

# G.O.A.T. FLOATS

In preparation for Spirit Week, students work together to build their class floats.  
Design by Chloe Amos



**COLLABORATION AND CONSTRUCTION** (dominant) Holding the wood steady, Jessica Wong ('26) helps out her fellow sophomores with building their class float. "My favorite part about float building was definitely the collaboration with me and my peers...and building and drawing all as a collective group," Wong said.

**WORKING WITH WOOD** (top) Cutting a plank into pieces, Hana Kapadia ('26) handles the machine while Gavin Lin ('26) holds the wood steady. Kapadia was pleased with the final product. "A lot of work went into it. So I'm glad with how it came out," Kapadia said.

**BALANCING BEAMS AS A TEAM** (bottom right) Lifting the float's frame into place, Paul Wang ('27) grasps the wood structure that he and his peers helped to cut and build. Wang was realistic about the results of his class' float, and has optimism for future spirit weeks. "It's freshman year. Although we got last, it's a foundation to start with," Wang said. *Photos by Emily Tang*

After school and on the weekend, the sounds of drilling, sawing, and chatter echoes across the front of the science wing. During the school day, students walk past the float structures on their way to class, admiring how the floats are taking shape. But only a handful of students from each grade know the rewarding and time extensive experience that comes with building the floats.

Hana Kapadia ('26), who worked on the sophomore class float, loved being able to connect with her class with this opportunity.

"I wanted to help out this year because I didn't have the chance to do so last year and it seemed really fun...And I just wanted to be a bigger part of our class community, and interact with more people in my grade," Kapadia said.

Constructing the large, extravagant floats is a time consuming process that requires a great deal of teamwork and dedication. For

Paul Wang ('27), a member of ASB, this was the best part of the experience and why he decided to help out.

"I really enjoyed the part of float building [where me and] 10 other freshmen would work from 10 AM to 5 PM...on one big project as a community," Wang said.

Wang put in many hours to ensure his class float was the best it could be.

"I'm on ASB and it's mandatory for you to do some days of float building. But for me personally, I just wanted to lead the freshman class in building the float."

Although the end goal of float building is receiving

the most points at the float reveal, Kapadia thought that the process of constructing it with her class was more rewarding than the final product itself.

"I liked seeing how the float progressed day to day," Kapadia said. "At the beginning it was just pieces of wood. And by the end, it was something that we could be proud of, what we created." *Story by Chloe Amos*

“By the end, it was something that we could be proud of”  
**HANA KAPADIA ('26)**

## YOM KIPPUR with TALI

Tali Lehrer ('26) explains why the Jewish holiday Yom Kippur is important to her.

For Jewish Student Union member, Tali Lehrer ('26) Yom Kippur is more than just a holiday to her, it's one of the most crucial opportunities in the year to connect to her Jewish culture and community.

"Yom Kippur is a very meaningful and serious holiday to me," Lehrer said. "It's a time where you reflect a lot on yourself, your actions, and the past year overall and what you will change in the upcoming year."

This year, Lehrer greatly appreciated

the time she spent with the people she cares about the most.

"I got to be with my family a lot, both at home and at my synagogue at services which was very special," Lehrer said.

For members of the Jewish community, Yom Kippur is a serious holiday, where traditionally, practicing

members fast.

"[It] isn't really a happy holiday, but after being at synagogue for most of the day without food, the best part is the dinner to break the fast because you eat a lot of food, talk, and be with family, which is a great way to end a difficult day," Lehrer said.

“Yom Kippur is a very meaningful and serious holiday to me”  
**TALI LEHRER ('26)**



**CONNECTING THROUGH CLUB** JSU leaders present a slideshow to teach members about Yom Kippur. "Our first club meeting we mostly had introductions, but we had a short explanation on what Yom Kippur is and what Jews do on this holiday," Lehrer said. *Photo courtesy of the Jewish Student Union Club*

## SANDLER swag

Illustration by Rebecca Doran

Girls Varsity Water Polo showed off their team spirit with an Adam Sandler themed dress up day.

Photo Courtesy of Girls Varsity water polo



### POSING FOR A PIC

The Girls Varsity Water Polo team gathered for a team photo at lunch. Gin Williams ('25) feels that dress up days add to her team's spirit and connectedness. "I think dress up days, like Adam Sandler, they helped ... to give us that team bond this year," Williams said.

## Qa Did you enjoy the team dress up day?

"It was really funny. Everyone dressed up. Everyone went all out and it was really fun. We have a few team photos and it was a really good team bonding day."



**SOPHIA AHN ('25)**

## Qa Can you describe your team's chemistry this year?

"I think our team chemistry this year has been the best I've ever experienced. I think we have a really close knit team and we all really care about each other and the sport."



**GIN WILLIAMS ('25)**

## what's your THING ?

What holiday is the most special to you and your family?

“Thanksgiving, I love fall, family, and good food”  
**ANNIE KASANIN ('27)**



“Christmas, it's the longest break to travel and see family”  
**MONTY WEBBER ('25)**



“Diwali, my family makes food, decorates, and dresses up”  
**ISHA NADKARNI ('24)**

