



THE KING'S ACADEMY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Seven TKA Athletes Sign College Offers

SUNNYVALE, CA, May 18, 2021 — The King's Academy held a **signing celebration on Thursday, May 13, recognizing the following TKA athletes who signed college athletic offers.** [View photos](#) from the signing celebration!

Kristyn Barton: Basketball. Pacific University (Div. 3)

Kristyn has played basketball for 12 years and has earned many recognitions for her sport including WBAL Skyline First Team All League, WBAL Skyline MVP, TKA Girls Varsity MVP (twice), TKA Winter Sport Athlete of the Year. One of her most memorable moments was winning league championships her junior year. Kristyn is also active in National Honor Society, San Jose Ninjas Basketball Club and as a Vacation Bible School Youth Assistant.

Casey Cazanjan: Water Polo. Biola University (Div. 2)

At TKA, Casey played water polo for four years. He was selected MVP and recognized twice for the PHD (Pride, Hustle, Drive) award. He was also named Academic all-American by the national youth water polo organization (USA Water Polo). Casey reflects on one fond memory: *“One of my most memorable moments was a game I played for the TKA team, in which I scored two full court goals in the same game. For context, water polo goalkeepers may never score a goal in their entire careers.”* Casey served four years on the School Improvement Council and also actively serves on the West Water Polo Club. He is also involved in the senior life group at Westgate Church.

Valerie Legates: Volleyball. Utah Valley University (Div. 1)

Valerie has played volleyball for eight year. She has been awarded: TKA 2017-18 Female Freshman Athlete of the Year, 2018-19 Female Sophomore Athlete of the Year, 2019 Fall Sports Award, WBAL 2017, 2018, 2019 Girls Volleyball Skyline Division All-League First Team, TKA Girls Varsity Volleyball MVP 2018, 2019. She recounts on of her most memorable moments: *“One of my most memorable moments while playing volleyball at King's was winning our league my freshman year.”*

Garret Plata: Baseball, Saint Mary's College (Div. 1)

Garret has played baseball for 13 years, many as pitcher. He was recognized as 2nd team All League in 2019. He is excited most by the competitive nature of baseball. His most memorable moment was when TKA's baseball team won the 2019 CCS Championship. During summers, Garret has been on a travel baseball team. He also played football.

Noah Short: Football. United States Military Academy West Point (Div. 1)

Noah is a two-time All Bay Area First Team football player. He holds the single-game scoring record in basketball at 44 points, and he recently broke the school record in the 100-meter dash at 10.62 sec. He's currently #1 in CCS and #6 in California in thie 100-meter race. Noah is on a very short list as one of the greatest athletes in school history.

Elise Wilkinson: Softball. George Fox University (Div. 3)

Elise has played softball for nine years, mostly as pitcher and first base. What excites her most about her sport is “getting to play softball in college with other athletes who are also committed to Christ.”

Joanna Yu: Track and Field. Williams College (Div. 3)

Joanna has been on the track and field team for four years. Her event is the pole vault. She has been an MVP and also recognized as All League First Team. Her most memorable moment was *“clearing 11 feet and 1 inch in my third meet.”* Joanna also plays volleyball and is on the debate team.

The King's Academy, an independent, college preparatory school for grades 6-12 serving 880 students, is a Christ-centered school that inspires academic excellence, servant leadership, and enduring relationships. The King's Academy is accredited by both the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). For more information about TKA, please visit www.tka.org.

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