

What did you do on Valentine's Day?

"We went out to brunch at Hobee's with our friend group."



ZOE HAYWARD ('24)
HAILEY KLEINER ('24)

"I mostly just hung out with friends and we traded gifts."



CLARA FESSLMEIER ('25)

valentines sweets & treats

Illustrations by Tali Lehrer

Students share their favorite Valentine's Day candies.

"Hershey's Kisses because they're chocolate and they're really tasty and good."

HARRISON LAN ('26)



"Hershey's Kisses, because I like to open them."

NATHALIA ARIAS ('25)



"Mini m&ms because they're better than any other m&m type."

JESSICA MANN ('25)



"I like the boxes filled with chocolate hearts because there are a lot of different chocolates in them."

CASS BUI ('24)



LAST shot

Photos by Julia Yan

As their last season comes to an end, seniors on the varsity basketball team reflect on their high school experiences.

How did senior night feel?

"Senior night was fun; it was a great way to celebrate a sport I have been playing for a while and especially my experience with it at Paly." **JACKSON MARTIN ('23)**
"While I kind of felt like an outsider as this was my first year here, standing next to my teammates who really made an effort to welcome me made me feel really happy and gracious. It also felt great playing in front of such a supportive crowd." **LOWELL KURTZ ('23)**

What are you going to miss most about basketball at Paly?

"I'm just going to miss playing my favorite sports with my childhood friends. I played a lot growing up and seeing us play all the way through high school was so much fun and it's super sad to see it come to an end." **JACKSON MARTIN ('23)**
"I'm really going to miss how selfless the coaching staff was and how the open gyms were a place where everyone, regardless of grade/class, could get along." **LOWELL KURTZ ('23)**

What drew you to basketball?

"I started playing basketball when I watched my older sister play. I decided to try it out at a young age and have not stopped playing it since." **JACKSON MARTIN ('23)**
"What initially drew me to basketball was the 2016 NBA season where the Warriors went 73-9 as well as the dunk contest final that year between Aaron Gordon and Zach Lavine." **LOWELL KURTZ ('23)**



(top) **FAKING A MOVE**, senior Jackson Martin fools his opponent to take a shot with his family watching during senior night.
(bottom) **AFTER RECEIVING FLOWERS** from his family, Lowell Kurtz ('23) reaches to shake his father's hand at his senior night game.



girls just wanna HAVE fun

Design by Tali Lehrer and Zora Wakelee

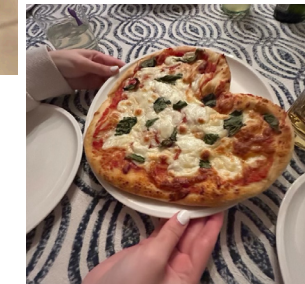
Galentine's day inspires celebrations with snacks, fun and pink + white.

Photos courtesy of Areet Rao, Clara Hoffman, and Katelyn Pegg



"Last year I handed out goody bags with candy and a note. This year I hosted a Galentine's party at my house where we painted Valentine canvases, made heart-shaped pizzas and did some karaoke." **IZZY BENAIME ('25)**

"Valentine's is my favorite holiday and I love to celebrate every year by doing something with my friends." **IZZY BENAIME ('25)**



"This is the first time I'm doing it and I will probably be doing it every year. My favorite thing we did was probably when got to build the chocolate fountain and then watch it work and it was so much fun. We got to film a tik tok and just relax, have food, and talk." **AREET RAO ('26)**

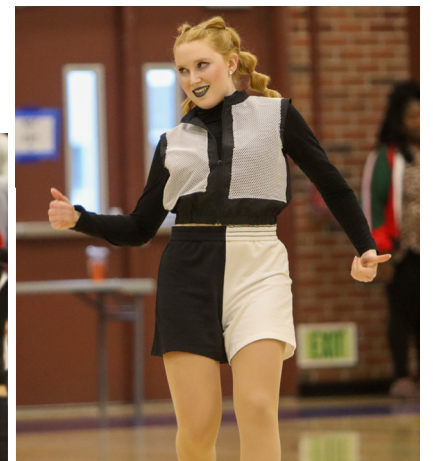
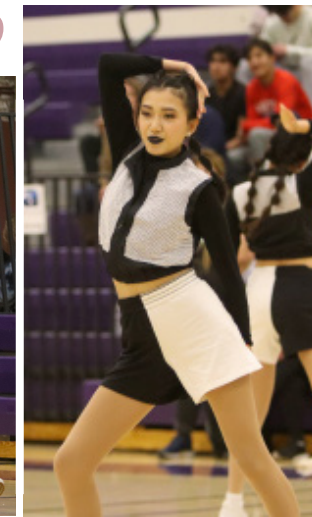
"For Galentine's we all brought a platter of different things; for example I brought this s'mores board which I included with a chocolate fountain and my friend Kacey brought a candy board, Christina brought a sushi board, so it was like bring your own board." **AREET RAO ('26)**

rolling into REGIONALS

After a successful regionals, the varsity dance team reflects on their preparation and performance.

Photos by Caleb Wong

(left) **STROLLING CONFIDENTLY INTO** the competition, Anna Hagan ('23) is excited to compete. "It is a lot of fun being able to compete, and it is amazing to be able to watch other schools' dances and get inspired by them," Hagan said. "It is a great environment because all of the other schools are very nice and committed to dance just like us."
(right) **AFTER A LOT** of hard work and dedication, Vit Do ('25) showcases her talent on the dance floor. "There's definitely a lot of work put into cleaning the entire dance, and our coach would change sections of the choreo in between regionals and especially now that we're heading into nationals," Do said. "It's definitely a lot of adjustment and stamina."



(above) **PUTTING HER THUMBS** up, Bella Daly ('23) embraces the good and the bad of the team's performance in the competition. "I think as athletes, there's always room for improvement," Daly said. "At this point in competition season, as we're preparing for nationals, we're trying to take into account all the feedback we've received over the course of the competition season and make changes accordingly."