



Hagle's Hye

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Walking in the Valley ...of the Shadow of Death

By Aaron Steinert

Eyes wide, ears perked, muscles tense, and heart pounding, Aaron Steinert (12) burst out the front door of the workers' hostel, with Christina Robertson (12) among a group of frantic Indonesians. One look at anyone's eyes, and one could sense they feared for their lives on this hot February evening. As they ran down the street, the reason for their fears became known. "The water is coming! The water is coming!" people screamed all around in *bahasa* Indonesia.

After reaching an intersection, the two seniors could do nothing but pray and wait for water to come and sweep them away. People all around hurried past, trying to escape the imminent danger. Robertson and Steinert stood at the intersection unnerved, even after news reached them that the event came down to nothing more than a false alarm. This experience took place on the first night in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, for Lindsey Nagel (12), Robertson, Than Matanick (12), and Steinert.

The trip began with a yearning to help the tsunami victims. Robertson wanted to help, and set about finding a team and making arrangements. "It was amazing how the doors swung wide open for us to go. Ten days before we left, it hadn't even been an possibility in my mind; less than two weeks later we

were in Aceh, seeing with our own eyes what happened on December 26," she said.

Their trip began on 8 February as the four seniors, led by Mrs. Barbara Mangham, flew to Medan, Indonesia. They spent the night there and flew into Banda Aceh the next day. They toured the destruction that had befallen the once-prosperous city. That night the group found themselves in the middle of a 6.2 earthquake, which triggered the city to panic.



Assembling food bags, Lindsey Nagel and Aaron Steinert (top photo), and Nathanael Matanick and Christina Robertson divide up the stacks of supplies into distributable portions. These four students helped pass out the food parcels later that week to people in an IDP camp.

The group had come to Banda Aceh to help out with the clean-up and anything else that needed to be done. The first day they put themselves to use bagging rice, noodles, and crackers for refugees. "I loved bagging the rice and being able to serve the people in a tangible way like that," Robertson said.

The second day they spent at a local kindergarten, shoveling mud, and cleaning and painting desks, chairs, and classrooms—and doing anything else that needed attention. "I just loved the incredible joy that comes from helping those in need and seeing their smiles," Matanick said.

A makeshift medical clinic occupied one of the school rooms, and medical personnel examined people from the community. A girl named Cherli came to the clinic and ended up spending the day helping out with some of the work. Nagel and Robertson befriended the girl and invited her to spend the night. She did, and they spent the night developing a friendship.

On Saturday the group attended a workshop on how to help people who have experienced a lot of trauma. Later that day they went with a group to an Individually Displaced Persons' camp. They distributed some of the food which they had bagged earlier in the week and played with a group of kids that lived there. Children of all ages gathered. (Continued on page 2, col. 1)

The Feelings of Change

A new student reflects on her introduction to Dalat

By Blessing Adleta

Dalat provides new students with the opportunity an interesting and exciting experience. You have to learn the modified block schedule, and the first time that you go through it, the day feels shortened. But, as time begins to drag on, so do the classes. With each new mountain you climb, you get the easy ride down the hill. Most mountain climbers don't go for the track down, but get the "exhilaration rush" by the climb up. At Dalat, you feel as though you've climbed a mountain while getting into the flow of your tasks, and when you become accustomed to the teachers and other students, you take the easy road down the hill with momentum. You long for the adventure of trekking up the next mountain, and with each new week of homework assignments, you're trekking up that mountain side.

"Coming to Dalat was a very scary experience for me, but since then, I have been able to make friends. And, I no longer regret the hardships that I faced being a new student at Dalat. It allowed me to grow as a person in the way that I am more outgoing, and able to better communicate my feelings to

both genders," said Kazumasa Komatsu (12).

Not all students felt as Komatsu felt. Some found that Dalat provided exciting experiences and the training to perform each new task from God with diligence. "I really enjoyed coming to Dalat and wished that I had come sooner. Everyone here made it an easy transition," said Aaron Steinert (12).

The feelings varied; for example, Jordan Gaddis (12) said,

"I was making new friends, [and] I loved it the first month; but after that I was just ready to go home."

Change causes emotions to sway between feeling fearful and as though you've accomplished something worth while. At Dalat, you meet great people who become lifelong friends, and you discipline yourself to do the difficult tasks set before you. "I was scared about coming to Dalat, but when I came everyone was

really friendly," said Sumbal Raza (10).

These students show that in the end, climbing the mountain became the exhilarating task that they had looked forward to; but sooner or later the time comes to return to the organization of a normal life. We can not always be headed up the mountain because sooner or later we would pass out from exhaustion. We would have to come down in order to reach the next ebullient moment in our lives. Getting to the top of the mountain all depends on the strength and perseverance that you possess. If you achieve that, you will understand what school is supposed to teach you: perseverance through the challenges of life. •

HOW BIG IS YOUR LOVE?

By Joyce Wong

"Stella [Park, 11], I have nothing to wear! I don't know what to do!" Natalie Herring (12) screamed to her roommates 10 minutes before the Valentine's dinner that the dorm staff had prepared to express their love for their dorm kids.

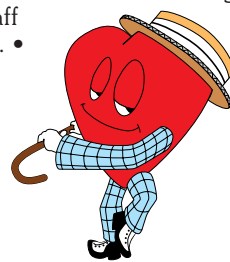
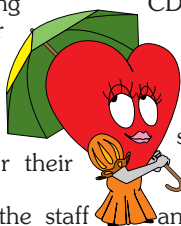
On 12 February, the staff busily prepared food, decorated the chapel, and organized entertainment to make a good time for their boarding students. When 7:00 came, the dorm kids, dressed nicely, walked down the stairs to the chapel. As the sky got darker above the chapel roof, the night filled with laughter and love songs. Said Mary Kuffel (11), "The highlight of the banquet was the music video we had to make."

During the dinner time, the staff had the dorm students provide their own entertainment by grouping them in tables and

making them choose one of three random love songs from a CD to make a music video.

That one Saturday night showed how much the dorm parents loved their dorm kids. Uncle Mark Hill said, "This was the time of love which we could express to our dorm kids—and we 'loved' it!"

With all the love and happiness that the dorm supervisors had showed to each of their "children," the dorm students fully understood that each one of them was a special, beloved Valentine to each endearing dorm staff member. •



Student Trip to Aceh...

(Continued from page 1, col. 4) ered around, eager to engage in an activity that would take their minds off the overwhelming elements of the death and destruction surrounding them.

On Sunday, the team's final day in Banda Aceh, a small church welcomed the tired and emotionally raw volunteers to a basic yet fulfilling service. After the service they had a brief chat with an Australian army platoon and then headed back to the hostel to get ready for the trip home.

Nagel, reflecting back, said, "In going to Aceh, I caught a glimpse of the pain and sorrow that these people have in their hearts from losing loved ones and their entire lives."

Tired and emotionally worn—yet reluctant to leave—the weary band of volunteers boarded their plane and headed back to Penang. •

The Dreams of the Team

By Jason Pohl

"PASS THE BALL!" Andrew McClary (11) yelled as Matt Hansen (11) passed him the ball. The varsity guys' soccer worked to bring the ball up the field for a chance to score during their first game.

With the start of second semester, the start of another soccer season began. As the first

practice came around, the team lost three starters from last semester as well as another player. With the loss of three players, Coach Michael Holden had to find three replacements.

As the MSSPP tournament came closer, the team lost another player to injury: Scott Poulter (10) fractured his toe,

causing him to be out for the season.

"We played better as a team this semester," said Poulter. As the rest of the season looked dim, the future was far from it. During one afternoon, only five members of the team turned up for practice. Mr. Holden thought he might have to cancel the season, but the team redeemed itself in future practices. As the team practiced they grew closer together. As the team headed to their first game of the tournament, they spent the ride in silence to think about the upcoming game.

As their first game got under way, the opposing team scored first; but Dalat was quick to answer back. The game finished with a score 1-1, as the two competing teams tied.

The wait for their next game became the thoughts of the whole team as the Eagles game soon approached. As the day of the game came, the team became energized for their game. The team started their game and hopes for the win were in all the players' minds. The game tested both teams' abilities as they both played their best to advance, but in the end only one could advance. The final whistle blew and the Eagles had lost by one goal, ending their season and their tournament.

Meanwhile, back in the game with McClary and Hansen, the team advanced the ball towards the goal; Howard Kao (11) shot and scored the first goal of the game for Dalat. The team celebrated. As the Eagles walked away with a tie, they were happy that their chances of advancing had not been just a dream. •

What Happened to Christine?

By Cathy Lin

Eavesdropping and tittering behind the stage, Apryl Siemens (12) whispered to other female NHS members as the NHS induction assembly started, "There's the music. Robert [Whiting, 12] must be walking out now. But why is there silence? Oh, wait! There's some laughter from the audience—I guess they really enjoy our opening."

On 1 March, right before lunch, all high school students and staff members gathered in the chapel and waited for the NHS induction assembly to commence. With excitement and nervousness, the seniors and juniors waited impatiently in their seats, hoping that luck would fall upon them this year.

As soon as Mr. John "Tommy" Tompkins, NHS adviser, began with a short opening introduction, the music from *The Phantom of the Opera* filled the chapel, signifying the impending arrival of the "Phantom"—Whiting. Despite having difficulty in moving the red wagon with a mop, he tried his very best to ferry his "boat" to the stage, which looked just like the Phantom's lair in the real musical.

The whole skit spoofed the musical *The Phantom of the Opera*. In Dalat's version, the Phantom hoped to find someone like Christine, who demonstrated the qualities of character, service, scholarship, and leadership (NHS's four criteria for induction), after Christine [Kimberly Gross, 12] had decided to leave him. In the contest to find a new protegee, the contestants' outstanding talents—especially Lydia Ng's (12) unique dancing skill and Siemens' graceful soprano voice—aroused laughter and attention from the audience.

"I think the play was really amazing. I liked the contemporary theme they used in their skit. Lydia's character made me laugh so hard throughout the play because of her exaggerated body language and 'wonderful' singing voice," Natalie Herring (12), one of the new NHS inductees, mentioned as she re-

counted the most memorable part of the assembly for her.

Yumi Yamauchi (11), another inductee, said, "I liked the setting the most. They must have put a lot of effort in setting the stage up. Besides this, I am also impressed by the actors. They fully expressed their talents without holding back, and successfully made the characters come alive."



On the stage, the NHS members, rather than worrying about their lines, enjoyed themselves and took it as an opportunity to express their inner-selves. "It was a great opportunity for me

to show my own unique and creative dancing moves—and to make a fool of myself," said Ng.

To the audience, everyone and everything on the stage, including the set up of the stage, the lights, the music, and the skit seemed perfect and organized; however, to the NHS members, everything just did not fit together so smoothly. "If it wasn't for Caleb [Masters, 12], there wouldn't have been an NHS induction this year. Caleb did practically everything—he edited the skit, organized the stage, and made sure all the little things worked," said Gross.

Other NHS members had other concerns. "I was so scared all the time that Caleb or Robert would bump into the candles that were placed all over the stage and set the whole chapel on fire," said Christina Robertson (12).

In despite of all the worries, after the NHS members introduced the new inductees this year, joy overtook them and cast their worries away. "It was a great thing being honored last year. But it is greater to put this induction together this year to honor the new inductees," commented Siemens.

Ted Fung (11), Heather Hill (11), John Kim (11), Grace Kim (11), Rivka Matanick (11), Lindsay Parks (11), Grace Sun (11), Yumi Yamauchi (11), Nathan Rice (11), Cathy Lin (12), and Natalie Herring (12) received the honor from NHS this year.

All the NHS members knew the list of new inductees beforehand, but the new inductees did not know about their selection at all. "I was not sure before whether I was selected into NHS. At the moment Lydia gave the rose to me and shouted out my name, I was so surprised. The most unexpected part is that when I was on the stage, Tommy asked me to look at the back of the room, I turned, and I saw my mom. I cried because she had flown all the way from Thailand just to congratulate me," said Herring.

After all the NHS members and the new inductees had tak-

en the pledge of loyalty to the school, the rest of the high school students headed for lunch; and the luncheon for the NHS members, the new inductees, and the staff began. The variety of homemade food and the delicious desserts made them rival for priority. "I had been waiting for the food since I was introduced in the assembly. My stomach couldn't wait even for a second!" said Fung (11).

Having her plate filled fully with sandwiches and salads, Siemens displayed a content smile on her face. She said, "All the hard work for setting the chapel up is all worth it now." •

A Mighty Fortress No Longer

By Julia Cheong

"Oh my goodness! What happened here?" exclaimed Stella Park (11), as she gaped with her mouth dropped wide, shocked as she examined the debris of cement and concrete chunks—the remnants of the lower campus seawall. Park and her roommate Mary Kuffel (11) rushed down to the lower campus upon their immediate arrival on 24 January after Christmas break as they had received the unbelievable news that the tsunami that had hit various parts of southeast Asia in December and had collapsed Dalat's seawall.

The news of the destruction of the wall raised various reactions and concerns for different members of the community. Aunt Julia Bieling said, "It was very moving to see the wall so destructed. To me, it put in perspective the power that nature has."

Natalie Herring (12) commented, "I felt really surprised to hear that we were actually affected [by the tsunami]. I think it's sad that the wall is gone because it held so many memories for me—of days gone by."

Referring to the temporary wrought-iron replacement fence, Lydia Ng (12) said, "It takes away the whole idea of the Wailing Wall, but I guess 'Wailing Spikes' inspires a passion for me to stay safe." She added, "But when I walked past it and saw the beautiful ocean, I realized that God has a plan for everything. Anyway, I feel really bad for the people that had put in work hours [to build] that wall. I don't have to put in work hours anymore!"

Joyce Wong (12) commented, "When I first heard about it, I was worried about the staff that were still on the island—especially my dorm parents."

Liesl Williams (10) said, "It is sad that the wall is gone, but I wasn't too worried because I knew the school would definitely do something about it."

"It was the one and only eventful thing that will ever happen around here, but it happened over Christmas when no one was here!" said Tim Babcock (8), expressing his disappointment that he had missed out on an opportunity to witness such an event firsthand.

But for Park, the mere examination of the debris made an impact on her. "Wow. I never realized that the tsunami could ever affect me in any way until I saw all this," she said, still slightly shocked as she carefully ran her fingers across the temporarily placed iron fence. •



Dalat's broken seawall protected lower-campus classrooms. Construction has already begun on a new wall.

EDITORIAL

If Boys Would Be Gentlemen, Would Girls Be Ladies?

A certain old-fashioned and out-of-date idea expects boys to act as gentlemen and girls to reciprocate by acting as ladies. It's old-fashioned because our grandparents practiced this; it's out-of-date because it seems we don't practice it anymore. Take this closer to home and apply it to our school campus. Now I'm not talking about the staff, but the students—primarily the high school students because they have the power to set an example for the rest of the student body. And even more so to seniors, for they (myself included) should stand at the peak of setting good examples.

"If boys would be men, would girls be ladies?" asks writer Joshua Harris. He makes a very good point in his book *Boy Meets Girl* when asking this question. He talks about the two distinctly different roles that God has given to guys and girls. But I'm toning it down a bit and asking if boys would simply be gentlemanly to their friends who are girls at school, would the girls in return respond by being ladies?

But before we go further, let's define our terms and then decide if anyone actually still likes this whole chivalrous idea. What, roughly, defines a gentleman? A number of senior girls agree that it means treating girls with respect and not talking about "inappropriate guy things" in front of them. They say that they don't want boys treating them like another guy friend but want to feel respected and appreciated. And it would be nice, but not expected, if books were carried, doors were opened, and chairs were pulled out for them. Of course we have the occasional few who disagree, but this sums up the majority. It sounds like a big list, but let's take a look at what a lady should be according to some of the guys.

A number of senior boys said that ladies should be willing to have doors opened and chairs pulled out for them and not assume that guys have ulterior motives when doing so. They say that girls should understand that guys don't think they're incapable, but that it's natural for a guy to want to help a girl and in a sense watch out for her well-being.

Boys and girls are different. This is not a very controversial statement. Boys and girls have distinctly different roles. Now people begin to get agitated. But could the possibility arise that the idea of a gentlemen role and a lady role would do some good on our campus even though our grandparents practiced this? Or have we already mastered these roles?

"No, the majority of girls on this campus are not ladies. And guys? Heck no!" Lydia Ng (12) told me.

"I would really like it if the girls here were lady-like. But I know I'm not a gentlemen either," said Eric Jung (12). At least he's honest.

"Most girls want to be treated like ladies. But guys treat girls how they think girls want to be treated—although this is not always how a girl wants to be treated. A girl wants to be treated like a lady—all girls do. The problem is girls don't dress or act like this, so they send the wrong message to the guy of how they want to be treated," said Lindsey Nagel (12). She went on to say, "The world and the media today have taught [girls] to be more of the strong ones instead of taking the lady-like role of humbling and submitting to the gentleman."

Humbling and submitting? Now that's some pretty controversial stuff. I asked Natalie Herring (12) what she thought of it. "Girls take the initiative a lot these days. The roles of boys and girls have been twisted. Guys should take the initiative and the lead. And if guys will act like real men and are trustworthy, then yeah, girls should be somewhat submissive to them."

Nagel then made a point of saying that most guys these days shouldn't be submitted to. I'd have to agree with that. No boy on campus deserves to have a young lady feeling submissive towards his leadership or anything he has to say if he doesn't take on his responsibility of acting like a real man. Kimberly Gross (12) said it pretty well when she explained, "Guys need to show respect. Likewise, girls need to show respect back by respecting a guy when he takes initiative in leadership...but they need to be wise enough to realize why the guy makes a decision and whether or not it's right...and if it's not, then, knowing how to approach him in such a way that it's not rude and unladylike, but not overly submissive so the guy doesn't listen."

A real gentleman needs to do more than just open doors and pull out chairs; he needs to take the initiative to lead even if it doesn't come naturally: leading in a way that is not self seeking but seeking to serve others. It means proving himself worthy of people's trust (hence "trustworthy") and treating the young ladies on campus with a degree of love, care, and respect.

Apryl Siemens (12) emphasized this saying, "It doesn't mean only doing these things when it's convenient for him, but being this way all the time—even when it's not convenient." Not very many girls I know would protest such treatment.

So men, the time has come to get your act together. And girls, if you want to see guys treating you like ladies, then start acting like ladies. One helpful tip for getting started: show respect and courtesy to even your closest "buddy-buddy" friends. Don't worry if it surprises them. They'll get over the shock eventually.

"It would do us all a lot of good to be a little more mature and practice some chivalry," said Joy Walter (10).

"If guys made a considerable effort to be gentlemen, then we would see positive feedback," Caleb Masters (12) explained, assuming the guy should take the first step.

Herring responded, "Yeah, boys should take the initiative in it." It's key to remember, however, that these good manners should not be conditional. Whether or not the other gender responds in the best way, show respect anyway.

So boys, take the initiative to act like gentlemen—whether or not you think the girls deserve it. And ladies, the responsibility falls upon you to show respect back to the guys—whether or not you think they deserve it. So to the guys and girls, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ" (Eph. 5:21). In other words, show respect. •

By Nathanael Matanick, Issue Editor

Rebuilding the Washout

By Robert Whiting

Saturday morning Naomi Tami (9) woke from her bed ready to put forth effort, to lend a hand to those in need, to serve, and to get muddy. She joined the StuCo-organized cleanup of the tsunami-devastated beach just past the fishing village in Tanjung Bunga.

In Indonesia an earthquake reading 9.0 on the Richter scale launched a 500 mile-per-hour consuming torrent of black water that devastated many Southeast Asian countries. The wave struck Penang and killed over 30 people, devastating the local fishing villages and scattering all kinds of household valuables across the beach.

Jonathan Dyck (11) said, "I found one of those triangular rulers and a shotgun shell. I raked through the beach to find junk, and then we put them in bags. We also spent a lot of time removing and digging up fish nets. It wasn't much, but it was something."

StuCo President, Nathanael Matanick (12), said, "It was just a place that needed help. It really got trashed. It's our responsibility to help because we're Christians, and we have to use what God's given us to help those in need, especially our neighbors. God said we should love our neighbors, and [love] isn't just a feeling but an act."

"After a couple hours it was really hot and tiring, and a lot of us wanted to go home," said Kimberly Gross (12). "But I'm glad that we stayed and kept working because being able to see the improvement by the end of the day made it all very worthwhile."

Tami hauled broken TVs and scrubbed the grotesque slime from the bottom of a half-submerged bathtub before calling it a day. Exhausted from a full day's work, she walked back to campus with a renewed sense of accomplishment, the kind of accomplishment only wrought from helping the less fortunate. •

Point/Counterpoint

Senioritis: Exclusively a Senior Thing??

By Christina Robertson

Second semester has rolled around, wheels turning full speed ahead. Sure enough, the seniors have started to use “senioritis” as an excuse to slack off. It’s time to take a serious look at the word “senioritis” and know the real facts behind this so-called disease.

The word “senioritis” has yet to grace any real dictionary with its presence. At the moment, “seniority” presents itself as the closest definition. The root words in “senioritis” will help determine its true meaning. According to Microsoft Encarta’s Reference Library 2005, “senior” (derived from the Latin word meaning elder/older) means “1. more advanced in age 2. higher in rank.” In the educational setting, “senior” also describes a “final-year student: a student in the last year of high school or college.” The suffix “-itis” comes from Greek and can either mean “inflammation, disease” or “excessive interest in.” “Senioritis” in an educational setting such as Dalat International School, therefore, means a disease associated with final-year students.

Now that the word has a definition, the truth-seeker must determine whether the word and its definition do not merely constitute a flimsy excuse that final-year students hold up in an effort to defend their ever-present laziness. To evaluate the truth behind the definition, the analyzer must look at the symptoms of senioritis. These symptoms include a lack of motivation, a desire to slack off, and an unhealthy anticipation for graduation. If senioritis truly fits its definition, then only seniors should experience these symptoms.

But the aforementioned hypothesis has undergone repeated experiments that show other students also experience the symptoms of senioritis. For example, Allison Rice (9) said, “Everyone is lazy! Sometimes I am lazy and feel like slacking off and not going to school or not doing an assignment because I’ve already worked so hard and for so long.”

“I don’t know how [non-seniors] can suffer from senioritis, but we just do. I know I do. And when we were in ninth grade, our English teacher told our class that we suffered from it,” said Nancy Duclos (11).

Teachers also suffer from a desire to take it easy. Mrs. Robin Mahoney said, “I’m so sick of homework. You know how much homework I’ve done in my life? Silly me, I chose the wrong profession—teachers can never get away from homework!”

Who would know better if only seniors can experience senioritis than a senior? Lydia Ng (12) said, “When I was a junior, I experienced the same symptoms of senioritis. Seniors get many special privileges, but being afflicted with ‘the disease’ is not exclusive to seniors. The name ‘senioritis’ is deceptive.”

Caleb Masters (12) said, “Of course, everyone can get senioritis—it just isn’t always called that. It is called ‘after-JSB syndrome’ for juniors; for adults it is called something else that I’ll know when I am an adult.”

Mrs. Nan Walter gave her professional synopsis, saying, “Non-seniors most certainly can get senioritis; I’ve seen it happen. It’s most deadly when juniors get it; they tend to get it worse than seniors—and usually around JSB [time].”

If, therefore, people of all ages can experience the symptoms of senioritis, then senioritis does not affect merely seniors. This means that the claim of “senioritis” does not belong exclusively to seniors, and that anyone can use it as an excuse to get out of homework—even teachers. •



Senioritis: A Disease Reserved for a Privileged Few

By Kimberly Gross

Just looking around campus, it has become inherently obvious that a horrible, mind-altering, physically-crippling epidemic has affected the majority of the student body. Some like to call it “senioritis.” This terminology, however, has some faults, as only seniors have the privilege of claiming senioritis as an excuse for lack of motivation and utter laziness.

One can attribute senioritis to the many aspects of life that only seniors have to deal with—the anxiety of awaiting college acceptance (or rejection) letters, the emotional roller coaster leading up to graduation, the anticipation of a new and exciting life in college—and underclassmen cannot even begin to comprehend such sentiments. “Senioritis can only affect seniors. If you’re not sure, check out the name itself: SENIORitis. Need I be more obvious? I rest my case,” asserted Natalie Herring (12).

“I often waste whole study hall periods checking the on-line status for the nine schools [that I applied to]. I know I won’t find out until April, but I can’t help myself from checking every day because I can’t focus on my school work with college on my mind!” said Julia Cheong (12), a truly infected senior. “Besides, ever since I got my first rejection letter, I’ve been so paranoid about the rest of the schools. But when I got my first acceptance letter it was all worth it.”

Thus, when non-seniors claim the “senioritis defense” for their lethargy, they simply attempt to cover up the true reasoning behind their laziness. For juniors, the correct source of this lack of motivation stems from “pre-JSB jitters” or the all-too-common “after-JSB syndrome”—both “diseases” reserved solely for juniors, and both quite different from senioritis. “Since everyone expects JSB to be the biggest event of the year, it takes a lot of planning and preparation; so it’s hard to focus on school work. Then, getting behind on school work on top of all the pressures of JSB makes us juniors just not want to do anything because it’s easier that way!” said Chris Foster (11), explaining how the symptoms of “pre-JSB jitters”—which effect none other than the juniors themselves—differs from those of senioritis.

As for everyone else, perhaps their laziness comes from the longing for their own senior year or from minor everyday stresses. These can affect anyone—middle schoolers, ninth and tenth graders, juniors, seniors, and teachers all alike—as everyone reaches a point where his or her head feels like it might just explode. When the work load seems too much bear or disagreements between friends cause ripples in relationships or someone has an intense desire to move on and experience something more exhilarating than everyday life at school, lack of motivation takes over and laziness reigns.

In conclusion, while everyone can claim laziness, only seniors can claim an infection of senioritis. Anyone who has hung around or observed a senior can see that college excites and worries, consuming nearly double the amount of energy as daily life; yet it pays off in the end; thus college is both a blessing and a curse. As the local expert on the senior mentality, Ms. Ruth Strong, said, “Seniors have senioritis because they are getting all the transition, orientation, and housing materials for college now; so they are already thinking five steps ahead of everyone else. They have to be looking more toward the future than anyone else, and everyone else still has a few years or so before they get to that point. [Seniors] are living more on the edge, and that is the root cause of senioritis!” •

HUNGRY?

By Jordan Gaddis

At Dalat School there is a well-known tradition called the Famine-athon. The Biology class, taught by Mr. Dean McClary, demonstrates the Famine-athon each year. The students collected pledges to buy chickens and ducks in Banda Aceh. All of the money raised went to the tsunami-affected people in Sumatra.

The biology class made up of the entire sophomore class and four freshmen, picked the weekend of 18-19 February to fast.

After school on Friday, the class went down to the chapel to set up for the overnight famine period. "I thought it was really great how the entire class got together, instead of having to sit in the dorm and go hungry alone; other people got to do it with me," said Kenny Kim (10).

The activities that took place during the night included games, coloring contests, and other activities to help the students forget their hungry stomachs. "It

was survivable; the games helped me forget my hunger," said Joel Roberts (9).

Tokihito Shioya (10) said, "Playing games, especially Twister, was fun and my favorite part."

At 7 P.M., the class gathered around a bonfire on the beach and read Scriptures that supported the idea of fasting. Before the class went to bed that night, they stuffed plastic bags full of leaves then taped them together to form sleeping mats. Some of the students tried to sleep on them, but ended up falling off in the middle of the night. "I was really tired, and I

didn't find it very fun," said Richard Tsai (10) when asked about his fasting experience.

The class took glucose samples during first period Friday morning, Friday afternoon, and Saturday morning which closed their fast. Mr. McClary instructed the students to keep a journal to record experiences, feelings, and to test the mental clarity of each student. The Famine-athon raised over RM2000 in pledges, and also helped the students along the way. "I wasn't as hungry as I thought I would be—fasting actually helped me to concentrate during classes on Friday," said Monay Ng (10). •

Gong Xi Fa Chai!

By Kazumasa Komatsu

Chinese New Year ranks as the most important event for Chinese people. This event lasts for 15 days, and people decorate their houses by putting red curtains up, hanging red paper balls, and wearing red clothes. For Chinese people, red represents prosperity. The more red, the more wealth they will get that year.

And the kids look forward to this holiday because they will get red packets, containing money. Chinese believe that during New Year, when they give red packets away,

they will receive more back during the year. Only married couples give them away. Korea has a similar system; they also celebrate their new year at the same time the Chinese do. "Back in the days when I was a little girl in Korea, I remember getting money from every relative that I visited over New Year's—and my parents taking away all that moolah from me, on the pretext of 'saving it up!' I still haven't seen so much as a glimpse of a red cent of that money up to this day," said Julia Cheong (12).

Dalat only had one day off school. The students complained about it, but they still had fun with their families for dinner. Some of the students went to the beach and played with fireworks.

"During Chinese New Year, the best thing to do is go to the beach with your friend and shoot some fireworks. Or just sit back and watch the fireworks," said Terry Hsiang (11).

Some of the Taiwanese at Dalat wanted go back to Taiwan for New Year's; however, they had to stay in Penang.

"I stayed in Penang for this year's Chinese New Year. But I enjoyed it a lot because I was home alone! I invited friends over to play some Chinese traditional New Year's games and

make some Chinese food. And at midnight, we watched the fireworks from my balcony," said Cathy Lin (12).

As the celebrations ended and the students went back to school, thoughts of Chinese New Year still stayed in their heads as they looked forward to a prosperous new year. •



Pssst! Ya Wanna Paint?

By Lindsay Loehden

For the past four weeks a project has been happening on campus. It began every Saturday morning early, around 8:30. It lasted for four weeks and surrounded the outdoor basketball court. This project presented itself through Barret Loehden (11). Loehden organized this whole project to use as a service project. He showed up every Saturday at 8 A.M. and stayed till 3 P.M. He recruited people to come and help him paint. At lunch



he ordered pizza as sustenance for the hungry painters. Soda and water were also provided for the painters through out the entire day. It involved several students as well as several staff, and the result was stunning. The fence, once old and rusted, looked much better once repainted. Many people contributed to the new fence; those people included:

Matthew Mah (10), Axel Loehden (7), Mr. Greg Stenlund, Mr. John Robertson, Drew Steiert (10), Mr. David Loehden, Mrs. Carla Loehden, Mr. Dennis Tyas, Mr. Mike Holden, Tokohito Shioya (10), Kenny Kim (10) and Matt Hansen (11). These are the people who saw value in repainting the fence and not just as a boring job.

Some of the comments made about the newly painted fence included: "I was overwhelmed with joy when I found out that someone had painted the basketball fence. It looks really great," exclaimed Eric Jung (12) when he found out that it had been painted.

Several other comments were made about the fence. Though it

was painted cameo-green, a very bland color, most felt it looked better than it did before when it was rusty and brown. The school let the fence fall into disrepair, but by Loehden's wanting to repaint the fence, the school took the time to get it repaired. "I was incredibly impressed with the initiative that Barret took to paint the fence. I believe that the world is a better place because of people like him," said Ms. Jennifer Collins.

"I was impressed with how committed Barret was to finishing the project in a timely manner. He showed a lot of patience and persistence in coordinating the volunteers. He did a great job," commented Mr. Stenlund on Loehden's hard work. All in all, the painting of the fence created opportunity to collect service points as well as benefit the school. •

THE POWER OF SEX

By Lindsey Nagel

"I was legitimately thrilled to death when I heard that the dorm dads had taken up their responsibility in leading the younger men on campus through purity," said Nathanael Matanick (12) referring to the *Every Young Man's Battle* discussion group that would meet every Sunday from 7:00-8:30 P.M.

While the guys gathered in the elementary music room discussing how to "bounce" their eyes away from girls' bodies, on the opposite side of campus in the chapel, the girls gathered in a cozy circle on the carpet. They learned how they must "bounce" their thoughts away from fantasizing about guys or of dwelling on guys in a way that can cause themselves to sin.

Both groups learned that as teenagers in this world, Satan doesn't skip over them but rather tempts them; they who must live in a sinful world must understand that they live in a battle

every single day.

Satan tries to tempt teens and drag them away from the fulfilling and successful life that God has planned for everyone who chooses to live a pure lifestyle. Satan does this by whispering lies into their heads that say that God's way is the wrong way. In believing those lies, people get caught up in destructive relationships and sexual activities without even knowing it.

The girls' group will discuss how sexiness is too high a price to pay just to get a guy's attention and cause him to sin into lust—and how dressing modestly can look "hot" to guys.

The guys group discussed how they're battling against their sex drive and how it will either destroy them if they indulge in sin or with God's help overcome their battle and have a completely pure, satisfying, regret-free relationship with their future wife.

Lydia Ng (12) said, "I hope to

learn practical ways to integrate my life with purity in all aspects." Ted Fung (11) echoed Ng's desire to attain pure and practical ways to resist temptation that he can integrate into his everyday life.

Sunday night group sessions provided a safe place where people felt free to be honest and open with one another about important issues. Joy Li (9) commented, "I think this time is great because it opened up my eyes to see things that I'm normally not aware of. I was reminded how important it is that I protect myself by being aware of my actions around guys."

Natalie Herring (12) commented, "I hope this study will prepare me for college life and equip me to make wise decisions with guys in general; and then when I get into a boyfriend relationship, I want to learn more about how I can be as wise as a serpent but at the same time as innocent as a dove."

Laura Danneker (9) added, "There aren't too many activities that bring together all the dorm kids, so I think it's a great time for all the dorms to get together and discuss these topics together."

Jonathan Dyck (11) said, "I hope to gain a better understanding of how to deal with things."

Heather Hill (11) said, "I came to the study because I want to get some questions answered and learn how to apply things so I have good relationships up to my marriage relationship."

"It was really encouraging to see the dorm staff begin to strengthen Dalat's campus and help form it into a more pure community. It gladdens my heart," responded Matanick, after attending the first meeting of the discussion group on Sunday evening. The study groups, *Every Young Man's Battle* and *Every Young Woman's Battle*, will continue to meet for six more sessions every other Sunday evening and are open for any student in 8th-12th grade. •

On Your Mark....Get Set...Go!

By Esther Vaughn

With butterflies in her stomach, Maliea Luquin (6) nervously stretches out and prepares her mind for the race. "Number four-six-four-seven, are you here?"

"Here," Luquin replies. Heat number "four-six-four-seven" lines up and heads out towards the track. Anxiety overtakes Luquin and her adrenaline pumps in. "KuhGahreeSan!" The race officially begins, and Luquin gets into her starting blocks. "Sediak!" "BANG!" The gun goes off, and Luquin shoots out of the starting block with all the strength her legs allow.

At the City Stadium, on Monday, 28 February, the MSSPP track meet began. The meet lasted throughout the entire week, ending on Friday, 4 March. Many students who attend Dalat International School jumped at the opportunity to join in the track meet, and they signed up for many dif-

ferent events: from sprinting the 100-meter race to running the 5K; from running hurdles to the 3K steeplechase; from throwing discus, shot put, and javelin to participating in the long jump and high jump. Drew Steiert (10) commented, "I was really excited about doing the 5K. But now, I'm really looking forward to doing the heptathlon in the state tournament. As a result of the MSSPP meet, I have the opportunity to go to State."

The many students involved in the meet were Josie Steinkamp (6) throwing discus, javelin, and the high jump; Harry Mak (5) running the 100M and throwing shot put (placing second); Ben Weidemann (4) also running the 100M and throwing shot put; Cameron West (7) throwing discus and shot-put; Josh Strong (6) throwing both javelin and discus; Sophia Vaughn (9) running the 100M and hurdles (plac-

ing third); Esther Vaughn (12) running the 100M; Luquin running the 200M (placing first), 4X100M relay (placing first), and the 4X200M (placing third). Frances Wong (6) also ran the 200M race and placed third; Jordan Nagel (5) ran the 200M race, and the long jump; Angela Steiert (6) threw shot put; Khalie Mahoney (6) ran in the relays; Nathan Danneker (5) participated in the long jump; Gregory Kolkman (9) threw javelin; Drew Steiert (10) ran the 5K, and Robert Whiting (12) also threw javelin.

The accomplishments in their events brought excitement to the students as well as their coaches. "I was very pleased with the success of our athletes this year. They had great attitudes and displayed a wonderful work ethic. I'm happy all the way around (the track)," said Mr. Gerry Steiert.

Mr. Clay Moss continued on to say that, "I was very proud of how hard they worked when it came to running the race. They put it on the line; what more could a coach ask for?" The meet, to conclude, had very many positive outcomes, pleas-

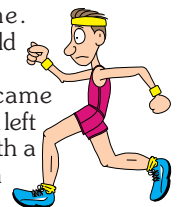
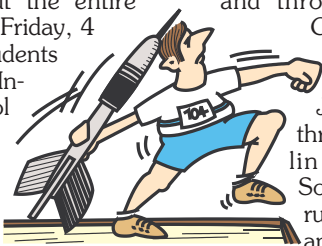
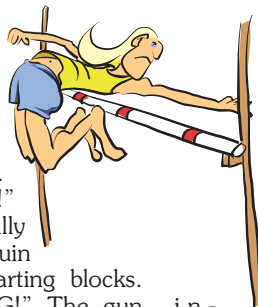
ing students and coaches alike.

"Whoo, whoo," Luquin breathed in and out while sprinting and giving it all she had. "Head up, look at the finish line, stretch out your stride," she thought.

"You're in first place," encouraged Mr. Steiert; "keep going!" She rounded the corner. With determination and the finish line in sight, Luquin sprinted. With a girl right on her heel, she tried to maintain her pace. After 30 seconds, she raced through the finish line. Although panting and out of breath, she jumped out of excitement; she had competed for only one year, and her efforts won her a gold medal!

"I had a great track season! I received a gold medal for the 200 meter, and a silver medal for the relay. I was very proud of myself for getting first place. I couldn't have done any better because I gave it all I had. Besides, my mom is proud of me. What more could I ask for?"

The sun came out, and Luquin left the stadium with a gold medal in hand. •



“So You Say You Climbed a Mountain...”

By Caleb Masters

The idea of a vacation or break from the hustle and bustle of everyday life has existed ever since time began. God rested on the seventh day, the Jews received a commandment to rest on the Sabbath, and every year around 16 December, students of Dalat International School go on a well-deserved five-week vacation accurately called Christmas Break. This break most commonly serves as a time for students and staff alike to rest and recuperate from the events that have taken place over the past four months. Each person has his or her own view of what a good break should include, and every individual has a story to tell; whether “boring” or “action packed,” Christmas break offers a time for the encampment of knowledge and ideas—

more commonly known as the human mind—to get back into working order.

Living in this corner of the world requires travel to become a part of most individual’s breaks. A person would find it difficult to find someone who did not travel somewhere this break, excluding the occasional trip to his or her local mall.

“I traveled to Indonesia, and I got to see my old home,” said Christina Robertson (12) about her break. “It was so nice to be back in Indo, getting in touch with my roots.”

The desire to just “go home” becomes increasingly evident with both students and staff at the end of the semester. Home means something different to practically everyone on campus; for some it means the U.S; for others, Ko-

rea; or, like Robertson, going “home” may mean visiting a place where she had once lived.

Jon Masters (9), a dorm student, said, “Just being home is great; it doesn’t really matter that I didn’t do anything amazing. Being home with my entire family is enough.”

The family factor rises to the top as the most commonly and widely appreciated aspect of a good Christmas break; people just want to “hang out” with their families.

“A break is a time to gather my thoughts and realize where I am going with my life,” said Robert Whiting (12). Whether students and staff admit it or not, the Christmas break provides a time for at least a bit of internal reflection and reorganization. A fully realized and

fleshed-out break allows the individual to come back into the “school scene” with an idea of what he or she wants and where he or she expects to head in the next few months.

But breaks include more than just times of personal reflection. “I climbed a mountain and almost died; it was great,” said Joy Walter (10) about her vacation. “A good break means getting away from Penang and doing cool stuff with my family.”

Whether visiting an old home, climbing a mountain, almost dying, or doing nothing of major interest at all, the Christmas break provides a time of regrouping, relaxing, and reevaluation. With a fully realized break, a student or a staff member can jump back into the scholarly stream of life, feeling focused and ready to take on another semester ahead with the prospect of a summer break awaiting them at the end. •

Bright Future Lies Ahead

By Yoko Shimizu

With delighted expressions on their faces, the Class of 2005 loaded into the vans to depart for the senior transition retreat at the Tanjung Bunga Beach Hotel on 24-25 February. To prepare the senior students for a new college environment, teachers arranged the retreat to offer students time to talk and think through the stages of transition. Each student had different expectations about the retreat. “I’m very anxious about the transition retreat. I hope I can get useful stuff out of it,” said Caleb Masters, as he alighted from the van.

The retreat contained much

useful information to help students adjust well to new cultures next year. As third culture kids, each of the students learned how to value his or her own culture and respect other cultures. It also offered them information on what to expect when they graduate from high school and transfer into a new environment. Jason Pohl said, “This seminar helped students who didn’t know what it’s like in the States, and it also helped us to transition out of high school.”

The retreat also provided time to talk about leaving and saying good-byes. This session made students realize how lit-

tle time they have left at Dalat and brought tears to some students’ eyes. “Talking about saying good-byes was sad, but it was good to prepare my heart and think it through,” Jordan Gaddis said. This process helped students to open up and appreciate their friends even more. Everyone clearly felt the tightening of relationships with each other.

As they spent time with their fellow classmates, the Class of 2005 deepened their bonds of friendships. “Spending time with my friends and making memories with them was a highlight of the retreat,” said Lydia Ng, as she remembered playing Capture the Flag with the class.

“It made me feel as though we were on our second senior sneak,” Kazumasa Komatsu said.

Each student had different expectations at first, but at the end, everybody gained something valuable. “I wasn’t expecting much at first, but I was surprised at how much I got out of it,” Kimberly Gross said, contented with the information the staff provided. With an attempt to discover new things by studying the past through scrutiny of the old, the Class of 2005 promised to value their learning and cherish their precious friendship that they developed during high school, and to discover the new world as they go off to college.

With even more delighted expressions on their faces, the Class of 2005 loaded into the vans to head back to campus. Each student’s eyes sparkled with hope of the bright future that lay ahead. •

Floor-Ball Generosity

By Apryl Siemens

Determined fifth grade kids spent the weekend of 4-5 March scrubbing cars with all their strength “to raise money for floor-ball sticks so we could be in the tournament that is sometime in April,” said Jordan Nagel (5).

Mr. Jason Selvanayagam had told Nagel and Jared Williams (5) along with the other P-period “floor-ball kids” that they would have to get their own sticks to play. So, the two of them racked their brains. Nagel

and Hung Ching Song (5) had already bought their sticks, but what about their friends Williams and Strong? Nagel and Williams struck gold when they thought of what they could do to get those much desired sticks—host a car wash on campus!

The four of them got ready for the big job ahead of them and even posted a sign letting everyone know that it costs five *ringgit* to get their car washed. Generous staff members solved

the problem of the floor-ball sticks costing RM90 and more. As one of the generous staff members who paid more than RM5 for his clean car, the kids impressed Mr. Michael Holden by “[taking] the initiative to work hard for what they want...it’s the hard work we should encourage!” And with Uncle Ron West’s generosity of sponsoring them, they took off!

Generosity peeked its head over the four kids’ shoulders again when Maliea Luquin (5), Lennea Williams (5), Daniel

Masters (5), and Nathan Danneker (5) pitched in and grabbed a rag too. And so, with a great helping of ingenious determination and generosity, the fifth grade kids made enough money to buy their floor ball sticks. April tournament here they come! •



The Longer the Better

By Natalie Herring

Awakened by the harsh sound of an alarm clock, Stella Park (11) pulled herself out of bed in order to change and pack for a day trip to Langkawi Coral. It did not matter that Chandler Dorm did not have plans to stay overnight anywhere. A day of fun in the sun sounded perfect.

The girls in Chandler Dorm took the opportunity to do something other than just snorkel. "We checked out the 'hot' guys on the boat to Langkawi Coral. There was this really cute black guy—probably from the Navy," said Julia Cheong (12).

Other dorms went on a trip to the cool Cameron Highlands. Christina Robertson (12), who

went to the Cameron Highlands with Ziemer and Smith Dorms said, "When we were playing sardines, Lydja Ng, 12] and Eric [Westergren, 10] were hiding, and Caleb [Masters] (12) and I were looking for them; and as we were going past the same place for about the fifth time, we heard a sound, and Caleb spat in the bushes; sure enough Eric made a sound, and we found them."

Leaving Penang did not appeal to everyone; students also relaxed by staying at home. Kohei Shimizu (9) said, "I went to Gurney and watched a movie."

Other than relaxing, the long

weekend proved the perfect time to get some work done, too. "I went away with my family, for a day, to a hotel. Then I spent time with my dad, and I spent a lot of time editing this wedding video I'm working on," said Nathanael Matanick (12).

No matter what people did, they always found ways to enjoy their time off. Kimberly Gross (12) said, "Long weekend is awesome because you get to do something you would normally never get a chance to do; it provides a wonderful way to relieve the pressures of school."

After snorkeling and tanning with her friends, Park finally felt ready to head back to Penang to enjoy the rest of her break. Already she could feel the stress melting away, giving her new strength for the weeks to come. •

girls saves [her] from the torrent of perspiration exuded from males."

Those who have not played soccer before may have felt slightly intimidated by the rivaling spirit of past indoor soccer seasons, so Mrs. Holden decided to make the league more like a club. Kirsten Westergren (9) said, "I like the fact that it's not a competition between the teams. It's more laid back, and I don't feel as pressured to play well. I think I actually played better than I would have if it was more competitive."

"This was my first time playing indoor [soccer], so at first I was a little nervous. But I soon found out that it's a great stress reliever to kick the ball hard," said Hidajat.

Stella Park (11) added, "At first I didn't know if I should play because I had never played soccer before, and I have 'ball-phobia.' But then people on the team really encouraged me to play and cheered for me—it was super nice of them. I have pretty much overcome my 'ball-phobia,' so I would strongly recommend others to play."

More experienced players also enjoyed playing in the indoor soccer league. McClary said, "Since the outdoor soccer season is over, playing indoor has given me a chance to practice soccer and to hone my skills."

"Indoor soccer is a time when I can play a sport that I enjoy with my friends and to have fun with them," said Sophia To (8).

"You get to make more friends when playing indoor [soccer], and you also get to know other people a lot more. It's a great time for me to hang out with my ladies," said Yumi Yamauchi (11).

Back in the soccer match in the gym, Hidajat's pass flies past her opponents and right toward her teammate Lindsay Loehden (12). Loehden traps the ball and shoots it hard towards the bottom-right section of the goal. The ball lands nicely in the corner, and Loehden runs back to congratulate Hidajat on her successful assist. •

Mustin's Mad Skillz

By Sam Lee

Once again the U.S. Navy returned to challenge students and staff in different sport events. Last time when they came to visit Penang, they played intense games of basketball and soccer. Dalat only scored a few points. "I was waiting for the Navy to visit Malaysia again so that I could challenge them in basketball and show them my mad skills," said Joel Babcock (11). Students eagerly waited for the U.S.S. *Mustin's* arrival to show off their skills in sports.

The first competition, a soccer game, took place on upper

field. As the game started, both teams demonstrated their best skills to try to win the game. The Navy, however, found it hard to play under the hot and humid weather which students at Dalat have already adapted to. With this advantage, Dalat won the match 3-0.

"It was fun to play with Navy guys. It was a great experience for me to meet such manly men," said Sung In Kang (9) after he finished the game.

"Look at Number 10! He is just too massive," said Steven Ong (10) as he walked in to the

gym to play basketball. After students saw the staff team get defeated, they started to fear the size of the Navy team. "Even though I'm not a small guy, I got pushed around by those big American Navy people. I was very amazed at their humongous size," said Kazu Komatsu (12).

Students pushed themselves at the very last and slowly caught up to their opponents, but they ended up losing due to a time limit. Regardless of the results, both teams played well and learned from each other.

The big and friendly Navy guys promised to return again as they headed back to their ship. "I'm going to beat them in basketball, next time they visit," Babcock said. •

"She Shoots; She Scores!"

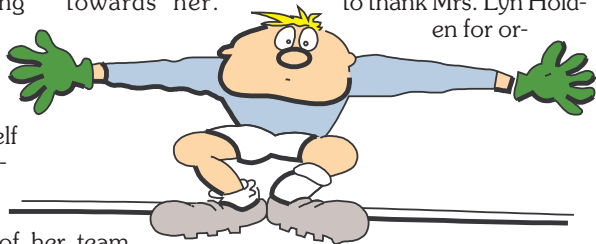
By Lydia Ng

Tensing every muscle in her body, Pamela Hidajat (10) dashes toward the furry green creature flying towards her. She reaches it before it could prove itself hazardous against the rest of her team.

With a grunt, she kicks it with all her might and smiles triumphant-

ly as it sails through the air towards the other side of the gym. She makes a mental note to thank Mrs. Lyn Holden for or-

ganizing the women's indoor soccer league which gave ladies



aged middle school to adult a chance to meet on Mondays and Wednesdays after school to play some friendly soccer scrimmages in the gymnasium.

Although both genders had the opportunity to play indoor soccer on Friday nights, more males continually dominated the floor. The women's indoor soccer league gave girls a chance to play soccer without the fear of getting hurt by some of the somewhat rougher boys. "It was an opportunity for the girls to just enjoy the game, have fun, and to improve and strut their skills," said Esther Vaughn (12).

Allison McClary (10) commented that, "playing with all





By Eric Jung

After a forceful batting, Kazu Komatsu (12) dashed through the first base and continued his galloping to reach second. During his take off, he faced a dilemma: should he dive and sacrifice his body to win the audience's cheer, or should he risk getting touched out by pursuing this mundane run? Komatsu made a quick choice, throwing his body to the second base, intimidating every nerve-ending of the catcher. Successful in his mission, Komatsu stomped on the base with a victory shout and smiled at the audience. A frenzy of cheers rushed into the field, overwhelming the opponents. Although this heroic act brought a victory to the baseball team, Komatsu walked off the field with a blood-spattered leg. Scraped up from

ankle to knee, the baseball hero glanced at his wound and just continued his walk. After the game, he casually said, "The diving was not necessary, but I had to because Haruki [Shinohara, 10] was getting all the cheers from everybody."

Frequent injuries occurred throughout the Dalat campus, and people either laughed it off or pouted with anger. Aaron Steinert (12), who injured himself during his trip to Aceh, Indonesia, complained in frustration. "I wish I would have been more careful because I could have been playing basketball for the last four weeks." As the basketball season started, Steinert patiently waited for his ankle to heal.

Draped in sweat, Steven Ong (10) struggled to hop over the

gutter with the crutches. During a basketball pick-up game, Ong had stepped on an opponent's foot while landing from his take off. With an uncomfortable look on his face, Ong stated, "Why is everyone getting injured these days? I just hope I can be better for the basketball tournament."

While most people injured themselves in sports activities, others had to sit out for injuries from everyday activities. Scott Poulter (10), a dedicated soccer player had to miss the MSSPP soccer season because of his broken toe. With a smirk on his face, Poulter said, "It was very disappointing for me and my teammates because I let them down. I think the soccer team could have had a better chance of winning if I had contributed to

the plays. I cannot believe I stubbed my toe and broke it."

Although injuries could hinder athletes from excelling in their area of expertise, they build up character. "When I couldn't play basketball with my sprained ankle, I actually learned to be patient. I realized that I cannot have everything I want at all times," Ong admitted.

In the parking lot near the baseball field, a crowd gathered around Komatsu and conversed with him about the play of the day. Although his leg appeared horrific, Komatsu had a warm feeling inside him as he realized that he had taken the right path in his dilemma. •

