

It's the call for adventure; it's the beginning of the end and the end of the beginning and it's everything in between, always changing and moving in rapid-fire motion. It's that small, still voice in the back of your head saying, "Go ahead. You're young, and you have this long, exciting road before you. Don't be afraid. Just go."

We might get lost, or hurt, or become more than we ever dreamed we could be, but we will never remain stationary and watch the world change around us. There's an infinite number of destinations for us. We have the opportunity now to become something beyond ourselves. But we have to take that first step and break out, break free. So let's go. Allons-y!



Allons-y

(Let's go!)

Saratoga High School
Falcon Senior Magazine
Class of 2012

Dedication

Dedicated to Karen Hyde
Assistant Principal (1976—2012)

*"I could tell you my adventures — beginning from this morning," said Alice a little timidly.
'But it's no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then.'"*
—Lewis Carroll, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland"

Then:



Dear Ms. Hyde,

You are the most singular person many of us have ever known.

That may not seem like much, because most of us are 17 or 18 years old and we've not yet seen much of the world, but it does not take worldly experience to be able to separate the extraordinary from the simply good. You, Ms. Hyde, are extraordinary in every possible way.

For those of us who have worked with you, we've been changed without even realizing it. It was a slow, welcome and very much needed change, and it showed us things are not always as they seem. A school isn't simply a place that the state forces us to attend; it's an opportunity in cinder-block walls and dreary Monday mornings. A couch is not simply a couch; it's a sanctuary. An office always has a place for us even when it is jam-packed full of panicking, anxious students. Sometimes, but not always, a problem can be solved with a liberal application of sugar.

You have worked so hard for so many years, and it was our pleasure and an honor to work with you for a short amount of time. You are well-deserving of your nickname "Mama" Hyde, and we know we will carry a little part of you with me when we go off to college, and for years after that. It is for this reason that I present to you, on the behalf of the senior class of 2012 and the more than 10,000 graduates you have helped, this short snapshot of our four years here. The lessons and memories and experiences we've shared—those are singular, just like you. We'll miss you. We love you.

Happy trails, Mama. Until we meet again.

Love,

Tini, David and the students of Saratoga High

Now:



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On Mrs. Hyde: "Her presence will be greatly missed and I have no idea how the school will be without her." —Robert Belpasso

3

On freshman year: "My backpack was bigger than me." —Roy Bisht



MONOPOLY
Vivien Lu Peter Hsieh and Rachel Le perform in the "Monopoly" themed quad day in junior year.



HOME-"KAO"-MING PERFORMER
Megan Kao (above) performed in all four quad days in high school, including a solo routine in the "Atlanta" themed quad day during freshman year (far left).

GROUP EFFORT
Kenneth Leung and Vivian Hsu paint for the "Alice in Wonderland" themed decoration in senior year.



PRESIDENT ELECT
Anshu Siripurapu (above, center), who would serve as ASB president in his senior year, performs in the "Ratatouille" themed quad day in sophomore year with Anika Jhalani, Valarie Peterson, Samantha Hoffman and Sneha Shivkumar.

→
Class of 2012
Officers
through the Years

	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
President	Anshu Siripurapu	Izzy Albert	Anika Jhalani	Nicole Shadman
Vice Pres.	Peter Chen	Anika Jhalani	Shivani Chadha Nicole Shadman	Stephanie Shimizu
Treasurer	Kevin Rezaii	Krishnan Raman	Christopher Jones	Dominic Guercio
Secretary	Vishal Goel	Varsha Ramesh	Izzy Albert	Annie Barco
Class Reps.	Mac Hyde	Shivani Chadha	Michael Chen Megan Kao Varsha Ramesh Stephanie Shimizu	Alex Amato Shayda Khorsani Christopher Vu

Outsiders will remember elements of the performance—the sprawling Queen of Hearts castle centerpiece mounted at the summit of the quad steps, Penny Burgess's whimsical portrayal of the innocent Alice in Wonderland (and her darn good British accent), the sea of masked men and women who danced to JabbaWockeeZ-Red Pill, Claire Couch's portrayal of the hookah-smoking caterpillar while draped in a homemade costume of knotted sweatshirts and the "I'm a Little Teapot"-inspired dance routine, among others.

But the core of this class will remember the sweat—the hours spent kneeling on worn backyard lawns sliding paper-mache glue off strips of newspaper with calloused fingers, the hours spent choreographing dance routines in window reflections and practicing them on driveways, the hours spent straining for discreet yet derisive taunts to fluster lower classes, the hours spent recounting previous lows and hoping for future highs.

The 16 peers who raised the centerpiece on

the Sunday night preceding Homecoming week will remember the unexpected failure of the castle centerpiece design and the subsequent rush to fix it. Countless others who transformed cardboard scraps into a Mad Hatter, Cheshire Cat and March Hare—who transformed themselves into script-writers and dancers and choreographers and leaders—will remember more than just a happy ever after. They will remember the drive, the pride, the perseverance.

And perhaps these are the qualities which

most accurately characterize the class of 2012. These are qualities which the "academically-oriented" class has acquired over the past four years. These are qualities which many classes superficially claim to possess but this graduating class genuinely demonstrated.

Assistant principal Karen Hyde thinks so. "It's the lemon to lemonade theory of management in that you made something really good happen after three years of complete failures. Kids saw that something wasn't working, and pretty

soon they were coming out of the woodwork to help. You confronted adversity and turned it around. You took failure and turned it around. [Homecoming] really brought your class in, and I don't know that I've ever seen that. And that is a little bit of the taste of your class."

Most of all, the class of 2012 will remember the period of learning, of interpersonal and internal growth from Aug. 2008 to June 2012. In a word, they will remember the voyage.

"For three years, it was like everyone was tug-

ging against each other and nobody was working together. It was everybody sailing the boat, but moving the sheets in different directions," Hyde said. "This year, for the first time, I saw people together. They worked together. They made it happen together. You guys took four years and then it was as if Michelangelo was pulled out of applesauce. It was completely a non-sequitur. I think that was imperative to the growth of the individuals in your class, as importantly to the character of your class." ♦

Freshman year

2008-2009



Vikas Nookala and Denise Lin



Mitchell McGuire



Chris Vu and Kyle Clark



Maddie Emery



Matthew Opatrny



Ruchie Bhardwaj



Will Edman



Kelly Leslie



Michael Chang



Campbell Oreglia



Maddie Emery

Junior year

2010-2011



Danielle Savage and Weishyn Chang



Anika Jhalani and Nicole Fetsch



Stanton Ho



Morgan Webster and Shayda Khorasani



Leung twins



Matt Opatrny and Michelle Cummins



Joshua Harris



Ariel Cheng

Senior year

2011-2012



Chris Vu, Vishal Goel and Jimmy Zheng



Eric Wang and Anshu Siripurapu

Sophomore year

2009-2010



Allison Toh and Manish Raghavan



Aanchal Mohan



Kellie Chiou

Academic Honors

Valedictorian Award: Myron Zhang

Salutatorian Award: Elaine Chou

Very High Honors:

Michael Chang
Michael Chen
William Edman
David Eng

Mei Gao
Peter Hsieh
Sarah Hull
Christopher Jones
Viraj Parmar
Hansen Qian

Manish Raghavan
Antara Rao
Meghana Rao
Roger Shen
Vivian Tsai
Christine Tseng

Paras Unadkat
Brian Wai
Jennifer Yang
Evan Ye
Alissa Zhang
Jimmy Zheng

High Honors:

Priyanka Arunkumar
Sneha Belkhale
Shivani Chadha
Desmond Chan
Sofia Chang
Kellie Chiou
Arnav Dugar
Vishal Goel

Danielle Hata
Cecillia Hollenhorst
Vivian Hsu
Jonathan Junqua
Sarah Lensch
Vivian LeTran
Vivian Liao
Denise Lin
Timothy Ling
Christine Liu

Vivien Lu
Parthiv Mohan
Isabel McPherson
Ailene Nguyen
Stephanie Ong
Matthew Opatrny
Kelsey Owyang
Kevin Pan
Arjay Parhar
Heather Persson

Krishnan Raman
Varsha Ramesh
Sankash Shankar
Parul Singh
Anshu Siripurapu
Victor Sutardja
Kimberly Tsai
Nicholas Turpin
Jason Wu
Megan Yen

Honors:

Alexander Amato
Annie Barco
Natalie Berg
Gautam Bhayani
Serena Chan
Clara Chao
Nancy Chen
Peter Chen
Sanjana Chetia
Sanna Chinnas
Cecilia Daolio

Alton Fong
Joshua Harris
Daniel Hsu
Cynthia Huang
Vineet Jain
Anika Jhalani
Kristine Johnson
Alexandra Ju
Sophie Kang
Megan Kao
Akash Kar
Rachel Kim
Tiffany Kim
Allison Kynsh

Ivan Lee
Sue Liang
Andrea Liu
Victoria Lo
Alexander Mabanta
Miharu Morishita
Nobel Ng
Kristen Park
Alyssa Peck
Spencer Perry
Kushal Raj
Alina Sample
Ashwin Saxena
Nicole Shadman

Stephanie Shimizu
Kevin Tam
Ashley Tang
Allison Toh
Tiffany Tu
Jeremy Veis
Christopher Vu
Connie Wang
Emily Williams
Alyssa Wu
Crystal Yen
Anna Zhang

Awards and Scholarships

Due to printing deadlines the list of scholarships and awards below is incomplete and does not list scholarships and awards that were given after May 3. To see a full list of scholarships and awards, please look at the graduation program at the end of the year.

ABC 7 Top Scholars Award:

Michael Chang
Elizabeth W. Barron Journalism Awards:
Christine Bancroft
David Eng
Bay Area All-Star Scholarship Team Nominees:
Tiffany Kim, Kelly Leslie,

Alfred Murabito
CIF/Farmers Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award School Nominees:
Annahita Ashe, Mitchell Casas
CIF/Spirit of Sport Award
Fall: Brandon Oliveri
O'Connor, Alison Kynsh

Winter: Courtney Brandt,
Jonathan Junqua
Spring: Brady Horn, Ailene Nguyen
College Scholarships DeAnza College:
Brandon Oliveri O'Connor
Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship School Nominee:

Dominic Guercio
Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award School Nominee:
Anika Jhalani
Alice S. Fuller PEO Scholarship School Nominee
Parneet Dhindsa

Intel Scholarship Science Talent Search Finalist:

Alissa Zhang
Kiwanis Club of Los Gatos Scholarship Program Turn-Around Scholarships:

Valerie Peterson, Rebecca Smerdon, Katya Simpson, Soobin Yoo

Mahatma Rice Univision Radio Scholarship Finalist:

Brian Leung

The National Hispanic Recognition Program:

Alexander Amato, Roman Balogh, Danielle Hata

National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Scholars:

Alexander Amato, Adrian Beardard, Sneha Belkhale, Natalie Berg, Serena Chan, Michael Chen, Nancy Chen, Natalie Cheung, Kellie Chiou, Shaun Chung, Arnav Dugar, Madison Emery, Mei Gao, Vishal Goel, Joshua Harris, Danielle Hata, Vivian Hsu, Cynthia Huang, James Huang, Sarah Hull, Alexandra Ju, Megan Kao, Jonathan Koo, Mee-Sung Lee, Vivian Letran, Vivian Liao, Denise Lin, Timothy Ling, Andrea Liu, Christine Liu, Vivien Lu, Alexander Mabanta, Parthiv Mohan, Vikas Nookala, Kevin Pan, Heather Persson, Ashwin Saxena, Roger Shen, Stephanie Shimizu, Kevin Tam, Ashley Tang, Vivian Tsai, Nicholas Turpin, Mark van Aken, Jeremy Veis, Brian Wai, Alyssa Wu, Evan Ye, Megan Yen, Jimmy Zheng

Finalists:

Gautam Bhayani, Penelope Burgess, Desmond Chan, Michael Chang, Sofia Chang, Sanjana Chetia, Alex Chiang, Elaine Chou, William Edman, David Eng, Anoop Galivanche, Cecilia Hollenhorst, Peter Hsieh, Daniel Hsu, Justine Huang, Christopher Jones, Sophie Kang, Isabel McPherson, Ailene Nguyen, Kelsey Owyang, Viraj Parmar, Hansen Qian, Manish Raghavan, Kushal Raj, Krishnan Raman, Varsha Ramesh, Antara Rao, Meghana Rao, Parul Singh, Anshu Siripurapu, Victor Sutardja,

Christine Tseng, Paras Unadkat, Jason Wu, Jennifer Yang, Alissa Zhang, Anna Zhang, Myron Zhang

Scholarship Corporation:

David Eng, Christine Tseng, Hansen Qian, Alissa Zhang

University Sponsored Scholarships:

Carelton College:
Sofia Chang
Northwestern University:
Sanjana Chetia
University of Southern California:
Anshu Siripurapu
Krishnan Raman
Washington University in St. Louis:
Kushal Raj

Northern California Scholarship Foundation School Nominee:

Daniel Hsu

Helen Oreb Yearbook Awards

Shilpa Nagesh, Ailene Nguyen, Alyssa Wu

President's Education Awards:

David Adler, Isabelle Albert, Alexander Amato, Michelle Arafin, Priyanka Arunkumar, Lisa Asai, Annahita Ashe, Roman Balogh, Christine Bancroft, Annie Barco, Sneha Belkhale, Robert Belpasso, Megan Benzing, Natalie Berg, Ruchie Bhardwaj, Gautam Bhayani, Roy Bisht, Tyler Borch, Courtney Brandt, Penelope Burgess, Mitchell Casas, Shivani Chadha, Desmond Chan, Serena Chan, Angie Chang, Michael Chang, Sofia Chang, Clara Chao, Lennie Char, Lawrence Chen, Michael Chen, Nancy Chen, Peter Chen, Rebecca Chen, Ariel Cheng, Sanjana Chetia, Natalie Cheung, Alex Chiang, Connie Chien, Kellie Chiou, Olivia Chock, Carolyn Choi, Elaine Chou, Benjamin Chung, Derek Chung, Shaun Chung, Sabrina Cismas, Claire Couch, Michelle Cummins, Cecilia Daolio, Sachi Dholakia, Troy Doles, Arnav Dugar, Jason Duong, Zoltan Earnst, Will Edman, Maddie Emery, David Eng, Justin Fang, Alton Fong, Anoop Galivanche, Zachary Galvin, Mei Gao, Michael Gaus, Vishal Goel, Jasmine Grant, Dominic Guercio, Louise Guy, Josh Harris, Dan-

ielle Hata, Stan Ho, Samantha Hoffman, Cecilia Hollenhorst, Kevin Hsieh, Peter Hsieh, Daniel Hsu, Vivian Hsu, Cynthia Huang, James Huang, Justine Huang, Sarah Hull, Christopher Hulme, Viet Huynh, Matthew Ishikawa, Thomas Ishikawa, Vineet Jain, Salmaan Javed, Anika Jhalani, Darisha Jhutti, Kristine Johnson, Christopher Jones, Alexandra Ju, Jonathan Junqua, Sophie Kang, Megan Kao, Akash Kar, Shayda Khorosani, Rachel Kim, Tiffany Kim, Allison Kynsh, Jonathan Koo, Ali Kothari, Kristal Kung, Jeffrey Kuo, Benjamin Laus, Rachel Le, Ivan Lee, Mason Lee, Mee-Sung Lee, Sarah Lensch, Kelly Leslie, Vivian LeTran, Brian Leung, Kenneth Leung, Sue Liang, Vivian Liao, Denise Lin, Timothy Ling, Andrea Liu, Christine Liu, Natalie Liu, Victoria Lo, Vivien Lu, Sarah Lum, Connie Lun, Alex Mabanta, Mishi Maniar, Kat McClellan, Isabel McPherson, Kendall Milton, Aanchal Mohan, Parthiv Mohan, Miharu Morishita, Mikayla Morrison, Connor Mullaney, Alfred Murabito, Shilpa Nagesh, Shriya Nagpal, Nobel Ng, Allene Nguyen, Ryan Nguyen, Vikas Nookala, Brandon Oliver O'Connor, Amanda Olson, Stephanie Ong, Matthew Opatrny, Kelsey Owyang, Arjay Parhar, Kristen Park, Viraj Parmar, Alyssa Peck, Spencer Perry, Heather Persson, Valerie Peterson, Stephanie Poo, Jocelyn Pwu, Hansen Qian, Sophia Ragggett, Manish Raghavan, Kushal Raj, Krishnan Raman, Varsha Ramesh, Antara Rao, Meghana Rao, Kevin Pan, Shannon Roseberry, Alina Sample, Danielle Savage, Ashwin Saxena, Kyle Schulz, Tyler Schuppert, Paul Sehbey, Nicole Shadman, Sankash Shankar, Roger Shen, Ali Shenasa, Ryan Sheu, Stephanie Shimizu, Sneha Shivkumar, Katya Simpson, Parul Singh, Anshu Siripurapu, Talia Sisco, Victor Sutardja, Jocelyn Takahashi, Kevin Tam, Ashley Tang, Allison Toh, Anthony Tsai, Kim Tsai, Vivian Tsai, Christine Tseng, Kylie Tseng, Tiffany Tu, Nick Turpin, Paras Unadkat, Mark van

Aken, Jeremy Veis, Eren Veziroglu, Chris Vu, Brian Wai, Claudia Walsh, Connie Wang, Eric Wang, Abby Williams, Emily Williams, Michael Woodruff, Alyssa Wu, Amanda Wu, Jason Wu, Jennifer Yang, Yukai Yang, Evan Ye, Andy Yee, Crystal Yen, Megan Yen, Ariella Yendler, Alissa Zhang, Anna Zhang, Myron Zhang, Jimmy Zheng

Principal's Leadership Award School Nominee:

Anshu Siripurapu

Prudential Spirit of Community Award:

Katya Simpson

Saratoga Foothill Club Scholarships

Fine Arts: Matthew Opatrny
Social Studies: Christine Bancroft

Saratoga Lions Club School Nominees:

Peter Hsieh, Akash Kar, Shannon Roseberry

Scholar Athlete Milk Mustache of the Year Award:

Troy Doles

Silicon Valley Realtors Charitable Foundation Scholars Program:

Zara Sheikh
Students Committed to Engineering Excellence Award Nominee:

Hansen Qian

Toyota/Steve Young Scholar-Athlete Award:

Crystal Yen

2012 U.S. Presidential Scholar Award Nominees:

Elaine Chou, Peter Hsieh, Isabel McPherson, Alissa Zhang

USMC Distinguished Male Athlete Award:

Harry Curtis

Distinguished Female Athlete

Kari Clark

Scholastic Excellence Award:

Manish Raghavan

Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence:

Isabel McPherson

California Federation of Chaparral Poets Writing Awards:

Sanjana Chetia, Darisha Jhutti, Sophie Kang

Do you remember the **first time** in high school when we...

- got pimples? Jimmy Zheng
- celebrated on the field after beating LG? Isabel McPherson
- dealt with the Mustache Cop? Sarah Lensch
- played Fugitive? Ruchie Bhardwaj
- planked on Saratoga-Sunnyvale? Just kidding. Kayla Lenshoek
- got senioritis? Achoo. Jessie Lin
- discovered how evil the letters D, B and Q could be when put together? Kelsey Qwyang
- had a "sexy" history class? Thomas Ishikawa
- got in trouble for holding a spoon? Kim Tsai
- participated in a sock war? Anjalika Goyal
- left home at 8 p.m. on a Sunday night to raise a castle in the quad? It happens. Christine Bancroft

MY MEMORABLE MOMENT Annahita Ashe

One time, I was walking down the quad steps after sixth period when I saw my friend Brandon in front of me. I decided to jump on his back from behind as a surprise greeting. I was a couple steps above him so it was quite a leap, but at the last second he saw me and ducked down. I ended up flying over his head and landed sliding on my back at the bottom of the quad steps. Thankfully, I had my backpack on as padding. I looked up to see a crowd of every student with a sixth period class descending the stairs and laughing at me.



MY COMICAL MOMENT Kathleen McLellan

My gymnastics teammates and I spent 9 hours doing a senior prank at an outside gym. We saran-wrapped the beams, filled the back room with balloons, hung CDs from the ceiling, put confetti on the floor, left donuts everywhere, drew on the walls and mirrors, and hung streamers everywhere. The theme was "It ends with us" since the gym was closing and 2012 is supposedly the end of the world. We made tombstones for all the other girls, left pictures of "the conquerors," and blacked out the windows. The next day I got a phone call from our coaches saying how much they loved it. At practice it was great watching the parents and gymnasts walk in completely shocked. Best surprise by far.



On procrastination: "Later tonight turns to morning turns to tutorial turns to never gonna happen." —Kathleen McLellan

This is the **last time** in high school that we will ever...

- deal with fire hazards in the hallways. Aanchal Mohan
- try to finish homework during tutorial. Shayda Khorasani
- have Ms. Norans as a substitute teacher. Joshua Harris
- wait in line to get into the library. Peter Hsieh
- hear about Mr. Torrens' pizza robbing stories. Megan Benzing
- get a Saturday School for being late to class. Ashley Tang
- jump over the fence in the parking lot. Arjay Parhar
- rush to get food before the 40-minute lunch ends. Tyler Barch
- deal with the Saratoga bubble ... or rather, Saratoga steel dome. Chris Vu
- peel off Jeanine's "permanent" parking violation stickers. Priyanka Arunkumar
- come together as a class for Homecoming. Nicole Shadman

MY MEMORABLE MOMENT Sophia Wang

Although this may sound cheesy, my most memorable moment in high school was the day I met a boy named Frederick, or Fred for short. It was during freshman year at a choir rehearsal. I didn't know it then, but meeting him would literally change my life. What started out as a silly crush turned into an exciting experience. Before meeting Fred I was in a safe place, but he brought me into a place full of chances and challenges. He brought out my best features and encouraged me to not be afraid of being myself. I started talking to my teachers, expanding my group of friends, and becoming more confident. I have now been with Fred for more than two years and I am really glad that I met him.



MY COMICAL MOMENT Parul Singh

Sarah Hull and I were interviewing Ms. Tseng and Ms. Herzman for a newspaper story about teachers who were pregnant at the time. We also needed a photo to go with the story. Just as I was going to take a picture of the teachers, Sarah informed me that a third pregnant teacher had just walked past and that we should include her in the picture. I turn and see a semi-obese woman, who I automatically assume is the teacher that Sarah is referring to. I promptly ask her if she would like to join the picture with the pregnant teachers. Turns out she wasn't pregnant and she wasn't a teacher...



On Aeries: "My mom's homepage." —Vivian Hsu

FACULTY FAREWELL

Here's to the sarsaparilla class



Every year I select a color that represents the graduating class. This has changed from year to year depending upon the class presentation and effect on our school. Cobalt blue, hot pink (a somewhat challenging class) and bright beige (a class that was, well, beige) have been some of the colors that in my mind defined and described those other classes.

As I reflect upon your class—my class since I am graduating with you—I have decided that you are sparkling sarsaparilla. Sarsaparilla is what, you ask? Sarsaparilla is a drink akin to but not root beer. It has withstood the test of time as it has been around for centuries. It is unique, contains many different ingredients, with a potential of many different additives to enhance the basic taste.

See where this is going? Whereas other classes either were made up of very similar types of students or followed the lead of a few, your class is made up of a host of very unique individuals who contribute to a class that has been, since you arrived, very different. A combination of quirky, talented, directed and focused students make up that which is “you.”

Your thespians, debaters, musicians, dancers, athletes, artists, writers

and film-makers add to the mathletes, science fair competitors and History Day winners. Individually perhaps you are impressive, but together you are nothing short of magnificent. You have come together to create an amazing senior year Homecoming. You have come together to be part of a team that embraces change. You have come together make each other just a little bit better.

Like sarsaparilla, you are unique with many different individuals or ingredients contributing that makes this odd but special drink endure for hundreds of years. So someday when you are in a special place, order a sarsaparilla. You will find it sparkling, special and unique. Then offer a toast to the Class of 2012—special memories of special people and special times will enhance the moment and warm your heart.

—by Karen Hyde



To the class of 2012,



The last four years
Will for ever
Engrave memories-
Notably of care
Tenacity and success
Youthfulness at its best.
Talisman, Talisman
Weave on your pages
Everlasting messages
Love, friendship, ah!
Victorious
Ending!



Congratulations Class of 2012. From my heart to yours.

—by Señora Rodríguez

TONY PALMA

Do what you love. There are so many people in this world who do something they don't love because of all types of pressure. Fall in love with a career, follow a dream and it will take you to a place you never imagined.

LISA COCHRUM

You guys were a really special group. Having taught 19 years, you're not supposed to have favorites, but I remember those years with great detail and really fond memories. Your year is definitely my top three favorite years in all my teaching.

Appreciate the time in college, because there is something totally unique about college, where you get the freedom to figure out who you are. Try an art class. Go scuba diving. Travel to India. Try something radically different. Just give your life variety because you might change radically who you are.

CATHERINE HEAD

The senior class is full of character, one of the nicest bunches of people that I have gotten to teach and I don't want to think about you guys graduating. I know you guys are going to go on and be tremendously successful people and I will miss you.

LEAH AGUAYO

Keep your life on center, be safe, and enjoy life. Speed kills in your car, in your body, and on the potter's wheel.

BRIAN SAFINE

Be prepared for an unexpectedly large amount of free time in college. Your life will be very different. Your sense of creativity, resilience, cooperation, socialization will all be more important in college than in high school because the structure is different and you have so much free time. It will require some creative thought, initiative taking, and the ability to get along with people. Be prepared for the total change.

KIRK ABE

Congratulations seniors. Good luck next year and we're going to miss you.

MIKE DAVEY

Try new stuff, but not that stuff.

Gina Rodriguez

Seniors, you have an amazing journey ahead of you. Smile daily, laugh out loud, dance like no one is watching, learn from your mistakes and do extraordinary things for yourself and others.

BOB KUCER

When the sun comes out, you better be running.

KIM ANZALONE

Push the edge of the envelope, never say die.

JEFF SCOTT

Enjoy the next 10 years of your life because before you know it, they'll be gone and you'll be wondering where'd it all go. So enjoy it.

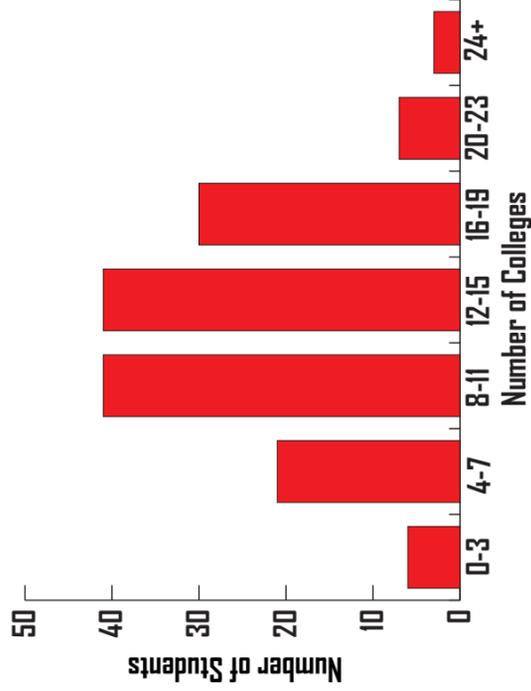
KEN NGUYEN

My advice to graduating seniors has the flavor of a Nietzschean thought experiment ... Just imagine that every one of your choices, decisions, and actions are ones you would have to re-live and re-experience over and over again for all of eternity. If such a prospect depresses you, then you might want to consider a better, more meaningful choice/decision/action—one that would make both your hypothetical infinite life (and your actual finite life) worthwhile and meaningful. Assuming there's any meaning to life. Also ... if you're lactose intolerant, avoid dairy products—you'll fart a lot.

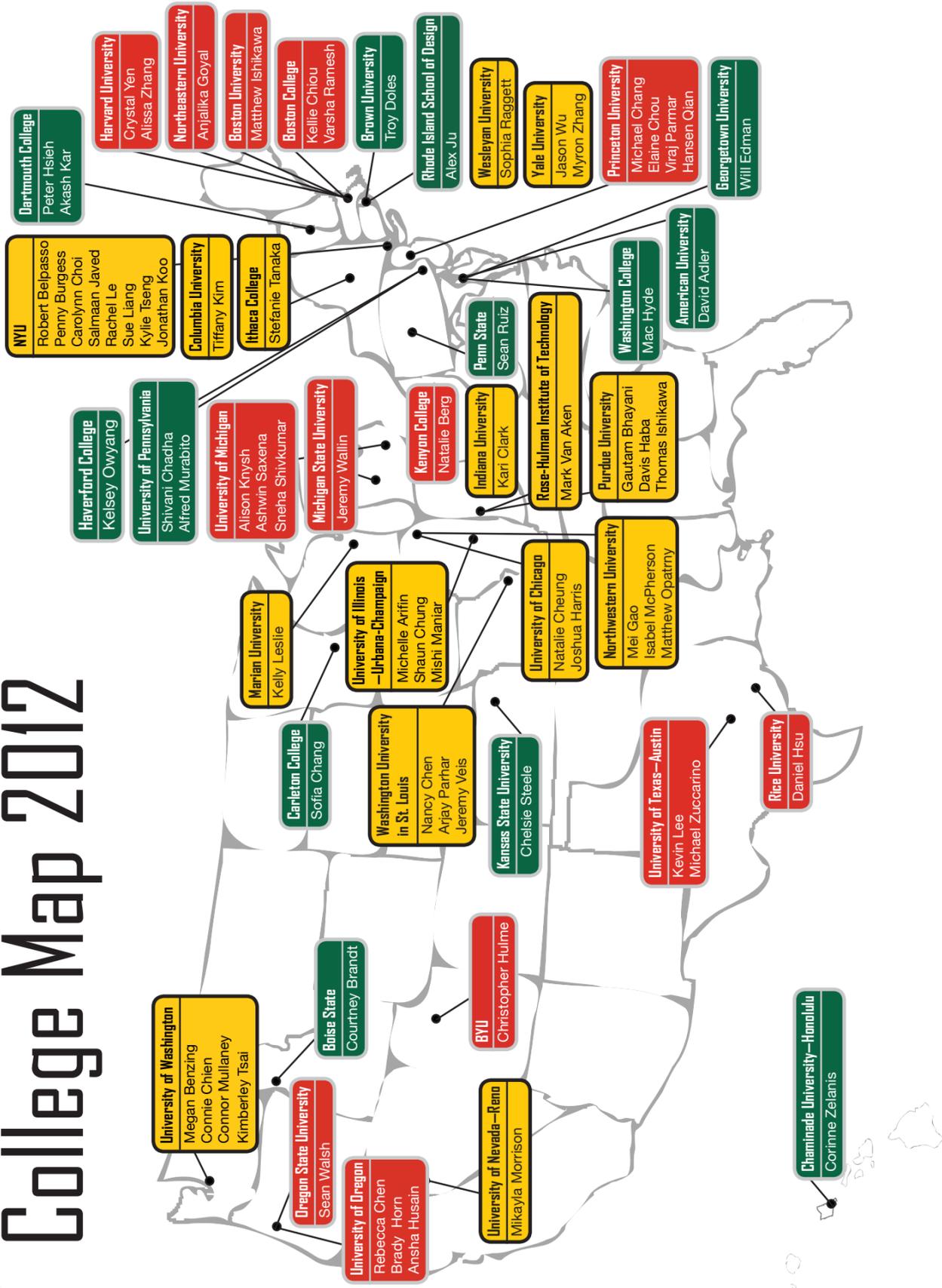
The Golden State: College in California

The Class of 2012 chooses the California life, as many decide to stay in our sunny state for higher education

SENIORS: To how many colleges did you apply?



College Map 2012



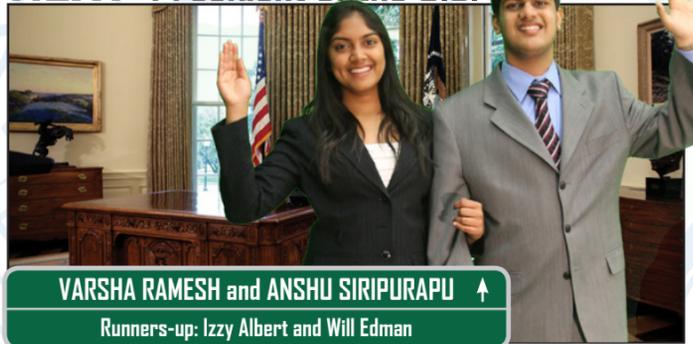
On school spirit: "...you mean marching band pride?" —Cecilia Hollenhorst

CHARTED

We have walked the roads between childhood and adulthood, observed and reported on and studied the cartography of growing up. Throughout our four years here, we have charted and collected memories, detailed them and mapped them out, guiding both us forward and home.



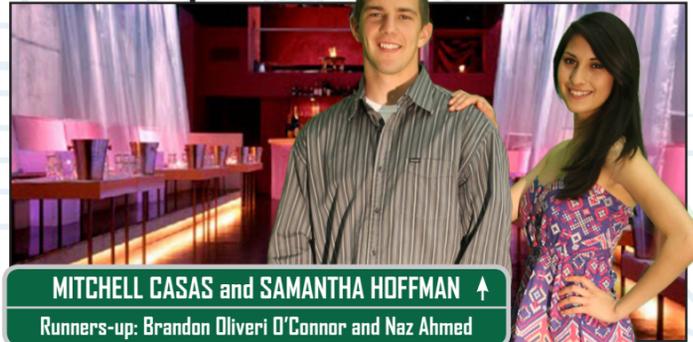
NEXT President of the U.S.



VARSHA RAMESH and ANSHU SIRIPURAPU ↑

Runners-up: Izzy Albert and Will Edman

NEXT Top Model



MITCHELL CASAS and SAMANTHA HOFFMAN ↑

Runners-up: Brandon Oliveri O'Connor and Naz Ahmed

NEXT Zuckerberg



SALMAAN JAVED and NICOLE SHADMAN ↑

Runners-up: Michael Chang and Clair Couch

NEXT Dr. Phil/Oprah



DAVID ADLER and RUCHIE BHARDWAJ ↑

Runners-up: Manish Raghavan and Varsha Ramesh

Samantha Hoffman

Filipina stars among Indians in BNB

On April 14, the McAfee Center stage was overtaken by an incredible display of Indian festivities including singing and dancing. Over a hundred Saratoga High students participated in this year's performance of Bombay in the Bay, including senior Samantha Hoffman. Hoffman, who is half-Filipina and half-Caucasian, was one of the few non-Indian performers in Bombay in the Bay.

Hoffman was intrigued Bombay in the Bay before she even reached Saratoga High; her sister's friends had participated in it and Hoffman had attended their shows.

"I knew about Bombay in the Bay because of them and my friend [senior] Sneha Shivkumar was in Indian club during my freshman year and got me involved in it," Hoffman said. "At first, I did it for fun but after my freshman year I really started to enjoy being a part of the Indian culture."

Hoffman claims that, at first, she felt a little strange being a non-Indian partaking in an Indian culture event.

"I felt pretty out of place at first because I was known as the 'non-Indian person,'" Hoffman said.

REMEMBER THE DATE

04/14/12 The class of 2012 entertained in its final "Bombay in the Bay" performance.

Over the years, Hoffman has been able to shake the 'non-Indian' tag and assimilate into the Indian culture. She has even been referred to as an

'honorary Indian,' according to senior Vishal Goel.

"Now whenever there's new non-Indians in Bombay in the Bay, I'm not referred to as one of them; I guess people see me as an Indian now," Hoffman joked.

While Hoffman has made many great memories over her four years of participating in Bombay in the Bay, she realizes that she has also developed a newfound appreciation and respect for the Indian culture.

"I've learned a lot about their culture and being in Bombay in the Bay has assimilated me, so now I feel like I'm one of them," Hoffman said. "I consider myself a part of the Indian community at Saratoga High now."

Not only does Hoffman feel that she can relate to the Indians at Saratoga High at a higher level, but she also believes that she understands the current Indian culture too. Hoffman claims that she "can recognize a few Indian songs and singers after hearing so much Indian music."

Hoffman's dedication and interest in a foreign culture has inspired many of her peers in Bombay in the Bay. Senior Aanchal Mohan, who has taught Hoffman various Indian dance moves throughout high school, says that Hoffman's passion for the Indian culture shows.

"She works really hard to learn the moves and we all appreciate it," Mohan said. "Plus, she looks better in Indian clothing than most of us."

—by Roy Bisht

Ruchie Bhardwaj

Creating a greener tomorrow

While students may not take note of the number of recycling bins on campus, this is one of the many important areas the school's Green Team, co-headed by Ruchie Bhardwaj, Anshuman Siripurapu, Priyanka Arunkumar, Mac Hyde, and Zara Sheikh, works to improve.

The Green Team began when students at Harker contacted Bhardwaj about starting a chapter at Saratoga High. While the idea for the team came from Harker, Bhardwaj works with assistant principal Karen Hyde to make environmentally friendly changes for Saratoga High.



"We started out by hosting a meeting called Green Tea with 30 people to brainstorm ideas, then we went through a process of deciding which ideas to pursue, and finally we implemented the chosen ideas," Bhardwaj said.

The Green Team's major accomplishment has been to pursue a solar thermal heating system for the school's swimming pool.

"[The Green Team] came up with a proposal, presented it to the school board, and we were able to convince them of the numerous positives of using solar energy," Bhardwaj said.

Besides obtaining funding and approval for the solar heating system, Bhardwaj has also worked with the Green Team to add recycling

bins next to each trash can, and to bring back the recycling logo on the school newspaper.

"One of my favorite projects was getting goldenrod sheets online instead of having them on paper. This year we tested the idea and had a couple of classes actually log information about their textbooks onto an electronic goldenrod sheet," Bhardwaj said.

A current AP Environmental Science student, Bhardwaj believes the time she has spent with the Green Team has changed many of the choices she makes on a daily basis.

"I think it's important to educate people so that they can make informed choices to preserve the integrity of our natural environment."

—by Sarah Hull and Parul Singh

David Adler

Senior's truck a hangout spot

When one walks out to the parking lot during break, lunch, tutorial, or even after school, he or she will see a handful of students crammed into a truck bed. Senior David Adler's Dodge truck is just a place where people "gravitate toward if they just want to chill and forget about school for a while," according to Adler.

Towards the beginning of senior year, Adler and his friends got bored of going off-campus but still wanted to hang out. His truck bed can fit as many as ten people, and the overflow just hang out around his car. Instead of sitting on



a little bit more. campus where there are a lot of underclassmen, Adler and his friends created a new hangout spot. Whether it's just sitting and talking or listening to music, each time Adler and his friends hang out in his truck, they bond

a little bit more.

Senior Ruchie Bhardwaj, a friend of Adler's who also hangs out by his truck, echoes Adler's sentiments. "We talk about anything and everything: movies, music, school, whatever!" Bhardwaj said. "Sometimes I play music on my phone, but usually we just talk."

Most of the time, says Adler, tables in the quad fill

up during lunchtime and it's usually pretty hectic. Also, according to Bhardwaj, "a lot of people are going to or from their cars, so everyone tends to be in that area [near the truck]."

In the eyes of the people who gravitate toward the Dodge Dakota Sport view the truck as a center of bonding and solace. "It's a nice place to be because it's in the sun and you can just sit back and enjoy your lunch," Bhardwaj said.

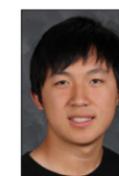
—by Izzy Albert



MY MEMORABLE MOMENT

Peter Chen

It was during one of the tutorials my junior year. I, being the studious and curious student that I am, was just chilling out, maxin', relaxing all cool with my friends in the library. I was furiously typing away on my iPod, looking up net ionic formulas to help me with an AP Chem midterm that would eventually grind my gears later in the day.



The people in the library were especially loud and of course, our mutual friend and ever watchful campus supervisor who shall not be named just couldn't have any of it. So she blew her trusty whistle and began one of her lengthy diatribes that we all so very much know and love (and should follow, of course!) Anyway, it was still early in the morning, and my groggy self couldn't take it. So I let out a loud roar during her speech that reverberated across the entire library. The library went completely silent. The next moment people were cheering and applauding. Before I could fully relish my 15 seconds of fame, she grabbed me outside and threatened to give me a referral. Fortunately, I was able to smooth talk my way out.

MY COMICAL MOMENT

Varsha Ramesh

On the first day of school junior year, I came super early to get the best parking spot ever. Let's just say I came a little too early, though. The lot was empty at 7:20 in the morning! By the end of the year, I had learned and starting rolling in around 7:40.



ANJALIKA GOYAL

Setting off on singing seas

This year, Anjalika Goyal played one of the leads in the school musical "South Pacific." Many people were surprised to find that it was the first school musical Anjalika Goyal tried out for.

"Ever since freshman year, my friends in the drama department had been begging me to audition for the school musical with them," Goyal said. "I always said no because of school work and everything else going on, but I made them a promise that second semester senior year I

would try out because I would have a lot more free time. I kept up to that promise."

Even though she was one of the lead roles, she only had acting experience from CTC (California Theater Camp) classes over the summer. However, she has been taking vocal classes ever since she was a child, starting when she was only 4 years old.

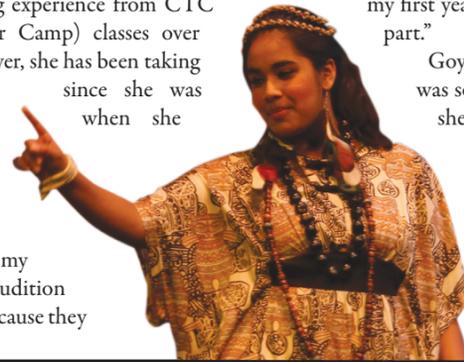
"I had never even heard of 'South Pacific,' but my friends told me to audition for Bloody Mary because they

thought I'd be good for the part," Goyal said. "After I got it, they were all said 'That's one of the leads! I was really surprised that it was my first year ever and I got such a big part.'"

Goyal says she was surprised it was so much fun and she wishes she had joined earlier.

"I made so many new friends and I know I can talk to these friends about whatever and they're like my family now," Goyal said.

—by Olivia Chock



TEEN TYCOONS

Students market cool clothes

Math notes teeming with stray lines, pencil doodles obscuring integral signs—a latent artistic genius waited to be unleashed. It wasn't until a friend told Salmaan Javed the absentmindedly rendered sketches on his homework were more attractive than the plurality of modern t-shirt designs that it occurred to Javed that he had a real talent.

"I have always been critical of my own clothing and was really into high fashion, but I only recently realized that I could do something about it," Javed said. "I could actually contribute to the culture."

Putting his familiarity with Adobe Illustrato

use, Javed, a photographer for the Talisman whom friends describe as "a clothing connoisseur," spent a week designing a logo for a brand he coined called "Top Shelf."

After researching textile printing on the internet, Javed called several shops to determine where to produce his clothing. "It was really a learning experience. There was a lot of trial and error," Javed said. Several friends helped him along the way, eager to see designs they liked made wearable.

One of these friends was Cullan McChesney, who last year launched his own brand called "Feral Apparel." McChesney had similar motivations for starting his clothing line.

"I've always been really interested in art, and friends encouraged me to do something more with it," McChesney said. So McChesney decided to parlay his artistic talent into a realm com-

pletely foreign to him. The results, consumers of his brand say, are "sick."

"Cullan and I have been friends for a long time, but I bought his shirts because they were honestly cooler than a lot of the stuff you see in retail stores," Paras Unadkat, who owns two Feral Apparel garments, said.

Not many people are fortunate enough to find their calling as early as in high school, but Javed and McChesney are among the lucky few. McChesney will study business at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, with the hope of ultimately expanding Feral Apparel. Javed plans to continue to work on his brand at New York University, where he will matriculate this fall to study economics.

"I know what I want to do with the rest of my life," Javed said. "That's a really empowering feeling."

—by Anoop Galivanche

MY MEMORABLE MOMENT

Davis Haba

I was hanging out with my friend Steven Sun and we were going to lunch with another friend William Edman. As a joke, William decided to ditch us. He left his backpack with us, so as to get back at him we decided to take his phone, disassemble it and scatter the components around campus. We led him on a three hour scavenger hunt.

By the time it was over, we had a much more intimate knowledge of the campus. I hope he'll think twice next time he decides to ditch his buds Davis and Steven.



MY MEMORABLE MOMENT

Katya Simpson

I think that one of my most memorable moments in high school comes from the weeks doing our junior year English final project. My birthday and another group member's birthday was on a Saturday a couple weeks before the project was due and we had to work on the film for that entire day. Our group held an impromptu birthday bash for Myron and me on the roof of the house that we were filming at. It was a pretty brilliant way to celebrate. After all, Tennessee Williams makes any party much better.



JIMMY ZHENG

Renaissance man woos crowd with voice

On March 21, senior Jimmy Zheng combined two of his musical passions—singing and playing the piano—en route to his second-place finish at Saratoga Idol. Zheng impressed audience members with a passionate performance of Elton John's "Can You Feel the Love Tonight."

"I wanted to do something out of my comfort zone because it's senior year," Zheng said. "In this case, it was performing solo on stage."

Although Zheng started out his musical career playing the piano, he has successfully branched out over the years by learning to play the tuba and continuing to hone his singing and rapping skills.

"The first time I sang in public was during a marching band bus trip, and someone told me I sounded horrible," Zheng said. "I didn't want to be horrible at something I loved doing, so I used it as motivation to practice and improve."

As one may expect, Zheng draws inspiration from a variety of artists ranging from pianists like Joe Hisaishi and Vladimir Horowitz to singers like Michael Bublé and Gavin DeGraw.

"Gavin [DeGraw] inspires me to find my voice, and that's what really matters," Zheng said. "Singing is about finding the voice that I'm comfortable with, and then making the most of it because it's a part of me."

Bublé also has influenced Zheng, which has lead Zheng to try and emulate the "dedication and passion" of Bublé to his art.

"When he performs, you can really feel passion come out of him," Zheng said. "Granted, there are a lot of artists that have passion in what they do, but Michael Bublé is really amazing at locking down that mood of the song and making his audience melt"

In the future, Zheng hopes to compete in a singing contest like "American Idol" or "The Voice." When Zheng goes to UCLA next fall, he hopes that, in addition to the occasional celebrity sighting, he will be able to further hone his singing skills.

"I want that experience of standing on the stage in front of audiences all across the world," Zheng said. "Even though walking on stage is the scariest thing ever, it's also my favorite part of performing because of the incredible adrenaline rush."

The moment that that the music itself begins, however, Zheng is immediately transported into another world.

"As soon as I grab the mic or put my fingers on the keyboard, everything feels so natural."

—by Jason Wu

REMEMBER THE DATE

03/21/12 The class of 2013 held the annual Saratoga Idol, which convened 10 student singers and attracted throngs of excited crowds to the McAfee Center.

NEXT Mad Scientist



↑ ALISSA ZHANG and MYRON ZHANG

Runners-up: Katya Simpson and Brian Wai

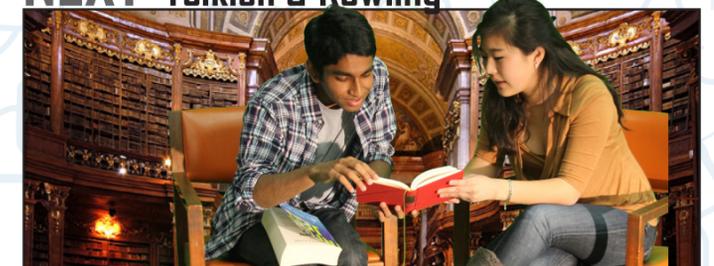
NEXT American Idol



↑ ERIC WANG and ANJALIKA GOYAL

Runners-up: Jimmy Zheng and Chelsea Venuti

NEXT Tolkien & Rowling



↑ PARTHIV MOHAN and SOPHIE KANG

Runners-up: Akash Kar and Mei Gao

NEXT Fey & Williams



↑ CLAIRE COUCH and ALEX AMATO

Runners-up: Shayda Khorasani and Josh Harris

STEPHANIE POO

For the love of **noodles...**

Stephanie Poo sometimes posts pictures of them on her blog, other times she drives long distances to find them, and more than a few times they've made an appearance in her dreams. No, these aren't the members of a popular band, or even a breed of cute puppies. Her life-long affinity is for none other than a type of food: noodles.

Poo's noodle obsession developed years ago, when her grandmother would arrive at her house on the weekends, prepared to cook her distinctive noodle dish. Since then, she has eaten noo-

dles at least twice a week, often sharing the food with friends after school.

"I've just always really liked eating noodles," Poo said. "They're delicious, plus they're easy to make and not expensive to buy."

Poo's fondest memory of eating noodles took place during her senior year, when she and two friends journeyed to Mountain View's Pho Garden Restaurant to take on the "Pho Challenge." In order to win a free meal, the official challenge requires just one person to eat a bowl "about the size of a sink" according to Poo, the three girls polished off the giant bowl together and intend to make the challenge a recurring tradition, despite the fact that they cannot "win" without participating individually.

"I've been to lots of different noodle restau-

rants, and love to cook them at home," Poo said, "but eating a huge bowl of them with my friends was definitely one of my most distinct experiences."

While some seniors worry about the fragility of long-distance relationships and old friendships, at least Poo will always be able to seek comfort in a bowl of noodles.

— by Cecilia Hollenhorst



AUSTIN SEVILLA

Not a typical 'Housewife' fan

"I am sad that 'Desperate Housewives' is finally coming to an end this season. I'll miss gorgeous Gabrielle Solis with her smooth hair, charming smile and sassy model attitude."

These departing words come from Austin Sevilla, what most would consider to be a rather atypical "Housewives" fan.

It all started when Sevilla had to wait for his mom to finish watching her shows whenever he wanted to watch television shows such as "Two and a Half Men" and "1000 Ways to Die." Sometimes, he sat down to watch the endings of her



shows.

"After a while, I actually found myself asking 'Hey mom, when's the next Project Runway on?' and 'Mom, what happened on the last episode of 'Desperate Housewives'?" Sevilla said.

Sure enough, he was hooked.

Although he still watches typical "guy" shows most of the time, he has found "Desperate Housewives" and "Project Runway" each appealing in unique ways.

Sevilla enjoys following the outrageous story plots and the main characters' predicaments in "Housewives."

"With 'Project Runway,' what I like is how there are these ordinary people who can create

incredible designs out of things like car parts and actual trash," Sevilla said.

However, Sevilla has been on the down-low for the most part about his tastes in television.

"I don't really get teased, because I never really talk about 'those' shows when I'm around other people," he joked. "[My friends] don't know that I like the shows, so shh."

His dad initially thought Sevilla was strange for liking "Desperate Housewives" and "Project Runway," but the tables turned when even he became a fan of "Runway" recently.

"Now, [my dad] says that the outfits are just fine, but I know he likes them because my mom and I just watch; he actually acts like one of the judges," Sevilla said. "Who's weird now, dad?"

— by Denise Lin

CODE RED = PARTY TIME

Elaine Chou

The school was thoughtful enough to notify us of the hour-long code red drill ahead of time, and the night before, we were busy strategizing, stocking up on provisions and entertainment. On the day of the drill, we put our plans into action. Clad in cozy sweats and a hoodie, each equipped with a fuzzy blanket, we settled ourselves between the lab stations in Mr. Kucer's room, effectively occupying the vicinity.

As the lights were turned off and darkness ascended, we pooled all of our abundant snacks on the floor in front of us and pulled out the gaming devices, ranging from smart phones to the long antiquated GBA SP. And so began our private party in the dark, our occasional giggles the only sound penetrating the surrounding silence.



PLAYING WITH PRIDE

Meghana Rao

During my sophomore year, I finally made the varsity soccer team. It was an incredibly talented team that year, and ended up winning first in the league. To our surprise and incredible joy, we actually won our first CCS game and were given the chance, as the lowest placed team, to play the No. 1 seeded team in our bracket.

After a long drive, we warmed up and played the game of our lives. We managed to keep the game tied through overtime. Unfortunately, we had to move onto penalty kicks. In the most tension-filled 10 minutes of my life, the opposing team kicked in five penalty kicks to our four. We lost CCS, but it was the first time our girls team had won league in almost 30 years and it was one of the proudest days of my high school career.



JOSH HARRIS

A deep love for all things **theater**

Standing on the stage with the bright lights in his eyes, senior Josh Harris transformed to become Tartuffe from the fall play "Tartuffe" and Billis from the spring musical "South Pacific." As he became enveloped in the personality of his character, everything ceased to matter except his role.

"I find the medium [theater] to be exciting. There are things that one can do in a small, black box production that could never work on the big screen or on television," Harris said. "It's the most intimate form of the performing arts."

While acting is exhilarating, Harris also enjoys improvisation and favors being on the production side. "Tartuffe was my favorite role. It has got to be one of the wackiest and most outlandish things I've ever done. With that character, nothing was sacred, nothing 'too much,'" Harris said. "[However,] I actually prefer to be on the production side."

He assistant directed "Noises Off" as a junior, and this spring he is directing the Jean-Paul Sartre play, "No Exit."

In addition, he wrote a libretto, a compilation of music and lyrics for a musical, for a musical adaptation of Arthur Miller's play, "The Crucible." The libretto, containing nine songs that chronicled the story of the play, was about 20-minutes long and was actually his final project for his junior English class. Some of the songs included "It's All Funny Until Somebody You Love Dies" and "Danforth in Court."

"I decided to allow the progression to reflect life, in that it starts off silly, funny, and innocent, and ends in a considerably dark place," Harris said. "[If I could,] I would have the [dead characters] convene at the edge of the stage and do something akin to the thriller dance to close the first act."

While he played minor roles as a small child and in middle school, Harris did not really start theater until high school. "I thought it might be the right place to meet similarly quirky, fun-loving people. It was—it is," Harris said.

Harris admits that putting on shows did somewhat affect his schoolwork, but is adamant in that he wouldn't be "anything like the person [he is] today."

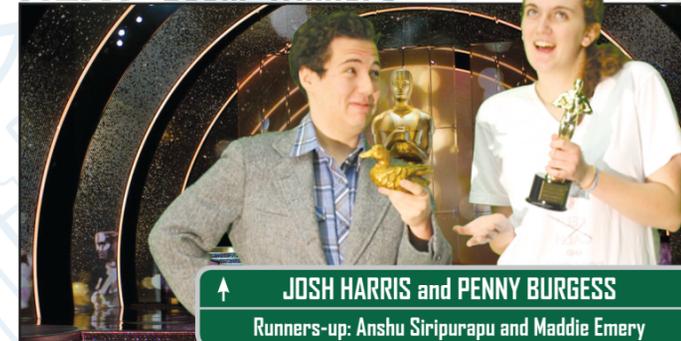
"I'm more outgoing and comfortable in my skin than I was four years ago," Harris said. "I am surrounded by the most wonderful group of loud people, and can't imagine my high school experience [without them]."

Although he is going through "withdrawal from [his] moments on the McAfee stage," he does not anticipate a career in acting. However, he feels that Saratoga drama will not be the last time he performs in plays.

"It's up in the air. I'm majoring in Creative Writing in college, but goodness knows where I'll go from there ... Colbert? Hollywood? Jail? Unclear. But probably jail," Harris joked.

— by Vivian LeTran

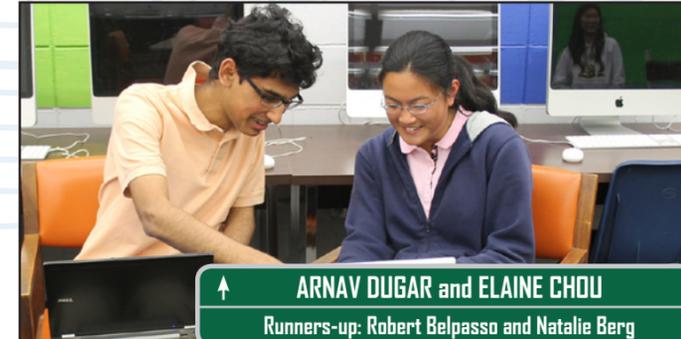
NEXT Oscar Winners



↑ JOSH HARRIS and PENNY BURGESS

Runners-up: Anshu Siripurapu and Maddie Emery

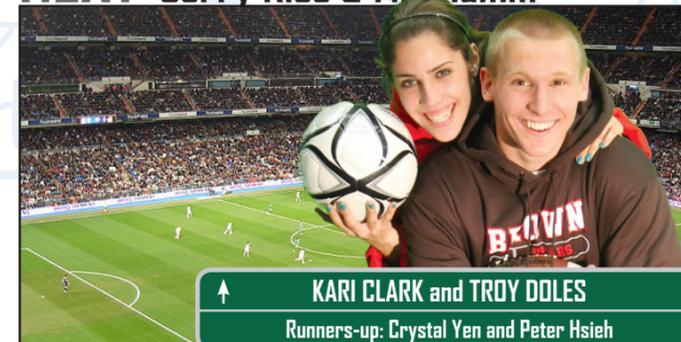
NEXT Tech Gurus



↑ ARNAV DUGAR and ELAINE CHOU

Runners-up: Robert Belpasso and Natalie Berg

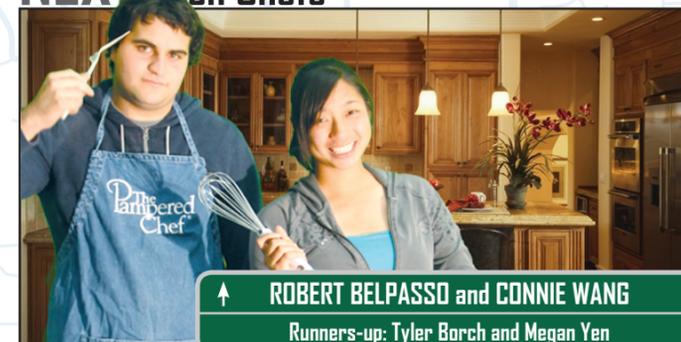
NEXT Jerry Rice & Mia Hamm



↑ KARI CLARK and TROY DOLES

Runners-up: Crystal Yen and Peter Hsieh

NEXT Iron Chefs



↑ ROBERT BELPASSO and CONNIE WANG

Runners-up: Tyler Barch and Megan Yen

NANCY CHEN

Multiple men's room mishaps

While in Disneyland with friends during her freshman year, Nancy Chen was entering a bathroom looking for a friend when a man walked past her and shot her a strange look.

Chen, confused but not aware that anything was out of the ordinary, ignored the look, and strolled into the bathroom in search of her (female) friend.

She didn't find her friend. Instead, she found a row of urinals. She had wandered into the men's restroom.

"I practically ran outside!" she recalls.

Luckily for Chen, many of her peers were outside to witness the embarrassing mistake. Needless to say, it is unlikely that they will allow her to live it down anytime soon.

"I remember coming out," Chen said. "They were all there and laughing really hard."

Fortunately, there was no one inside the bathroom. However, the "Disneyland incident" was not the first time she walked into the men's room.

Chen still remembers one of the worst incidents, which happened on a ski trip a few years ago. She was riding in a car with her family friends, who are mostly guys, when they stopped for a bathroom break.



Chen

Chen, engrossed in a conversation with her friends, kept walking and talking, unknowingly following them into the men's bathroom. Chen wasn't lucky enough to wander into an empty bathroom that time.

"I was just washing my hands," Chen said, "and glanced in the mirror and saw MEN."

Whether they happen out of carelessness or rashness, Chen's bathroom blunders are sure to remain a hilarious subject of conversation.

When teased, Chen indignantly insists that she is not alone in her mistake.

"Don't tell me you've never been in the guys' bathroom," she said. "Don't lie to me!"

—by Denise Lin

What's your favorite memory with your section?

Band seniors look back on four years of marching band and recall the best moments

"During a rainy competition, there was this one set where I got to run to the back podium, and it was the most glorious thing ever."

—Isabel McPherson (drum major)

"Whenever we had football games on the field, right before we'd [drum majors] get into a circle."

—Chris Jones (drum major)

On Mondays, we would be blasting down the hallways when everyone got out of seventh period just to be obnoxious."



trombone Andy Yee

"Before a competition, when we're all huddled together and just talking about the season, all just thinking about what we did [was my favorite moment]. I was proud of everybody and we all went on the field and had as much fun as we could."

—Matt Opatrny (flute)

"I have two favorite memories with the clarinet section. One was the annual clarinet section party during the summer right before band camp

because I got to see everyone again and meet all the new freshmen. And the second was during our finals competition in Chino Hills, right before our performance: everyone was super pumped and nervous at the same time but we huddled as a section one last time and gave each other the biggest 30 person hug ever."

—Jocelyn Pwu (clarinet)

I remember in my freshman year in the back of the band running block, all the tubas would make train noises and get the drum majors mad at us."



tuba Nick Turpin

"Either the shirtless run-throughs during freshman and sophomore year in the tenor sax section or Edwin Chen coming to band camp bald and drawing the Avatar arrow design on his head for student ID photos."

—Matt Ishikawa (alto sax)

"Probably in my sophomore year, when we all went on a section lunch at Chipotle. It was the first time we all went as a section to lunch and we just really bonded."

—Brian Leung (trumpet)

"During sectionals we were practicing but really just playing Scrabble, when we heard someone at the door. We were so scared that we threw

the pieces back into the box and started practicing, but it turned out to just be our section leader. I like how we have a 'work hard, play hard' ethic."

—Vivian Liao (mellophone)

"My favorite moments with my section are the bonding moments outside of band. We always like to go out and eat, see movies, or plan fun events together even when it's not band season. I really like how we stay in touch and hang out with each other even when we're not required to. We really love each other and enjoy each other's company."

—Kellie Chiou (baritone)

The competition at Folsom was particularly memorable because it was pouring, and we were absolutely soaked, but we went out there and had fun anyways."



guard captain Katie Cummins

"It was fun playing in the Folsom competition when it was raining, mostly because we got to hit the instruments and have water shoot up."

—Desmond Chan (pit)

"Probably the competition where we got first in percussion; it was just really a bonding experience because we had never done it before."

—Sebbie Thorn (drumline)

—by Justine Huang

SHAYDA KHORASANI

Student connects through singing

"Don't worry, you'll do great," were the last words Shayda Khorasani heard before she stepped into the blinding light and onto the McAfee Center stage for her second time in the Saratoga Idol competition this past March.

The music started to play and she began to belt out her selected tune, "Brighter Than the Sun" by Colbie Caillat.

She didn't place, but it wasn't about winning for Khorasani. It was about learning to have fun with things and conquering the fear of being on stage.

"I didn't place both years, but it wasn't my success in the show that mattered," Khorasani said. "It was the fact that I had the guts to sing in front of hundreds of people, which is a really hard thing to do because you're so vulnerable and exposed on the stage."

Khorasani first tried out for her family, because she never sings in front of them. She didn't tell them she was auditioning until she knew she had made the show. Her mother reacted positively, which increased her confidence.

"Idol" is a great event because it gives people a chance to prove to themselves that they can do anything if they put their mind to it," Khorasani said. "I hated singing in front of people up until I made myself try out," Khorasani said. "Getting on the stage in front of all those people with the lights shining in your eyes is so scary I can't even begin to describe it but then you see those familiar faces and start to relax."

She sang "Fall for You" by Secondhand Serenade and fumbled a bit with the words.

"I messed up my song and forgot the lyrics in the middle," Khorasani said. "I just laughed it off and kept on singing and that taught me not to take everything so seriously."

Khorasani had been in choir since sixth grade and singing in talent shows since third grade. She plans to sing in the choir at Chapman University and may minor in vocal music.

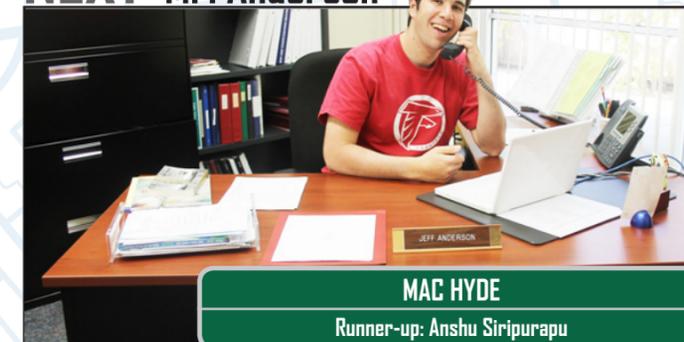
"I'm so glad that I tried out last year and this year," Khorasani said. "Idol taught me a lot and was an all around really good experience for me. It gave me an opportunity to make my family proud and do something that I never would have dreamed of."

—by Megan Benzing



Khorasani

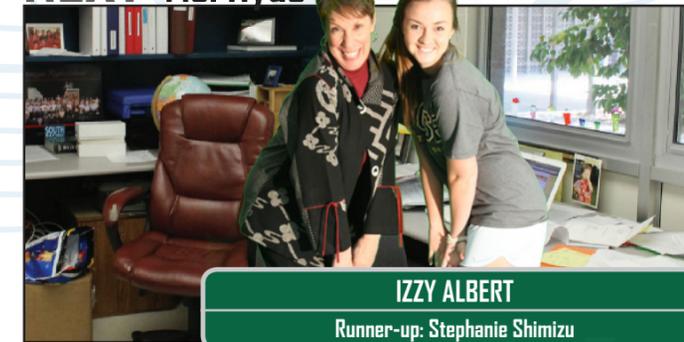
NEXT Mr. Anderson



MAC HYDE

Runner-up: Anshu Siripurapu

NEXT Ms. Hyde



IZZY ALBERT

Runner-up: Stephanie Shimizu

NEXT Mr. Boitz



AKASH KAR

Runner-up: Hansen Qian

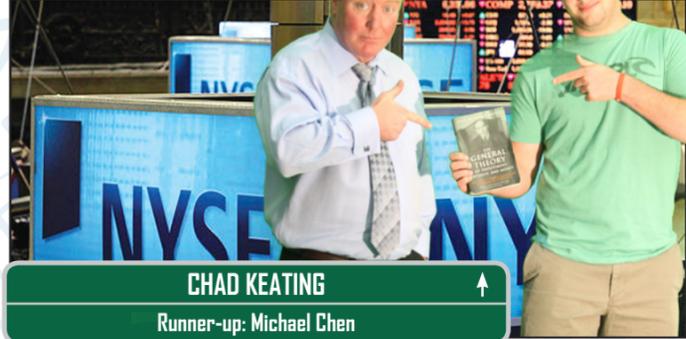
NEXT Ms. Cochrum



CORINNE ZELANIS

Runner-up: Kendall Milton

NEXT Mr. Dwyer



CHAD KEATING

Runner-up: Michael Chen

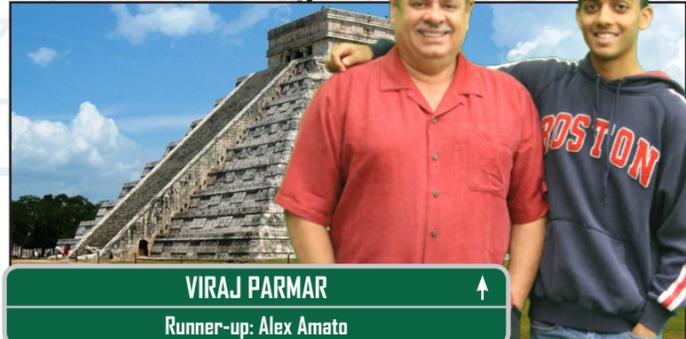
NEXT Ms. Anzalone



KENDALL MILTON

Runner-up: Courtney Brandt

NEXT Sr. Rodriguez



VIRAJ PARMAR

Runner-up: Alex Amato

NEXT Ms. Head



NATALIE BERG

Runner-up: Jasmine Grant

KRISTINE JOHNSTON

Writing thoughts down in six ways



As senior Kristine Johnston takes notes in class, her Japanese gel-pencil swings a Chinese charm made of pink, woven elastic around its eraser. Straying to a corner away from the equations in the center of her page, her pencil traces her thoughts out in Spanish. Abruptly, her smooth writing transitions to swift, clean strokes as odd, indecipherable characters finish up her sentence. She enjoys the privacy of her own language.

Since the beginning of middle school, Johnston has been obsessed with languages after witnessing how useful it is to be bilingual from her Chinese friends. Determined to break away from her monolingualism, she went out and bought some Japanese books in seventh grade and proceeded to learn how to write on her own. Now, she is capable of writing in four other languages: Korean, Arabic, Chinese and Spanish.

"When I proved to myself that I could teach myself to write [in Japanese], I felt encouraged and decided to learn to write in Korean and Arabic," Johnston said.

Johnston loves listening to ethnic music and uses it to reinforce her learning. She reads the lyrics while listening to her favorite songs, most of which are in Korean. As for Arabic, she was drawn to the language because of the aesthetics behind it.

"The language looks really artistic," she said. "I love being able to write such beautiful characters."

In high school, she expanded her reserve of languages further by enrolling in Spanish and Japanese language simultaneously, but not without some confusion along the way.

"I ran into Señor Yielding in the halls and wanted to talk to him in Spanish, but I kept repeating aloud the Japanese word for what I wanted to say," Johnston laughed. "Eventually, I remembered the word in Spanish, but ever since that day I have mysteriously had a little more trouble translating from Japanese to Spanish, or from Spanish to Japanese."

However, Johnston's enthusiasm for languages was still unsatisfied, so she decided to invent her own language. Rather than assigning a symbol for each letter of the English alphabet, her language is similar in composition to Chinese or other character-based languages. She said she doesn't plan to share her language with others as it is only a creation out of passion and curiosity. At the moment, she is currently testing out sounds for each of the characters.

Johnston said that her obsession with languages has made her a more globally aware person and has enabled her to grow fascinated with ethnic cuisines and values. Her main focus in college will not be linguistics, as she is planning to major in the sciences. However, she is considering a minor in Mandarin Chinese.

As for her current pursuits: "I attempted to write in Thai and Hindi, but my memory couldn't handle so much in just a couple of years!" she said.

—by Sabrina Cismas

SANJANA CHETIA

Admiring the 'D-list'



of controversy.

"I've had a few idols in my lifetime, but I never had a real role model until recently," Chetia said.

It all began at the end of eighth grade, when Chetia started to embrace the freedom of enjoying her own developing interests in everything including action cartoons, Remus Lupin, and overblown British literature, without regard for popular opinion. Over time, Chetia developed a multitude of pursuits, from watching slice-of-life foreign films to swing dancing, and by junior year, she had gained much more confidence in herself.

Early on, Chetia felt able to proclaim her be-

liefs without fear of being judged by others, but it was not until mid-February of her senior year that she encountered the embodiment of her life values: Kathy Griffin.

Though she feels she has become "crazier" throughout high school, Chetia believes that Griffin opened her eyes to the confidence which she aspires to display.

"She's not afraid to speak out and defy convention by calling it like it is," Chetia said. "She allows me to embrace my real personality."

While Chetia does not see herself completely mimicking her idol and taking off her dress on national television in the near future, she knows that the confidence to act in any way she wishes has come to stay and hopes that Kathy Griffin would be proud.

—by Cecilia Hollenhorst

VIRAJ PARMAR

One small leap for 'studentkind'



multitude of objects, from tables to car hoods.

"I like jumping a lot because it's an activity that I find both exhilarating and easy," Parmar said. "Whenever I feel stressed, I can walk into my backyard and jump over my barbeque or a chair."

Parmar said that his unique hobby came during the summer after his freshman year when he searched for a talent which he could call his own.

"I first discovered my joy for jumping over things during the summer after freshman year at speech and debate camp," Parmar said. "We were playing some ice breaker games and everyone had to do something interesting. I acted on

impulse and ran toward a tall row of bushes. The next thing I knew, I cleared it and I had made some new friends."

Parmar has turned this small hobby into a unique trait which his friends consider to be an inseparable part of his character.

"Viraj is always jumping," Eric Wang said. "If you give him a challenge, he will try it."

Parmar's greatest jumping accomplishment? A 4- to 5-foot water fountain, which he admitted he would not try to do again, due to its height. In the next few years, he hopes to continue leaping and stretching his physical boundaries.

"I can always find challenges on the go," Parmar said. "When I'm out in public and feel like a challenge, I can look for a tall object and go for it."

—by Will Edman

SIX-PACK DILEMMA

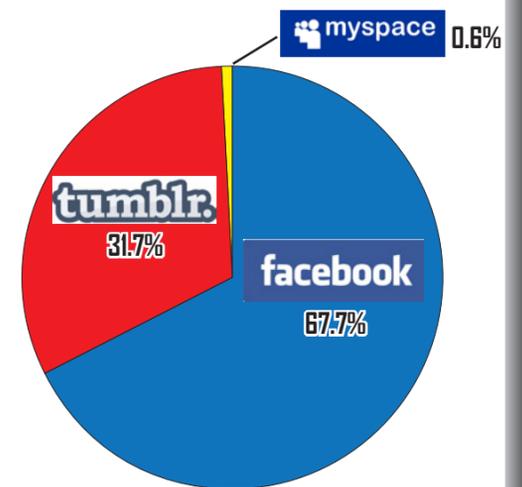
Vineet Jain

One day in French Class during sophomore year. I was making fun of my friend Sneha about how she didn't have any abs. Back then I was a fairly large individual. She simply responded with the statement, "Vineet. Do you even know what abs look like?" The whole class went silent and then erupted in laughter.

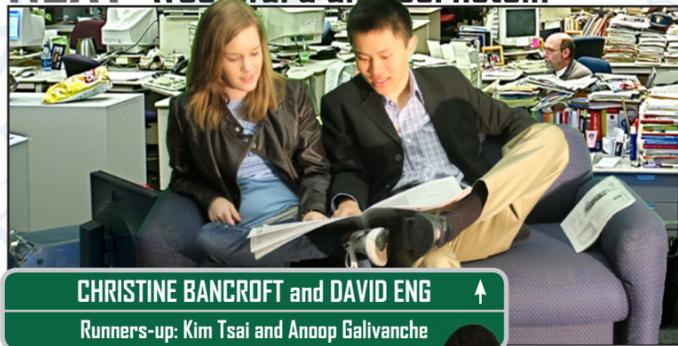


SENIOR SURVEY

What's your social network of choice?



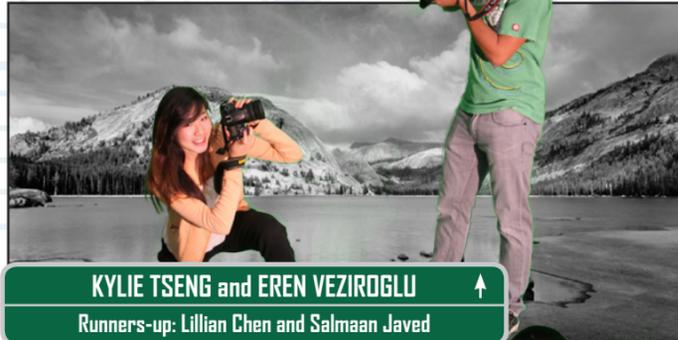
NEXT Woodward and Bernstein



CHRISTINE BANCROFT and DAVID ENG

Runners-up: Kim Tsai and Anoop Galivanche

NEXT Ansel Adams



KYLIE TSENG and EREN VEZIROGLU

Runners-up: Lillian Chen and Salmaan Javed

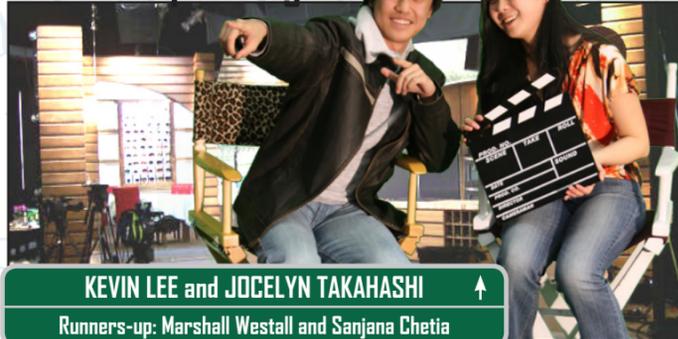
NEXT Picasso



LOUISE GUY and VICTOR SUTARDJA

Runners-up: Kylie Tseng and Ian Burns

NEXT Spielberg



KEVIN LEE and JOCELYN TAKAHASHI

Runners-up: Marshall Westall and Sanjana Chetia

Kevin Lee

Aspirations to become the next Spielberg

From a young age, Kevin Lee was fascinated by the power to convey stories through movies has captured his interest, and took great interest in analyzing the movies he watched. Steven Spielberg's Jurassic Park first brought him into the world of film. He was mesmerized by the Tyrannosaurus, despite the fact he knew it was not real, but instead a computer generated image. Then in 2001, when he saw Shrek, he was again fascinated by apparent reality of the images.

Ever since Shrek, Lee has watched the special features for every film that he owns, and whenever a movie is about to be released in stores, he always buys the two-disc edition and now has an impressive collection.

In middle school, Lee loved telling stories and "wanted to become a storyteller to capture other people's hearts because my own heart was captured by so many movies before." Yet, Lee still was not sure in which medium to present work, and considered becoming an actor, until he joined the Media Arts Program, where he decided he wants to become a director.

So far, Lee has been a part of 13 productions in which he played a major role, and many more in which he has worked as a minor crew member. He has produced films of all types, ranging from music videos to short films, from public service announcements to educational videos.

One of his short films, Awareness, was nominated for the Saratoga High Smash'N Award for Best Fictional Film in 2011, which took a year in pre-production and four months for shooting and post-production combined. Another film he made over the summer while at the University of Southern California was also screened in their film festival.

This year, he and a friend have been working on his first full-length feature film called "Keep Me In The Dark," a thriller drama centered on a complex relationship, which they plan to screen in late May. Planning for the film has taken almost two years, and countless hours editing the script and discussing how to execute shots, turning the concept into a reality.

"Movies don't get finished in a week. They take research, time, effort, and a lot of persistence," Lee said. "James Cameron began working on Avatar in 1994, believe it or not, and Disney Pixar already began developing Toy Story 3 after the second one was made, yet it actually came out 11 years later."

Aside from making films, Lee loves critiquing them. While critiquing films, Lee analyzes almost every aspect of the production, from the storyline to the set pieces, from the themes to its business marketing, from its cast to its director.

"When I finish movies, I spend hours critiquing it with my friends or family," Lee said. "Once I begin, I never shut up."

In addition, Lee just began writing reviews on a blog site around late February and publishes three to four every week under the name "Dragon Eyes." Lee also has a facebook page where his friends can post titles of movies that they wish for him to review, or can ask him personally.

— by Arnav Dugar



Ariella Yendler

Life is a play, act on it

Theater has always been at the core of senior Ariella Yendler's life. Her highlights are being a part of the International Thespian Society, attending National History Day, and stage managing for the musical "Jekyll and Hyde".

Yendler is vice president of this drama club this year, planning events and meeting people at conventions.

"Being in a theater convention is a different atmosphere, which I love," Yendler said. "You can



greet someone you've never met before and give them a hug and become friends."

This year, Yendler competed together with senior Penny Burgess and got into the top 10 percent of the state for acting.

Yendler brought her acting to National History Day competition her junior year at Washington, D.C., as well. Although she did not win there, she was the California state champion for individual performance.

"My monologue was on the Scopes Monkey trial, which left room for creativity," Yendler said. "I had a circus theme and dressed up as a

ringmaster."

Being an actor is one side of theater, but tech was a whole new arena for Yendler, until she managed an entire team for it.

"I had over 300 cues to call," Yendler said. "It was like asking someone who has never walked before to run an Olympic marathon."

Out of the three accomplishments, Yendler is most proud of attending National History Day because "that was all me," Yendler said.

"I wrote the piece, which I was already so proud of," Yendler said, "but then I memorized the ten-minute speech and performed it with passion."

— by Vivien Lu

Arjay Parhar

Class breaks out in random impromptu song: 'Bohemian Rhapsody' in a capella

Students sat in an AP environmental science class on a dreary Monday morning Arjay Parhar's junior year, staring at the clock willing it to move faster. The class seemed to drag on forever. Until all of a sudden, a hum was heard throughout the



classroom, a single tune. All of a sudden a couple more students joined in, and then more and more until finally a small group of students were humming and tapping to a common beat.

Someone began to sing, "Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy?" For the next 15 minutes, since many people didn't know the lyrics to the song, students just belted out glorious harmonies to Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody," perfectly hitting the highs and lows of "Galileo! Galileo... Galileo!"

Parhar said by the end a few students added

some high energy choreography and many students were drenched in sweat. The group slowly faded out with "Anywhere the wind blows," and looked around to find the rest of the class sitting stunned and in awe with appreciation.

AP environmental science teacher Kristen Thomson changed the seating chart exclusively for that class so the small group who began the acapella could not sit together. Parhar said Thomson was obviously jealous of their talent.

"By the end I realized, we are the champions. And there is no time for losers," Parhar said.

— by Shivani Chadha

NEW YORK MUSIC TRIP MEMORIES

Clara Chao

I'm pretty sure that the New York trip was the most memorable event/time in my high school career. In retrospect to the Europe tour, I was an upperclassman by 2011 and also respected the trip itself a lot more and took advantage of the fact that I had the privilege to travel to New York with a group I was part of and actually play in Carnegie Hall.

It's pretty crazy looking back on it, since I don't consider myself one of the talented musicians in the bunch, yet I had the opportunity to perform with crazy good people. I had approximately 12 hours of sleep on the entire 5-day trip, and enjoyed every waking moment of it, whether it be eating overpriced cheesecake or just taking in the city. The ridiculously large stores were also not too bad. Anyway, it was an overall amazing experience and it's one I will not soon forget!



HOMECOMING QUAD DAY EXPERIENCE

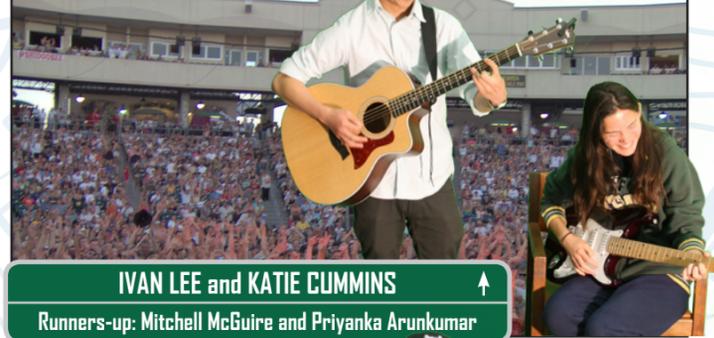
Spencer Perry

I can remember my first time participating in the quad day presentation. I was a junior and never really did anything like it before. My job was to portray a sophomore (or at least a stereotype of one). So, nervously I slapped on some black high socks, cut off my sleeves, and walked into the excessively rowdy and untamed life led by the average sophomore.

It was scary at first, but I let the wild, irrational side of me take over and embarrass myself in front of the whole school. It was some of the most fun I had at the high school and hearing my fellow classmates laughter was pretty cool too (not to mention I made some sophomores pretty mad too).



NEXT Guitar Hero



IVAN LEE and KATIE CUMMINS ↑

Runners-up: Mitchell McGuire and Priyanka Arunkumar

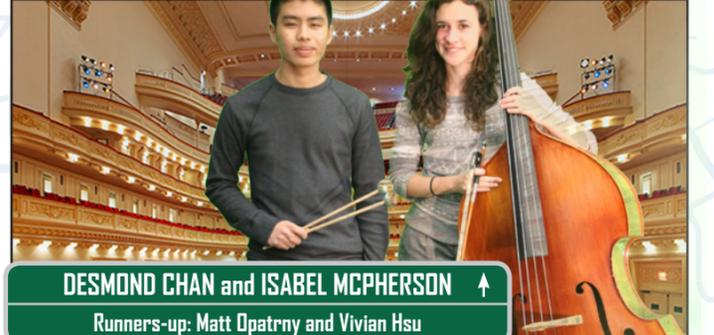
NEXT NASCAR Racer



HANNIBAL CHANG and CLARA CHAO ↑

Runners-up: Brandon Gummow and Sarah Hull

NEXT Mozart



DESMOND CHAN and ISABEL MCPHERSON ↑

Runners-up: Matt Opatrny and Vivian Hsu

NEXT Jeopardy! Champion



KELLIE CHIU and MYRON ZHANG ↑

Runners-up: Alissa Zhang and David Eng

Which male superstar would you rather date?

1. Ryan Gosling: 37.8%
2. Channing Tatum: 22.3%
3. David Tennant: 22.2%
4. Taylor Lautner: 10%
5. Zac Efron: 7.7%



Which female superstar would you rather date?

1. Emma Watson: 38.8 %
2. Natalie Portman: 27.3%
3. Emma Stone: 12.1%
4. Taylor Swift: 11%
5. Blake Lively: 10.8%



JEFFREY KUO and CRYSTAL YEN

Seniors distinguish themselves in racket sports

The first time they picked up a racket, it would have been hard for Jeffrey Kuo and Crystal Yen to predict just how much they would succeed in badminton and tennis, respectively. Throughout the course of high school, they have come a long way, distinguishing themselves as athletes both at and outside of school.

Kuo started to invest more time into badminton when he was about 11 and was able to compete with other junior players.

"[I liked] watching older junior players play when I was younger and not so good," Kuo said. "[I was] fascinated by their awesomeness."

Throughout the years, he's competed in everything from national tournaments, such as Junior Nationals and Junior International Team (JIT) trials, to international tournaments, such as Junior Pan American Badminton Championships and World Juniors.

Kuo has performed impressively in these competitive tournaments, placing second in singles in previous years and first in doubles last year at Junior Nationals and winning first in singles and first in doubles in JIT trials, which is held every year to determine who will be on the Junior International Team to represent the U.S. in international tournaments.

In school, last year Kuo won first place in SVCALs league finals and was the CCS singles champion.

Although the worlds of club badminton and

school badminton are different, Kuo has been able to adjust to the differences, such as plastic shuttlecocks for high school versus feather shuttlecocks for club badminton.

"[Badminton is] a sport that is very underrated and should not be considered to be just a backyard sport," Kuo said.

He maintains that it is just as physically demanding as "mainstream" sports such as tennis and basketball.

"Badminton also requires a lot of strategy and mind games," Kuo said.

Kuo plans on attending Santa Clara University, and although he won't play badminton for the Broncos, he will continue to train, perhaps even aiming for the 2016 Olympics.

Like Kuo, Yen has achieved national prominence in her sport: tennis. She especially enjoyed



Kuo



Yen

playing for the school's team.

"I like cheering and getting cheered on," Yen said. "Playing individual is only fun if you do well in the tournament."

Yen believes that playing as an individual in tournaments is hectic, requiring booking flights, hotels, and frequent changes in these arrangements.

"Also, when you're playing individually at a bigger tournament you know the college coaches are watching your match," Yen said. "It puts a little more pressure on the situation."

However, Yen has still been able to enjoy herself at times. She recalls a particular tournament

during sophomore year, in which she won five rounds in a row to place in the top eight, before losing. The San Diego tournament was attended by many highly skilled players; winners are allowed a wildcard into the U.S. Open.

"That's my most exciting result, because it's such an official tournament with the same line judges you see at the pro tournaments and a players' lounge full of food," Yen said.

Despite the thrill of playing at such a competitive tournament, Yen's favorite competition remains CCS, which she took part in as a part of the school.

"I like playing with a team much more than I like playing alone," Yen, who won CCS singles during her junior and senior years, said. "All four years we've had a deep team and it's fun to do well and be able to advance more rounds and prolong the season."

Although Yen initially thought she would be pursuing track, she discovered that tennis was her calling.

"My favorite memories came in the first couple years I started when I was infatuated with the sport," Yen said. "Even thinking about tennis made me happy."

Throughout the years, Yen has seen many aspects of the tennis community.

"The tennis community is a whole other world I never knew existed before I started," Yen said. "They could make a show very similar and even more intense and catty [than] 'Toddlers and Tiaras' with tennis parents and tournaments."

Although Yen insists she isn't good enough to play professionally, she will be playing Division 1 tennis at Harvard for the next four years. After college, she plans on continuing to play recreationally.

—by Denise Lin

CLARA CHAO

Watched "Rings" 25 Times

When it came to the fantasy story of hobbits, dwarves, and wizards in the land of Middle Earth, senior Clara Chao is a true fanatic. Chao has seen "The Lord of the Rings" Trilogy more than 25 times. Chao has seen the first movie "The Fellowship of the Ring" 22 times, the second movie "The Two Towers" around 30 times, and the third movie "The Return of the King" around 20 times.

Chao enjoys watching these movies every



now and then. "I watched all of them in theaters when they came out back when we were in elementary school," Chao said.

Although they are older movies, Chao spots them on the FOX channel on television from time to time as well as owning the movies on her computer as well. "I just watch them for fun," Chao said. "I also like to have marathons with my friends every now and then."

Chao's favorite part of the movie occurs when the characters are in the caves of Moria from the first movie, and things don't go as planned as the

fellowship is traveling to Mordor. Chao's senior quote is actually a one-liner from a crucial character named Gandalf from this particular scene.

With the prequel "The Hobbit" coming out in December, Chao is ecstatic to watch it. "I've been seeing promotions for it everywhere," Chao said.

When asked if she would watch the movies again, she enthusiastically answered that she would.

"I do it all the time," Chao said. "I don't know how many times I'm going to watch it again in the future, but it's still a great movie!"

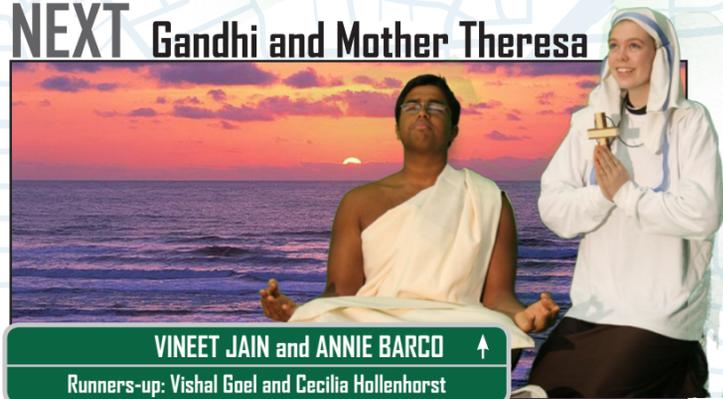
—by Lillian Chen

NEXT Iconic Smile



ALYSSA PECK and GAUTAM BHAYANI ↑
Runners-up: Shivani Chadha and David Adler

NEXT Gandhi and Mother Theresa



VINEET JAIN and ANNIE BARCO ↑
Runners-up: Vishal Goel and Cecilia Hollenhorst

NEXT James Bond



HARRY CURTIS and ANNA ASHE ↑
Runners-up: Jonathan Junqua and Anika Jhalani

NEXT Newlyweds



NICK ASKE and NICOLE FETSCH ↑
Runners-up: Alex Amato and Lennie Char

BEN CHUNG

Taekwondo excellence brings honors

Senior Benjamin Chung's journey to his achievement in winning the bronze medal in the 2011 ITF Taekwondo World Championships competition in New Zealand in March 2011 started the summer after his sixth grade.

Swimming throughout elementary school, Chung always dreaded waking up at 6 a.m. to dive into a pool of freezing, cold water.

"Going to practice was equally horrible," Chung joked. "And I always got in trouble because I didn't pay attention."

Due to his lack of passion for swimming, Chung decided to try martial arts and found his calling with taekwondo.

"Taekwondo came naturally to me unlike swimming, and it's better for my asthma," Chung said. "I love the adrenaline rush I get from taekwondo when I spar other classmates. They challenge me to work harder and to improve each day." Chung tested for and received his black belt recently this year.

Chung traveled to New Zealand in March 2011. He qualified for three events in the 2011 ITF Taekwondo National Qualifiers that were held in San Jose in the summer of 2010. Forty-two different countries ranging from Greece to Uzbekistan competed. Because only the top three qualify for the New Zealand Internationals within their individual events, there wasn't a huge pool of competitors.

From his experience in taekwondo, Chung learned to stand up for himself and to respect others. Chung explained that before each class, the students repeat the tenets of taekwondo: courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control, indomitable spirit.

"Taekwondo is not a weapon, but a way to learn discipline and confidence, something that many people lack nowadays," Chung said.

Despite his accomplishments in the martial art, Chung doesn't see himself continuing with taekwondo.

"Taekwondo consumes too much time and although it's helped me a great deal, if I continue to pursue it, I'd have to make it a life career," Chung said. "As you climb the ranks, you're required to train for an umpiring certificate, attend international training courses, and there is a set amount of time between black belt ranks."

Chung explained that just moving from a third-degree black belt to a fourth-degree black belt, which isn't even a high rank, one would have to train consistently for three years.

Looking back on his taekwondo career, Chung said, "My taekwondo career had its ups and downs, but it was definitely worth the commitment."

With the stress of junior year, Chung found it difficult to balance his time and energy with school and taekwondo, especially because he had to prepare for his tournament.

"There were so many times where I wanted to give up, but I kept on persevering because it would have been a huge waste to quit; my parents also supported me a great deal, and there was no way I could let them down," Chung said. "The time between nationals and worlds was one of my biggest struggles in life, but I pulled through in the end!"

—by Lillian Chen

LENNIE CHAR

Finding a passion for rowing

Two years ago, senior Lennie Char walked into the quad during lunch to find a few rowing boats on display. While she didn't think much of the sport at first, she gradually accepted it and excelled at it. She is now headed to the University of Tulsa to compete on their Division I rowing team.

Char, a member of the Los Gatos Rowing Club, is a coxswain—a person who does not actually row, but instead gives direction in regards to navigation and rowing.

"Various friends and relatives told me that I'd be a good coxswain because I'm small and loud," Char said. "[As a coxswain,] it's my main job to give commands to the rowers that will help the boat to win."

By her junior year, Char had decided that she wanted to continue crew in college and fully committed herself to being recruited for the sport.

"I've had to give up a lot of free time and I can't waste time. I'm also forced to get up a lot earlier on weekends [for practices and matches] and get to sleep earlier," Char said.

Even though many may believe that rowing is such a simple motion, Char points out that rowers must endure grueling practices in order

to prepare for matches.

"Usually we're with coaches who warm up with us, then we'll do our 'pieces,' which is like our workout and then we'll cool down and finish practice," Char said. "Practice is typically three hours long."

Not only does Char put herself through a lot of work to practice, but she also faces a lot of adversity in competitions.

"Competitions are a lot of fun, but we have to wake up at 4 in the morning a lot of the time because they're usually in Oakland or Sacramento," Char said. "They're really stressful and a lot of work, but ultimately I think it's worth it."

—by Roy Bish

AMBER KINGERY

Shooting for the police academy

"I had no idea what I was in for," says senior Amber Kingery of her decision to enroll in the Police Academy, a program hosted by the Santa Clara police department. Though the law-enforcement course finds itself annually advertised on the announcements, Kingery and her close friend senior Corinne Zelanis were the first two students from Saratoga High to attempt the academy in five years.

"I'd always wanted to do the academy; it sounded fun, but I didn't want to do it by myself," said Kingery. "When I found out that one of my really good friends was also doing it, I de-

ecided to fill out the form."

Though she had initially expected the course to be heavily lecture-based, she soon found the course much more dynamic, with numerous hands-on activities and guest speakers.

"The SWAT team came in and we got to see their 'super secret' truck and some of the guns they have. Given, the guns weren't loaded, but it was still pretty cool," said Kingery.

Though she found most all of the course fabulous, Kingery's favorite experience took place on the shooting range.

"I never thought I would shoot a gun, and all of a sudden I had a shotgun and a semi-automatic in my hand and

was shooting targets," said Kingery. "You never really know how heavy those things are until you have to hold one for 10 minutes."

The three-hour classes afforded her an engaging and enlightening experience each week, even providing insight into some facets of forensics, a field she hopes to explore further in the future.

"Overall, the academy was really fun," said Kingery. "It was also really informative and there were some crazy things I would not have known before!"

—by Alex Ju



↓ MY MEMORABLE MOMENT

Kelsey Dwyang

When I was an underclassman, I started decorating my friends' lockers on their birthdays along with Vivian Hsu and Ailene Nguyen. We'd put up wrapping paper, pictures, ribbons, even sequins (Denise Lin's locker, junior year!). Somehow none of us ever thought to be



smart and save locker combinations from year to year, so we'd end up lying to our friends, saying we needed to use their locker for whatever reason. By junior year, we got so busy and forgetful that we ended up asking Mrs. Ybarra for locker combinations; we weren't sure if she'd give us another person's combo, so a couple times we posed as each other. Vivian pretended to be Ailene once, and Ailene pretended to be Vivian; we almost got caught when Ailene was posing as Vivian and couldn't remember her last name! Sadly, our locker tradition will end along with high school. Dorm room decorations, anyone?

↓ MY COMICAL MOMENT

Anna Zhang

Last year, Amanda Chow and I, swamped with summer program applications like so many of our fellow peers, decided to entertain ourselves in the process.



So we told our friends about two very competitive and exclusive programs: Princeton Educational Engineering and Stanford Laboratory Electrical Engineering Program. And when they expressed their surprise, we would tell them that we were "going to PEE or SLEEP this summer," at which point our unsuspecting victim would realize they had been fooled.

ALISON KNYSH & STEPHANIE SHIMIZU

Go Falcons! Friends pump up school spirit at games

As the Falcons boys' basketball team cruised to a 59-47 win over Lynbrook on Feb. 17, a sea of red overflowed the right side of the Lynbrook bleachers. With the Vikings fans having fallen into silence, Saratoga students cheered and overtook the Lynbrook gymnasium, led by seniors Alison Knysh and Stephanie Shimizu in the

front row.

Both Knysh and Shimizu have been actively involved in school spirit throughout their time at Saratoga High, but this year, they took it to a new level. Knysh helped lead "The Red Zone"—a student section at the football games—and acted as one of the Spring Fling commissioners this year.

Shimizu joined Leadership and ASB as a junior and then became a rally commissioner this year.

"After football season ended, we wanted to keep it going so we created endless Facebook events for basketball games, baseball games and other games to try to increase school attendance and get everyone to wear red," Knysh said.

While Knysh and Shimizu have helped make significant strides for school spirit in their own ways, they both say that being a major part of a tailgate at Saratoga High before the Lynbrook basketball game was one of their favorite memories.

"I loved the tailgate because it brought a lot of people together and was a great way to spread school spirit," Shimizu said.

While many students may still be hesitant to get so involved in school spirit, Shimizu says her reason is simple.

"You only get to go through high school once, so you might as well make the most of every opportunity," she said.

—by Roy Bisht

MEGAN YEN

Swinging to a different beat

While most students prefer freaking or slow-dancing, Megan Yen loves dancing to a completely different beat: the beat of jazz music from the 1920s swing dance era.

Yen's interest in swing dancing began after watching old movies such as "Citizen Kane" and "Casablanca" and from her History Day project on the swing youth movement of Nazi Germany.

"Just from watching these movies and doing my project I became really fascinated with flappers, which are women who wore short dresses

and listened to jazz music in the 1920s," said Yen. "So I decided to learn more about flappers and that's really where it all started."

Last year, Yen and a few of her friends decided that they wanted to learn how to swing dance and to dress up as 1920s flappers for the annual Jazz Cabaret dance.



"We treated Jazz Cabaret as our prom, and it took forever to get ready because we had to curl our hair and make it all short because that is the traditional style of flappers," Yen said.

pers," Yen said.

In the months before Jazz Cabaret, Yen watched various YouTube videos to learn how to swing dance.

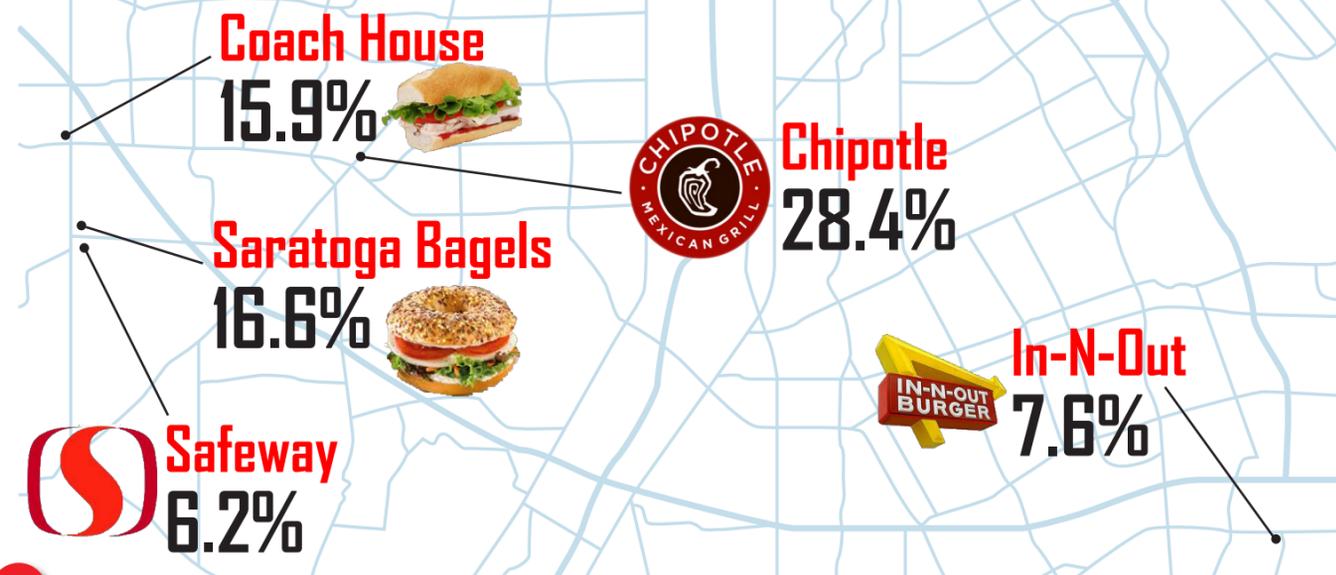
"[My friends and I] practiced dancing during Multimedia Journalism work nights," Yen said. "[MMJ teacher Tony] Palma probably thought we were really weird!"

By watching numerous YouTube videos, Yen eventually learned how to do the Charleston, the 1940s swing and the Lindy Hop, all dances that were highly popular dances from the swing dance era.

Yen's interest in swing dancing has not lessened after the conclusion of Jazz Cabaret. The proliferation of swing dance clubs in the Bay Area will allow Yen to continue pursuing this interest in the future and practice her swing dancing skills with friends.

—by Sarah Hull and Parul Singh

SENIORS: What was your favorite place to eat off-campus?



On high school in a song: "I like big books and I cannot lie..." —Kim Tsai

SOPHIE KANG

Reading provides solace



Despite living in the age of technology and in the heart of the Silicon Valley, Sophie Kang is unlike the average teenager. Kang, instead of turning to movies and video games for entertainment, enjoys reading for fun.

Kang started reading as a child because she "didn't like human interaction and preferred make-believe," said Kang. "We also moved around a lot when I was young so I really relied on reading as my go-to form of entertainment."

So far, Kang has read approximately 200 books, more than half of them being books by Roald Dahl, John Grisham or in the fantasy series genre.

Kang doesn't have just one defined favorite genre. "It's really difficult to categorize books into genres or judge them based on genre," Kang said. "There can be elements of mystery, crime, fantasy and philosophy all in one novel, so what would its genre be?" However, Kang enjoys fantasy and science fiction novels, as there are "incredible authors who write mindblowing stuff."

In regards to other students reading for enjoyment, Kang believes it is really important. "I appreciate novels like 'Harry Potter' and 'The Hunger Games' for motivating people to read, but there are some really engaging books that don't get enough love just because there isn't as much hype about them," Kang said. "There are literally worlds of amazing stories, characters, and settings that will make your head turn."

To students who dislike reading, Kang provides simple advice, "Give books time to grow on you. If you blow off a book after a page because it's boring than you're never going to enjoy reading."

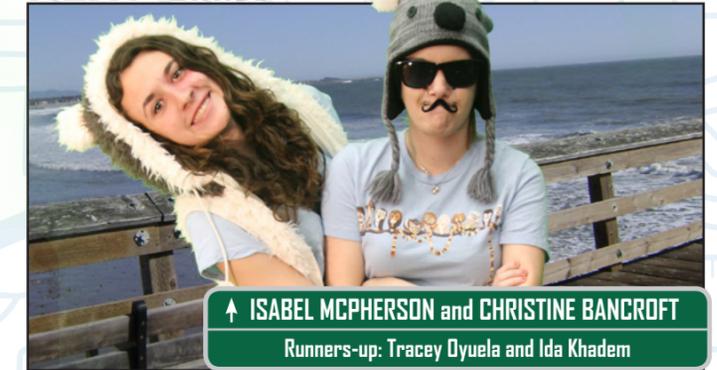
—by Izzy Albert

NEXT Bromance



↑ ROY BISHT and BRADY HORN
Runners-up: Jason Wu and Myron Zhang

NEXT Biffles



↑ ISABEL MCPHERSON and CHRISTINE BANCROFT
Runners-up: Tracey Oyuela and Ida Khadem

MIKAYLA MORRISON

Thursday lunches bring friends closer together, provide escape



The bell rings after second period and four students all rush to the parking lot to meet for their weekly Thursday lunches. Beginning at the start of junior year, Mikayla Morrison, Kari Clark, Courtney Brandt and Jen Lydon all headed over to Lydon's house for lunch every Thursday.

Lydon lives less than five minutes away from campus, giving the girls plenty of time to eat and enjoy their food. According to Morrison, the most popular meal was paninis.

"She would also make us macaroni and cheese, hot-dogs, hamburgers, pasta or chicken nuggets," Morrison said. "It was nice to have a break from

the fast-food lunches and get a nice home-cooked meal. Plus, it saved us a day's worth of lunch money!"

The girls would talk about everything, from their lives to tests at school. But the recurring conversation

that happened almost every day was complaining about having to go back to school.

"Having lunch at [Lydon's] house didn't seem like we were just on a break for lunch," Morrison said. "It was annoying to have to go back to school."

This year, Lydon's birthday happened to fall on a Thursday. That morning while Lydon was in first period, which none of the other three have, the girls decorated the whole kitchen and the path Lydon takes from the garage and up the

stairs.

"It was a nice surprise since the previous years I had always surprised her in the morning before school on her birthday," Morrison said. "She wasn't expecting to get anything at lunch."

While the girls enjoyed and looked forward to their weekly lunches, a few of their friends found them quite odd. Chris Hulme and Will Dennis decided to make a joke out of it.

"One day they followed us to Lydon's house, parked in her driveway and pulled out a table, complete with settings and a table cloth," Morrison said. "They had a portable grill and started barbecuing their own burgers that they had brought. We all knew they were just jealous."

—by Megan Benzing

It was nice to have a break from fast-food lunches and get a nice home-cooked meal.

>> MIKAYLA MORRISON

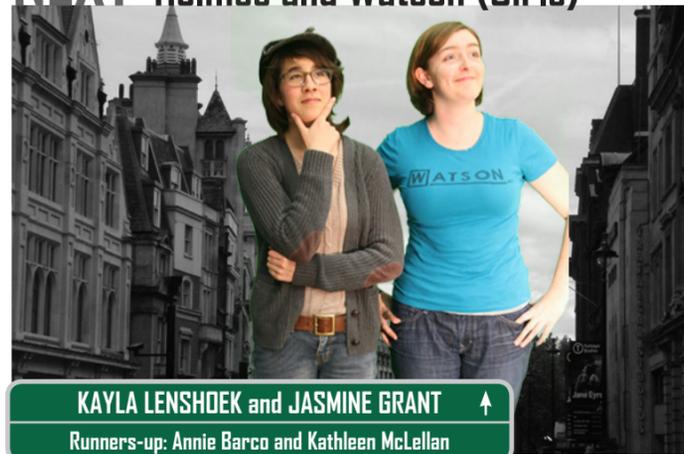
On Hyde leaving: "Correction: Graduating with the Class of 2012!" —Stephanie Shimizu

NEXT Harry, Ron and Hermione



SARAH HULL, DAVID ENG and PARUL SINGH ↑
Runners-up: Myron Zhang, Jason Wu and Katya Simpson

NEXT Holmes and Watson (Girls)



KAYLA LENSHOEK and JASMINE GRANT ↑
Runners-up: Annie Barco and Kathleen McLellan

NEXT Holmes and Watson (Boys)



JOSH HARRIS and MARK VAN AKEN ↑
Runners-up: Alex Amato and Spencer Perry

MARK VAN AKEN

Bassheads crank up the **volume**

Think you blast your music loud? Well, it probably does not top the decibels coming from senior Mark Van Aken's subwoofers. He, along with senior Michael Zuccarino, have come across some problems with the administration because of their blaring beats.

"We used to bring it to school at least one Friday of each month," Van Aken said. "And we would play it walking through the halls during tutorial or lunch, on our way to the robotics room."

Van Aken and Zuccarino brought the subwoofers to school to use as a sample product in their business proposal project in economics. They played music with it hooked up to a boombox while rolling it to class and passed by principal Jeff Anderson and assistant principal Karen Hyde.

"They told us off and said we can't play down the halls," Van Aken said. "Well, they never said anything about playing music in the robotics room."

After blasting dubstep, electro house, and drum and bass music in the robotics room for a few weeks, the MSET officers were sat down by Hyde and told they were not allowed to bring the subwoofer to school anymore, according to Van Aken. Apparently, their music was disturbing students rehearsing in the music building practice rooms.

"That means our subwoofer was able to penetrate through the concrete walls of the music building and into the 'soundproof' practice rooms," Van Aken said. "It was at this point that we knew we had created a monster."

—by Serena Chan

KELSEY OWYANG

Skating more than just a simple pastime

Whenever she skates, Kelsey Owyang still remembers the encouraging words of her ice skating coach at her first competition when she was 8 years old, "You can do it."

The support of having her coach, friends and family cheer her on led her to a second place finish and propelled her to dedicate herself fully to ice skating for the next several years.

"Almost any positive trait that I think I have, I feel like I can trace it to skating. Traits such as being passionate, hard-working and being able to set goals all come from skating," Owyang said.

Unfortunately, a serious back injury prevented Owyang from continuing to compete, and now she simply skates for enjoyment.

"I got injured from skating first in 7th grade and then again in freshman year. It was really sad since skating was like my best friend, but at the same time was my worst enemy," Owyang said. "But given the opportunity I would definitely do it all over again."

Despite no longer being involved in the competitive figure skating world, Owyang still considers skating an integral part of herself.

"[Skating] was a really big part of my life," Owyang said. "I still tell people that I'm a skater because it seems like it's part of me and how I think about things."

Owyang also credits her outlook on facing and overcoming adversity to the life lessons she learned while skating.

"Skating is very metaphorical in the sense that when you're learning new jumps or tricks, you have to fall a lot before you can get it," Owyang said. "I learned early on that you have to get up after you fall and try again, which is true in life as well as skating."

—by Sarah Hull and Parul Singh

ALL I DO IS TWIN

Senior class stuffed with a half-dozen **dynamic duos**

Lius, Cummins, Leungs, Ishikawas, Clarks, Raos, Bancrofts and Jones. Most recognize these pairings throughout the hallways. They are able to stand out of the crowd because they are all twins. Whether or not these pairs have twin telepathy, they have developed a special bond with each other that may soon be coming to a temporary pause as college decisions become final.

However, the identical Leung twins, Brian and Kenneth, are the one exception. They will continue their sibling rivalry at UC Davis in the fall.

"I wouldn't mind rooming with Kenneth, but I know that he would absolutely hate it," Brian said. Apparently, Kenneth wants to meet new people and not be known as a twin.

Originally, the Leung twins wanted to go to separate colleges, but finally decided to go to Davis together because it was the top choice for both of them.

The rest of the twins, will be leaving to go to different colleges.

"We've been together for all of our lives, but [going to college] is exciting because we can have an experience that is our own and because college is supposed to be fun," Meghana Rao said.

After four years of dressing similarly to her identical twin, Meghana Rao will be attending Pomona College while Antara Rao will be attending UC Berkeley in the fall.

In freshman year, Antara and Meghana had a total of three classes together. Over the years, the Rao twins have had an increasing number of classes together. This year, they have all six of their classes together due to their very specific course selections.

"It's definitely been fun because we work so well together. We're in a lot of the group projects together, and it makes studying a lot easier," Antara said.

While many twins are separating, there

will be a few who will be leaving their twin at home. In elementary school, it made more sense academically for these pairs to split between two grades. For the Bancroft and Jones twins, seniors Christine Bancroft and Chris Jones will be heading off to college, while their counterparts, juniors Michael and Doug, respectively, will be graduating next year.

"I'm actually grateful that we were separated, to be honest," Christine said. "Michael and I get along very well; we don't compete and we've had the chance to be independent. Not many twins have that chance."

Christine will be attending University of Southern California while Chris will be attending Carnegie Mellon University in the fall.

"Ever since we were born we were together and it will be hard for me to leave [Michael], but maybe because we've been in different grades for our entire educational career it will be a cleaner break," Christine said. "I've already had some experience being my own person."

—by Kim Tsai and Ashley Tang

On Aeries: "Take a break. Don't check it every 5 seconds." —Sarika Srivastava

On the parking lot: "People have obviously played too much Mario Kart." —Andrea Liu

NEXT SPICE Girls



IZZY ALBERT, REBECCA SMERDON, OLIVIA CHOCK, SHIVANI CHADA, and ANIKA JHALANI

Runners-up: Courtney Hsu, Serena Chan, Kelsey Qwyang, Rebecca Chen and Sophia Wang

NEXT *NSYNC



SALMAAN JAVED, BRANDON PAK, DAVIS HABA, WILL EDMAN and ERIC WANG

Runners-up: Mitch Casas, Troy Doles, Brandon Oliveri-O'Connor, Dominic Guercio and Jerick Lee

ALEX MABANTA

A different kind of poetry

"Because school is where we make dreams, not nightmares, where suns are drawn at dawn, not dusk, where we hand out scholarships, not battleships, because a child born today will be poorer than a child born yesterday, because when I look into the eyes of a newborn I see—Mickey Mouse ears and joy."

These lines of slam poetry convey a message of education reform, a cause that Alex Mabanta championed through poetry. The beauty of poetry is often lost on students. Mabanta, however, found a way to unlock poetry's potential through the slam poetry.

"I couldn't just read [poetry] silently, I had to read it out loud and that translated into speaking more and more," said Mabanta. "From there, I fell in love with slam poetry."

Slam poetry differs from typical written poetry in that it is spoken aloud and performed.

"Part of the beauty of slam poetry is that when you're writing in slam, you're not exactly writing a narrative, so you're opening your dialogue to endless possibilities and you become part of your artistic work," Mabanta said.

Mabanta feels that slam is useful for helping students express their feelings creatively.

"Slam poetry allows [students] to speak volumes using really descriptive language so they can become the narrator of their own story and find their own voice," Mabanta said.

After transferring to Saratoga High from Harker after freshman year, Mabanta found that there was no avenue for students to express themselves with this type of poetry, so he founded his own slam poetry club with senior Peter Hsieh. The 12-member club competes in national poetry tournaments in the divisions of slam poetry and rap.

"Slam poetry is the creative side of me. The

club allowed me to teach [students] how to write poetry in a creative," Mabanta said. "I wanted these kids to own their own voice."

Mabanta's affinity for public speaking also led him to an internship for the Bay Area Climate Collaborative.

Mabanta landed the internship and worked as a policy coordinator, performing statistical research and policy analysis.

"It was a very, very informative experience," Mabanta said. "[The internship] showed me how to work on my feet and do work that has an impact over everyone in the community."

Mabanta is confident that he will be able to continue his interest in college. He plans to attend UC Berkeley in the fall.

"Berkeley has one of the strongest slam poetry clubs of all universities," Mabanta said. "I will probably be doing slam as well as fulfilling my academic goals."

—by Parul Singh and Sarah Hull

REBECCA CHEN

Singer aims to accomplish her childhood dream

All students have childhood dream occupations, but for the most part they change their dream jobs dozens of times before going to college and deciding a major. However, for Rebecca Chen, she has stuck with her childhood dream of becoming a music teacher ever since elementary school.

Her inspiration drew from the familiar elementary school music teacher, Margie Alejandro. Alejandro teaches basic music to all three elementary schools in the district. In addition to Alejandro's inspiration, Chen grew up with the influence of choir teachers from her out-of-school choir, Crystal Children's Choir, her middle school choir and her high school choir.

"I'm not really sure if I want to teach an in-school choir like Ms. Alejandro or in a choir outside of school," Chen said. "All I know is I want to be working with children and do music at the same time."

Chen is attending University of Oregon next year with intentions of being a music teacher. She loves that they offer special needs music and choral programs that are a smaller teacher-to-student ratio.

"University of Oregon actually started out as my safety school, but when I actually visited the program, it really appealed to me and they took good care of me there," she said.

Chen had to audition to get into this program by singing one Italian art song and one English song. She was among 300 students accepted out of thousands of people who auditioned. While getting into the school itself was not too difficult for Chen, getting into the music program proved to be competitive.

"I was so excited to get into Oregon for the program I wanted," Chen said. "I literally started crying of happiness."



—by Olivia Chock

ALYSSA WU

Juggling rings, baking cupcakes

To many of her friends and family, senior Alyssa Wu is a baker. Often displaying her talent on birthdays, during school projects or as treats for her yearbook staff members as a Talisman Editor-in-Chief, Wu has baked a variety of cakes, from angel food cake to pound cake. The charm of her creations, however, lies in the decorations; her favorite piece was a cake in the shape of

Appa, the sky bison from the TV show "Avatar: The Last Airbender."

"I make a lot of cupcakes too. It's kind of sporadic, but when my brother is home, we like to pretend we're fancy French chefs and experiment with funny sounding food," Wu said.

Yet while her kitchen is strewn with recipes, baking pans and cracked egg shells, scattered around her living room are colorful juggling balls, rings and clubs. Alongside her baking hobbies, juggling has also been one of Wu's favorite pastimes since the summer after freshman year.

"I technically first learned to juggle when I

It's so endless—one lifetime just isn't enough time to learn all the tricks that juggling has to offer.

>> ALYSSA WU



was maybe nine. Then, the summer after freshman year, my family went on a cruise where there was a juggler who did a lot of cool tricks," Wu said. "I'd never seen juggling like that before, but it occurred to me that I too could juggle—why not learn to be cool then?"

While admitting that juggling can be stressful, Wu enjoys learning new tricks and values the originality of being a juggler.

"It's so endless—one lifetime just isn't enough time to learn all the tricks and whatnot that juggling has to offer, but it's a fun challenge to try anyway," Wu said.

—Vivian LeTran

SARAH LENSCH

A complete cultural immersion

When Sarah Lensch stepped onto campus in August 2009, some students and teachers asked why she was back. Although she had always planned to return after spending her second semester of freshman year abroad in France, a small number of people assumed that she had left forever. Despite the confusion and the effort that adjusting between two very different cultures required, Lensch remains grateful for the opportunity to learn through experience.

Lensch lived at a winery in a valley outside the village of Seillans, and attended school 45-minutes away by car in the town of Grasse.

"Like anyone, I was nervous at first, but it

turned out that my host family was a perfect fit for me," she said.

Three years after the privately arranged exchange, Lensch still maintains a friendship with Leonore, her exchange host, and the two communicate through email and Skype. Last summer, her family returned to southern France, which allowed Lensch to reunite with Leonore and the rest of her family, take a brief road trip with them to Italy and spend a week with them in Switzerland.

Though she has only managed to make one trip to Europe since the exchange, Lensch said, "I would go back any day to the south of France."

In addition to French, Lensch speaks both English and Cantonese at home with her family and studies Spanish in school. Through her experience abroad, she learned the importance of total immersion in understanding a new culture

and becoming a fluent language speaker. Without first-hand experience in France, Lensch may never have realized just how different life can be in another country.

"School in France was much more formal than what I was used to in California," Lensch said. "For example, each time a teacher walked into the classroom, everyone had to stand up and respond to his or her greeting before sitting back down."

With such a wide breadth of language and cultural knowledge, Lensch intends to travel and possibly study in a range of locations.

"I hope to go to a college which allows me to study abroad another time," Lensch said. "I'm also considering attending some universities in Europe, but I won't hear back from them until June."

—by Cecilia Hollenhorst

OUR MEMORABLE MOMENT

Stephanie Poo, Cecilia Hollenhorst, and Alex Ju



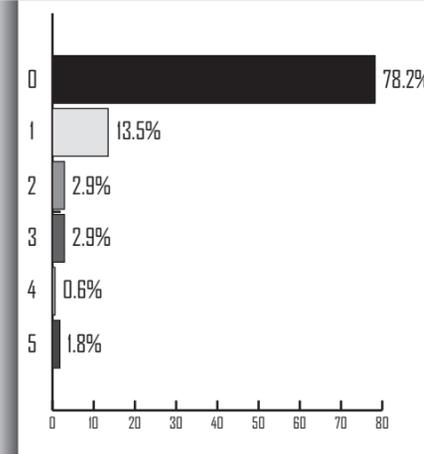
"Two years ago, Alex, Cecilia and I were picked up by the sheriff. Good times." —Stephanie Poo

"We were swimming in Lake Shasta when the sheriff came and picked us up for illegal swimming channel. Warning us that he could have stamped us with a \$4000 fine, he drove us in his boat back to our houseboat, where the four other families on the boat had gathered on the deck to judge us." —Alex Ju



SENIOR SURVEY

How many traffic tickets did you get?





Nearing the finish line

By Alex Ju

The start of my freshman year coincided with another important milestone of my life: My initial exposure to the first episode of RuPaul's Drag Race. As season four has now wrapped up, I find myself reminded that this experience, too, is now coming to a close.

Like RuPaul's Drag Race, high school is founded in competition. Who will set the curve? Who will get in where? Who will be team captain, who will get the highest score?

There have been moments in my high school career where I've felt myself cracking under the pressure, my entire body shivering from sleep deprivation, stress, or, usually, both. The square, concrete bricks composing the buildings' walls have seemed to mock me through their dull repeating pattern, reminding me of the jejunity I've always feared composed my quiddity.

Then, however, I'm reminded of my weirder elements. I'm not sure if it's a bad sign that imitating goat noises in the Journalism room with my friends leads to strange looks only

from the freshmen who don't know who I am, or that my fellow guard members tend to point to shiny objects and clothes and deem them very "Alex."

High school may be a competition. But like the queens on the show, the experience ultimately becomes about so much more than some prize that only a select few can win. It comes to more concern the opportunities presented through which one can explore different facets of his or herself, to discover what you want, as opposed to continuing living your life by what someone else simply telling you.

As RuPaul always says, "If you can't love yourself, how in the hell are you gonna love somebody else?" Saratoga's value has been so much in perpetuating that sense of self-discovery.

I'd always assumed I'd go into some technological field, simply because such a future was the only model ever earnestly presented to me; without my Saratoga experiences, I would never have

even considered applying to art school. Whenever I say this, people look at me funny (though they may have been looking at me funny to start with, actually). After all, am I not one of the super cool (sarcasm) seniors in Art 1?

But it's the indirect causes that have led me up to this point. It's been drawing the graphics for the newspaper for three years. It's been expressing myself as a performer in guard. It's been challenging myself with variegated courses to discover what can and can't truly interest me.

The friends I have made have also been incredibly instrumental in making this time so influential. These people, who have been not only silly stress relievers, imitating sassy goats with me, but also staunch support systems to lean on regardless of the circumstance, will stay with me even as we find ourselves on opposite sides of the country.

As we look to leave the institution that has harbored us for so long, what we have accomplished isn't embodied in the piece of paper that is our diploma or the name of where we're going. The true accomplishment is the range of transformations we have undergone, changes which will provide a stable foundation to carry us into our futures, whatever they may be.

As RuPaul would say, "This is the beginning of the rest of your life."



One final goodbye

By Mac Hyde

As I sit down to write this, what will become my final piece for Saratoga Journalism, and indeed, my last piece for the school I have come to call home, I am overwhelmed with emotion—some happy, some sad, but most are an optimistic melancholy.

I'll admit, I'm confused. How could this happen, how can I, nay, how can the Hydes be leaving? This has been the one place I truly call home, where I'm safest, where I'm most comfortable, the one constant in a chaotic life. I can remember going to the preschool on campus and being met by my mother at the gate to be

taken up to her office for a shared lunch of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. I remember being babysat by Mrs. Cochrum, who for the longest time insisted I call her Mrs. Frizzle.

This is where I saw my first musical, where I learned to drive, where

I would spend hours just listening to music and dancing with friends. But let us not dwell on what has been.

Saratoga has indeed been my home and has become to many of you who have spent countless hours in athletics or journalism or countless other activities, home as well. And just like home we have learned many life lessons. So it wasn't the "Everything I need to learn, I learned in kindergarten," rather it was "Everything I needed to learn, I learned at Saratoga High School."

We learned that sleep was a commodity which we cherished, not because it was sleep but because it followed a week of hard-work.

Wednesday mornings were blessed. We learned that sometimes the best lessons taught were not just about math or my personal favorite, history, but the lesson that the teacher who I didn't even have stopped one of us in the hall to say "good game."

We learned that life was not just about succeeded, but succeeding as a team—whether it be at the famous LG/Saratoga football game or kayaking during Marine Biology or triumphantly raising the facade of Heart Castle at the 11th hour.

We learned that learning was more important than cramming, that writing really did traverse all of our classes and that a catapult really could work (You were right after Math teachers, we did end up using it later). We learned that friends, true friends were there during all the times of our lives, not just the great ones.

So be it peanut butter sandwiches in the office, flipping burgers at the ASB tailgate or sitting on the quad steps during lunchtime, the memories that each of us has gathered will always be a part of that which we call "home." After all, "home is where the heart is."



Everything matters... right?

By Megan Benzing

"Today is my first day of high school."

I thought this to myself a morning of August in 2008. I was so sure my life would have a monumental change and these would be the best four years of my life. Well, I was half-right.

It was the best four years of my life, but I'm only 18. When I finish college, those years will probably consume the title of my best four years. Followed by graduate school or scoring a job or getting married, they will all take the title away from each other. Realizing this made me realize that my best minute, hour, day, or week will always be the one I'm living in at the moment.

There was always that one poster on our

teacher's wall that never made sense to me. "Twenty years from now it won't matter what shoes you wore, how your hair looked, or what kind of jeans you bought. What will matter is what you learned and how you used it."

I would read it over and over and think,

"You have got to be kidding me. It does matter. Everyone would judge me if I wore yellow pants or shaved my head. Who cares if I get an A in Chemistry Honors or I understand Shakespeare? No one."

On this idea, I wasn't even half-right. By senior year, no one gave two you-know-whats about what you did freshman year. I have completely new friends, and cliques don't really stay that tight from year to year. Your friends are dependent on who is in your classes, who is on your sports team and who has the latest scandal. All of the rules, the guidelines and the restrictions are flexible and really don't mean anything.

The styles would shift and the fads would fade. Unconsciously, everyone lives in the mo-

ment. From the shoes they wear to the attitude you wear, it all depended on what was popular now and who made you angry today. As we grow up, we get over the time your best friend bought the same shirt as you or asked the guy you liked to Sadies. In one moment, you may want to kill your physics teacher for giving you a lab you don't understand, while the next day you can't stop laughing at his dumb jokes. To quote the yearbook from last year, but our lives are in flux.

Freshman year, I would have never considered doing quad day or Powderpuff or sitting at a different table in class or even spending tutorial alone. As my senior year comes to a close, I'm not afraid to sing through the halls or booty-pop in the parking lot because, in the end, no one will remember the stupid things I do.

When looking at that poster I used to think learning meant mathematics or history. Then I realized I was completely wrong. Learning doesn't have to be school-related. Through high school, I learned how to embrace differences. I learned how to be outgoing and make new friends. I learned how to take on new classes, new clubs, new everything. I learned how to grow up.

That's all you need. You only get one high school experience and everything always changes. Embrace it and never, never stop learning.



BFF's or not?

By Parul Singh and Sarah Hull

were both photographers for the same newspaper staff. Faced with the task of operating an upwards of \$1000 camera with settings and dials we had no previous knowledge of was, to say the least, baffling.

After failed attempts at sports photography fraught with SD cards full of blurry photos, we finally reached

the day, or rather, a freezing November night, when we were completely prepared. At least, we thought we were, with an extra SD card, and a tripod in tow.

But just five minutes into the soccer game the blinking battery light began its foreboding flicker. Quickly, we rushed to take as many photos as possible in the hope that one of them would turn out before the battery died. Yet our efforts were in vain, for a few minutes later the camera shut off completely. Facing the wrath of our sports editor for not getting a good shot, we stood motionless, unsure of our next move.

In a flash of inspiration, we decided to remove the battery and periodically heat it up with our frozen hands, hoping that this would be enough to get it working again. Much to our surprise, our makeshift solution was effective; however, our pictures remained characteristical-

ly unfocused despite our increased battery time.

While this experience cemented our newfound friendship, it was only the first of our many adventures and memorable moments, ranging from mistaking an innocent bystander for a pregnant teacher (for full details see page 13) and being forced to reconstruct student's hands and faces in Photoshop for our newspaper layouts (Vijay's skin never looked so good) to practically camping out in the school psychologist's office for upwards of a week trying to catch him for an interview (we probably looked quite suspicious loitering in the office, sorry).

The defining theme of these scattered unrelated moments is not the outrageous nature of our daily lives (because they certainly aren't), but the fact that our friendship has only grown stronger over the past two years. While it is true that we occasionally don't see eye to eye (okay, a more accurate descriptor for our relationship might be "frenemies"), in the end, we both know that we can always rely on each other.

Tension may have been both the glue and the solvent of our relationship, and frequent disagreements over word choice and font selection may have occurred, but these petty arguments are just another aspect of our friendship that we can look back upon and laugh about later.

And the adventures won't end on June 7th. Next fall, we'll be taking UC Berkeley by storm—together.



THE GEEKS SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH

How ignoring social conventions and allowing myself to be weird was the greatest decision of my high school career

By Christine Bancroft

Geek (n): (1) an unfashionable or socially inept person (2) a person with an eccentric devotion to a particular interest

I have often placed far too much stock in others' opinions. For the first two years of high school, I barely talked in class; I rarely raised my hand, and if I was called on by a teacher, the words would form only semi-coherent sentences. It was equal parts pitiful and embarrassing.

With my own insecurities dominating my actions, I tried far too hard to look like everyone else and simply blend in. I developed a chameleon personality to protect myself; I could and would be a different person depending on the social situation and it was exhausting. I didn't want to be popular; I just didn't want to be different. Different is useless. Different is vulnerable. Different is wrong.

It wasn't until the first months of junior year that I realized just how tired I was. It wasn't that I changed, I just stopped pretending to be someone else. It's not even that my quirks and traits are all that different at all; that doesn't matter. They make me unique, and unique is different, and I didn't want to be different then. I just wanted to blend in and maybe, disappear.

When someone asks me who my role model is, I could say someone philanthropic and successful, like Oprah, or maybe someone talented, like J.K. Rowling, or someone beautiful like Audrey Hepburn. While I respect those people, they are not my role models.

My role models are Simon Pegg, a forty-something British comedic actor, John Green, an author and vlogger from Indiana. This may be atypical for the 17-year-old Californian female living in the suburbs, but I have my reasons.

Both Pegg and Green are self-admitted nerds. I am a nerd (geek, dork, dweeb—it doesn't matter; I know I am one). In

this age of hyper-sexualization, mass media consumption and reality television, today's youth are under such pressure to look and act "perfect", already such a value-laden, subjective and completely impossible concept.

"Being a geek is all about being honest about what you enjoy and not being afraid to demonstrate that affection," Pegg was quoted as saying in an interview. "It means never having to play it cool about how much you like something. It's basically a license to proudly emote on a somewhat childish level rather than behave like a supposed adult. Being a geek is extremely liberating."

John Green is a "Nerdfighter" and one of the "Vlogbrothers" with his brother Hank, and offers weekly videos, covering topics about anything and everything—dating advice ("the Venn diagram of guys who think you're too smart for them and guys you don't want to date is a circle") to his childhood to his current profession ("as a child, I was an inveterate liar, as opposed to now, when I'm a novelist"). More importantly, however, John Green totes the

merits of nerd-dom.

He says in one of his vlogs, "Nerds like us are allowed to be unironically enthusiastic about stuff... nerds are allowed to love stuff, like jump-up-and-down-in-the-chair-can't-control-yourself-love it."

If being "normal" requires me to squelch my own interests because others may think me different or weird or bizarre, then I want no part of it. It's a peculiar sort of freedom, not caring what anyone else thinks. It means I can love things unashamedly and display my passions to whatever extent I care.

It means I can go as a Dalek from "Doctor Who" for Halloween, hide plastic lemons all over campus, dress up and attend to midnight premieres for "Harry Potter," "Lord of the Rings" and "The Avengers," lament the dearth of "Firefly" episodes, be perpetually confused by "Fringe" and "Lost," cry over "Sherlock," love/hate director Joss Whedon and screenwriter Steven Moffat, bring towels to school in honor of author Douglas Adams on May 25, regularly quote films and books, tell waiters to "live long and prosper" in restaurants and basically become a honey badger (honey badger don't care) in all aspects of my life, rather than a chameleon.

There is nothing remotely enjoyable about pretending to be someone you're not, nor does conforming to a questionable concept of "normal" make you normal. It's not cool.

We all love in our own strange, outlandish ways, and trying to deny that will better nothing. If I want to dedicate my time unabashedly participating in something I genuinely enjoy, that is a healthy way to live my life, and I will never consider being a nerd (or a geek or a dweeb or a dork) to be a negative thing.



From left to right: Jasmine Grant, Christine Bancroft, Kayla Lenshoek, Heather Persson and Katie Cummins pay an homage to the BBC television show "Doctor Who" for Halloween 2011. Bancroft's Dalek costume, the classic alien villain from the show, was hand-made.

On rallies: "Can't believe they stop rigging them after we become seniors." —Meghana Rao

HORIZON

With the daylight of high school fading fast behind us, we look to the horizon. It is the eternally distant border between what we can know and what we cannot know. Soon, we will prepare for a new dawn. We will create our own horizons.

Ten years down the road I will be...

I will be sitting in front of my computer like I am now. Old habits die hard. —Andrea Liu

Hopefully making some awesome games! Hopefully not holding a cardboard sign out on the streets. —Ryan Mette

I hope to have a career relating to medicine and hopefully starting my family. —Serena Chan

Working for a **small start-up** company. —Daniel Hsu

I will be **teaching music** education to kids. —Austin Sevilla

I will be a **screenwriter** for an esoteric and award-winning sitcom that nobody watches. I will be fired from the aforementioned sitcom, due to the overwhelming and annoying abundance of Tonya Harding jokes I penned. —Josh Harris

I will be married to a **hot babe** and have the job of my dreams somewhere in Socal. That's realistic, right? —Megan Benzing

Saving the world with super powers. Saving the world's economy. —Mitchell Casas

Hopefully treating sick children. I will probably be **raising children** though. —Nicole Shadman

I hope I'll have a career where I can be a positive **role model**, perhaps as a teacher. If not, you'll find me loitering in bookstores, drinking tea and reading. —Kelsey Owyang

Professional flutist playing in an orchestra. —Matthew Opatrny

I will be chillin' on the moon as an astronaut working for NASA. —Linus Johansson

Helping those most in need, or trying to find food out of a trash can, myself. —Tyler Schuppert

In reality, I'll probably just be a **beach bum**, chilling on the beach and watching the waves move in and out. —Peter Chen

Writing screenplays. —Anika Jhalani

Playing harp in the SF Symphony. Playing harp for weddings. —Vivian Hsu

Running the British Government. Or being a flight attendant. —Jasmine Grant

I hope I will be working as a **TV reporter** in Japan! I want to travel around the world and try new things! —Lisa Asai

Teaching my 3rd grade class. —Mikayla Morrison

Leading the world's premiere travel **tourism agency** and saving the world from boredom. In reality? A hermit, reading Proust outside a Turkish coffee shop. —Megan Kao

Traveling. —Sophie Kang

Inventing. —Arjay Parhar

Finally got my J.D. or **working as a reporter** for the Washington Post. —Alex Mabanta

I will be in the **Marine Corps.** Amateur rally driver. —Michael Zuccarino

I hope to be an established and productive member of society. Reality? I'll be that cop pulling you over, or that FBI agent at your door. You know you did it. —Corinne Zelanis

Given that I'm not dead? **Paying taxes.** —Anna Zhang

Hopefully **running a business** of some sort and living in a cool place like Paris or New York. —Zara Sheikh

Criminal psychologist, yeah that's right bring on the criminal minds. —Amber Kingery

I will **end world hunger.** —Kim Tsai

I'll probably be living alone, in a dark basement, with only the Internet and **my cats** to keep me company. —Christine Bancroft

Studying film in Prague. Actually? Unemployed or interning at a non-profit. —Sofia Chang

Brain surgeon; playing games on my iPhone 704\$. —Jimmy Zheng

I'll go to college to determine what I will do in the future. After I graduate from the college, I'll go to Korea for **military service.** —Soobin Yoo

Heck if I know. I'd like to be an **Imagineer.** —Alyssa Wu

Living in a van down by the river. —Spencer Perry

Making prosthetic limbs. —Vineet Jain

Looking back on high school and missing the friends and experiences I had. —Chris Vu

I'll be either **acting** or "acting" (waitressing). —Penny Burgess

Herding moose in Alaska. —David Eng

Lovingly tending my menagerie of cats and fish. —Alex Ju

Hopefully I'll be a doctor, working in a hospital. —Cynthia Huang

Hopefully, **teaching music**; possibly playing at a coffee shop in Australia, which Lizzie Moore will own. —Izzy McPherson

Helping someone somewhere in the world. —Darisha Jhutti

I will be launching a new business in the **music industry.** I'll be a **housewife.** —Tiffany Tu

Officer in the Navy. Navy SEALS. —Tyler Borch



“Sweden, because I happen to be Swedish.” —Linus Johansson

“London, England. 221B Baker Street, to be exact. Why? Oh, you poor child.” —Jasmine Grant

“Roma! The roads lead to Rome, and when in Rome, you should do as the Romans do..” —Myron Zhang

“Canada, since most likely penguins will migrate there and the world wouldn’t be so bad when I’m living there.” —Fred Lee

“Saratoga. It’s a peaceful community we take for granted!” —Sachi Dholakia

“Taipei. So much good food and it’s cheap!” —Jessie Lin

“The Caribbean Sea, probably. I would curl up on the beach and read novels all day long.” —Nancy Chen

“Santorini,— it’s a beautiful island where DBQs and SATs do not exist.” —Kelsey Owyang

“Tahiti. Tell me why not. Just try.” —Rod Jafari

“Brazil. One of the coolest places I’ve ever been to. It’s tropical and laid-back.” —Kendall Milton

“The Middle East because Farsi and Arabic seem like such cool langages” —Shivani Chadha

“Australia, because they have kangaroos and hot men with accents.” —Megan Benzing

Best of the Rest

- “Paris, because of Stein, Hemingway, Toklas and all my other Lost Generation expatriates.” —Robert Belpasso
- “Austria, for the weather, culture, landscape, people, food, lifestyle and history.” —Tyler Schuppert
- “I would live in Colorado because all the things I love to do are there and I would never have to leave.” —Jeremy Wallin
- “Israel. The blend of cultures, history, politics—it’s fascinating. Also instead of hot dogs, they have falafel.” —Sofia Chang
- “Paradise City because the grass is green and the girls are pretty.” —Manish Raghavan
- “The trash can on Sesame Street.” —Mitchell Casas
- “London, England, maybe Surrey, raising bees with my best friend. Because of reasons.” —Christine Bancroft

“Antarctica. I will be the first person to ride polar bears on the South Pole.” —David Eng

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live?

GLOBE TREKKING

On graduation: “Hasta la vista, baby.” —Megan Kao

On random topic: “I will see you all somewhere in my life. ‘Til then, adieu.” —Salmaan Javed

Being sound of mind and body, I do hereby will and bequeath ...



On AERIES:

"Not my homepage if that's what you're wandering." —Stan Ho

DAVID ADLER: HD:myartisticsskillsSBD:myhypeneseWV^2:allofmyfoodFAB4:deucesandmymonaliisafacetD:Yw&pKL:mybusseatRAAD:mycalcskills,thankforallthelaughs,andthelowergradeMM:repeatedconversationsAM:hyperchatsMC:ourlatenightconvoCW:ourhighfivesPD:#YOLOSH:sushiPA:myparkingspotMB:gohomeZS:spanishLC:ourhugsCH:stlkAT:pb

IZZY ALBERT: RBbflalwaysOC^5fc:;otherhalf-SCpeaouttaurmindCVty4keepinmesaneAJ<32<3sScmakemeproudVRniteofbestfriendshipAA4moreyrshesheSneverchangedawgPCkeep-irealSHSstayamazing

NABIL ARBOUZ: 2NA: URs1CK

MICHELLE ARIFIN: CY:<3uNletsBFatties4lyfNT:fircliffSONerdy RJ:herpderpAN,MC:Thx4dFUNtrckTimesMVA,RBP:SkthhhBtSmrtYEEEMZ,VS:INDOPRIDE PH,MK:TLk2meNdnceHQ,MZ,EC:trnsfrUrSmrticlesPlzSYsCKT:UIUC!RM:gsbdbdiesAM:reesepiecesBOC:prjctruncCC:hllokttyEV:mvingLJ:SHM!fish VH:boyp rblmsTS:cupcakes



On BEING 18:

"Well, that was anticlimactic." —Megan Kao

CHRISTINE BANCROFT: KLJGIMHP: keyto221B, Jawsweater,Westwood,Jim'scriminalempire,MoriarTea, mydivision(ifyoucanfindit),captainhat,GERTI&HumphreytheLemon;SG: EveCom(chinchillas);AM:recruitmenttoTVshowcult(gohumanbeings!);JG&DS: chair&couchinroom,markers;CZLM:bowtie,fez,spaceinTARDISif Ican'tgowiththeDoctor. Allons-y!

ROBERT BELPASSO: To the SS, I leave my Badger costume. To those in the CD Shop, I leave my X-Box and all of its contents. To the BF, I leave the Saab to be given its proper viking funeral since it somehow outlived me. To SW, I leave my Cat Struggle Boy glove. To KS, I leave a brand new flashlight. To JW, I leave \$10 to buy that drink we never got. To MVA, I leave C-Man and my half of what I own with Angel.

MEGAN BENZING: BLghettonites,gr8america&curbsCAawkbonding&bodyslamsNKsleeping,creeplooks&foodSCguard<3&hugsHWgetashirt

CRtacoetues&minivansAJlinkcookiestay&seatbeltsJGmylaxteam&fieldSFdirtwars&creaseviesJMkeepthesassMBlonerlunch&deeptalksKLmi dgetstatusNSmy<3&catanJWeggwarsCLASS2012my<3andmemories.deuces.

NATALIE BERG: To Techs: The abiity to pretend that we aren't a cult. To AN: Awhoooooooooooooo! To PK: SM skills. To MC: Organizational skills. To NM: The license to be the department's only Natalie. To Drama: My love.

ROY BISHT: BMH:LTNTdSUN:stanfordbaseball2015BV:#43/4ftwDSJYMFNR:youguysaretr ollsBJ:peaceloveandscalabrineRRKT:TaylorMaysalldayeverydayAT:greatsprinklesrunsAMyou suckDB:ceramicsbudsPSTS:langsephSHNBJJ :interestingtimesinA&pVLCMATAMLCCBJJY MFDSNRDE:3rdperiodnewspaper2denggood KSMZJWSWVGEW:PaintersBowlsincesophomoreyrDK:kevinfrandsencanthit

PENNY BURGESS: LHhoshesh. PSloveLAGChighnotesMM200bobbypinsMHbiheartlittleheartDJTendlesshugsSJmictape-residueMEenth usiamAMDOnJoseMDadele&carduetsANtaps EHHprioshediedCB:hptriostaringcontestsNM neighborjokes,littlemeMScathugsMNsass&cran domnessMSibBonesDRAMAmylovefortheatre&callofyou.



On CITATIONS:

"My wheels were 18.1 inches from the curb." —Ailene Nguyen

HANNIBAL CHANG: Cars,Mustangs,Racing,COD. To BC and ZD: have fun for the rest of your high school career, good luck with college apps, and don't get over excited too often haha. To AC: you've still got a long way to go in high school considering sophomore year but I wish you all the best.

LILLIAN CHEN: mott'sVL:AIM,abysmal,lilvivindi eAJ:fickdoot,gobehindyourcurtainRL:nemo&dor,kardashiansTK:donut,kate&spade,tkitty+llamaSL:latenights,nightbeatsAC:twestahL A:d&glightblueLC:hotcheetosuffs,breakfastelubKT:yolo

PETER CHEN: TSAX: You always and forever will be in my hearts <3 these four years. I will you my undying love. To KP, VS, RN, JK, LC, CV, JF, Rat Prince, I will you guys my position in the rat pack.

ARIEL CHENG: ST & KL:havefuninchinese...)

AC+TK+KT= 3 Muskateers&TTas4thcoc kateerLC:mahtweesta!RL:u'llneverbeatmein pigshotVJ:friends?iguessJk:myenemyfightme Tkitty:nuffed.

NATALIE CHEUNG: ToVLMYheapsofstffedanmls:) andmyhpcollectionalljnkfdufindinmyhsToVT-mybooks.notmagazinesBOOKS(youknwyou ownwthm),andmyLnchesshoesToSO,KK,S Lkpopclctn.music.futrcnrttixs.CDsToN-Cdrwingstff.food.h2obtlls.initials.biostffasnstff. ToCHendssTEvisits.ToSCmyswmstff.poolntin- clded.

CAROLYNN CHOI: MWonCHAnAKimETCgluckn xtyr&ci<3uGLAXftw&g0violalsCb4everQQ meow,ChemGrp,FrGrp,CSlulvuloadz,MEsn!W Hly.iwnfatmh.SHSCBCTLTISWKTATTMM IPDLARNJHCVDCCWMBAF=keepintouc hevry1,ttfn.



On EATING OFF CAMPUS

"Bagels, Chipotle, Safeway, Repeat." —Aanchal Mohan

WILL EDMAN: 1supOGSnsubs espelly VPbffEW- mrpopular-BPmstryman-fifersdhazbnangemaan farmercommy ilsleds aburock JMty4mkingmeh- ppy. 10s carryth lgcayw yibyobnDR FWtkeca- remsb MEX ss aw rl ab vanpeewopobroyolo shtouts aspcenstjtskzh sfampkmmkrrafhwnm- vrsccb makethebestofit. gshs

DAVID ENG: SIR:spidercanyonh&print*fieldCB :smagspoonsgroupOsMC:sf>oakCEE(CEE): morningstrollsAC:sciclubED:yourethemanJG :3pfalconDH:moo,1113PH:yeaboy,2denggo od,v(^_^)^vSH:12,dreams,secretsMH:hi5sAL: mustansqs,22813,<(")CL:cranesAAWK:bffs. AN:1dHQ:siemens,nrgqsVR:newvocab.PS:sca rves,yjshand,riddlesAT:undercoveropsVT:/fec tpitchJW:statsMZ:buzzers4bowls,medee-evil- shi-(val)-ree



On THE FENCE:

"Just drive through it..." —Kim Tsai

JUSTIN FANG: To GY, my dope green goggles and you owe me pnkbry. To AT, you can have JJ, AJ can have my math genius-ness and my Chinese books, and I better still be #1. To AK, I give you my parking spot, to SL I give you my speedos. MS can have my car, PW stop getting in fights(;



On GRADUATION:

"A time when everyone suddenly remembers all the good things about high school." —Antara Rao

ANOO GALIVANCHE: If it don't make money then it don't make cents. JK:YUNpzUG:550noLM: NOASPMSSKR:no1549589201HZHnektar6 LP:hidogJPeg:+1LBOM&ASIBdfavaluation

JASMINE GRANT: To MVA: broolly, euphonium, shock blanket. KL: everything that isn't boring, tea, art supplies, sketch books, empathy. CB, IM, SR: control of the British government, and lit book. AK: our children, coffee, bagels, gas money. Everyone: life, the universe and everything (as they are mine to give away).

DOMINIC GUERCIO: MD<3rallyreignsI1saredi mesMCbroqbpim[ster12JRfdBOCstangsTD- flipadelphia]LcallgmeatsKDOZwetstacheSBge twetAMitalianstallionNSpulpodonutholesTTh airswagSspantsZH+FROSTYlosdosBY22ballh ardDB30prettytightFOOTBALLredprideccs HSstaywet#getatme



On HIPSTERS:

"Everyone is a hipster now, so no one is." —Shayda Khorasani

JOSHUA HARRIS: ToCBnEH:myjokebooksToMH nMM:thoroughsastSRnMC:composureToL HnPS:mywifaccessforLAToTech:thereignstotr ollJSeoToJSeo: theabilitytotakeitToDramaFres hys:theMc+LTTToallthespians:muchloveandapp reciation. G'bye brosnbroettes!

CECILIA HOLLENHORST: CG: Love all of you, don't get sunburned during WG, use your elbow voices, keep getting down to business. SM: letter J, death glares. SK: woohoo jam seshes. AH: stay sassy. KL: eat. MG: take my life (and soulmate). MShuster: always my favorite fabulous fresh- man. JA: I'm not your bf but I love you.

COURTNEY HSU: I, Courtney Hsu, leave the advice of never missing an opportunity when you have the chance because high school is one of best experience of your life. AD:Allmymedals, mylock- er, mylock, andallmylove <3 RC+SC+SW+C H=BFFSVR=the best Goingtomissalltheboys;)

DANIEL HSU: BC: inspiration and model, we'll be best friends even after we die IL: grown up & been thru a lot together in HS, lets keep making memories AT: BFF, Sheep&Sparrow, trust, too many thank yous, happy, grow old together no matter what(BC) JK:PGABball&cbio, stay close

confessions(VP,MK,JF). LC: oneday!

CYNTHIA HUANG: KKLunchnomtysmpkbryverde <3tapexvsts:)CCtcnlifebfnsincefreshchinese< 3bfsismliclssNCdrawingsamzincilsschetkni ttchmeSLbfstslifehwjobhuntsfreefoodsighV LVTNC<3VTKKJWATCHgrplnchgoprj:) funfunPSRKnhsyes:)SSfunpsychnnhskpupJZli verightftwglJHSCHHHawmpgjXXG<3mzin gbFECSMSMLconttceplzgl:)

JAMES HUANG: To JH: I grant all my clothes, shoes and hats. To TL: my beats. To SH,KT,SC, and TL all my movies, cd's, music. To KP: all my candy. To DC, CSF cookies, chips, brown- ies. To ER all my magazines, books, and gift cards. To TL: My P2, PSP, Wii, Gameboy and couch. To MH and DH I grant my undying love and all my pictures. To DC and SC, all the batteries I have in my garage. KT: All the tissues and jeans I have. LGI: Lets Get it!

JUSTINE HUANG: To VL: My hot bod. And dog.

MAC HYDE: TO JS the LT, my keys, and endless bt. SJ a stm pwrdr trebuchet. AS, the presidency and related decorum/matters. VR my stories and sass. SS the school and wb theme. DZ my inflection and rallyrallyrally. AN and LH RH:MIT. CB a TARDIS and a stolen Dec. of Ind., KL my sonic. KT, Awesomesauce Newspaper moments. GC AP and Marine Bio related mornings. Newspaper, my timeliness! 2012, thanks for the memories! SHS, a fond adieu, thanks for a wonderful 17 yrs!



On JUNIOR YEAR:

"Challenge accepted." —Anna Zhang

SALMAAN JAVED: ToSHSBBALL:gtwtToWLVZ: stpToAW: cntnuoprathawaiiToIH,SA:hiTo AN: bibeta+sry4lvngbioToNS: yrbkwzfunTo S D,AC:jkjnslnstngprtyToAC:beatshvniToAM:r obez@jnglheheTo BK:sry4lbngrzloss

ALEX JU: CG: Thebeginningwasthebestendkillit- atMacysWGbestseasonEVER1stWGItrophySD regionaleverythingjuxtaposedkeepstalkingSKP ervertSMsomuchsquarefootagegiraffearmsAH- staysassyKLtoocuteJAbedemureMSstayfabu- louslyseductivedancingeatingthankseternal- freshmenformakingHSwonderful. GET IT



On KEY CLUB:

"At first I thought that it was a club that made keys." —Paul Sehmby

MEGAN KAO: CRXhairtieBluehillsbullyBigtanger- inerRitzToiletknitsCarbtime lapseSJWP4EVR- ihr:)CCmaterialorgBadscarvesSKsleepovers- Books4agesSCMRbiggirlsdoitbetterEKhave aG 8jryrJSTK<3somuchURWRLD2meDHconnB adessaysHospitalDysfnctionlbtfrndsWV^2phys fail,4sq.runsTVstaringSUSHILNGGRPbadins ults&dinnrs,sass^infnty

TIFFANY KIM: AC best frand since 9th grade AC KT 3 musketeers! AT DC VP stats group, awe- some lunch adventures VP badunki loves you know who ;) EW thanks for posting pictures of your bad parking BK I'm not a hobbit beezy LC our lunch days! RL birthday buddy AC KT SL LA AT CC LC RL VL LC best group ever!

ALISON KNYSH: To MB: My place on the risers. Try to keep our favorite teacher sane. I'll miss you ich. To KB: The street. Keep an eye out for Andy. Befriend my neighbors. To WOPO: The team. Keep it up girls. I'll miss you all MB, KB, CS, SF.

KRISTAL KUNG: Hey EC. You get Cee and my club :) MsKute, my love of SJ :) AK: you get all my Sutton notes. Cee, Bear, CH, CC, SL: you guys get all my love and all the luck I could possibly give and my prayers as we separate and start a new journey!



On LINK CREW:

"The awkward moment when your link kid thinks they're too cool for you." —Anjalika Goyal

RACHEL LE: AL&fam:<3u&thx4everythingVL: alzersizers,china,grandcanyon!LA:twins!KT,C C,JK,SJ,EW:4moreyears!SL:whiskersLC:nem o&dory,SFsleepover,beardpapaAC:beatuinpig shot.lilLC:hawaii! TK:bdaybuds!ACPJ:OCD &trackCC:pudgypete.chockoLEte:le,breh. fili ppedebrogia,fredmohnike,francislevitt&floris anchez. HCquadday<3. it'sbeenfun,SHS!BP:6 23i'llmissu!

FREDERICK LEE: Fantastic Fred To the band alto saxophone section. I expect you to embrace the powers of sexy sax man and beast it next year! To my previous students in the art of magic, keep practicing and astonishing others! I hope at some point you'll understand what true magic is. To Micheal Boitz and Mr. Jones and the entire band, very glad to share those awe- some times together. To Ms. Rodriguez, hasta la vista and say hi to Nico for me.

VIVIAN LETRAN: To JH: My heart. My mind. My soul. My dog.

BRIAN LEUNG: SCty4:Dmusicnlaughs.bff5grey-sPLMissya KCmamnovbreakMBslapbroDA:) SBDkeewah2011summervchatsHDAY<3 Che mgoodtmesyeeWV2ballin!MKhipsterfoodbud ATfriends!OColdpSKDA5-1-11 PDbordSU-SHIJV540gogo LCty

KENNETH LEUNG: SL:speedo&musicAP:myclothe sMI:barcodecoupons&ACTbookDA:#1's4eve rDS,NS:Hdayshirt&calchwkLC:carkeysOC:\$,rsaccKC:glampics&blanketAP:sprtsmdtapeM O,CW,ST:WWtshirtsAT:dvdfrindsMB,AM: apushbook(kkk)DJ:iphoneCJ:tboneSS:in&cou tTZ:biobookMK:sushijH:sharpiesMC,KL:di msumBL:toys

JESSIE LIN: VH: BamanPidermanDERP DL: cr eeperfaceLURBU MO: ICU DRIVINGRO UNDTOWNWITHTHEGURLI<3&IML IKE... ML: IgobyduhnameuhCee-Lof21 KO :APESBUDS CZ: 4EVARMATHBUDDY IM: *SQUISH* MI: THX4therides:DMC: COOKIES! NT: Ni-Ni-NICK-NICK-NIC K... hi lynne&cathy<3<3 DERPDERP HH-HCHUUUTEEHEE

ANDREA LIU: ASCHDHSLSKLAZSC<3 troublesome10letsberealfriendsDEwordonthes treetpenguinsfeb28KLMVPSbeastthatcalc testKCrwmpmkneebracetansPHopbreakfast ANpizza I: I1wishescelebratesMZaimarc hivesworldldominationbunniesMcfellowfruit injaWyouhippoKHgetlow!/ACey;)linkbffST-cookies1dCLnerfgunwitsarcasmlove

VICTORIA LO: To VT NC NC KK SO the recipe for cheesecake along with other treats/To AK AL KC SP lifetime passes to Disneyland/ To AK SP a lifetime supply of chicken nuggets and orange soda with a warning not to drink the soda all at once at Disneyland/ To MZ Civ 4 is yours if you want it, you know how much I hate it/ To EC my endless gratitude for saving me in Calc everyday

VIVIEN LU: florissanchez,fredmohnike,francislev itt&flippedebrogia. kt:skins8.28, goodmusic forevah&eva, lc:aim24.7 kt,sl:dinnerdate? sl: porch swing talks VASK lc: since 2006 .newspa per<3. rl: somethingabout papayas, lambchop biffle - Don't know what I'd do without you; hopefully I'll always be seeing you soon! PookieDarlingaw12289safeElliot4eVA11round20s-mailkoursoberniecinaburrito<pitapitCarpeN octemvegetatebjilyLikeCrazySbsBflamangotah oe6GreenestGrass, ingridmichaelson says it all: my pets, C.A.T. & Fanta.

SARAH LUM: To KT: a nice dinner, to LC:

MOTTS apple juice and hot cheetos , to LA: my love and support, to VL: vegetables, to RL: socks, to AC: 5 inch heels, to TK: a throne, to LC: chips or any food. Forever Love, SL.

M **On THE MEDIA ARTS PROGRAM:** "Why do they get all the field trips..." —Denise Lin

MISHI MANIAR: SBsafewayivhaDAs.o.srepeatedco nversationsAT1stgradefirefliesJPantisocialgrand-fatherclockAMchomperzaanckzdumpyABween yRB&AS&SPhoroscopesareliesZS&SKphysics 101MCperiod.

CULLAN MCCHESENEY: BJbrandooonDSameliais-stillmissingNEWSPAPERsorryimlateSKdon'tgi vemethatlookhomieRBzotzotzotAMnoihaven't studiedyetsodon'taskATfriendsisaterribleshowP UshheeeeeeKRdudechilloutwheni'mdrivingAA wherethehoneydipsat?APboggles

ISABEL MCPHERSON: To KL, CB, JG, HP: the 40 pictures of BC in my queue. To CZ: curls. To RD, MO, LCC: parking spot @ Verde. To CN: bass leadership & safety of Kato. To BL, CJ: infinite white gloves of varying degrees of stinkiness. To '12-'13 DMs: Lumberjack club presidency. band buds AP AK JH MM JL stay awesome<3 ;D

AANCHAL MOHAN: TM Swtshrts + clrdpencils PA RB big34lyfe AK neighborlylove AT nick-namelove MM gropey10 years and counting RB you suck NEWSPAPER aawkward PS horses and ducks ftw BV sisterly love AB best friends for now DA 11:11 CM SK dream team SS bnb twins SD teddy bear AB track buds for life CS dont trip AG hi dog BJ AJ EY chipotle runs. 2012<3

MIKAYLA MORRISON: JL KC CB: thursday lunches, GSOGH!, highschool runs, girls nights, throwing hummus.go stupid, <3our crazy white girl rap songs/ CS: freshmen lunch campus walks, Quail, FFs, Mexico, tuesday lunches, 711.

N **On THE NEW TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:** "A Monday where you'd actually have to do work in class?! Preposterous!" —Sarah Hull

RYAN NGUYEN: SHEEggKOOKIEZacatTYxLax sogladimetyouGLHFifourpathssplitRATpack ITSBEENAHUGERUNFELLA Swishihadatu mblrthiswouldbesoEZdramallamaNBDokaybig jokeSreatalkthoughEVERyoneihaveeverhadthe pleasureofbefriendingthankyousomuchforwhat iknowwillbesomeofthebestyearsofmylifeandif

weeverdomeetagainplease,lettuceketchup

O **On OVERLOADING ON AP CLASSES:** "That A in P.E. is dragging down my GPA." —Peter Hsieh

MATTHEW OPATRYN: I will miss all of my friends so much. This year has definitely been the best. I LOVE RDV JL IM CW KM CH CC KL and the list goes on and on. Thanks everyone for making this such a great year and I hope all the seniors have the times of their lives in college.

P **On PLANKING:** "It is not a ridiculous fad. It is a classic tradition." —Arjay Parhar

KEVIN PAN: thebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZ thebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZ thebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZ thebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZ thebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZthebigZ

ARJAY PARHAR: It's taken me quite a few years to find my friends. I've broken up with some, while others have broken up with me. I've found them in strange places, and rediscovered some of old, but now I know what classifies as a true friend. I would just like to say, I love you. And thank you.

VIRAJ PARMAR: OGketzkeepitogfamwessgpncs 4lyfdhsj4locussppmagpaprknngtstar<3msstatsny cnxyrnpikglxtmplol

HEATHER PERSSON: KL+JG+SR:ALLthefandom s|EL:TC+myadoration| |TC:fawn|KS:extensi veknowledgeofDWAPUSHCALC+moose |AK :dietcokeandbrunch|MV:adivision|ML:we'llspl itmbomer| CZ+LM+IM+CB+AP:12amazing yearsofmemories,laughter,tears,silliness,nerdine ss,andallmylove<3

JOCELYN PWU: MM:bfflibrarylunchSRbandran domdreams ATST:shortasiangirlsCMsoccergo vABAKKM:english11KLPLSC:perfectSQU ARE MMMCKL:proposal9.10KL:little1sum merrunsawk PL:3donutssweshoppingCWOC CC:mrsfanCLARICORNS:KFARPLMNma mapwu,NYCsocialCKETTYKSKLCS:chitar s<3sistersTSDLSCSTMHMSMCNH:ccicnv BJ:4.10.11

Q **On QUAILS:** "The official bird of California." —Vivien Lu

HANSEN QIAN: Itlcs! OrchManagers: perfectingS eatingCharts,stageChanges,email; SLNTET:

FBLA; AK: celloSectionals; All: makeChoicesS oYouWon'tRegretThemLater; JQ: bigRedChair-Warning:peopleWillSteal! | Mems: VT-TMTC *Orch&ManagerMems,3rdPerMath; AK-Junior s,CaféCrepe,SantaMonica; CL-hidingUndergr oundFromRain *urbDic!

R **On THE RIVALRY WITH LOS GATOS:** "October 22, 2010. Enough said." —lizzy Albert

MANISH RAGHAVAN: To my team, work hard and finish what we started. To my friends, good luck and stay in touch.

VARSHA RAMESH To RB: best friends/sisters forever <3. SS, DZ: keep ASB alive. NB, AC, BV: little sister love and twinsies. BNB2012: my family AGDFTW! SD forever a gentle-man. CH: grams, froyo, "sleepovers", choir trips. JP: joc <3 you're an angel AT: deep talks, long drives, food runs. SS: gym, choir, DASH. VR: make me proud bro. AS: <3 always.

ANTARA RAD: To Casey Takahashi, I bequeath... everything. Use it well.

SEAN RUIZ: Juniors wearing Vans and high socks everyday was starting to rustle my jimmies. Austin Sevilla: To SM, SP, ZD, and BC: mtn mikes. To the marching band saxes: sensuality. To BC: V-Day. To AP: tuner. To the audience: concerts. And to the marching band: where are your feet, stomach, chest, shoulders, elbows, chin, eyes, eyes, eyes,.....shorts. "they're at home."

S **On SATURDAY SCHOOL:** "It's a little too familiar for me..." —Rachel Le

MOHAMMAD ALI SHENASA: I made some friends in the past 4 years, however I will most likely never see most of you again, so, fairwell. SWED!

PARUL SINGH: RBcal60gkellyvanessaalicebenadr-ylSDImnpoodleplubiousdhoklaDJfinnaH-HHHHmrsushiyogaGibrowpolednceear-lawedssSHpregwafflei'lltellul8rnoooletmeM Cdb8k8TperryngingbdmndndrpsinghDEtel-lme!a??syoberkvlabfffbchatSCbindrntbksko olsuppliespopsemipop5hairPOFObeatleand/harker/parliinitiation

ANSHUMAN SIRIPURAPU: TStayinchoolbroAS-BgoodluckwithoutKHdoworkSSandDZ MBgoodluckatMacy's. DramabreakalegED,J SgoodluckwithNM, thanksforanamazingshow PBMEMHJHandthecastofSP,KHthankyouf

oreverything,AGanother4inLA,AMD4LIFE, VR<3always

T **On TRAVELING:** "Apparently only NorCal people say 'hella'." —Andrea Liu

STEFANIE TANAKA: DK, MN and CN hope to see you guys in more musicals you'll be fabulous JS wish you the best of luck with stage managing NJ share your knowledge of musicals and stay ambitious ;) MM I send to you my undying love take it back with you to Japan MD grant you all the food in my pantry KP grant you all my strength during hard emotional times

ASHLEY TANG: KT: 5 fingers,starbucksruns,crepe s...UNICORNS. KL: stop drinking my water. AG: when will you make me sandwiches? DH: I don't know how I would have gotten through these 4 years without you!

KIM TSAI: CMcC: Physics.Sleeping.Nyancat. ATlulsims.horses.urдум.zandorf.vibram.KCid kqueenie.track.dancing.cattygirls.OMGLIKET OTALLY! Becky! Look at her.. =) JK.planking. ER.toys.UG.HZawards.eggies. lolbells=whiny. notworthit.TOBLOL

VIVIAN TSAI: NC/VL-BFFLsWhoDeserveAllThe BestInTheWorld HQ-DontForgetOrchFBLA TimesThanksForEverything SO/EC/CT-Stay AmazingAndDoGreatThings JZ/DE/MC-Will MissYouGuys CoolKidsTable-BestGroupEver OrchManagers-KeepTheLegacyGoingMakeUs Proud

KYLIE TSENG: 2012 !! codes&shrey most talented designers<3 dcommforlife. ty my camera, bk (bbfrh) (: sl,vl,cs ukskins/ac,tc 3musketeers. cc my stats book, la, rn bff! rl all the food in my fridge, lc the deers in my yard ;), sl&vl dinner date soon k bye!

TIFFANY TU: Game over peace on the streets saaaaaa

V **On VALEDICTORIAN:** "Should have been me." —Aanchal Mohan

CHRIS VU: TYfamilyforeverythingthroughthe-years Myfriendsareamazing&unforgetableukn owhour LTFohmy!you'reallthebeststayclose (A R)^2havebeenwithmeforawhile&alwaysarechi ll Orch:Euro,NY,LA,SM.thankyou EGEPhel-pedsryrbeamazinggladsomanybondedifyou thinkiforgotanyone/anythingisureshavenot

thankyoutogayouvebeenamazing

W **On WIKIPEDIA:** "When Wikipedia was shut down in protest, I realized how unintelligent I am." —Christine Bancroft

CONNIE WANG: ThnksfrthrandommrsKCrcK-Tlunch@DADStruck<3+Aznlunchtable!Wal dWest&AvatarLOLCologWcmarchbandfina ls:KCmmJJP.Bandbros:MTiVNkrPCdc.HaveF unBandBabies:mcKLLoYLlc;oboefailYLMEL LOS:FsheeUP! apCCvl<3SENIORSV.GLAX honeybadger.algae-bra.EngBuds:ATrb ABcs. eng1lh-scoobydoo.lifesohard.classof2012 <3

Y **On YEARBOOK:** "My favorite was the freshman year yearbook, it had my name in the title." —Penny Burgess

EVAN YE: AlxC:LOSTtheGAME JZ:RockOn, singerBoyBW:goodAfternoonTrollKC:Look AtAllTheseAsians+MY:XC:)MZ:Scer, Wrf ThRngs,Skng+ppls=gdTms!AC:<3 HQ&MC : "JewYork!...BAM!CATCH22"SS,KG,BW,A A:2007to2010champsEL:EVAN!EV&PA:yes Captain! plus42Drkxu iye ofobiyo, iye qeic kb okwkjxq!CyvyxqkndrkcucpybkvvdropsCR!

MEGAN YEN: To those under the awesome power of the Sacred Palm Tree: True dedication Is the key to survival You must obey us. -High Priest-ess of the Order of the Sacred Palm Tree

SOOBIN YOO: I advise every student in Saratoga High School to do what they want to do with study.

Z **On ZEBRAS:** "Stripes." —Cullian McCheaney

CORINNE ZELANIS: HP,IM,CB,LM,AP:Allthelove Ihavetogive+moreTimeSapce+SpoilersSK+S bK:myrtcheekandlftcheekrespectivlyKL:killerc nfdnc KH:stngth+leBF5evaVL:SOMUCH LUVdnceonbbySM:myhair RM:pride+spunk BH+AD+VF:bfearlsl!lual

JIMMY ZHENG: CJBros4lifenihaonvrforgetMNFav girlun4getme<3MCmockingme?baddyduow inilunchfunVHsuhonaypunsSthPeficRoArInGr ApIdSlanghJWbromanceKClunchbudchines esukschocolatesEYphysicsbiothxforhelpingme realizeHQannualpartayhdaysamohitrip:)VTu ramzingkpintouchKCgeraldford(GF)AKWC-SSTZtubalegacyleaveyourmark<3

A Final Sign-Off

2012 Falcon Seniors



Dear Falcon Staff,

We have many words for you ("moist," "husky," "oyster" and "tundra" are thankfully not among them), but the two most significant are "thank you."

Thank you for sharing gossip over Chipotle burritos, for holding back your complaints at early-morning work sessions, for squeezing as many people on the couch as possible, for taking beleaguered amusement at our general disdain towards movement and for always doing your best to produce something entirely our own—something in which we can take collective pride.

We thank you for your patience, your gentleness, your



loyalty and your determination. At first, it felt overwhelming to awkwardly flit in and out of "peer" and "leader" and "friend," depending on the time of day.

But we have grown to love our time as your editors. We can't imagine ourselves without this staff: as chickadees, our sophomore year scared and strangely out-of-place at our first Deadline Night entirely intimidated by the upper-classmen and the flurry of

activity, as section editors last year desperately attempting to scrounge together anything at all that could be used as package material, or as your editors-in-chief, folding ourselves into the smaller couch in the J-Room, finally finding our place in the school just as we prepare to move miles away.

We will always be a family, even if we sometimes argue, because that's what families do. They may disagree, but they will always come back to each other in the end. A.A. Milne's "Winnie the Pooh" said it best (why not end with a clincher?): "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

Love always (and best regards),
Your benevolent dictators,
Tini and Deng

Dear Mr. Tyler,

It's hard to believe that we'll soon be leaving room 303, a place we've called home base for the past four years.

Yet, as we reflect, our affection for the J-room is not rooted in its unconventional L-shaped floorplan or pair of welcoming comfy couches or arsenal of Mac computers. Rather, a large part of the connection we feel with the J-room originates from you.

Thank you for editing stories as early as school breaks and as late as Deadline Night,

for opening the J-room doors early and keeping them open late, for treating us as professionals yet remembering that we're still high school students.

Thank you for introducing us to the exciting field of journalism, for giving us the chance to become a part of something bigger than just ourselves. Most of all, thank you for being more than a teacher—for being an adviser, a critic and a mentor.

Sincerely,
Christine and David

Anshu Siripurapu will someday introduce an amendment allowing himself to run for president.

David Eng will continue to rep the hoody, high socks and swag in college.

Sarah Hull will travel to Gallifrey for her college studies.

Sabrina Cismas will make everything Cismas' business.

Roy Bisht knows that his heart will go on and on, Brady. (Near, far, wherever you are)

Cecilia Hollenhorst will tan (or burn) in SoCal, so people don't think she's albino.

Cullan McChesney (NPH) plans to major in germophobia at Cal Poly.

Megan Benzing will be the huskiest of all husky huskies at UDubb.

Parul Singh will avoid any "pregnant" professors she encounters in college.

Lillian Chen plans to major in Honey Badgering.

Mac Hyde hopes to find a new school to take over.

Vivian LeTran plans to be LeChillin' at UC Berkeley.

Mr. Tyler will one day escape Tini's "Square of Shame."

Jason Wu hopes to catch an actual winterbell bunny in New England.

Justine Huang is a pilot. (Fun fact: She's secretly an airplane.)



Izzy Albert proves that people with ambiguous hair have more fun.

Shivani Chadha once won "Most Conscientious" in 7th grade.

Ashley Tang wants all the channels to be BBC America.

Allison Toh is not at Deadline Night. Please leave a message after the Tohne.

Denise Lin wants to meet Neil Patrick Harris and become a professional sloth jammie-wrapper.

Vivien Lu is so fed up, she's legally changing her name to Vivian.

Aanchal Mohan puts the double A in awkward.

Serena Chan is moving to Atlantis.

Alex Ju now has a better excuse to just draw pictures all day.

Christine Bancroft ISN'T moving to LA to stalk Benedict Cumberbatch. That's silly; he lives in England. (She'll stalk Ryan Gosling, though.)

Kim Tsai will be waiting and watching in the shadows, armed with spoons.

Seniors who neglected to appear in this photo:
Will Edman will have ulterior motives wherever he goes.

Anika Jhalani is a Republican.

Arnav Dugar will have great success exploring the deepest, darkest corners of the Internet, entirely by accident.

Anoop Galivanche swears he isn't "an oops."

Olivia Chock will continue to spread optimism like the plague.

The Class of 2012

DAVID ADLER	ALEJANDRA COHEN	VINEET JAIN	MITCHELL MCGUIRE	STEPHANIE SHIMIZU
FARNAZ AHMED	MAXIMILIAN COMERFORD-	SALMAAN JAVED	KATHLEEN MCLLELLAN	SANGKYOUN SHIN
ISABELLE ALBERT	DORLING	TAYLOR JESSEN	ISABEL MCPHERSON	SNEHA SHIVKUMAR
ALEXANDER AMATO	CLAIRE COUCH	ANIKA JHALANI	RYAN METTE	KATYA SIMPSON
CHEOL AN	JOHN CREELMAN JR.	DARISHA JHUTTY	EVAN MILLER	PARUL SINGH
NABIL ARBOUZ	KATHERINE CUMMINS	LINUS JOHANSSON	KENDALL MILTON	ANSHUMAN SIRIPURAPU
MICHELLE ARIFIN	MICHELLE CUMMINS	KRISTINE JOHNSTON	PARTHIV MOHAN	TALIA SISCO
PRIYANKA ARUNKUMAR	HARRY CURTIS	CHRISTOPHER JONES	AANCHAL MOHAN	REBECCA SMERDON
LISA ASAI	ANNALE DAMABEH	ALEXANDRA JU	ELIZABETH MOORE	SHAQUILLE SMITH
ANNAHITA ASHE	CECILIA DAOLIO	JONATHAN JUNQUA	MIHARU MORISHITA	SARIKA SRIVASTAVA
NICHOLAS ASKE	DONALD DENNIS	SUH YOUNG KANG	MIKAYLA MORRISON	CHELSE STEELE
KENAN ATABAKHSH	ARJUN DESAI	MEGAN KAO	CONNOR MULLANEY	SIMON STEINFELD
ROMAN BALOGH	PARNEET DHINDSA	AKASH KAR	NICHOLAS MULLEN	DANIEL STICKNEY
CHRISTINE BANCROFT	SACHI DHOLAKIA	CHAD KEATING	ALFRED MURABITO	VICTOR SUTARDJA
ANNIE BARCO	TROY DOLES	AUSTIN KERBY	SHILPA NAGESH	JOCELYN TAKAHASHI
ADRIAN BEDARD	NICOLAS DOYEN	IDA KHADEM	SHRIYA NAGPAL	KEVIN TAM
SNEHA BELKHALE	ARNAV DUGAR	HARIS KHAN	RYAN NAST	STEFANIE TANAKA
ROBERT BELPASSO	JASON DUONG	SHAYDA KHORASANI	NOBEL NG	DANIEL TANG
MEGAN BENZING	ZOLTAN EARNST	RACHELLE KIM	RYAN NGUYEN	ASHLEY TANG
NATALIE BERG	WILLIAM EDMAN	TIFFANY KIM	AILENE NGUYEN	SEBASTIAN THORN
RUCHIE BHARDWAJ	MADISON EMERY	AMBER KINGERY	VIKAS NOOKALA	ALLISON TOH
GAUTAM BHAYANI	DAVID ENG	ALISON KNYSH	BRANDON OLIVERI-	HUY TRAN
ROY BISHT	RYAN EVAN	RAPHAEL KOHLER	O'CONNOR	WADE TROYER
TYLER BORCH	JUSTIN FANG	JONATHAN KOO	AMANDA OLSON	ANTHONY TSAI
NICOLE BORDA	MITCHELL FAYLOR	ALI KOTHARI	STEPHANIE ONG	KIMBERLY TSAI
COURTNEY BRANDT	NICOLE FETSCH	KRISTAL KUNG	MATTHEW OPATRNY	VIVIAN TSAI
DEBORAH BURGER	AUSTIN FIRTH	JEFFREY KUO	CAMPBELL OREGLIA	CHRISTINE TSENG
PENELOPE BURGESS	ALTON FONG	BENJAMIN LAUS	KELSEY OWYANG	KYLIE TSENG
IAN BURNS	ANOOP GALIVANCHE	RACHEL LE	TRACEY OYUELA	TIFFANY TU
MITCHELL CASAS	TONIO GALOIC	FREDRICK LEE	BRANDON PAK	NICHOLAS TURPIN
YOON HO CHA	ZACHARY GALVIN	IVAN LEE	KEVIN PAN	PARAS UNADKAT
SHIVANI CHADHA	MEI GAO	JERICK LEE	NIKHIL PANCHAL	MARK VAN AKEN
DESMOND CHAN	MICHAEL GAUS	KEVIN LEE	ARJAY PARHAR	ERIC VAN NOORDEN
SERENA CHAN	BRANDON GLAJCHEN	MASON LEE	KRISTEN PARK	JEREMY VEIS
HANNIBAL CHANG	VISHAL GOEL	ROCKY LEE	VIRAJ PARMAR	CHELSEA VENUTI
MICHAEL CHANG	ANJALIKA GOYAL	MEE-SUNG LEE	ALYSSA PECK	EREN VEZIROGLU
ANGIE CHANG	JASMINE GRANT	SARAH LENSCH	SPENCER PERRY	CHRISTOPHER VU
SOFIA CHANG	DOMINIC GUERCIO	KAYLA LENSHOEK	HEATHER PERSSON	BRIAN WAI
WEISHYN CHANG	BRANDON GUMMOW	KELLY LESLIE	VALERIE PETERSON	JEREMY WALLIN
CLARA CHAO	LOUISE GUY	VIVIAN LE TRAN	STEPHANIE POO	SEAN WALSH
HELEN CHAR	DAVIS HABA	BRIAN LEUNG	TROY POSADAS	CLAUDIA WALSH
LAWRENCE CHEN	JOSHUA HARRIS	KENNETH LEUNG	JOCELYN PWU	ERIC WANG
MICHAEL CHEN	DANIELLE HATA	SUE LIANG	HANSEN QIAN	CONNIE WANG
PETER CHEN	STANTON HO	VIVIAN LIAO	SOPHIA RAGGETT	SOPHIA WANG
LILLIAN CHEN	SAMANTHA HOFFMAN	DENISE LIN	MANISH RAGHAVAN	MORGAN WEBSTER
NANCY CHEN	CECILIA HOLLENHORST	JESSIE LIN	KUSHAL RAJ	MARSHALL WESTALL
REBECCA CHEN	BRADY HORN	TIMOTHY LING	RAJIV RAMAKABIR	ABIGAIL WILLIAMS
ARIEL CHENG	KEVIN HSIEH	ANDREA LIU	KRISHNAN RAMAN	EMILY WILLIAMS
SANJANA CHETIA	PETER HSIEH	CHRISTINE LIU	VARSHA RAMESH	PHOEBE WONG
NATALIE CHEUNG	DANIEL HSU	NATALIE LIU	ANTARA RAO	PHIROM WONGKHAM
ALEXANDER CHIANG	COURTNEY HSU	VICTORIA LO	MEGHANA RAO	MICHAEL WOODRUFF
CONNIE CHIEN	VIVIAN HSU	KEVIN LU	JONATHAN RENN	JASON WU
KELLIE CHIOU	JAMES HUANG	TINA LU	STEPHANIE REYES	ALYSSA WU
OLIVIA CHOCK	CYNTHIA HUANG	VIVIEN LU	SHANNON ROSEBERRY	AMANDA WU
CAROLYNN CHOI	JUSTINE HUANG	SARAH LUM	SEAN RUIZ	YUKAI YANG
ELAINE CHOU	SARAH HULL	CONNIE LUN	ALINA SAMPLE	JENNIFER YANG
BENJAMIN CHUNG	CHRISTOPHER HULME	JENNIFER LYDON	NICOLE SAMRAO	EVAN YE
DEREK CHUNG	ANSHA HUSAIN	ALEXANDER MABANTA	DANIELLE SAVAGE	ANDY YEE
SHAUN CHUNG	VIET HUYNH	DEREK MAKEEVER	ASHWIN SAXENA	CRYSTAL YEN
SABRINA CISMAS	HARRISON HYDE	MISHAL MANIAR	KYLE SCHULZ	MEGAN YEN
KYLE CLARK	MATTHEW ISHIKAWA	AARON MANSHARAMANI	TYLER SCHUPPERT	ARIELLA YENDLER
KARILYN CLARK	THOMAS ISHIKAWA	NICHOLAS MARSHALL	PAUL SEHMBEY	SOOBIN YOO
MICHAEL COE	ROD JAFARI	CULLAN MCCHESENEY	AUSTIN SEVILLA	CORINNE ZELANIS
			NICOLE SHADMAN	MYRON ZHANG
			SANKASH SHANKAR	ALISSA ZHANG
			ZARA SHEIKH	ANNA ZHANG
			ROGER SHEN	JIMMY ZHENG
			MOHAMMAD SHENASA	MICHAEL ZUCCARINO
			RYAN SHEU	

On what we'll miss about high school: "Being a kid for the last time." —Ryan Mette

