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AN INNOVATOR OF THE FUTURE, senior Joshua Choe embodies the essence of an academic Marksman. Recognized as one of 40 finalists for the Intel Science Talent Search in 2016 for his research on squamous cell carcinoma, a type of cancer that accounts for near 30 percent of all instances of lung cancer, Choe works late nights and early mornings to accomplish his goals and add more to the body of human knowledge. Story continues, page 37

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LAB WORK Garbed in his lab coat, senior nua Choe — no novice to complex lab equipment — spends a late night researching new ways to fight cancer at the Jay Kim lab a he University of Texas at Dallas 9 COLOR Run Prepare for Submission for Color ID information. 36

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WARNING

INSPIRED Tinkering with

d engineering class, senio Koecher (far left) uses

programming skills to track a

tai chi, Chinese students (above

) get first hand experie

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ell So and Kevin Kim (left,

lins to accompany a researcl aper on the class topic

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Trying their hand

a robot in the information

t's a morning like any other. A little groggy from being at lab until 1:45 a.m. last night, I know will get me back in the groove. While I work on our titration lab. I think about my plans for the weekend: putting the finishing touches on my bait cannon for fishing.

I'd seen many air cannons before, but the of my own, a hybrid of

two things I love, fishing

and building. The final

product will be able to

workshop in the garage is

one of my favorite places

shoot 300 yards. My

bait cannon is an inventior

AP chemistry first period

SCHOOL. SENIOR JOSHUA CHOE **REVOLUTIONIZE CANCER RESEARCH** 

WITH A FULL TIME LAB JOB AFTER **BALANCES HIS EXTRACURRICULARS** WITH SCHOOLWORK IN HIS QUEST TO

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## **A PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE** and a temple where I built cells of energy and save

everything from catapults to a roman gladius for Latin class

Back to school, as the day continues, I'm excited to find myself in AP English literature. I think again to my workshop and most recent project: a fullscale harpoon for a Moby Dick assignment.

When you're reading a book, some aspects don't alwavs make complete sense, but when you're actually doing it and experiencing it yourself, that's when concepts solidify. I want to feel the same wood Queequeg held as he harpooned the great whales we've read

Finally, it's 3:10, time for the real day to begin. My real passions, being creative and being curious, while fostered at St. Mark's, come to full fruition when I go to my lab. Only a 30-minute drive, the Jay Kim Lab at University of Texas at Dallas is a home away from home.

I get to lose myself in my work, searching for the connections between glucose transporter 1 and squamous cell carcinoma a rare and deadly form of lung cancer. While there are so many tests to run, I have to keep the big picture in mind, finding a way to starve the cancer

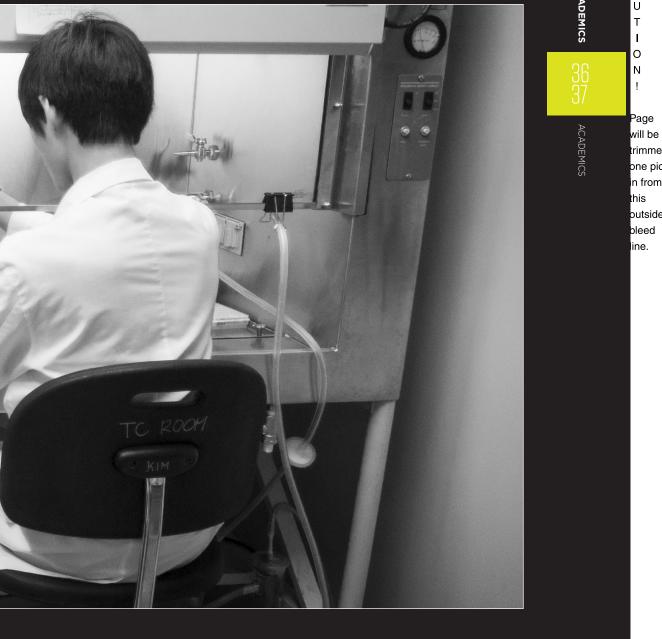
For me, textbook learning is great and very interesting, but with research, you're writing the textbook. It's something nobody else has ever seen before, and you're the first person to observe a new phenomenon.

Ever since I was five. I've had a curiosity to go beyond what's expected. I'd get Christmas presents. and after only a few hours of playing with the toy, I'd move on to the box. With toys, you're restricted to the toy itself, but with the box, you can do anything. I used to make tanks and forts out of them. The

I've loved that, and St Mark's has helped me direct it in the science

St. Mark's has guided me into finding my own passions as I've grown, and I'm glad I took a chance to go outside of my comfort zone. I know it's said a lot, but going outside of the box launched my research career by pushing me into something completely new. and I think there's meaning in that.

An insatiable curiosity guides me, and in the end, I'm determined to elucidate the unknown no matter how late I have to stay at lab.



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