

# After 24 years at Cabrillo, Ms. Weyandt prepares for her final season

Andrea Niner

Staff Reporter

Bart, Homer, Marge, Maggie, Lisa, and Ms. Weyandt? Alright, so when we watch the Simpson's we don't see Weyandt but if you are a fellow student in her class (or teacher in the English department) we definitely think of her.

Popular for her love of the Simpson's, Weyandt has always been an active part in Cabrillo's past. A teacher of 36 years, Weyandt claims that Cabrillo is the best. Her four years at VMS and eight years at LVMS were enough to drive her to 24 long years at Cabrillo. High School is indubitably her thing.

Weyandt has certainly left her mark at CHS. Not only did she teach the great subject of English for

years, but also started and taught the ESL Program, timed track meets, advised Yearbook for four years, and put together 10 proms! Weyandt pretty much did it all and always helped out when needed.

When you are this involved in something this good, one wonders why you stop. People may or may not have heard many stories about why a teacher as great as this is retiring, but when asked about it she replied, "I don't want to grade essays anymore."

Over the years, Weyandt has marked 36,000 essays with approval (or disapproval in some cases) and she's grown rather tired of it.



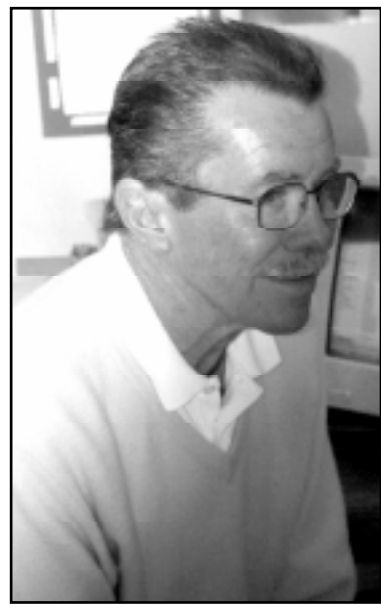
Photo by Brennan Nye

When asked about her future plans she was happy to say that she is still going to teach. Her plans involve training teachers for Chapman University in Orange County. Weyandt has had some crazy times here at CHS. A lot of nice times to remember. She claims to have had a lot of fun with her students and will miss them as well as the great staff. One of her best memories of her teaching happened recently. A student came back after 15 years and looked her up in the phonebook. A call of thanks was made explaining how much she affected his life. He is now an English teacher.

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When it comes to spotting analogies in The Simpson's, putting together a fabulous prom, teaching us good grammar, or just being there when we need her, Ms. Weyandt is surely appreciated. So good luck to Ms. Weyandt. Cabrillo is proud of you.

# Schmidt retires after 33 years...I hope you know



photos by Brennan Nye



Davin Phoenix

Staff Reporter

For years the debate will rage on. Which came first, Cabrillo or Mr. Schmidt? Regardless of the answer to that question, Roderic Schmidt is prepared to ride off into the sunset after 33 years of loyal service to CHS.

"I'm truly looking forward to some freedom," said Schmidt, who in the last 33 years of teaching has taught radio broadcasting and, every course in the English department, with the exception of journalism and yearbook. Mr. Schmidt was also a tennis coach for eight years and a soccer coach for thirteen.

Schmidt's desire is that by the end of each school year, he has instilled in his students an appreciation for literature and reading. He also wants his students to respect the views of their peers.

"In class, you should feel free to express an idea," he says.

Schmidt valued his coaching years at CHS, but he especially liked coaching soccer, because he got to teach kids how to work as a team. Because Schmidt values the opportunity to teach everyone, no one class he has ever had has stood out in his mind.

"I like doing what I do and I like the kids," he said.

However, a couple of soccer teams stand out in Schmidt's mind for be-

ing as "successful oriented" as he was (translation: he hates to lose and they did, too).

In recent years, Mr. Schmidt has preferred working with seniors because he likes their maturity, sureness in themselves, and ability to maintain their composure through his endless barrage of jokes.

Schmidt has kept his students entertained for decades with his bumper sticker collection started by his son in the early 70's. There's also

“ Mr. Schmidt says all of his sayings, ("It's my turn," "Hello!" etc.) are "throw-aways" except for one: "Respect is a verb," ”

the mood-o-meter, an original creation by Schmidt used to inform (or in most cases, warn) students of his attitude (Mr. Schmidt takes the mood-o-meter seriously, I Hope You Know). And of course, there's the "schmidtisms," his infamous catchphrases. Mr. Schmidt says all of his sayings, ("It's my turn," "Hello!" etc.) are "throw-aways" except for one: "Respect is a verb,"

"That one comes from a Maya Angelou book," he says, "I really believe in this one."

That phrase rings true to Mr. Schmidt's heart because it goes right along with his goal for his students, teaching them respect.

As he prepares to set sail from Cabrillo's shores, Mr. Schmidt shared some radical views on how he feels the school system should be run. It should come as no surprise that he has a nonconformist view. After all, he did begin teaching in the sixties,

"I'd get rid of this nonsense about standardized tests," said Schmidt indignantly. To assess student's progress in school, Schmidt would have every student give a senior project type presentation at the year's end to share what he/she has learned.

Schmidt also says that he would revise the school system so that by the time a student is a junior, he/she would be taking classes at a specialized Academy that presents him/her with "viable interests for the future." However, Schmidt conceded that his vision of the school system is a "dream."

Mr. Schmidt's impact on CHS will not be long forgotten. After more than three decades on Cabrillo's campus, his absence will be noticeable. And conversely, Schmidt will miss teaching, at least, for the first few days, "It'll be interesting for the first few days, kinda hard."

However, Schmidt is also optimistic about his retirement,

"I'm looking forward to standing in my driveway and looking at the buses go up the hill," he said with a smirk.

Schmidt won't completely fall off the CHS map. He will coordinate the senior project next year. And if the District Office permits, Schmidt will teach the AP English course through Allan Hancock. He also has plans for his free time, "I have sev-

“ I have several short stories that I want to get published and, if I have to, I'll publish them myself, darn...it...all. ”

Roderic Schmidt  
English Teacher

eral short stories that I want to get published and, if I have to, I'll publish them myself, darn...it...all."

Mr. Schmidt insists that although his career at Cabrillo is over, his life isn't. In true English teacher form, Schmidt quoted Robert Frost to describe his outlook on his retirement, "I have miles to go before I sleep," said the literature aficionado.

Have the students and staff benefited from Mr. Schmidt's presence at CHS? Darn betcha'.

# Ed Knowles finishes his final round of teaching at CHS

Cherie Wilson

Staff Reporter

After 35 years of teaching at Cabrillo, Ed Knowles certainly helped make Cabrillo the great school that it is today.

But how did it all begin?

Knowles has been teaching at Cabrillo since the school opened in 1965. Besides teaching P.E, he also taught math, biology, and health before he decided that P.E was his favorite.

"My favorite part of teaching P.E was watching the students improve in things. To see them not be so good at something in the beginning, and then work at it to become better makes me glad," he said.

Knowles was also the Conquistadors Varsity Football Coach be-

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Ed Knowles  
P.E. Teacher

fore taking over as Varsity Golf Coach in 1989.

"He's a very relaxed coach-this makes the game fun for his players," said junior Daniel Vordale.

Now that Knowles is retiring this year, he's ready to relax! Re-

laxing and playing golf is pretty much all he has on the agenda.

"He plans to play lots of golf and just see what happens," said wife and CHS teacher Wendy Knowles.

The CHS teaching team of "Knowles and Knowles" first met at Cabrillo. The two single teachers started dating soon after they met and have been teaching together ever since.

Knowles plans to kick off his retirement with a trip to Boise, Idaho to visit family and then hitting the green at some golf courses on the way back.

After three decades at CHS, Knowles' absence will be noticed by both staff and students.

"P.E won't be the same without the Knowles!" said sophomore Anh Tran.



A CHS family: Golf coach Ed Knowles and wife Wendy (swim coach) spend time with their two Cabrillo alumni sons Craig and Brad. This family has been dedicated to Cabrillo for 35 years.

Photo provided by Ed Knowles

# Greg Hyatt says goodbye to a picture perfect career

**Brennan Nye**

Staff Reporter

In the beginning was Mr. Hyatt, the only photography teacher Cabrillo has ever known

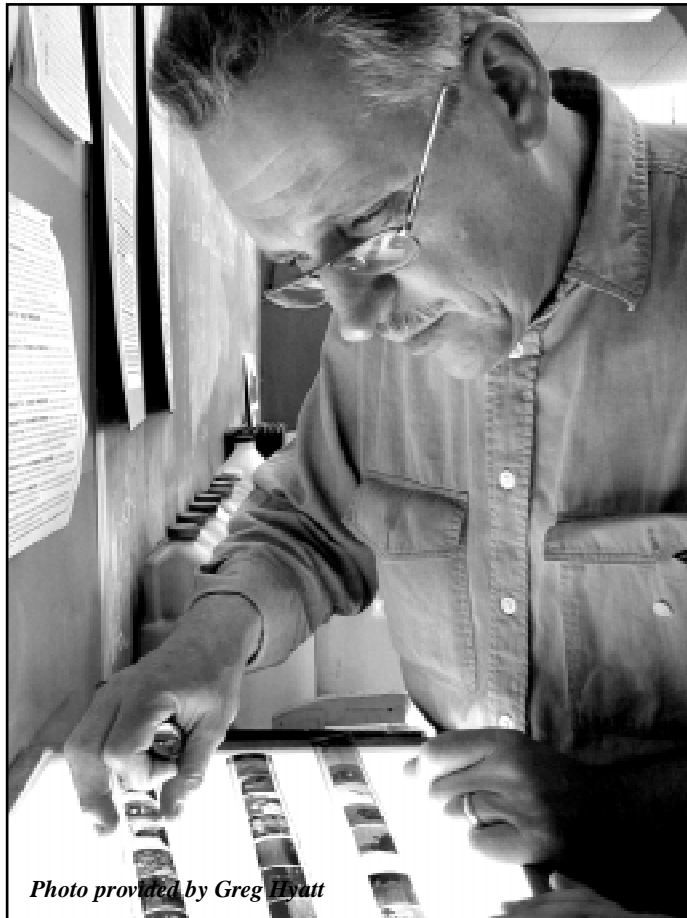


Photo provided by Greg Hyatt

Ever since the school opened 35 years ago Hyatt has been teaching here. When looking for a job he chose Cabrillo because it was exactly suited to his training in photo. He also favored Cabrillo because it was a brand new school with a well-designed photo classroom and lab.

Hyatt's enjoyed his experience here, especially working with the yearbook in the last 10 years. Aside from his teaching Hyatt devoted much of his time to the yearbook. He also took pictures at just about every sports event, assembly and play.

Whenever a team or club photo needed to be taken, Mr. Hyatt was always there to do it. In spite of the fact that it wasn't his job, Hyatt never, in all his years of teaching at CHS, turned down a group in need of a picture.

"Mr. Hyatt is an irreplaceable part of

Cabrillo," said sophomore Hillary Hummel.

When asked what he enjoyed most about working at Cabrillo, Hyatt said he liked working and collaborating with students and seeing them succeed.

While Hyatt has enjoyed his time here, he has decided, unfortunately, that it is time for him to move on.

"The job is becoming more stressful and I don't want it to shorten my life," said Hyatt.

After he retires Hyatt is considering moving somewhere in the Caribbean, depending on where his wife is accepted to veterinarian school. Then he'll either do more teaching and/or photography or he'll take the time to catch up on some other things he enjoys.

One of Hyatt's favorite hobbies is sailing. He's been sailing since before he was in high school. He enjoys both cruising sailing and racing sailing.

Hyatt also likes fishing and traveling. He's been to many places, including Hawaii, Tahiti, Canada, Mexico, Germany and a few other European countries.

Hyatt's advice to new teachers is;

"Be a little more flexible, and be nice to students. Somehow be firm and flexible at the same time."

“Be a little more flexible, and be nice to students. Somehow be firm and flexible at the same time.”

Greg Hyatt

"Mr. Hyatt is a compassionate teacher who cares about his students and is great at what he does. Everybody will miss him so much; we can't let him go!" said sophomore Anh Tran.

So this June as seniors graduate and move on in their lives, Greg Hyatt will also be leaving CHS and moving on in his life. And with him goes a big part of Cabrillo. His retirement is a huge loss to our school and both his person as well

as his talent will be greatly missed in the years to come.

“Mr. Hyatt is an irreplaceable part of Cabrillo”

Hillary Hummel (10)

## Class of 2002 waits in anticipation as 2001 says "Bye"

**Christina Krafchak**

Staff Reporter

Excitement.

That's one word, which describes the feeling of many seniors awaiting their upcoming graduation day.

It will be a day of smiles, tears, and laughter. It will be a day, which, in the minds of many will remain an unforgettable memory.

"It's gonna be like sweet nectar," said junior Vic Thompson.

Vic, as well as, many other Juniors attending Cabrillo High School will view the graduation of class of 2001 as one step closer to their very own.

Watching the seniors disappear only reminds the juniors that their turn will be next. With one more year of high school remaining, many juniors may feel nervous yet at the same time relieved.

As a junior myself, I am a little worried about becoming a senior. Your senior year is the year to think about college, apply and hope to be accepted to that one college you have always dreamed of attending. I am also looking forward to my senior year. Your senior year is supposed to be the best year of your high school career and I am looking forward to the memories I will share with my friends and teammates throughout the year. I would like to make my senior year memorable and hopefully for all the incoming seniors in the class of 2002 that's just what it will be.

Congratulations class of 2001! Good luck class of 2002, we're next!

## Two class of '83 graduates say goodbye to Cabrillo

**Brandon Powell**

Staff Reporter

Cabrillo teachers Julianna Zellers and Karent Rotondi are leaving this year for two very different reasons.

Zellers (or Sra. Zellers as she is affectionately called by her students) is pregnant with a due date of June 1st.

This new addition to Zeller's life has prompted her to become a stay-at-home mom.

"I'm going to be a mommy," said Zellers.

Though Zellers will no longer be teaching at Cabrillo, she will be taking on several Hancock classes.

"I have mixed feelings. I'm excited about the transition and my new role," said Zellers.

Zellers feels that her high school teaching career has not come to an end, but rather has been put on hold.

In closing, Zellers had a few words to say to her students.

"Hasta la vista (c'ya soon!)," said Zellers.

Rotondi, though not retiring, will also be spending significantly less

feasible for Rotondi to coach.

"I'm gonna miss coaching," said

Rotondi feels comforted about the job knowing that she will still be teaching.

"I love technology, and I love teaching; I'm going to miss both," said Rotondi.

Rotondi still has mixed feelings about leaving Cabrillo and hopes to return teaching here Eventually.

"I always get teary-eyed whenever I start thinking about leaving Cabrillo," said Rotondi.



Photo by Brennan Nye

time at Cabrillo.

Rotondi graduated Cabrillo with the class of '83 and has felt Cabrillo has been a second home to her ever since.

"I'm gonna miss the students and my coworkers a lot," said Rotondi.

Not only has Rotondi been a teacher at Cabrillo, but she has also been a girls swim coach. Upon taking the new position, it will not be

Rotondi.

Rotondi will be taking a new job with the district where she will be helping teachers integrate technology in their classrooms.

**Marines**

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Louie Aviles  
Staff Sergeant

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