



Kylee Yeh: 1000 Strong

BY CHLOE DUNLAP
THEME EDITOR
AND AASIMA ALI
STAFF WRITER

Junior guard Kylee Yeh, a pivotal leader for Costa's girls basketball team, reached a major milestone: surpassing 1,000 career points during the Surf City Classic on Dec. 30.

As the Mustangs' point guard, Yeh helped lead the team to a 3-1 tournament record while averaging 15 points per game, along with five rebounds and five assists.

"My teammates have played a key role in helping me achieve my 1000 career points," said Yeh. "Without them I wouldn't have been so successful."

At 5-foot-9, Yeh plays point guard and small forward, giving the Mustangs versatility in their lineup. She contributes in multiple ways, including scoring, setting up teammates, and playing solid defense, while currently being one of Bay League's top scorers.

"The second Kylee made the team freshman year, she has contributed heavily to the success of the program," said varsity player junior Lyla Reyes.

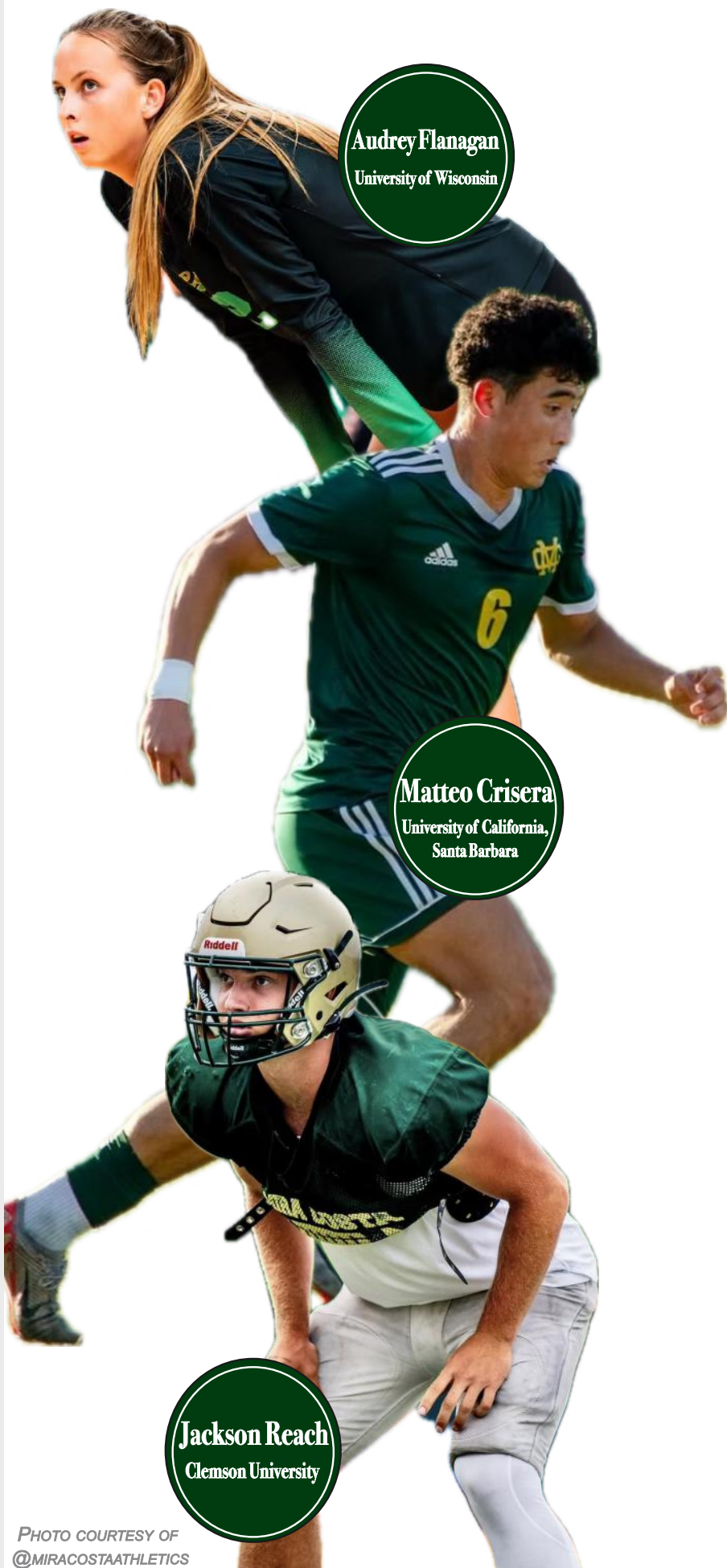
As Yeh looks ahead, she hopes to continue her basketball career at the collegiate level. With an offer from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, she aims to capitalize on her potential to succeed at the next level.

"I'm super excited for the next step in my basketball career," said Yeh. "I'm ready to take what I've learned to the next level."



MILESTONE: MIRA COSTA JUNIOR KYLEE YEH POSES WITH A COMMEMORATIVE BASKETBALL. SHE REACHED THE 1,000-POINT MILESTONE DURING THE SURF CITY CLASSIC. PHOTO COURTESY OF @MIRACOSTAGBB

Leveling up and leaving early



Audrey Flanagan
University of Wisconsin

Matteo Crisera
University of California,
Santa Barbara

Jackson Reach
Clemson University

PHOTO COURTESY OF
@MIRACOSTAATHLETICS

These three Mustangs graduated early to start their collegiate careers

BY VANESSA MASTERSON
EXECUTIVE FEATURES EDITOR

Matteo Crisera

Contrast "The college level and style is so different from anything I have experienced, and being able to go early and adapt before the season starts is a big advantage"

Downside "The worst part about it is those senior year experiences that I am missing out on."



The Process

"Throughout the whole recruiting process my main goal was to look at the school first and then the soccer program. I loved everything about the campus and the school and along with that I felt that the team was a great fit for me as well."

PHOTO COURTESY OF @MATTEOCRISERA_

Audrey Flanagan

The Beginning "I've been playing volleyball my whole life, but I realized I wanted to get serious and play in college when I was in eighth grade."



Settling In "It's a lot easier to acclimate and bond with the girls when you come early so you can get to know each other."

PHOTO COURTESY OF @AUDREYFLANAGAN

Jackson Reach

The Benefits

"The benefits are getting an extra 4 months to work out before my fall season, so I can start as a freshman."



PHOTO COURTESY OF
@CLEMSONFB

Manhattan Beach Youth Basketball Unites Costa Students

BY CADEN LIM
EXECUTIVE ART EDITOR

With buzzing gyms, the 2026 Manhattan Beach Youth Basketball season tipped off in early January, launching another exciting year of community competition. The volunteer-run recreational league welcomes boys and girls from kindergarten to 12th grade, giving players an opportunity to compete and stay connected on the court.

This year, MBYB features 14

boys high school teams and two girls high school teams made up of students from Mira Costa. Games are held on Sundays at the Mira Costa athletic complex, with teams both managed and coached by students. One of those coaches is Benny Stillman, a junior at Costa who helps lead Costa's team Island Elite.

"I enjoy coaching a team in MBYB because it allows me to cultivate team culture within a competitive environment," said Stillman. "I find it rewarding to

mentor athletes."

For many players, MBYB provides a way to play organized basketball alongside friends without the pressure of a highly competitive season. Senior Cade Lagerwey returned this season after spending time away from the sport, using the league as a way to reconnect during his final year.

"I haven't played basketball in a long time, so being able to come back my senior year and just play with my friends has been fun," said Lagerwey."



HOOP CENTRAL: MIRA COSTA STUDENTS POSE AFTER AN MBYB GAME AT THE COSTA GYM. THE 2026 MANHATTAN BEACH YOUTH BASKETBALL SEASON BEGAN EARLIER THIS MONTH. PHOTO COURTESY OF BEN WINKLER