

Harker Family Hosts Student Show

Yearbook editors had a great time in Europe this summer, then had a chance to revisit the trip at a commemorative get-together at I ♥ Yogurt, a Harker family-owned shop in Cupertino, where several photos from the trip were hung for display. During their trip the group took pictures and interviewed people, then worked up page layouts in workshops, enhancing their skills and delving into new cultures.

"It was nice having a dedicated time slot just to reminisce about the trip. A lot of us really miss traveling together as a group and just wandering around Venice or Paris taking photos," said **Robert Seseck**, Gr. 12. One of his favorite memories was of image-hunting in Venice. "From ten in the morning till two in the afternoon, all we did was wander away from San Marco Square around all the tiny narrow streets," he said.

The group was led by **Chris Daren**, activities director and yearbook and newspaper adviser, and **Crystal Boyd**, publications coordinator for Harker. "The Talon editors became even more like a family on this Europe trip," said **Jennifer Ong**, Gr. 12.

"The I ♥ Yogurt show allowed all of us to get together despite our busy schedules and relive the memories from Europe – all the drama, the laughter and even the inside jokes. I had loved exploring and even getting 'lost' in Paris and Venice to actually experience what it's like to live in the city," Ong said.

Classmate and fellow editor **Sharon Huang**, Gr. 12, said, "it was awesome to look back on the trip. The best part was remembering all the memories and fun time that I had



Chris Daren



Matt Wong, Talon staff

with the group in Europe, something that the photos hanging in the yogurt shop do not document.

"I loved the opening night of the photo show because the group hung out for about three hours in front of the yogurt shop," Huang noted. "Lots of memories came flooding back to me at the show, (including) a day at a beach in Lido. That very day, Jocelyn, Janice and I stood on top of pier and we did a reenactment of the movie 'Titanic.' One of us stood on the ledge and said, 'I'm flying, Jack!' and the other girls said, 'I'll never let go!'" Huang reminisced.

"Summer of 2006 was probably the best summer of my life. I will never forget all the jokes we cracked, games we played, and just downright random things we did. The pictures on the walls of the yogurt shop give people who didn't go on the trip insight ... but to us, the photographers, they remind us of the amazing two weeks we spent together conquering Europe," Huang added.



Sharon Huang, Talon staff



Pauline Nguyen, Talon staff

Honor Society Inducts New Member

Harker added 37 students into the National Honor Society (NHS) in an induction ceremony in late October. The faculty address was delivered by psychology teacher **Naomi Schatz**, and both **Christopher Nikoloff**, head of school, and **Richard Hartzell**, head of the upper school, participated in the induction. The society bases selection of students on scholarship, leadership, service and character, and each student must fulfill requirements in each category, including holding a 3.7 or better GPA, providing community service, demonstrating leadership and personal integrity. In addition, each student must provide three letters of recommendation to gain entry to the society. This year, the Harker NHS added a new dimension to its campus presence by organizing a food drive, in conjunction with World Hunger Day, that garnered over 5,000 cans of food for Second Harvest Food Bank.

"Each year NHS has a theme," said **Jennifer Gargano**, assistant head of school for academic affairs. "Last year, they focused on raising awareness about autism and volunteering with autistic children. This year, they are focusing on homelessness

and poverty. Now that we have new inductees, we will begin volunteering to help those who are either homeless or impoverished. We will also continue with ongoing projects such as tutoring students at the LS and MS and working with the senior buddy program where our senior NHS members mentor freshmen advisory groups," she said.

Congratulations to this year's inductees: Gr. 12: **Winston Wey**; Gr. 11: **Janise Chan, Melissa Chen, Nina Duong, Senan Ebrahim, Jessica Hsueh, Anuj Kamdar, Charisma Kaushik, Andrew Law, Divya Mandava, Ankur Patel, Ranjita Raghavan, Shilpa Rajgopal, Nitasha Ranganath, Sharon Su, Stephanie Syu, Diane Wang, Jonathan Wang, Natasha Wu**; Gr. 10: **Mohit Bansal, Roshmi Bhattacharya, Alyssa Boyle, Kelly Chen, Stephanie Chong, Pratusha Erraballi, Nazia Gangani, Ida Gorshteyn, Kaavya Gowda, Daniel Hsu, Winny Huang, David Kastelman, Andrea Kim, Daniel Kim, Avani Krishna Swamy, Elizabeth Liu, Elena Madan, Lauren Moser, Anu Ramachandran, Neha Sabharwal, Denzil Sikka, Priya Thumma, Kevin Wang, Susan Wang, Connie Wu, Kevin Xu, Patricia Yen.**

Robotics Team Hones its Skills

On Oct. 28, the Harker Robotics team participated in CalGames, an off-season robotics competition for teams in the Bay Area, held at Pioneer High School in San Jose. Twenty-four local teams competed in this event, which used the game from the 2006 season. In the competition, three robots work together to score points by shooting balls through a hoop and pushing balls through goals on the ground. Two alliances compete against each other during each round.

Harker Robotics was placed 12th after the qualifying rounds and ended up captain of the eighth alliance, delivering an impressive performance overall. The event introduced new team members to the atmosphere at robotics competitions and allowed returning members the opportunity to both drive the robot and refresh their skills. The group has about 60 members, 10 each seniors and juniors, and 20 each sophomores and freshmen. It meets in room 29 at 3:45 p.m. on Thursdays. Contact adviser **Eric Nelson** for more information.

Junior Mentoring Program Takes Off

Harker's annual mentoring program for Gr. 11 students is gaining momentum. Students selected their fields and met for training in October, then met in mid-November with their mentors to become acquainted. The students will make several visits to job sites and meet with mentors to gain an appreciation of the industry they have selected. This year, Harker students will work with mentors from a variety of fields, including sports medicine, venture capital, law, engineering and biotechnology. Watch Harker News in the spring for a full report on activities!