

Page excels in the fine arts

by Violet Wallerstein

Center Editor

Junior **Tylyn Page** can't be president, but we wish she could. Page was born in Japan and moved to America for the first four years of her life. She and her family then went back to Japan for seven years and then came back to California at age 11. Though Page was born in Japan, she does not have citizenship there and is only an American citizen.

Page's life has been heavily influenced by Japanese culture. Page can speak, read, and write in both Japanese alphabets, and knows a decent amount of kanji, or Japanese ideographs. She shops at Daiso and Mitsuwa and says, "You can't go anywhere in our house without finding something Japanese. It has stayed a part of our life."

Page also has a passion for art. She spends much of her time working on drawings, even though this is the first year she has taken an art class. She stuck with drawing because painting has "all the prep work and cleanup... [drawing] is an easy and contained form of art. You can pick up a pencil and draw anywhere." Page began to be interested in art in elementary school, when she spent lunch with a girl who was really into art. Her style is more cartoonish than realism. She says that she has no inspiration for her art, just whatever comes to mind. "I just kind of sit down and decide what I want to draw."

In the future, Page hopes to either advance in art or science. "I can't do history... but I definitely want to stick with art. Even if it doesn't become a profession, it is just too fun to let go." Page also says, "I loved biology freshman year. I would go in at tutorial to feed the mice and clean up their poop."

Page is also in the school band as a clarinet and oboe player. She has been in band since fifth grade

when she started playing clarinet, and in seventh grade she started playing oboe "because [she] thought it had too cool of a name to pass up!" Page is also considering trying the English horn. She plays oboe for concert band, but clarinet for marching band. When asked about which she prefers, Page replied, "I like concert band because you can have difficult pieces and have to practice, but you don't have to work too hard. Marching band is not as fun, but it's better than P.E." She recently went on the music program's trip to England and reported, "we were all tired all the time; what I remember most was being exhausted and finding everything hilarious."

Page follows her passions and is relentlessly herself, whether through her art, her music, or just her everyday life.



courtesy T. Page

Amatriain travels globally

by Jessica Blough

Culture Editor

Sophomore **Aitor Amatriain** might be new to LGHS, but he certainly has enough cultural experience to fit in wherever he is. Amatriain lived in Spain for most of his life, making him a seasoned traveler and avid soccer fan. Now that he plans on staying in the US for a few years, he intends to make his mark on LGHS through sports and academics.

Amatriain was born in La Garriga, Spain, just outside of Barcelona. He lived there until he was in first grade, when his father took a temporary teaching job at UCSB and he moved to Santa Barbara for two years. He then returned to Spain until moving to San Jose in 2011. Amatriain spent three years at Price Middle School and Leigh High School before transferring to LGHS.

In Spain, Amatriain was exposed to many traditional Spanish customs. His hometown, La Garriga, is packed with different kinds of people due to its suburban location, so Amatriain got to experience "many different cultures and festivals." Amatriain described the Spanish architecture almost like a medieval fairytale, saying "Everything's older and the streets are made differently." The schooling system in Spain is also very different from the US system. Amatriain took harder classes and had to study more to pass exams. Lunch break was a full two and a half hours due to the cultural emphasis on food.

Because of European countries' proximity to each other, Amatriain had the opportunity to travel to many different places. In addition to exploring most of Spain, he took full



courtesy A. Amatriain

advantage of Europe's small size and visited England, Italy, and France. He is fluent in three languages, English, Spanish, and Catalan, as well as some French.

Amatriain has enjoyed living in both the US and Spain. However, he is uncertain about whether he will move back to Spain anytime soon. "I never know where the future will take me," he commented. If he does decide to return, Amatriain will wait until he is an adult and has completed his studies at LGHS.

Amatriain is taking six classes this year, three of which are advanced placement classes, and plans to play soccer and tennis in the winter and spring. In his free time, he enjoys playing guitar and keeping up with the Spanish soccer team.

Pelton plays varsity volleyball as a freshman

by Kate Hinsche

Opinion Editor

Freshman **Kiana Pelton** has established herself as a standout athlete. She is one of the first freshmen in three years to make the cut for varsity girls' volleyball, and she has certainly earned her place.

Pelton has played for three years with Vision Volleyball Club, and spends much of her club season traveling to tournaments in Nevada, Colorado, Texas, and Minnesota. In preparation for tryouts for the six month long club season, Pelton practices in her front yard with her stepdad. This sounds like a simple father-daughter game until you realize that Pelton has a full length grass volleyball court for a front yard. "It was because of my stepdad that I started playing volleyball," mentioned the 5'8" middle blocker. Pelton is extremely grateful for her stepdad's passion for volleyball, for it inspired her current love and dedication to the sport.

In addition to her club season and grass practices, Pelton also plays sand volleyball in the summer and conditioned



with the school team throughout the summer as well. Despite her intense work ethic, Pelton didn't dream of landing the coveted varsity spot. "I expected to make JV, but I never thought I could make varsity".

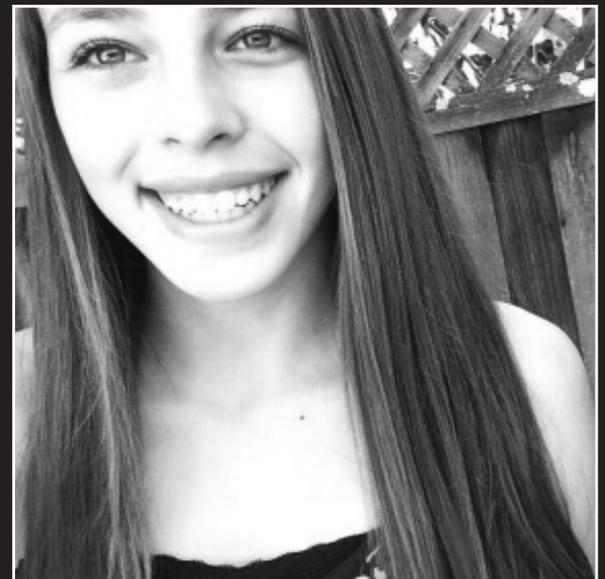
Pelton dreams of one day going to a Division I college for volleyball. In fact, she has known since elementary school that a college career is in her future, and started looking at universities in sixth grade. She hopes to study business and later start her own company.

Although the statement "volleyball is life" can just about sum up Pelton, one of her interests outside of athletics is photography. She often enjoys experimenting with iPhone photography and posting the photos on Instagram.

A fun fact about Pelton: she is a non-conformist. In contrast to popular opinion, Pelton believes that Beyoncé peaked with Single Ladies, and her recent album, titled Beyoncé, was "just bad."

Next time you hear of an upcoming varsity volleyball game,

remember to go and you might get to see Pelton, doing what she does best.



photos courtesy of K. Pelton

Rizol's love for soccer is second only to his love for nature

by Ruth Murai

Web Editor-in-Chief

The air thins ever so slightly the higher he climbs. It's hard to tell what time of day it is outside as the trees above block out the sun but trap the heat underneath their shade. Sweltering and exhausted, junior **Jagger Rizol** continues his trek upward, knowing the view he will find at the end of his climb will be worth the hike. As usual, Rizol is surrounded by his close friends as he adventures into the wilderness of Los Gatos, hoping to go, as he says, "where no man has gone before."

Although he is always up for exploring the hills of Los Gatos, Rizol spends the majority of his time out of the mountains playing soccer. He began the sport at age four and has been an extremely dedicated player ever since. Rizol plays midfield and enjoys the aspects of the game that allow him to grow close to his fellow teammates, boys he has played soccer with from a young age. One such teammate is varsity soccer captain senior **Nikhil Amin**, who said about Rizol, "The only regret I have about meeting Jagger is that we didn't meet sooner." Amin and Rizol currently play



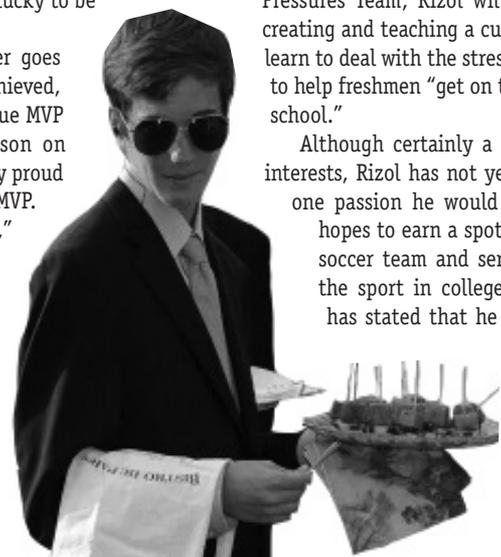
together on Pacific Soccer Academy, their off-season club team. Amin elaborated on his friendship with Rizol, "Jagger is an extremely talented well-rounded kid, and anyone should be lucky to be called his friend."

Rizol's success in soccer goes beyond what most have achieved, as last year he earned League MVP after an impressive season on the LGHS team. "I was really proud and excited to get League MVP. It's a big accomplishment," said Rizol. This year as a member of the varsity squad, Rizol will have to keep up that same intensity.

Like most juniors, Rizol anticipates a difficult year ahead, filled with SAT's, college stress, and AP classes. Learning to juggle these tasks

alongside soccer makes Rizol a perfect leader for Freshman Skills Day, which he recently joined on a recommendation from his friends. As part of the FSD Pressures Team, Rizol will spend the next months creating and teaching a curriculum to help freshmen learn to deal with the stress of high school. He hopes to help freshmen "get on the path to do well in high school."

Although certainly a man of many talents and interests, Rizol has not yet tethered himself to any one passion he would like to specialize in. He hopes to earn a spot as a captain for the LGHS soccer team and seriously considers pursuing the sport in college. As for his future, Rizol has stated that he would definitely consider becoming a sea captain. Whether Rizol ends up on land, or sea, or perhaps hiking high in the hills of Los Gatos, he is sure to remain cheerful and humorous no matter the endeavor.



photos courtesy J. Rizol