

## Felix Lugo

Over the past year, the MCP community has undergone quite a few changes. It has been a time of growth and expansion, in regards to both our physical space and the people who inhabit it. There are some new faces in the hallways, one of which is Mr. Lugo's, our new dean of student life.

"As soon as you step foot on campus, you're automatically welcome," said Mr. Lugo, regarding what sparked his desire to join the MCP community. For the past thirteen years, Mr. Lugo has been working in the education field and has always been working with

students to improve their community. Mr. Lugo wants to create an attitude of familial support in his community, which can be credited to the close family connections he grew up with. Lugo had a unique bond with his grandmother, who ignited his love for the culinary arts at a young age. He now has an Instagram account (@myflan), with a whopping 18.8k followers, dedicated to his affinity for flan and the philosophy of always cooking with love. Growing up in New York, Mr. Lugo developed a love for the creative arts. He has worked in interior



and wedding dress designing, performed in three off-broadway shows, writes poetry in his free time, and is fascinated by contemporary and Renaissance art. He says he loves performing arts, acting, and script writing, and "watches for the performance not the plot" because "in live shows, there is no room for mis-

takes."

In regards to his own education, Mr. Lugo attended the University of Bridgeport, as it was close to home. He then changed paths and attended nursing school in New York, receiving an associate degree in medical administration and a bachelor's degree in health services administration. He later moved to Florida to receive his graduate degree at Warner University. Though his career path has fluctuated over the years, his desires to help others and "live in service" have remained constant. Mr.

Lugo's biggest goal this year for the MCP community is to help students dig deeper and go beyond their own expectations, and allow them to reach their fullest potential. He wants to guide each individual student toward their unique path for success.

In his wildest dreams, Mr. Lugo would love to continue helping people for the rest of his life, as "it is a blessing." He also hopes to see the Mona Lisa at the Louvre in Paris someday, with a shitzu puppy at his side.  
By. Grace Doherty

## Oktoberfest

October fest, sorry, I mean Oktoberfest originated in Bavaria, Germany when Prince Ludwig married Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. Originally Oktoberfest was a big party, five days after their wedding. Over the years, new activities were added, and it has become more popular.

Okay, it's called Oktoberfest, so it's in October, right? Wrong: in Munich, the weather in October is too extreme, so Germans celebrate it in September. Weird. Most people think 'drinking' when they think of Oktoberfest, but it is actually a lot more than that,

and it has changed over the years. From its beginning, Oktoberfest included horse races, then an agricultural fair, and later, performers. Oktoberfest slowly became a tourist attraction, and a sort of "dress code" became apparent--lederhosen and dirndls, traditional German clothing.

Oktoberfest usually begins with a parade, followed by the festivities of that particular fest. This commonly celebrated holiday is full of history, though many still think of it as an excuse to drink. Oktoberfest is all one giant misperception.  
By. Sam Martin



# Homecoming 2018

Boom! Crack Pow! The invasion of superheroes from Black Panther to Mr. Incredible lit up our hallways this past homecoming with students and teachers alike dressing as their favorite heroes and villains. Homecoming week, October 8th to October 13th, included activities like the homecoming “Gotham City Nightclub Dance,” on Saturday, October 13th at MCP. Other homecoming events included the Women’s Powderpuff Game, the rallies at lunch, the dress up days including “Villain Day” and “Hero Day,” the homecoming royalty ceremony on the

field, the homecoming game, and, you guessed it, the PSAT on October 10th! School spirit was at an all-time high throughout the week with hundreds of students dressing in correlation with the themed dress-up days, attending the powderpuff game, attending rallies, participating in or being present for the royalty ceremonies, and watching MCP’s JV team crush it during the homecoming game. School spirit here at Mission Prep has improved greatly throughout homecoming week, but it is up to the students and faculty alike to keep the energetic,

community-oriented spirit alive for the remainder of the school year. Homecoming week has surely been a stellar example of the school spirit that our school is capable of producing, and surely we are capable of upholding this positive spirit in spite of homecoming drawing to its close. In addition to the homecoming festivities, spirit points and the title of “Class of the Year” are also major incentives to be a spirited individual and class here at Mission Prep. For those who are unfamiliar with the concept of “spirit points,” they are best described as

a system based on attendance at sporting events and rallies in which the most spirited class earns points that are then directed towards a larger prize. The most spirited individual, which is determined by attendance at sporting events such as volleyball or football games as well as rallies, will earn a prize at the end of each month. At the end of the school year, the spirit points for each grade are given a grand total, and the class with the most points will have the privilege of getting their name printed on the “Class of the Year” banner displayed in the gym. Many classes

have left their legacies at MCP by engraving their name on that banner: a universal symbol for the spirit and energy their class brought to the school. Thankfully, we have many student council members, spirit leaders, and enthusiastic students who are working diligently to enhance the school’s spirit and attendance at sporting events, academic competitions, and rallies even after homecoming week has ended. As students here at MCP, it is our responsibility to bring positive energy and promote a spirited community. Royals on three..1..2..3....  
By. Kylie Brewer

## The MCP Community on the Future of Diablo Canyon

On January 11, 2018, the six-year plan to shut down the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant was approved by California state regulators. As the only nuclear power plant left in California, Diablo has been generating electricity since 1985, and powering 1.7 million homes each year. But as California moves toward implementing more renewable energy sources, the time has come for Diablo Canyon--as a nuclear power

plant,--to be a thing of the past. However, one question lingers in the minds of the SLO county community: what should be done with the property once the power plant closes? I asked a few members of the MCP community this very question, in order to further develop my own opinion on the subject and to get a sense as to where SLO county stands as a community. First I asked Mr. Dough-

ty, biology and AP environmental science teacher, and arguably MCP’s most knowledgeable resource on the topic. Mr. Dough-ty, who worked maintaining the Marine Lab at Diablo Canyon, said that though “there will always be portions of the Diablo land that will have to be off limits to the public, such as the plant facility buildings and spent-fuel-storage pad[,] it would be a great opportunity to open up stretches of

the coast or in the hills around the plant to public viewing and access.” He also felt that “the portions of the land that were and are used for agricultural purposes” should continue to be used in that way. Junior class member and ASB vice president Bryce Hilton expressed a similar opinion, stating that “since the coastline is adjacent to Montaña de Oro State Park, to annex part of that land to the state park and

use it for education purposes would be an excellent use of the property.” Green team member and senior Sofia Sarmiento remarked on the incredible beauty of Diablo’s land, suggesting that “it could be preserved as is and turned into a historical environmental sight.” Both Hilton and Sarmiento brought up the idea of showcasing the marine life home to the SLO coastline by establishing an aquarium,

which could be used as an educational resource for the county's youth, or as a research center for Cal Poly's marine biology program. Mr. Doughty be-

lieves that "the worst option would be to explore development, whether residential or commercial," since the established infrastructure could not support such an endeavor and

it would limit the public's access to such an incredible landmark. In regards to the possibility of developing the land, Hilton agreed that "putting it [the land] toward

public use is the most important thing, rather than keeping it private." The unique and incredible beauty of Diablo Canyon should be shared with the San Luis Obispo

community, as it is a gift of creation that should be respected and celebrated.

By: Grace Doherty

## MCP with Plans to Recycle

The dangers of plastic, particularly to the marine ecosystem, have been receiving much-needed national attention recently. We have become increasingly reliant on plastics, 40 percent of which are single-use plastics, meaning they are used only once before being discarded. This has contributed significantly to the 6.9 billion tons of plastic waste that we are now facing; what's worse, 6.3 billion tons of that total were never recycled in

the first place. Scientists estimate that with this much plastic waste, anywhere from 5 to 14 million tons of plastic will enter our oceans every year. Our plastic problem has no easy answer; estimates of the time it will take for the plastic to completely biodegrade start at 450 years and range up to never. That is where the real danger for marine life lies. The plastic that enters our oceans begins to biodegrade and becomes microplastics.

These small fragments of plastic can have disastrous consequences in the ocean ecosystem. Millions of marine animals and almost 700 species are harmed by plastics in their environment. It is because of these frightening and appalling figures that people across the globe are beginning to call for action. In order to fix these problems, we will need to launch a coordinated effort to be better: to avoid single-use plastics, to

recycle, and to acknowledge that there will always be more work to be done. MCP is joining this effort by beginning a recycling initiative. The Green Team has secured the funds to purchase clear bins for students to recycle their plastic items, in hopes that we can start to decrease the amount of new plastic that enters the ocean. Soon, MCP will have these recycling bins around campus; we need to remember that recycling

matters, and each of us can join the effort to save our oceans from the wave of plastic.

### Works Cited

Treat, Jason, and Ryan Williams. "We Depend On Plastic. Now, We're Drowning in It." National Geographic, 16 May 2018, [www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/06/plastic-plan-et-waste-pollution-trash-crisis/](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/06/plastic-plan-et-waste-pollution-trash-crisis/).

By: Makenna Parkinson

## A Bullet Train in California?

We have been hearing about the possibility of a statewide bullet train in California for years now, but will it ever transpire? Plans for the bullet train, proposed in 2008 and backed by Governor Jerry Brown and Arnold Schwarzenegger before him, have changed. According to Ralph Vartabedian of the LA Times, Rep. Jeff "Denham noted that in 2008, the \$33 billion price tag included

track that would reach from Sacramento to San Diego by 2020, whereas now the project aims to connect San Francisco to Los Angeles by 2033." Since 2008, the cost of this railroad has increased and is now estimated to be nearly \$100 billion, according to the New York Times. The project has been heavily opposed by Republicans in both Sacramento and Washington, and as

Jerry Brown's term comes to a close, there is speculation over the project's future. Due to Republican opposition in Washington, there is little hope for federal funding, and so, according to Martin Wachs, a professor at UC Berkeley appointed to review the project, "at the moment, 100 percent of the cost is going to be absorbed by the taxpayers" (New York Times). Construction of the rail

connecting Bakersfield and Madera started in July, despite a gross lack of funding for the rest of the line (only around 30% of the necessary funds have been acquired thus far according to the New York Times). Not only is some funding aquired for the building of this train, but hundreds of houses, businesses, and even a few miles of freeway have been relocated in Fresno

to make way for it. There are plans being made for the train to go underground for stretches of more than twenty miles in some areas, and it may even have to tunnel through mountains. The environmental impact of the train has yet to be considered, and it will most likely become an issue as construction continues.

By: Alex Avina

## Scandal in the Church?

Over a period of 70 years, 300 priests have sexually abused children in Pennsylvania specifically, Pennsylvania's six Catholic Dioceses have finally opened up the many sins these priests have committed, but this could be a sign that the Church is finally taking a different turn and changing for the better. According to the grand jurors, children, teens and pre-pubescent teens have been raped and/or molested. Gruesome stories about these

priests in Pennsylvania are being spread throughout the Internet. Although these men have done terrible things, this scandal reminds people that that even within a place that seems safe and pure, scandal can still be present. Our student body is in the process of being educated about the current events going on within the Church; it is important for the student body to have a forum to ask questions and have them answered because the

crimes and particularly the cover-up is confusing. The religion teachers, Ms. Buresh, Ms. K and Mr. Susank discussed how they would talk about the incidents and came to the conclusion that the religion teachers would handle it. Mr. Susank stated, "I forwarded an email to all the parents that was written from the bishop. I believe the classroom is a good place to hear the message and collaborate and participate in dialogue." Mr. Geraghty discussed it with

his junior classes. He taught a lesson on the topic that fit in with the material being studied in the textbook. With his senior classes, he intends to discuss it when it fits in with our material. Ms. Zweifel briefly talked about it with her classes. She stated "it is a sensitive subject, she had her classes do a journal assignment about the church with a community of faith and how the holy spirit can work in the church even with severe human failings."

Even Ms. Zweifel had a moment questioning her commitment to teaching the faith, but she said "the church is all of us and not just our priests and hierarchy." She was in a position to be an example of what the church is supposed to be and share the hope and belief that the holy spirit is working to renew the church.

By. Sofia Caradonna

## Fall Sports

### Football:

Morro Bay 21-14 W Kern Valley 42-14 W Greenfield 31-7 W Laton 68-14 W Fresno Christian 45-6 W Frazier Mountain 41-0 W Riverdale 63-0 W Kings Christian FFW Alpaugh 56-0 Our Mission Prep 2018 football team went undefeated this league! The Royals played hard, and the outcomes were well rewarded.

### Cheer:

Sparked by dwindling student attendance at games, sophomore Ejonne brought back the cheer team to Mission Prep this year. Over the summer they practiced and grew closer as a team just as any other sport. Their goal to bring more spirit sure has paid off, as almost every Mission Prep student knows their hand-clapping cheer.

### Cross Country:

According to four-year participant, Hank Gibbs "Cross Country has been great for the past four years I've ran. It's great to run with teammates and cheer them on during meets and watch them succeed."

### Women's Tennis:

Senior Avery Munster has loved tennis every one of the four years she has played for Mission Prep. She said "Since I was a freshmen I was immediately surprised by how welcoming everyone was. Even seniors were kind to just a wee freshman, who barely knew how to serve." Avery loves the support from her team and coach and cherishes all of the great friends and times she has had on the court.

By. Veda Yaguda



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