



Eagle's Eye

Dalat School, Tanjung Bunga, 11200 Penang, Malaysia

May 2005

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A 'STELLAR' EVENING

By Julia Cheong

A night with the "stars"—Hollywood's, of course

Kimberly Gross (12) sat carefully on her bus seat, so as to not wrinkle her burgundy silk dress, somewhat exhausted by the long bus ride, and peered out the window. The seniors' bus had taken them all the way to the Sunrise Tower before turning around and heading the exact opposite direction, towards Batu Ferringhi. She held her breath as the bus entered the vicinity, passing Rasa Sayang, Golden Sands, and the Holiday Inn. She could not help but let out a joyful laugh as the bus pulled over into the parking lot of the ParkRoyal Beach Resort.

"Ahh! I can't believe that you guys chose here!" said Gross to her date, Jonathan Dyck (11), who smiled at Gross's evident surprise. He took her arm and led her into the red carpet entrance, where crowds lined both sides, cheering and flashing myriads of flashes at her.

Overwhelmed, Gross stood for a second, trying to absorb the moment.

The annual tradition of the Junior-Senior Banquet took place at the ParkRoyal Beach Resort, the same location that the last year's juniors, the Class of 2005, had rented for last year's JSB, much to the seniors' delight.

"As soon as I got through all the excitement of the staff and

underclassmen at the red carpet, I was overwhelmed by the work the juniors and their sponsors had put into the ballroom. Memories from last year just

stars. It was literally stellar!"

The tributes prepared by the juniors to honour the seniors became the highlight of the evening for most seniors. Natalie Herring (12) said, "I didn't know whether to laugh or cry when Mary [Kuffel, 11] did my tribute because she talked about me being such a good Christian example—but then described how selfish I was when I supposedly 'grabbed' the whole cookie from her hand with 'drool running down my chin.'"

As for the skits, the seniors had different viewpoints on how realistically the skit reflected (Continued on page 2, col. 1)



flooded my thoughts, and I could not help but smile and tell my date how great everything was!" said Apryl Siemens (12).

Caleb Masters (12) added, "I couldn't think of a better place that the JSB could have taken place. For me, having it in the same ballroom as we had ours last year brought back so many memories."

For this year's JSB, the juniors chose the theme "A Night with the Stars." Yoko Shimizu (12) commented, "I thought it was very amusing that the juniors came up with a Hollywood theme after choosing a Bollywood theme for the After-Sneak [Subaidah] Dinner."

Esther Vaughn (12) added, "The walls of the ballroom were covered with black drapes with myriads and myriads of gold

Flood Stuff

By Apryl Siemens

Performing starts at a very young age. Mrs. Valeri Brokaw worked hard with the elementary and intermediate students to surprise the staff, students, and parents with their performance of the musical, "Arkeology," on 12 May in the chapel.

The young students made it a great night to remember. Compared to earlier years, Grace (Continued on page 2, col. 4)

Striving for the Top

By Sam Lee

"Grab that rebound," yelled Natalie Herring (12) from the crowd.

As a Chung Hwa player reached for it in the air, Howard Kao (11) quickly took the ball ahead. After making sure that Kao had the ball under control, Eric Jung (12) dashed to the other side. Kao saw Jung from the corner of his eye and threw the ball toward him. The ball passed between two opponents and landed right in front of Jung. He took two steps and released it for his lay up.

With the score tied at 40, all of a sudden the room filled with intensity once again. Both teams continued the game, working their very best under conditions that nobody would have expected. "That was most exciting and intense basketball I have ever seen," said Herring.

Having a MSSPP tournament at Dalat School provided a great opportunity to fund-raise for junior class. As a matter of the fact, students sold food right outside the gym throughout the whole competition. "I always went to the gym to get fried rice because

I'm too lazy to go out to get lunch. Plus they have really good fried rice," said Kazumasa Komatsu (12) after he paid for his plate of food.

This tournament provided an opportunity for the athletes to

improve their basketball skills. "The MSSPP tournament gave the team experience that we lacked before; I enjoyed being part of the team," said Joel Babcock (11) after the tournament.

After the heated game, Dalat lost by three points. Both the crowd and the players' faces showed extreme disappointment. Regardless of the result, students and staff members en-

couraged each other and congratulated the opposing team.

"We almost had that game; it was so close," said Kao as he sat down with disappointment.

"It was a good game. I think you guys could do better next year," said Jung as he tried to encourage his teammates. •

Do I Hear 50 Ringgit?

By Jordan Gaddis

Every year the junior class conducts an auction to raise money for next year's events. What do they auction? Themselves! Junior-for-Hire provides a chance for the juniors to make money for their class and do a little bit of service. The auction this year took place Tuesday, 16 May. Any junior who wanted to participate and make a little money for his or her class got auctioned off. Mr. Clay Moss—the official auctioneer—called a junior up to the front and started the bidding at 50 ringgit. Once Mr. Moss declared the junior "sold," he or she had to perform three hours of work for the purchaser. "I just hope my mom comes through for me. I don't want to work for someone else," said Jan Ng.

The auction started off slow and caused a few sponsors to worry, but then events picked up. The class raised a well-needed RM8,000, an average of RM200 per student. Yumi Yamauchi raised the most money: 800 ringgit. "The auction this year was very, very, very, very successful," said class sponsor Mr. Steve Liss. "I was pleased with the turn out."

After the auction concluded, the juniors had different opinions about the outcome. "It was kind of weird. It was my first time being at an auction," said Shinobu Toyama.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

Junior-Senior Banquet...

(Continued from page 1, col. 4) themselves. Robert Whiting (12), portrayed as having a chronic phobia of the colour orange, said, "I liked what the juniors did with my character in the skit. It was totally unexpected, but it definitely showed that they had paid attention to my life."

Lydia Ng (12), however, said, "I only had two lines, and the only one that I understood was 'goot one.' The other sounded like a jumble of words. I think I usually talk a lot more than that; but overall, the skit as a whole was quite interesting."

The juniors also prepared special talent showcases during intermissions and dinner, impressing many seniors with their abilities. Cathy Lin (12) said, "Jonathan [Dyck 11] sang really beautifully. His solo during the song 'You Raise Me Up' brought tears to my eyes."

Sam Lee, however, said, "Chris Foster [11]! His dance number was the best. He dances a lot for the people in my dorm, but I've got to say, that one during the JSB has got to be the best one so far. It was great but at the same

time, very amusing."

Foster explained, "I was very nervous about dancing in front of almost all the high school and the staff, but I used it as an opportunity to appreciate and honor the seniors of Chandler Dorm."

People had different opinions of the workload and the turnout of the annual tradition. Stella Park (11) commented, "Well, sure, JSB is a great way to honour the seniors; but there were moments in which I thought the JSB wasn't worthy of our effort and time because it was a main source of stress, especially during times when it seemed like we weren't going to be able to pull it off! But then things worked out, and it was all pretty decent. And I'm looking forward to having a really good one next year."

But Matt Hansen (11), junior class president, said, "This year's JSB was the best. And we pulled it off without any stress at all."

Gross, last year's junior class vice-president, said, "Some of the juniors worked really, really hard, and it all paid off. It just reminded me of the good old days when I had to work!"

Aunt Valerie Weidemann,

senior class sponsor, added, "The evening was relaxing, entertaining, and very special. The juniors and their sponsors did a great job—we [the senior class] had a great time!"

"Please someone! Get me out of these shoes!" Tired out from walking in heels unaccustomed to her feet, Gross plopped down onto a bus seat. Feeling a little melancholy as the bus traveled down the curvy Batu Ferringhi road, Gross switched her digital camera on, flipped through her pictures, and marveled at the myriads of memories that rushed back to her; she laughed, grimaced, and even teared up a little.

She felt two hands on her shoulders, and looked back. Joyce Wong (12) stood, smiling, and said, "Kimmy! I sure hope you have some memory space for your after party tonight!"

Gross smiled back, and said, "I hope you have some energy left, because we're going to the beach in our dresses and taking pictures!"

Delighted, Wong sat down next to her, and the two talked away as the bus sped on into the dark night. •

Elementary Musical...

(Continued from page 1, col. 4) Walter (6) enjoyed performing it immensely. "It was great because this year's musical had better characters and more meaningful words than other musicals we've done." The plot taught a great lesson in faith, fellowship, and walking with God—which they called "floodstuff."

"There was quite a display of talent to be seen up on the stage," reflected Chris Foster (11).

But the main characters showed their potential stardom as well. "I was very proud seeing the students that didn't have main parts do their best... the 'library kids' [grades one through five] were very enthusiastic and stayed on task. Mrs. Brokaw did a very good job," said Mrs. Kathaleen McClary.

But the performance did not include only serious lessons. The audience witnessed numerous sidesplitting, comical moments. "I got a good view of my sister falling flat on her face in the play when she played the primitive tribe member—it was wonderful acting on her part. It takes talent to fall well. It made her brother proud," said Nathanael Matanick (12).

For a few, the night also brought back several childhood memories. Remembering having performed the same musical when she was young, Christina Robertson (12) reflected, "It was nostalgic to watch them do the musical because I was one of the leads back when I was a sixth grader. I vaguely remembered some of my lines, and I found that I could sing along to the songs even though I didn't realize that I still remembered them. It was an odd sensation. I didn't consciously know the words, but they just came out! It was really exciting."

And so, the sizable crowd left the evening with lessons in "floodstuff," old and new memories, and sore sides from laughing at tribal people. Staff, students and parents will look forward to next year's performance with anticipation. They will wait in excitement for the young stars to show what they've got! •

Paint Wars: Episode I

By Aaron Steinert

Thwack, Thwack, Thwack! Pink dots appeared everywhere, people ducked behind barrels, gun barrels popped up from behind other obstacles, balls flew all around, and finally a siren wailed. "Blue team captured the flag again!" yelled the referee.

Blue team walked back congratulating each other and showing off some of the welts acquired as the Yellow team shuffled back wondering what had gone wrong. "I love covering people in paint," said Kael Steinert (9).

Students from Jaffray and Jackson Dorms enjoyed their break from Penang as they shot each other with paintballs on a warm 30 April day in Kuala Lumpur.

Dorm parents of Jaffray and Jackson Dorms decided to give their dorm students an unforgettable weekend. So early in the morning the dorms packed up and boarded a rented bus. They drove all morning, finally arriving in KL prepared for an exciting time. Most of the girls and the dorm moms abandoned

Junior Slave Auction...

(Continued from page 2, col. 3) Grace Kim (11) had mixed thoughts about it. "Real slaves must have felt so awful. I'm glad that I can at least help the junior class 'financing' in a small way. Honestly, I hope that we don't have to do it again."

The guys seemed to like the auction. Matt Hansen (11) said, "It was great!"

Howard Kao's surprise at being purchased by Mr. Karl Steinkamp, high school principal, gave him some unsure feelings. "I didn't feel too good; I know he is going to make me do something I don't want to do."

Now that the auction is over, the juniors have to work for their purchaser a total of three hours: baby-sitting, cleaning, moving stuff, or whatever the purchaser needs done around the house.

With a sigh of relief, the juniors congratulated themselves for raising RM8000 for next year's activities. •

the bus at a mall and left the guys and a few brave girls to paintball. "I don't generally think of myself as a violent person, but playing paintball gave me a new way to express myself" said one of the brave, Marie Giezendanner (10).

The bus dropped the group off at the paintball place. They made teams, picked up their equipment, and became more excited the closer they got to the showdown. After getting orien-

tated with the equipment and listening to final instructions from the referee, the teams separated and prepared for an epic battle of paint. "It was really fun because Kael, Aaron [Steinert, 12], and I owned. I wish we could've played longer. I think the dorms should do it more often," said Joel Babcock (11).

"All right same strategy guys; it seemed to work well," yelled Aaron as they made preparations for another round. Both teams organized and got ready for the signal to start. When it came, they scurried for cover near the center line, shooting paintballs at the other team the whole way. •

CEMENT & BRICK SERVICE

By Esther Vaughn

"Make four ten by ten by five piles. That should give us the right number of bricks for each house," Mr. Michael Holden said to his students. The students labored away and began making four "ten by ten by five" piles of bricks. "This pile needs another stack!" exclaimed Rivka Matanick (11).

Student Council planned an event that focused on serving. On Thursday 28 April, a group of students gathered willingly in front of the canteen at 3:45 in order to provide a fishing village affected by the tsunami with bricks and cement for four families. The students contributed 100 kilos of cement and five hundred bricks to each house—a total of 400 kilos of cement and 2,000 bricks. "By distributing the bricks and cement, I know that we made a difference; and they were helped by us [Dalat]," said Scott Poulter (10).

The fishing village appreciated the students and their willingness to serve. "Returning to the village to deliver bricks [and cement] showed our desire to build a relationship with them. The

clean-up project we did there earlier in the semester was not intended to be a one-time interaction, but the beginning of Student Council's facilitation of regular student outreach into the local community," said Mrs. Lyn Holden.

Girlie, a woman from the fishing village, made food for the students to show their appreciation for everything Dalat has done—from cleaning the beach to providing them with construction materials.

"Every house has received its share of cement. Now everyone, get into a line and pass the bricks down one-by-one," said Girlie.

The students and locals intermixed and gave each other a hand to complete the task. "This side-to-side motion really helps your abs," Mr. Holden said as he tried to refocus everyone's attention away from the strenuous task, mosquitoes, and sweat dripping down their faces. "We have five-hundred bricks!" Rivka exclaimed. "Finished! Let's go watch the guys' basketball game now!" •

De-stressifying'

By Cathy Lin

At 7:00 P.M. on 29 April, Walters' van waited patiently in front of the Student Center. Right after the basketball tournament, several junior and senior girls and female adults, including Mrs. Nan Walter, Aunt Shannon McCabe, Ms. Ruth

Strong, Mrs. Shelly Tuck, and Ms. Carolyn Janssen ran towards the van and hopped in it quickly. As soon as the van had picked up all the girls, it vanished from the campus and headed towards Diamond Villa.

For three years, Mrs. Walter

has organized a girls' stress-relief night before AP exams in order to help the girls who would be taking the exams in a week to lower their stress level.

"Having the whole night without thinking about AP exams really helped me calm down and relax. The yummy bean dip, chocolate brownies, laughter, and dancing was the perfect combination for stress-free medicine," said Lindsey Nagel (12).

"It did not take off all my stress I would have for the coming week, but it did take off my stress for a few hours while I enjoyed the night," said Rivka Matanick (11).

Not only AP students attended the party; junior and senior girls who had stress to relieve could also join the group. "I do not have any AP classes, but I'm glad to see those who had AP exams being relaxed. I had a lot of fun with all the girls. All the laughter made us forgets about everything that stressed us out," said Joyce Wong (12).

Why did she only organize a stress relief night for girls? Mrs. Walter responded, "I can't have guys in the party because I'm not a guy. If the guys really want to have a stress-relief party, they have to ask a male staff to organize one for them."

Everyone knows that the Walters love Bollywood movies; therefore a Bollywood movie gained the limelight of the night.

At 8:00 P.M. sharp, the girls gathered around the living room and watched *Kal Ho Naa Ho* with the projection on the wall.

Several of them had different opinions on the movie. "People have always said that it's the saddest movie, but I didn't cry. It was very funny and romantic," said Apryl Siemens (12).

"I think it is both sad and funny. Ummm...kind of like sadly funny. It is very comical. What makes it sad is the ending when the main character died," said Lydia Ng (12).

Numerous girls focused more on the appearance of the male character instead of the plot. "There was this really awesomely good looking guy, but everyone else was horrified at my taste in guys. Then Yoko [Shimizu, 12] liked this other much uglier guy, so everyone was more horrified at her," said Julia Cheong (12).

"I can't believe that my hot guy died! He was so cute! Everyone else thinks the other guy is cuter, but my cute guy is so cute that I even have his picture on the computer. You want me to (Continued on page 4, col. 1)

Embracing the Monster of Change

It's happened. The end has finally come. The culmination of the school year has arrived—the concerts, the musical, the finals, the yearbook, and the good-byes. The end of a school year embodies the definition of change: seniors graduating, friends coming and going, families moving, and advancing a grade. The sophomores now find themselves juniors with a year of junior class responsibilities before them. The juniors find themselves as seniors, with their final year of high school approaching. And the seniors now find themselves no longer as high schoolers—but official Dalat School alumni. Change has come, as it does every year, and it has begun to rearrange lives, many without their approval or control. But instead of resisting the changes that the end of the year brings, let us embrace change and take a hold of the opportunities presented us in this upcoming school year.

Because we are TCK's (Third Culture Kids), change becomes part of our lives. We become accustomed to change but never to the pain and discomfort that it can sometimes bring. "Change is not often pleasant, but it is inevitable," said Robert Whiting (12); "and so I accept it, knowing that God stands with me through all of it."

But change consists of more than unpleasant feelings; change also brings much good. "If everything was the same all of the time, life would be really boring," said Jonathan Dyck (11). "Change is good. It makes us adapt to new situations and stretches us."

Even with the positive side of change present, difficulties still remain. TCK's have a tendency to shy away from the good-byes and changes that come at the end of the year because they have gone through so many good-byes that they would rather not take part in another one; in short, they're afraid to face change.

Recording artist Nicole Nordeman, in her song, "River God," says, "Time brings change, and change takes time." Facing something new rarely presents itself as an easy task. Nathanael Matanick (12) said, "Change is an incredibly scary thing. As humans we embrace what we are familiar with, and change requires us to step out of our comfort zone." But by accepting the change that God has brought into our lives and embracing it, we will find that it may not be as terrible as first perceived.

"Change is a necessary part of our life. It causes us to realize more fully the beauty of the world God has placed us in," said Marie Giezendanner (10). God takes an active role in his creation; but so often when the year's end rolls around, we focus on our friends' soon departures—and we leave God out of the equation.

In Jeremiah 29:11 it states, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'" (NIV). God will never leave us out in the cold, and that, in and of itself, should give us enough reason to trust Him. When a hard change hits our life, let's not look for the proverbial silver lining; we need to look for God in it all. Seek Him desperately, and with His help, the reality of change that we face becomes a much easier pill to swallow.

Yes, the end has arrived; but every new beginning springs from some other beginning's end. As the seniors head off to life as alumni, as the juniors step up to the plate of "senior-hood," as the eighth graders move up into high school, and as the staff's responsibilities shuffle around, let us look the future square in the eyes and embrace the monster of change. • **By Caleb Masters, Issue Editor**

the gondola station to take a ride up to the First World Hotel. Mr. Liss said, "I felt like Aladdin on his magic carpet! I only wish it was daylight while we rode the gondola so I could see more."

After a restful night at their hotel, the physics students invaded the Genting Highlands theme park. Kazumasa Komatsu (12) said, "It was cool that the school let our small class go to Genting and enjoy ourselves at the theme park."

"I really enjoyed flying on the Spiderman roller coaster. It was definitely worth the 10 ringgit!" said Aaron Steinert (12).

Yoko Shimizu (12) said, "The last ride we went on was the best. It looked really boring, but we actually had a really thrilling time rushing down the hills with our hands up in the air."

Coupled with the enjoyment of an amusement park, the students learned valuable lessons. "For the record, it was not all fun; we did do our fair share of work too!" remarked Gross.

Shimizu added, "We brought clipboards, altimeters, and g-force meters with us. Walking around with all our equipment made me feel very professional even in a theme park." The students used the apparatuses that they brought along to measure certain characteristics of the rides.

"I was pleased with how the students worked together to solve problems. I remember when we first got to the park. They all huddled in a group and divided up the work to conquer the task I had given them in an organized manner rather than haphazardly," said Ms. Horn.

Some of the students had expectations of Genting Highlands that did not match up with what they actually experienced. "People who have gone to Genting told me it was going to be really cold. One person even told me to take my winter coat! It was actually so hot up there (Continued on page 5, col. 1)

Killer Classes

By Lydia Ng

"Whom do you want to kill?" inquired Ms. Maike Horn. The dangerous murderer pointed to Kimberly Gross (12). Ms. Horn said, "Everyone can open your eyes now. I'm sad to say that something terrible happened last night. As Kim was walking

home, a car drove beside her and someone inside the car shot and killed her." Chaos ensued as the two remaining "townspeople" and the "Mafia" accused each other of the "murder."

At 4:00 P.M. on 31 May 2005, the physics class, along

with teacher Ms. Horn and chaperone Mr. Steve Liss, took a van to Genting Highlands. Esther Vaughn (12) said, "Although we rode for six hours, it went by quickly because playing cards and 'Mafia' was quite a riot. As they say, 'time flies when you're having fun.'"

The seven physics students and their chaperones arrived at

De-stressifying...

(Continued from page 3, col. 4) send you his picture?" asked Shimizu in non-stop dialogue.

"Everyone thought the friend of the main girl is cute, but I agree with Yoko. The other guy who came later and was supposedly the "angel" is cuter," said Siemens.

A number of the girls had not shown any interest in the Bolly-

wood movie before; however, on that day, their impression changed.

"I thought Bollywood movies were really annoying, but the movie we watched was really great and sad. Bollywood movies are the best!" said Matanick.

"That's the first real Bollywood movie I've ever seen. I can't explain how good it is. But the next day, Aunt Shannon and I went to buy more Bolly-

wood movies," said Ms. Strong.

Besides watching a Bollywood movie, the girls also drew henna and enjoyed the food prepared by Mrs. Walter, Aunt Shannon, and Ms. Strong.

"I did not only enjoy eating the food and drawing henna, I also enjoyed imitating the Bollywood dance with my friends even though I kept bumping in to people and my henna kept coming off," said Nagel.

"We had great food that night. There were Snickers brownies, bean dip, and chocolate-cherry bars. I loved the brownies especially!" said Siemens.

When the party ended, the van took the girls who live in the dorms back to campus. They could not believe that the time had gone by so fast. However, the night refreshed their minds and prepared them to face reality. •

Frozen Ammo

By Lindsey Nagel

On Friday the thirteenth a cough gently yet powerfully bellowed across the chilling chapel over the pillows and blankets and surged into the ears of the sophomore girls; the signal had arrived, and the girls fired into the air across the room into their contenders' territory. Behind the enemy line sat the innocent looking brown plastic cooler next to the guys' sleeping bags. So inconspicuous yet so completely obvious, the girls knew the dangerous cubes with immense water damage that sat comfortably inside the chest. Realizing their mistake, one of the girls whispered, "We weren't very smart; the enemy has complete control of our ammunition."

The tenth graders' big class party of the year had finally arrived and began with a random song selection of the Christmas favorite, "Jingle Bell Rock" to kick off the evening. Having a blast, the sophomore girls began to form lines on opposite sides of the chapel and simultaneously pranced, danced, and cart-

Physics' Trip to Genting...

(Continued from page 4, col. 4) that I got a very interesting tan line," said Julia Cheong (12).

Komatsu added, "I didn't know they had Burger King at Genting, so I was quite pleasantly surprised. Since we don't have it in Penang, I ate Burger King the whole time I was up there."

The chaperones enjoyed the trip as well. "The trip was a blast! I especially enjoyed getting to know the seniors a little bit better. I don't teach high school, so I don't get to hang out with them too much; but they're an OK bunch, no matter what anyone else says!" said Mr. Liss.

Ms. Horn added, "The trip is a definite keeper from my point of view."

Back in the game of "Mafia," Steinert and Vaughn finally decided to vote against Komatsu. "Congratulations," exclaimed Ms. Horn, "You guys have finally found Kazu guilty of being the 'Mafia.'"

"Hey look, it's the gondola station. I can't wait to get to our hotel," said Cheong. The physics class unloaded the van and walked toward the station with great expectations in their hearts. •

wheeled towards each other, all the while attempting to jump and click their heels together. "I can't click my heels though!" Marie Giezendanner (10) said, "I 'froggy hop' instead."

Observing the humorous scene, Eric Westergren (10) couldn't refrain from joining in the promenading. Westergren (10) said, "I did a ballerina impression, kicked the ground, and fell forward; it really hurt!"

Countless hours of thrills through games such as charades, Taboo™, indoor soccer, and "Heart Attack," left the class filled with hyper excitement. "After the movie, we played this card slapping game called "Heart Attack." Every time you'd get the right card, you'd slap really hard. Our hands were so sore, but that was definitely one of the highlights of the night," said Christa DeVette (10). "Playing charades was also very fun, but it was hard because I had to figure out how to act out 'tofu' and 'cocktail dress.' Joy [Walter] got a hard one too when she had to act out 'claw-foot-tub.'"

Whether being entertained by watching the comedy *Hitch* on the big screen, or entertaining each other through personal laughter and dance, each sophomore who participated in the

merrymaking and memory making, thoroughly enjoyed each others' joking around and burlesque hoopla.

The night included not only gaily joking around but also of serious concentration and contemplative thought as Uncle Tim Steinert, one of the sophomore's new sponsors, came in and talked to the class about leadership and responsibility regarding upcoming class elections and next year's junior activities.

The class took this lock-in as an opportunity to discuss important decisions for next year. The class discussed plans for next year's JSB. They tossed a few theme ideas back and forth and hoped to have their theme finalized before the class all dispersed for summer break. "That way people can pick up things in the States that will match our theme," David Robertson (10) said.

The tenth grade guys began to jump on top of each other into dog-piles. When asked what part of dog-piling appeals to the male gender, Robertson replied, "If someone is being annoying, then guys like to jump on them. I guess girls don't like to start dog-piles because they're not as violent; they would just cuddle, and if they're annoyed they would just ignore each other and run away."

According to Monay Ng (10), "First of all, they have very suit-

able body builds to dog-pile on each other with great comfort and men want to feel powerful. By being animalistic they feel macho, which is a good thing, and they like the feeling of being able to handle heavy pressure."

Agreeing with her point Drew Steiert (10) commented, "If you can get on top of the pile it means you're above everyone else, and if you're underneath everyone else on the bottom, it means you can withstand the pressure."

When their 12 pizzas arrived, the class joined hands and gave thanks to God as they had grown accustomed to doing every lunch time in the cafeteria. Thanking God for all of His blessings such as the food and their friendship, the class enjoyed each other's close fellowship.

"I went and stayed close to the wall because I was pretty sure the guys would retaliate," Liesl Williams (10). "Giggling uncontrollably, we started pelting ice across the room until the guys started firing back; and then we hid under blankets." Giezendanner (10) said. "And then we had ice all through our beds. We kept moving around and finding wet spots." As the early morning rolled in and the youthful vigor of the night began to wind down, the ignited sophomores had a difficult time seeing the eventful night come to a close. •

Swirling Sounds

By Christina Robertson

Nervously making her way to the front of the room, Sophia To left the safe company of her friends for the dreaded piano bench in the spotlight. Carefully setting down her music, she began to fill the chapel with the melodious tunes of Heinrich Lichner's "Gypsy Dance."

"I went to watch my little brother Daniel [Masters, 4] play," said Caleb Masters (12). "It made me regret that I never took piano lessons. But then again, I see how stressed out the kids get and how they start crying when they mess up...still, I wish I'd learned piano."

The terror of a public performance nearly overwhelmed many students involved in music lessons. "I wanted to quit piano so I didn't have to play at the recital," said Liesl Williams (10), "and I was so sure that I wouldn't be able

to actually play [the piece], but I did play it fairly well."

Christa DeVette (10) said, "I attempted the hardest piece I've ever played, and I kind of goofed up. But it was a learning experience."

"The piano recital was so frustrating for me because I played all the really hard parts perfectly, but I messed up on the really easy parts. After four months of practice, I was done playing that song in one night!" said Laura Danneker (9).

Into the evening, flying ants began to swarm about the lights illuminating the piano. Students had the added challenge of retaining concentration while bugs bombarded them. Taking a more optimistic approach, Apryl Siemens (12) said, "The bugs made it really romantic. If you didn't look too hard, they looked like butterflies

surrounding the pianist."

Despite bombarding bugs, pressures of performance, and fears of failure, grins emerged on the faces of each individual after he or she performed the piece. Joy Walter (10) said, "Some of the pieces were really fun! The little kids played way better than I thought they could. My sister played so well that I was embarrassed of my own lack of skill. She's so much more talented than I am."

"Everyone played so well," said Bethany Weidemann (6). "I liked that it wasn't just piano; the violin and guitar players were also really good."

Relieved to finish her piece, To gently released the soft pedal, closed her book, and returned to her seat, once again a part of the audience. •



Point/Counterpoint

Wailing Wall Tradition: a Great Idea

By Robert Whiting

Years of tradition surround and uphold the end-of-the-year “Wailing Wall,” where students gather at the end of the year to say farewell to their former classmates as they move on into a new grade, a new school, or a new country. This tradition should continue.

Lydia Ng (12) said, “Signing yearbooks and saying good-bye is a process that we have to go through in order to bring full closure to our time here thus helping us to end well, so we can start new and afresh in a healthy way next year.”

Though referred to as the “Wailing Wall,” few students actually cry; rather they spend most of the time signing yearbooks, eating snacks, taking pictures, and talking about the year.

“Some of my best memories are from the Wailing Wall, and very few of them have to do with crying,” said Caleb Masters (12). “It’s not a sad time usually; it’s a time where I can get together with loved ones—I look forward to it.”

The name simply invites the opportunity for students to open up and cry with their friends if they so choose.

“I can’t really say that I’m looking forward to the Wailing Wall, but it’s nice to know that at least we’ll actually have one,” said Natalie Herring (12). “Although we have a new wall, there is some comfort in knowing Dalat keeps up their old traditions.”

“The wailing wall has nothing to do with the cement structure outside our campus but with the event where we meet together and say farewell to our loved ones,” said Ng.

Crying does not evoke the idea of hopelessness or weakness at events like these, but it shows that the good friends of high school will miss each other’s future company. This time of sorrow does not demonstrate despair; even Jesus wept for his friend, Lazarus, who had left Him for a short time.

On 1 June seniors will gather on lower campus by the new wall and say good-bye to their former classmates and friends as they prepare to move on in life. Some may tell stories, sign books, take pictures, or shed tears; but in the end they will say good-bye. And this tradition should continue. •

Wailing Wall Tradition: Not a Good Idea

By Nathanael Matanick

Years of tradition surround the “Wailing Wall,” where students congregate at the end of the year to say good-bye to their friends as they move on into a whole new world. Yet the idea of “wailing,”—a reaction to a dreadfully hopeless occasion—should not define and end the events occurring during graduation week. “Wailing” should not continue.

No one can object to a time set aside specifically for good-byes. Yet there remain a few simple questions for the asking: How long can “graduation week” drag on? And why does it need to end on a depressing note—wailing?

For one, Dalat does a bit of overkill when it comes to graduation. First comes the senior tea, then the senior chapel, then baccalaureate, then commencement, then the “wailing wall,” and finally the senior sob “party” in the chapel. All of this provides an unnecessary emotional roller coaster not only for the seniors, but for the entire school body as well. It never ends. There might as well be a “post wailing wall” as well. For it seems to make just about as much sense as having the original wailing wall in the first place. The wailing wall simply provides yet another time to over-dwell on the fact that people must say good-bye.

“Get over it. People leave. How many times do we need to emphasize this? I have no problem with the whole wailing wall idea in and of itself. But the whole thing just emphasizes the sadness part of it,” said Rivka Matanick. “You have senior stuff the whole week. And it’s sad because it’s all these memories and whatever, and it makes you cry. So why should the last thing be titled “wailing” which creates only more sadness. It should be a happy occasion. Because seriously, [“wailing”] makes you think all your friends are about to die.”

This brings up the second point. The festivities should not end with something overcast with sorrow. With all the sniffing going on, a time set aside for praise would do well—praising the Lord as He takes the graduates into their new and glorious future. Let’s keep the time used for the wailing wall, for the whole idea of it—the good-byes, the snacks, the picture, and the yearbooks—is really quite good, and alter it to become a time that focuses not on the sadness of people leaving (which has already been overdramatized for the entire week leading up to it), but on the joy that the school has in sending off well-trained people into the world for God’s use.

Joyce Wong (12) said, “The old wall is gone. We can’t call this one the same thing. We should call it ‘The Blessing Wall’ because we’ll come to it after commencement as a happy occasion where we can bless our friends as they leave.”

When it all comes down to it, God has a wonderful future drawn out. “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jer. 29:11)” Now somebody please explain how wailing became a part of this. •

A WALL OF BLESSING

By Joyce Wong

The wall stands strong once again, not because it got old, not because the school had planned to break it down and then to rebuild it—but because a tsunami gave the opportunity to unite and build something much better. In fact, the wall can inspire inspired us to stand strong.

Ever since 26 December, workers have been busy planning constructing a new sea wall. They began by tearing down the old wall foundation and moving some bricks out of the way so students could get to class safely. Mr. Clay Moss had his friends in America who volunteered to come out to help with the building project.

As Mr. Patrick Rogers walked by the new wall with his digital camera, he said “I’m very thank-

ful for the people who came over and took the time out of their busy schedule to help us build this wall.”

The wall matches the one along the road on upper campus. As he looked over the wall with a smile, Mr. Earl Case said, “It was very exciting to see people support us by rebuilding the wall from the tsunami accident.”

In the process of building the wall, elementary students and seniors wrote notes on the bricks in remembrance of the construction. “It was an honor to have the chance to write on the bricks that would make up our majestic sea wall,” said Natalie Herring (12), president of the senior class.

As the school has improved dramatically in many ways over the years, Mr. Karl Steinkamp,

high school principal, said, “Our future plan is to have all the walls around the campus improved.”

Director, Mr. Lionel Sanders, said with confidence, “In the future we hope to put security cameras up on all the walls.”

As students walk by the newly rebuilt wall, they can be reminded of God’s blessings. God sometimes comes into our lives and shakes us in order to build something better. •



ONE WAY, JESUS

By Jason Pohl

"I Will Live to Love You," sings the crowd as the M.E.W. worship team led everybody in singing. M.E.W. or Missions Emphasis Week allowed students and staff to reflect on mission's work and learn how to grow spiritually as well as how they could better minister to the world around them.

In the past, during M.E.W. the school brings in a speaker from some place in the world to speak about the mission field, but this year Chaplain Ryan Tuck decided to change the norm and have missionaries that students know come and speak. Flags from every country lined the inside of the chapel to show all the places in the world where missionaries serve. This added to the atmosphere. "I like it how they had different people speaking every sessions because in the past they have had only one person come to speak," said Lydia Ng (12). "It is good to have a change sometimes."

The speakers this year at M.E.W. ranged from E.E. man, Tom Mangham, to YWAMer, Chad Cormic, which made this

year more personal to some and affected some people more than normal.

Everyone had mixed feelings about the new way that M.E.W. ran. Nancy Duclos (11) said, "I didn't mind that they had more people come to speak, but they were cut off a lot of time and didn't get to finish what they had to say."

Along with a new format for the sessions, the worship team brought in new songs as well. "One Way," and "Live To Love You" became hits among the high school students. Mr. Jason Selvanayagam said, "Good times; great worship."

The worship group worked hard before each session to make the set tight and also to make the music easier to get everybody into true worship. "I liked it when the couch was brought in for us singers to sit on," said Joyce Wong, (12). "It made the environment more friendly to everybody."

The vocal ensemble did a piece that won the crowd over, and the Dalat Ambassadors played a part in leading the group in worship. •

part of all that class bonding," said Natalie Herring (12).

When the clock read exactly 6 o'clock, the juniors received a warm welcome as they entered the chapel—not on a red carpet, but a green one. As seniors escorted them to their seats, they walked past walls covered in movie posters with their own faces on them.

The night's program kicked off with spaghetti dinner proceeded by a skit of the Class of 2005 fifteen years in the future, all coming together to film a movie, which resulted in nothing but chaos and disaster; in stark contrast to the Oscar success presented at the JSB the evening before.

"I really enjoyed getting to put on the dinner to thank the juniors for all the hard work they put into the JSB while poking fun at some aspects of the evening. I mean, I was just the financial adviser, but in our skit I got to fire everyone; how cool is that?" said Aaron Steinert (12). "But I also learned a very valuable lesson: don't lift heavy tables and burst your lungs!"

Attention to little details jumped out at all the juniors present, who noticed the extent to which the seniors had gone to thank them for the special night.

"Some things were so funny, like Robert [Whiting, 12] when he imitated Mr. [John] DeVette taking photos on the ladder and the Internet connection screen popping up during the PowerPoints," said James Hawthorne (11).

After collecting the dessert dishes and posing for photograph after photograph—hoping to forever capture the memories, the worn-out seniors rounded up the juniors and sent them home for a night of well-deserved rest. The class of 2005, however, cleared out the chapel, making way for yet another week of school—each week getting one step closer to the end.

The chapel door locked behind her, Cheong dragged her feet up the stairs and across the field to her dorm. Her stomach growling after a busy workday, she dug into the cheesecake she had salvaged from the dessert table. Her dorm parent, Uncle Jason Phillips joined her in the kitchen, helping himself to a piece of cheesecake. "So, how did it go?" he queried, launching Cheong into a blow-by-blow recall of the day's events. •

Let's Get Dirty!

By Natalie Herring

"Hey John [Kim, 11], come help me take down this poster so we can put it on our table," said Ted Fung (11). On 16 May, Ms. Maiké Horn's Chemistry classes got a chance to showcase their best soap samples for parents, staff, and seniors to test. Working since the end of February to produce the best soap possible, the time came for the competition to see who had created the best product.

Even before testing all of the soaps, some people made quick decisions about which soap they preferred; but others took longer and contemplated all aspects of the product before choosing their favorite.

Discussing her decision, Jordan Gaddis (12) said, "I'm a little biased; I would have to say Rather Lather was the best soap. I feel that it's my family duty to spread the word about it since my sister made it."

Most people did not get the chance to see all the steps involved in making the different soaps. "It took a lot of effort and time, but I learned [not only] about how to make soap but also about how advertising really works," said Rama Kolkman (11).

Discussing some of the difficulties encountered in making his soap, Po Lai (11) said, "The hardest part was probably trying to get the shape right."

Adding to Lai's comment about their soap, Slippery Sudsation, Howard Kao (11) said, "Making it translucent was hard. It took many weeks and countless tries to perfect our soap."

Although the project took many hours of hard work, the results paid off. "It was fun to figure out what to use to make up the soap," said Shinobu Toyama (11). "As a chemical engineer, I had to try many times to get the ingredients just right so the soap turned out the way we wanted."

After trying some of the different soaps, Mr. Kerry Mahoney stated, "I like Soaperade's exfoliating texture because I know it's going to clean those pores!"

As the samplers began to hand in their votes to Ms. Maiké Horn and slowly wander off, the chemistry students began to clean up their tables. "Well, John, at least that's over with," said a tired but relieved Fung as he felt the months of work finally lift off him. •

Something's Weird in Hollywood

By Kimberly Gross

Rolling over under her blanket, Julia Cheong (12) covered her ears with her pillow in a futile attempt to block out the blaring music which filled the room. After several minutes of unrelenting chants of "Wake up, Julia" by the other senior girls, Cheong finally forced her eyes open and sat up with a moan, "I don't want to get up; it's too early!"

Cheong voiced the sentiments of most members of the senior class who arose early on the morning on 23 April to prepare for the after-JSB dinner. The juniors, on the other hand, who had suffered many sleepless nights throughout the weeks leading up to the "big night," enjoyed their rest.

"It was great," said Nancy Duclos (11). "Everything was so funny—I even laughed when they were making fun of me directly because I was so hyper due to lack

of sleep before the JSB."

Convening in the chapel, the 22 members of the class of 2005, with the help of their four sponsors, put their heads together to come up with the perfect plan for how to parody the previous evening's Hollywood themed JSB—"A Night with the Stars."

"Let's call the theme [for the after-JSB Dinner] *Hollywood weird*," suggested Lydia Ng (12). And, with that one bit of inspiration to get their minds rolling, the class broke away into their committees to write the skit, cook the dinner, and decorate the chapel.

"It was really hard for me to be gone last year while all my lovely classmates worked on the JSB. I felt like I was really missing out. So, by working with my class for the whole day on the after-JSB Dinner, I got to feel a little bit of what it was like to be

Shut off that Alarm!

By Kazu Komatsu

On the morning of 25 April the physic class went to the chapel and set up their project which they had worked for a long time, their Rube Goldberg projects. Students had to make a complex machine with six types of simple machines.

"I really enjoyed participating in the Science Fair by building the Rube Goldberg machine. It was interesting to be able to put what we learned in Physics class into practice," said Aaron Steinert with excitement.

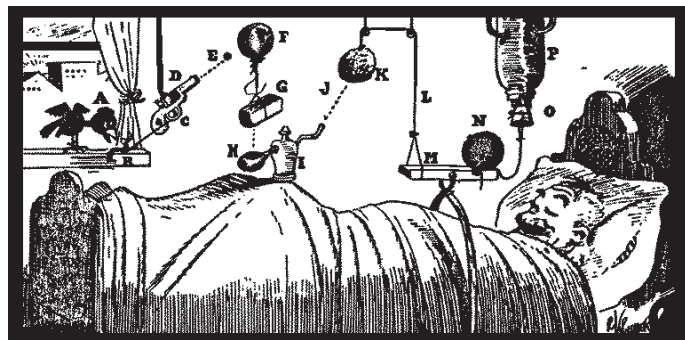
"I learned how to work and get along with very demanding partners. I also learned how to apply what we learn in class to real-life application of physics such as roller coaster!" said Esther Vaughn (12).

The students learned a lot

about how to put what they learned in their class to use and apply it in real life. After the project the student celebrated with what they had accomplished.

Mr. Hansen said "I was especially impressed with the physics students and their machines. They were given a very simple task of turning off an alarm clock, but had to create a very complicated machine to complete the task in 20 or more steps." The machines amazed teachers like Mr. Greg Stenlund who loved Vaughn's project.

Students and parents came to the Science Fair, and they enjoyed looking at the students' projects—especially those complicated machines that did simple tasks. •



Unleashing the Beasts

By Eric Jung

Escaping the ambush that the Blue team set up, Po Lai (11) leaped over the continuous obstacles. He did not turn back to glance at his opponents; he left only dust behind. With a cool expression on his face, the athlete winded up for a quick shot. Deciding where to aim, he calmly pondered to himself. The ball swerved around the defense and looked like a potential goal. With his adrenaline pumping, Ted Fung (11) dove to the right and attacked the ball. The goalie confined the ball in his grasp. The phenomenon left the crowd in awe and left the opponents hopeless.

"The games were very competitive and heated. I think that is what made it so interesting to watch," said Blessing Adleta (12).

Many students and staff participated in the indoor soccer tournament for different reasons. Some wished to release their daily stress while others just plainly enjoyed the game of

soccer. "I am glad that after one year off, Sam [Lee, 12] started the tournament again. I wish it was longer, but it's just great to play soccer. Oh, and the Blue team rocks!" exclaimed Mr. Steve Liss.

During the busy time of the year, releasing stress became vital for the hard-working Dalat students. Indoor soccer season started right on time to liberate the students' fried brains from all the equations and theories that school provided. "I was disappointed that last year we didn't have an indoor season, and I didn't want it to happen this year again," said Lee. "Now I am just glad that we are actually having a tournament."

The tournament offered an opportunity for athletes to polish their skills. It also provided challenge for people who take pleasure in competing with others. "I think that it's a good opportunity for guys to hone their soccer skills outside the

soccer season. I enjoy watching them play because they step up the game, and they use spiffy tricks and moves that I could try to learn and incorporate into my own soccer life," commented Lydia Ng (12).

No matter what the age, the athletes came to show their abilities to play soccer. "It was my first time watching indoor soccer. I was very impressed with Uncle Brian [Weidemann] and Mr. [Karl] Steinkamp. Although they are not as energetic as other athletes, I think that they proved that they are still young and tough," said Ng.

The soccer games became so intense that participants did not even notice the heavy rainfall

outside the gym. The crowd witnessed what they came for: the excitement of frequent falling, the never-ending cycle of ball possession between two teams, the breathtaking tricks, and the frenzies that went on after pinpoint shots. "It's good that the game has gotten more competitive. I enjoy the intensity of the game, especially when I get to take people out," said Fung (12) with a suspicious smirk.

Lai finally managed to get passed Fung's animal instinct and booted the ball against the wall hard. Although Yellow team played their heart out, they fell short. Shaking his opponent's hand tiredly, Fung smiled with a feeling of contentment. •

Heart on Fire

By Yoko Shimizu

Toward the end of the school year, many students become distressed over completing their projects, term papers, and studying for the final exams. In the midst of those hectic times, students set aside time for themselves, a soothing time with God.

Starting from 6 March, the school has held a worship concert every other Sunday evening. The time consisted of an hour of pure worship—a time for everybody to set their worries aside and focus just on God. As some students focus mainly on accomplishing assignments and achieving good grades as the semester ends, they tend to leave God out of the center of their lives. The worship concert provided time for those busy students to spend time with God and put Him back in the center. Remembering the peaceful times she spent with God, Stella Park (11) said, "I was stressed out because it's the end of the quarter, but the worship was relaxing; and I was able to put all my worries aside and focus on God."

The worship strengthened students' faith as well. Julia Cheong (12) commented, "It is easy to get overwhelmed with everything that is going on in

our lives, but the worship gave me an opportunity to focus on what is really important and rejuvenate my mind to finish up this year well."

Students experienced God's presence as they poured out their hearts to Him. "It's exciting to see people press into God as we worshipped. Leading is humbling as I realize more and more that I am so unworthy to be entrusted with such privilege of leading people into God's throne room," Christina Robertson (12), a member of the worship team, said.

On 29 April, a worship concert took place at the FGA Church. A group of students, eager to receive God's message, loaded into the van as quickly as possible to depart campus. "I thought it was cool that many people from Dalat could come to FGA and be a part of worship. God was there with us that night and the worship was very lively." Lydia Ng (12), who attends the FGA Church regularly said as she remembered the wonderful night with God. Although the service differed from Dalat's, God revealed Himself at both services to provide students with His presence. •

Life After Dalat

By Lindsay Loehden

In three weeks something will happen. Something that many people have anticipated all year has arrived. School will have ended, the seniors will have grad-

uated, and the final grades will have been submitted. "They [graduation and summer vacation] can't get here soon (Continued on page 9, col. 1)

The Stork and the Shells

By Blessing Adleta

As April and May rolled around, the fourth quarter bloomed with countless birthdays for the senior class. Six of the 22 seniors have their birthday in April or May: Christina Robertson, Robert Whiting, Jason Pohl, Nathanael (Than) Matanick, Cathy Lin, and Blessing Adleta. Feeling the time keenly slipping away, the seniors thought it a good scheme to celebrate with a joint party. So, the girls discussed and planned this party hoping they could cherish the memory for a long time.

The day of the party approached, and people gathered at the beach behind the school to celebrate. The small group started off by playing the card game Spoons with seashells as a

substitute. "Time with my friends has become even more precious. Even though digging a foot for shells was not my ideal of spending time with my friends, it was memorable. It was great seeing Blessing's brand new cards filled with sand and falling apart," Apryl Siemens recounted after the party.

After finishing the game, the group went up to Hillside to enjoy a bite to eat; they spent their time enjoying each other's company and relaxing as they ate at a leisurely pace.

Robertson said, "Our birthday party was really laid back, which is good. It was really challenging playing Spoons with sea shells especially since Robert buried all the shells three feet

under the sand. Building a bonfire was also really exciting. Robert and Than were somewhat scary when they had the methyl spirits [a combustible material]; but yeah, it was cool to try to find drift wood and burn it on a soggy, damp evening. It was especially awesome to watch the sand burn as Than poured the methyl spirit liquid on the sand and then lit it on fire...it was really cool to watch the flames leap around."

Not every senior attended, but those that did will remember the time spent in the sand, dinner at Hillside, collection of old furniture to burn at the beach, and sitting in enjoyment of each other's company as they watched the sand burn.

"I thought it was such a fun thing to hang out on the beach rather than go to a mall. We had a bonfire and made cool designs in the sand with the fire. I think that people ought to spend more time doing [and] enjoying the simple pleasures in life," said Matanick about the party.

All of the seniors agreed that "...it was great getting to hang out with friends having fewer opportunities to do so with graduation approaching so quickly," as Aaron Steinert (12) so nicely put into words. This has given the small group of seniors many memories to hold onto as they go on with the rest of their lives. •

Summer Vacation...

(Continued from page 8, col. 4) enough," said Mrs. Donna Hansen.

So what do people plan to do this summer? "During the summer break, I will be busy saying bye to my friends and getting ready for my college. Since I am going to KL, I need to find a place to live," says Kazumasa Komatsu (12).

The seniors leave, going off to their respective schools, and the rest of the Dalat population will take a break. "I am going to Taiwan for summer vacation; there, I am going to play with my friends," says Shelina Hsieh (4). Some people don't know their plans for the summer; but they do know that next year they will return to Dalat.

Graduation week puts a lot of pressure and stress on the parents of seniors, the teachers,

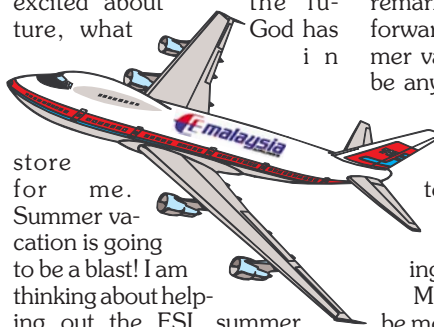
and the seniors. "This year, because I have a sister in twelfth grade, I have to be more involved with the graduation events; I never realized there were so many. After that, summer vacation will be relaxing," says Barret Loehden (10).

Mr. Kerry Mahoney commented, "While it is inevitably sad to see the graduates take flight into the next phase of their lives, all of the staff and students are anticipating a well-deserved rest. It is going to be wonderful spending time traveling this summer and assisting in the ESL camp."

Graduation week honors the graduating seniors. "I enjoy graduation week because we get to see and appreciate just how much the seniors have accomplished during their time at Dalat," said Mr. Greg Stenlund.

Rest and relaxation—the major themes during the sum-

mer seem to reoccur again. While some of the seniors will leave to their home country to get a job, some will stay here to work at the ESL camp during the summer, and some will spend time with their families. "I am excited about the future, what God has in



store for me. Summer vacation is going to be a blast! I am thinking about helping out the ESL summer camp, and I am going to Bali with my buddy Shinobu [Toyama 11]," says Yoko Shimizu.

Many people will be going to different countries all over Southeast Asia. Joy Li (9) who is going to Thailand says, "I can't wait

for summer vacation to come because I really want to rest and spend time with my family." A few people are going back to the United States on furlough this year. Eric Westergren (10), who would rather stay at Dalat, remarks, "A lot of people look forward to the laid-back summer vacation, but this one will be anything but relaxing. It's a great thing—my life's going to completely change with changes in temperature, a massive, 2500 kid school, and the large amount of moving around the U.S."

Mary Kuffel (11), who can't be more enthusiastic about her summer furlough, says, "I am going on furlough this summer, and it's going to be a blast in California!"

So, something will happen in the next three weeks as school shuts down for the summer. •