



INSIDE SI



Annika Pyo '21

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THE NEWSPAPER OF ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREPARATORY

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INTRODUCING: VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day offers us the chance to reflect on the people in our lives who we appreciate and dare to say we love. The students, faculty and staff at SI truly make this campus community unique and special, fostering a campus with a loving environment. *InSide SI* wants to highlight members of our community to thank for their hard work, diligence, and for inspiring us through their actions, words, and presence. We would like to thank you, our readers, and fellow members of the school community for continuing to support our publication. We are sending love your way! Our hope is that this issue reminds you to let the people in your life know how much you care about them. Happy Valentine's Day SI!

Love, Milan Murphy '22, Lindsay Yamamura '22, Ethan Tam '22

SEE INSIDE!

- **Brother Lee Spotlight** - pg. 7
- **Lunar New Year Homily** by Melissa Hua '23 - pg. 8
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Dear beautiful people,
For every moment of eye contact as you walk into class, for every nod during a lecture, for every gentle reminder to fix a grade, for every shared laugh, and for every "thank you" you share with me as you leave, I want to share my own gratitude. I am so lucky you all are in my life.

With great warmth,
Mr. Joo

To my dear students,
I am so grateful to be able to work with you this year! Your energy, passion, curiosity, and humor make our classes so great. I learn from you every day. Happy Valentine's Day!
With much love,
Ms. Nickolai

I'm grateful for helping students reveal who they are through their experiences and perspectives. Remember, your next stop after SI is a layover, not your final destination. Continue to grow into becoming the best version of yourself.
- Mr. Lorenzo

My dear students, you keep a light shining in me every day. You inspire me to be a better version of myself when I don't think that's possible. Keep that courage in you and passion for all you do. Do something for yourself every day and remember you are incredible.
Love you always!
- Ms. Shick

I love Ms. Nickolai, a perfect collaborator, Ms. Boland, a generous classroom mate, and so many of my colleagues in the faculty, staff, and administration for their dedication to the students.
Mr. Devine

I dearly love the Inside SI editorial staff for their dedication, diligence, hard work, but most of all for their playfulness, wit, and joy. How I will miss them next year!

I love my seniors both semesters this year, a spirited senior class. I love my sophomores for their incredible goodness, especially while I must teach online during this recent outbreak.

- Mr. Devine

XOXO

BE MINE

YOU & ME

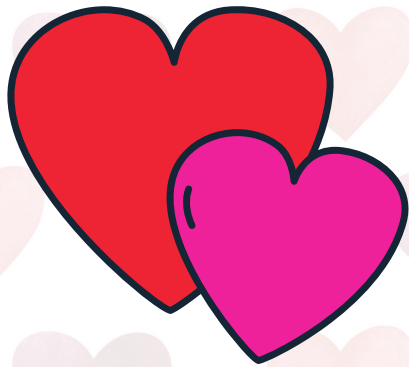
2 BRUCE MAHONEY



On January 19, 2022 the SI Girls Varsity Basketball team won their first ever Bruce Mahoney game against SHC 60-47, causing SI to lead 2-1 for the trophy. Two days later, on January 21, 2022, the SI Boys Varsity Basketball team beat SHC in a nail-biter game, 69-65. Both these victories contributed to winning the Bruce Mahoney Trophy for the 2021-2022 school year. The trophy will stay at SI, where it belongs!



3 LOVE LETTERS



Dear Campus Ministry,

Thank you all for bringing a sense of community to every gathering. From the beautiful harmonies of Music Ministry to the intricate decor at every prayer service, you foster a space for all of us to engage with faith. Your dedication to uplifting our spirits and providing opportunities for reflection don't go unappreciated on campus.

Dearest Ms. Brancoli and Ms. Wenger,

Thank you for sharing your love of reading with the rest of the SI community. Your guidance in choosing the best books whether for pleasure or schoolwork is crucial for our continued intellectual growth. Although we may get a bit rowdy there, the library feels much more welcoming knowing that we can always rely on you both for any questions.



Sweet Security Staff,

Thank you for continuous work in ensuring our safety on campus! From the very moment a student enters the building, your protective efforts allow us all to freely learn. We appreciate your presence throughout the school, as our day would not be the same without your warm smiles. We also want to wish Christian well as he leaves SI after serving our community with such great spirit for so long. Thanks to everyone for making SI feel like a home.



To the Buildings and Ground Crew,

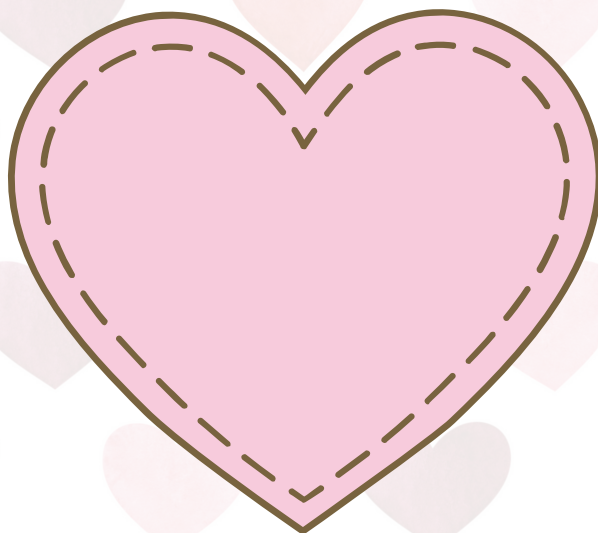
Without your help moving desks, cleaning our campus (which students should be doing!), setting up events, and much more, we would not have the SI that we have today. Your work throughout the school year is the reason we enter an orderly campus every morning. The pandemic has certainly made our schedules more complicated with new protocols and safety requirements to abide by, and we are grateful that we have had your support. Thank you so much for all that you do!

4 LOVE LETTERS



Dear New Teachers,

Thank you for bringing your gifts to the SI community! From the very beginning of the year, you all supported us in the transition to all in-person learning and jumped right in to learning right beside us too. We are so grateful for the new energy you have brought to your classes and willingness to grow with us.



Dearest Deans and Ms. Kohnman,

Thank you for always being a friendly face walking through campus. While this is a thankless job, we appreciate your dedication to upholding students to SI's values.



Dear Food Staff,

Thank you so much for spending countless hours preparing food for school lunches and SI events. We appreciate the work and time put into making each day's hot meal, while also providing sandwiches and other staple snacks throughout the day. Your presense in the commons and snack shack brings a smile to students' faces. Students would not be able to thrive the same way at SI without your work and dedication.

To Ms. Nickolai and Mr. Devine,

The *Inside SI* staff, your students, and fellow faculty members all appreciate everything you do to make SI the community it is. We are all blessed to be able to learn from such gifted, thoughtful, and patient individuals, who make it a point to lift us up. Your unwavering support and constructive feedback challenges us to grow into the best writers, students, and teachers we can be, and we cannot thank you enough.

We asked some students to share a moment they felt loved at SI! Take a moment to read these reflections and reflect on your own moments of love. Whether it be getting support from teachers or having a conversation with a friend, we can all find these moments in our every day lives.

"I felt loved when I am dancing with my friends!"
- Joi Bryant '22

"I felt loved when my coach told me, 'I'm here for you.'"
-Val Karanian'25

"A time I felt loved was when I hiked up Grand View Park and watched the sunset with my best friend."
-Aiden Wong '22

"I felt loved when a friend bought me boba during resource."
-Kayleigh Yee '23

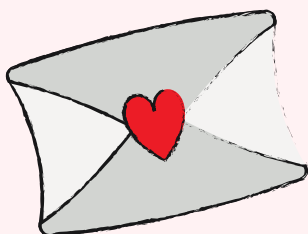
"I felt loved at SI during the Water Polo season, the entire team was able to connect over the dread of the 6am morning swims."
-Jack Heafy '24

"I felt loved when a friend bought me a commons cookie."
-Katherine Smith'25

"I felt loved at SI when my friends baked me peanut butter brownies and gave me a balloon with all their signatures and a really good drawing for my birthday. They're also super considerate every day and make school really fun."
-Kylie Landers '24

"For one of my friend's birthdays, my friends and I walked down the reservoir and had a picnic on the hill. We took a lot of pictures and joked around... It was the first time I was in the moment with friends that knew me well. It was the first time I felt alive and fully present in the moment. I knew I deserved to be there, surrounded by those I love and who love me back."
-Isabel Balleza'22

"I'd say it's when my friends offer to help me with something. Whether it be something little as holding something or whether that be something bigger like getting food for the both of us while I finish my classes. I'm immensely lucky to have them as friends and am so grateful!"
-Gaby Freedland'23



CANDY GRAMS

Megan O'Sullivan'22

Managing Editor

While Valentine's Day might not be the most celebrated holiday, many people still have traditions of telling their loved ones, romantic, platonic, and everyone in between, how much they love and appreciate them. In years past, SI has offered candy and singing grams. Students could purchase a candy gram, which would be delivered to their recipient of choice throughout the day, or a singing gram, where the school's best singers would serenade the person you sent it to. These were an amazing opportunity to celebrate Valentine's Day at school and make sure your loved ones know how much you love them.

Even though sometimes the singing grams can be somewhat awkward, they are still a fun way to show love for someone and make the school day special on a holiday. When asked about Valentine's grams, senior Sydney Kjeldgaard said, "I just think it's a really fun way to make people happy on Valentine's Day and celebrate a holiday that most people don't celebrate if they don't have a significant other." Valentine's grams are a special way to spread love on Valentine's Day and should be brought back.



HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

Milan Murphy'22

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Valentine's Day, a day when couples express their affection to each other with cards and gifts, is a well-known holiday but the origins are a little less well-known. Given its similarities, it has been suggested that the holiday gets its origins from the Roman festival of Lupercalia, which celebrates the coming of spring, including fertility rites and the pairing off of women with men by lottery. By the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I forbade Lupercalia and is sometimes attributed with replacing it with St. Valentine's Day, but the holiday's true origins are vague at best. It was not until around the 14th century when Valentine's Day became celebrated as a day of romance.

There are several Christian martyrs named Valentine, so that name could have come from any of them. It may have been named after a priest who was martyred about 270 CE by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus. According to legend, the priest signed a letter "from you Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended. There are other accounts that claim the holiday is named after St. Valentine of Terni, a bishop, though it is a possibility that these two saints were actually the same person. Another common legend states that St. Valentine defied the emperor's order and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from war. It is for this reason that love is associated with his feast day.

Valentines, or formal love letters, first appeared in the 1500s, and by the late 1700s commercially printed cards were being used. The first commercial valentines in the United States appeared in the mid-1800s. Valentines commonly depict Cupid, the Roman god of love, along with images of hearts. The avian mating season also begins in mid-February, causing birds to become a symbol of the day. Consumerism plays a huge role in the modern world's version of Valentine's Day. Companies like Hallmark profit off of the surge of cards during this season.

This year Valentine's Day falls on Monday, February 14. While traditional gifts include candy and flowers, particularly red roses, anything to show appreciation to loved ones is important.



THE FRIENDSHIP OF BROTHER LEE: A CONVERSATION WITH COACH CRAIG LAW '84

Dory Miller '22

Managing Editor



Whether you've never talked to him or made it your goal to say hello as often as possible, chances are you've been blessed by a warm smile from Brother Lee as he pushed his book cart around campus. To honor his retirement from SI, a beautiful WML was held at the end of January, filled with joyous recollections from his beloved friends. In case you missed it, I sat down with Coach Craig Law '84 to discuss his many years of friendship with Brother Lee and all the wonderful ways in which he touched the lives of the SI community.

Back when SI was boys only, Brother Lee coached a high school-age Coach Law, where he first discovered Brother Lee's kind, humble, and generous nature. Never wavering in his kindness or constant smile, Coach Law immediately recognized him as a constant at SI. On top of taking care of the courts and handling anything and everything that dealt with tennis, Brother Lee still managed to prioritize taking care of his athletes and their wellbeing, making them feel as if they were a member of a small family. Though Coach Law accounts that he may not have recognized this then, he certainly sees it now, both in reflecting on the past and through what he observes in the present.

One of the first things Coach Law observed about Brother Lee was the way in which he embodies Ignatian values not only through his actions, but through his very being. Amidst the challenges of tennis season, Coach Law recounts how Brother Lee managed to always leave an air of calmness everywhere he went through his presence alone. Whenever he felt stressed or overwhelmed, whether on or off the court, Brother Lee instilled the gentle reminder in Coach Law that, "It's just tennis; it's just life. We're here for each other."

Brother Lee's journey to becoming Jesuit affirmed him on his purpose in life, but Coach Law shares that he always reminded his players that it doesn't just come in one in one day or even two. Fortunately for us,



Faculty join Brother Lee at his going away party.

Brother Lee's came to him early on. When I asked Coach Law how Brother Lee helped shape his own faith, he explained that is it always evolving, and if anything, Brother Lee taught him the value of "you'll know when you know."

When I asked Coach Law for one lesson we can all learn from Brother Lee, he kept his answer simple: "Internal happiness and peace." No matter who he is with, Brother Lee is happy and content. If he's with the same dear friends he's played tennis with on the weekends for decades, he is happy and content. If he's just going to the ball machine and hitting balls by himself, he is happy and content. Regardless of this internal peace he radiated everywhere he went, Brother Lee was always pushing and reaffirming his faith, never remaining idle in the ways to improve and further himself as a true Ignatian.

Of the many coaching values Brother Lee passed down to Coach Law, he claims the most important of all was the general sports rule of "playing for something greater than yourself." Coach Law reflects that the meaning of this has evolved over his twenty or so years of coaching. At first, he didn't quite understand it at all. Brother Lee was the one who helped him to see it for what it truly means. Throughout that process, Brother Lee taught him to approach both playing and coaching tennis with humility, calmness, and happiness.

Both Coach Law and the entire SI community will miss Brother Lee greatly as he retires to the Jesuit center in Los Gatos, where one can only hope he will be able to continue his weekend tennis excursions (even at 95 years old). His legacy lives on through the many Ignatian values he spread throughout campus, but there is no denying that it is felt strongest in SI's tennis community. Not only is the tennis shed named after him, but so is the most prestigious tennis award that SI has to offer: the Brother Lee Award. This year, seniors Maeley Nakamura '22 and Anna Scandaolios '22 both received this immense honor and will undoubtedly live out those values. To learn more about Brother Lee, check out <https://www.siprep.org/ministry/sis-jesuits>.

FRIDAY MORNING LITURGY HOMILY: LUNAR NEW YEAR

Melissa Hua '23

Contributing Editor

On February 4, Melissa Hua '23 delivered this powerful homily at the Friday Morning Liturgy in celebration of Lunar New Year. Please take a moment to read Melissa's homily and hear about her experiences.

As a child, I was fascinated by ang pao, li xi, which some may know as red envelopes. Like many children, I was enthralled by the idea of free money-- if my friends could buy an entirely new wardrobe, why couldn't I? And yet to the dismay of my lengthy Amazon wish list, I was never given li xi. As every year passed by, my hopes of receiving li xi began to fade... or just maybe I could continue to hold out hope?

The origins of li xi may just sound eerily familiar to a certain biblical story: during the night, evil spirits would go and rub children's heads, causing vicious headaches and fevers. After this had gone on for quite some time, several Chinese gods entered the village and after instructing each parent to bring red envelopes, each God turned into a bronze coin and were placed inside the envelope. At night, these envelopes would be put under every child's head and all of the evil spirits frightened by these glimmering lights decided to no longer bother these young children.

Today's Gospel reading we heard Peter and several apostle's stories of rags to riches... with fish... a certainly incredible feat to go from 0 to thousands of fish in the matter of seconds. Peter's story is that of the Lunar New Year tradition: like the children, he too is blessed by the good graces of his faith, and by allowing himself to be a vessel of Jesus, his fortunes change and he is wiped clean of his distress. Most importantly, the stories of Li Xi and Peter provide us an outline to find hope in our lives.

My story of hope is a story of learning and growing into my culture. I come from a multicultural background, a mixture of Vietnamese and Filipino cuisine, tradition, and language. I always felt disconnected from Lunar New Year celebrations. What once had consisted of visits to the annual Chinese New Year parade quickly faded into at most a breakfast orange. As a society, when we were thrust into the midst of our current pandemic, I once again began to wrestle with my thoughts and confided to those close to me about my fears of losing my culture.

I entered last year's Lunar New Year at a complete loss for who I was; but fortunately, I was greeted by the loving hug of a "Mama Kwan," who after hearing of my many years without li xi, decided to take matters into her own hand and after 15 years of waiting... I received my long-awaited li xi. Once again exposed to my cultural roots through food, celebration, and family get-togethers, I suddenly felt visible. Lunar New Year is the one time of the year where myself, and many of us who are Asian-Americans, can celebrate being us without being othered-- in the words of a dear friend, "This is a uniquely Asian-American form of pride." It is a time where we can celebrate and learn of other cultures-- to be invited into Chinese New Year celebrations incited a new sense of pride and cultural humility for myself. How can we expand our practices of Lunar New Year to those who are not traditionally included?

This Asian-American pride is more important now than ever before. I remember my utter shock and disgust after I first heard of the occurrences of AAPI hate... and those feelings continued to multiply and multiply. This Year of the Tiger marks a period of rejuvenation and recovery. We must reclaim our culture; this Lunar New Year, 2022, marks a special time in all of our lives where we must show tokens of appreciation and love for the most special people in our lives. Will we seize our opportunity just as Peter did to let go of our fears to find the joy, hope and gratitude in our lives?

Yet, I challenge us to take this Lunar New Year as an opportunity not to just celebrate pride and identity, but to practice generosity integral to the very spirit of Lunar New Year. To move forward, we must understand how we can reorient the wealth, blessings, and good fortune from this blessed new year to further help others that are most vulnerable to hurt. Peter's story is one of this generosity; his example provides a guide to how we are called to consider how we can continue to reevaluate our own Lunar New Year practices. How do we spend our li xi? Could we be giving more to family, friends, and loved ones? How do we reorient our wealth towards social good? I know that this would have disappointed my younger self, but now more than ever, we are called to consider these questions.

This Lunar New Year, I ask each of you to consider how your understanding of your culture has evolved. I ask you to remember the strengths of our ancestral roots and the tales that establish our traditions of Lunar New Year but also to reconsider areas through which you can continue to reconnect with family as you embrace the little moments of joy and optimism that shape your Lunar New Year. I know I will be spending my Lunar New Year with my 91 year old Filipino grandmother as we peel oranges to set forward a year of health, recovery, and prosperity.

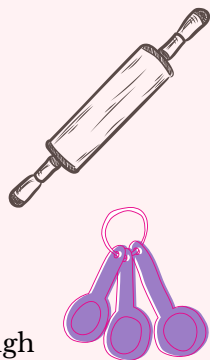


SUGAR COOKIE RECIPE

By Alton Brown of Food Network

Ingredients

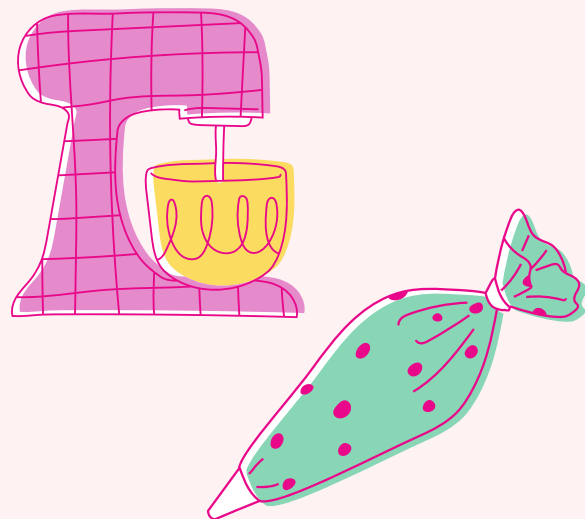
3 cups all-purpose flour
 3/4 teaspoon baking powder
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
 1 cup sugar
 1 egg, beaten
 1 tablespoon milk
 Powdered sugar, for rolling out dough



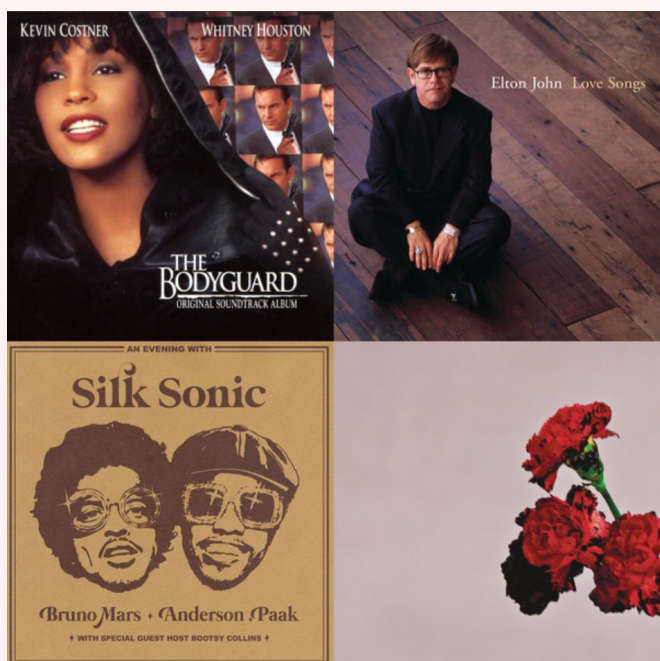
1. Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. Set aside. Place butter and sugar in large bowl of electric stand mixer and beat until light in color. Add egg and milk and beat to combine. Put mixer on low speed, gradually add flour, and beat until mixture pulls away from the side of the bowl. Divide the dough in half, wrap in waxed paper, and refrigerate for 2 hours.

2. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

3. Sprinkle surface where you will roll out dough with powdered sugar. Remove 1 wrapped pack of dough from refrigerator at a time, sprinkle rolling pin with powdered sugar, and roll out dough to 1/4-inch thick. Move the dough around and check underneath frequently to make sure it is not sticking. If dough has warmed during rolling, place cold cookie sheet on top for 10 minutes to chill. Cut into desired shape, place at least 1-inch apart on greased baking sheet, parchment, or silicone baking mat, and bake for 7 to 9 minutes or until cookies are just beginning to turn brown around the edges, rotating cookie sheet halfway through baking time. Let sit on baking sheet for 2 minutes after removal from oven and then move to complete cooling on wire rack. Serve as is or ice as desired. Store in airtight container for up to 1 week.



SPOTIFY PLAYLIST



Scan this QR code to get in the Valentine's Day mood with a Spotify playlist by the staff of Inside SI!

Dear Sacred Heart Cathedral,

It's not you, it's me. We've had great times together, but they're not enough. While we are the oldest rivalry west of the Mississippi, I feel like that's not even true anymore. "Rivalry" seems like too strong of a word to use. Winning every time is making this a one-sided relationship. I want a partner who challenges me and pushes me to be my best self, but you sit back and make it too easy to win. I have won the Bruce Mahoney trophy 53 times while you've only won 21 times, and let's face it: that's not much of a relationship. I will always remember our time together, but all good things must come to an end. This is our end.

Love,
St. Ignatius College Preparatory

A FRESHMEN LOVE STORY

Lindsay Yamamura '22

Associate Editor-In-Chief

It was a day just like any other at Saint Ignatius College Preparatory
A seemingly perfect day for a typical freshman love story,
February fourteenth: Valentines Day
When the broken hearts of freshmen fall where they may
Shattered by the false reality of Troy and Gabriella
Which taught them to believe they could all be Cinderella
Instead of a bouquet they receive a surprise test
Those poor, naive freshman were just trying their best,
Don't give them a hard time, everyone's been there
Without a single worry or a dream to spare
Instead of a box of chocolate there's a dress code check
At this point there's no hope, not even a speck
All those wishful cliches
That they've been dreaming of for days
Such as love at first sight
Or texting late into the night
Made untrue by Saint Valentine
And the unreceived candy hearts that say "be mine"
There's not much of a story left to tell
So all you can say is "oh well"
But don't worry there's always next year
When this story becomes one for the next group of freshmen to hear...

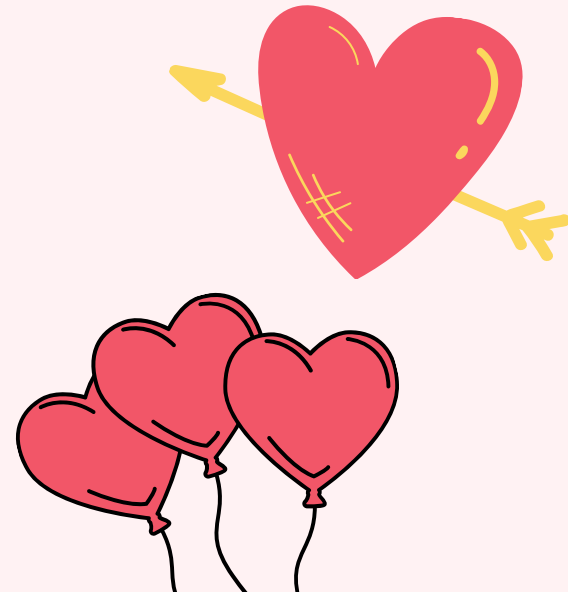


SINGLE ON VALENTINE'S DAY

Lindsay Yamamura '22

Associate Editor-In-Chief

Another year has come, another year has gone
However, this is the first Valentine's Day among Omicron
The pandemic has thrown all our plans to the wind
The tears of coupleless singles brimmed
Watching cheesy romance movies all alone
An unfortunate holiday for the singles at home
The fictitious chocolate boxes gone unreceived
With a single rose you would've been pleased
But how quickly the sweet gestures fade
Into yet another predictable Hallmark movie cliché
No picnic dates nor getting flowers
24 terrible, horrible, no good, very bad hours
"A consumerist holiday," all of them say
So, here's to all the singles on Valentine's Day

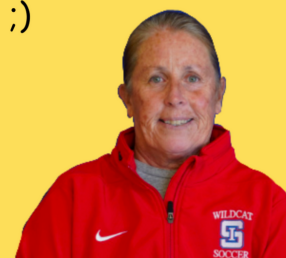


VALENTINE'S CARDS

Helen Campbell '23

Contributing Editor

aw Schicks, ur cute!

to:
from:let's quit the Yap-n',
wanna be my valentine?to:
from:have i died and gone to Chevan?
cuz u look like an angel ;)to:
from:hey aren't we valentines?
i Cota sworn...to:
from:let's live happi-Lee
ever after!to:
from:i'm already pLannan our
future together bbto:
from:do u wanna be my valentine?
dw i'm already Kohmann overto:
from:tienes ser mi enamorado?
no?? pOrque??to:
from:yk i've been Mullen it over...
and i think we should
be valentines ;)to:
from:

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

XOXO, Inside SI

Special thank you to everyone who helped work on this issue!
Milan Murphy '22, Ethan Tam '22, Lindsay Yamamura '22,
Megan O'Sullivan '22, Helen Campbell '23, Dory Miller '22,
Melissa Hua '23, and of course our benevolent censors Ms.
Carole Nickolai and Mr. Peter Devine. We love you all!

