

## OLESEK COLLECTS OLD BASEBALL BATS

by Dakota Rogers  
Editorial Editor

For freshman **Quinn Olesek**, ball is life. An avid baseball fanatic with an impressive collection of expensive gear and memorabilia, Olesek has dedicated most of his time and money to this game. Beyond his obsession with this American pastime, Olesek sinks hours of his time into caring for his brothers and tending to his family's assortment of animals.

Baseball has been an essential part of Olesek's life since his birth, and he has since grown and developed to become the dominating figure and athlete he is now. Currently, he plays for the Top Flight 16U baseball team, which is ranked fifth in California for its age group. This year, Olesek is trying out for the LGHS team as a catcher and stands above the competition for the incoming class. He is excited to play with his brother, senior **Brooks Olesek**, on the high school team, and looks forward to the experiences he will have playing at the next level.

In his career as a sports fan, Olesek considers himself a dedicated supporter of the San Francisco Giants and has even chosen his favorite color, orange, to match the team's signature orange and black color scheme. Always dreaming to be among the stars of the sport, Olesek



got his chance during baseball's Spring Training where he acted as the bat boy twice for the Los Angeles Angels. There he met numerous major league baseball players including Angels outfielder Mike Trout. Beyond the major league, Olesek proves his weird obsession for the sport with his vast collection of broken and signed minor league baseball bats which line the walls of his room. Olesek has dedicated so much of his time to baseball that he has adopted a life motto based

on the wise words of the baseball legend Yogi Berra, "If there's a fork in the road, take it."

Olesek spends little time outside of sports, but when he must pull himself away from athletics, he is caring for his family or succeeding in school. At his home tucked deep in the Santa Cruz mountains, Olesek and his family raise 3 cats and a dog, but also have a collection of 20 chickens. However, Olesek has not dedicated any time to naming every single bird and is reaching out to the community to name his chickens.

While Quinn Olesek might awkwardly stand out from the rest of the freshman class, his devotion to baseball and family round out his character, and he is happy to join the Wildcat family with his brother at school as well as the baseball team. And he wants to clear up one last thing: his last name Olesek is pronounced uh-less-ek.



Scan the QR code to help Olesek dub his twenty unnamed chickens!

## DZURKO IS THE QUEEN OF SYNCHRO

by Lauren Sanders  
Opinion Editor

When she's not traveling to exotic countries for synchronized swimming competitions, you can find sophomore **Nikki Dzurko** spending countless hours in the pool perfecting her technique or obsessing over Star Wars in the little free time she has.

Dzurko has been a synchronized swimmer for nine years with her club, the Santa Clara Aquamaids, and has earned herself a spot on the U.S. national team four times. This coveted position did not come easily, however. Dzurko's training regime includes intense practices that include everything from speed swimming to land workouts and other various exercises. While most synchronized swimmers practice for three to four hours a day, Dzurko actually leaves school early every other day in order to get in an extra long day of training. She says that it's hard work, but clearly it has paid off and given her a chance to represent the United States while competing internationally.

With the national team, Dzurko has traveled to several beautiful areas, most notably Greece, Rome, and Canada. She fondly recalls the trip to Greece two



years ago, calling it her favorite place to which she has traveled with the team. After the competition, she and her team went sightseeing around one of the world's most fascinating, magnificent countries. "It's the only place I've been to that actually looks like the pictures," Dzurko comments.

Dzurko spends the majority of her time training with her club team when she isn't globe-trotting with the national team. She is happy to report that although teammates come and go, the team is very tightly-knit, as they have all worked together for years. Santa Clara Aquamaids is one of the biggest clubs in the United States, where Dzurko is instructed by several coaches with Olympic experience. When asked about her plans for the future, Dzurko excitedly answered that her goal is to compete in the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. She plans to attend a nearby college, such as Santa Clara University, for two years while she trains for the Olympics.

Although Dzurko is almost always in the pool, she somehow finds time to succeed in school. She especially enjoys taking Ceramics, where she is constantly offered Ceramics teacher Mr. Aguayo's renowned salsa. Dzurko admits to not actually liking salsa, but nevertheless, she deems the teacher's salsa "good." As well as making all sorts of clay projects, Dzurko also pursues baking, and when asked about her favorite food to make, she laughed and answered, "the only thing I can't burn is lemon bars."

What most people don't know about Dzurko is that she is "Star Wars crazy." Having seen all of the movies multiple times, she considers "The Empire Strikes Back" to be her favorite. While Dzurko is excited for the upcoming seventh movie, she remains slightly apprehensive, but "trusts Disney not to ruin the series."

Dzurko is a kind, charismatic young woman whose hard work and dedication are key elements of her current and upcoming successes. Make sure to look for her on the 2020 Olympic synchronized swimming team!

## Kamyshenko lives for now

by Sanna Hakkarainen  
News Editor

Junior **Danyyl Kamyshenko** is much more than his unique first impression. After talking to Kamyshenko, it is evident that he is strikingly sentimental and extremely hilarious. When asked to describe himself using nouns Kamyshenko said, "ear as I am a good listener, potato as I am weird, random, and round like a potato; also I would hate myself if I didn't put potatoes in the list. And table as I am someone you can lean on," all of which describes his personality perfectly.

Continuing with Kamyshenko's extraordinary personality, his friends would describe him as "weird," and his life in six words is "the best thing to ever happen." The motto he lives by is "You might as well die doing something that you love," then explained that he is not suicidal, but that this sentiment is a more proper way of saying the common phrase "yolo."

Kamyshenko also loves Disney, and when asked what his favorite Disney princess is, Kamyshenko replied, "Curse you for asking this question! I don't know how to pick just one," but managed to decide that Rapunzel was his favorite because "she was the first step away from classical Disney animation. Also, she has hair powers which is awesome." Kamyshenko's favorite color is pink, and he chose this color because, "It is the most random color that there is, so it suits me perfectly." He says that he does not have a role model because, "I am my own person. I don't want to be like anyone."

Along with his personality, Kamyshenko has an uncommon outlook on life. He claims that when he was younger "I did not know what I wanted to be when I grew up because I never wanted to think that far ahead. To avoid the question I would tell people that I wanted to be a scientist." Kamyshenko says that he wants to live life in the moment, rather than worrying about what he will be doing in the future. He says "I

don't like to plan ahead. Ever. If I plan ahead, the world is ending, and I am writing my will."

Kamyshenko is also very interested in art and hopes to do something artistic in the future, saying, "I want to do something artsy. Maybe music related, but I love drawing." Though he dreams of making music, Kamyshenko has a secret fear of the stage. He is currently writing a science fiction novel about what will happen after the world ends. There is only one man and one woman left, and they must survive on the ravaged planet. He is planning to illustrate the drawings for the novel and has already made some sketches to go along with the story.



The aspiring author is completely aware that he strays from the norm. He tries to do so, saying that he does it because "I had a regular life, so I put some spice into it." Kamyshenko is happy to live for the present with his pet tarantula. Feel free to say hi to Kamyshenko in the halls, for his confidence in his individuality will surely brighten your day.

## Head lifeguard Keady doesn't want to share her clothes

by Charlotte Pla  
World Editor

She runs on the cross country team and takes pride in her spot at the back of the pack. "When I tell people I'm on cross country they think that's cool, but they don't know the truth," says junior **Rachel Keady**. She's the slowest runner on the cross country team, and isn't doing it to break a PR time. Keady's original incentive to join the team was a deal she made with her parents: join a sport and you can get your long-awaited guinea pig. "His name is Sherlock; he's black and white," Keady says.

For Keady, the deal was a win-win. She enjoys running enough to continue in her off season and has close ties to her teammates and coach. She runs an average of four miles a day and then gets to come home to Sherlock, whom she admits is slightly neglected. To be fair, Keady has to evenly distribute her attention between all of her chickens, dogs, and cats, on top of Sherlock. "It's mutual though," Keady says, "We [she and Sherlock] acknowledge each other, and that's about all that needs to be done." Keady guesses he's around 3 to 4 years old (he was adopted at an unknown age), which means he is nearing the end of the average 5-year life span of a guinea pig. "My parents are hoping it's sooner than 5 years," Keady says.

Outside of cross country and avid animal-loving, Keady is developing a passion for politics. She partially accredits the newlyfound interest to Mr. Rudolph, AP Euro and APUSH teacher at LGHS. Keady is the number 1 Rudolph fan and has had the privilege of being lectured by him in AP Euro her sophomore year and APUSH this year. "Honestly, there should be a textbook of his opinions," Keady says.

Another factor swaying Keady towards politics is the developing presidential campaign. She has begun to keep up with the election's progress, the candidates, and their campaigns as well. The election

has ultimately broadened her senses of current issues and events, which will hopefully lead Mr. Rudolph to become Keady's number 1 fan. Voters shouldn't be expecting to see Keady's name on a ballot anytime soon though, for she is leaning more towards the political analysis or campaign management side of government.

Ironically, if politics ever take a droll turn, Keady would like to write for SNL as well as comedy movies/shows. Whether participating in a campaign or poking fun at it, Keady has quite the career standard for her future self.

Before she even considered the future or a professional career, Keady started small as a lifeguard at Courtside Bay Club. In her short time at Courtside, she has already been promoted to head lifeguard whose duties include scheduling management and overall supervision of other lifeguards. Keady laughs when asked why she chose lifeguarding as a summer job. "It has always been a classic teenager job, you know? Which is weird, because you're a teenager in charge of saving other people's lives." The pressure doesn't seem to bother Keady, nor does the financial independence that comes with the job. Keady likes to spend her paychecks going out to movies with

friends, the followup "classic teenager" way to spend a paycheck.

Though Keady's schedule may sound busy with work, sport, or school, she still finds the downtime to bake and watch the first three episodes of a Netflix series before giving up on it. "I'll watch the first three episodes and stop. Ten seasons is daunting! It's too much commitment!" And although Netflix hasn't proven itself as a worthy time outlet for Keady, she's found one as the vice president of the Open Hearts Club, a club that volunteers at the Campbell Children's Recovery Center dedicated to lessening the stigma of mental disabilities. Keady invests her time well whether it is through clubs, school, or other commitments which have contributed to the ideal, well-rounded teenager.

More important than school and other commitments to Keady is her family. She is an older sister to two younger sisters and does her best to enforce the no-sharing-of-clothes rule. Growing up with a former Marine as a father, Keady has heard a lifetime's worth of, "Suck it up!" The advice only made Keady more determined and driven, and shouldn't be taken too seriously, for her family is the type to joke around.

So if you ever happen to see the girls cross country team out for a jog, look for the last in line and ask her about the cream puffs she baked last week; that, or her obsession with Derek Zoolander.

