

on the SLOPES



Design & story by Meredith Glasson

From spending the break at local ski mountains to traveling abroad, students enjoy skiing during winter break.

Popular resorts that attract people from the bay include Palisades, Northstar, Heavenly and all other spots in Tahoe. During winter break, families drive the three hours north to ski or snowboard. This year, juniors Reine Schultz and Nina Smith decided to go abroad to ski with their families while senior Finley Craig decided to stay local.

They have a house in the valley and go as often as they can to enjoy the mountain.

This past break they spent time at Alpine Meadows where Craig was impacted by the storm on her way home. Going before the storm it only took her family three hours.

"The way home was different, chain controlled slowed everything down and it took six hours," Craig said.

Abroad, the Smith family decided to go ski in France and Switzerland. Although the 15 hour flight was super long and uncomfortable, it all paid off. The views of the Alps and Matterhorn were Smiths favorite part about skiing there.

"It was super different from skiing in the US because the mountains tower over you right next to you when you ski," Smith said.

Smith also grew up with skiing as a big part of her family dynamic. Her dad has been a skier his whole life and got her into ski racing when she was six. She continues to love the sport even though she quit racing.

"I love challenging myself and feeling super accomplished after a

good day," Smith said.

Schultz also spent time in the Alps during winter break, but this was not her first time there. Schultz grew up learning how to ski in Saint Jean-du-Alps with her family.

"Skiing was and still is a family activity and that's why I got into it in the first place," Schultz said.

Even though most of the family she met up with doesn't ski that often, it was fun to reunite

somewhere that takes 18 hours to travel to. She loves coming back to the mountain she grew up skiing on.

"Just being able to see my progression throughout the years on the same slope is crazy," Schultz said. "It's also nice to know the mountain like the back of your hand and know where the nicer slopes are."

What all skiers have in common is the feeling of freedom and enjoying time spent with family and friends on the mountain. Skiing is not only a good workout, it really pays off.

"When you can ski a hard line and get some good turns in when the snow is good is my favorite part," Craig said.

What is your favorite aspect of being on the slopes?

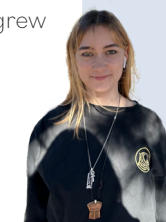
"I love powder skiing; it is really fun to ski in and I love the scenic views in Tahoe."

HARRISON DIKE ('24)



"Skiing is a good exercise for you but it is also really fun to spend time with friends and family and its different since you only do it in the winter."

NATALIE KELLER ('24)



"It is really nice not having to focus on anything else but having fun on the mountain and skiing."

LAIRD OLSEN ('24)



reuniting

ACROSS THE WORLD

Junior Sirisha Mitra travels to India to visit grandparents she has not seen since COVID.

After five years, junior Sirisha Mitra reunited with her grandparents and friends in India for two weeks.

"It was really exciting spending time with everyone we haven't seen in so long," Mitra said.

"My whole family missed my grandparents cooking, so it was nice to have a home cooked meal at their house," Mitra said when talking about her favorite memories.

While in India, Mitra saw different palaces and old royalty mansions.

"Having time to be able to sightsee in popular places was really interesting," Mitra said.

Mitra and her family were able to experience both sides of living in India.

"There are either really, really rich or super poor people in different towns," Mitra said.

Mitra hopes to go back with her family sooner rather than later.

(above) **FINALLY BACK TOGETHER**, Sirisha Mitra ('24) smiles with her grandfather once she arrived in India. "Seeing them made me so happy," Mitra said.

(left) **HUMAYUN'S TOMB WAS** one of Mitra's favorite spots. "On each corner it is perfectly symmetrical and the design of the building is incredible," Mitra said.

Photos courtesy of Sirisha Mitra



(top left) **THE VIEW FROM** the top of the chair lift is junior Nina Smith's favorite part of skiing in Zermatt. "The views were super different than the U.S. because the mountains tower over you, right next to you when you ski," Smith said. Photo courtesy of Nina Smith

(bottom left) **SKIING AS A** family, the Schultz family smiles at the top of the mountain. Paly alum, Damon Schultz, and junior Reine Schultz love skiing together. "Recently my brother and I have gotten faster than our parents so we tend to peel off together and ski just the two of us and meet up with them for lunch,"



Craig decided to go to Palisades Tahoe, formerly known as Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows. This year, the two mountains combined with a gondola that can take you back and fourth.

At Palisades, Craig recommends KT-22 as her favorite lift.

"Every run off of it almost always has great snow," Craig said.

She grew up skiing, learning when she was two and a half years old from her parents who are avid skiers. They have found a love for Palisades and made it their second home.

(left) **TRAILING ALONG THE** hiking path, Ella Bishop ('24) and her friends spend their Saturday morning on Portola Road in Portola Valley. "Exploring different trails is something that we are excited to continue to do," Bishop said. (right) **ENJOYING THE VIEW** at the summit of Windy Hill, Bishop looks back to smile for the photo. "The Windy Hill loop is one of my favorites in the area," Bishop said. Photos courtesy of Ella Bishop



HIKING BAY

Junior Ella Bishop hikes around Portola Valley to get some time outside before returning to school.

"Exploring the outdoors is one of my favorite ways to clear my head and hiking is the perfect way to do that. Hiking also means I get to spend time with friends, explore new places, and see some amazing views. It's a hobby I hope to continue for a while."

ELLA BISHOP ('24)

skating INTO place

Photo by Clare Antonow

A look into a lesser-known sport with sophomore Will Hagan.

What is Ice Hockey like at Paly?

"There are not many people who play it at school but the ones who do are really into it and spend a lot of time playing."

How has the season been going?

"It has been very fun so far, we work well together so it has been a really rewarding year."

