

## “it’s a lot AND WE LIKE IT THAT WAY”

Poverello – Vol 66 – 2024 – Saint Francis High School

We developed our theme over the summer, after much discussion over all the things that happen on campus on a nearly daily basis. We were looking to encapsulate the persistent warmth of a single-lit classroom late at night, the overwhelming spirit and pride seeping out from every corner of our student section at sports games, and the dedication our students, staff, and faculty pour into making our school a home for everyone. From the broad spectrum of academic classes we take to the countless clubs (100+) we can join, down to the hundred chocolate chip cookies made each morning fresh and hot, our school community and experience is a lot. To capture the both abundance of faiths, cultures, and interests, along with the inextinguishable energy, that our school represents, we decided on the theme: “It’s a Lot, and We Like it That Way.” This theme spoke to the variety of opportunities every student has on campus to find their own community, as well as the different perspectives and creative skills of our staff.

To truly capture the numerous events constantly going on before, during, and after a school day, we decided to cover our year chronologically, diversifying the people and groups we featured. Along with most spreads featuring six stories, we designed our book with bright colors, playful fonts, and vivid 3-D graphic elements. Our traditional pages resembled organized chaos that conveyed the unapologetic and bold personality of our book, which we uniquely chose to best embody our theme. And to really bring the point home we decided to add even more than in previous years. This book also included two new elements: a spring supplement and five, four-page, long-form, jump spreads to give attention to the topics that proved to be the most intriguing and important to our student body.

**Theme-Specific Spreads: each occurs once per chronological section** (Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring)

Headline Spin-off	Type of Spread/Description	Connection to Theme
“_____ is a lot”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>major school-wide events</li></ul>	Week-long events, including spirit weeks, and bigger performances/productions were covered with behind-the-scenes interviews and a day-by-day recap.
“... and we like _____”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>student and teacher features</li></ul>	These spreads highlight various people and spaces on campus that have unique personal stories.
“it’s a lot to consider: _____”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>current event review, opinion-editorial</li></ul>	To tie our sections in with global and local news, our opinion articles chose a specific current events issue and magnified its relevance to our school.
“and we _____ that way”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>investigative reports</li></ul>	Our reports take a deep dive into the innerworkings of elements in and around campus like safety, sustainability, and course scheduling.

it's  
a lot

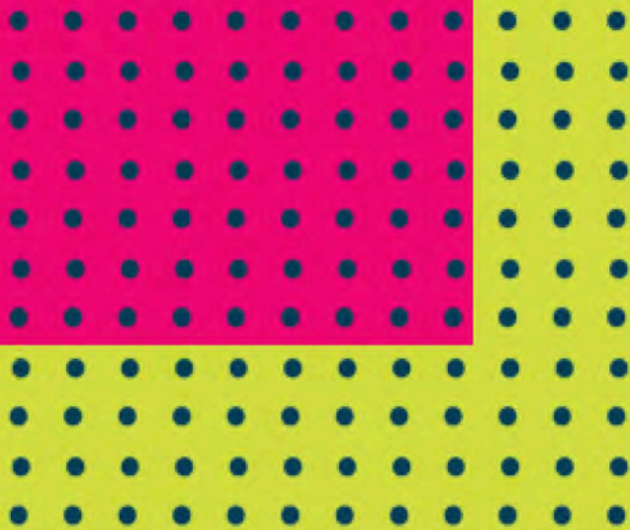
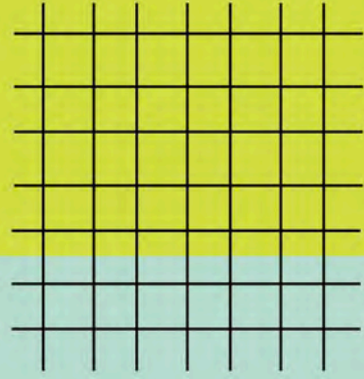
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2024

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Saint Francis HIGH SCHOOL Mountain View, CA

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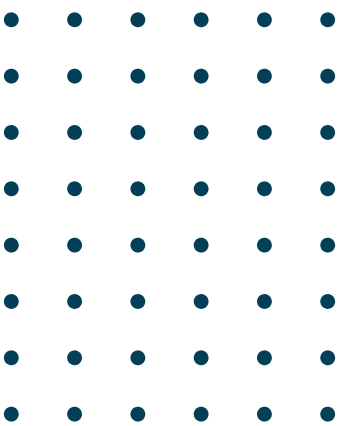
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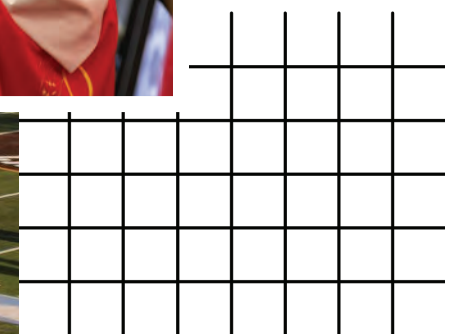
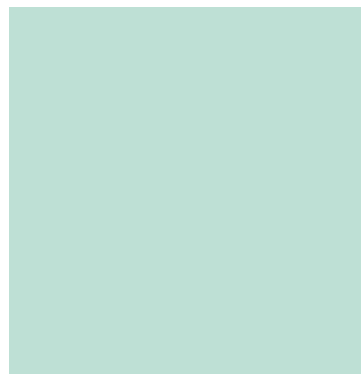
[1] Dropping that Beat **DEVYN PONNUVELU '25** leads Acapella as they perform for Night of Acoustics. They beat-boxed as the rest of the vocalists performed "Girl Put Your Records On" for the student and parent audience. [2] **Together as a Team** The Varsity Girls Volleyball team huddle before their next set. Team spirits were high as the team had an almost undefeated season. [3] **Feel that Club Rush** Club leaders of the Model UN Club recruit new members during club fair. Club fair experienced a new location and earlier scheduling, getting students involved as soon as possible. [4] **Get the Band Back Together** Drum major **JYU LEE '24** leads the band during their performance at the Back-to-School rally. The band made an explosive entrance at

the rally, and **LEE'S** energy was infectious. [5] **Suspended in Spaghetti** Juniors **ELLA RAY, LAUREN KELLY, FRANNY HUANG,** and **AVA BULANTI** watch as **MR. MICHAEL RUBIN** evaluates their initial test pasta bridge. After building and breaking their first bridge, students in his physics class analyzed their structure's weak points and redesigned their bridges, with only pasta and hot glue. [6] **Life in Plastic** Dressed in outfits inspired by the Barbie movie, students in the Rage Cage cheer during the season's first football game. The game drew one of the biggest student crowds all season. [7] **Bound to Be Blessed** Father **ANTHONY MANCUSO** concludes a liturgical gospel reading. **MANCUSO** followed his reading up with a moving homily about the Holy Spirit.

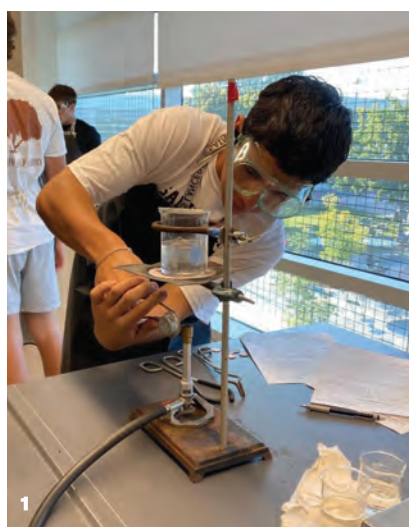
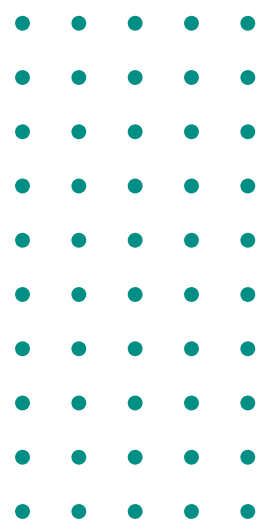


# it's a lot

2	OPENING
6	SUMMER
20	FALL
80	WINTER
126	SPRING
146	PORTRAITS
200	CLUBS REFERENCE
222	INDEX







[1] Sparks Fly **CARLOS MAGDALENO '26** attempts to light a Bunsen burner during a chemistry lab. The class tested the different properties of water, including boiling point, during this lab. [2] Tug 'Til You Drop Seniors pull as hard as they can during a close game of Tug of War. A highlight of the Back-to-School Rally, Tug of War drew many student contestants and loud cheers from the crowds. [3] Field of Dreams Driving the ball forward, Junior **ALEXA EROS** pushes offense. Her pass helped the team gain a lead in a tight game. [4] Marching Mania Percussionist **SRITHAN ANDRA '25** leads **ESHA MERCHANT '25**, **LUKE RUZON '26**, **RACHEL YANG '24**, and **KANISHKA BISHT '26** as they begin their march to the sidelines during a football game. The band kept the music upbeat throughout the game and performed at halftime.



and we

LIKE

IT

that way





**saint  
francis**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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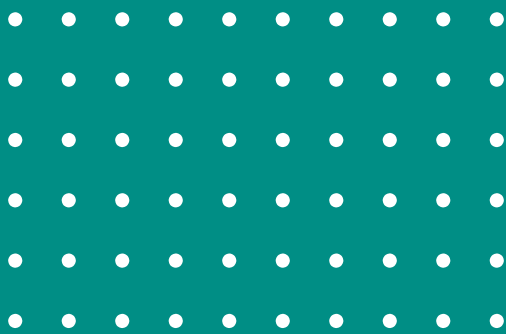
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**Leaps and bounds.** With joy and grace, **KYLIE CHAD '25** performs at the Winter Dance Showcase. The event celebrated various styles of dance from modern ballet to jazz to Bollywood. Students from Dance 1 and Dance 2 joined forces with dance clubs to showcase their talents.

2023-2024  
POVERELLO  
VOLUME 66



president: JASON CURTIS  
principal: KATIE TEEKELL

Western Catholic Athletics League  
Central Coast Section  
California Interscholastic Federation

@SFHS\_POVERELLO

<b>196</b>	EDUCATORS & STAFF
<b>457</b>	FRESHMEN
<b>462</b>	SOPHOMORES
<b>428</b>	JUNIORS
<b>419</b>	SENIORS
<b>1765</b>	TOTAL STUDENTS



Rage Cage filled to the brim, bright pink feather boas and cowboy hats left and right.

Liturgy band has us humming “Reckless Love” for a month after the All Souls Day mass.

From marching band and color guard coming back after a competition at 1:00 AM, to the chapel ready for Father Tony at 7:00 AM.

Field hockey practices melt into the night, fall play rehearsals dominate weekends.



[1] **Heave Ho!** During the Back to School Rally, teachers battled juniors on the other end in an epic tug-of-war competition. The rally also featured a lip sync, performances from various spirit groups, and engaging crowd activities. [2] **Yeah, She Can Cook** Featured dancers **ALENA VU '25**, **ISABELLA NAZARENO '27**, and **RILEY KELLER '24** strike a pose as **ADRIANNA ARMANINO '25** and **KARINA CHEN '25** sing in 'Freaky Friday.' The student-run musical showcased the acting, singing, and dancing skills of various powerhouse performers.



You'll catch a few minutes of sleep on the bus back from Second Harvest after packing boxes with your religion class, but it won't stop there. Between toy drives and ocean cleanups, you'll continue serving on campus and all throughout the year.

Bruno Mars dance battles, “Annie” sing-a-longs, and a homecoming proposal sweep the crowd's votes on Play Day.

**WE GATHER, CHANT, AND go b-a-n-a-n-a-s.**

[3] **Dressed to Dance** **PERLA CORDOVA '26** swishes her skirt to the upbeat music. Folklorico dancers were a staple at many cultural events throughout the year. [4] **History in the Making** English and AP Government teacher **DON CARROLL** leads a class on the history of socialism. Attentive students learned about the political and economic theory in the context of global events during his class. [5] **Pacing and Racing** Varsity Cross Country runner **JAMES POOLE '25** persists through his course. The cross country team had an impressive season, ranking second in CCS. *photos by kylie tran & marina kan. page by annmary antony*



**IT'S A LOT OF VOICES, A LOT OF HOURS, A LOT OF DEDICATION and we always show up.**

Pulling all-nighters for that crucial pre-calc midterm, and then waking up at the crack of dawn to make an hour or more commute on Brown days.

Sprinting to HoBag and waiting in line for Starbucks about 5 minutes before first period even when you know you're almost out of time.

An emoji-filled email from ASB, following three different club meeting reminders and a message from your counselor waits in your inbox.

**WE CAFFEINATE, STUDY, AND BALANCE and we don't quit.**



# IT'S A LOT, and we like it

## we like the thrill

To throw yourself on the floor on a Friday night, yet again, because a little physical comedy couldn't hurt a Shakespeare's Dropout.

The rush of going on air and broadcasting to the entire school on Lancer Live, the excitement of waiting to perform with your K-pop dance team.

## we like the people

To get chased by a plate of whipped cream and pied in the face on your birthday by your robotics team.

To leave the country on immersion with people you've never talked to before, only to return closer than ever.

## we like the memories

To reminisce about your virtual freshman year Bio class while you learn in-person from Mr. Cobb again as a senior.

Every Spanish 3H cultural project that took us around the world, every computer program that clicked into place like a puzzle thanks to Mrs. Vollucci, every socratic that made us question our existence in Moral Issues.



[1] Serene Strumming **SAMANTHA YOUNG '24** plays her guitar on the steps of the Innovation Center. As an avid ukulele player and singer, **YOUNG** further demonstrated her musical prowess during a Special Schedule session about playing guitar. [2] **Hail the Brown and Gold** Surrounded by students at an end of a rally, **EVAN PASION** leads the school in the alma mater. With many voices in unison, the alma mater was a powerful way to end an engaging rally. [3] **Sing It Out** Agape, the school's liturgy band, livens the service with their music lead **AMY STACKE** and **SEBASTIEN BAGALSO '25**. Their singing often concluded the mass, releasing students in joyful spirits. [4] **Light Up the Night** Rage Cage scintillates as the hours dwindle at a football game. Cage captains worked hard to incorporate interactive and movement based cheers to increase the energy of the student crowd. photos by kylie tran & abhijit nambiar. page by annmary antony



# IT'S A LOT, AND WE LIKE THE VARIETY, THE ENERGY, AND THE POSSIBILITIES.



# it's a lot

## AND WE LIKE IT THAT WAY



hours, minutes, seconds count down

TO THE FINAL BOW, THE FINAL BELL,  
THE FINAL ALMA MATER.

The **hour** you woke up earlier on a G1 day just to pick up donuts for your advisory class.  
The **minute** it took you to finish your AP World DBQ with a mic-drop worthy conclusion.  
The **second** you found out you're going to college.

**BLINK** and you'll miss the match-ending pin that earned you a place in the wrestling team's Wall of Fame.



Our true colors are found in hand-drawn posters made for senior night and rows of highlights in our copy of the Odyssey.

THE SOUNDTRACK OF OUR LIFE?

It's acapella singing "True Imagination" for Broadway showcase, Coach Campagna's whistle dispersing an intramural game, and "have a wonderful Wednesday!" ending our mid-week announcements.

WAIT A MOMENT

and you'll notice Science Olympiad fixing their wind turbine for the Golden Gate Invitational or a TEDx speaker running their talk for the tenth time, later and later into the night.



[1] **Decode Through the Day** TARUN PRAKASH '27 and NEIL PATEL '27 work during LancerHacks VII. The hackathon spanned over 8 hours and drew crowds from local middle schools and even other states. [2] **Holding Out for a Hero** KARA MERKERT '24, AVA SUAKJIAN '25, MIKAELA JEFFRIES '26, AMELIE CASTEJON '25, KARINA CHEN '25, and SUHANI ANAND '24 perform the iconic Bonnie Tyler song during the Holy Cross rally. This performance was a quick sneak peak at the spring production of "Footloose: The Musical." [3] **Look Before You Leap** Junior MARGOT BROWN completes her high jump. She, among many other track athletes, participated and competed in various events. [4] **The Word of the Lord** ANTHONY MANCUSO raises the Bible as senior SAMANTHA YOUNG leads the prayer of the faithful. Father MANCUSO and YOUNG have been important parts of many liturgies throughout the year. *photos by kylie tran, katherine winton, marina kan & abhijit nambiar. page by annmary antony.*

IT'S A LOT OF EFFORT AND A LOT OF JOY  
and we constantly re-discover  
what we're made of.





Singing “Oh Happy Day” at the end of the Interfaith Prayer Service, making crepes with your French exchange student.

Building up a company in Entrepreneurship from an idea you had with your friends at lunch.

Your planner is dotted with post-it drawings of your roller coaster model, times for your next Book Club meeting, and a note to your future self to bring your calculator for the next Algebra 2 test.



## THE CHAOS DOESN'T SCARE US.

It's in the inside jokes that you make on retreat or the goofy 0.5's that you take in your prom dress that **your presence is seen, your absence felt.**

Joining Rage Cage on a random Tuesday to cheer on the girls basketball team, breaking down a piece on your Art & Resistance field trip with Ms. Morales.

We do it for the teachers who are always there to talk and the facilities staff who never fail to check up on you.

We do it all to turn the pages on every belly-aching laugh, every bear hug, **every moment you were proud to be a Lancer.**

[1] **Lancers Hail the Brown and Gold** The entire student body points their fingers during the alma mater at the end of the Holy Cross Rally. Led by **EVAN PASION '03**, the alma mater was a staple of every major school event. [2] **Lacrosse the Line** Varsity boys lacrosse player **KAYSEN CHOUDRY '24** pushes past opposing defenders. He carried the ball across the field to get a clear pass to his teammate. [3] **Cello, It's String Ensemble** Seniors **PABLO**

**QUINONERO KOCH** and **KYLIE CHEN** perform during a winter music concert. String Ensemble has performed at other venues as well including local seminaries, along with choir and band. [4] **Ready to Rumble Lancelot** and **LUKAS BUTLER '25** walk toward Rage Cage during a football game. Friends of Lancelot, like **BUTLER**, were present at events with Lancelot for any of his needs. *photos by nathan lee & abhijit nambiar. page by annmary antony.*



IT'S A LOT  
and we  
like the  
**thrill**, the  
people,  
and the  
**memories.**



it's a lot  
AND WE LIKE IT THAT WAY



# fall

**[1] Let's Get Rowdy!** Lancers pack the Rage Cage for the first football game of the season, themed Barbie. Fans decked out in Barbie pink and Ken flannel cheer for the football team during second quarter. **[2] Raising People & Spirits** During the back-to-school rally, **NATALIE LIONG '24**, the main flier on the cheer squad, balances on the base her teammates form to hold her up during the climax of the song. She wears her Senior jersey and black face paint in support of the senior class, whose rally color was black. *photos by marina kan & abhijit nambiar*  
*page by pia agrawal*

22 - Week 8/16 — 8/25  
24 - Cross Country  
26 - Girls Golf  
28 - Campus Security & Safety  
32 - Week 8/28 — 9/8  
34 - Football  
36 - Girls Water Polo  
38 - Textile Arts  
40 - Week 9/11 — 9/22  
42 - Girls Volleyball  
44 - Field Hockey  
46 - Week 9/25 — 10/6  
48 - Boys Water Polo  
50 - Girls Flag Football  
52 - Media Bias  
56 - Week 10/9 — 10/20  
58 - Girls Rugby  
60 - Girls Tennis  
62 - Homecoming  
64 - Week 10/23-11/3  
66 - Spirit Squads  
68 - Band & Color Guard  
70 - “A Gift to Remember”  
72-79 - Fall Sports Reference

Live squids for dissection on Ms. Liem’s lab tables, fresh faces on the new lanyards hanging around our necks.

Compiling countless pages of sources and quotes supporting your debate case for the Stephen Stewart Invitational.

Swaying to our own version of the “Lava” song as Campus Ministry serenades us with ukuleles.

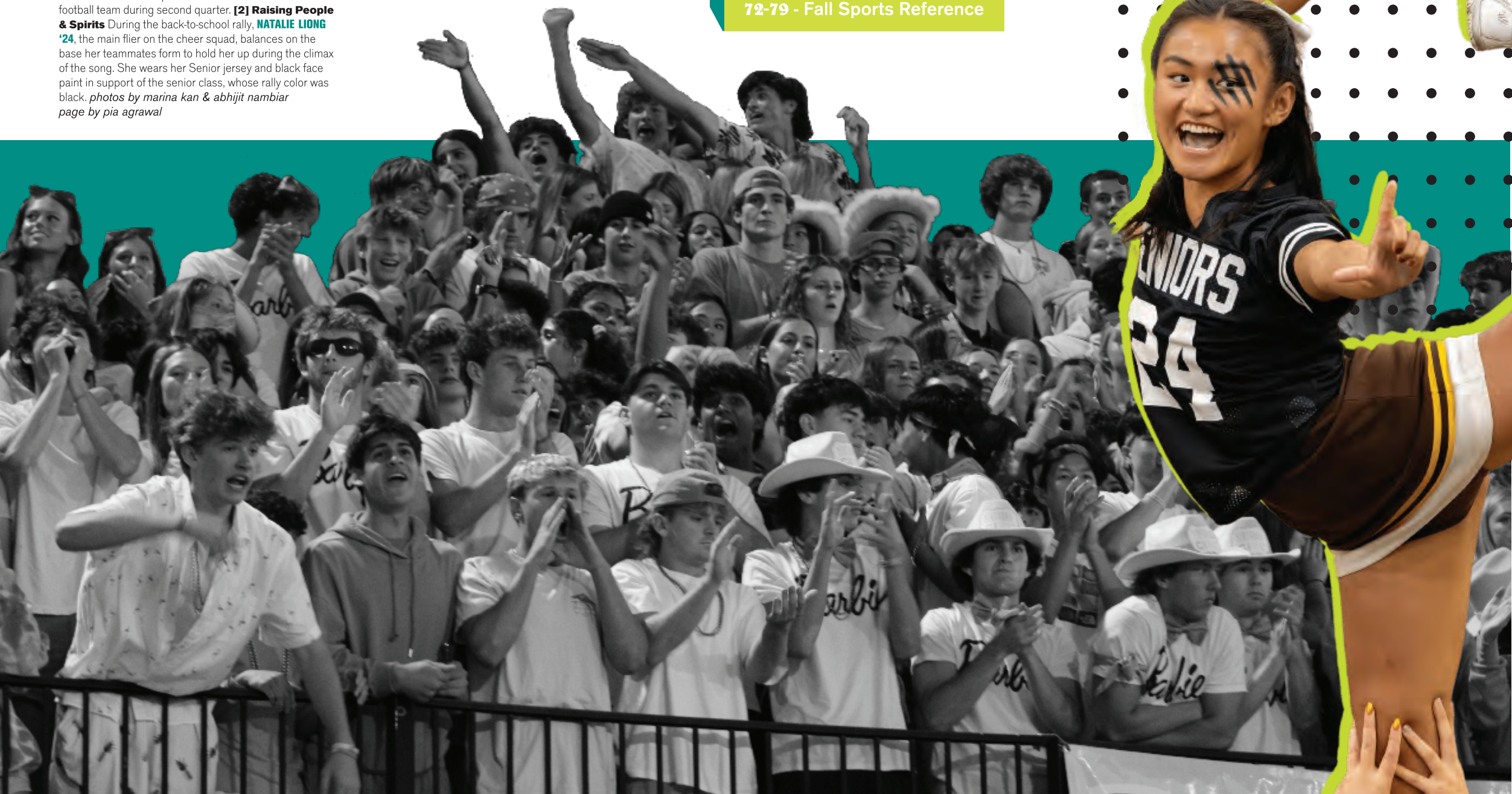
**we do it for the thrill**



To create a tunnel of cheers and high-fives at the Homecoming Dance, minutes before your friends are crowned royalty.

To win your first game as a part of the school's first varsity flag football team.

**IT'S A LOT,  
AND WE LIKE THE  
EXCITEMENT, THE  
DETERMINATION,  
AND THE  
COMEBACK.**





# HOCO is a lot

Oct. 23 - 28: "Lancer Lift-Off" kept students engaged for a fun-filled Homecoming week.



## MONDAY airport fit

Lancer Lift-Off began with classic airport outfits, as students wore sweatpants and sweatshirts, neck pillows and eye masks, and plushies and suitcases. Contestants, such as **JEREMY BROSNAW '24**, raced against each other in the TSA suitcase game to find the hidden contrabands.

## TUESDAY in flight fun

Students dressed as an actor, singer, or book character- anyone from something you'd watch or listen to on the plane. There were talent shows during lunches in the Innovation Theater. **CHLOE SHIN '25** dressed as a character from "Men in Black."



## WEDNESDAY find your flight crew

Juniors **SOPHIA KHAN**, **MARISA BALTODANO**, **ISABELLA CRUZ-MELO**, and **MICHAELANGELO GREELY** dressed up as Alvin and The Chipmunks. Others dressed as other iconic groups such as Thing One and Thing Two and the Care Bears. Duos and trios participated in the scavenger hunt during lunch to try to win a prize.

## THURSDAY turbulence

The plane has hit some turbulence! Students and teachers dressed in the most crazy and mismatched outfits possible. Wacky hats, fun hairstyles, layers on layers of uncoordinated clothes, and bright colors made every student stand out. Teachers also partook, bringing out their vibrant personalities. During both lunches, students such as **KYLIE BROWN '25**, **SHARBANI PATNAIK '24**, and **SUCHITA RAO '24** made hand-crafted paper airplanes that took off into the air.



## FRIDAY play day!



**NIVA SHIRSEKAR '24** performs as Bruno Mars in the HOCO rally. She, along with three other students, performed their skit during the second rally of the day.

Play day — a day with no classes, only fun! Starting with a perfectly normal rally, or so we thought. It was immediately hacked by aliens! [1] The lights went out! Chaos ensued! Students were then ejected out onto the football field. On the bright side, there were plenty of games to play. You could joust your friend off a stand, race them on the infamous big red balls obstacle, or in a giant bouncy-castle course that ends with a huge slide! From there, the second rally took place in the gym. [2] Students watched Homecoming skits, such as an Annie themed performance. They also learned who Lancelot's date was and played a couple more games before ending the special day.



## THRIFT-OFF!

For the first time in school history, the junior class council organized a thrift store. Donations of worn homecoming dresses, suits, jewelry, and other accessories were brought in for display. After school Tuesday, Oct. 24, students lined up in the PAC lobby to choose a previously-owned outfit for the Homecoming Dance.

Say YES to the DRESS **ALEXIS RASK '25** looks at a dress on the thrift dress rack. Her and several other fellow students perused the selection.



HOW DID THE THRIFT STORE HELP THE COMMUNITY AND WILL IT COME BACK IN THE FUTURE?

"I think a lot of people found their perfect homecoming outfits through the store! Many people, myself included, procrastinate a lot on shopping for homecoming dresses, so this store made it really easy for people who hadn't found a dress yet, to do so! Also, because everything was free, it helped people save money to keep or spend on something else they might want. "I hope this becomes a lancer tradition! I think it's a really special event, and it did extremely well its very first year! I hope it continues to grow in the coming years and becomes an integral part of homecoming."" - **NATALIE CHAN '25**

## SATURDAY hoco dance

Pick the stars right from the night sky and bring them into the gym for the 2023 Homecoming dance! The theme was starry night, and people dressed in their best glittery outfits. There were sequins, sparkles, and silver galore — everything from star earrings, sparkling dresses, and silver ties. With the lights out, it was nearly completely dark in the Burns Gym; save for some decorative lights around the whole gym.



**ISAIAH ANCHETA '26** crushes balloons during the first rally's Asteroid Destruction game. Students from each class were tasked with popping balloons corresponding to their class colors while staying in their plastic bubble.