Taking (Vander)stok of Things

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We have to admit, as much as magazines may represent a standard in glossy, informative, printed entertainment, they certainly are laden with limitations. For starters, you can only fit so much on each non-scrollable page, not to mention the ability to copy, paste, cut, crop, zoom in/out, or share is sadly no where to be seen. And don't even get us started about social media. How can we take something seriously if our experience of reading it isn't periodically interjected with halfinterested facebooking?

Needless to say, we're still as committed as ever to bringing you a quality publication. Still, we see no reason why we shouldn't send along some web-based garnishes along with it, some literary salt and pepper to compliment the UC main course. So here's what's on the menu. Our next issue of UC will feature, among other things, our very own Winter Ball scholarship winners! It might be pretty obvious at this point that they're ridiculously smart but we really wanted you to be able to get to know them better, cause frankly, haven't we all been there? Your teachers asks a question in class and before she's even done. Miss Hermione Granger over there is reaching as hard as she can for the ceiling? It might have seemed a little intimidating at first, but we all know it took all of 1/4 of the first book to find out Hermione's a complete bada**. And hopefully, by the time you read this post, you'll think our winners are too.



Why do I get stuck with Weasley?

So without further ado, first on our list is Sammi "Quick to Respond to Emails" Vanderstok! We asked her a variety of questions, some we hoped would elicit an inspirational response, and some for absolutely no reason at all, but the bottom line is Sammi provided us with more in depth answers than we thought and it challenged our consciences to think that people wouldn't be able to read the majority of them due to physical page limitations (in particular, they tell us you can't open links from a magazine. Really what's the world coming to.). So we've decided to post the answers in their entirety up on our blog for your viewing pleasure, and good thing too, because blogs can open links, and the one link in particular is hilarious. Go Sammi!

Hi Rexton,

Thanks so much for your email – I would love to help out and share a little about myself. So..... here goes 😃



What makes me me: I believe in trying to be your best and making sure that your talents impact the lives of others. During the CARP syposium before the Winter Ball one 2nd gen made the point that most of the young people in our church have a sense of purpose that drives them to want to make a contribution to the world that many other people our age don't necessarily feel; most kids our age are simply trying to live a happy life. Personally, I know within me I have a strong drive to not only be successful myself, I want to make a difference and leave a positive impact. Right now for me that means being a serious and committed student, but I'm doing this in order to one day be in a position where I can affect positive change on a large level. And having this big dream gives me the motivation to push myself and work hard even when I don't feel like doing it.



Sammi was able to send us this response from deep in a forest with no internet. Dream big.

I also believe in true love! I believe that the relationships and Blessings we are given have the potential to be the most beautiful relationships out there and I know that I personally wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for my husband. Not only has he been my #I fan and supporter (he made me breakfast everyday last semester so I could get to class on time and pulled all-nighters with me so I wouldn't have to do them alone!), he is strong where I'm not and vice versa. As a joke, whenever something good would happen to either of us we would say "Go Team Vanderstok!" since in reality, most of our victories are a result of that teamwork.



The unstoppable Team Vanderstok, stopping for a photo.

How I plan to use my scholarship money: To pay off my student loans! I took the financing of my education very seriously and I want to graduate with as little debt as possible, and this scholarship will help reduce a sizable portion of the loans I took out.

Personal definition of success: When you've achieved the goals you set for yourself and are proud of how you got there. During my years on STF/GPA, one of my favorite quotes was "Life is a journey, not a destination" because it helped to remind me to value the hard work I putting in at the moment and not just wish for the gold at the end of the finish line. It reminded me to appreciate life, be patient with myself and my progress, and to remember that doing the right thing, even on a small scale, is important.

Biggest pet peeve: How I lose socks, just 1 sock from each pair. I think it's true that the washing machine eats them.



Well on the bright side, now you're set for those days you want to express each of your 3 feet differently.

Favorite joke: I love jokes about growing up in the 1990's, such as explaining the power of Lisa Frank and Beanie Babies (if you don't know what I'm talking about then check out this link: things-90s-kids-will-have-to-explain-to-their-children/).

Motivation for getting out of bed in the morning: I know this sounds kind of nerdy, but the goals I set the previous night. Unless I know what I need to do the following day, I would rather just sleep in and relax Also, having breakfast ready and made by my husband doesn't hurt Hope this helps and thanks for working on this. Take care and Happy God's Day!