

THE BAY CURRENT

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Spring 2018

Pi Day A Smashing Success

By Zainab Alnadesh

Bay Academy once again held their fun-filled annual Pi Day celebration, one of the most anticipated events of the year. Coordinated by Ms. Cuoco and Ms. Walden, the joyful occasion is held to commemorate March 14th or 3.14, and raises money for the non-profit charity, St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Students were asked to donate a dollar and gain a chance of tossing a pie at teachers. Not only did the celebration include a pie tossing session, it also had a pie eating competition. Teachers who volunteered to join the competition ate their way through to win the honorary pi eating belt. (It's actually a WWE belt - but it's close enough). This year the teachers seemed to outdo themselves with their grand entrances which drove the crowd wild. Our guidance counselor, Mr. Caiti, also did a phenomenal job producing a comedic production that opened the event and that all students will remember.

Congratulations to the winners, Mr. Auriti,



Above left: Staff prepares to devour pie in the pie eating contest. Above right: Ms. Maletta gets whipped in the pie toss. Bottom right: Mr. Caiti with a pie-faced student.



Mr. Mascioli, and Mr. O'Neill! Overall, it was great to see our teachers leave their classrooms and put on such a spectacular event. Through the generous donations of students and teachers, Bay Academy earned an amazing \$1146 for St. Jude's.

Pi Day of 2018 will truly be a day to remember, and it's sad to think that this will be the last for eighth graders!



Above: 8th Graders enjoy the Boston Museum of Science on the Senior Trip, March 8th - 10th.

Students React to High School Results

By Esther Balaban and Danielle Elterman

On March 7th, eighth graders finally received their high school results. Commonly called "Cry Day" at Bay, the envelope opening is filled with emotion. There are students finding out they won't be spending the next four years with their friends, students who were passed up on their dream school, and of course many students so happy they cry tears of joy. One student, Sufiyan Javed got into his first choice school, Brooklyn Tech. Sufiyan prepared for the SHSAT, the Specialized High School Assessment Test, for two years, hoping to be an engineer or surgeon when he grows up. "In eleventh grade,

Brooklyn Tech offers majors such as bio science, the gateway to medicine, industrial design and robotics", he said. When Sufiyan opened his envelope he was exhilarated. "I felt happy that I got into a specialized high school that met my criteria in the field of science and engineering." According to Guidance Counselor, Mr. Caiati, over three quarters of all acceptances this year were to specialized or screened schools.

And while some results were unexpected, Bay students are prepared to do their very best wherever luck and fate may lead them. Congratulations and good luck to our graduating seniors!

Science Class Is A Real Drag!

By Emily Louie

Seventh grade Science Talent at Bay Academy is off to the races! Mr. Lilly, 7th-grade Science and Science Talent teacher has organized The Science Talent students into motor sports teams. Students are working on engineering cars by using gears, pulleys, motors, battery packs, and other materials. The students assemble a team consisting of a Crew Chief, Chief of Branding, engineers, and mechanics. Each of the students is vital in drag racing. The team will receive sponsorships from participating teachers to "buy" parts and pieces for their car. They can also purchase items with their weekly paychecks for doing well in class. They will race cars against each other in a friendly, yet intense competition. The best part is that the students will be racing against Mr. Lilly, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Caputo's own team, The Faraday Slayers. This makes the race very invigorating because the students want to see if they can perform better than their teachers.

According to Mr. Lilly, "Students are doing this because there are a lot of science concepts in drag racing and lots of hands-on activities. Also, it's great fun while learning." And in my opinion, he isn't wrong. Students are learning the basics of constructing a car, such as aerodynamics, parts of a car, chas-

sis designs, vacuum forming to make a buck, and wheels. Soon they will 3D print their chassis and wheels which they will use to create their new car. Everyone is so excited for this event. The students value car making and find it enjoyable. Even though they encounter issues along the way, they learn from their mistakes and improve.



Mr. Caputo, Mr. Lilly and Mr. Davis ready to compete as The Faraday Slayers.

Mr. Lilly has his own website called Alliance Race League. Here, he has all of the Science Talent teams, a calendar, a Hall of Fame, a parts

shop, our sponsors, our racing brackets, and best of all: the Wheel Of Doom. All of the Science Talent Teams have their own website with images of their car, achievements, a list of their team members, their sponsors, and so much more. The calendar stores race dates and The Hall of Fame has speed recordings, quotes, and champions. The parts shop has a list of parts students can buy for their car. Teacher sponsors give teams Tier 1, 2, or 3 sponsors. This is given in Bankaroo dollars, or the fake money that is used in the racing league. Our racing brackets tell us who is racing and compiles the winners. Finally, the Wheel of Doom is a spinner that randomly chooses which teams will compete. You never know which team the spinner will land on, which makes it very intense and thrilling.

I myself am a student from Mr. Lilly's class and love competing in drag racing. I have been learning so much and often astonish myself with new things I learn. Every day, we tackle challenges. "Drag racing is beneficial to students because they get to use the latest technology like 3D printers, hold pitch meetings for sponsorships, compete, learn entrepreneurial skills, use 3D printing software, and learn about electrical engineering", said Mr. Lilly.

Stay tuned to find out which team will cross the ultimate finish line!

To Be Honest...

Opinions are the columnists' own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Bay Current or The Bay Academy.



By Zainab Alnadesh

After Valentine's Day of 2018, Americans are hugging their loved ones even tighter. The lives of the residents of Parkland, Florida changed forever after a mass shooting occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida. 19-year-old Nikolas Jacob Cruz, has been identified as the gunman who shot and killed a total of 17 high school students, teachers and coaches. Armed with a legal AR-15 style semi-automatic rifle and multiple magazines, he activated a fire alarm and began firing at students and teachers. Cruz had been expelled from the school a few years before, and was mistaken for a current attending student. The stories told by the survivors seem so surreal and unimaginable, the constant replay of the event will surely leave them traumatized. Most of America has been throwing around "possible" solutions to solve these dilemmas, while many others claim that there is "no way to prevent this." Some have suggested arming teachers, which I believe is completely ridiculous and impractical. Teachers have more than enough responsibilities already. They are trusted by so many to educate and care for their students. They are responsible for the future of our nation. That alone is enough stress; they also have lives and families of their own which they care about too. "No teacher needs the added responsibility of being a fully trained and competent shooter." (Bustle) Students may also fear their teachers, knowing that they are armed and ready. They may feel discomfort, knowing they are sharing a room with a loaded weapon. Lastly, accidents may happen. Although it isn't likely, the teacher may harm the wrong student, which will then cause a larger issue. As a nation, we should try to be coming up with foolproof plans, with much larger affects. Having more gun control and stricter gun laws are a step to solving the problem. I believe that outlawing all guns will be more effective. The point is, we should step into action. We shouldn't have to say that ANOTHER mass shooting has happened. If we do nothing it will be no surprise when another group of innocent people are stripped of their lives. If we don't change our ways now, then we are opening the doors to more violence. OUR GENERATION WON'T STAND FOR IT!



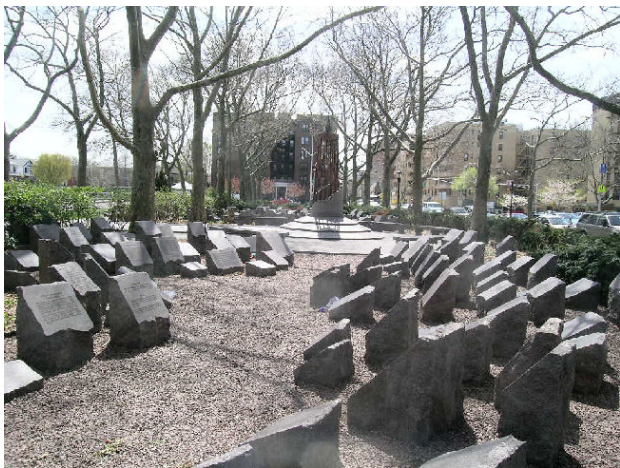
By Malika Nasriddinova

Bullying is a word that seems to be popping up quite a bit. This word is seen on billboards, on the internet, and even at school. What is bullying, who does it affect, and why is it important for everyone to recognize what it is? Bullying is not just emotional, physical and psychological abuse and there isn't just one way to bully someone else. Bullying can be emotional or physical. There is also cyberbullying which is much harder to stop. Victims of bullying begin to experience anxiety and depression, losing interest in activities they used to enjoy. Because of bullying that takes place in school, depression may last into adulthood. Bullied students may begin to believe the words and accusations of their bullies. Their self-confidence and self-esteem fall. According to "Stop Hatred Attitude in Schools," some students may turn to drug or alcohol usage. Other students may begin to cut themselves as well.

According to the website bullystatistics.org, "Some consider bullying to be purposeful attempts to control another person through verbal abuse, which can be in the tone of voice or in content such as teasing or threats, exclusion, or physical bullying or violence, which the victim does not want. Bullying is ongoing with incidents happening more than once. With cyberbullying, the behavior is taken online. Cyberbullying is harder to stop because any indication of bullying or any proof could be deleted with just one click of a button. Poof... and it's all gone. It's also easier to harass someone with the privacy of the internet.

But to be honest, bullying should be addressed for the sake of both the victims AND their bullies. What I mean is that while we always try to help the victims, why not help the bully? "Oh but bullies are bad. They make others feel miserable," you might be thinking, but we need to consider why bullies actually bully. They mostly do it to make them feel better about themselves. Why? We don't always know. There might be something in their personal lives that makes them feel tiny, hopeless and sad, so they'd try to make someone else feel the same. So while we should be helping the victims, why not also try and help the bullies? If you witness any acts of bullying, report it to an adult like a teacher or guidance counselor and let's get help for all of our struggling peers.

Bay Back When



Sheepshead Bay Holocaust Memorial

By Pauline Dayen

If you have ever passed by the bay before or after school, you have probably noticed a memorial area right across the street from The Bay Academy. That memorial stands to honor the memory of the victims of mass murder in Babi Yar, northwest of Kiev, Ukraine in 1941. On September 29 and 30 of 1941, 33,771 Jews were murdered by a mobile Nazi killing unit led by Paul Blobel. That unit used machine guns to not only kill Jews on that day, but also gypsies and Soviet prisoners of war for many months afterwards. In remembrance of the tragedy, the holocaust memorial park was created in Sheepshead Bay in 1985 with the efforts of the Holocaust Memorial Committee and with the support of the community. Dedicated officially in June 1985 by Mayor Edward Koch, the Park has been the site of memorial programs honoring such renowned leaders, educators and heroic figures as Simon Weisenthal, Beate Klarsfeld, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Professor David Wyman, Yitzchak Arad, Jan Karski, Chiune Sugihara, Rabbi Avi Weiss, Professor Yaffa Eliach, and Tuvia Bielski and members of the Jewish Brigade – among many others.

The permanent Holocaust Memorial was completed and officially dedicated by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani in 1997. This was the first public holocaust memorial in New York and one of the many which stand as a beacon of remembrance and hope that history not repeat itself.



Humans of Bay

Angel Rios, is arguably the 6th grade's most influential poet. Angel has been writing poems since the second grade and wants his classmates to be as inspired by poetry as he is. "The reason I like poetry is that it's a deeper expression of a story. It can tell a lot of other things too. Like how you feel, how you find things admirable, how you think life is so beautiful... It's just pretty much a great way to express feelings."

When asked which poet he is most inspired by, he stated "Of course, I find Robert Frost's poems sensible and that he uses images of nature in order to situate real life problems, also to situate feelings..." Angel has so much passion for what he does and hopes someone else can use poetry as their escape route as well.

He shared one of his many poems, at right, with our readers.

Interviewed By Amelia Sambone and Zainab Alnadesh

A Lost Love

By Angel Rios

It had been years since she passed,
With only a painting as the little piece to recall her,
Now a great spirit in heaven,
But a burden in my shattered heart.

A small bandage to repair the cracks created by
loneliness,
Yet at her painting I stare until I hibernate through
the darker and darker night.

Rain and hail fill the air,
But the painting I can't look from - I still stare.

My body deteriorates from the once given love,
Hers was a fate undeserved, but still received.

Almost I see her, but not with the naked eye,
I bless her soul as her god,
For day and night,
My soul watches the beautiful queen until I die.

LAB NOTES

The Truth Behind SeaWorld

By Aaima Rehman

Most of us have probably been to the zoo or aquarium. It's always amazing to see the animals and creatures in the middle of a busy city. The New York Aquarium in Coney Island has some incredibly adorable sea lions that are on display in an open arena for the public's entertainment. Growing up, I loved visiting the aquarium to see them but have you ever wondered what happens behind the scenes in one of the most popular marine amusement parks in the country?

SeaWorld has 7 theme parks and 5 water parks in the United States, in Florida, California, Texas, Virginia and Pennsylvania. SeaWorld has sparked controversy in the animal welfare community because of the frequent deaths of the orcas (or killer whales) in its possession. The average life span of an orca is from 30-50 years but at SeaWorld the average lifespan of the whales is only about 13 years. That's almost half its lifespan reduced.

Another reason SeaWorld is constantly under fire is because of the physical conditions of the orcas. Most male orcas in SeaWorld's captivity have collapsed dorsal fins. This is most likely the result of not having enough room to swim around freely. The average depth of a tank of an orca tank in SeaWorld is about 50 feet with a length of about 700 feet. The problem with this is that orcas dive up to 1,000 feet in the wild and swim about 100 miles per day. In August 2017, SeaWorld had to euthanize an animal because it was too sick to survive. Her name was Kasatka who had been sick from lung disease since 2008. Shortly before that in July, a baby calf named

Kyara also died from infection.

Furthermore, these orcas are also subjected to harsh training for the public's entertainment. John Hargrove, a former killer whale trainer at SeaWorld states, "Unfortunately, after all the years of experience that I had, I saw the psychological and physical trauma that results from captivity. A massive corporate entity is exploiting the hell out of the whales and the trainers. You are nothing more than a number on a sheet, and if the moment arises, you will be thrown under the bus and even blamed for your own death." Since SeaWorld's opening in March 15, 1959, it has had about 40 orca deaths. That is 40 lives lost and none of them died of old age.

The human race has taken the world and made it ours, but we often forget the creatures we share it with. We exploit beautiful creatures for our own entertainment and do not take into perspective the toll it takes on these animals. We as humans should learn to live in harmony with all the animals on our Earth and do everything in our power to protect them.

In a promising sign of change, SeaWorld Entertainment CEO Joel Manby decided to end the company's practice of breeding orcas and putting on flashy shows featuring the marine mammals. However, following the 2013 documentary film "Blackfish" depicting the company's treatment of orcas, SeaWorld posted a loss of more than \$200 million for 2017.

Manby, who joined the Orlando company in March 2015, resigned in February, following this financial loss.



What's Hot

By Kaylee Ann Rivera

Diss Tracks

Social media is a big part of our everyday lives, especially YouTube. And nowadays all over YouTube you'll find diss tracks. Many famous YouTubers make diss tracks to express how they feel after someone has insulted them.

Not only is it entertainment, but these tracks can be funny. Personally, we don't recommend exposing or hurting someone verbally on the internet, so leave it to the "crazy" YouTubers and let's always stay kind on social media!

Have a comment, question or lead on a great story? Visit The Bay Current office in room 244 to share your ideas.

Pearls

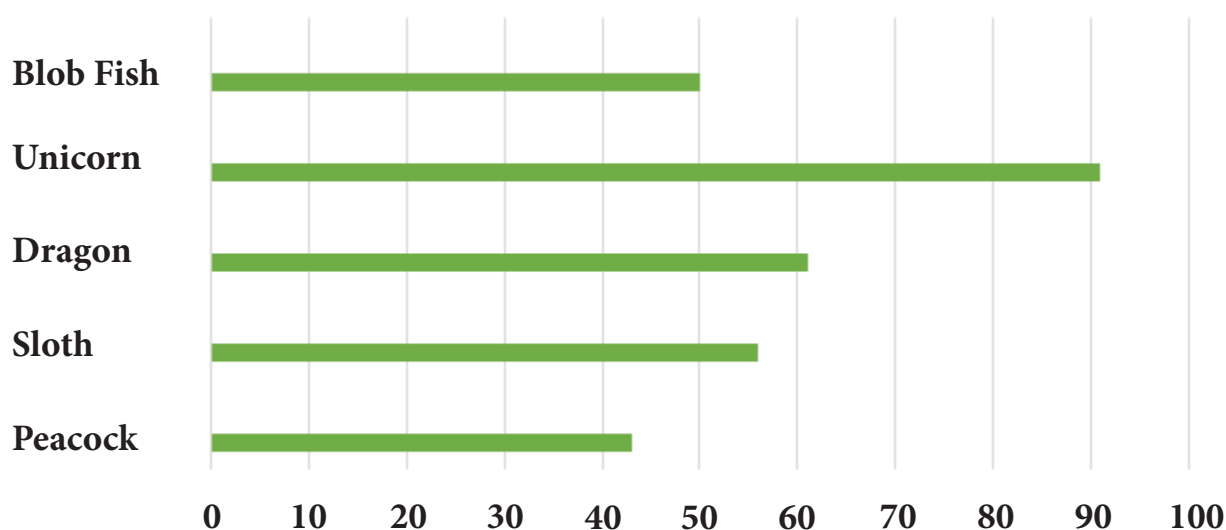
Lately we've been seeing pearls. In many stores like Mande and Forever 21, pearls are popping up on everything from pants to shirts to hats. I myself have purchased these chic pearled articles of clothing. They look chic but many of these outfits are comfy as well.

Celebrity Makeup Brands

In 2018, makeup is a very big deal! We're seeing many icons like James Charles and Kylie Jenner launching their own lines and collaborations in stores like Sephora, Morphe and Mac. Between the eyebrows on fleek and the beautiful lashes to the highlighting and contouring, it's a makeup world. But remember that while makeup makes a lot of girls feel good about themselves, everyone looks beautiful with or without! Do what makes you feel good and remember that beauty comes from within!

We asked 304 students:

What Is Your Spirit Animal?



ASK A SENIOR

Advice from your peers

My family and I are having issues at home and my parents seem very upset. What should I do?

It is very important to understand that in circumstances like fighting between your parents, it is never your fault. Sometimes we may feel confused and upset or we blame ourselves despite the fact that it really has nothing to do with us. Every family has its problems and differences. Just because your parents are fighting, it doesn't mean they don't love each other. However in situations like this it's important to reach out. You can start by talking to your parents and telling them how you feel. When talking to them, be honest and try to understand their side. Sometimes parents don't realize that they're making their children upset so let them know how you feel. If you aren't able to talk to your parents, try talking to a trusted adult like our guidance counselors. Remember, we're all here for you.

I am overwhelmed by the amount of homework I get. It is difficult for me to manage my time and complete it all.

The fact is, homework is something we all have to do. If you attend after school, our NIA program offers homework help five days a week to help with any assignments. However if you go home right away, try to make a list of all the homework you need to complete. This will keep you more organized which can keep you from becoming super stressed and overwhelmed. You can include a schedule on your list. Next to each assignment, write the approximate time it should take you to complete each assignment. This will keep you from getting off task and will help you stay productive. After each assignment, take a ten to fifteen minute break. This will help refresh your mind for your next task. Reward yourself after you've finished it all. Maybe after you've completed your work you can go out with your friends or play that video game you've been looking forward to all day. You've got this!

School starts too early. We should be able to start later.

I totally agree with you! Here are some tips I use to wake up fresh and ready for the day every school morning:
-I get a good night's sleep so I won't be as tired in the morning. The average teenager should get about 8-10 hours of sleep each night.
-I eat a good breakfast in the morning to keep me energized throughout the day.
-I try to balance out my school work the night before so I don't do it all last minute. Doing this will relieve the stress and worries you may get from not doing your assignments to the best of your ability or skipping them altogether.
-I try to wind down a bit before going to bed. Don't look at your phone or any other electronic devices for at least half an hour before bed. The blue light can affect your sleep leading to a later sleep time.

Good luck!
T.G.

If you have a question for our advice columnists, leave your question in our drop-boxes, outside room 244 or the second floor student bathrooms. And always talk with a trusted adult if you need serious and immediate help or advice. Our guidance counselors are a great place to start. See Mr. Caiati or Ms. Carlino in room 128.

Scan the QR code to connect to Edline.

Find assignments, dates, news and events happening now at Bay Academy.



Every Day

By David Levithan
Reviewed by Amelia Sambone

Every day a different body. Every day a different life. Every day in love with the same girl. There's never any warning about where it will be or who it will be. "A" has made peace with that, even established guidelines by which to live: Never get too attached. Avoid being noticed. Do not interfere. It's all fine until the morning that "A" wakes up in the body of Justin and meets Justin's girlfriend, Rhiannon. From that moment, the rules by which "A" has been living no longer apply. Because finally "A" has found someone he wants to be with—day in, day out, day after day.

This book is captivating the moment you open it. When I read the first page I instantly fell into a deep interest entranced by this unique story. This book shows how precious our everyday lives are. This character "A" learns to not make any connections to any people as he will only be with these people for one day. "A" saves lives as he/she travels through bodies. The love story between "A" and Rhiannon is amazingly surreal and you yearn for them to be together and for them to make a bond. This book truly teaches you how each and every day matters.

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

By John Boyne
Reviewed by Victoria Solodkova

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas... a name which shows the juvenile perspective in which this story is told.

In this shocking and moving novel set in 1943, Bruno, is a 9 year old son of a Nazi commander. His father moves his whole family when he gets a promotion. Bruno becomes bored there, without any of his friends and nothing around, except some people and huts he sees outside of his window. The readers know it is a concentration camp, but Bruno does not. One day Bruno goes exploring and arrives at the fence separating him and the concentration camp. He befriends a boy his age, wearing "striped pajamas", and they sit and talk on opposite sides of the fence frequently.

The ending is unexpected and shows why although this book that is told by a child, and about children, is not for young children to read.

A tragic fictional novel, embedded with facts, this book will stir a pot of emotions in you. The unusual perspective in this book and the obvious contrast between the two main characters lives makes it interesting. A powerful story about the holocaust, well written and compelling, this book is worth a read.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

By Stephen Chbosky
Reviewed by Pauline Dayen

The Perks of Being a Wallflower is a great coming of age story. It is about a broken and lonely teen who makes friends with two very complicated personalities, a girl and her stepbrother. Together they experience the things that a regular teenager would. This book addresses a variety of mental disorders and topics like depression and anxiety so I would

take caution if you may find that to be triggering. Even though the novel has such serious topics, some events in the book will make you laugh. When I first picked up this book, I could not put it down and I am sure you will not be able to put it down either. I would also suggest reading the book before watching the movie because the movie misses a lot of key events. The story is very thought out and detailed and it is a great book to read.

Girl's Volleyball Shows Net Gains



By, Melanie Yin and Catrina Wang

After a string of wins that took them all the way to the playoffs, the girl's volleyball team ended their season with great success. They have been working very hard for the past few weeks, practicing two hours a day and twice a week on Thursday and Friday. Their coach Mr. Goldfarb always pushes them to do their best and have fun. Competing at schools such as Ditmas Middle School, Seth Low, Joseph B. Caballero and P.S. 226, the girls finished with a strong winning record. We talked to Mr. Goldfarb about the team.

What are your feelings about this year's volleyball team? I feel that this year's volleyball team has gotten better every practice and every game we have played. It makes me proud to see how hard the girls work each day. I also love how they have turned into a true team, not just individuals.

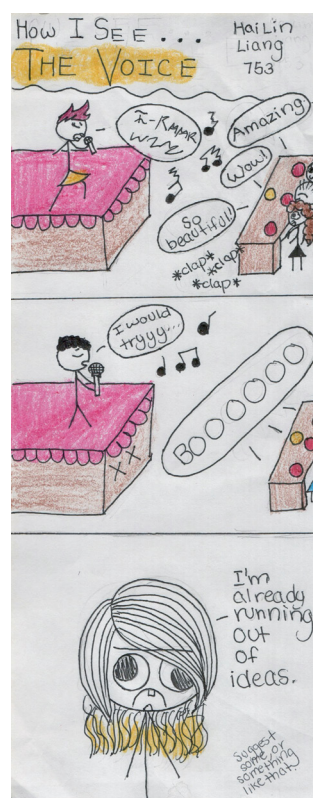
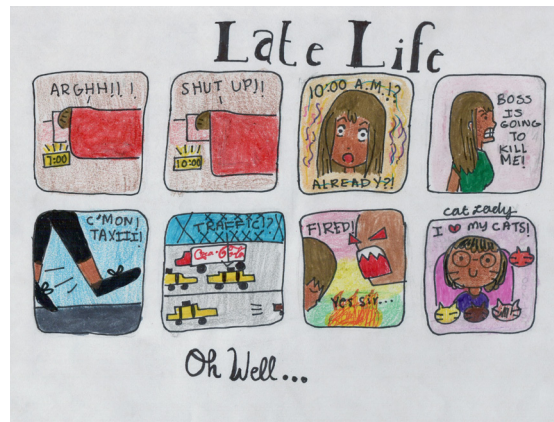
What do you say to encourage them before the game? I usually try to keep the girls calm. I let them know they should play their game and not try to do anything that will put us at too great of a risk. I also tell them to have fun, after all it's just a game.

Did you enjoy coaching the team this year? This is definitely my favorite team I have ever coached. It is great seeing girls who start off as 6th and 7th graders and turn into true leaders on the team as they gain more experience. We also have a few girls on the team whose sisters have played for me in the past at Bay Academy. It's great to see those girls develop into stronger players than even their sisters were.

Any advice for next year's volleyball team for girls that are trying out next year? Work on your skills. Make sure you're comfortable bumping, setting and spiking. You should also make sure you can get your serve over consistently. I would practice with a friend if possible so you can help and support each other.

Any last words for the year's team? My last words for this team would be to keep playing and keep having fun.

DRAWN TOGETHER



Top left, Tiffany Lu. Top right, Sultan Zafar.
Bottom left, Joanna Chen. Bottom right, HaiLin Liang

I'M BORED... Download **Golem Wrath**, the latest creation from Bay Academy student and game designer Raphael Pereymer. The game is a free-to-play augmented-reality game, where players work to destroy enemies with power-ups, landmines, canons and more. Players can spawn their creatures and unlock up to 10 skins. Like PokemonGo, Golem Wrath sets the action in the user's location using the phone camera. Raphael, who created the game entirely by himself and is a self-taught coder, used Unity 3D, CSharp and Javascript to create the game over a period of 10 months. Find the game in the AppStore and make sure you have ios7 to play.