

Three Students go to Junior National Youth Leadership Conference

Nominated by their teacher, Alison Stone, Richmond Street School fifth graders Isaac Lambert, Griffin Martes and Nicholas Mazuk have been selected as Junior National Scholars to represent El Segundo at the Junior National Youth Leadership Conference (JrNYLC) in Washington D.C. this summer.

Over 250 outstanding middle school students from across the United States will take part in an extraordinary leadership conference in Washington, D.C. Themed "Voices of Leadership: Reflecting on the Past to create the Future," the JrNYLC introduces young people to the rich tradition of leadership throughout American history, while helping them develop their own leadership skills. "I am most looking forward to meeting other young leaders in the conference and to learn about the history of leadership," said Griffin.

"These three boys possess all the skills and strengths to become leaders in our community and beyond. They are already leaders in our classroom. Academically, socially, and athletically, these young men set the standard. I am so excited for them to have this opportunity as I know all three will soak up the chance to learn more about themselves and their nation," said Stone.

"The aim of the Junior National Youth Leaders Conference is to inspire students to recognize their own leadership skills, measure their skills against those of current and former leaders and return home with new found confidence in their ability to exercise positive influence within their communities," said Marguerite Regan, Dean of Academic Affairs for the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC), the organization that sponsors JrNYLC. "Young people are not only welcome in Washington, D.C.; they actually keep this city and our country running."

During the six-day program, scholars take part in educational activities and presentations; as well they may meet with elected officials and key Congressional staff members on Capitol Hill. Students also visit relevant sites, such as Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

and Washington, D.C.'s monuments and memorials.

In addition to examining notable U.S. leaders and historic figures, students study the impact of leadership throughout critical periods of American history including the Civil War and Reconstruction, World War II, the Great Depression and the Civil Rights Movement. Upon completion of JrNYLC, students gain a greater sense of understanding of the role of individuals in American democracy, as well as the responsibilities of being a leader. "I hope to learn how to become a better leader," said Nicholas.

The tuition to attend this conference is \$1895 plus airfare per child. In order to help fund the trip, Isaac, Griffin and Nicholas have developed a fundraising project that will not only raise money, but will help our community at the same time. The boys kicked off a canned food drive this week at their school and are asking for pledges per can of food they collect. The canned food will be donated to our local food bank. Isaac said, "The fundraiser is not just about raising money. It is about helping people in our community who are in need."

While Isaac has been to Washington, D.C. before, this will be Griffin and Nicholas' first trip to our nation's capital. All three boys are extremely excited to go on this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the boys can make checks payable to "Congressional Youth Leadership Council" and mail to Griffin Martes, 674 W. Palm Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245.

CYLC is a nonpartisan educational organization. Since 1985, the Council has inspired more than 200,000 young people to achieve their full leadership potential. Members of the U.S. Congress join our commitment by serving on the CYLC Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors. In addition, more than 40 embassies participate in the Council's Honorary Board of Embassies.

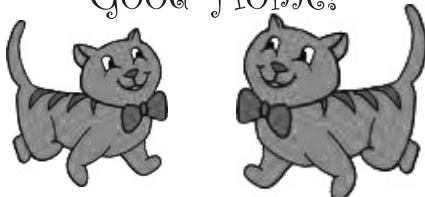
Kitty

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We have several weekly adoption events in the Westside. On Saturday/Sunday we are at a venue located in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Avenue, just south of Venice Boulevard. On Saturday only, we are in West Los Angeles at 11055 West Pico Boulevard at Pico and Sepulveda; and on Sunday, we are in Santa Monica at 2910 Wilshire Boulevard at Yale Street. Adoption hours at these venues are noon to 3:30 p.m. We also have our fourth Saturday of the month

venue in Manhattan Beach located at 1816 North Sepulveda Boulevard, with adoption hours from 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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Eagles' Softball Wins Round One Playoff Game

By Andrew Thomas

Photos by Marcy Dugan marcyduganphoto.com

The El Segundo varsity softball team entered the playoffs with a 24-3 record, a Pioneer League championship, three tournament titles this season, and a number two seed in the playoffs. But when the first pitch was thrown, both teams were starting the new season--the playoff season--fresh and with one goal: to win a CIF title. The Eagles waited a few innings to get their offense going, but when they did, it was apparent they were serious about returning to the CIF championship game.

The game was scoreless until the third inning when the Eagles erupted. Anissa Noland led off with a single. She stole second and was in scoring position when Gabby Valerio hit a towering shot off the top of the right field fence for a double which gave the Eagles a 1-0 lead. Missy Schaefer laid down a sacrifice bunt to move pinch runner Sammy LaPlante to third with only one out. Erin Burner then laid down a perfect squeeze bunt, scoring LaPlante to give the Eagles a 2-0 lead over Saddleback. Burner took second on the play, giving the Eagles another runner in scoring position.

The floodgates seemed to open after that, as the Eagles mounted a huge rally. Katy Roach walked to put two on with one out. Heidi Skulick then bunted for a base hit to load the bases. A walk to Dani Hannan scored the third run of the day, and the bases were loaded for Jenna Rich. Saddleback proceeded



Jenna Rich pitches a shut out.



Anissa Noland opens the game with a base hit.

to walk Rich to make it 4-0. Sam Heyman lined a two-run single to left-center, and the rout was in full force. By the time the inning was over, the Eagles had erupted for eight runs to take a commanding lead in round one.

"That was a great inning for us," exclaimed Eagle head coach Keith Cameron. "We did everything right in the inning. We hit, we were disciplined at the plate, we ran the bases well, and we bunted well. We did everything we have been talking about all year. We paid attention to the small details. That is what wins ballgames."

Eagles' pitcher Rich was dominant on the mound. She held Saddleback hitless until the sixth inning, when she gave up a single to right with two outs. Devon Bargmann closed it out in the seventh, and the Eagles were victorious by a score of 9-0.

Rich finished the game with nine strikeouts, two walks and one hit allowed. Heyman, Noland, and Hannan each had two hits for the Eagles, who finished the game with nine hits overall. Noland and Heyman each had two RBIs and scored a run. Hannan scored twice for the Eagles and added an RBI.

The victory moves the Eagles into round two of the playoffs. They will travel to Indio to take on Indio High School on Tuesday, May 26. With a victory, the Eagles will compete in the quarterfinals on Thursday, May 28 at a site to be determined. The Eagles' record is now 25-3 for the season.

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