky dog from Toy Story, Melissa Fidler '15 skipped gleefully as Alice from 'Alice in Wonderland' to claim her award for best individual costume, Mrs. Stember and Sister Rose looked adorably dapper dressed as Mary Poppins when being announced as the winners for best staff costume, and a group of seniors dressed as characters from Aladdin won best group costume.

Candiss Murphy '15 says "SF day was a fun way to go back to wonderful memories of our Disney childhood. It was



The Christian Service Leaders dress up as the Mom Squad in charge of preparing the birthday celebration. Senior Mady Taylor features as one of their daughters.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

also exciting to share in the festivities with the children from the elementary schools. It was a successful day." The day certainly was a success. Not only did we have a good time celebrating, we also helped make a difference. Every year, SF helps to serve others by supporting a charity. This year, SF worked with Project Birthday, a charity that provides birthday parties for children in shelters and transitional houses throughout Sacramento. The school contributed two large bins of new gifts for the children and will definitely give them a very happy birthday. What can I say? SF likes to make the green grass grow all around.

jk

## New Teacher Interview: Mrs. Willow!

By BROOKE APREA '15

With a new school year, new teachers were welcomed to the St. Francis community. Ms. Willow was interviewed about what it's like to be a new teacher at St. Francis.

Interviewer: What's your favorite aspect of the school (i.e. the crazy socks and shoes or the crazy hair, the sister-

hood we have here)? Ms. Willow: My favorite aspect of the school so far is the atmosphere. This school is not only a place of learning, but also is a vibrant community with myriad opportunities for young women to shine.

Interviewer: How have you adjusted to the crazy St. Francis schedule? Ms. Willow: Moderately well – I've only

been late to class once (sorry A block!). But, I do really miss seeing my students every day.

Interviewer: How has the St. Francis community affected your life? Ms. Willow: That is a great question. I am an alumna of St. Francis, so certainly many of my experiences at the school shaped me during my young adulthood.

St. Francis nurtured my quest for knowledge and excellence. I also learned how to laugh at myself and enjoy life with others. But, most importantly, I was given opportunities to stretch myself in ways that I might never had done on my own volition; those unexpected opportunities actually taught me more about life, justice, and friendship than any text-

book or final exam could.

Interviewer: Have you had any embarrassing teacher moments? Ms. Willow: Hmm, we'll leave that for another day! Trust me, I will make my fill of embarrassing teacher moments in the upcoming years here at St. Francis!

Interviewer: What do you like most about being a

teacher at St. Francis? Ms. Willow: Without a doubt, it is the students and the St. Francis community. This school is incredibly special and I am so lucky to be a part of it!

# Alumnae Update: Ms. Hanusek!

By DIANE MENARDO '15

Did you know that about 18 people who work at St. Francis are alumnae? The wonderful people who teach us today used to be in the exact same position as us. Have you ever wondered what they were like in high school? Get an inside scoop on one of the newest additions to our faculty and staff, Ms. Hanusek:

**Mandolin (M):** For those who don't know, what is your position at St. Francis?

**Ms. Hanusek (H):** Director of Student Activities, Alumnae Relations Associate.

**M:** What year did you graduate and who was your mascot?

**H:** 1992. Go Gators!!

**M:** What is your favorite food from the cafeteria?

**H:** The gluten-free pasta and pancakes!

**M:** What is one thing you wish SF would

bring back?

**H:** The SF Girl song! "When an SF girl walks down the street..." and class-level cheerleaders.

**M:** What is the biggest difference at SF from when you were a student and now?

**H:** More students and cuter uniform skirts!

**M:** Who was your favorite teacher at SF?

**H:** Mr. Norman!!

**M:** What extracurricular activities did you participate in during high school?

**H:** Cross-Country with Coach DuCray, cheerleader for CB (before there were girls!), and class level cheerleader for St. Francis.

**M:** Did you ever think you were going to come back to work at SF after graduating?

**H:** NOOOOOOOO! But I'm super excited to be back!

**M:** Did you have a friend crush in high school?

**H:** OK. It was probably Paola Caggiano (Biba's daughter) because she was super tall, beautiful, friendly, and graceful.

**M:** What is your most embarrassing/funniest moment at SF (as a student or a faculty member)?

**H:** I was "asked to leave" Deacon McFadden's class as a student here (laugh attack - I couldn't control it!) and eating lunch with him in the faculty lunchroom 20 years later... both funny AND embarrassing.

**M:** What is your favorite thing about being/working at SF?

**H:** THE STUDENTS!! I have the best, most fun job ever.

**M:** Can you

give us a fun fact about yourself?  
**H:** I was a sharp shooter in the Coast Guard.

**M:** Do you have any advice for the SF students regarding high school?

**H:** Be yourself! Seriously. It sounds cliché, but it is a lesson better learned now than later. Dr. Seuss said it best: "Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You."



Ms. Hanusek, St. Francis students, and members of the KCRA team!

PHOTO COURTESY MS. HANUSEK

# Camping Time, So Much Fun!

## Camp ReCreation Summer Service Experience



Senior Kate Wobbema's camper, Bronte, and senior Gabriela Riegos' camper, Tony, have a great time together before lunch at Camp ReCreation!

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

By SIDNEY CASTRO '14

This past summer, I signed up to be a counselor at Camp ReCreation. Little did I know that this week-long experience would have such a

huge impact on my life. Camp ReC basically works with people, of all ages, who have developmental disabilities. We were first told that campers look forward to camp all year; it's like their trip to the Bahamas. I lived side by side with the campers helping them to

participate in camp activities as fully as possible. As cliché as this sounds, Camp Rec truly changed the way I saw the world around me. These campers show you who you are, they accept you for who you are, and they just want to be your friend. They are some of the most loving, caring, and wonderful people. The motto "God is love, and camp is love. So if you're going to believe in anything, believe in camp" pretty much sums up the whole experience. Out of 51 weeks of the year, the amount of love and warmth you feel in that one week of camp is almost unreal. Campers' unconditional love, acceptance, friendship, and trust can change lives, as it did mine. Yes, Camp Rec offers you the stereotypical summer camp setting – cabins, campfires, archery, canoeing – but what it really offers is a best friend for the whole week. These campers, who are so often ignored and neglected, are offered a best

friend, a person who is always going to be there and make them laugh. No matter who you are when you first volunteer at camp, you're guaranteed to leave with a whole new outlook on life. Camp offers an environment where everyone is one hundred percent present and living in the moment. At Camp ReCreation, people discover that they are allowed to be themselves,

that they are loved, that they have gifts to offer, and that their lives have meaning. We discover that all of us, in turn, can be beacons of light to one another in our homes, in our communities, and in our world. Never do I want to live a day where I am any less happy than when I am at camp. That is the magic of Camp ReCreation.



Sidney Castro and Joey dance the night away at Camp ReC.

PHOTO COURTESY SIDNEY CASTRO '14

# THIS IS (NOT) ANARCHY: The Government Shutdown, Why it Happened and What it Means to You

By JANE SADLER '14

No, we are not a leaderless people, afloat in a diplomatic wasteland. The Constitution is not being used as firewood to cook President Obama's food on the cold, hard streets of Washington, DC. In short, the government isn't actually as 'shut down' as it sounds. However, this is a big deal, and you should know why it happened and what it means.

Why it happened: Every year, like an economic Santa Claus, Congress gets together to pass the spending bills that fund all the good little federal programs. Because the governmental fiscal year starts on October 1st, they have until midnight on September 30th to pass all of the necessary bills to run the government for the next year. This year they didn't make the deadline. The key bargaining chip in the showdown between parties is Obamacare, also known as the Affordable Care Act. The Democrats refuse to give any ground on its funding and influence, and Republicans are making proposal after proposal trying to reduce or postpone the funding of the current national health care law. However, even though it is law, it would be an ineffective law if it received zero funding, which is Republican's chief goal. In short, instead of fighting the passage of Obamacare, Republicans are choosing to fight its funding. The antagonism between both parties is what caused the government to grind to a halt. President Obama, meanwhile, refuses to deal with this Congressional tantrum the GOP is having. He will not interfere with this situation directly, only saying that he hopes Congress will "come together in the 11th hour". This



For the time being, national parks have been closed--one of the consequences of this year's government shutdown.

PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

is a smarting move because giving in to the Republicans now would teach both parties in Congress that they can throw a hissy fit and threaten to shut down the government every time they don't agree, ultimately bypassing governmental process and ignoring our nation's history and pride in compromise. Furthermore, in the final minutes before the midnight deadline, Congress engaged in a war to pile the blame on the other party, instead of using the precious time to try to find common ground. The moment the clock struck 12:01 on October 1st, the government immediately went into shutdown, eliminating all 'inessential programs' for the

first time since the last shutdown 17 years ago, in 1996.

Now here's what it means...

To repeat, it is not the end of democracy in a free world. There are a few changes, though. Here they are, short and sweet:

- It is estimated that a three-to-four week shut down could cost the economy a total of around 25 billion dollars.
- 800,000 government employees will be furloughed.
- People in the military will be paid for serving during the shutdown, however, only in IOUs redeemable after the shutdown is over.
- In previous shutdowns, applications for passports went unprocessed, sending airlines and airports scrambling. So if you were planning a vacation to Italy soon, you better hope you already have one.
- Vacations closer to home may become a problem too. As you might have heard, national parks are being shut down. Along with those closures are the closures of national zoos and museums across the country.
- Ironically, Republican's resistance will also halt all applications for gun permits.
- Even more ironically, the Republicans desperately want to defund Obamacare. However, through this whole debacle, Obamacare will continue to go into action during this government shutdown.
- Federal loans for homes will also stop during the shutdown.

(continued on page 7)

## Pancho's Mexican Cocina: The Ideal Authentic Mexican Restaurant in Sacramento

By CLARISSA JAMES '14

For all of those who recall Luis' Mexican restaurant on Alhambra and Capitol, I'm sure that we can all agree that Sacramento lost a true gem when it closed. Nothing beat the cardboard cutout of Luis greeting everyone at the entrance, the framed autographed photos of celebrities smothering the walls inside, the constant din of a full restaurant regardless of the time, and of course, the amazing food. Nothing has come close to filling that Mexican food niche in Sacramento since. However, for all of you who know the Leyva family (which ran Luis'), you will also know that it is a massive family with many connections in the restaurant business. That said, though the original Luis' has been closed for about nine years, its spirit and great food live on through Luis' descendants' restaurants.

The more widely known Leyva family restaurant is Luis' Jr., but my personal favorite is Pancho's Mexican Cocina run by

Luis' nephew on the corner of Broadway and 21st Street. Pancho worked as a chef at Luis' for a number of years before opening his own restaurant, so he knows his stuff. I have been coming to Pancho's for as long as I can remember, so believe me when I stress that you MUST try the chicken soup! Chicken soup doesn't seem like the typical fare for Mexican cuisine, but trust me: you will not want to miss out. I have seen regulars who come to the restaurant for the sole purpose of ordering out chicken soup. Try it. You'll love it. Besides that, the nachos are fantastic, too. As much as I love Pancho's though, much of the food doesn't measure up to Luis's, but it is still very good on the whole.

The restaurant is on the medium small size, but provides a cozy, comfortable ambience. The large picture windows give a dynamic view of Broadway. Don't be turned off by the bobble head figures of various basketball players around the front, it's all part of the authentic experience.

Furthermore, the prices are very affordable: chicken soup is less than \$10. Another plus: Pancho is very generous with the chips and salsa! It's difficult not to fill up on chips

before your food comes because they're so darn good! Order the guacamole, for sure. They make it fresh and it's absolutely to die for.

If you want an authentic, delicious, home-cooked,

Sacramentan, Mexican restaurant, or if you are still grieving over the loss of Luis', I definitely recommend Pancho's.



Tacos are a delicious, irresistible treat at Pancho's Mexican Cocina.

PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

# Meet Your Editors of *The Mandolin*!



**Name:** Racquel Gonzales 14  
**Title:** Editor-in-Chief  
**Fun Fact:** She talks in her sleep. Once, her own laughing woke her up....



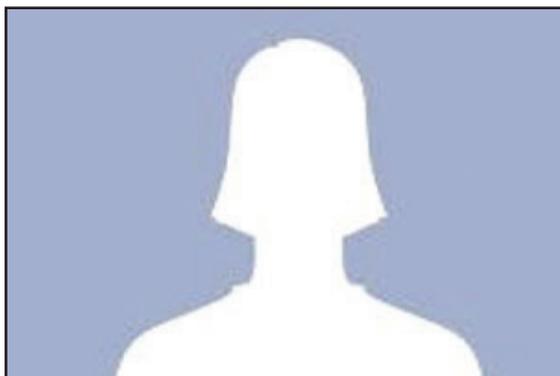
**Name:** Aly Pachter 15  
**Title:** Assistant to the Editor-in-Chief  
**Fun Fact:** John Mayer



**Name:** Victoria Vardanega 14  
**Title:** Sports Editor  
**Fun Fact:** She likes to watch copious amounts of netflix five hours at a time.



**Name:** Jane Sadler 14  
**Title:** Photography Editor  
**Fun Fact:** She refuses to let people pay for her interpretive dances. They are a gift to the people.



**Name:** Ms. Kirstien  
**Title:** HEAD HONCHO (aka Teacher Moderator)  
**Fun Fact:** I can send sun-rise out of me--thank you, Walt Whitman. ;-)



**Name:** Meredith Ray 14  
**Title:** Features Editor  
**Fun Fact:** She is ambidextrous!



**Name:** Christin Henderson 14  
**Title:** School News Editor  
**Fun Fact:** The smell of movie popcorn and fear make me nauseous.



**Name:** Ava Rutter 16  
**Title:** Pop Culture Editor  
**Fun Fact:** I also have a several-foot-long shelf full of magazines from the past.



**Name:** Kate Swanson 16  
**Title:** Outside News Editor  
**Fun Fact:** She's pretty awesome.

# Fall Sports 2013

## Cross Country

By CHRISTIN HENDERSON '14

Every St. Francis cross-country runner should receive an award of merit for just signing up to join the team. Football players have it easy compared to the difficult workouts these runners go through every single day after school. The Varsity team practically sprints a ten mile run before tackling another mile of hills, and the JV and Frosh-Soph do not have a much easier routine. But these runners are truly passionate about their sport and their hard work pays off during Saturday morning meets. They are led by the extremely talkative and fearless head-coach John Ducray, along with about three other assistant coaches who are less talkative but just as competitive. So far the cross-country team has won three meets and Varsity came in fourth in the Stanford Invitational.

They are now ranked 8th in state and third in NorCal. During preseason they were ranked first in NorCal. Team captain Lauren LaRocco says that a lot of people are injured this year and it has taken quite a toll on the team. Nevertheless, state meets and perhaps Nationals are in sight for these athletes.

Not only is the SF cross country team one of the best in the state, but they have also received quite a bit of fame for their achievements. Check out Lauren LaRocco, Camille Boudreaux, Peyton Bilo, Miranda Myers and Madison Rawson looking fierce on the cover of SportStars Magazine. The article stresses the idea that they stick together and win together. The team motto is "one team, one goal, one family," which sums up the spirit and closeness of the team. Races can be grueling though, so everyone should go cheer on cross-country and be amazed by their endurance.

## Volleyball

By ERIN ALBERTS '15

The St. Francis Varsity Volleyball team was defeated by Granite Bay in a pre-season match, beginning the season with a rocky start. With the start of the actual season, however, the volleyball team has maintained an undefeated record and even won Holy Court. Mary Kate Schildmeyer, a junior on the varsity team, says the team has "really good bonding experiences, which is a great opportunity to get close with my teammates [and] really helps on the court." She admitted that even though they could have focused more, they played the three matches well overall.

Mary Kate also remarks that, in comparison to her experience on the JV team, the varsity team has more tournaments, travelling, intensity, and pressure. Although juniors do not get as much playing time in the games, she emphasizes the equal playing time in practice and her understanding

of seniority: "Everyone gets their time, and I know I will get more playing time when I am a senior."

The only setback that comes with being on the Varsity team is time commitment. Mary Kate admits, "I love SF volleyball, so it's hard to pinpoint anything... If I had to choose, it would be doing homework after a hard workout." For her, however, the wonderful aspects of playing volleyball for SF greatly overshadow any loss in time. "I like being sponsored by Adidas and getting cool stuff," she says, "but the best thing is [its] positive atmosphere... I love how close our team is."



The Varsity volleyball winners post-game at Holy Court!

PHOTO COURTESY ST. FRANCIS ATHLETICS

## Tennis

By EDEN ELLIOTT '16

It is that time of the year again! The

St. Francis tennis team has come to play. Between the record breaking 40-girl tryouts and our new and amazing coaches, SF tennis is ready to take on the season. We have lots of fresh new faces and many seniors are enjoying their last season. With all the girls working hard, this season will be one for us to remember! Even with tough competitors at our heels, we grow stronger as individuals, as friends, and as a team. I am so proud to be a part of such a beautiful, talented, and kind group of people.



The tennis team smiles for the camera!

PHOTO COURTESY VICTORIA VARDANEGA

## Golf

By KRISTIANNE EDROSOLAN '15

The St. Francis golf team has started its season with plenty of success! This undefeated team of twelve has emerged triumphant in each of the six events this season. The season opened September 4<sup>th</sup> at Cameron Park Country Club, where the Troubadours faced fellow Delta River League competitor, Ponderosa. Ponderosa scored a 280, but the team pulled out a lower score of 217. Continuing their great energy, the Troubies won first place with a 417 team score at the first Delta River League tournament, defeating other notable schools such as Pleasant Grove, Oak Ridge, and Folsom. At the next Delta River League event, St. Francis won again, posting a team score of 440 and edging out Pleasant Grove and Oak Ridge. The Troubadours have continued to play like champions so far, pulling out a great win against Folsom, remaining victorious in a close match against Pleasant Grove, and shooting their season best of 197 against Sheldon. Now, the golf team looks to keep up their winning streak!



The SF Golf team poses for a picture

PHOTO COURTESY ST. FRANCIS ATHLETICS

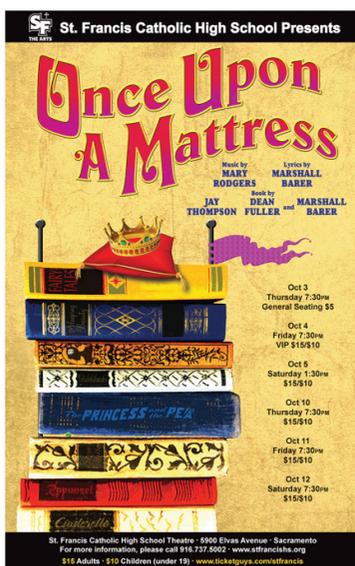
The golf team is coached by Cindy Lyford, who is returning for her fourth season of coaching Troubies. In addition, team co-captains Ileana MacDonald and Emily Laskin have been doing a great job leading the team. Discussing the team's success this season, Laskin said: "This year, with the loss of two seniors, we've had to rely on some of our underclassmen who have stepped up to take the open spots really well. They've practiced really hard and they are playing better. The improvement is showing. The future looks really bright for us." Keep up the amazing work, golf team!

# BEST. MUSICAL. EVER. (Once Upon a Mattress)

By SARAH FERGUSON '17

On Thursday October 3rd the St. Francis theater department put on their annual musical. The St. Francis and Jesuit students performed "Once Upon a Mattress," a hilarious spinoff of The Princess and the Pea. "Once Upon a Mattress" is about a young prince, Prince Dauntless (Jake Randle, JHS '16) and an unconventional princess, Princess Winnifred (Lauren Metzinger, SF '16). Prince Dauntless is looking for a Princess to marry, but the Queen Aggravain (Annie Randle, SF '15) does not approve of any potential wives. Once Princess Winnifred comes along, the Queen really does not approve.

The colorful costumes, designed by Mrs. Miles, had a 16th century look, with chainmail and long dresses. Mrs. Miles did a great job and made it easy for the audience to distinguish the different characters. The ladies in waiting, knights, King, Queen, Prince, and Princess all had their own look and vibrant variety of color. The direction by Mrs. Watson and choreography by Mr. Cisneros (assisted by Leah Horner '13) was very well executed. Some of the best parts of the musical were large group numbers with the complicated choreography. There were few mistakes throughout the production and everyone seemed to be having a great time. "Once Upon a Mattress" was hilarious and different from the usual fairy tale.



of the best parts of the musical were large group numbers with the complicated choreography. There were few mistakes throughout the production and everyone seemed to be having a great time. "Once Upon a Mattress" was hilarious and different from the usual fairy tale.

# Halloween

By TISIEN PALACIO '16

Halloween is one of the most exciting events at St. Francis during October. Like all special days at St. Francis, there's a chance for everyone to express themselves; in this case, through creative costumes. Students and Staff go all out to win competitions for best costume. Friends collaborate to create the best group costumes imaginable and show off their creativity to the rest of the school. Sometimes the whole school gets together to dress to the same theme

Much like other special days, the whole school feels as if it's part of a huge party. Laughter is heard louder throughout the halls; the costumes make tough classes more bearable, and even the cookies seem to smell more amazing than ever. From costumes to competition and everything in between, St. Francis has seen its share of fun and exciting

Halloween spirit and there's always something new and fantastic the next year.



A group of last year's seniors win the group costume contest as the bridesmaids from 27 Dresses.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES



Mrs. Herrera competes as Dora in the staff costume contest.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14



Last year's Halloween costume contest finalists.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

# Government Shutdown (cont.)

Not all of these may directly affect you. What should affect you is the fact that our Congress has one of many jobs: to make sure proper funding comes out from the government each year so we can keep functioning as a country. But instead of doing the job that was laid out in the Constitution, Congress has ignored America's long history of educated compromise and would rather throw the whole country for a loop than get along. Frankly, more than anything, we should be disappointed in Congress. Hopefully soon they will remember why we elected them and what their job is really about.

Sources: CNN, Fox News, MLive, Fox 4 News

# Friends, Food, and Fun!

By EMILY BLOOM '16

Pearl of the Orient, otherwise known as POTO, is a parent



The Seniors of POTO at this year's FDD

PHOTO COURTESY LYNDIE MARK '14

and student group that celebrates the Filipino culture. Each year they host a Filipino dinner dance, dubbed the FDD, and invite family and friends to immerse in this special culture. The girls perform traditional dances and serve authentic Filipino cuisine. Each class performs its own dance, which changes year to year. By tradition the seniors also present a second dance called *Tinkling*. Musical performances and cultural dress highlight the event. The 20th annual dance, held on October 5, commemorated *Kapamilya*, which means family. This year's FDD was a huge success thanks to the wonderful Pearl of the Orient girls and their friends and families.

Pearl of the Orient unites SF girls in their heritage and creates strong bonds. The girls even have a "family" tradition. A sophomore adopts a freshman as her "daughter," who the next year adopts her own "daughter," thus creating a family tree of mothers, daughters, and grandmothers.



The stage for this year's FDD

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

Although the group celebrates Filipino culture, they welcome all Troubies who are interested. It is a great way for girls to learn about this unique culture and share it with others!

# La Boutique Fashion Column: How to Make Your Uniform Stand Out

By, KATIE SCHEMBRI '12

Hello to all my fashionistas out there! Katie here! I'm your tour guide to the fashion world, giving you the tips and tricks to look your very best this year. This article will discuss how to jazz up your uniform while still following the school code. Let's begin!

## 1. Accessorize:

There is only so much you can do with your uniform. This isn't a Disney Channel movie where the girls reinvent themselves through their uniform, this is REAL LIFE! So, some unique ways to make a uniform more interesting is through fun pieces.



Floral scarf from Nordstrom, \$18.  
PHOTO COURTESY NORDSTROM

**Scarf:** Great way to stay warm and look cute all at once. A fun way to wear a scarf is with a hair-bow for a preppy look. Also try tucking your scarf into a cardigan.

**Jewelry:** I've seen such fun and unique earrings, rings, necklaces, and other pieces that are not

only expressive but also show personality.

**Socks:** Need I say more?

**Hair accessories:** Bows, headbands, clips, and more! Add some pizzazz to that messy bun! I am blessed enough to have super creative friends who make really cool and easy hair accessories. I have a normal rubber band hair holder with a cute cheetah print bow.

**Flower Friday:** Ever wondered why girls walk around with pretty flower crowns? Get involved and make or buy a flower crown! It's a great way to show off your favorite flower. I'm not going to lie to you, I feel like a Garden Princess when I wear my daisy crown. Contact Gabriela Riegos at [14riegos@stfrancis.org](mailto:14riegos@stfrancis.org) if you are interested in purchasing one!

## 2. Hair:

**Braids:** Before throwing your hair up into that messy bun, make a high pony, braid, and then roll into a bun.

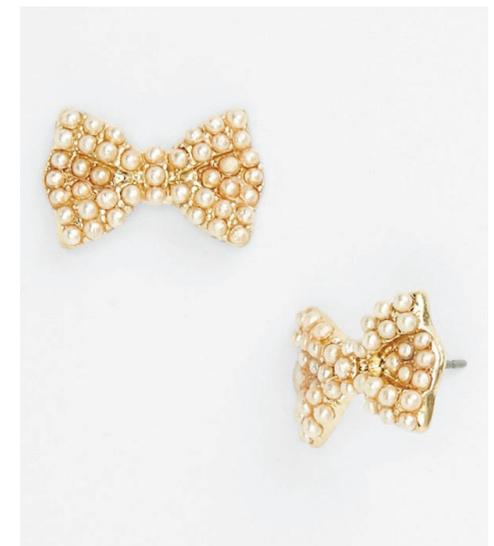
**Low Bun:** Sometimes, I like to make a low side bun. I feel like a fabulous flamenco dancer and want to stomp the campus.

**3. Shoes:** I love seeing decorated Toms painted with their favorite things. Be prepared to see One Direction themed Tom's which are to be introduced this winter, compliments of your Troubie sisters.

**4. Braces:** If you still wear braces, work those beautiful pearly whites with fun rubber band colors. However, a helpful hint, stay away from black, yellow, or white for those colors make you look like you are missing a tooth (black) from far away, or it looks like your teeth are not very clean from the yellow or discoloring of the white.

**5. Nails:** When troubies have time for their nails, we can get pretty creative! I love the Sally Hansen Sticker Nails. You get an instant and fun look without a lot of work. A way to make the sticker last longer is trying the gel sticker or put on a clear coat of the sticker. Let's not forget to make cute designs when we have the time with 3D nails complete with studs or gems.

Remember, although uniforms can become same old same old, there is always a way to jazz up any look and feel fabulously unique. Remember the best accessory is a good attitude and huge smile! Till the next *Mandolin*, I wish you happy fashion voyages!



Bow earrings from Nordstrom, \$8.  
PHOTO COURTESY NORDSTROM

## #My Life is St. Francis....

By MANDOLIN STAFF :)

Showing up to class late because you were looking for a spirit stick. #MLISF

That moment of sheer panic when you think you've forgotten your iPad at home... #MLISF #heartattack

The Zoo, the zoo, is coming for you! #MLISF

Not being able to break out your crop tops and short shorts because it was raining at Holy Bowl #modesty #MLISF

Obsessively checking Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook just to stalk homecoming photos #notacreeper #MLISF

Planning on meeting tons of boys at open dances but actually just stand in the corner with your friends the entire time. #MLISF

Hearing a phone go off in class and turning bright red even though it wasn't yours... #MLISF

Blaming the ringing noise on your iPad even though it was really your phone #MLISF

Calling the freshmen "cute." #MLISF

Being absolutely livid when you go to wash your hands in the theater bathrooms and there's no soap... AGAIN. #MLISF

Running into someone while walking because you were texting on your phone

#hazard #MLISF

Having a secret album full of pictures of attractive men in your iPad camera roll #yecandy #MCM #MLISF

The most exercise I get is running out to my car in the parking lot at 3... #MLISF

Eating so much of the cookie dough you were making for someone's birthday that you had to make a new batch #MLISF

Having a special fund set aside for cafeteria food and cookies #MLISF

Taking a picture with a boy and then setting it as your phone wallpaper to make it look like you actually have male friends #MLISF

When the CB people are actually scared of the facepaint you had on at Holy Court #itfliesitdies #intimidationnation #MLISF

Getting 398476394867394857 "Lost Ring" emails a day #MLISF

Not paying attention during class because you are too busy playing Candy Crush or Hay Day #MLISF

Not having a boy to keep you warm this winter, just the cafeteria cookies #MLISF