

SLAB Watch 2.0

Junior Everett Vaughn is back with his next round of the most interesting, bizarre, or noteworthy cars on the lot

**The Triumphant Return of J.Cole**

Our boundless Editor in Chief takes a look at the North Carolina rapper's latest studio album, which truly has something for every music fan

Rugby Lined Up for Smashing Season

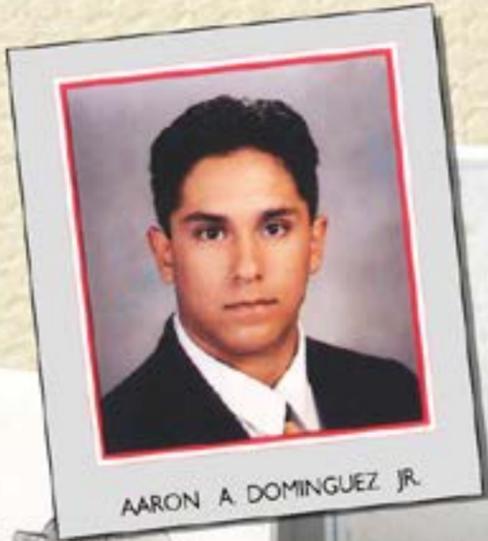
With strong senior leadership and a passionate determination to get better, this year's rugby team sets its sights on the record books



the Eagle

ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL • HOUSTON, TEXAS

VOLUME 88, ISSUE NO. 4 • FEBRUARY 2017



AARON A. DOMINGUEZ JR.

THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

BY DOMINC VELA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The 2016-17 school year has seen astronomical changes in almost every aspect of campus life.

Before the academic year even started, Mr. Rodney Takacs was named the Dean of Students by Fr. Kevin Storey, which gave way to a flood of school spirit.

The arrival of Mrs. Mary Criaco as interim, then permanent, assistant principal and the triumphant return of Fr. Jim Murphy to assist Takacs also proved to be positive additions to a faculty that was already constructed with the entire student body in mind.

In order to relieve some of the immense pressure placed on Fr. Storey's shoulders after being named both president and interim principal of the school, a nationwide search was conducted for the next principal.

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW PRINCIPAL

Mr. Aaron Dominguez has proven to be a great fit to lead Saint Thomas

The dust settled and four candidates remained. All of them uniquely qualified and ready to help this community grow and expand.

In the end, Aaron Dominguez was selected as the future leader of our school.

An Eagle alumnus from the class of 1996, Dominguez proved to be vastly popular among the students and faculty members who had the privilege of listening to his pitch and his personal background.

However, there is a much deeper level to Dominguez's future position as principal, and a hidden factor that will ultimately lead to his success.

Dominguez put together quite the decorated career at St. Thomas, making Honor Roll and receiving the Science Award as a freshman and the mathematics award as a sophomore.

Dominguez participated in Track and Field as a junior as well as being a two-year staff member of The Eagle and member of the Key Club. As a senior, Dominguez was also a member of the famed Political Science Club.

A four-year football player, two-year letterman and linebacker during his high school days, Dominguez understands better than most the dedication, blood, sweat, and tears that the life of a student-athlete requires.

Dominguez will acknowledge and understand the difficulties that come with getting home from practice in the late evening with a full homework and studying load still ahead.

In this mentality lies the reason why Aaron Dominguez will be a smashing success as our next principal.

While Dominguez is the first layman in the 117 year history of our school to hold the prestigious title, he comes into new responsibilities in a very familiar environment.

Like countless other graduates of our hallowed institution, Dominguez credits St. Thomas, his teachers and coaches with his development into the successful and dedicated family man he is today.

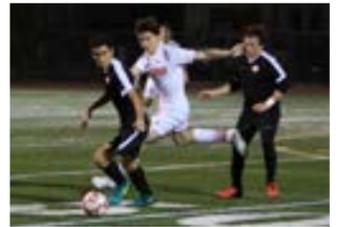
Although the transition will be a bit strange for Dominguez since he will be a boss to several of his former teachers, Dominguez is ready for the challenge.

Aaron Dominguez, who is currently the proud principal of Treasure Forest Elementary, will start work on campus on June 1, 2017 as an untested high school leader with a century of tradition to uphold and a new legacy to create.

However, his Basilian educational foundation and dedication to the service of his students will prove to be the main characteristics he needs to succeed as principal of St. Thomas.

Soccer team continues its victorious ways

With a 6-0 victory over St. John XXIII on February 3rd, the STH soccer team continues to dominate the competition. The Eagles saw two goals each from seniors Jesus Toscano and Rory Hogan as well as single goals from seniors Steve Turtur and Wyatt Schoppe. This victory is the latest in a string of impressive wins for the Eagles. Coach Kenny Martin '01 has sung the praises of this year's squad, and they continue to look onward and upward, knowing that the playoffs loom in their future.



Senior Round-Up Kickoff Marks New Tradition

January 19 marked a new beginning for Round-Up. The class of 2017 gathered in hopes of kicking off a new annual tradition, even in the face of a five hundred thousand dollar goal. With the first annual Senior Kick-off and bonfire, seniors took some time away from school to revel in each other's company and raise spirits in anticipation of the annual fundraising campaign. With appearances from beloved faculty and staff, as well as a motivational address by Al Clay '61, the elder statesmen on campus are now prepared to lead their fellow Eagles to victory once again.

This year, students are faced with the biggest Round-Up goal yet. This legendary tradition underlined by brotherhood and charity ensures that all students get to attend Saint Thomas, regardless of any hindrances. And with the elusive Wednesday off up-for-grabs this year, it is a safe bet that students will rally in an attempt to smash the record.



Eagle basketball looks to the playoffs

February 10 saw the Eagles face off yet again against fierce rivals, the St. Pius X Panthers. The Eagles rode into this game with a wave of momentum powered by a full crowd. While we played a good game, the Panthers were able to keep a constant lead throughout the entirety of the game.

Despite the energy we brought to the court, the Panthers proved to be tough opponents. Our players gave it their all, and attempted a classic Eagle comeback. When the clock finally ran out and the buzzer marked the end of the game, the Reckling Rowdies were sad to find that we only lost by six points.

Despite loosing against the Panthers, the Eagles will still be going to the playoffs. Although we lost this game, students were able to stay hyped with a plethora of chants, and a legendary fight featuring Tom Eagle himself.

Eagles named to GDK Honor Roll

Congratulations to seniors Zach Zugheri, Ryan Deitz, and Nathan Le as well as junior Joseph Hassell for being the first students inducted into the GDK Honor Roll. Inspired by English teacher Dan Green, the Honor Roll is designed to display the best of St. Thomas.

Varsity LAX to take on Friendswood

While middle schoolers are facing off in quiz bowl matches, our varsity lacrosse team will be looking to bounce back from a crushing defeat at the hands of Pearland. They will be facing off against Friendswood, and they will be eager to right the ship early in the season.

STH hosts middle school quiz bowl

On February 11, Saint Thomas hosted a middle school quiz bowl tournament for local junior high students. The tournament was a great opportunity to show off St. Thomas's beautiful campus to some possible perspective students.

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