



# SABERCAT POST

## ★ Alumni Spotlight ★

Silver Oak holds a special place in many people's hearts. Every month, we will talk to an alumnus who will talk about the impact Silver Oak had on their lives.

By, Tanisha B., Diya K., and Sophia N.

Lexi Quarles was happy to chat with three fellow SaberCats from her apartment near Cornell University in New York. A class of 2011 Silver Oak alumna, Lexi is 21 years old and starting her Senior year at Cornell University. Lexi chose Cornell because it was her favorite school. Although it was scary to move across the country, she could see herself enjoying the campus. We wondered what was most difficult during the application process to the Ivy League university. Lexi said, "I think that the hardest part was writing the essays. You have to do a lot of thinking about what you want to do, and there's a lot of self reflection." Lexi is studying engineering. She wants to become a data analyst for sports. A data analyst takes data and graphs on a certain topic and searches for trends, patterns, or any repetition.

We asked Lexi about her time at Silver Oak. Besides paying attention to her academics, she said her time at Silver Oak taught her valuable life lessons as well. She said, "I learned how to make friends because that's something that you need to know for the rest of your life. It's not just always about academics. It's also important to focus on other interests like P.E. and art." Some advice that Lexi has for other students is to work hard and get good grades throughout elementary school, middle school, high school, and college.

When we asked Lexi what her favorite grades were at Silver Oak, she responded, "I liked both 5th and 6th grade a lot. I felt really cool because I was one of the older students at the school." One of Lexi's favorite moments at Silver Oak was anytime with Ms. Giacomini. She felt like her class was one big family! Here's to meeting new "family" this school year!

## ★ Current Events ★

By, Kian G., Annika S., & Katelyn T

### ELECTION 2020

Did you know that election day in the United States is held on the first Tuesday of November? On November 3, 2020, Republicans Donald Trump & Mike Pence and Democrats Joe Biden & Kamala Harris will go head to head in the Presidential election. Because Covid-19 is still impacting our lives, more people will be voting by mail. There is some controversy regarding how voters will safely mail in their ballots. People are worried their ballot might get delayed or not counted! Just remember, no matter the person you support, if you are 18 or older, make sure to vote!

### CA WILDFIRES

California is still reeling from recent wildfires that swept our area. What started as a dry lightning storm on August 16, 2020, turned into 22 active fires. The SCU Lightning Complex Fire is one of the biggest fires in California history and it was in our very own backyard! The fire was within 5 miles of our school! Another nearby fire, the CZU fire, destroyed California's oldest state park, Big Basin State Park. The park has many of the oldest redwood trees in the entire world. According to CAL Fire, over 14,000 firefighters, 2,400 fire engines, and 370 water tenders are helping to extinguish fires around our beloved state.

### COVID-19

Covid-19 is a virus which originated in a Wuhan, China open-air market. Most people infected by this virus recover, but there have still been over 844,000 deaths around the world. The number of new cases of people getting infected with Covid-19 is still rising. The best way to protect yourself and others is to wear a mask, stay at least six feet away from other people, and wash your hands frequently. Many schools around the world are doing distance learning to help reduce the spread of the virus. Stay safe, SaberCats!



## ★ Sports ★

Sports in 2020 are a welcome distraction. Fans are getting their fill of baseball, hockey, NFL training camp, and more. Hope you enjoy an overdose of sports!

By, Anay K. and Emily Q.

### NFL

With the NFL season about to take off, we are counting down the days until the 49ers' first snap. The 49ers were so close last year to winning it all, so it only makes us more excited that George Kittle signed a mega contract recently. The 49ers also acquired OT Trent Williams from the Washington Redskins for a 2020 fifth-round pick and a 2021 third-round pick. Many trades happened this off season too. Notably, Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski, one of the best tight end and QB duos, were traded to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Nick Foles is trying his luck with the Bears this year. Will he be luckier in Chicago than he was in Philadelphia? With the NFL season coming up, Fantasy Football is a hot topic on the internet. If you are into Fantasy Football, some safe picks might be Patrick Mahomes, Russel Wilson, Travis Kelce, and Derrick Henry. If you're feeling a little daring, choose Mathew Stafford and Joe Burrow. The NFL season will look very different this year in an effort to keep fans and players safe and healthy. Regardless of who gets to sit in the stands to watch a game, we are excited to have football back in our lives!

### MLB

The Major League Baseball season was starting just as the pandemic hit the United States. Fans waited patiently for MLB to come up with a plan to start the season safely. Now that it's started, it's barely missed a beat. There are cardboard cutout fans in the seats, cheers whenever there is a hit, and some very funny "socially distanced" celebrations at home plate. The Oakland A's are currently leading the American League West and the San Francisco Giants are trailing the Dodgers by 10 games in the National League West. Regardless of how your team is doing right now, it is still exciting to hear the words, "PLAY BALL!"

### NBA

The NBA bubble has been surprisingly successful. All top teams have been quarantining in Orlando, Florida, for the past several weeks. Will the Bucks meet the Lakers in the finals or will there be a "Cinderella" team that comes from behind to win the NBA Larry O'Brien Championship trophy?

## ★ Q & A ★

We ask the questions and you give the answers...

By, Mia D., Avik B., and Ayan B.

**Kindergarten question:** What is something fun you did this summer?

**Answer:** Harper R. excitedly replied, "I played on my trampoline!"

**First Grade question:** How would you describe online learning?

**Answer:** Kiyan H. said, "It's fun!"

**Second Grade question:** Is distance learning harder than physical school?

**Answer:** Saharsha K. simply replied, "No."

**Third Grade question:** What do you miss about summer?

**Answer:** Subir P. said, "I don't miss summer. I actually like being at school!"

**Fourth Grade question:** What is your favorite meeting platform?

**Answer:** Although his class this year meets on Google Meets, Justin L. said, "Zoom is my favorite platform."

**Fifth Grade question:** What is something you struggle with over distance learning?

**Answer:** Amitoj S. thoughtfully replied, "The biggest struggle I've seen online is that I sometimes notice that people will look at the screen instead of the camera, so it might look like people are not looking at you."

**Sixth Grade question:** Would you rather do class on Zoom or in person?

**Answer:** Without hesitation Soha K. stated, "In person. During Zoom meetings, there are a lot of connection problems. It is also easier to ask for help in person."

**Teacher question:** Is it harder to teach on Zoom or in person?

**Answer:** 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher Ms. Clark replied, "Zoom is harder because I cannot read my students' body language."