



# Hagle's Eye

Dalat International School, Tanjung Bunga, 11200 Penang, Malaysia

March 2007

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#### Eagle's Eye Staff

Writers: Jubilee Adleta, Herman Boshoff, Sarah Cairncross, Alicia Choo, Brian Colfax, Raymond Deou, Kazuyuki Hayashi, Pam Hidajat, Hoon Kang, Tara-Lynn Kennedy, Kenny Kim, Lisa Kim, Daniel Lee, Joan Lin, Zack Lindsay, Rachel Lyman, Matthew Mah, Steven Ong, Haruki Shinohara, Tokihito Shioya, Kazuki Takahashi, Takehiro Toyama, Chia-Wen Tsai, Richard Tsai, Luke Wilson

Adviser:  
Mr. David Stengele

## Dalat Scene Investigators: ACSI

By Pam Hidajat

With an inimitable smile on his face, Mr. Greg Stenlund advised, "Just act as normal as you can. Don't worry; you won't even notice that they are here" as the AP Calculus students discussed the WASC/ACSI team's upcoming visit from 12-16 March.

The WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) and ACSI (Association of Christian School International) joint team comes to Dalat every six years to observe and examine the school and dorm program. Long before each visit, Dalat staff members conduct a thorough "A to Z" self-evaluation of the school, from academics and finances to facilities and boarding conditions.

Preparation for this particular visit started in 2004 as students began filling out self-evaluation "Zoomerang" surveys. Staff members compiled these surveys along with other observations into a self-study book and presented it to the WASC/ACSI team prior to their visit. The team would then compare actual observations from their visit to Dalat's self-study book and present their findings. A final report would give the school commendations as well as suggestions for improvement and determine whether the school would receive WASC/ACSI accreditation.

Students noticed many changes on campus in preparation for the accreditation visit,

but most of them did not fully understand the importance. In the Smith-Eckman Dorm, for instance, Uncle Brian Weidemann explained, "Whether or not Dalat receives ACSI accreditation will affect the approval process of your transcripts by colleges and universities in the United States. Parents have felt comfortable in the past sending their kids to our school and boarding program because we have been accredited."

The WASC/ACSI team arrived on 11 March and started observing the school from different angles on 12 March. They attended meetings with staff members and also set aside two days to meet with the Middle School and High School StuCo, Dorm Council, and students who have attended Dalat for many years. The team asked questions about regular activities in school

and students' lives. After conversing with the team, Christa DeVette (12) said, "The accreditation team asked us interesting questions. My favorite was 'What would you not want to change about Dalat?'"

They also took the time to observe many classes while in session. Tokihito Shioya (12) mentioned that a team member visited his Pre-Calculus class for no longer than three minutes. But another member visited his AP Environmental Science class for 30 minutes.

To obtain additional input from day and boarding students, the team joined students at the Seaside Café for lunch and dinner. Joy Walter (12) remarked, "They seemed sincerely interested in what the students thought or felt about things. It shows that they really care and want what's best for the school as a whole."

(Continued on page 2, col. 1)

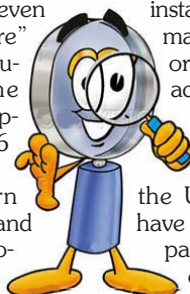
## MEW: A Passion for God

By Rachel Lyman

With the music blaring, kids danced, trudged, and laughed their way into chapel on Tuesday morning, 6 February. Settling down in their seats after worship, students and staff waited expectantly to see what the speaker had in store for them. The minute he opened his mouth, we heard his intense passion for God mixed with his

amazing Australian accent. He had hooked everyone.

Allison McClary (12), greatly impressed by the speaker, Mr. John Tyson, said "I liked how he had all these hilarious stories to help illustrate his points. And he wasn't just another funny speaker—he was challenging and hit those challenges very (Continued on page 2, col. 1)



# DOUBLE TAKE

Several students wrote on the same topic; enjoy their different perspectives!

## What!? Gutter Food?

By Matthew Mah

"Six o'clock, six o'clock, six o'clock. I better make it on time or else all the food is going to be gone," Daniel Lee (12) whispered to himself as he left school to go home and get ready for the big event that night. Missions Emphasis Week had come to a close that Friday, and StuCo wanted to make sure MEW week became a week to remember. StuCo members worked hard to make sure that Friday night would be a blast, making it the first ever "Drive 'n & Dine 'n."

At six o'clock sharp, Lee pulled up in a taxi on campus along with Kenny Kim (12). They stared in awe as they walked towards the group of chairs where their friends sat. Kim commented, "Dude, guys, this dinner is fantastic; I love it how we get to grill food in the gutter."

Lee added with a grin, "FOOD BABY! I live for food, and this is free, too."

While people ate, a live band made up of several Dalat students played in the background. A restless Elaine Ang (12), trying to contain herself from getting up to dance, said, "The live band was something different, really nice actually. My favorite part was getting to hear Kaz Hayashi (12) sing. Oh man, I love his voice!"

After everyone had filled his or her stomach, StuCo ended the party by screening a movie called "Radio" on a makeshift outdoor theater. People got the chance sit back and relax and watch the movie on a big screen projector just outside the gym. The movie lasted till about 10:30, and after that, clean up began.

While getting ready to head back home, Lee and Kim overheard Richard Tsai (12) saying to his mom on his cellphone, "Tonight was fun; it was great, and I enjoyed everything."

On hearing this, Lee and

Kim looked at each other with twinkles in their eyes only to end up bursting into laughter—for they knew that they had a fun evening and that they would remember MEW week for a long time. •

## Free! Food for Thought

By Daniel Lee

Nothing could please a hungry crowd more than the news of free food. Anywhere with free food, a celebration ought to follow. StuCo came up with a great idea to practice this concept by assembling a barbecue feast to end the Missions Emphasis Week with a strong statement. StuCo guaranteed not only plenty of free food, but free entertainment as well. The barbecue, held at school on a Friday evening, provided a perfect time and place to gather together to relax and enjoy.

For any students who had no plan for their golden Friday, the Dine In & Drive In provided a good option for their schedule.

"I usually don't participate in school events, but what motivated me to go to the Dine In & Drive In was the offer of free food. It really does attract a lot of people and it's effective too," exclaimed Benny Kim (9).

As Kim waited eagerly for the night's event, Kazuyuki Hayashi (12), who actually participated in the event as a band member, excitedly said, "I am really looking forward to this thing. StuCo's not only offering free food but free music and a free movie as well. It's going to be a very unique experience to cook my own food in a gutter, and the live band is going to be awesome. (Continued on page 3, col. 4)

Missions Emphasis Week...

(Continued from page 1, col. 2) close to home."

Scott Poulter (12) added, "He was able to give us a relevant Christian message that everyone could understand and apply. He was also young and funny and talked about things that kids our age really need to hear."

Easy to listen to, and easy to relate to, Mr. Tyson's sermons left a mark. Nadia Boshoff (9) related how she enjoyed Mr.

Tyson's sermons. "He was easy to relate to because he didn't talk about being perfect. It was really cool to listen to all the challenges he had for us despite the fact that we aren't all good and innocent. He actually made us think and didn't let us stay in our comfort zone."

Mr. Tyson's messages refused to let students sit still. He brought them back down to reality by making them realize what really matters in life. Tara-Lynn Kennedy (12) shared how his

message impacted her: "John said at the beginning that a lot of what we would hear would be familiar, but we would see things in a completely different way. And I think that was totally true for me. How many times have we heard about doing our part? And so many of us just want to hurry through things and get to the easy part in Heaven, but we have a responsibility here, to give God glory in everything we do. And I think if we do that to the fullest, we will reap the benefits

of Heaven while we are here on earth."

By the end of MEW, many people felt a passion for Christ like never before. Angela Stevens (12), on the last night of MEW said excitedly, "I've got to get out there! I can't just sit here and not tell people about Jesus! All the stuff we worry about isn't even important anymore. The only thing that matters is living for God, glorifying Him, and winning souls for Heaven!"

Mr. Tyson came in and showed Dalat students and staff reality. He forced them to step outside their comfort zones and reevaluate what they're living for. As Mr. Rich Gwaltney aptly stated, "SEW was like a big warm hug while MEW was a hard knock on the head." It was a knock that woke many up.

As Mr. Tyson closed the last session, students said good-bye to his awesome accent but held on to the passion for God inside their hearts. The last strains of music came to a close, and kids again danced, trudged, and laughed their way out of the chapel. But this time they had a new sense of purpose—bringing Heaven to earth. •

Accreditation...

(Continued from page 1, col. 4)

The team of four departed on 16 March. Looking back on the whole event, Mrs. Corinne Rogers commented, "It is always important for us to have accountability either amongst our friends or family, to ask us how we are doing with some of our most difficult challenges. That type of vulnerability keeps us humble and helps us to remember who is really in control. This week's accreditation visit was an incredible learning experience for me professionally, and I am

glad that God allowed me to be a part of the process. The accolades from the final report belong to only One; praise the LORD."

Mr. Stenlund also found the visit helpful to the school's administration. "The accreditation team was very professional in the way they did their job while they were here at school. They had a tremendous amount of work to complete in the short time they were here and were able to finish it with efficiency and attention to details. The main guy had to wake up at 3:00 in the morning to make sure they got all their

work accomplished. I was pleased with their visit. They were very impressed with Dalat and had only good things to say about the school."

After chitchatting with each other about what they should do when the WASC/ACSI team came, the AP Calculus students suddenly heard Chia Wen Tsai (12) asking to go to the bathroom.

Liesl Williams (12) asked, "Is that normal enough Mr. Stenlund?"

All the students in the class burst out laughing, excited about the upcoming visit. •

# When the Aussies Go Marching In

By Tokihito Shioya

RRRRRRR... As the bell proclaimed the end of the school on a hot, sunny Wednesday, 28 February, three young musicians got up from their chairs and headed straight for the band room. "Hey Elmo [Lin, 9], get your trombone! Let's go! Tokes [Tokihito Shioya, 12] is waiting for you with the taxi by the clock tower!" called out Bill Kang (9), as Lin rushed to get his instrument. As Lin and Kang came along, Shioya squeezed his gigantic instrument, a tuba, in to the back of the taxi. The three jammed into the vehicle with their instruments: a tuba, trombone, and a pair of drumsticks.

Eagle-eying this from a distance, Christa DeVette (12) called out "Good luck, guys!" as the vehicle left campus.

That day, the Australian Army Band from Brisbane held a band workshop at Dewan Sri Pinang. Shioya felt a special bond with this band, since he had lived in Brisbane before he came to Dalat. As Lin, Shioya, and Kang arrived at the hall right on time at 4:00 P.M., a surprise awaited them: the army band had expected Dalat's entire concert

band to attend.

The three Dalat students watched the band perform a wide variety of music, including classical, jazz, marches, and pop. They then invited the students for an hour-long workshop to practice "St. Louis Blues March," a classical marching band piece arranged by Glenn Miller for the U. S. Army Air Force Band in 1943.

Divided into their musical sections, the three students met the players from the band, together with students from St. Xavier's School's marching band. After practicing, the students gathered on the stage with their instruments and performed the piece for elementary school students from St. Xavier's. Kang later mentioned that "...it sounded like a Dalat concert band, so it was familiar. My favorite player was a young percussionist, Alex, who very kindly introduced me to all the percussion equipment they have." Kang, however, did not perform with the band on stage, due to the lack of experience in marching percussion.

Later that week, on Friday, 2 March, the army band held a

concert at the Fort Cornwallis. Mrs. Valeri Brokaw offered to give a ride for some students to the concert with her van, and Sarah Hwang (7), Emily Brokaw (8), Elisabeth Brokaw (3), Lin, Shioya, and Kang, joined the ride. The members of the band wore white outfits and played Malaysia's national anthem as they marched onto the stage, after waiting for the arrival of the Chief Minister of Penang. This reminded some of the students of the famous song "When the Saints Go Marching In." In this case, however, they were not saints, but Australian soldiers, or Aussies.

The pieces that the band performed included the first movement, "Gandalf" from *The Lord of the Rings*, a trumpet concerto, and pieces from the Swedish band ABBA. The students watched and listened to the band and gave special attention to the player who played the same instrument as they, in most cases. Hwang, a former clarinet player from Middle School band, said that her favorite player "...definitely was the clarinet player who played solo." Emily Brokaw excitedly watched the tenor saxophone player perform a solo in a jazz piece.

Other members of the school who joined the concert included DeVette, Sydney McKenzie (8), Mr. Larry and Mrs. Debbie Chinn, Mr. Bill Munson, and Mr. Mark Sasse. DeVette, a tuba player for Dalat's high school concert band, said, "My favorite piece was definitely the two trumpet concerto...written by Vivaldi or Tchaikovsky. They were both such amazing musicians." Shioya enjoyed listening to the tuba player, a female officer whom he met at the workshop two days prior.

The band ended the concert by firing fireworks and other explosives, and playing an overture piece. "I loved the performance!" said DeVette as the crowd left Fort Cornwallis. The clock went past 11, and Elisabeth Brokaw had a very sleepy look on her face as the students gathered by Mrs. Brokaw's van to head back to their homes. One by one, she dropped off the students, and they acknowledged her as they went home. "Thank you very much, Mrs. Brokaw!" called out Hwang as she headed back to her dorm. •

## Full of Hearts

By Steven Ong

"Wow, this is so pretty!" Rami Lee (10) whispered to Katherine Kang (10) as they walked into the chapel that the dorm staff had decorated.

On 17 February, the dorm staff put together a Valentine Banquet for the dorm students. The event provided a great opportunity for students to take a break from the hassles of homework and enjoy their time with their friends at the same time.

The dorm parents greeted the students when they filled the chapel with laughter, joy, and flashes from cameras, and walked into the room. As crowds of dorm students filled the chapel, they started to find their way to the table with their friends as their eyes gazed off into the candles and the decorations.

Even though the dorm parents had to put in a lot of effort to make the Valentine Banquet successful, they did it with joy and excitement with the hope that the dorm students would enjoy what they had done.

"I loved it! My favorite part was going on the ferry to the bus station to pick up the strawberries that were delivered fresh from the Cameron Highlands," Aunt Debbie Cairncross exclaimed.

As most of the dorm students their parents live far away from Penang, the dorm parents took this opportunity to show how much they care (Continued on p. 4, col. 1)

## DOUBLE TAKE (CON'T.)

### Dine In, Rock Out

By Kenny Kim

Soft rock music flowed on the cool air. An unfamiliar stage occupied the middle of the soccer field. Curious tourists in Paradise Hotel stuck their head over their balcony, wondering where the music came from. On Friday afternoon, 9 February, StuCo hosted a party called "Drive in, Dine in." This event included three different parts: live music, a barbecue in the gutter, and a drive-in movie theater.

The music gradually stopped, and Christa DeVette (12) jumped on the stage. "Welcome to Drive in, Dine in. Please enjoy the food; and we will be showing a movie after dinner, so please, feel free to stay and watch." DeVette declared with cheerful tone.

As she gave signals, a live band assembled by StuCo, climbed up on the stage and

started to play rock music. The band didn't have a list of songs; they just played what they wanted to play or what people asked them to. Every 35 minutes, the band accepted anyone from the crowd to play on the stage.

"I've always wanted to play on an outdoor stage," Shin Park (11) said shyly to one of the StuCo members as he saw people walking up to the stage.

As the sleepy sun fell behind the ocean, Josh Peace (10) stretched his arm saying, "I think Drive in, Dine in is a very good way to end MEW."

As one of the StuCo members announced that the movie would soon start, people helped clear the stage and set up the sound system. In a short while, the movie started, and that concluded the Drive in, Dine in. •

Food for Thought...

(Continued from page 2, col. 4) I'm going to sing!"

For some students, nothing could have replaced the joy of cooking their own food. "The food was great. Although I was lazy and too tired to do anything, I couldn't miss out on grilling my own meat in the gutter. It tasted wonderful too!" said Matthew Mah (12), jerking with excitement.

Although the barbecue included only simple-flavored chicken and raw hot dogs; people enjoyed the time the StuCo had planned. The gutter grill formed a new experience embedded into many student, staff, and parents as well. •

# DOUBLE TAKE

Two students wrote on the same topic; enjoy their different perspectives!

## An Unexpected Blessing

By Sarah Cairncross

"Five more minutes!" Khalie Mahoney (8) said with a yawn as she began to drag her sleepy body out of bed. As she got ready for the long morning ahead of her, she wondered what to expect. What would she and the 90 other Dalat guides experience as they walked, leading a blind person around Penang?

Many others from Dalat also woke up unusually early to participate in the St. Nicholas' Home "Walk with the Blind" to celebrate their 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to raise money for the home. One hundred and fifty students, staff and their families came together on Sunday, 11 February, to walk for the visually disabled men, women, and

children from the home and to shine a little light into their darkness. "It was really cool how so many of our students and staff were able to interact with people in the community," Mrs. Kathleen McClary said.

After spending the morning with these people, students found how much they took their sense of sight for granted. Steven Ong (12) explained, "The St. Nicholas' walk made me realize how God has been so gracious to me, keeping me healthy and in one piece."

Their interaction with the blind helped them see how much more difficult basic tasks such as walking and eating are without the ability to see. "The

Saint Nicholas' Walk for the Blind definitely gave me a chance to appreciate what a wonderful gift sight is," Eric Westergren (12) said.

The walk gave students and staff an opportunity to practice servant leadership and live out the year's theme "It's Not About Me." Westergren said, "It was awesome to get a chance to help people out who haven't been as fortunate as I."

The walk also gave students a fresh perspective of needs outside the Dalat community. "The walk with the blind made me think about how many people in the world need help, and how every little thing that we can do will mean a lot to them", said Ong.

Not only were the blind blessed by the event, but those who volunteered their time found themselves experiencing joy as a result of their service. Mrs. McClary said, "For me it was a wonderful surprise that I

got to spend my time with one woman and get to know her a bit. It was a blessing to make a new friend."

As students and faculty led blind people on a 3.5 kilometer walk, groups found plenty of time to talk and connect with one another. "It gave me such an opportunity to hear about the life of the man I walked," mentioned Westergren.

Overall, the St. Nicholas' Walk gave the Dalat community a chance to impact the greater community of Penang. "It was nice that we could be a part of the community and help out," Annie Archer (7) said.

All who participated and got involved at the walk went away feeling better than when they started out, bright and early that morning. Mahoney said, "It was really cool how we all got up really early. Some people didn't want to, but it was definitely worth it!" •

### Valentine Banquet...

(Continued from page 3, col. 4) and how much love they have for the dorm students. The dorm parents really did put up a lot and made the Valentine Banquet memorable for a lot of students, especially for the seniors that will not have a chance to enjoy this event again as they leave for college next year.

A lot of dorm students really expressed their appreciation to the dorm parents. "The food was the best food ever served compared to the one that was served in the past, and the dorm parents were very creative in choosing games this year. I really thought it was well planned out, and I really appreciate what our dorm parents did," Kazuyuki Hayashi (12) said with a smile on his face.

A lot of students really enjoyed the food that the dorm parents had prepared for them, and some students like Katherine Kang (10) put up a challenge for the guys as she consumed three plates of food. With little embarrassment she said, "That day I didn't have a very good lunch, so I had thirds. I ate the most at my table, including guys, which was a little embarrassing; but I have to say the ham was good. I think it was the best Valentine's Banquet

that I've been to at Dalat."

Food brought satisfaction for the students' tummies, just as the games brought real joy and laughter to everyone. In one of the games, every student left his or her seat to look for a partner, and whoever found his or her partner received a prize. "I really enjoyed seeing [Mr. Mark and Mrs. Karen] Sasse compete against [Mr. Bill and Mrs. Lisa] Munson and Eric [Westergren, 12] and Sarah [Cairncross, 12] in the game," said Herman Boshoff (12).

After the event, students started going around chapel taking pictures with their friends to keep as memories; and as they filled the chapel with flashes from their cameras, the dorm parents announced that anyone could stay for the movie *Sabrina* that they planned to show in the chapel.

Not long after that students started to pick up their belongings from their seats and started walking towards the door. Even though they knew that all had ended, they left with joy and happiness because they felt the love that the dorm parents showed.

"I'm really impressed. The dorm parents sure did a good job putting this banquet on for us," Kang said as she and Lee wandered around the chapel. •

## Letting Our Lights Shine

By Kazuyuki Hayashi

Early in the morning, hundreds of people packed close to each other in a little area. Little kids ran around, their moms and dads trying to stop them. Not-quite-awake, sleepy teenagers rubbed their eyes.

As the sun began to rise, the shining beams of light revealed the surroundings. Another new beautiful sunny day for everyone had begun—everyone, that is, except the man standing beside me holding my hand. His eyes looked straight forward.

On Sunday, 11 February, the St. Nicholas' Home for the Blind planned a big event to raise funds for their gym facility for their school. The company 100 Plus offered to give free food, and Sunkist also provided free drinks for this event. Even the governor of Penang came to support and start the walk by giving a speech.

Many Dalat staff members, dorm and day students, and guards came out for this event. Blind people from all over Penang, and some even from the mainland participated as well, making a total of over 200. But because so many people came to attend this event, only a small portion of them could actually hold a blind person's hand and walk with him or her. The task was simple; all students had to

do was to help the blind walk around Gurney Plaza; this took only about 30 minutes.

But as students and staff led the blind people, they found themselves concentrating and paying more attention to the surroundings that they never noticed. Kyle Ladner (10) said, "It was an eye opening experience because as I walked along Gurney Drive, I looked at my surroundings differently from what I usually do. I took more time in enjoying God's creation that I often take for granted. I also had a great time being able to be a part of this service project with my dorm."

Dalat students found that they often take everything they have for granted—such as the view that surrounds them, colors, and eyesight. The walk helped them realize the importance of even things they wouldn't notice in their daily lives. Jonathan Hayashi (9) said, "It was a very good experience because I could realize and be thankful that I was made perfect—that I am not disabled."

Communication also became a big barrier. Some people didn't have a partner who spoke English. I could tell that my partner was very uncomfortable because his palm was sweating badly. (Continued on p. 5, column 1)

# Having a Blast at Hillside

By Tokihito Shioya

"I loved it! It was a total blast!" said Jessica Gamble (9) as she walked out of the church. With a joyful smile on her face, Emily Brokaw (7) took her friends and headed for the lunch served outside the building.

On Sunday, 4 March, members of the Dalat Ambassadors organized a worship service at Hillside Baptist Church, a smaller-scaled church, that does not have a nicely organized worship band, like some other bigger churches. The Ambassadors had planned to perform at a service at this church since last year; however, schedule conflicts

made it not possible. Sophia To (10), a trumpet player for the Ambassadors, mentioned that the service "...provided a great experience for all of us and a chance to do what we're here to do—go out into the community as ambassadors of Christ."

Mrs. Valeri Brokaw said, "The whole purpose of the Ambassadors is to serve others. Since we're called the 'Dalat Ambassadors,' it just makes sense to do that off-campus once in a while. That was Mr. [Doug] Brokaw's vision when he started this group in 2004."

The members of the church,

including Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Marsha Yost, enjoyed the service, too. "It was great, guys!" mentioned Mr. Yost. Some members of the church, including the technical team, noted with surprise the size of the worship team; they had some difficulties working with a lot of instruments and microphones and, most importantly, arranging the band so that it fit on the stage.

Sheena McLeod (10), a singer for the Ambassadors, said, "People seemed to really enjoy the music and get into it. Although the stage is very small, we somehow figured out a way to make it work; and we eventually all fit!"

Members of the band were surprised by some equipment of the church too. Jacob Kim-

ball (9) mentioned that the "cool moving backgrounds" of the PowerPoint presentation that the church provided fascinated him.

Shortly after the service, the church provided a free lunch for all those who attended the service. The members of the band enjoyed a great meal.

McLeod said, "Despite a few minor mistakes, I think it went absolutely great; and I would definitely go again!"

Gamble said, "Yes! I think we should totally do it again!"

The members of the band left the church with smiles on their faces and a plan to come back and lead worship again someday. "Amen!" called out Jonathan Brokaw (9) as the van left the church building. •

## DOUBLE TAKE

Two students wrote on the same topic; enjoy their different perspectives!

### Don't Give Up!

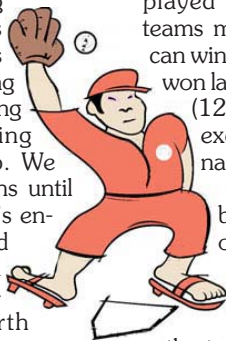
By Takehiro Toyama

"No way!" A batter screamed in terror when a center-fielder, Haruki Shinohara (12), caught a ball in the right field. Shinohara's amazing catch motivated his teammates. Players played hard, dragging their legs after winning two games and tying one. "Don't give up. We don't know who wins until the match ends. Let's enjoy this game," said Shinohara, who led the exhausted teammates on the fourth game of the day.

The Japanese Association hosted a first softball tournament on 18 March at Penang Free School. The 11 teams that

played in this tournament practiced on weekends to win for their pride. A team made up only by students, called the "Pirates," played among the company teams made up of adults. "We can win this tournament like we won last year," Tokihito Shioya (12) said to his teammates excitedly before the tournament started.

"This tournament will be the last one for seven of us. Let's do our best," encouraged Kazuki Takahashi (12), who had played the longest for the team. The team won two intense games in the morning and had two hours of lunch break while waiting for other groups to finish their games.



After the break, the Pirates played one of the best teams and tied the game by scoring in the last inning.

Outfielders, Takahashi and Shinohara, ran all over the field as the ball flew everywhere. In the fourth game, the Pirates played against the best batting team. "Game over!" When the umpire called both teams to line up, Takahashi slammed his glove on the ground, expressing anger and sadness on his

face. The Pirates had lost their fourth game by three to six and lost the opportunity to advance to the finals.

"We tried our best. It doesn't matter that we lost, but all that matters is that we enjoyed the tournament," said Shioya as he cheered his teammates, who were also his best friends. For these seniors, the Pirates gave them a chance not only to play softball, but also to make friends to share their wins and losses. •

## First...or Last place

By Kazuki Takahashi

Sunday, 18 March was a big day for the Japanese students who play softball. Every team tries to win the trophy in this tournament. The four Japanese Dalat International School seniors on the softball team hoped to leave a good impression in their final tournament. These four seniors include Takehiro Toyama (12),

the boss and leader of the softball team; Haruki Shinohara (12), the best player on their team, known to give advice to his teammates; Tokihito Shioya (12), who tries to make his teammates laugh and make them comfortable; and Kazuki Takahashi (12), who always skips (Continued on p. 6, column 1)

### Letting Our Light Shine...

(Continued from page 4, col. 4) Even though I tried talking to him, his reply to every question I asked him was "Yes." I didn't know how I could relate to this blind man and what I could do to be a light for him to walk till the finish line. But I also was wondering how I could be a light that shines the hope of Jesus Christ who lives in me.

But as I spent more time with

this man, I found more reasons why I should be happy for what I have. How blessed I am for what God has given me—to be able to see the beauty of this world and enjoy it! And I realized that I was supposed to be helping this man by being a light for him. But through him and the time I spent with him, I could see more clearly and realize things I'd never noticed before.

Pamela Hidajat (12) said, "The walk with the blind was a good experience for me. I think

that my feelings walking with the blind is somewhat similar to the way God feels when He walks with us. The blind girl whom I was walking with sometimes wanted to go her own way, even when she could not see. In the same way, sometimes we don't know where God is leading us, yet we often do not trust Him and go our own way."

Staring into the man's face that I would walk with for the rest of the day, I didn't know what to say. I thought for a while

and then asked him the most basic question I could ask: "What is your name?" The face that stared straight ahead turned towards me as if he could see. And he gave me a super long Indian name, which I couldn't repeat. Then he looked forward again. I couldn't repeat his name, but that was a start. I told myself, "There must be something good waiting to happen. I don't need to worry. God will still be here. Today is another sunny day." •



# Red Envelopes, Please!

By Alicia Choo



"I'm leaving for Taiwan!" Cindy Hsieh (11) exclaimed as she excitedly walked into the front office.

On 16 February, a sunny Friday afternoon, Dalat's first long weekend of the semester headed off with a kick start, buzzing with students discussing weekend plans. "I'm just looking forward to a good, long rest," Kenny Kim (12) said.

For many others, though, a good, long rest did not lie ahead. Hsieh and other Taiwanese and Chinese students, teachers, and staff hurried back home to prepare for this most auspicious event: the celebration of the Lunar New Year. They had houses to clean, red banners to hang up on front doors, New Year's cookies to buy, and for married ladies, red envelopes or *ang paws* to fill with money.

Chinese New Year's—a time

to eat till you drop; a time to make resolutions you convince yourself you will keep; and for the little kids, a time to fill up their piggy banks. But most importantly, the holiday provided a time to stay up late and play cards with cousins, a time to catch up on which uncle and which cousin's doing what, and a time to spend with family and friends and together to welcome in the New Year.

"I went back home to Thailand, and a Hong Kong mission team came; so my family and I celebrated Chinese New Year with them," Charis To (12) explained.

Chinese New Year lasts for 15 days, traditionally with a specific custom to follow on each day. On the first day, before noon, a vegetarian meal ensues.

In the afternoon, all sorts of food follow. Aside from the three main meals of the day, biscuits, sweets, chips, and chocolates lie conveniently about an arm's length away. The goal? To eat, eat, and eat. "I ate all weekend and enjoyed New Year's cookies!" Elaine Ang (12) said, not without a slight grin on her face.

Raymond Deou (12) had a similar, memorable experience welcoming the Year of the Boar. "I celebrated my Chinese New Year in Penang. At night, my whole family ate dinner together, and then we played cards. I got a lot of *ang pow* money!" Deou recalled with a smile. And despite the late hour, Deou had no intentions of retiring to bed. "Who needs sleep when it is Chinese New Year!?" Deou said.

As Hsieh returned home to

Taiwan, she immediately joined her parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins in the New Year festivities. Bright red decorations hung around the house, and an array of home-cooked food lay on the table; friends and family members milled around, eating, talking, and laughing. "I got to meet many of my long-lost relatives and had delicious food, the kind you can't get back here in Penang," said Hsieh happily as she recalled the events of that unforgettable weekend.

On Thursday, 22 February, a day after school reopened, Hsieh lugged her books and bags to school with a big yawn. "I arrived late last night from Taiwan. I had a great time and enjoyed myself very much," Hsieh said as she continued a sleepy walk towards her locker. •

softSoftball Tournament...

(Continued from page 6, col. 4) ball practice but plays well.

Toyama said, "Guys, this is our last softball game. I don't really care if we win or lose. Let's just have fun and try our best."

Shinohara replied, "Well, of course we will try our best. Trust me; we will take first place because I will hit more than 10 home runs. Just watch me guys."

Hearing this, Shioya said, "Can you get a home run more than 10 times? I don't think that is possible because I have never seen you hit home runs more than 10 times! But I will!"

The conversation before the softball tournament made the teammates comfortable. Every time they practice on the weekends, they always have a conversation reinforcing the fact that this year is

the last year for them to play softball together with their teammates. On 18<sup>th</sup> March, they will enjoy their softball tournament. •



## The Great Debate

By Brian Colfax

"I can't see his hair over here!" shouted Tokihito Shioya (12).

"I can't see his hair either," replied Kirsten Gamble (11).

"Maybe it's because you're too short!" chuckled Shioya.

"Tch! Whatever Tokes," replied Gamble icily.

The trip to Kuala Lumpur from Dalat gave the 2007 forensics team some good experiences. "The tournament was a great opportunity for us to get to know each other," said Golnaz Nazem (9).

"Lee and Nazem were kind of strangers before I went on the trip, but I got to know them well!" said Shioya, who participated in the tournament with Vivian Lee (9).

Nazem paired with Zack Lindsay (12), and Gamble paired with Brian Colfax (12).

After arriving at ISKL, the students listened to the rules to the tournament; then they met their host families.

Colfax and Lindsay, both went with one host family and Lee and Nazem went to another; Gamble and Shioya each went alone to one. The forensics team

met around eight o'clock in the morning at ISKL, which hosted the tournament. The tournament would end around four o'clock.

After the second day of debating, the team decided to go to KLCC, a large shopping mall, after the last debate; Colfax and Lindsay would meet the rest of the gang—Gamble, Nazem, Lee, and Shioya—at the mall.

As they split off, Colfax and Lindsay went straight to KLCC to await the rest of the gang there, but unfortunately, the meeting place where they planned to get together did not even exist.

Realizing their error, Colfax and Lindsay walked in circles looking all over for the others; but the smell of food became too overpowering for Lindsay, and Colfax reluctantly followed him to the food court. They found a table on the outside in case the other half of the gang would arrive. Lindsay went off to get food while Colfax waited for the other group, knowing they would arrive soon or just pop out of no-

where—which they did exactly.

The forensics team lost in the beginning rounds of the debate competition. The Gamble and Colfax team lost all of their debate events, but Colfax got through his first round of impromptu; he lost in the second round. Shioya and Lee won one debate event and lost the other three. Lindsay and Nazem won two of their debates but lost the other two.

Nazem, in original oratory, got through her first round then bowed out at the second.

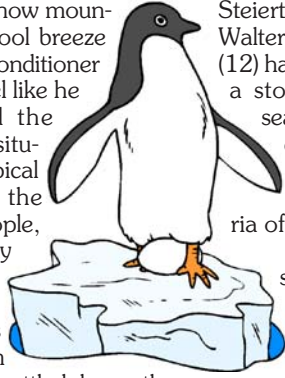
On the last day of competition, they watched and learned from the rest of the competitors in the semifinals and the finals of the tournament.

To the question, "Will we do better next year?" Gamble had a ready answer: "Of course! Their best people won't be there, and I will be!" •



# ANTARCTIC IDEALS

On Tuesday, 6 March, as Kenny Kim (12) stepped into the chapel for the annual NHS assembly, he saw the room overflowing with high schoolers, staff, and parents. On the stage, sheet-white snow mountains and a cool breeze from the air-conditioner made him feel like he had entered the South Pole situated on a tropical island. With the crowds of people, he could barely find a seat; fortunately, his friends had saved him a spot. As he settled down, the lights dimmed, the music arose, and the skit started.



Current NHS members Sarah Cairncross (12), Christa DeVette (12), Marie Giezendanner (12), Pam Hidajat (12), Barret Loehden (12), Josh Manfred (12), Allison McClary (12), Drew Steiert (12), Charis To (12), Joy Walter (12), and Liesl Williams (12) had made up a skit that told a story of king penguins in search of penguins with four different qualities: leadership, scholarship, service, and character (four criteria of the NHS).

The penguins had chosen four penguins, each with different quality, to fight a killer whale. But they couldn't collaborate with each other and eventually, the whale ate them! After the dead penguins went

to "Heaven," they cautiously examined their mistakes and decided to search for penguins that included all four qualities, which had the capability to rescue their race.

After a while of searching and looking, nine seniors and six juniors: Jubilee Adleta (12), Elaine Ang (12), Herman Boshoff (12), Olivia D'Cruz (12), Brendan Frenz (11), Tamara Herring (11), Kenny Kim (12), Joy Li (11), Rachel Lyman (12), David Robertson (12), Joel Roberts (11), Angela Stevens (12), Jesse Beth Thompson (11), Eric Westergren (12), and Kirsten Westergren (11) said the pledge and signed the registrar joining the group of NHS members.

"I was super excited! I wasn't expecting it at all!" said Ang.



"The skit was hilarious! I didn't know Christa could be such a gangster, but Drew was the best!"

After the assembly, the new members joined the staff, parents, and the current members for luncheon, hosted by both the teaching and dorm staff. "I loved the lunch; there was so much food, man!! I couldn't even try everything!" said Kim as he filled his plate with varieties of homemade food provided by the faculty members. •

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## On a Dark and Stormy Night...

By Chia Wen Tsai

"Guys, it's time to go down for concert!" called Aunt Suzette Boshoff to her dorm students as Joshua Manfred (12) rushed down to the chapel with food in his mouth. As a storm came closer and closer to the campus from the ocean, people walked slowly with umbrellas toward to the chapel to attend the high school concert.

The performers got really nervous and scared right before the concert. "The worst butterflies in my stomach came right before the vocal ensemble went up and sang. We were memo-

rizing our lines in the bathroom seconds earlier!" said Manfred.

Finally, after everyone sat down on their chairs, Mr. Kerry Mahoney stood to open up a night with prayer.

The concert started with Vocal Ensemble running and singing along toward the stage. The audience enjoyed their songs, and some who knew the lyrics mouthed along with the group.

The Jazz Band came up next. This group had expanded by adding middle school students. They played

"Jumpin' at the Woodside" and "Blues in the Night."

Outside, the storm got bigger and bigger and the rain drops fell from the ceiling as they played.

After Jazz Band, the High School Choir came up on the stage and sang songs from *Westside Story* as their main piece for this quarter.

Then the concert came to the last, but not least, the high school Concert Band's performance. Mr. Mahoney started with the song "A Mighty Fortress." Then student teacher,

Miss Heather Hall, the guest conductor, stood on Mr. Mahoney's usual spot to direct "O Magnum Mysterium." As she finished this piece, Mr. Mahoney asked Ben Weidemann (6) to take his place for the song "Rough Riders."

"It was an honor to direct the band for the song "Rough Riders," Weidemann said.

The concert ended with the last song, "Into the Joy of Spring." Jeff Hokyo (11) said, "The songs just flowed to my heart. I would like to join band or choir next year."

The concert had ended, but the music still played in people's minds. Students and staff anticipate the next performance. •

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## It's Time to Have Fun!

By Lisa Kim

March 2: Junior JSB work and Lock-in; March 3: Freshman class party; March 9: Sophomore Lock-in

From time to time as students walked around campus, they found papers stuck on their lockers with fancy decorations on them. No matter what it said, their eyes glistened with curiosity. "Oh, we are having a class party?" Bona Kim (9) asked with surprise when she looked at her locker on 28 February. "We

have moved the dates so many times."

Dalat high school students had their own daily schedules, and everyone moved from classroom to classroom according to schedule. Students have opportunities to meet with different grades, but they don't get a chance to see everyone in their class. For this reason, each class has a party.

As the school's big event of the year—the Junior-Senior

Banquet—gets closer, the wheels started to turn: JSB workday and Lock-in! All the juniors met in the chapel on 2 March. Ashley Nam had an exhausted face when she returned to the chapel after she finished her share of work. "Preparing for the JSB is fun," remarked Nam, "but I wish we could have another class party that we could enjoy instead of working."

On 3 March, when all the juniors left campus, the freshman appeared in a group. They had just come from working on a service project. They stepped down to the chapel and waited

for pizza. They enjoyed themselves with games and movies.

A week later, the sophomores celebrated with fireworks, karaoke, and games. Risako Okazaki said, "I didn't know there were such good singers in my class!"

Helen Kim also had a pleasant expression on her face after the party. "This year's class party was much better than last year's," said Kim. "More freedom was the biggest part that made it fun!"

Truly, everyone enjoyed the class parties of 2007! Now whose having the next party? •

# Chow Time!

By Joan Lin

The sweet aroma of grilled lamb chops filled the air as Uncle David Boshoff enthusiastically exercised his tongs to flip the juicy pieces that sat atop the flame. "Man, that looks really good!" said a bright-eyed David Thompson (12) as he marched toward the barbecue. Along with Thompson came several other keen senior guys ready to gratify their hunger with the Boshoff's mouth-watering treat.

Every Tuesday night, the senior dorm students gathered to enjoy a special time of relaxation, bonding, laughter, and delicious food with their dorm/campus staff. "Woohoo! Senior

treat is really fun because you get to talk to people you don't normally see during the day and eat amazing food. We usually end up laughing hysterically about something!" said an excited Joy Walter (12) all in one breath.

Sounds of pouring juice, sizzling meat, crackling Chachos, and clattering silverware streamed through the table as the 16 seniors exchanged conversations and chuckles with one another while working through the food with their busy hands and mouths. As the chaps greedily downed their meat and homemade bread, Herman Boshoff (12) appeared with a merry grin

on his face. "This sauce is the hottest sauce in the whole world," said he, proudly displaying a red bottle labeled "Dave's Insanity Sauce."

With an eyebrow raised, a brave-hearted Thompson demanded a half a teaspoon try at this challenge for the strong; this resulted in hilarious outbursts of laughter, screaming girls, and one blazing red face. "I didn't think it was that hot, but I was really surprised; my tongue hurt for like 20 minutes!" Thompson said as he remembered his battle with the sauce.

The dorm parents have definitely taken full advantage of the senior treat this year with creativity and skill. Fortunate dorm seniors have had the privilege to enjoy tasty treats such as

McDonald's, barbecues, fondues, Baskin' Robbins, pizzas, and all kinds of delicious pastries and cakes. "Senior treat gives us the opportunity to bond with our awesome dorm parents and staff in our last year of high school," said Monet Ng (12).

In a few months all the seniors will say good-bye to high school and embrace a whole new exciting life ahead of them. Traditions such as the weekly senior treat seizes the flying time and bring them closer to make the most of their last semester by building delightful memories.

"'Night, Thompson!" shouted a couple of senior girls still laughing hysterically about the hot sauce as they each strolled breezily back to their dorms. •

## DOUBLE TAKE

Two students wrote on the same topic; enjoy their different perspectives!

## STUPEFIED!

By Zack Lindsay

On the afternoon of Friday, 2 March, the Senior Transition Retreat seemingly had come to a close. Minds that had become filled with countless tidbits of knowledge zoomed around the room. A sense of relief, fatigue, and accomplishment whizzed around the conference room. After spending the past 24 hours at Paradise Hotel, they felt ready

to face the world.

But before letting them back into their daily lives, the sponsors had one last activity planned. After the sponsors explained the game rules—that three boys had to guess the name of three girls while blindfolded—a girl walked into the room that I had never seen before. Eric Westergren turned asked with a look of

amazement on his face, "Do you know who that is?"

I replied, "No."

Still with the same bewildered smile on his face, Westergren whispered, "That's Kelsey."

No more needed to be said as the whole class anticipated the surprise.

This love story had finally come to its climax. Josh Manfred, beginning to realize that something was amiss, slowly leaned in and listened intently to the sound of the girl's voice. He couldn't believe what his ears told him. "No, no," he thought, "I must be going crazy;

that can't be her!" His heart knowing the truth, kept saying, "YES, YES, I know that voice! It has to be her!"

Manfred, then taking a leap of faith, peeled off the blindfold that had kept him from seeing his beloved Kelsey, who had traveled all the way from Minnesota to surprise him. And what a leap, the instant he saw her face! He jumped out of his chair and met her with a long-awaited hug.

"It was amazing; I had no idea that this would happen," said Manfred full of excitement. This priceless moment would forever be a dream come true. •

## SERIOUS FUN

By Herman Boshoff

Not having to wear their school uniforms became a definite highlight for all the seniors as they embarked off campus one Thursday afternoon to Paradise Hotel next to Dalat. These elders of the Dalat student system made this short but necessary trip for what the counselors called the "Senior Transition Retreat."

Every year, this time brings a lot of excitement and enthusiasm to these fortunate students as they dwell on the prospects of no school, learning helpful tips for the years to come, and getting quality time with friends.

As they arrived in droves, Mr. Tim Parsons and Mrs. Jacki Steinkamp welcomed them in and showed them where to sit.

At about 1:00 o'clock the entire class assembled in a conference room of similar size to that of two classrooms.

The three directed sessions took up the majority of the time at the retreat. These sessions covered basics from what to expect next year, how to prepare oneself for college, and what choices a person should make now before ever getting to college. Activities at the retreat either brought about a greater understanding of the values being taught or just provided comic relief from the seriousness of the talks that took place.

"The boats and the value cards made me think deeply about stuff that were important

to me," said David Thompson. Activities like these brought about a good sense of what each individual valued and what he or she gave priority to in life.

Other activities like the "Mini-Fear Factor" eating competition brought humorous enjoyment to the people watching, as the not-so-pleased competitors grudgingly ate the various delicacies put before them. "It was fantastically disgusting," said Joan Lin as she ate a whole tub of mayonnaise.

For several people the panel discussion—including several Dalat alumni: Mr. Karl Steinkamp, Mrs. Lisa Munson and Mrs. Lyn Holden—brought the material that the talks consisted of to life. "[The panel discussion] was interesting because we could hear the people share their college experiences, and

we could learn how to do things right next year," said Haruki Shinohara.

The sessions really made an impact on the seniors, and they felt that "...Dalat teachers actually cared about what happens to us after we graduate," said Christa DeVette.

Free time, although not as critical to their future, manifested itself fully at this senior retreat. The majority of the class members made good use of the time they had swimming, jet skiing, and enjoying each other's company. "The retreat was fun because it had class bonding time. I really enjoyed the jet skis," said Steven Ong.

The various meals also greatly enhanced the overall retreat experience. Zack Lindsay said, "I thought that the food was (Continued on page 9, col. 1)

# The Pirates of St. Christopher

By Tara-Lynn Kennedy

"Ahoy mates," Mr. Mike Holden exclaimed as 45 Saint Christopher fifth grade students as well as 55 fifth and sixth grade Dalat students rushed into the chapel.

On 27 February Dalat International School hosted a school exchange with Saint Christopher's International School.

The theme created for the day became "Pirates," and for that Mr. Bill Munson and his set design class went all out to create a 20-foot long pirate ship for the main decoration in the chapel. "The pirate ship took a bit of time, but I had a great crew to help me out; and the results were fantastic, so it was all worth it," Mr. Munson said.

"We chose the theme pirates based on something they were doing when we visited their campus. We thought it would be fun to incorporate that into what we had planned," Mr. Larry Chinn explained.

The day started for the kids

at 12:30 P.M. when they all arrived. The students first met in the chapel and split up into 10 groups of 10. Then each group received a small model of a pirate ship with instructions to decorate it. Each student also received a compass, and Mr. Dennis Tyas taught them how to use them. After doing this, they started on their treasure hunt.

Mr. Chinn, Mr. Holden, and a few teachers had set up a "treasure hunt" that would take the groups of kids all over the campus. They would go to one of five stations, which had two teachers and a 20-minute activity. After completing the activity

at one, they would travel on to the next station.

In the cafeteria the students received pudding and gummy worms. They had to pick the gummy worms up with chopsticks and feed them to each other.

At another station, the kids met on the beach to read poetry to each other, an example of one of the academic stations.

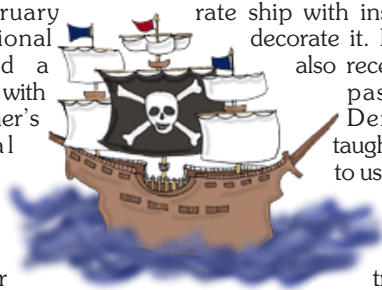
After each station, the group of kids received coordinates which they had to decipher with their compasses; this led them to a box where they found another set of coordinates that eventually led them to their next station.

At the end of the time, the kids eventually found prize: ice cream! "The best part of the

day was watching the St. Chris and Dalat students interact as they experienced some of the amazing opportunities and programs Dalat has to offer. The kids really got into the activities and many times did not realize they were actually learning in the process," said Ms. Wendi Maze.

At the end of the day when the parents came to pick their children up, Mr. Chinn invited them to stay for a short presentation before leaving. As well as making this a fun time for the students, the administrators used it as a time to share information with the students' parents. They wanted the parents to see Dalat as a possible secondary school for their children.

As the kids filed out of the chapel with their finely crafted pirate ships and their new compasses, the thought of actually attending Dalat was not far from their minds. •



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## Physics Power Up!

By Haruki Shinohara

The sounds of machines, music, and people's voices made the weight training room busy. Students worked with red faces, others looked at themselves in the mirror, and the rest looked exhausted. Iron dumbbells pumped up and down, or slowly sideways. Stretching balls bounced. A metallic bar with heavy irons made rattling noises. The four-weeks physics project came to a start.

Every Thursday, during double A-block, physics students leave the science room to work on their physics projects. They

have to select one sport to study. In order to improve playing one particular sport, students need to work out. Everybody grabbed a partner to work with and began helping each other get in shape.

Matthew Mah (12), who chose to study about tennis service, said, "The working experiment was fun and good exercise. This project gave me a chance to release my stress of studying and make my body buffer."

Kazuki Takahashi (12), who studied softball, looked at his arms and said, "I had a feeling that I was going to be my ideal body

shape while I was working out."

Kazuyuki Hayashi (12), Takahashi's workout partner added, "We were getting sexier."

Daniel Lee (12), holding the bars to attempt to pull himself up with his shaking arms, groaned, "Guaaaa..."

After working out, everybody came out of the weight training room with sweaty bodies. They had used all of their energy to strengthen their bodies, yet they also looked happy. Even though the physics project gave students some hard times physically, they still enjoyed the project. •

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### Senior Transition Retreat...

(Continued from page 9, col. 4) really good."

One senior, Olivia D'Cruz said "The sushi was so good; I had like three plates."

Although their dinner time experience mainly involved food, it also involved a helium-gas-singing competition. The gas gave the guys high-pitched voices and brought about a funny but almost frightening array of musical "talent." Kazuki Takahashi said eloquently, "[The retreat was] fun because of [the] helium gas."

The retreat ended on a high note as Kelsey Johnson, Josh Manfred's girlfriend from Minnesota, made an unexpected but very well-received visit to Penang. Manfred explained: "It was great, and I learned a lot from all the speakers; but I forgot it all when Kelsey came."

The retreat really incorporated the essential things that the class of 2007 will need to know as they move on—but at the same time, it allowed them to enjoy the company of their fellow classmates. •

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## Furiously Studying

By Luke Wilson

The school campus has, quite literally, become a zoo. Dalat's private menagerie includes three cats, dogs, several different flocks of birds, monitor lizards, civet cats, an occasional passing primate, geckoes, two or three different species of ants, and probably several other stealthier creatures.

Although some people appreciate the variety that these animals bring to the campus,

this zoo has also proven to be a nuisance in some respects. Some of the dogs, which appear to become bored after staying at home for several hours after their owners leave, have discovered that school has many people who are willing to pet and play with them. Though the students oblige them, the faculty members generally feel obligated to chase "man's best friend" off.

The civet cats and Chachos, the Jaffray Dorm cat, have developed a bad habit of dramatically entering a room through the roof.

Asked what she thought about the campus animals, Monet Ng, (12) said, "I really like them." For the most part, this describes the student body's opinion.

The animals, however, tend towards shyness. Many times has Chachos fled into the branches of a tree to escape masses of elementary students.

Asked what they thought, the (Continued on page 10, col. 1)

# Two Practices and a Bronze!

By Jubilee Adleta

As Mrs. Lyn Holden flipped the light switch on, all the girls rolled over and covered their eyes.

"It's way too early to be getting up, especially since our game isn't for another two hours!" Honour Adleta (9) said as she groggily sat up on the mat.

Allison McClary (12) chimed in after hearing Adleta, "Who cares who sees me in my bright orange pajama pants?"

On 26 January the varsity basketball players took a four-hour bus ride to Alice Smith School in Kuala Lumpur. Arriving at 9 P.M., all the girls tiredly entered the dance studio, where they would sleep, and placed their bags on the floor. The girls prepared for bed, then had a speedy game of basketball against their coaches Mr. Steve Liss and Mr. Kerry Mahoney, before settling down for the night.

Dalat's first game of the day against Garden at 10 A.M. started slow, but then the girls picked up speed and won, 18-15, after a double overtime. "The Kuala Lumpur Tournament has been a really good experience for me, especially being on the varsity team for the first time," Tiffany Hsiang (9) said after the game.

The girls' then played Alice Smith, working tough—although they only had two practices before the tournament—and won 29-10. After Alice Smith, the girls took on Mont Kiara International School, but lost 7-30. The Dalat girls' met their Penang rivals Uplands in the semifinals. Not willing to give up, the girls took Uplands into overtime, finally winning the bronze with a score of 16-14.

"Considering that we had only two practices and then had to go to the tournament. We did pretty well getting bronze. It was awesome to have the chance to go to Kuala Lumpur for a basketball tournament because I haven't done that since seventh grade!" Charis To (12) said to McClary as she passed her on the stairs.

McClary replied, "Yeah, but I'm still sleepy!"

With a smile on her face and her bag and pillow in her hands, McClary walked to the bus reminiscing about the tournament. •

McClary replied, "Yeah, but I'm still sleepy!"

With a smile on her face and her bag and pillow in her hands, McClary walked to the bus reminiscing about the tournament. •

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## High-Flying Eagles

By Raymond Deou

Another semester arrived meaning the varsity guys had another chance to finally win the MSSPP tournament. After weeks of training and running in the hot blazing Malaysian sun, players readied themselves to get on the field and play.

As Coach Michael Holden prepared for the first match of MSSPP, both players and fans showed excitement for the new state tournament season. Players expressed their confidence about winning another trophy after capturing gold at their home tournament and silver at the KL tournament. "I think our team is really good, and we could be able to destroy all the other teams," stated Caleb Caldwell (11).

As Mr. Holden drove to the venue, the silent trip reflected the concentration of the players as they envisioned their first game against St. Xavier.

The game started evenly for both teams, but as it went on, Dalat dominated both defensively and offensively, denying any chance of winning to their

opponents.

After a few chances, Chris Kim (11) finally opened the scoring with a right-footed shot into the right hand corner of the net. "I felt very excited to score my first goal. I knew I want to continue to score more," said Kim.

Dalat came out strong in the second half and extended its lead to 2-0 with Captain Robbie Mangham's (12) header.

Even though St. Xavier pulled one back, Dalat managed to hold on and won their first match, despite the heavy rain during the second half and a waterlogged pitch.

The second match against Haji Zainul Abidin frustrated the players because of the defensive clearance that limited Dalat's

chances of scoring. Finally, David Im (11) headed a ball in the net, and Dalat took the lead.

David Robertson (12) extended that lead later on with some impressing passing from the team. Even though center-back Scott Poulter (12) didn't play, the team still won the match 2-1 with Haruki Shinohara (12) replacing Poulter. "Heading is hard; I want Scott to come back," groaned Shinohara after a hard ball to his head.

That win guaranteed a place in the semifinals for Dalat.

The third game reflected the fighting spirit of the team with both captains, Mangham and Robertson, leading them. After going down 0-1, Dalat came back with Robertson showing skill by shooting an unstoppable free kick to the top corner; this tied the match 1-1. With the first half coming to a close, Im took advantage of a keeper's mistake

to put Dalat up 2-1.

The second half started off brightly as Dalat continued to put pressure on their opponents. Brendan Frenz (11) finally made it safe when he scored an easy tap-in goal. The game ended 3-1 which allowed Dalat to top the group table.

"We didn't play well at first but we pulled ourselves together and won it," declared Robertson.

With three wins going into the semifinals, Dalat will now meet long time rivals Tanjung Bunga. "Everyone on the team has been trying really hard the entire season. The results from the MSSPP tournament itself reflects our effort," Andrew Jo (11) commented. "And I hope that hard work will pay off in the semifinals."

Weeks of training under the hot sun really did pay off as the team awaited their semifinal match against their rivals. •

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## Let's Play Tennis!

By Hoon Kang

"Hey, Haruki [Shinohara, 12]! How are you doing, brother? Can we play?" asked Uncle David Boshoff, who brought his ball basket and racket.

Every Thursday's P-period, seven people, including Uncle David, gathered on scorching tennis court to enjoy a doubles tournament. Shinohara has double study hall during A block, so, he comes out from library during study hall to warm up for P-period with Mr. Boshoff.

"Bang!" as Uncle David served, the ball with great speed and spin hit the service box; then Shinohara hardly hit the bounding ball back to him. But as the too weak ball returned to him, he finished it with sharp corner shot. The bell buzzed after few strokes and Hoon Kang (12), Jeff Hoky (11), Caleb Caldwell (11), Paul Wang (11), and Kyle Lin (11) entered the court with glittering rackets.

"I wanted to get my new

racket before P-period! But you know, it is still constant that I always own you guys! Ha-ha!" Wang said.

"Whatever, Paul. Whatever," Lin replied laughing. The game started, and it did not take long since each played one set of three games.

"I see myself improving every P-period!" Caldwell said with smile on his face.

Eventually the bell buzzed. They still could play after school ended, but the double tournament had finished.

With the hope of winning next time, everyone puts his racket back to his bag and left. •

Pets on Campus...

(Continued from page 9, col. 4) school-frequenting dogs smiled and wagged their tails, but declined to comment. Two of the cats fled from the interview, and Chachos only glared.

While the animals do cause problems, they also give the school a more friendly feeling. •