



Charger Spotlight: Madeline Matthys

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Every school has a few extremely driven students, the ones that really go above and beyond expectations.

Madeline Matthys, a Dos Pueblos junior, is one of these talented and dedicated, but insanely busy students. Just this year she's enrolled in five AP classes, along with her participation in varsity tennis, tutoring, Engineering Academy, and Mock Trial.

On average, Matthys says she spends over fifteen hours on homework a week, and is usually at school until late in the afternoon for either varsity tennis or Mock Trial.

So what exactly drives her to work so hard?

"I don't want to come out of high school knowing that I didn't dedicate myself completely to the work I was doing," Matthys says.

Even though all her activities can be overwhelming, Matthys feels like she is gaining much from her strenuous schedule.

"I'm learning responsibility, time management, and how to balance my social life with education," Matthys says as she fondly reflects on her years at DP.

However, taking five AP classes, along with numerous extra curricula is no easy feat, a fact that Matthys has experienced firsthand. "I have learned to just take things one at a time," Matthys says.

When people ask her how she manages to get all her work done she replies, "I just do it."

Matthys has learned that when faced with multiple assignments or tests, the best thing to do is just buckle down and get them done.

Matthys's life is not all work though, she has many activities that she does just for pure enjoyment. She is DP's closing attorney for their world class mock trial team, as well as one of the engineering students for the 2014 class.

"I love mock trial because we get to portray a different person and work on our public speaking skills while forming a team dynamic," Matthys says as she explains her commitment to Mock Trial. "It is a great place to teach and be taught."

Matthys recently went to New York with her Mock Trial team, where she not only earned the prestigious award of best attorney, but also helped the team to place second in the world.

As for the Engineering Academy, Matthys loves the closeness felt by all the participants of the program. She is happy to be in such a tight group of students, and is very excited to help build the robot next year.

Matthys has also developed a passion for teaching. "I really love teaching kids," Matthys says, revealing her attachment to tutoring. "I feel like I'm making a difference in their schooling and the success they will have in the future."

Dos Pueblos is not the only environment where Matthys excels, she has also been a part of a research mentor-ship at UCSB.

Over the summer she worked under professional guidance to research poly-cystic kidney disorder in mice.

"[As a result] a medical professor from Stanford is asking me to work in the hospitals next summer doing research," Matthys says in excitement.

Even though Matthys is currently undecided about her college major, she knows it will relate to either medicine or law.

As far as college is concerned, Matthys says, "I just want to go to a school that is challenging and will suffice for grad school."

Matthys may have outstanding academic achievements, but there is more to her than just being an amazing student.

"Even though I am dedicated to school, I am also extremely dedicated to my friends and family. I want to achieve academically, but I also love to hang out with my friends and enjoy all the aspects of high school outside of class."