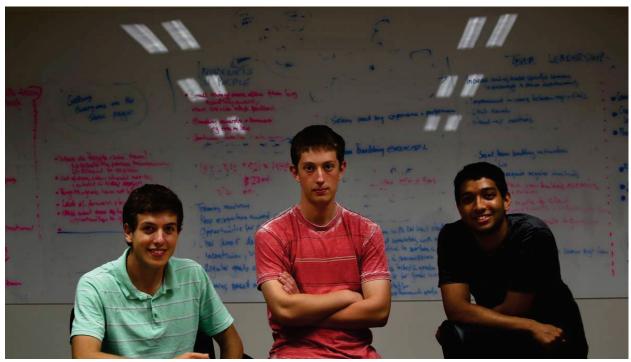


Boys aim high and get there

By Eva Tejszerski Jan. 3, 2013, 7 a.m.



What stress? George Pasas (left), Tom Lasic and Rafid Morshedi blitzed the HSC. Picture: John Veage

THERE was no anxious wait for HSC results for these guys.

The boys from the region's best performing school in the 2012 ATAR rankings guessed their marks and smashed the exams with scores higher than 99.

The Sydney Technical High School graduates got top marks in their subjects, which placed them in the state's All-round Achievers merit list.

George Pasas got 99.9, Tom Lasic, 99.5 and Rafid Morshedi, 99.4.

"I pretty much predicted my mark, which was easy to calculate," 4-unit maths whiz and aspiring barrister, George, 17, of Illawong, said.

"I knew it would be around 99.8 ... I aimed to do my best but the ATAR doesn't measure how smart you are.

"It's natural ability and effort. I still partied."

Engineering scholars Rafid and Tom also aimed high, and got there.

"... But it's nice to see evidence of the hard work," Rafid said.

"I took a relaxed approach," Tom of Kingsgrove said.

"No cramming, but I was consistent."

They said they would not have achieved their high ATARs at a non-selective school. "It's an environment where we all helped each other — there were no egos. At an all-boys' school you become like brothers," Rafid said.

Sydney Tech principal Jacqueline Lyons said there were fewer students on the school's merit list this year.

"It's a decrease in terms of overall students, but an increase in students who got in the top 10 for their courses," she said.

St George Girls High School, Kogarah, equalled Syd Tech's result of 14 students on the merit list.

"We are very proud," principal Carole Knott said.

"Not only are they academically gifted but they are wonderful young women with a desire to contribute to society."

Few independent schools made the list but St Ursula's College principal Anne Anderson said students did particularly well in industrial technology, English and religion.

2012 HONOUR ROLL

Sydney Tech

Mark Ghali, Daniel Guo, Sam Hanna, Roger Lock Hua Lee, James Kwan Leung, Anooth Nambiran, Terence Tsz Chung Ng, Yuan You Oliver Wang, Jonathan Wong, Ramez Zaklama, Benjamin Zhao

St George Girls High School

Rafia Alam, Meng Yuan Fan, Jamie Lowe, Mira Mahapatra, Rachel Weng Yue Ng, Julie Nguyen, Jemma Payne, Rebecca Radcliffe, Brenda Ta, Shelley Xue Ni Wo, Esme Yat Yee Wong, Connie Ting Yan, Luyao (Lucy) Zhou, Rena Zhou

St Ursula's College

Davina Adisusila, Maryanne Daher, Siobhan Kenna, Robyn Papadimatos, Jessica Ticchio

Danebank

Natalie Domingos, Sarah Fitzpatrick, Liana Magiropoulos, Natalie Sekulovska, Elisabeth Slingsby

Caringbah High School

Jessica Geraghty, Zachary Karantonis, Rachel Mannion, Rebecca Mellor, Scott Preswick

De La Salle Catholic College, Cronulla

Daniel Healion, Olivia Kairies, Remony Vials, Erin Wade

Bethany College

Grace Campbell, Sophie Gallagher, Chloe Velissariou

St John Bosco College

Alexis Batty

Blakehurst High School

Kristine Marinkovic, Shi Rong Jason Peng, Lik Wong Yu

St Patrick's College Sutherland

Timothy Cashman, Loren Ovens, Liam Rogers

Menai High School

Laura Atkins, Rachel Maunder

Port Hacking High School

Tyce Barton, Gabrielle Said

Sylvania High School

Sarah Jayne Chapman,

Katelyn Raphael

Aquinas Catholic College

Lauren McGuinness

Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus

Sophia Papas

Gymea Technology High School

Lin Jiang

Kingsgrove High School

Wan Ying Anna Zhou

Kingsgrove North High School

Eric Hester

Kogarah High School

Zhen Richard Chen

St George Christian School

Ellie Damianos