

ONE POINT SHOT. **Celone Vo '22** focuses on making free throw shot. Vo took deep breathes and relaxed to have steady hands. "When the whistle blows and you take a free throw, it's a moment to rest because during a game you're always like running," Vo said. **PC: MARTA CHARNCHEUNGKHA**

GOOD LUCK. As the JV team warms up before their game against Leigh, **Karla Lopez '24** practices her post move with **Celone Vo '22**. The girls won 39-29 at the end of the night. "Whenever I throw up before a game, it's a good game. I get nervous and then I start throwing up but it's always a good game," Torres said. **PC: CATHLEEN NGUYEN**

COVER GROUND. With a Piedmont player riding on her side, **Alyssa Torres '22** turns the corner and beats the defender off the dribble. Torres wanted to maintain positive energy and learn from mistakes while playing with her team. "Even when things aren't going so well for us, we win together, we lose together," Torres said. **PC: MARTA CHARNCHEUNGKHA**



PRESS THE OPPONENT. To push the tempo of the game in their favor, **Kristy Huynh '23** and **Telly Do '22** initiate their one-two-two press. They risked losing energy, but received a high reward when they're able to steal the ball. "**Coach [Trishia] Samsen** wanted to press and then get back into a two-three defense because she knew that they [Leigh] didn't have anyone that could dribble well," Kristy said. **PC: CATHLEEN NGUYEN**



WINGSPAN. **Bella Samatua '20** extends her arms to deter a Leland's player's attempt to advance the ball. "I'm trying to use my wingspan to defend the girl and prevent the opposing player to pass the ball out [or] get a chance to score," Samatua said. **PC: MARTA CHARNCHEUNGKHA**



MY GO-TO. **Logan Jew '24** pulls up for a jumper in the key during practice. This move allowed her to make the majority of her shots. "It's simple, but it can get you free from your defender any time, if done properly," Jew said. **PC: ANNIE DO**



FROM ME, TO YOU. Striding beneath the balloon arch, **Destiny Hoang '20** beams at her teammates and friends waiting at the end. Hoang's cousins and friends came to her senior night and gifted posters, balloons, and baskets of her favorite snacks. "I felt very loved by all my friends and family," Hoang said. **PC: RICHARD REICHARDT**

THIS IS HOW WE DO IT
WHAT'S YOUR GOOD LUCK CHARM?



"I like to drink Starbucks before my game, I get a strawberry acai lemonade every time. I think it helps me a lot."



"I wear my Silver Creek basketball necklace to every game."



"I use tiger balm before every game because it helps with my soreness."

BE LIKE YOU. **Zaina Usman '23** lifts her arm to guard the ball against Leigh. Usman's goal for next year is to set a good example for incoming freshmen and bond with her teammates. "I admire **Jadyn Ayala '22** because she always puts in 100% effort, even when she was out because of her injury, she was still at every practice and game helping her teammates be the best players they can be," Usman said. **PC: ANDRE TRAN**



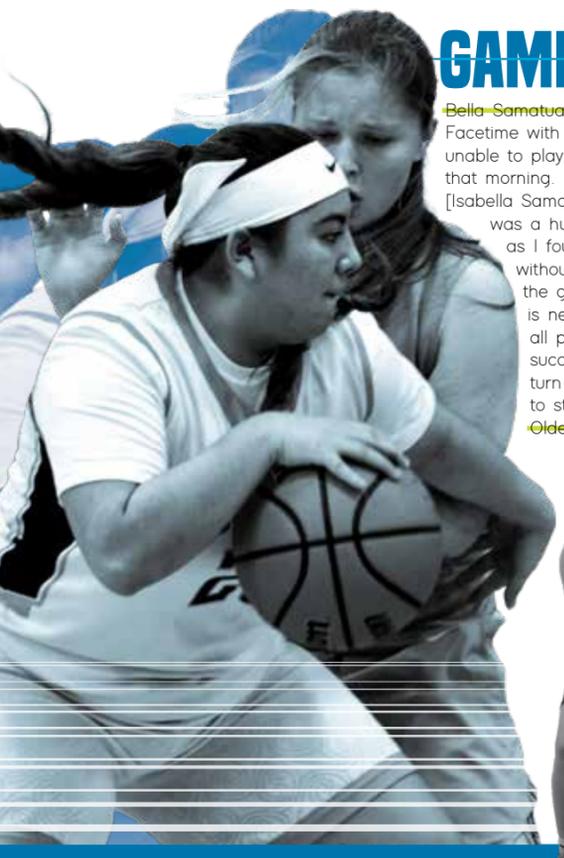
RISKING IT ALL. Falling to the ground, **Tianno Ngo '20** yelps in pain after popping her knee during the girls' game against Independence. Ngo suffered from a torn ACL. "It didn't hurt necessarily, but I was crying because I just wanted to play again," Ngo said. **PC: MARTA CHARNCHEUNGKHA**

GAME TIME 7:05 PM

Bella Samatua '20 tunes in via Facetime with **Jadyn Ayala '22**, unable to play after waking up sick that morning. "Not having Bella [Isabella Samatua] against Leland was a huge blow to my plans as I found out we would be without her just hours before the game. But my mottos is next girl up. We have all put in the work to be successful. Now it's your turn to shine, who is going to step up," **Coach Kenny Oiden** said.

BEFORE THE BUZZER BEEPS

IT'S CRUNCHTIME FOR THE GIRLS' VARSITY TEAM AGAINST LELAND HIGH SCHOOL.



HALF TIME 7:32 PM

The girls are down 45-49. "In the first half, it looked like a back and forth game. I didn't think one side had it over the other. I felt like Leland thought they had it in the bag, but you guys came out how you usually come out [with energy] so everything was okay," **Samatua** said.



DOUBLE DOWN 8:00 PM

With every basket that the girls sinks into the hoop, Leland doubles down and scores another point. This cycle loops until the very end of the third quarter with the girls being behind 22-29. "I felt confident. Even though we were down and there were bad calls, I felt like our team wanted to win so bad that we could," **Kennedy Ventura '22** said.

FINAL COUNTDOWN 8:24 PM

The court's in Leland's hands as the timer ticks down. The girls rush to block the ball when Leland's player leaps to make a jump shot. Hands immediately extend to catch the rebound as the ball ricochets off the board, ending the game at 34-34. "I was excited and nervous at the same time about going into overtime. I thought we were going to win because of the energy coming into our side," **Ashley Sipanya '24** said.

OVERTIME 8:25 PM

Overtime commences with the girls making 4 points within the first minute. Those points are combated by Leland's own 3-pointer and subsequent free throw in the next two minutes.



The timer flashes 1 minute remaining. Point-guard **Annie Do '20** fumble of the ball on her foot results in a turnover of the court. "The end of the game, I felt like I wasn't doing enough. I just really wanted to do something right. But I ended up making another mistake so I was devastated. I was thinking, "Just make it up, just make it up," Do said.

ONE MINUTE

11 SECONDS 8:27 PM

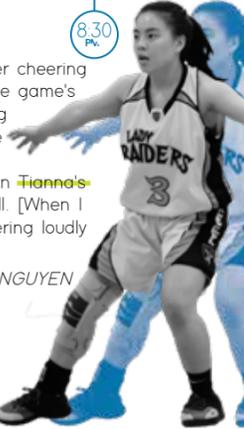
The score is tied at 38-38 with 11 seconds left on the clock. Scrambling into a full court defense, **Paris Kaea '23** steals the ball from Leland mid-release, dribbles twice, before handing it over to Ventura. The crowd leaps to their feet as Ventura dashes across the court, scoring the winning layup just before the buzzer beats. "A simple layup. Go for it! When that ball went through the hoop, I didn't know there was only 1 second left," Ventura said.



BEER BEER BEEP.

From the sidelines, all Samatua hears is her cheering teammates. But their cries ques her into the game's results. "I had no idea what was happening right before the game was ending because of Facetime's lagging. I was asking, "What happened? What happened?" Then I see on **Tianno's [Ngo '20]** screen that Kennedy had the ball. [When I found out] I wasn't jumping but I was cheering loudly in the back," Samatua said.

BY: ANNIE DO AND CATHLEEN NGUYEN



8:30 PM