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My mom always taught me to over come any obstacles that come my way. I didn't give this much thought until I was actually put in front of a challenge. This past year of 2013-2014 was the hardest year of my education. October through December I was in and out of hospital beds, doctor's office, good news and bad news. In these months I went through a lot of medical testing and a lot of missing school. As a college-bound AVID student, I had a pretty heavy course load as well. Additionally I had to pass these classes in order to graduate from high school. At this point I was in a completely different state of mind than I usually am in with my schooling. I felt like giving up in everything I have ever worked for. I was thinking of dropping out of school. This was a very low point in my life. All throughout high school I had always passed my classes and I've been a good student. I didn't know what to do because I had never been put in this situation. Although I figured if I was a rock bottom, the only way to go from here is up. Once I was diagnosed with a digestive disorder and learned to completely change my lifestyle, I started feeling better. In the end, I ended up passing all my classes with C's or better. I also stayed in school. If there was one thing I learned from this experience was how much courage and confidence I have. Given this experience I will always remember that life gives its strongest battles to its toughest soldiers. I will be attending Lake Tahoe Community College in the fall.