

SENIOR PROFILES

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Michele Grafton proves that nice girls don't always finish last

Sheena Struble

Layout Designer

We have all seen her, heard of her and a few lucky ones have even befriended her. Michele Grafton, otherwise known as the epitome of a hard-working and optimistic young lady has become a predominant student as well as a huge asset to Cabrillo's student body over the past three years.

Ever since she can remember, Michele has been actively involved with her school, as well as her community.

While maintaining a 3.77 grade

point average throughout high school, Michele has managed to juggle an after-school job at Great Party as well as more than a handful of extra-curricular activities. Michele has accomplished more since her freshman year than most people do in their entire lives. This versatile young girl has made a place for herself in various clubs and

activities.

As a member of the yearbook staff for three years, Michele became Editor-in-Chief of the Tierra Royal during her junior year. She is highly respected by her classmates for being a studious and efficient editor.

"Michele has proved herself to be a dedicated and hard-working editor

and the last two yearbooks would not have been possible without her," said

yearbook advisor and graphic arts teacher Mr. Schaller.

Along with being the editor of the school's yearbook, Michelle has a myriad of extra-curricular activities and experiences under her wing. Concert band and marching band have been graced with Michele's presence for two years and symphonic winds has

been a part three.

her life for

During her freshman year, Michele represented the class of 2001 in A.S.B. As a sophomore, she was elected as vice president of her class.

Michele has definitely made an impact for Cabrillo's campus, but it is time for her to

show the world just what she is capable of. After high school, she plans to attend Irvine Valley Community College for two years in order to obtain her associates degree. After that, she hopes to obtain her four-year at a CSU of some sort.

After college, Michele hopes to become an elementary school teacher, which is far from the plan she had for her life when she was a child.

"When I was little, I wanted to be a singer...and then I realized I

couldn't sing," said Michele lightly.

Michele credits her mother for being there for her and also listening to all of her "silly problems" throughout her years of school as well as all of the rough times

that she encountered in her life. She also gives credit to her best friends, Shannon Hansen, Heidi Lyon, Sarah Reiner, Dia Christel, and Ambika Badarayan for supporting her decisions.

"Michele is a friendly person who is always trying to help people," said Heidi Lyon, who has been a friend of Michele's for six years.

Michele's long-term goals for the future include being successful, happy and winning the million dollars form Regis.

"I want to be able to impact the lives of people in positive ways," she said. Good luck Michele...the world is waiting for you.



Photo By Andria Pendleton

“...Michele is a friendly person who is always trying to help people...”

Heidi Lyon (12)
Friend of six years

Hail to the chief: Cabrillo's ASB President leaves the campus a better place

Nicole Walker

Fashion Editor

Born and raised in Lompoc, Jarrett Morris, or known to friends as "J-MO", is anything but your average teenager.

Being involved in ASB for three of his high school years, Morris is recognized as the big man on campus.

Morris knew he wanted to be Associated Student Body President one day the first year he was in-

volved in it. He didn't really like the lack of activities and the way things were being ran.

"I thought it would be awesome," said Morris.

His Highness loves being in control and representing the Class of 2001.

"We're a very kickback class. We always like to have fun. I believe we want our teenage years to last a long time. We're very fun and an interesting class," said Morris.

Besides basically living at his second home, Cabrillo's Activity Office, Jarrett has a part-time job, goals, and hobbies like any Average Joe.

The King gets paid for cruising State Parks, working for the California Department of Parks and Recreation when he's not doing his full-time job at CHS.

"I get to drive around all day [driving hand motion] and talk to people," said Morris.

Now that Mr. President's job is done and he has passed his responsibility down to an underclassman - Morris is headed to Cal Poly in the Fall to major in Recreation Administration, later becoming a Special Event Coordinator for a major corporation like Disney.

For having such an uptight position, Jarrett Morris is a laid back kind of guy.

“I'll never forget this place, lots of good memories, but I'm ready to get the hell out of here,”

Jarrett Morris (12)

After accomplishing a surplus amount of duties and definitely leaving his footprint on Cabrillo's campus - the King has left the building.

"I'll never forget this place, lots of good memories, but I'm ready to get the hell out of here," said ASB President, Jarrett Adrian Morris.



Photos By Andria Pendleton



Mozart in training: Matt Monkemeier plays his way to success

Cherie Wilson
Staff Reporter

When asked where and when he would go if he had a time machine, Matthew Monkemeier pauses for a moment and then replies, “I’d go back into the time of the dinosaurs!” and laughs, admitting that he still has some childish interests.

Matthew is one of Cabrillo High School’s most recognized students for his outstanding academic achievements in high school. Matt has managed to keep a 4.0 all through school and kept a smile on his face. His secret? “What inspires me to work so hard is the belief that my life isn’t really my own,” he shares. He is living his life

for God and giving it his all. Matt tells us that the teacher that has had the most positive influence on him was his seventh grade math teacher, Dr. Bazik. “She was always very excited about everything, and her positive energy just kind of rubbed off on me,” he says. “She even had

a math hotline that students could call if they needed help, 789-MATH.” As well as Matt’s great academic accomplishments, he is also very gifted musically.

well. They started him young, teaching him to play the piano, and he’s stuck with it through the years. Matt loves playing now, and he also feels that his proudest moment in life so far was winning a music competi-

When Matt isn’t hitting the books, he likes to take walks, ride his bike, read his favorite books, or just hang out with friends. And where you find Matt you’ll probably hear the soothing and rhythmic sound of classical music playing nearby, preferably Bach and Chopin, although he is renewing an interest in Mozart. When Matt graduates he plans on attending Wheaton College Conservatory of Music in Illinois to study piano. He says he’s not sure where he wants to take it from there, but he’ll decide when the time comes.

Advice that Matt offers us left behind here at Cabrillo is, “It only goes up from here!”

“I’d go back into the time of the dinosaurs!”

Matt Monkemeier



Photos by Cherie Wilson



His grandfather and mother are talented in that area as

well. They started him young, teaching him to play the piano, and he’s stuck with it through the years. Matt loves playing now, and he also feels that his proudest moment in life so far was winning a music competi-

The secret musical life of Richard Homer unveiled at Open House

Brennan Nye
Photographer

On graduation day there will be many tears shed by many people; Richard Homer will not be one of these people. Homer said his favorite thing about high school is that it’s coming to an end. Homer said that while high school might be okay for some- a chance to talk to people, make friends and do a little work in between, for him high school has been nothing special. While school isn’t Homer’s cup of tea, he has a great interest in both music and film. He taught himself to play the guitar and has been play-

ing for five years now. Homer is a very deep thinker. This carries over into his music, because Homer writes the lyrics to his songs, as well as the music. “Writing is a release. It gets things out instead of keeping it pinned up inside,” said Homer. Homer also enjoys listening to music, especially alternative and hard rock. It’s not just the style of music that interests Homer, however, it’s the lyrics. He said he is inspired by the Beatles and Nirvana because of their incredible writing. In addition to writing, Homer enjoys reading, watching movies and playing his guitar at open mic nights at South Side. After he graduates, Homer plans on

getting a job at a music store and going to Alan Hancock. He would like to study music and film and maybe travel to England or Australia someday. Homer’s advice to the upcoming senior class is; “Don’t wait until the last minute to do anything. Other than that just try and have fun.” So this year before school ends, you’ll want to be sure to get Richard Homer to sign your yearbook-it will save you the trouble of having to fight through crowds to get his autograph when he’s famous sometime down the road!

“Writing is a release. It gets things out instead of keeping it pinned up inside.”

Richard Homer

“Don’t wait until the last minute to do anything. Other than that just try and have fun.”

Richard Homer

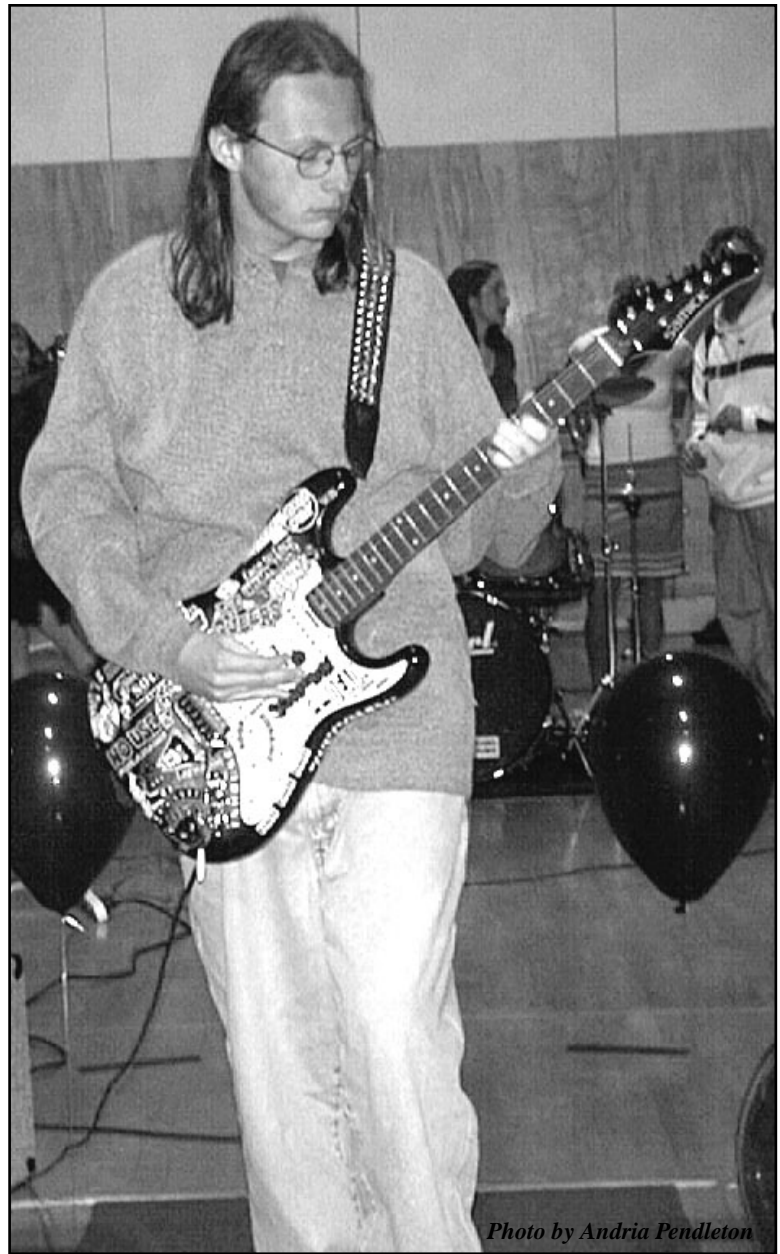


Photo by Andria Pendleton

Senior Summer Plans

Jarrett Morris - going to Florida
Sara Calhoun - going diving at Catalina and trying out for the Cal Poly soccer team
Malachie Ruddy - Moving to Nevada to attend UNLV.

Will Brown - going to have fun
Meghan McKelvey - get a tan, save some lives, be a lifeguard, and scope out the babes.
Jessica Cope - going to Sacramento for a week to camp and have fun.

David Drake - Going to basketball camps and getting ready for school.
Ty Gilmore - Going to Hawaii
Chelsea Swenson - moving to San Diego with my best friend (Melissa Calderon)

Sarah Sanders - This summer I will fly back to Germany. There I will find my way back into my school system, friends, family, and culture. I will also visit my grandparents in Greece.

Amy Avila - This summer I plan on working and traveling around the State. I’ll be going to the lake and the beach as much as possible, but mostly I’ll be working. Fun, fun, fun.
Devin Luxton - Going to play soccer in Europe

Jennifer Lei
Staff Reporter

“Watching your dog give birth is one of the weirdest thing...it’s almost like watching somebody die,” said Andrew Martin Reeves.

In this terse statement, Andrew was comparing the power of an experience last summer, watching a truck driver die in after an accident, with the beauty of witnessing birth. Although this quote has its own slightly morbid quality, it is indicative of this high school senior’s ability to take the somber things in life and make them bright and cheerful.

Reeves was born 17 years ago at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, California. He lived there until he was 4 years old, at which point he moved to Lompoc, and has lived here ever since. Andrew has two parents, a younger sister, a golden lab, and 2 english setters. Some of his primary interests lie in animals, and computers.

At first glance, Andrew seems like a very run-of-the-mill teenager. However, after speaking with Andrew and being acquainted with him for 5 years, the conclusion that one must come to is that Andrew is successful not always because of what he does, but because of the passion with which he does it.

Andrew’s love of animals has led to the extensive work that he and his mother have done through Bird of Prey, an organization in Santa Barbara that finds and treats hurt hawks, eagles, and owls, rehabilitates them, and releases them back into the wild.

Andrew’s interest in computers

has taken him to heightened levels of accomplishment, as well as respect and responsibility. The senior got his first computer at the age of 12, and had learned a little bit of programming in classes at middle school. He said that his programming interest didn’t really spark, however, until he started taking classes at CHS.

“This year they didn’t really have a class to put me in because I had already finished all the beginning and advanced classes. So they kind of made on up,” said Reeves.

He is currently in a computer maintenance course with a colleague, Andrew Milham, a sophomore at CHS. The two students have undertaken a lot of the repair and maintenance on all of the computers on campus. Reeves has put forth a lot of effort in this domain, and the idea of graduating and leav-

ing his work behind is somewhat bittersweet.

“I kind of wish I wasn’t leaving, so that I stay and show somebody else all the little tricks about the network. But then again, if the students coming up learn the same things as us, it’ll be just as good for them as it was for us,” said Andrew.

Because of his passion and genuine interest in the things that he does, Andrew has also been one of the few seniors who has actively worked on and not gotten sick of his senior project all year.

The CHS student did a study on nanotechnology, the study of microscopic computer robots, and he applied it to a theoretical cure for HIV. From his extensive research, he learned that scientists can make microscopic



memories of his grandfather, whom he lost to cancer, and his aunt, whom he lost to lupus. At one point he article on nanotechnology in the magazine, Wired, which described how a scientist was able to use the treatment to repair a human brain after it had been cryogenically frozen.

“It made me realize that they’re not that far away, and if I researched it right and drew up a theory, it might give these people who are suffering, it might give them some hope,” said Reeves.

Andrew wrote

machines that are smaller than cells, in order to fix them from inside out. The treatment would be unlike a mass drug with side effects, because it targets very specific areas of the body.

His idea was, in part, inspired by

his research paper on AIDS. He said that he chose to take on this task in order to prove to himself that he could do something more than just a job shadow; he wanted to stretch himself and wanted an opportunity to try to solve a problem that is huge.

Andrew is allowing himself some leeway in the arena of future planning; he said that he would probably go into a field in computer sciences, but that nothing is set in stone.



Photos by Andria Pendleton

Irene Flores leaves a lasting impression on Cabrillo’s campus

Tia Flowers
Staff Reporter

If one were to ask the Senior class who they would call to recreate the Mona Lisa, a unanimous vote would go to one talented girl: Irene Flores.

Through the years, Flores has built her reputation as an artist at Vandenberg Middle School (VMS) and has continued to amaze her peers with her gifts at Cabrillo High School (CHS).

In May of 1995, the Flores family moved away from their family, friends, and country to live in the United States. Although Flores spoke English well, she still experienced a culture shock; she missed her family, her friends, and her Filipino food.

“It was a bit strange because it was so different from what I was used to,” Irene says of her first few days in America.

Flores started sixth grade shortly after she moved to the states and attended VMS. It was here when Flores was first recognized by her peers as an artist. “People saw I could draw and started talking to me,” she said.

Take a walk around the VMS campus and you will find four murals that Flores has helped paint.

One of these murals include an eagle that can be seen from the highway. Flores designed and painted this mural primarily on her own in the eighth grade.

High school was a time for Flores to branch out and discover her other areas of talent. Here she would become involved as ASB Class 2001 President, a lead in a musical, Madrigals, barbershop quartet alto, Editor-in-Chief of the school paper, disgruntled worker for Baskin Robbins, Debate Team member, and Anime Club President.

Despite her superior flare for mu-

sic, writing, and leadership, Flores did not abandon her pursuit of aesthetic accomplishment. She continued to help with several local murals, volunteered to paint sets for six Cabrillo drama productions, and, of course, she continues to draw in her spare time. Some of these drawings have begun to make her a little money.

“I’ve recently discovered the wonderful wonders of E-bay,” she said. Flores has sold many pieces of art online including portraits of famous people and anime.

Perhaps the most impressive quality Flores possesses is her devotion to her work. As Editor-in-Chief of Cabrillo’s Fore & Aft, Flores has spent hundreds of hours at home and school designing, drawing, and writing for the paper.

Through her extreme example of dedication, she won the respect of her staff and has led them to several successful journalism competitions. At this year’s Tri-County Competition the Fore & Aft continued their tradition by earning their third sweepstakes award. At the 2001

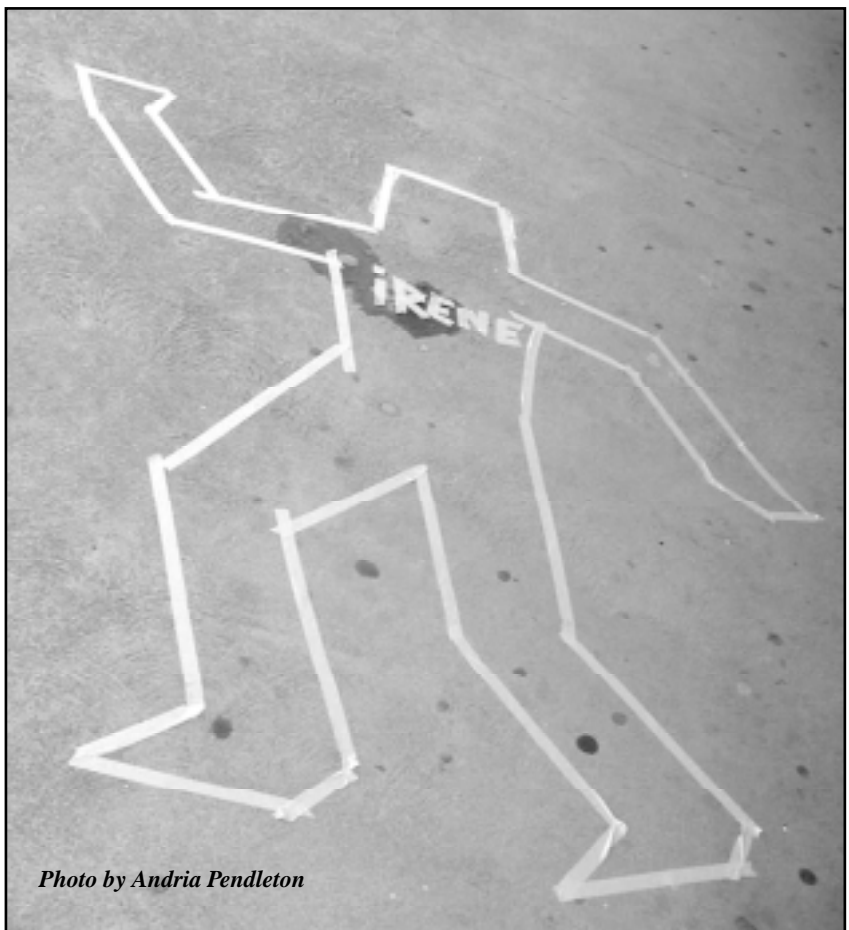


Photo by Andria Pendleton

“ I’ve recently discovered the wonderful wonders of E-bay. ”

Irene Flores

“ Take a walk around the VMS campus and you will find four murals that Flores has helped paint. ”

National Journalism Convention, Flores received a Superior rating in News Magazine Layout/Design.

“Irene is largely responsible for the modernization of the journalism program at CHS. Her dedication and quality performance has taken the Fore & Aft to new heights. I’m going to miss her terribly,” said Newspaper Advisor Suzanne Nicastro.

After high school Flores plans to attend Allan Hancock to study art and design. She would like to enter the professional art world and knows that only experience will get her there. With exceptional talent, leadership, and attitude, there is no doubt Irene Flores will make her mark on this world.