

Confirm ✕

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**Are you ready to submit your college application?**

by Josue Avila

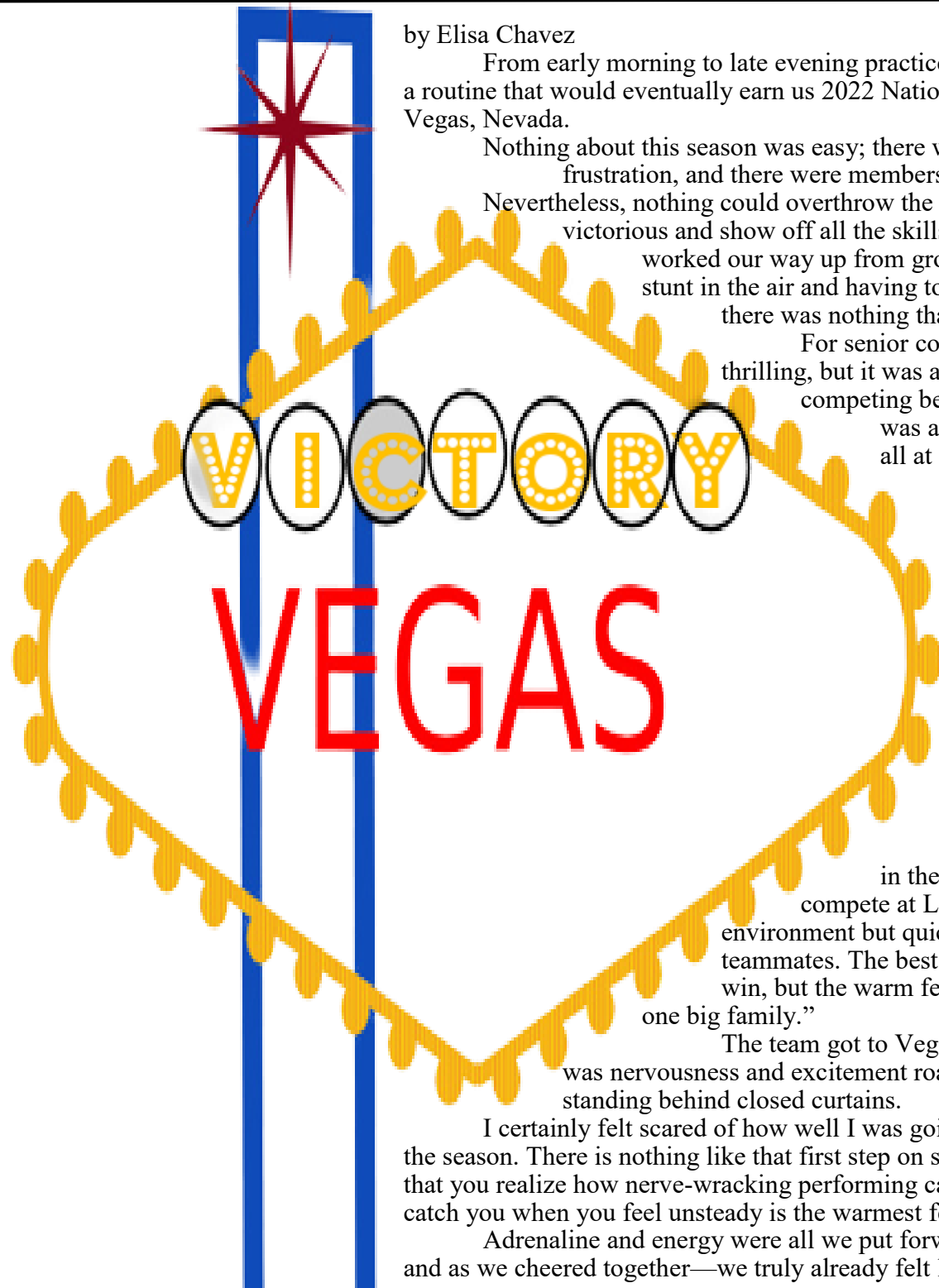
On November 18, seniors at A.B. Miller hit submit on their college applications. Many people believe that the process of applying is a one-month thing, and after you hit submit you never have to worry about college applications anymore. Well, that is not true, as applying to college is a process that starts the first day of your freshmen year and ends the day you graduate.

Although it may seem like applying for college is a scary process, with the right help and the right exposure, college applications are not any different from

just another form you are filling out.

As underclassman, I know the process of applying to colleges may be scary because when I was in my sophomore year, I saw my older brother applying to colleges and I saw how stressed he would get at times and how long the process could be. At the time, when I saw this, it made me scared to become a senior because I did not want to go through the whole application process because I saw how scary it could be. I thought to myself: *I still had two years until this fateful time.* And two years feels like a long time, right? No—two years flies by and next thing you know you are walking into school as a senior.

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by Elisa Chavez

From early morning to late evening practices, the Miller Cheer team spent countless hours working on a routine that would eventually earn us 2022 National Champions at the JAMZ Nationals competition in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nothing about this season was easy; there was sweat, there was pain, there was injuries, there was frustration, and there were members lost throughout the past six months.

Nevertheless, nothing could overthrow the strong feeling of desire in every cheerleader's heart to feel victorious and show off all the skills our team could accomplish united together as we had worked our way up from ground zero and had overcome so much. After failing to hit a stunt in the air and having to stand back up innumerable times, we had to prove that there was nothing that could stop the team from giving up at the final show.

For senior co-Captain Aniya McGee, winning nationals felt incredibly thrilling, but it was also an emotional night as this would be her last time competing before leaving to college. She stated, "the moment our team was announced first place, I felt relief and bursts of joy hitting me all at once because we had finally accomplished our biggest goal that we all worked so hard for."

Sophomore Kaitlyn Sanchez reveals that it was her absolute biggest dream come true to be a part of black team and compete for nationals. When looking back at the season Sanchez reflected: "the biggest struggle was definitely hitting some stunts with my group that coach would ask us to try; we had falls to the ground and getting smacked in the face constantly, but the good thing was that everyone pushed each other for more energy." The feeling of sore muscles was worth every second of pain for Sanchez because she walked out the beaming stage of Nationals feeling pride in herself and what she had accomplished in a single year of cheerleading.

Melanie Rios (9) recalls the long hours practicing in the cheer room or cafeteria on campus and being so nervous to compete at Las Vegas. Being a freshman, she had entered this new to the environment but quickly grew as skilled flyer working with such welcoming teammates. The best part of competing with the cheer team was not only the big win, but the warm feeling of bond, Rios rejoiced "I really just felt like I was in one big family."

The team got to Vegas not knowing what the outcome was going to be. There was nervousness and excitement roaming around as the hours got closer and suddenly, we were standing behind closed curtains.

I certainly felt scared of how well I was going to do after having my own ups and downs throughout the season. There is nothing like that first step on stage; lights flashing, music beaming, and crowds screaming that you realize how nerve-wracking performing can be but being surrounded with a team who has grown to catch you when you feel unsteady is the warmest feeling.

Adrenaline and energy were all we put forward on that stage while performing to the crowd so massive and as we cheered together—we truly already felt like champions.

