Many little girls aspire to grow up and become fashion designers, but few actually get the chance to design for their favorite star. But GLHS graduates and identical twin sisters Claire and Shawn Buitendorp are anything but ordinary.
 In fact, the two are quite the opposite.
 Sitting together and finishing each other’s sentences, it is clear that the two make the perfect pair. The ideal mix of contrasts, Claire’s long, feminine hair, girly style and quiet demeanor fits perfectly with Shawn’s tougher pixie cut hair and outgoing personality. Even when it comes to fashion, Claire's skills at sewing compliment Shawn's detail and handiwork. Together, they make the ideal team.
 “I couldn’t think of a better partner,” Shawn said. “It’s in the cards for us. Being business partners is going to happen because we’re going to make it happen.”
 And they have. The two have already created their own successful stage wear line, *Shock and Awww,* which has traveled across the country, reaching to some very famous customers.
 Together, they created two dresses for singer Katy Perry, both of which that were given as gifts during her concert tour.
 “The whole thing started when we wanted to go to her concert for our 21st birthday,” Claire said. “We only turn 21 once, so we wanted to make a big shindig out of it; we bought really good meet and greet tickets and decided to make our own outfits for the show.”
 Familiar with creating outfits, the twins used their knowledge from their sewing and design classes at LCC, YouTube, books and previous trial and error experiences to make the creations for themselves.
 “We were hoping that when we met her, she would say ‘Oh, I love those, who made them?” Shawn started.
 And that is where their idea was born.
 “It’s great if she likes what we’re wearing, but unless we have something to give her, it doesn’t help,” Claire finished. “So we came up with this idea of making her an outfit.”
 Perry’s “California Dreams” tour launched in Europe during February 2011, creating a Candy Land atmosphere for the audience. Decked out in peppermint outfits, cupcake dresses and gumball leotards, the twins researched hundreds of Perry’s most elaborate costumes from both her current and previous tours.
 “We went through every single item she’s ever worn on stage,” Claire said “And after seeing pictures of the tour, we thought ‘Let’s make something candy-themed.”
 Considering Perry’s hourglass shape, her tour theme and comfort, the dress quickly became a demanding project. Spending six months creating and producing, the twins eventually completed a dress entirely made of Swarovski crystal conversation hearts for Perry to wear.
 “We knew the stakes were really high just because we wanted to impress her, so we really wanted the design and the shape and the style to be really attractive and really comfortable,” Shawn said. “Besides, when were we ever going to see her again?”
 Once created, the girls traveled to Perry’s meet and greet to deliver the garment. After surrendering it to security for screening, the girls anxiously waited to see if they would be permitted to hand deliver their dress.  About halfway through the line, the dress was returned to them so they could formally present Perry with the gown.
 “She said she never had a fan give her something like that before,” Shawn said. “It was quite a success for us.”
 And with one major success under their belt, the two began to think of new ideas for Perry even before her show was over.
 “A lot of the concert, Claire and I were trying to look at her costumes,” Shawn laughed. “It would be mid-song and we’d be like ‘Where’s the zipper on that one?’”
 Perry eventually went to wear their first creation over 25 times to various different meet and greets and events. But one dress was not enough to satisfy the pair.
 “The first one was a pretty dress that we stuck conversation hearts on,” Shawn said. “But anyone can do that. For the second one, we wanted to create something where she actually becomes the confection.”
 Modeled after a hot fudge sundae, the second dress turned Perry into an actual treat. With a base of foam, grooves were sewn into it to create the illusion of soft serve ice cream and topped with latex for a shinier “fudge and sprinkle” appearance. Ironically, the “cherry on top” was a sparkling red hat to complete the look.
 Giving the outfit to Perry’s handlers, Shawn and Claire delivered their second creation on the night of her Madison Square Garden concert — one of the biggest concerts in the tour’s entirety.
 “They told us not to get our hopes up since it was such a big show,” Claire said. “But that afternoon, they texted us and told us to come on over and that she was wearing our dress [hot fudge] during the performance.”
 Even after creating two outfits for one of music’s most successful recording artists, the twins have no intention of slowing down anytime soon.
 “I don’t want to call it a once and a lifetime experience, because I think it will happen again,” Shawn said. “We’ll make it happen,” Claire added. “We’ve had a lot of successes, but we have a far way to go.”
 In fact, their goal is plain and simple; it is written on their Katy Perry CD jacket, right above her autograph.
 “I someday hope to have a closet full of you.”