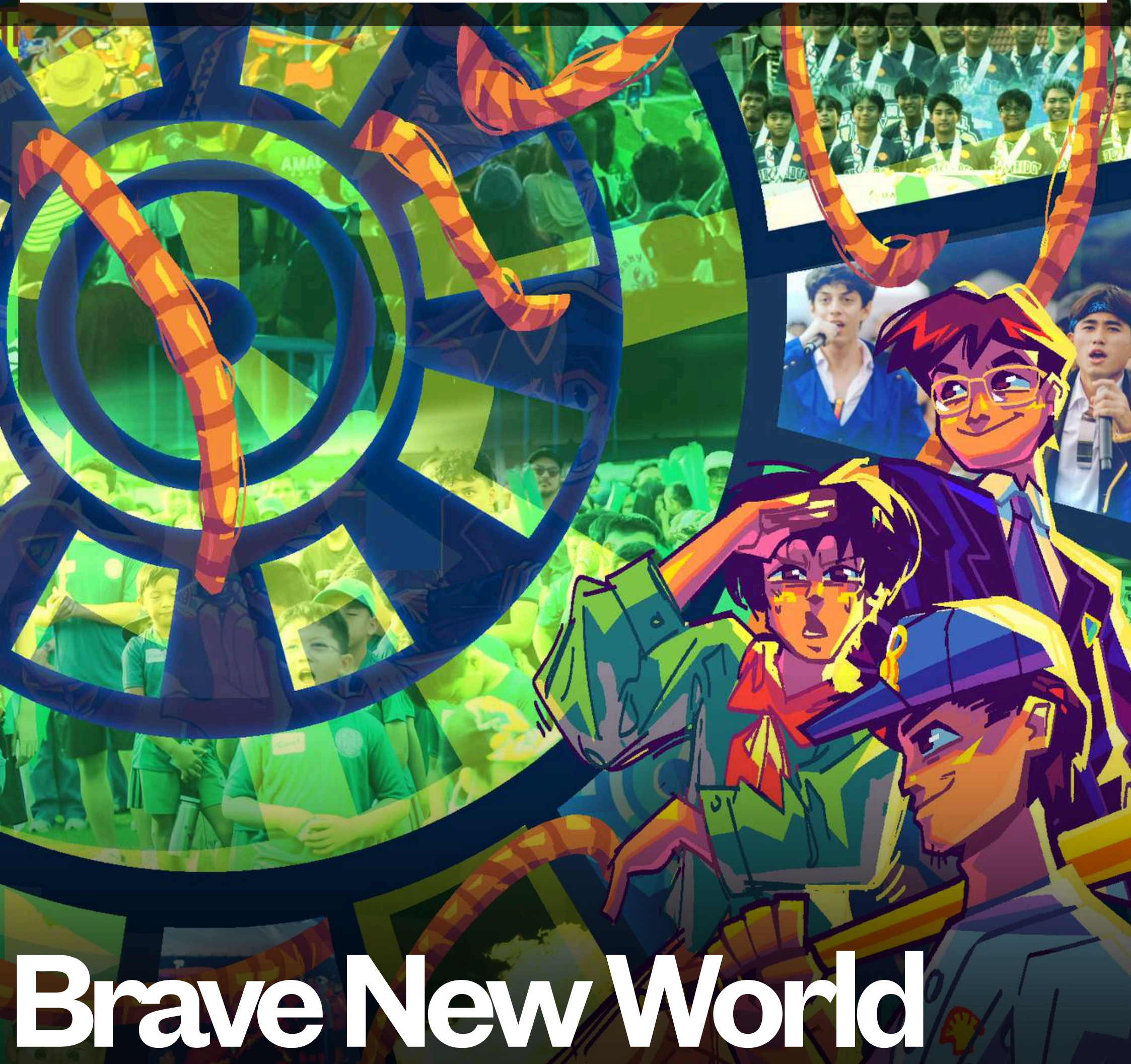




Brave New World

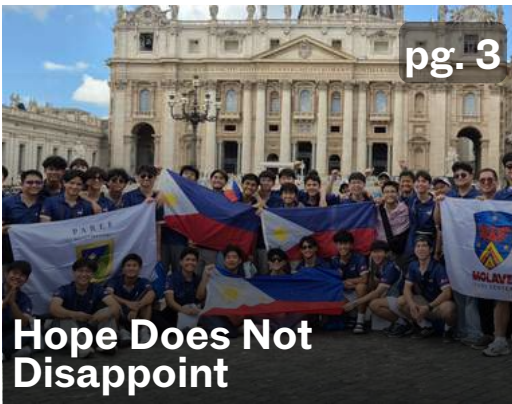
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THE RIDGE

We, the editors and staff of *The Ridge*, commit ourselves to the highest level of professional journalistic ethics. We promote among our fellow students a love for noble ideas and a desire to achieve personal growth.

We foster an awareness of social problems and encourage fraternity in keeping with the school's family spirit. We love the truth thus we report with facts, without judging intentions, upholding the legitimate diversity of opinions in a calm way, without resorting to personal attacks. We seek the truth, love it, and humbly tell it.

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PAREF SOUTHRIDGE
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Sailing towards the Brave New World

This year's issue is titled *Brave New World*, and it feels especially fitting for who we've become as a community. Over the past year, Southridge students have pushed beyond what is familiar. We organized something as simple yet meaningful as a different kind of Fathers' Day, and we stepped into bigger arenas like the UAAP baseball, dance, Model United Nations, and the Vinta Cup. These are not just activities. They are moments where we chose to explore, to take risks, and to grow. In many ways, this issue captures Admirals that refuse to stay within boundaries and are willing to navigate the unknown.

Personally, this theme hits close to home. In a few months, I'll be heading to UP to start college, stepping into a world both exciting and uncertain. It's my own brave new world. But I've realized that this isn't just my story. Each of us is heading toward something unfamiliar, whether it's a new school, a new role, or a new version of ourselves. We all have our own worlds to conquer. And while that can be intimidating, it is also what makes this stage of life meaningful.

Looking back, I can only feel grateful. Southridge has spent the last twelve years forming us, not just as students, but as men of integrity. The lessons we've learned go beyond the classroom. They show up in how we lead, how we serve, and how we carry ourselves when no one is watching. This issue is more than just a collection of stories. It is our way of saying thank you. Thank you for preparing us to face whatever comes next, and for giving us the courage to step into our own brave new worlds.

Miguel Piamonte,
Editor-in-Chief, The Ridge

Change is by no means an easy thing to deal with. It is much easier to stay within your shell, doing things you are already comfortable with. Yet, an Admiral strives for more than that. This school year, we saw our fellow schoolmates navigate so many new facets of the world with so much enthusiasm and passion. Whether it was the baseball team, dance crew, or performing arts, we Admirals have pushed ourselves to explore endless possibilities.

Personally, I had to navigate through directing a play, being a junior head, and serving as an Ambassador, all of which were new to me. Even if I had felt unprepared and intimidated, I chose to dive headfirst knowing I would come out a braver person. Each experience sparked growth that urged me to keep serving with resilience and fortitude.

Many years from now, you would have wished you had taken those opportunities and chances, even if they seemed daunting. So board that new ship. Sail past the harbor. Search beyond the horizon. Explore, dream, and discover.

Julio Montaño,
Associate Editor-in-Chief, The Ridge

Hope Does Not Disappoint

by Sebastian “Basti” Guinto

These were the words of the late Pope Francis that now echo powerfully as the Church celebrates the Jubilee Year 2025. This year, hope takes center stage—hope that fills the hearts of the youth, hope that fuels the journey of every pilgrim, and hope that assures us our faith has a future. At first, this hope felt distant, almost impossible to define, a feeling more imagined than tangible.

Little did we know that during Jubilee in Italy and France, this hope would transform from an abstract ideal into something real — an experience witnessed firsthand by thirty-three students, five teachers, and one priest from PAREF Southridge, who embarked on a sacred pilgrimage to celebrate their shared faith alongside countless young people from diverse countries and backgrounds.

The journey began long before we departed. From the earliest preparations, we were introduced to the meaning of the Jubilee Year—a sacred time of renewal, forgiveness, and unity, calling us to be pilgrims of hope in our little ways. With each month leading up to our departure, we had activities designed to align our hearts and minds with the theme of hope.

One of these was a week-long work camp held in Laguna, a hands-on mission to help a school in need. This year, we spent our days repainting worn-out walls and clearing debris from a cluttered storage room, determined to leave the place brighter and more welcoming than before.

Under the sun’s heat, we worked tirelessly, fueled not just by our energy but by the shared belief that every act of service, no matter how small, is a step toward building hope. Beyond the physical work, these activities helped the group bond, strengthening the camaraderie that would carry us through our pilgrimage in Rome.

When the day of our departure finally arrived, we could barely contain our excitement. For some, it was their first time setting foot in Europe, while for others, it was their first journey without their parents. Our pilgrimage began in Paris, France, where we explored some of the world’s most iconic landmarks, from the lofty Eiffel Tower to the grand Arc de Triomphe. Beyond these stunning sights, our days were also filled with spiritual moments as we visited revered churches such as Notre Dame de Paris, Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, and the Sacré-Cœur Basilica, attending Mass each day. As our time in Paris came to a close and we boarded the train to Lourdes, many of us found ourselves reflecting on how the trip had already been, hopeful for the remaining days ahead.

Lourdes was the highlight for many of us on this trip. As soon as we arrived, we joined the candlelight procession alongside pilgrims from all over the world. It was moving to see so many people united in prayer, holding candles high as we prayed the rosary in different languages. In that moment, we realized that no matter where you come from, what language you speak, or what life looks like back home,



there is a bond that unites us all, Our Lady. It was also a deeply humbling experience to see the sick who had come in hope of healing, and the volunteers who devoted their days to assisting them with the simplest tasks. With so much time for prayer, many of us knelt before the Grotto, speaking directly to Our Blessed Lady of Lourdes—offering our intentions for ourselves, our families, and our loved ones back home.

On our final day, we met young pilgrims from Mexico and France, joining them in a youth procession that concluded with a Mass at the Grotto. A few from our group were chosen to serve at the Mass, standing in the very place where the apparition had taken place. As the hours in Lourdes dwindled, some of us wandered quietly through the basilica, taking in every last detail. When it was time to leave, tears fell as we waved goodbye to Our Blessed Mother, carrying the hope that we would return to her one day.

Those two days in Lourdes left an impact far greater, a lasting mark on our hearts that we knew would stay with us for the rest of our lives. From Lourdes, our journey took us to the heart of the Jubilee celebrations—Rome. The atmosphere shifted from the quiet, prayerful streets of Lourdes to the bustling energy

of Italy’s capital. We were greeted with breathtaking architecture and a city alive with history at every turn.

Nothing, however, compared to the moment we stood before St. Peter’s Basilica for the very first time. Its sheer size left us all speechless that no photograph could ever capture the awe of seeing it in person. Stepping inside it, we were surrounded by towering statues, massive marble pillars, and intricate details that seemed to pull our gaze upward towards heaven. One of the most unforgettable moments was hearing Mass in the room right beside the tomb of St. Peter. It was humbling to think that we were praying in the place where the first Pope had been laid to rest.

Throughout our days in Rome, we visited chapels and cathedrals where saints were buried, each stop marked by moments of silent prayer. That purpose shone through most brightly during the Angelus with the Pope. Standing in St. Peter’s Square, surrounded by pilgrims from Brazil, Spain, Mexico, and countless other nations, we felt the vibrant unity of the Church. The chants of “Viva il Papa!” rang through the square, and with each cheer, our respect for the Pope deepened.

Representing the Philippines—and by extension, our school and Molave Study Center—filled us with pride. Meeting people who wanted to take photos with us simply because we were fellow Filipinos or Catholics reminded us that faith knows no borders.

In the end, as our pilgrimage came to a close, we were filled with the very thing we had sought from the beginning: hope. Hope does not disappoint. We returned home with more than just pasalubongs—we carried with us the lessons, virtues, and gratitude that this journey had given us. The pilgrimage taught us to see the beauty in the world, whether in grand basilicas, in the kindness of strangers, or in the simple act of praising God. It reminded us that every blessing, whether obvious or hidden, is part of God’s greater plan. And so, we go back to our daily lives more hopeful than before, ready to share what we have learned and live out the call to be true pilgrims of hope.



From Guests to Champions: The Southridge Admirals Claim the UAAP Season 88 High-School Boys Baseball Championship

by Giuliano “Yano” Antonio



On February 23, 2026, the Southridge Admirals made history in UAAP Season 88 after securing the High School Baseball championship at the historic Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium in their very first year. Defeating Alabang rival De La Salle Zobel in the finals with a dominant 11-1 mercy-rule victory in Game 2, they completed a remarkable debut campaign.

Led by a coaching staff comprised of Bocc and Adrienne Bernardo, MJ Carolino, and Jerome Bacarisas, Southridge became the first guest school in 88 years to win a UAAP championship in any sport and in any age group, marking a milestone not only for the school's baseball program but also for the tournament itself. In a league long dominated by established UAAP institutions, the Admirals proved that they belonged among the best, turning their first appearance in the competition into a championship run that will be remembered for years to come.

Southridge's entry came through a special agreement that allowed the school to participate as a guest team in the high school baseball division. The move was part of the league's efforts to strengthen competition and expand opportunities for high school athletes in the sport. The Baseball Admirals were not the first Southridge team to step into the UAAP as guests, as the school's football program had previously

competed in the league the year before. Still, baseball represented a new challenge. For a program that had long competed successfully in other high school leagues, the opportunity to play against some of the most respected programs in Philippine school sports presented both excitement and pressure. Southridge had previously represented NCR in its victory in the 2023 Palarong Pambansa, showing that the program was capable of playing at the highest level.

For the players, the moment became real the first time they arrived at the Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium. The venue, steeped in decades of baseball history and home to countless games since the 1930s—where Babe Ruth even hit a home run during his visit to the Philippines—became the stage for Southridge's introduction to the UAAP. Stepping off the team bus and walking into the stadium, the players felt the significance of the moment. Signing in at the entrance and entering the stadium, the names on the walls, the stands, and the atmosphere of the venue made the competition feel bigger than anything they had experienced before. Yet despite the unfamiliar setting and the higher level of competition, the game itself remained the same. It was still baseball—but now it was being played on the biggest stage of high school sports in the country. Southridge's first game in the

tournament immediately showed that the Admirals were capable of competing with the league's established programs. In their debut game against Ateneo, with the score tied at 12-12 and two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning, Southridge senior Luis Chavez hit the first of his two walk-offs in the tournament with a single to right field that brought home co-captain Joaquin Salvador from second base, clinching the game at 13-12. The Admirals rallied late to secure a dramatic win that set the tone for the rest of the season, serving as an early statement that they belonged in the tournament. However, the team also experienced the demanding level of play that came with UAAP competition, as their next two games resulted in mercy-rule losses: 17-7 against DLSZ and 27-6 against NU. These two losses especially acted as wake-up calls for the team, as they struggled with communication and hesitation on the field, which led to plenty of defensive errors. The Admirals were able to bounce back by ending Round 1 with a win against top-seeded and defending champion UST, 13-11. Despite the bases being loaded in the bottom of the ninth inning with Southridge on defense, pitcher JC Basañes struck out the final UST batter and secure the win. As a result, Southridge ended the round with a 2-2 record, placing third in the standings ahead of Ateneo.

The Admirals started the second round with a loss against NU, who walked off with a 12-11 win. As a result, every game became a do-or-die situation, as any loss from that point on would immediately eliminate Southridge from the tournament. From that point on, however, the team would never see defeat again, as they proceeded to win their next six games.

After their walk-off loss against NU, they defeated Ateneo with a dominant 19-7 win, followed by a 7-6 victory against De La Salle Zobel. Initially trailing 6-5 in the bottom of the ninth inning with the season on the line, Brennan Bitanga sent a hit to right field that brought two runners home, winning the game and keeping the Admirals alive. This was followed by a 10-7 win against UST. Despite Southridge being scoreless for seven innings, the defending champions led 5-0 by the seventh inning. With two outs, three consecutive hits by Southridge seniors Matt Genota, Yano Antonio, and Joaquin Salvador—with Antonio and Salvador both hitting triples—tied the game at 5-5. UST was able to retake the lead at 7-5, but yet again, the Admirals bounced back to lead 10-7. With JC Basañes pitching, the Admirals were able to hold the lead and eliminate the defending champions from the tournament. This then brought them to their semifinal rematch against NU, where Southridge maintained the lead the whole way through and knocked them out with a final score of 6-3, paving the way for a championship matchup against rival DLSZ.

When the finals finally arrived, the atmosphere surrounding the team was filled with both excitement and anticipation. As the players boarded the team bus on the way to the Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium, they knew that they were

only two wins away from making history. Inside the stadium, the energy in the stands reflected the significance of the moment, as Southridge blue filled the stands in support of the Admirals. Southridge wasted no time asserting control in Game 1. Behind starting pitcher Amiel Belgar, the Admirals set the tone early, scoring four runs in the first four innings off hits from Matt Genota, Joaquin Salvador, Luis Chavez, and Brennan Bitanga. Holding a 4-0 lead, Southridge then delivered the game's turning point in the fifth inning, erupting for a massive rally that stretched the lead to 13-0, with Yano Antonio delivering two hits in that same inning. De La Salle Zobel struggled to respond, going hitless through five innings against Belgar and the Admirals' defense.

When asked what fueled Southridge's dominant performance, Head Coach Bocc Bernardo emphasized the team's confidence:

"It was just that the boys are really confident that they can play at this level. Sinabi ko nung last game against NUNS, confidence is the key to winning it all the way. We're very confident today; they were executing plays, defense was air-tight, pitching was superb—Amiel had a masterpiece, and our bats were really talking today."

Backed by consistent offense and near-flawless defense, the Admirals closed out the game in seven innings via mercy rule, securing a commanding 15-2 victory and moving just one win away from a historic UAAP championship.

Game 2 became the defining moment of the Admirals' historic run. With the championship within

reach, Southridge once again delivered a composed and confident performance. With the stands full of Southridge faithful there to witness history, the boys were ready to give it their all. However, Zobel was able to take a 1-0 lead in the third inning, but the Admirals were yet again able to bounce back and lead the game 6-1 in the seventh inning. This would end up being the final inning, as in a bases-loaded situation, Yano Antonio launched a hit to left field to score two runners, bringing the score to 8-1. This was then followed by a hit from Joaquin Salvador that brought in Matt Genota to make the score 9-1. With two runners on base, once again, Luis Chavez sent a hit to right field that brought in Salvador and Antonio to make the score 11-1, initiating the mercy rule and ending the game right there. With that, the UAAP Season 88 High School Baseball championship was theirs. The stands erupted in cheers as history was made. Players rushed onto the field in celebration as teammates, coaches, and supporters embraced in a moment that captured the culmination of an extraordinary journey. Just six games earlier, Southridge had been on the verge of elimination, yet in the end, as the boys sang the *Gaudeamus Igitur* loudly and proudly, they were the only team left standing.

In the end, the significance of the victory extended beyond the scoreboard. In their very first season in the UAAP, the Southridge Admirals had achieved something no other guest team had done before: win a UAAP championship. Not only that, but the team also walked away with individual awards, with JC Basañes being named the tournament's Best Hitter, Matt Genota leading the season in RBIs, and Amiel Belgar winning Finals MVP with a no-relief pitching performance that held La Salle to only three runs in the two championship games. All the hard work, the 5 AM training sessions—every bit of it paid off. Their triumph demonstrated the strength of the program and the determination of a team that refused to be defined by its status as newcomers. Instead, they wrote their own chapter in UAAP history,

proving that even as guests, they could rise to the highest level and leave a lasting mark on the league. As team captain Sandro Villarosa, the team's primary catcher, would always say during team huddles,

"I want everybody smiling, let's have some fun!"

—a mindset that defined Southridge's unforgettable run and helped transform a dream season into championship history.



Behind the Blaze: An Organizer's Guide to the Bonfire Night

by Joseph "Joe" Meim

Southridge celebrated its historic UAAP Season 88 baseball championship with a bonfire celebration, bringing the school together to honor the team's achievement. Opening the program were the hosts Kale Javier and Jacob La'O, who explained the meaning behind the celebration: "But why celebrate with a bonfire? Because this night is about more than a championship." They

continued by saying that the flame represents a "blaze of pride, unity, and Southridge spirit."

Following the showing of a tribute video, the team was called onstage for recognition highlighting team captains Sandro Villarosa and Joaquin Salvador, alongside the Finals Most Valuable Player, Amiel Belgar. JC Basañes, awarded the Best Hitter title, and Matt Genota,

awarded the Most RBI's title, were also recognized.

The program also acknowledged the achievements of the Southridge Fencing Team, which secured a 2nd Runner-up finish in the UAAP Season 88 Fencing Tournament. This segment highlighted the collective success of Southridge's varsity program before the baseball team's final recognition.

The celebration ended with the lighting of the bonfire, which marked the close of Southridge's UAAP Baseball Season 88 campaign. Organizers noted that they looked forward to making the bonfire a recurring Southridge tradition—one that honors not just athletic success, but the enduring camaraderie and shared pride of the Southridge community.



Ground Breaking News: Southridge Sports Complex

by Judea "JB" Canlapan

In the final remarks of Fathers' Day 2025, Mr. Paul Christopher Cheng, PAREF Southridge's Executive Director, announced a major campus redevelopment: a new sports complex that will replace the existing sand court, basketball court, and part of the turf. Last September 2025, the groundbreaking began for the ₱200 million project, which school officials say is targeting completion next year and full student access by SY 2027-2028.

Mr. Cheng framed the demolition as a necessary step to bring athletic facilities in line with the school's other upgraded buildings. "Management and trustees all agreed that it was time to raise the bar," he added, noting that classrooms, labs, offices, the chapel, and even the auditorium

already meet or exceed local standards, while sports facilities lag behind.

With all of these taken into account, funding still remained the project's biggest challenge. School sources say the project is only about 50% funded, leaving roughly ₱100 million left to be raised over the next year. Despite this hardship, public posts on the school's Facebook page and recent donor announcements show several contributions and fundraising efforts throughout the school year. According to Mr. Cheng, administrators report that planning and coordination have included multiple stakeholder meetings with trustees, parents, and student representatives, plus early consultations with local permitting authorities and contractors.

The demolition and construction schedule accounts for permits, expected weather delays, noise-management measures, and other logistical concerns. When completed, the complex will include a fully covered, air-conditioned gym with two basketball courts, a lower-ground sports hall, a four-lane pool, an overhead oval track, a fitness center, and a two-level cafeteria.

School communications state that the final ceremonial act will involve Mr. Cheng placing a last commemorative brick at the project's close, a brick blessed by Pope Leo XIV during Mr. Cheng's visit to the Vatican. Parents and students have expressed mixed reactions, but many are hopeful about the long-term benefits. Supporters say the upgrades will provide

safer, year-round training venues, attract higher-level competitions, and enhance school pride, while officials work to minimize short-term disruption with interim venues and adjusted schedules. As construction progresses, anticipation grows for the new sports complex that will raise opportunities for athletes and campus life for years to come.



Ambassadors Arise!

by Rodrigo Prieto and Luigi Daez

The Southridge Ambassadors Organization (SRA) was established in the summer of 2025 by its first core members: Rodrigo Prieto, Luigi Daez, Khendric Lim, and Sam Lorenzo, with Mr. Marvin Vinuya as its teacher moderator. It has served as the school's main representative body during student-led initiatives. The Southridge Student Council (SRSC) is the voice of the student body, while the SRA is its face.

Last January, the SRA and SRSC visited His Excellency, Archbishop Charles John Brown, at the Apostolic Nunciature in Taft. His Excellency shared valuable insights about being an ambassador and the world of diplomacy, that

there is a need in prudence in speaking in a diplomatic career, especially to maintain strong ties. After a fruitful discussion, the SRA presented their gifts and a token of appreciation. In February, the SRA and SRSC visited Senator Bam Aquino at the Senate Building. The tour helped the students better understand the Senate's history and its procedures. Additionally, they were able to personally meet Senator

Bam Aquino before the Senate session started. Furthermore, the SRA also explored the world of diplomacy. Last February, SRA members and select students participated in the 5th Assumption College Model United Nations Conference. Over the course of three days, they were able to hone their speaking skills, utilize their critical thinking, and experience the spirit of diplomacy. Similarly, the SRA participated in the very

first Woodrose Model United Nations last March, further improving their skills.

"The Southridge Ambassadors proudly represent the school with professionalism, confidence, and genuine hospitality, reflecting the values and spirit of the Southridge community in every engagement,"

said Mr. Vinuya, emphasizing how the SRA do their best to represent the school even outside of campus.

Back in campus, the SRA conducted several skills workshops on public speaking, diplomacy, and the history of the school,

preparing them to become well-rounded representatives of Southridge. The Ambassadors also help create the student assembly skits: monthly five-minute films that highlight the virtues of the month.

Even in its first year, SRA has made huge steps in representing Southridge. From visits to Model United Nations, the SRA has given its members thorough opportunities to grow in their speaking ability and formation. However, there is still room for more, and the SRA will continue to explore more learning opportunities, hoping for even more successful and fruitful ventures in the coming years.



Biggest MDA in Southridge History?

by Iñigo Zuluaga

The largest-scale Miting de Avance in Southridge's election history was held last April 23, 2026. For the first time in years, there were 3 separate parties and 35 total candidates running for council for SY 2026-2027. The 3 parties - Fly, Sail, and Rise - were led by Chairman candidates Ethan Ross Garena and Christopher "Topher" Magsadia, as well as External Vice Chairman candidate Mateo Katindoy, and were the center of attention during the campaign season. This was not the only major news, as this was also the first year that the Commission on Elections (ComElec) introduced the debate to the Miting de Avance.

"We have always been trying to have a debate, but with the limited number of applicants or parties in every election

season, it has been really hard to pursue having a debate in the Miting de Avance. But this year, having three parties required us to really push for the debate portion in the Meeting de Avance," said Mr. Jonnie Ballaran, the Committee on Elections Moderator.

The 17 candidates running for core positions (Deputy Secretary to Chairman) were given 2 minutes each to deliver their addresses to the student body, consisting of students from Grades 6-11, followed by a 15-minute Q&A session based on questions submitted by the students themselves. Once the Q&A segment was finished, the 3 parties went to their podiums and prepared for the debate.

"A debate forces candidates to fully 'own'

their vision for the school. Ultimately, a debate empowers student council candidates by shifting their mindset. They walk onto the stage as students asking for votes; they walk off the stage as leaders who have earned respect, defined their vision, and proven they can handle the pressure of leadership," said Mr. Jay Gonzales, the other ComElec Moderator.

This year's Miting de Avance also featured an intense debate between the two Chairman candidates: Ross Garena and Topher Magsadia. During the individual debate, these two powerhouses took to the podium and showcased their speaking skills and quick-wittedness. Through several rounds, each side presented

their platforms and dreams for their future of Southridge, with each candidate standing firm in their conviction.

"The idea of the debate came from Mr. Renelito Hilario years before this MDA. It was something that was shelved for many school elections until this year, because of the determination and tenacity of the current ComElec Core. The idea finally became a reality," said Joseph "Joe" Meim, ComElec Chairman.

The largest MDA and first-ever debate in Southridge's history has brought on

a brighter spotlight for the Student Council Elections and could potentially be a turning point for Southridge and its student council going forward. By giving candidates a platform to defend their visions and respond directly to the concerns of the student body, this year's Miting de Avance encouraged a more active and informed school community. As future elections continue to evolve, this new format may set a higher standard for leadership, accountability, and student participation in Southridge.



ALL THE WAY TO TOMORROWLAND : FATHERS' DAY 2026

By: Miggy Piamonte, Wrel Bautista, and Julio Montaña



Morning in Metropolis

On February 7, 2026, Southridge held its biggest event— Fathers' Day, for the entire school community to spend a day full of games, dancing, and family fun.

Early in the morning, the committee members set up the equipment, various booths, and concessionaires. With all the new futuristic decorations and technology all around campus, the future looked bright for the day ahead. By 7:30 AM, the school was filled with eager Vinta and Helm students ready to compete in the morning parade.

Mr. Paul Christopher Cheng, the Executive Director, then gave a short message about the theme of Fathers' Day. He mentioned how it is a good thing for everyone to have dreams, and that this edition of Fathers' Day is all about dreaming. He emphasized that every child has one very important dream: For their fathers to be successful in multiple aspects of their lives. However, it is important for fathers to allow room for providence to surprise them, to allow

their children room for failure. Life, according to Mr. Cheng, is all about dreaming, and dreams should surprise people in the best way possible. After this short message, Fathers' Day 2026 was in full force.

With the new Morning Parade format, the two houses battled it out in a friendly competition with even more dancing than last year, led by Bluebeard and Greenheart. Even with such a long-standing rivalry, the two houses joined together for a final dance to end the lively event.

Following the Morning Parade, excitement only grew—four activities went down all at once: Project A.N.D.Y., a building competition exclusively for parents; Let's Brain It On, a quiz show organized by the Grade School Student Council; the Passport Games, where participants had to collect stamps at several stations after completing a challenge; and the Station Games, where Father and Son could engage in fun activities together.



Midday Transmission

The afternoon still had a lot in store, with exciting performances from multiple bands. The Vinta and Helm bands continued their fierce rivalry, with both houses playing their hearts out. Additionally, the bands 10:26 and Mango Tide gave a show for the Southridge community to enjoy while eating their food from the various concessionaires.

Night Parade: The Future in Motion

Once the afternoon event had concluded, guests began to gather around the turf—as they knew what was about to happen next. The highlight of Fathers' Day: the Night Parade! This time, the grade school was divided into two clusters, Grades 1 to 3 and 4 to 6. One subtheme was also assigned per cluster. On the other hand, High school retained the classic batch-vs-batch format.

The Woodrose Dance Crew opened the competition with electrifying performances, setting the stage for what was about to come. Their act was followed by a battle between inventors (Grades 1 to 3), where

the stakes were even higher. Next was a thrilling display of gizmos and gadgets as Grades 4 to 6 duked it out. Taking a break from each batch's thrilling performances, the Southridge Dance Crew took to the stage, keeping the crowd entertained as the high school batches readied themselves for their own performances. The crowd was met with a blast from the past as Grades 7 and 8 danced away. Next, beings from outer space, creatures never seen before: aliens! Grades 9 and 10 took over the field with their otherworldly performance, dazzling the audience with their synchronized, extraterrestrial choreography. Closing out the Night Parade, the Grades 11 and 12 came out with full force in their roles as the Planet Defenders. The two batches delivered an explosive finale that brought the crowd to their feet, showcasing the absolute peak of high school energy and camaraderie.

The Future In Harmony

After the Night Parade, victories were announced, and the competition settled. The field transformed

into a massive festival ground for the final event of the day: the Night Concert. The legendary rock band, Mayonnaise, kicked off the evening, getting the crowd hyped and singing along to their iconic songs. Transitioning into smoother tones, Side A then took the stage, delivering a nostalgic performance that had all the parents and children alike swaying to their classic hits. And, finally, DJ Bomski capped off the night, dropping high-energy beats that turned the entire Southridge turf into a giant dance floor.

Echoes of Tomorrow

As the final beats faded and the lights in the school dimmed, Fathers' Day: Dads of Tomorrowland officially came to a close. This Fathers' Day was a highly successful event of the annual tradition, drawing a massive turnout from the Southridge community. As families headed home after a full day of games, performances, and bonding, the event successfully delivered on Mr. Cheng's morning message—leaving the community satisfied by a bright vision for the Fathers' Days to come.





It Begins as Admirals

by Agustin “Gus” Roa

Have the issues of corruption in the Philippines ever crossed your mind?

Do you ever wonder how our nation is missing around ₱120 billion from flood control corruption? With the Philippines being ranked as 114th out of 180 nations in the 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index, corruption is truly a harsh reality that our country faces. Some may question the significance of politics and the effects of governance in our lives. Understandably, it may even be seen as a boring or unimportant topic to most people, especially among the youth.

Regardless, we should bear in mind that politics is something that indeed affects our daily lives and families.

It is the deciding factor for the quality of the roads we pass, the efficiency of public transportation, the prices our parents have to pay for groceries, the safety of our communities, healthcare, and other necessities we deal with in our daily lives.

At our young age, therefore, we should already have an understanding of the significant effect that the government has on our society. This crisis has continued to stunt the growth of our country and jeopardizes the people in exchange for public servants to gain wealth. With that in mind, we must realize that the country's servants are elected by the people and are direct representatives of what the people want and look for in our government.

What becomes our duty as Southridge Admirals?

It is important to realize that we are bound to become the future leaders of our society and members of the voting population who directly determine the fate of our nation. Therefore, it becomes necessary for us to realize the importance of the values we are taught in Southridge regarding this matter. For example, Mr. Escasa's Grade 10 Social Studies classes that take a dive into political issues present in our country, learning

from the past, and reflecting on how we can improve as future leaders of our country. In this case, we can observe a direct relationship between our daily life as young Admirals and our future roles in society. Responsibility lies in our hands as we take part in driving the country in the direction it should be headed. We may not realize it yet, but we never know when we are eventually called to make a difference in our society.

Habits and traits instilled by corrupt leaders who have deteriorated our nation did not just develop as they gained power. These traits are, in fact, something developed at a young age. Dishonest behavior starts with acts that may be perceived to be small or may not be thought to have any lasting effect. As students, these acts include cheating in an assessment, finding ways to bend the rules, or bribing others to gain a certain benefit. These acts are all breeding grounds for the corruption seen in

today's governance, which carries the gravity to ruin the lives of many. These habits must be absolutely avoided. Not only because we achieve things in a dishonorable manner, but also because it creates a “snowball effect” when we, as Admirals, come of age to make crucial decisions in our society.

There is no doubt that the Philippines is a truly beautiful country and has the potential to rise and compete with our Asian neighbors who have achieved significant prosperity decades ago.

From hospitality as warm as the weather, to the beautiful beaches and mountains admired by many tourists around the globe, to the richness in minerals, marine and agricultural resources, geothermal energy, and water resources, the Philippines is certainly equipped with what it takes to elevate its status.

Overall, these issues emphasize our duty as Admirals to guard our actions and habits with

integrity and honesty as a means to serve and protect our beloved nation, the people, and their welfare. It is important to note, as well, that PAREF Southridge School officially stands against the detrimental effects of corruption. In a post from SR's official Facebook page, it says, “Corruption is not a clerical error—it is theft from the poor and robbery of the public...It is a grave moral wrong... As an educational community, Southridge calls its students to be Men of Integrity. We teach them to recognize evil and reject it firmly... We urge our public servants to live up to that same standard.”

As men of integrity, let us not take for granted the gifts that our Lord has given to us and to our country. The virtues we instill as Admirals will determine our attitude when serving others. The traits we carry until adulthood are formed at home, in our school, and in our daily lives as young members of society. It begins as Admirals.

One Heart and One Stage: Cast and Crew Triumph in Club Culminating Show

by Julio Montaña

On April 10, 2026, Southridge hosted its annual Club Culminating show, titled Concordia, in the Southridge Auditorium. The play had two viewings: the Matinee at 4:00 PM and the Gala at 6:30 PM. Under the leadership of Mr. Rhen Hilario, Josef Dimapilis, Jacob Malig, Julio Montaña, Matthew Pua, and Joaquin Ramos, both shows entertained a full first floor of students,

teachers, and faculty members.

The play followed the characters of Rapha and Cyrus, two teenage students participating in Concordia Academy's Grand Vinta Regatta, a boat-racing competition among the school's four houses. Mid-race, they were transported to a fractured realm called Isla Concordia, which mirrors their lives back

at Concordia Academy. It was up to them to save Isla Concordia by finding the shards of service, faith, and courage, learning the value of unity and solidarity along the way.

The play also featured performances from the Choir and Southridge Dance Crew, with the Southridge Pep Squad providing music for the play. Outside the

auditorium, the Creator's Collective and Admirals Media Society had exhibits to show their work, while the Culinary Club served food to the crew and audience members.

Following the success of Concordia, many students, especially the team, have shown more interest in the performing arts.

"Concordia 2026 transcended a typical club culminating activity to become a grand celebration of passion, talent, and love for the arts. Today, the name represents a culture of young gentlemen who strive to live the values of a Southridge Gentleman, both on stage and in character,"

said Jacob Malig, a Senior Director.



PAREF Southridge Students attend the PAREF Future Leaders Summit

by Joseph "Joe" Meim

Last March 19-26, Student leaders from PAREF Southridge attended the PAREF Leaders Summit, held in Muntinlupa, Lipa, and Quezon City. The delegates included Grade 11's Christopher "Topher" Magsadia, Santino "Santi" Bravo, and Joseph "Joe" Meim, accompanied by Grade 10 students Ioan Saludez and Ziyen Uy. The summit aimed to develop future leaders among the participants by instilling critical values and virtues centered on the PAREF teachings. With other PAREF students, the delegates learned about the youth's true role of "Civitas" or citizenship through speaker talks, visits, and reflections with current political leaders.

The program consisted of alumni talks, team activities,

and regional visits. One of the most memorable and engaging parts of the summit was the team-building night, where each school performed in front of the whole Civitas group, as a form of appreciation for the lessons learned. Another highlight was the visit to the Manila City Hall, where they met Mayor Francisco "Isko" Moreno for a quick talk focusing on decision-making.



"Don't expect different results for tomorrow if what you did today was the same. You're fooling yourselves."

Another tour was held in the sitios near Laguna de Bay, led by former councilor Lester Baes. Saludez shared his insight about the tour:



"I noticed that Lester Baes still serves and works for the lowest of the low, and doesn't use his power to be above them. This stayed with me because it reminded me that as a leader, we aren't there to seek popularity or follow the crowd. We are there to be humble servants, even to the lowest of the low."

The summit concluded with the goal that each participant strives for better leadership in the country. Whether they serve as politicians or government officers, they are called to embody the virtues and teachings of the PAREF system to build integrity as public servants. To this day, the group of students remains connected in their service, serving as pillars of support for each other in ongoing projects and leadership activities within their communities.

Editorial Cartoon

by Charlie Carballo



An Interview with Southridge's Returning Chaplain

by Lucas Plofino

What are the notable changes you've noticed upon your return to SR? Are there any things you've missed since you left?

I served as chaplain of Southridge from 2009 to 2013.

From a chaplain's perspective, one of the most striking developments is the strong influence of mobile phones. With easier access to information and images, there has been an impact not only on moral formation but also on students' capacity to focus, think deeply, and make good use of their time.

At the same time, I have been impressed by the growth in the school's sports program. There is a higher level of performance and a more serious commitment to training and competition, as seen in the ongoing development of the sports complex.

Another notable change is the increase in the student population, which now exceeds a thousand. This growth brings both new opportunities and new challenges, but also reflects the continued vitality of the school community.

With the recent concerns on mental health, what do you think is the role of the chaplaincy with this rising challenge?

Thank you for asking that question. I believe the chaplaincy has an absolutely important role in addressing this rising challenge.

Your question reminds me of a psychiatrist in a mental hospital who once told a visiting bishop: "I always advise my patients, if they are Catholic, to go to confession. I'm convinced that there would be considerably fewer patients here if they went to confession."

Confession confers the grace of pardon and healing. It is like a "spiritual spa." Since the human person is both body and soul, it necessarily contributes to good mental health. It restores peace of conscience, heals wounds, strengthens us in our personal struggles, helps in developing a positive attitude towards persons, builds interior harmony and wholeness, and improves relationships with others.

Together with the sacrament of confession, the chaplaincy also offers spiritual counseling and accompaniment as a means of growing in holiness. The spiritual life is like sports: if you want to take it seriously, you need a coach. Cheerfulness and joy are sure signs of good mental health. St. Josemaria used to say, "If you

want to be happy, be holy; if you want to be happier, be more holy; if you want to be very happy, be very holy."

Our faith should lead to happiness; otherwise, it is lacking. Faith reveals to us the meaning and purpose of life—an essential ingredient of happiness and mental health. Studies have shown that a principal cause of mental health problems is the absence of meaning in life.

Faith is the true antidote to anxieties, worries, discouragement, low self-esteem, and stress. Having a right relationship with God helps us have the right relationship with others and with the things around us. Jesus is the answer to all man's problems.

I would add that faith also motivates us to be good and to do good to others—to serve and to overcome selfishness and egoism. Many people have mental issues because they are too focused on themselves. It has been shown that truly happy people are those who know how to serve others.

Yellow Boat Foundation Outreach

by Andrei "AJ" Salamanque



"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." - Mother Teresa

It was a journey marked with a goal of making a difference, by bringing joy and love to the kids in Pamarawan!

The Student Council Officers and all Committee Senior Heads, alongside Grade 10 and 12 volunteers, went on a journey to visit Pamarawan Elementary School, a school on an island in Malolos, Bulacan. After days of preparations, they set out from Muntinlupa, carrying "Hope Boxes" with school supplies and goodies for the kids of the school.

They prepared lessons in English and Math, sharing knowledge that will further enhance skills of the kids, and facilitated thrilling activities that brought smiles to everyone's faces. Another moment to remember was when some of the volunteers visited the boat under repair, funded by the SRSC, and colored it yellow, like the shining sun in Malolos.

Through these simple initiatives, they were able to leave a lasting mark on the kids; they built bridges, giving them hope and flourishing happiness through their time, smiles, and efforts, even for a short time. The kids were able to bring home not just gifts, but also love and hope that they may strive to further reach their dreams.



Sailing Towards the Vinta Cup



by Lorenzo Mortel

More than 300 students from different PAREF all-boys schools gathered in Iloilo City from November 15 to 17 for the much-awaited Vinta Cup hosted by PAREF Westbridge.

The event's goal is to unite men from PAREF schools through friendly competition and culture. The participating schools included the Southridge Admirals, Westbridge Voyagers, Northfield Mariners, and Springdale Titans. After Mr. Mann Rentoy, the

host for that morning, gave his opening remarks, the competition officially commenced with the firing of the arrow, which lit the torch of the games.

Springdale dominated day 1, winning the majority of the matches, such as football, writing, and basketball. The Admirals followed with a second place in various sports and non-sports competitions. Despite the placement, Coach Mr. Miro Manalo said,



"We were very proud because everyone did their part, they never let go, and they worked really hard. We worked and were thankful for the game."

Saturday night witnessed the various talent competitions as the schools competed in dancing and singing (solo and quartet competitions). The Southridge Dance Crew claimed first place in the dance competition, while both Southridge and Westbridge tied in the quartet category.

More victories for the Admirals followed on the second day of basketball

and football competitions, achieving 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. Southridge also got first and second place in the badminton competition.

With the closing ceremony of the Vinta Cup, Springdale was awarded the overall champion. The Bangkaya of the Vinta Cup (resembling an Oar) was also handed over to Southridge as the next venue for the Vinta Cup event.



KEEP MOVING FORWARD: THE MAKING OF DADS OF TOMORROWLAND

by Jacob La'O



For many of us in Batch 2026, our Southridge journey started as kids standing on a muddy field during Fathers' Day 2014: Back to the Father. The theme that year was all about looking back; looking back at the Fathers' Days that came before it with themes like D-Day, I Am Your Father, and Makua Ohana. The decorations were a lot simpler: a few cardboard boxes, some spray paint, and endless imagination. In fact, back then, the House Cup winner would be decided by a coin flip! Though that is obviously not the case anymore.

But even then, Fathers' Day was already a tradition long before we arrived. The theme reminded us of everything that Fathers' Day stood for—the bond between fathers and sons, the friendly rivalry between Vinta and Helm, and our sense of pride under the Admiral name.

Now, years later, as our batch prepares for its final Fathers' Day, the theme has taken a completely opposite direction. Instead of looking back, we're looking forward.

This year's theme, Dads of Tomorrowland, sounds like something straight out of a science fiction film: flying cars, robot assistants, maybe

even jetpacks. The idea draws from retro-futurism, a concept that reflects how people in the past imagined the future—bright, optimistic, and full of possibility. It's futuristic, but still very much human. Think of worlds like that of The Jetsons, Big Hero 6, or Disney's Tomorrowland, where imagination and innovation work hand in hand to promise a better tomorrow.

When we first conceptualized the theme, we pictured ourselves in a high school science fair—relentless young minds finding every possible way to solve age-old problems. In a way, we seniors felt the need to be exactly that: dreamers, builders, visionaries who looked at the challenges of this year's Fathers' Day not with fear, but with faith because this year came with its own set of challenges.

For the longest time, our batch has been known as one of the smallest, with only around sixty students going into high school. In fact, we're one of the few batches in history with only four senior high sections. But what we may lack in numbers, we've always made up in energy, passion, and teamwork. Like the inventors and

dreamers of retro-futuristic stories, our batch has always approached challenges with the belief that something great can come from even the smallest idea, which was essential as we headed to the drawing board.

Planning Fathers' Day began as early as June, and the process quickly revealed just how different this year would be. With the Sports Complex under construction, nearly every aspect of the event had to be revisited. Things that had long been afterthoughts in previous Fathers' Days—foot traffic, electrical connections, bathrooms, and much more—suddenly became major agenda items, meeting after meeting.

It wasn't always smooth, but in a way, the challenge felt fitting for the theme. And that brings me to the idea that inspired it all.

I remember first getting the idea for the theme

after watching the Disney film Meet the Robinsons, where a young inventor named Lewis learns to stop being defined by his past and instead focus on building the future, one invention at a time. The film's message was simple:

KEEP MOVING FORWARD.

That message brings everything full circle. Our Southridge journey began on February 7, 2014 with Back to the Father, a theme that

asked us to honor the traditions that came before us.

Now, exactly twelve years later, our final Fathers' Day—Dads of Tomorrowland—takes place on February 7, 2026, and we find ourselves doing the opposite. And perhaps that's the beauty of it all. Because most of the time, the best way to honor your past is to keep moving forward.





It all started with an application and a pinch of hope. There was an opportunity for three different Step-Up programs as choices: Washington, Nagasaki, and Australia. I was unsure on which one to apply for, so I shot my shot and I applied to all three to increase my chances. However, upon receiving an acceptance letter, I discovered that I had actually been accepted into two separate Step-Up programs: Step-Up x Washington and Step-Up x Nagasaki. I could not decide between one or the other, so I said to myself: “Why not both?” Consequently, even with the excitement of going abroad by myself, I was also scared to travel for the first time without my family.

Japan: The Land of the Rising Sons

The first stop was Nagasaki, Japan. On June 11, 2025—after all the preparation and anticipation—I and many others flew out to Japan for our cultural exchange program. When I asked Mr. Carlos Marquez and Mr. Ivan Basillaje, our teacher chaperones for the trip, about what Step Up x Nagasaki 2025 is about, they answered:

“Step Up x Nagasaki is a program where culture and traditions collide, where the students of PAREF Southridge step into the shoes of regular day-to-day Japanese life to see, to feel, and to experience what it is like.”

Subsequently, we asked questions like, “Will they accept us with open arms?” and even “Am I really going to be able to do this?”.

Unlike a typical student program abroad where sightseeing is the main priority, this program was more about “seeing through.” We, the participants, immersed ourselves in the customs, the disciplines, the language, and even the life of the Japanese people. We did a variety of activities: from bowing respectfully at their temples, and even to learning the values behind every ritual and custom, every gesture was a lesson for us, both in humility and in respect.

The Japanese way of life showed me how tradition and modernity can coexist gracefully,” Javi Gaspar, a batchmate of mine, shared. This reminded me that culture was not something that was only meant to be observed or studied, but it was something that we all need to live and understand, even if it is a culture juxtaposed with your own.

Through exchanges with our brother school, Seido Mikawadai, and our host families, bonds were built on shared curiosity, memories, and gratitude. The experience deepened our understanding that though countries may differ in both language and customs, the pursuit of kindness

and genuine interest is something that speaks universally to any person, regardless of race.

America: Liberty’s Home

After all the fun experiences and lessons learned in Step-Up x Nagasaki, I went back home to the Philippines only for my journey to continue a week later—this time across the Pacific, to the United States, for a leadership conference in Washington, D.C. Along with Matteo Embuscado, Markenzo Zaide, Enzo See, and Mr. Omar de Asis, the five of us flew to start our own learning experience.

The conference gathered students from various countries, namely: Venezuela, Guatemala, Argentina, Japan, Australia, and of course, the Philippines; all from schools inspired by the spirituality of St. Josemaria Escrivá, the founder of Opus Dei. It wasn’t just a meeting of minds, but of hearts formed by our similar faith, service, and desire to lead with purpose.

In the heart of America’s capital, surrounded by symbols of hope, freedom, democracy, courage, and history, students reflected on what it truly meant to lead. Leadership, I discovered, is not about authority, but it is about service to others. It is rooted in one’s integrity, humility, and deep understanding of the mission given to each of

us by God, which are all qualities that St. Josemaria embodied and taught with a smile.

Discussions and workshops centered on how to bring Christian values into daily decisions, how to inspire others through example, how to improve oneself as a person, and how to build bridges of understanding between varying beliefs and people. At the end of Step-Up x Washington, I gained an understanding that the gifts that God has given us are the gifts that we can use to lead others—not for self gain, but for the sake of others.

Subsequently, Step-Up x Washington was not just an all-serious experience that prioritized lectures and workshops; we also had various activities and tours. Some examples of these are going to the White House and Washington monument, going to various museums, watching a baseball game, and even playing with all the students in sports. There were a lot of fun things to do, emphasizing how being serious all the time is not ideal; we all deserve a rest and some fun from time to time.

Final Thoughts

Finally, my trip came to an inevitable end. From Nagasaki’s temples to Washington’s monuments, the disparity could not have been wider. And yet, both places taught me the same

calling: to step up, to grow, and to serve others.

Japan taught me mindfulness, patience, and respect towards people and other traditions. Washington taught me to have courage, faith, and leadership guided by a good heart. Together, they formed two halves of one lesson: that becoming who you are is not about travelling far, but about thinking deeply about oneself. I realized that no matter where one goes, the real journey is the one inward—the one that changes how you see the world, how you see others, and how you see yourself.

Now back home, the echoes of those experiences remain embedded in me—a bow exchanged with a Japanese student, a conversation exchanged with a leader in Washington, a prayer whispered before a newly presented challenge. “Step-Up: Around the World” isn’t just the story of one student; it is a reminder that for all of us to step forward, to move into the future, to improve ourselves. Every step beyond one’s comfort zone is a step closer to who we are meant to become. Because when you take that step—whether in Washington, Nagasaki, or right where you are standing right now—you do not just move across the world, you rise within it.

The Kings of the Dance Floor: SRDC's Triumph at Dance Supremacy Kings & Queens

by Jacob Malig

On January 10, 2026, the Southridge Dance Crew (SRDC) triumphed as champions in the Kings High School Division of Dance Supremacy Kings & Queens: Campus Edition held at the Solaire Theatre. Competing against elite teams like INDAK (Ateneo SHS) and Air Force (LSGH), and first-time competitors Perps INDAK (UPHSD) and Don Bosco Wolfpack, SRDC secured the top spot to mark their greatest milestone yet. Driven not solely by the goal to win, but by the goal to entertain and honor their families and faith, the team delivered a high-energy performance that turned months of anticipation into a historic victory.

The performance itself was an electric 2-minute and 30-second routine featuring a mix of "Ale" by The Bloomfields two versions of "Babaero": a live rendition by Randy Santiago and a Soul Version of the song made by Hev Abi. The crowd responded with standing ovations, and judges—including Coach MJ Arda of the legendary A-Team, Coach Carlos Serrano of the amazing TPM, and Vince Mendoza of the world-renowned Philippine All-Stars—praised the set, noting that "the funk was alive" and ranking SRDC first in routine quality. The team clinched the title with a score of 88.17%, a significant jump from their

previous competition score of 77.17%. Coaches Erik and Paeng described the run as the team's best ever, highlighting that their joy on stage outweighed any technical mistakes made.

This success was the result of a grueling preparation period that intensified just a week before the event when the routine was still unfinished. However, unlike previous years, the team was more "kabit"—or attached—and this transformed 14 individuals into a single, cohesive unit. This emotional bond and refined maturity allowed the team to improve drastically over past performances, proving that even underdogs can overcome storied rivals like INDAK and Air Force through shared focus and perseverance.

Looking ahead, SRDC remains committed to growth beyond the competition stage by exploring new dance styles and developing original choreography. SRDC will continue to perform at school fairs such as Fathers' Day and Woodrose's Family Day and collaborative concerts such as the Woodrose Dance Crew concert, maintaining the brotherhood that defines them. As the team moves forward, they hope to inspire new members to join the SRDC family, carrying on the spirit of dance and the legacy of this championship season.

Slow Start, Big Finish: Southridge's UAAP 88 Surge

by Leo Garcia and JB Canlapan

Southridge's UAAP football team combined disciplined off-season training with tight cross-batch teamwork to deliver a breakout run in UAAP Season 88. The campaign peaked with a stunning semifinal win over FEU and a narrow, hard-fought series that announced the guest school's arrival among the nation's elite.

The team's connection was matched with an even more disciplined preparation. Southridge's football team trained intensely throughout the Christmas break, rarely taking days off to meet the demands of the season. Their regimen included a four-day training camp from January 2 to 5, which became an important part of the foundation for its campaign and for future preparations down the line. With many players already familiar with UAAP competition, the team entered the games better prepared for the pace, pressure, and physicality of the league.

On the pitch, Southridge had a shaky start, opening with a 1-0 loss to Ateneo, a 3-3 draw against Adamson, and a 2-0 defeat to FEU. However, the team bounced back, defeating Claret 2-0 and UST 1-0, then proceeding to draw with Zobel 1-1 to stay in contention. Despite all this, their most memorable moment came in the semifinals, where they stunned FEU in the first game and held their nerve in a penalty shootout to force a second match. Although their season ended in a hard-fought 1-0 loss in the second semi final, PAREF Southridge proved it could stand toe-to-toe with the country's finest.



Leo Garcia, a member of the Southridge UAAP Football team, said:

"Beating FEU in the 1st semi final game was surreal. It felt like we were controlling the powerhouse and making them adjust to us instead,"

which ultimately shows that Southridge does have the potential to stand its ground on a national level.

For the team, UAAP Season 88 was not just about results. Instead, it was about remembering why they play. As Captain Carlito Vergara reminded the team before every game, the goal was to love the sport, trust in God, and enjoy every moment on the field. Thus, with that mindset, Southridge closed the season with pride, head held high, and set a high standard for the younger batches ready to carry the legacy forward in UAAP Season 89.



Collab with Art Club!



“Rejuvenate the Hope”

by Enzo Jatayna

Made this for the National Youth Conference 2025. It depicts what the Filipino youth can do to make a difference in society. Unfortunately, it didn't win the competition because I submitted it late.

“Sa Bawat Hampas ng Alon”

by Ken Britanico

This painting is part of my wave painting series. What I wanted to represent in the work are the fishermen here in the Philippines. I wanted to emphasize their resilience, courage, and deep connection with the sea. Every wave that crashes against their boats represents both the challenges and the rhythm of their daily lives. The fishermen in this piece symbolize the quiet strength of coastal communities.



About the Club

The Admirals Creator's Collective, the art club of PAREF Southridge, has been actively holding monthly meetings with both grade school and high school members. The club's vision is to uplift each member by providing opportunities to showcase and express themselves through art. Our members possess talents in a wide variety of artistic mediums, and the club nurtures these talents through different activities. These include joining art competitions, creating artworks using various media, and organizing art exhibitions that highlight the creativity of our artists.

Recently, many members of the club participated in competitions such as Vinta Cup 2026 and Vivens Homo 2026, where several of our artists received awards and recognition. These achievements reflect the dedication and passion of the club's members. Another important goal of the Admirals Creator's Collective is to help younger students explore different artistic mediums. With the guidance of senior artists from Southridge, younger members are introduced to various styles and techniques such as digital art, realism, landscape painting, and many more.

Through mentorship and collaboration, students are encouraged to develop their artistic skills and confidence. Art exhibitions are also one of the club's highlights. Last year, the Admirals Creator's Collective successfully held two exhibitions, showcasing the diverse talents of its artists. This year, the club is preparing another exhibition as part of the culminating activity entitled Concordia. Through these activities, the Admirals Creator's Collective continues to inspire students to explore their artistic potential and share their creativity with the wider school community.

Hollow Knight Silksong Review: Was it worth the seven-year wait?

by Julio Montañó

It is an understatement to say that Hollow Knight: Silksong was one of the most anticipated games of all time, especially considering the seven-year wait. Its prequel, Hollow Knight, was already one of the most well-received Metroidvanias ever released, which meant Silksong had to meet a lot of expectations. However, Hollow Knight: Silksong delivered on those hopes, innovating on its prequel and its genre as a whole.

Hollow Knight: Silksong showcases a more cohesive, easier-to-follow narrative than its predecessor, using a three-act structure to make the story more digestible. Each area is filled with its

own unique soundtrack, Non-playable characters, and story, giving Pharloom, the game's setting, a varied atmosphere throughout the journey. The characters that Hornet meets are memorable and engaging, thanks to their voice acting and witty dialogue. However, this is not the only improvement from the first game. The brand-new tools and crests add an extra layer of depth to the combat and movement, and create a wide variety of options for the player to use. Hollow Knight: Silksong features over 50 new tools and seven crests for the player to try, letting players create builds according to their preferences.

Despite the changes,

Hollow Knight: Silksong still retains what made Hollow Knight so great.

The soundtrack composed by Christopher Larkin is excellent and fits the Kingdom of Pharloom perfectly; it still has its somber elements and classical tone, but also sounds more lively and energetic to fit the setting. Furthermore, the iconic hand-drawn art style is back and stronger than ever. Team Cherry, the team behind the game, has done their best to make every character, environment, and animation harmonize and fit in the world. The bosses in Pharloom

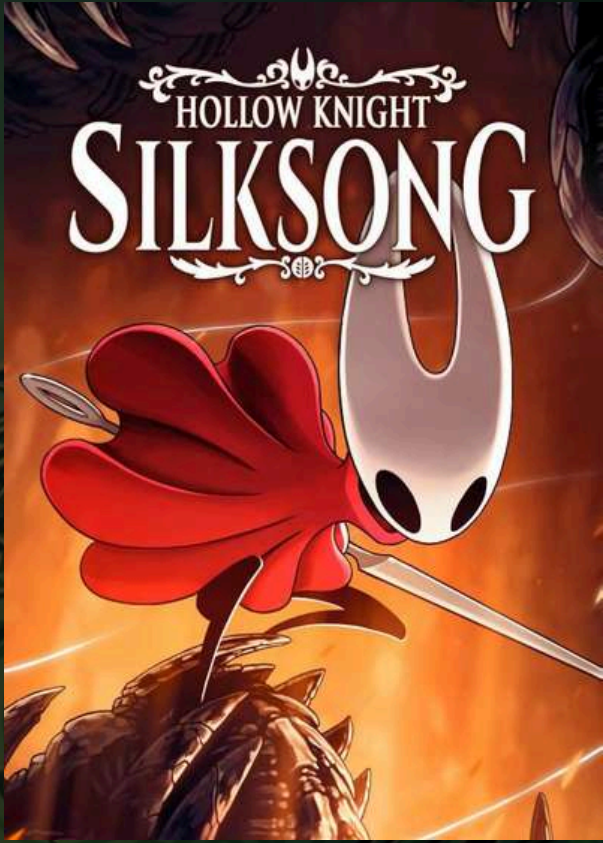
also present the player with challenging, fast, and well-designed gameplay, especially towards the end of the journey. Most of these bosses fit the golden standard of Hollow Knight and provide a memorable obstacle for the player to overcome.

The introduction of these new features is great, but it does not come without its flaws. One of these flaws is the new quest board system. On the surface, it provides quality side content away from the main story, and for the most part, it delivers, especially with the character-focused quests. Even so, the majority of them are uninteresting and repetitive fetch quests, which is uncharacteristic of

Team Cherry. Nonetheless, the new system was a step in the right direction and contributed to the game's immersion.

Despite these flaws, Silksong still delivers a pure metroidvania experience; every corner of Pharloom feels alive, refined, and intentional. The exploration and world in Hollow Knight's sequel is simply unmatched, considering how much there is to traverse. Hollow Knight: Silksong seamlessly binds together all the great aspects of its genre: fluid combat, excellent music, and a grand narrative anyone can enjoy. Ultimately, the wait was a small price to pay for such an excellent game, which brilliantly

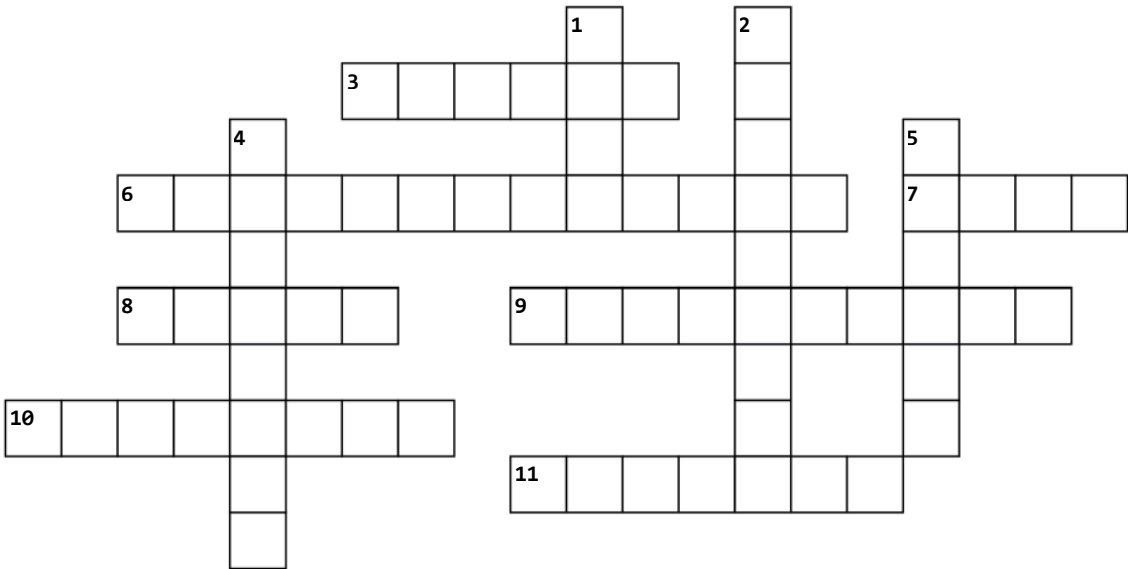
expands on the genre and presents an unforgettable adventure.



Crossword: Southridge Edition

by Rodrigo Prieto

Southridge



Across

- 3. House of God
- 6. Coming soon (2 words)
- 7. The Admiral (person)
- 8. Colorful boat
- 9. Southridge Lite
- 10. Musical tree
- 11. Shhhhhh!

Down

- 1. Steering wheel
- 2. Midday meal territory
- 4. Turtle den
- 5. Outdoor chatroom