

the knight

MCCALLUM High School  
AUSTIN, TX.....

2016  
VOLUME  
63

the knight

SEN 16RS

WALKING ON  
SUNSHINE 2016





**ON THE COVER**

Seniors cross pinkies during the school song at the final pep rally of the school year on Feb. 4. "Unlike students elsewhere, McCallum students reach across boundaries and take advantage of the diverse opportunities at our school," senior **Sarafina Fabris-Green** said, who is pictured on the left. "Theater majors attend football games. Athletes wouldn't miss the student-run fashion show." Photo by Christina Beck.

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WALKING ON

SUNSHINE



A close-up photograph of the Knight in Shining Armor mascot. The mascot is wearing a silver helmet with a black plume, a chainmail collar, and a black tunic. He has a large, dark mustache and blue eyes. He is holding a black peace sign in his right hand. The background shows a crowd of people at a football game.

**KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR**  
Knight McKnight (aka junior Terin Dailey) throws up peace signs during a football game at House Park. "I love supporting and representing McCallum," Dailey said. "It is an honor and a privilege to get to do what I do." Photo by Christina Beck.

WALKING ON.....

# SUNSHINE

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McCallum High School and Fine Arts Academy  
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Austin, Texas 78756  
Phone: (512) 414-2519  
[www.austinschools.org/campus/mccallum](http://www.austinschools.org/campus/mccallum)  
Population: 1,690  
District: 26-5A







**V-I-C-T-O-R-Y**  
Seniors at the Taco Shack pep rally cheer for the Class of 2016, who ultimately won the spirit stick. "I like pep rallies because it's a fun way to end the day, and you get really excited before the game," senior David Ruwwe said. Photo by Christina Beck.

come rain or  
**SHINE**

Waking up early Aug. 24, we started a new school year, trading sunshine on the beach for Sunshine Drive. Throughout the summer we'd done things out of the ordinary, from hiking through India to an unforgettable trip to Crooked Creek Ranch with YoungLife, and now we were ready to keep all those memories with us as the new school year commenced. We had our time in the spotlight at homecoming during "A Knight in Hollywood," both on the football field and the dance floor. And

later we survived a day full of darkness and shadows when torrential rains led to the now infamous blackout. When the Battle of the Bell was moved to Saturday, we stood proudly in the stands, cheering on the seniors for the last home game. Whether it was a marching band practice early in the morning or a newspaper deadline that extended late into the night, it was always our time to shine.

**student life**





**NOT AFRAID OF SNAKES**  
Senior Tonia Cruz holds anatomy teacher Richard Whisennand's corn snake, Rusty, while seniors Dylan Tacker, Jania Zenon, and Siomara Varela look on. "Rusty is actually the coolest snake ever," Cruz said. "I used to have a problem with snakes but Mr. Whiz said to treat him like any other animal." Photo by Hannah Ilan.

on the  
**RISE**

**A**s students, we spent over seven hours each day in the classroom, on the field or in the MAC. We spent our time reading the classics, like Homer's *Odyssey*, and some newfangled novels as well, like *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. And if we were not annotating or skimming Spark Notes, then we were perfecting our factoring technique, working on the latest chemistry lab or taking notes on the Revolutionary War.

In total, we spent 1,305 hours learning, thriving and ultimately

working towards walking across the stage at graduation. Whether we were in the science hall, trying to ignore the smell of formaldehyde, or in the history hall, layering on jacket after jacket, we continued to move forward, literally and figuratively, expanding our minds and refining our skills along the way. We were always on the rise, pushing to become better and stronger students.

**academics**





**TINY BUT MIGHTY**  
Freshman Tino Depaz runs past defenders during the Battle of the Bell. Depaz ran for more than 300 yards and scored three touchdowns during the game against Travis. "I didn't expect [to be moved up to varsity], so it was a big surprise," Depaz said. Photo by Dave Winter.

without a shadow of  
**DOUBT**

**O**K, so maybe we didn't win the Taco Shack Bowl. And sure, it was disappointing to walk out of House Park Stadium with a loss, but we didn't show up just for the "W." Every game, we laced up our shoes, filled our water bottles and turned up the pre-game music to do something that we love, always giving 110 percent. Whether we were competing on land, in water or in air (don't forget the pole vault), we always put our best foot forward, quite literally. Anderson and LBJ can brag all they want, but our teams possessed

something theirs will never have: spirit, drive and, most of all, loyalty to each other and to our school. Without a shadow of doubt, we dedicated ourselves to our craft, our art, our sport. From cross country to softball, swimming to golf, we stayed true to the blue, regardless of the final score.

**sports**





**SONDHEIM STAR**  
Junior Max Corney performs "Forget War" in the fall production of *Sondheim on Sondheim*. "[Sondheim had] a very versatile range of characters you can play," Corney said. "You're not playing one character, you're playing many, and the changes in characters happens in seconds." Photo by Madison Olsen.

we've got  
**SOL**

**W**e've got sol (the Spanish word for sunshine) and a lot of soul too. We've got bravado, finesse and an eye for color. We spend our days dancing in the Black Box, building in the shop and throwing pots in the art room because we are artistically-driven, independent individuals working to make our mark on the world.  
No one else can say they are a part of the Grammy-winning Fine Arts Academy. No one else can say they are a part of a community

of incredibly talented young artists. From Movie Music in the Park to *Sondheim on Sondheim*, Choir Cabaret to the Benefit Dance Show, we put our hearts on the stage, the floor and the canvas.  
Some people say we're a little bit out-of-the-ordinary, a little quirky and odd. But our eccentricities make us who we are: unique and creative human beings.

**fine arts**



**FIGHTING FOR A GOOD CAUSE**

Students hurl water balloons at Narcotics Detection Handler Tony Andrew (not pictured) during Pink Week. PALS raised more than \$1,200 for breast cancer research. "It really meant a lot to me to participate in Pink Week because my grandma is a breast cancer survivor, so I understand how important it is to raise money to find a cure," junior Santiago Fernandez said. Photo by Madison Olsen.



a place in the  
**SUN**

To some people, the school day ended when the bell rang at 4:15 p.m., but for many of us, that was not the case. Whether we were broadcasting live on MAC Radio or preparing for an upcoming debate, we rarely left the building when the final bell rang, dedicating our time to our school and our community. Some people say you find yourself in high school, and we proved the adage true. From mentoring students at local elementary and middle schools in PALS to driving the No Place for Hate campaign

in conjunction with Spectrum, we found our calling and our place in the sun. We gave back, paid it forward and invested our time in something we love. We became an integral part of our community and school.

**clubs**





**WE'VE GOT SPIRIT**  
Senior Charlie Beck beats his chest as he pumps up the student section at the Taco Shack Bowl at House Park on Aug. 27. "I start talking good about our team and trash talk their team which helps everyone get excited," Beck said. "I like to come out and support our team." Photo by Maya Coplin.

bright  
**EYED**

From sunrise to sunset, we occupy Sunshine Drive. We walk the street and crowd the halls. We (hopefully) arrive just in time for first period to start, bright-eyed and ready to take on the day. Without us, there is no McCallum. There is no "sunshine" to Sunshine Drive. Whether we're outgoing or more reserved, we make McCallum what it is: a community of passionate students, teachers and administrators. We're not complete without the McCallum Twitter feed, courtesy of assistant principal Larry Featherstone, or the foreign

exchange students who spent their time in the States with us. We are not whole without the juggling master that is math teacher Scott Pass or the student store which fills the halls with music and provides us with those heavenly brownies.

All in all, it's the people that make Sunshine Drive so great. Whether we're hanging out in the courtyard or relaxing by the baseball fields, we make McCallum the sunny place it is.

**people**





Clockwise from top left. FOOTBALL: Coach Charles Taylor, Tyler Page. BASKETBALL: Roman Zamora, Jackson Vanderslice. HOMECOMING: Britny Clayton-Mitchell, JR Scott. JAPANESE RESTAURANT DAY: Mari Olds, Abbey Douglass, Jessica Wheless, Calena Kovar, Cooper Jobe. TITANIC: Riley Simpson. HOLIDAY GUITAR CONCERT: Jackson Haynes. HOMECOMING PEP RALLY: Day'Lon Bryd. SANTA SIGHTING: Ethan Franks, Larry Featherstone, Chase Pugh. DANCE SHOW REHEARSAL: Caitlyn Burris, Will Loewen. HALFTIME SHOW: Jerod Bork, Lee Henry, Izzy Heffington, Amon Stewart, Mollie Adolph. THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER: Austen Juul-Hansen, Tristan Tierney, Terin Dailey, Solana Oliver, Max Corney. TEACHER PORTRAIT: Diana Adamson. WRESTLING REGIONALS: Jasmine Davis, Maya Shimizu, Adriana Boortz, Makenna Mabon. AMY'S ICE CREAM: James Sipowicz. BASEBALL: Jonah Smith, Sam Russell. AVID FIELD TRIP: Sara Denton, Deevira Easley, Hailey Brown, Leander Thompson, Savion Perkins.

Clockwise from top left. A.L.L.I.E.S. AT McCALLUM: Kennedy Austin, Rory Thomas, Sophia Shampton, Maggie Bishop, Sophie Ryland, Eamon Crawford, Cat Crandall. LUNCH CONCERT: Gabe Kubanda draws a crowd. BEATLES EXHIBIT AT LBJ LIBRARY: Seth Birrell. MR. McCALLUM: winner Jordan Wolleben, Ms. Judi Bork, contestant Jerod Bork. POLE VAULT: Laney Hawn, who won first place at the South Austin Relays. BALLET FOLKLORICO: Patricia Henderson, Jenny Peña, Naomi Calderon. SONGWRITING: Kimberly Seals, Sophia Curry. TACO SHACK PEP RALLY: James Sullivan fires up the senior section. FASHION SHOW: Jack Switzer, Brittne Miller. SOCCER: Griffin Smith heads the ball to score the game-winning goal versus Travis. VOLLEYBALL: The varsity team huddles before a big win over Ann Richards.

# THE SUN

also sets

Sometimes the school year seems like it lasts forever; sometimes it seems like it rushes by like a single day.

"I know in the future I'll wish I could just have one more swim practice or one more high school football game," senior Nyla Gershoni said. "It goes by fast, so I tried to make the most of it."

With the help of our friends and teachers, we all did. Whether it be in fine arts, academics, sports or extracurriculars, McCallum offered everything under the sun and a place for each of us to shine.

But as the seniors depart from Sunshine Drive for the last time as students, they say they'll remember McCallum not for its many wonderful programs but for its many wonderful people.

"The most memorable thing about McCallum for me has definitely been the people," senior Hannah Wright said. "It's such an interesting community to be a

part of, and I'll never forget how welcoming and great people are here."

Senior Haley Hegefeld said she learned that truth in the first months of her freshman year. As she leaves for college, Haley said she will always appreciate how everyone is encouraged to be themselves. She believes that going to this school taught her to feel more confident and to embrace herself for who she is.

"I really think that that is more important than any one skill that going through high school could have taught me," she said. "Because when you're confident in who you are, you can make better decisions and you're happier in general and more able to go and do what you want."

When June 2 comes around, and seniors toss up their graduation caps, they will say goodbye to Sunshine Drive. While they may no longer roam the vibrant street where they once learned and lived, Sunshine Drive will remain a part of who they are forever.



**FADE TO BLACK**

Teacher Lolly Randal walks down the hallway near the journalism room after the power went out on Nov. 20 during the middle of sixth period. The outage was caused by a truck hitting a power pole on Sunshine Drive. The power was restored just after seventh period began, and the ordeal was reminiscent of an earlier power outage that lasted almost the entire school day on Oct. 30. Photo by Franny Wethington.



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