

BEN CHEN IS IN FOR MORE THAN THE WIN

By Evan Morris, Staff Writer

Ben Chen is the kind of person who takes complex problems and offers complex solutions. Ben created the Engineering Club in hopes of creating a space for all SPA students to participate in engineering, regardless of possible constraints.

Ben “thinks the Engineering Club is a safe space for people of all engineering backgrounds. Whether you just want to try it out or a much more dedicated engineering club is a safe space for everybody to pursue their engineering goals and dreams.”

Ben has always been interested in engineering, but today Ben wants to make change in the world and, in his eyes, “engineering is a direct way to facilitate that.”

Engineering has been Ben’s main focus in terms of making change.

Ben also believes that engineering is a crucial part of solving global issues; he believes that “if everybody starts considering these ideas, we can take a big step forward as humanity,” he said.

This includes solving issues like global warming and world hunger.

Ben is already taking steps towards making positive change, from co-founding the engineering club to recycling plastic for resilient infrastructure.

Although Ben knows that as an individual, he will likely not be able to solve every global issue, he thinks that he can “help play a role in providing new technologies and stuff to make our world a better place.”

Ben’s passion for engineering is matched by a passion for sports. As a soccer player and ultimate frisbee captain, Ben’s motive for playing stems beyond just winning.

He was a key player in the Spartan soccer second place state finish and the series of wins that brought them to U.S. Bank stadium.

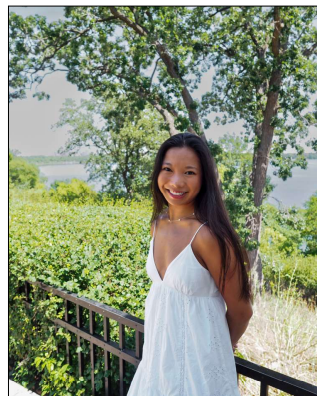
When playing in the ultimate state championship last spring, Ben’s team lost many games, which was frustrating. Nevertheless, even in the midst of defeat, Ben’s coach offered advice that Ben still applies to his everyday life:

“Just play to play.”

These words of advice stuck with Ben and put into perspective what sports are about.

“[Players are] there to have fun, not just to win,” he said.

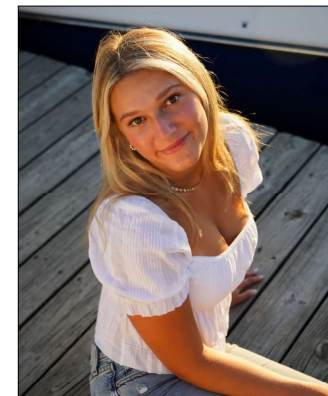
Ben has used this advice “in different aspects of my life. To do stuff to do it instead of doing it for a different reason that might not be as big.”



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