

This year, the Admissions Committee received 2250 applications and accepted merely 20% of the highly-qualified applicant pool.

Andover Receives Record-High Number of 2250 Applications; Acceptance Rate Drops 1% to 20%

By KEVIN ZHAI

It is that time of year again: the Admissions Office is done with decisions and now it is their turn to anxiously await replies from the 229th incoming class to Phillips Academy.

2,250 applications circulated through Shuman Admission Center, a 5% increase from 2,136 applications in 2005. The admission decisions were mailed out on March 10.

When asked about how she felt about the applicant pool this year, Acting Dean of Admissions Deborah Murphy '86 said, "As in past years, there were athletes, musicians, thespians, and others who are passionate in math, in history... We are eager to continue to fuel the program here at Andover."

The Academy admitted 449 of the 2,250 applicants, an acceptance rate of 20%. Last year, the acceptance rate was 21%, a highly competitive statistic among boarding schools.

The number of people who decide to matriculate at Andover varies from year to year, but remains relatively consistent; the predictions of the Admissions Office are generally accurate. In 2005, the yield rate was 74% and in 2004, it was 73%. The Admissions Office calculates predictions based on the yield rates from past years. This year, they believe the yield rate will be close to 73%.

Andover receives one of the highest numbers of applications in the nation, combined with one of the very lowest acceptance rates and the highest yield rate. Andover is one of the most competitive schools in the U.S.

In regards to the competition in Andover admissions, Ms. Murphy said, "Every student at Andover should be proud that they are here."

Every year, the Admissions Office compares Andover and Exeter's overlapped admittances. For the past 15 years, Andover has consistently had more matriculations.

The process of assessing the applications this year was similar to last year. Every prospective student had a file which five members of the admission committee reviewed. The first two readings were by faculty members, the third one by the interviewer, the fourth one by the class officer, and the last one by Dean of Admissions Jane Fried. Additionally, faculty from other departments such as

Continued on Page 6, Column 1

Increase in Winter Term DCs Related to Illegal Substances Concerns PA

33 Students Faced Disciplinary Action or Sanctuary for Illegal Substances Use

By MICHAEL JIANG

A sudden increase in disciplinary action related to illegal substances this Winter Term has concerned many students and faculty on campus.

This past Winter Term saw 33 DCs and sanctuaries for alcohol and drug related incidents alone.

In the winter terms of 2002 and 2003, the five clusters combined saw one and three DCs respectively.

In 2004, 15 students faced discipline. However, these numbers indicate the overall number of DCs, not ones simply for alcohol or drugs, and do not count sanctuaries.

The steep rise could be attributed to larger numbers of students involved in several of the cases this year, including two incidents which involved members of this newspaper's staff.

Other reasons for this increase are not apparent to most students and faculty on campus.

According to West Quad North Cluster Dean Chad Green, the faculty did not attempt to "crack down" on students, but followed the normal procedure.

Observing the recent increase in substance abuse among stu-

dents this winter, Mr. Green said, "I have heard [two] things - there is an increase in substance abuse, and kids are just getting unlucky."

Pine Knoll DC Representative Matt Kahn '06 said, "A lot of it is that kids are just not being as careful. I don't think that there is an actual increase in illegal activity. It is just a combination of bad luck and sloppiness."

Although the source of this growth remains unclear, many faculty and administrators are concerned. School Physician Dr. Richard Keller reveals that this was an alarming trend, regardless of the reasons behind it.

With the large number of DCs this term, some students have wondered about the disciplinary process.

Phillips Academy uses a cluster-based disciplinary system. Thus, when a particular student gets into trouble, his or her individual cluster dean handles the questioning and addresses the disciplinary committee.

The process in which Cluster Deans obtain information and

Continued on Page 6, Column 5

John Rogers Appointed As New Dean of Studies

By SCHUYLER DICKEY

As the new Dean of Studies, John E. Rogers will bring a different perspective to Andover's curriculum, based on his experience as an Instructor in Chemistry and his involvement in various off-campus programs.

Mr. Rogers will serve as the dean until the academic year 2012-2013.

He replaces outgoing Dean Margarita R. O. Curtis, who was appointed as the fifty-fifth Head of School at Deerfield Academy earlier this year, a position she will assume in September.

Mr. Rogers came to Phillips Academy as an Instructor in Physics in 1990. Since his arrival, he also taught chemistry and environmental science. As the first Head of the Natural Sciences division and the Co-chair of the Science Program Planning Committee, he played an integral role in the design and construction of the new Gelb Science Center.

He has also served as a house counselor in four different dorms, and coached JV soccer and track.

According to Dean of Faculty Temba Maqubela, Mr. Rogers was selected from a pool of four internal candidates, all of whom were well-qualified.

"John has a rare combination of brilliance, vision, and diplomacy that is needed to guide us through

the implementation of the academic program component of our very bold Strategic Plan," Mr. Maqubela said.

The new dean is also very excited for the position that awaits him. His highest priority is to help the school achieve the goals laid out in the October 2004 Strategic Plan, including recruiting talented students from every background and developing a support system to make students feel welcome in the PA community.

Continued on Page 7, Column 3



New Dean of Studies John Rogers

New Site TAKKLE.com Strives to Create Recruiting Program for Athletes & Coaches

By CHAD HOLLIS

Four Andover athletes have been asked to try out and promote a new sports networking website called TAKKLE.com; the CEO emailed Sean Aaron '07, Ben Bramhall '07, Mike Spiak '06, and Yoni Gruskin '07 during winter break.

The chosen athletes were solicited to serve as some of the first test subjects for the site, as well as to promote the site and attract new membership.

TAKKLE.com is a social networking site for sports similar to facebook.com. The website allows student athletes, coaches, and fans from all over the country to view pictures and stats of other athletes, and talk and socialize with teammates and other competitors.

TAKKLE.com CEO David Brinbaum said, "We found it pretty amazing that in this day in age that there is no online network where athletes and fans can connect to one place via their common interest in sports, so my vision was to create a new kind of sports community which is TAKKLE."

Howie Kalter '07 said, "I think it's good that it gives coaches an easy way to see players, but it also allows players to misrepresent themselves. It's good to help prepare for games because I would be able to see the stats of my rivals. You can form better friendships with your rivals and meet new people who are interested in the sports that you are."



Lacrosse has one of the more competitive recruiting pools, particularly among PA's peer schools.

Facilitating college recruiting is another aspect of TAKKLE. College coaches will have access to all student athlete profiles where they can view a player's height, weight, shooting hand, and annual stats. Players can also send "TAKKLE sheets" to selected schools and coaches that summarize their best stats and plays. The TAKKLE sheet will also give the coach a link to the player's home page.

Yoni Gruskin '07 said, "It's an interesting concept. There's not many recruiting sites that cater to all different sports."

College recruiters will have the ability to search for an athlete based on any given criteria. According to Mr. Brinbaum, a coach can search specifically for a basketball power forward in New England who is six

feet, right-handed, and has over an 1100 in the SATs.

Although the chance of college recruiting excites some students, some are doubtful of the honesty of the stats.

Owen Remeika '06 said, "It seems like a pretty cool site and it seems like it has a lot of potential, but it leaves too much up to students. It's a good idea because it would be a really good database for coaches to look and see players that aren't on their map, but it's going to take some time before coaches can trust TAKKLE to base their recruiting on. It's going to take a little while before TAKKLE can establish itself and figure out if what kids are writing about themselves is actually true."

Continued on Page 10, Column 1

DR. ROGER LIBBY ASSESSES SEXUAL ACTIVITY AT PA

By ANDREW CLAY

Sexologist Dr. Roger Libby was shocked by the small amount of sexual activity on the Andover campus based on the results of a recent school-wide survey conducted by The Phillipian. Just over 20% of the 738 respondents said that they have had sex before, while 11.6% of 733 respondents said they have had sex on campus.

"I would say that your school's estimates seem low...compared to the national statistics," said Dr. Libby. He estimates that nationally, the best estimate is 70% of high school students have had sex by graduation while 61% of high school males, and 63% of high school females, have had sex on average.

Not only was he surprised by the data, but Dr. Libby also questioned the accuracy of the survey, since the

Continued on Page 6, Column 4

Five Years After PA, Former Chair of World Languages Pascucci Passes Away

Beloved Faculty Emeritus Inspired Students and Faculty Alike

By EMERSON MOORE

Former Chair of the World Languages Department and beloved member of the PA community for numerous years, Vincent Pascucci passed away last Sunday.

When Mr. Pascucci retired, the Language Department lost "one of the great prizes of the teaching world," according to Instructor in Latin and Greek Nicholas Kip.

"He was literally irreplaceable. People from all over the map would come up to me during teaching conferences to ask me how Vincent was doing," he continued.

Mr. Pascucci taught Latin, German, Ancient Greek and Italian at Andover before retiring in 2001. He taught Spanish before

coming to Andover, and he spoke fluent French.

Mr. Kip said, "Russian was the only language in the Language Department that he could not have taught."

After suffering an initial stroke six years ago, Mr. Pascucci recovered to lead a full life and tutor students in Latin and Greek until four weeks before his death.

He was a graduate of Columbia College and Brown University, received an Honorary Degree from Georgetown University for his teaching, was a Fulbright Scholar in Rome, Italy, and a visiting professor at Dartmouth College.

School Physician Richard Keller said, "He had a passion for languages, history, music, literature, and teaching. If Andover ever had a Mr. Chips, he would fit the bill."

Over the years he attracted the admiration, respect and affection of many teachers outside of Andover. John Rassias, the most respected language teacher of Mr. Pascucci's generation, brought Mr. Pascucci to Dartmouth to teach there as much as possible.

Italian flourished at Andover during Mr. Pascucci's time here simply because of his efforts.

He created the first college-level Italian course at Andover, a consistently over-subscribed senior elective. He also took an innovative approach to design the course, incorporating a cultural understanding of Italy in areas such as opera, film, and travel. These teachings greatly influenced students who visited Italy.

His approach to the Italian course was typical of his approach

Continued on Page 6, Column 1

Inside The Phillipian



NPR reporter Mike Schuster will speak Friday in Kemper.

iPods, AIM, and Facebook... all at once.

Multitasking PA students suffer from sleep deprivation and lower literary skills. **Page 7**

Beauty, Fashion, and Fun

Andover's young fashion designers show off their elaborate collections. **Page 5**

Spring Varsity Teams Preview

Andover athletes are ready to get out in the field for another successful season. **Page 12**

Problematic Parietals

Dawson Gage '06 wants coed Monopoly without hassle from house counselors. **Page 3**

Features Creatures

The cuddly animals are back! **Page 9**

SECTIONS

News.....6-7

Commentary.....2-3

Arts.....4-5

Features.....8-9

Sports.....10-12



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EDITORIALS

Words of Wisdom

During this Wednesday's All-School Meeting, students were welcomed to Spring Term with words of advice and encouragement from school president Ali Siddiqi. However, the most valuable and important message came from Head of School Barbara Landis Chase's outstanding speech. She spoke about the qualities that define Andover's character, specifically the high degree of honesty instilled in the students. She used anecdotes from her travels and meetings with alumni to illustrate this concept.

Most powerful was a story about a girl at a New York private school who bought a paper online and turned it in as her own. After discovering that she turned in the same purchased paper as another student, she asked the teacher for the paper back, claiming that she needed to make a couple of changes. The teacher, who hadn't yet looked at it, gave the paper back willingly. The student quickly wrote a new paper and turned it in. She never got caught for cheating or lying and went on to attend Harvard.

Mrs. Chase emphasized that this student has to live with her own dishonesty. Another alumnus talked about his son's shock to discover how normal and acceptable cheating was in college compared to Andover. He went on to ask Mrs. Chase how Andover students have generally avoided the temptation to engage in academic dishonesty. Mrs. Chase explained the importance of staying honest and the difficulties surrounding rewarding honesty in the disciplinary system.

The most valuable message in her speech was the lesson Mrs. Chase offered about values. Andover students are very focused on gaining admission to elite colleges. But she reminded us that "there are some terrible people at the most prestigious schools." Going to the best school isn't worth sacrificing honesty.

There are many difficulties concerning the degree to which honesty should be rewarded during the disciplinary process. A few years ago, there was an uproar when the newest *Blue Book* required students to cooperate in any disciplinary investigation. While there were some concerns that this could lead to entrapment or random demands for self-incrimination, it is not unreasonable to ask that students be honest. Such a controversial policy, however, should be debated by those it concerns as well as the deans. Mrs. Chase mentioned the need for a school-wide discussion to discuss the difficulties facing honesty at Andover. This would truly benefit the whole community, students, faculty, and administration alike.

Mrs. Chase not only offered us a tremendous and truthful lesson, but an opportunity to improve the school as well. Students and faculty should take up this offer both to improve the disciplinary system and strengthen community bonds.

Spring Reflection

There are both positive and negative things about coming back to school from Spring Break this year. At the top of everybody's "positive" list is the warm weather. Students returned to campus this week to something that has been missing from Academy Hill for too long: sunshine. Winter Term, though it is the shortest trimester, often feels like a long, unbearable trudge.

In the thick of this, we sometimes forget what an amazing place Andover is and how fortunate we all are to have the opportunity to work, socialize, and live on this campus. However, temperatures nearing 70 degrees this week officially announced the beginning of the coveted Spring Term. It is time for students to move past their winter cynicism and open their eyes to the great spectacle of springtime at PA.

For Seniors, the next ten weeks will be the perfect capstone to their Andover careers. Stress and study hours will instantly be substituted with Slip n' Slides, Super Soakers and lounge chairs. For the rest of the student body, Uppers included, Spring Term is a unique part of the PA experience, complete with games of meatstik, whiffle ball, Quad Football and tennigolf.

The only regret about the start of Spring Term 2006 is the decision to begin classes with a six-day week, as opposed to the customary four-day weeks at the beginning of every term. This is a harsh introduction to the term, and removes the customary ease-in period to adjust from hours on the beach back to the rigorous academic schedule. This is especially true for international students, who fly halfway around the world to return to campus, only to spend their first week in a jetlagged haze.

While we understand the need for more class days, such a long week to lead off the term makes this adjustment an even more daunting challenge for traveling students and faculty alike.

These editorials represent the views of The Phillippian Editorial Board.

Editor's Note

To our readers:

Some members of *The Phillippian*, myself included, were involved in the disciplinary action being discussed in our pages. We all sincerely regret our actions, and we have learned much, particularly about the meaning of integrity both in the paper and in our personal lives.

The hardest part of this whole process has been coming to terms with the fact that we may have lost the trust of our readers. For the remainder of our term as editors, we will endeavor to regain this trust.

The other editors and I have rededicated ourselves to fairness and accuracy in our reporting and commentary,

as well as to this newspaper's integrity. We will all try our best to meet these journalistic and ethical goals not only for the rest of our tenure, but always.

Steve Blackman,
Editor-in-Chief

ASM Assault

Kate Iannarone

SPEAKER

community

While some speakers are interesting, there is no denying that some are not. We enjoy and remember the speakers that come in, make us laugh, and capture our attention with dynamic stage presence. These speakers manage to drive their points home, and we can leave All-School feeling like we didn't waste our time. Unfortunately, these speakers do not come every week. Often, we are faced with a droning, lackluster alumnus or scholar. These people often have poignant or interesting messages to relay, but their jewels of wisdom are lost among the snores and buzz of subdued conversation and their underwhelming speaking style. After sitting for 45 minutes of a deadpan lecture, students feel restless and annoyed. We feel like we have squandered time that could have been spent in more productive ways. We feel cheated.

Because All-School Meeting requires everyone to sit and listen for the entire 45 minutes, there is not time for discussion. We're allowed to go up to interrogate the speaker, but there is not active debate between students and teachers. We seldom have time afterwards to discuss the issues; if we were given more of a chance to communicate our views of the lectures with the faculty, more community building would actually happen. Take Dr. James Maas' lecture on sleep, for instance. There was no open forum in which students could talk to the administration about how to remedy the prevalent sleep crisis. How is community building supposed to take place when there is no common discussion?

Students also do not have much say as to whom we listen to. There is an All-School Meeting panel that has student

representatives, but the general student body normally walks into the Chapel, having had no say in the lecture they are about to endure. The school pays a lot of money for these speakers. But, it is a complete waste to pay for speakers who will put us to sleep.

No matter how great the speaker is, by the end of the meeting everyone's thoughts are clear: "I have to get to class now. Commons opens in five minutes. I can get there first." The moment that Mrs. Chase utters the beloved phrase "You are dismissed," there is a tremendous rumbling as a mass exodus swarms out the narrow front doors of the chapel. The fact that we are so anxious to leave is ironic. All-School Meeting, which is supposed to be a relaxing retreat from the bustle of daily life, is as fraught with tension as any class. It's just another requirement in our week that we have to fulfill.

There are a handful of students who enjoy All-School Meeting, but when so much of the student body is ready and raring to get out of the Chapel, it is difficult to relax and listen to the speaker. In this situation, nobody is happy: the many people who are forced to come to the meeting are upset, especially when the people who are genuinely interested take the floor to drag All-School out another ten minutes by asking a question that warrants another long-winded reply.

It seems truly pointless and counterproductive, therefore, to make every All-School a requirement. I think students would benefit much more by looking at a list of upcoming lectures and signing up for speakers that really interest them. This way, the speakers would get the attention and respect they deserve from an audience who cares what they have to say. The feeling of requirement would be alleviated, and All-School Meeting would be a more enjoyable, relaxing experience for everyone.



The End of Reality in Iraq

Alexander Heffner

UNUSUAL NEO-CON ALLY

to invade all countries whose governments are undemocratic unless a dangerous enemy threatened us. Instead, Fukuyama advocates a foreign policy that favors democracy, but is mindful of global security. It turns out we may have been more secure pre-Iraq invasion than we are now with a Middle Eastern nation that has become a magnet for terrorism and hatred.

Fukuyama's revelation reflects how his contemporaries, namely staunch Bush-supporting neo-cons, live in a warped world, where only one policy is accepted: an unguided and unsupervised imperialism, resolute only in its simple rhetoric. To use Fukuyama's cliché, if anything we are witnessing "the end of reality" on the part of the Bush Administration and its explanation of the situation in Iraq.

Take, for example, the recent presidential press conference held on March 21, which the president devoted almost exclusively to the deteriorating situation in Iraq.

Mr. Bush stood against all of the self-evident, established facts. He discussed the Iraq operation as if the government and its citizens were not exposed to the official government position that Saddam Hussein had no connection to 9/11, to the constant death, destruction, and suffering of American servicemen and Iraqi civilians, or to the bloody insurgency that scars the Iraqi people every day.

Yet the Bush Administration maintains the existence of a link between 9/11 and Saddam and paints a fictional picture of Iraq. It asserts that civil unrest is limited in its scope, yet the former Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi states, "We are losing each day an average of 50 to 60 people throughout the country, if not more - if this is not civil war, then God knows what civil war is." Mr. Bush states that he is not swayed by polls; apparently he isn't influenced by reality either.

The seems to be the unreal American presidency, or what Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid frequently dubs the "Orwellian Presidency." But this apparently deliberate blindness to what is actually occurring in Iraq reflects what Bush's Administration is about: an end of open-mindedness, rational reflection or debate, or any interest in reality. This Administration is composed of a group of neo-cons, who together preach the same old false claims, and reveal an inadequate comprehension or geopolitics.

The Administration's foreign policy scheme is broken, with only one set of advice and views presented in discussions. And when any Administration official has debated the Bush policy, he was fired or ended up resigning. An obvious example is former Secretary of State Colin Powell, who sought diplomacy, not war, but was forced to make a case for military interventions.

In another instance, General Eric Shinseki, the Army Chief of Staff, resigned after clashing with Defense Secretary Rumsfeld about how many troops he thought were necessary to conduct the Iraq war. Many suggest he was forced to resign due to his dispute with the Administration.

So the deaths of over 2,000 American servicemen and women and over 30,000 Iraqi civilians are attributed to the Bush Administration's own "end of reality;" the end of any acknowledgement of truth about Iraq. It's a depressing day for America when the President of the United States cannot see reality or engage in an open discussion about a war he began preemptively.

His policies are steeped in hypocrisy at its most profound and immoral level when his Administration invades a foreign nation, purportedly to establish the foundations of an inclusive democracy - to educate its populace, to respect and honor all differing opinions, and to better understand truth - when it does not practice such ideals at home. Regrettably, I must say that an "end of reality" is upon us.

Problematic Parietals

Dawson Gage

GENTLEMAN

Each year, Andover students congregate with their dormmates to renew that most unfortunate of P.A. traditions: the ever-awkward, ever-giggly, parietal talk. Whether you've sat through this lecture one time or four, in a boys or girls dormitory, I would wager that each meeting was a somewhat ridiculous affair. In my own experience, at least, the speech that boys hear is a stunningly audacious non-sequitur.

To begin, we are told that a parietal is having a member of the opposite sex in one's room. However, the house counselor says, parietals are not for engaging in sexual activity (or at least not all the time.) Actually, they say, parietals are intended for any number of quintessentially platonic activities; Monopoly, friendly conversation, and studying are often cited as proper parietal pastimes.

I appreciate the "Leave It to Beaver" parietal ideal as much as anyone; my room has seen its share of co-ed card games and Scrabble sessions. There is a certain hedonistic quality to be had in the comically wholesome parietal, and if the parietal talk ended after the aforementioned description, one might not have trouble thinking of parietals as good, clean fun.

Unfortunately, as we all know, this symphony has another, more sinister movement to come. If the first part of the parietal talk makes young Andover men feel like Eddie Haskell, the second paints the picture of an army of young would-be R. Kellys. All of a sudden, it feels like that carpet of trust is swept out from under us as our house counselors speak of the importance of treating a hypothetical lady friend with dignity and respect. This is not to say such things are not important, because they are (and all you men out there shouldn't dare think otherwise.)

But if you recall we had just been informed that these parietal things really aren't about sex. (Perhaps they are?)

As talk of sexual relations creeps back into the dialog in the form of painstaking Q&A about statutory rape laws, the room becomes filled with gravely serious

Andover's parietal policies are long overdue for change.

expressions, more than several of which conceal a freshly hardened cynicism. And indeed, I wouldn't blame anyone for feeling cynical, confused, or both about Andover's room-visiting rules.

The concept of a parietal hearkens back to an era that was decidedly less enlightened than our own with regards to gender relations. Before coeducation, before men and women walked on even nominally equal playing fields, the faculty and administrators at Andover might have been wise to keep the cuffs on male-female interaction, if only because those teenagers, like any, were a product of their times. Likewise, our generation is an admirable testament to the achievements of women and men who worked to do away with sexual inequality. With this in mind, the time has come for a re-evaluation of Andover's antiquated room-visiting policies.

Although Andover's current parietal policy is rightly cognizant of the timeless fallibility of youth, its regulations don't do much more than give nervous parents a false sense of security. To all the moms and dads who expect a few rules to stand against the evolutionary juggernaut of their children's furious hormones, I'm sorry, but the rules are doomed to be broken, in spirit if not in letter. Darkened common rooms, empty class buildings, and lonely corners of Andover's expansive lawns are just a few of the many places where students can enjoy each others' company free from prying eyes and dated regulations.

Moreover, one can see why a couple might opt to have an unauthorized parietal or look for other places to be alone. Most students who have had parietals know that it matters little whether a girl and boy plan to populate their private time with harmless smooching or with acts of depravity unfit even for the Features pages; more often than not, awkward exchanges with house counselors and the behavior of dormmate passers-by seems more tailored to the latter. This is because, unfortunately, Andover openly

discourages sexual activity while still crudely peddling out inter-sex privacy with the clear assumption that sexual activity will take place.

This assumption (and we thought that there were none) is curious because it takes for granted that young men desire young women and vice-versa; surely one can't accuse the school of being ignorant of its gay and lesbian students. It does not seem to bother the school (nor me, for that matter) that gay and lesbian students can pursue their romantic interests independent of parietal rules. The other side of this arrangement, however, highlights the folly of our school's room-visiting rules; even if a student is gay, he or she is still unable to room-visit with members of the opposite sex because our policy is designed around singularly heterosexual suspicion.

Should Andover institutionalize students' sexual orientation in order to preserve our sex-centric parietal policy? Should we continue to pretend that the Senior's closed-door parietal is so coveted because board games are so much more fulfilling with the door shut? Or maybe the school should adopt the "three feet on the ground policy" seen at some of our peer schools, so that students don't get too horizontal with their recreation. My answers: no, no, and no again, for the time has come to do away with this *Blue Book* dinosaur.

In place of our current policy, Andover should remove all universal restrictions on room-visiting for students who are old enough to consent to sex (sixteen in Massachusetts.) In order to calm fretful parents an individual student's parents could decide how comfortable they are with their son or daughter interacting with the opposite sex. Arrangements could be made to accommodate young men and women who are in committed relationships, or who are simply good friends, to avoid the current awkwardness. Parents could also permit their children to room-visit freely in co-ed groups of, let's say, two or more members of each sex.

This arrangement would allow parents to engage in one area of their child's life where the school can do quite little. The re-negotiation of room-visiting arrangements could happen at any time during the year, fostering an evolving dialog between students, their house counselors, and their parents about each student's romantic joys and frustrations. If a student didn't want to have to discuss any of these matters with their house counselors or parents, he or she wouldn't have much trouble. Admittedly, this plan isn't perfect, but the time is right for a change in Andover's parietal policy.

DEFINING A SLUT

Emma Wood



PHILLIPIAN
SEX
COLUMNIST

We are at the edge of Spring Term and girls are already trading in their spandex for smooth, tanned, and bare legs, UGGs for high heels, and jeans for mini skirts. As I walk around campus, I marvel at the length of some of these supposed "skirts" – some ride so low on hips and high on thighs, I doubt that they can cover anything when the girls sit down. Shirts seem to have shrunk in the wash over Spring Vacation as well; pierced belly-buttons are bared everywhere and shrunken necklines are no longer able to contain burgeoning décolletage.

Soon some freshman girls will begin to parade around campus in bikinis,

Why are certain girls and not others deemed "slutty?" How much of it is dress? Actions? Body shape?

pretending to sunbathe, but simply desperate to capture the attention of upperclassmen.

This time of year makes me wonder: What makes a slut, a slut? (Am I the only one ever to ponder such a profound question?) It is not the number of hookups; there are many girls with long lists of boys who lack the demeaning label. How do these lucky girls manage to escape the unjust double standard? Though they hookup with plenty of boys, they never get labeled as sluts. Perhaps it is simply that some girls have a certain refined or "classy" air that prevents others from perceiving them as slutty.

Unfortunately, other girls don't even need to kiss tons of boys to be considered sluts. One fairly public hookup or skimpy outfit could instantly doom a girl into a lifetime of assumptions and rolled eyes.

For those unlucky ones who cannot evade the label, but have not had an "incident" could their clothing choices be to blame? As the saying goes, "Clothes do not make the man" – or, for our purposes, the woman, and I have found this statement holds true in most cases. I have met plenty of girls wearing skimpy outfits, who though they are not chaste, are by no means sluts.

But, how can one pick out a slut from an innocent, but scantily clad, girl? Can she be identified? Or will her revealing outfit automatically cause everyone to mislabel her?

I realized that the girl will only be mislabeled among strangers. In a small community like Andover's it is almost impossible to mistake a "normal" girl for her more lascivious counterpart, because you will probably already formed an idea of the girl's persona based on classes, facebook.com, and gossip.

Alright, so if neither clothes, nor a long list of kissed boys define a slut by themselves, what does? Could it be the types of boys she kisses? Do slutty girls kiss slutty boys? Though it is possible that the two comparable breeds may intersect at some point in their busy careers, the instances are not common enough to be the root of a slut's reputation.

Perhaps it is something else. I have a personal theory that girls with small breasts can never look slutty. Breasts are inherently sexual, and when a girl lacks them, how sexual can she appear in tight or low-cut shirts? If this is correct, then it would follow that girls with bigger breasts are more likely to be named as sluts. In my experiences, this has mostly proved true.

One of my good friends from my middle school, who had a C-cup, constantly heard rumors about her supposed hook-ups – the majority of which were completely fabricated. Yes, my school had quite an active rumor-mill, but was it a coincidence that those who boasted the biggest breasts in our class also carried with them the biggest (and unfounded!) reputation as a slut.

Yet part of me feels that these girls bring their reputations upon themselves. I bemoan my image as the "cute little girl," while simultaneously cultivating it. These girls may enjoy their reputations and encouraged their formation themselves.

However, perhaps no single one of these qualities can create a slut, but instead she is a conglomerate of style, amount of boys kissed, breast size, misfortune, memorable incidents, and at least a subconscious desire to channel the Red Light District.

With Liberty and Justice for All

The Bush administration recently admitted that only eight percent of approximately 500

Stephen Blackman

CHIEF

prisoners at the Guantanamo Bay Prison, Cuba are linked to al-Qaeda. Nevertheless, they are being held under conditions that the Red Cross has called "a system of cruel, unusual, and degrading treatment, and a form of torture." These prisoners have little chance of freedom, even those judged not to pose a threat to American security.

Only five percent of the detainees were taken prisoner by U.S. forces; 86% were handed over by Pakistani or Afghan warlords in exchange for large cash bounties. These bounties amount to far more than the average soldier's wages and represent a large incentive to falsify captures.

The relationship between these unfortunate men and international terrorism has never been documented, if it indeed exists. Even the military leaders

the Detainee Treatment Act illegally stripped the Supreme Court of its obligation to decide this case.

The government's rebuttal is twofold: first, that the law applies retroactively to cases which had already been brought before it was signed, and that, in the interest of national security, the president can do anything he wants. While the high court has already ruled that these prisoners have the right to appeal, a new bill in the Senate would nullify the prisoners' right to do so in the federal court system and the Supreme Court's ability to hear these cases.

While the CIA's secret prisons overseas have garnered media attention, relatively few Americans are concerned with the actions of President Bush and Congress. The secret prisons establish a disturbing precedent, and shift the delicate balance of power within the federal government. The Republicans have used national security as an excuse to violate historical precedent and sidestep the separation of powers envisioned by the founding fathers.

What does this physical and legal mistreatment of human beings say about the U.S. to the international community? When the government decides to take away a cornerstone of our constitutional freedoms, are we really better off?

President Bush disregards Habeas Corpus in the War Against Terrorism.

in charge of Guantanamo have acknowledged, "sometimes we [don't] get the right folks." This kind of mistake ruins lives.

The Bush administration has made it difficult, if not impossible, for these foreign citizens to contact lawyers, reporters, or even family members. They are stuck in what Amnesty International Secretary General Irene Khan called "the gulag of our times." However, the issue at stake here is more than just that of mistreated prisoners or inhumane conditions in military camps: the Bush administration's position in this case threatens the system of checks and balances on which our nation's stability depends.

Under the 2005 Detainee Treatment Act passed by Congress, Federal Courts (except the Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia) are prohibited from evaluating writs of habeas corpus on behalf of these detainees. Under the 1976 Geneva Convention, which governs the treatment of prisoners of war, "nobody in enemy hands can fall outside the law," yet according to the Red Cross, these men are being denied their due process.

The Sixth Amendment right to a "speedy and fair public trial" has fallen by the wayside, replaced by a system of secret military tribunals and indefinite release dates. Only ten of the detainees have been designated for trial; and none of these cases have yet been decided. The rest are stuck in legal limbo, unable to seek assistance from federal courts, and left behind by the military commissions.

Four months ago, the Supreme Court ruled that it would decide the validity of the military commissions in a case involving Osama Bin Laden's former driver, Salim Ahmed Hamdan. In proceedings that began this week, Hamdan has argued that President Bush never had the authority to create military tribunals, despite his powers as commander-in-chief, and that

The Truth about Taylor Hall

James Sawabini

T-UNIT

It is testament to the manipulative power of gossip that Taylor Hall of West Quad South has a poor reputation. Even as you read this article, you are probably reflecting on the awful things you've heard about this proud dormitory. It seems that especially among some faculty Taylor has a tarnished reputation. Allow me to submit to you the truth: to dispel the lies, the rumors, and the God-awful gossip.

In order to confirm my suspicions, I discussed Taylor's reputation with a number of faculty members and students. Unfortunately, I discovered that my fears were correct. When I asked day student Pumelele (Pumi) Maqubela '06 what he thought of Taylor Hall's reputation, he responded, "Taylor Hall has a

dreafull reputation for illegal activities." Fellow resident Faisal Kassam '06, however, expressed outrage over this false perception. "I cannot comprehend why this community views Taylor as a 'bad' dorm, and that we are constantly breaking the rules," he added, "the rumors that we participate in such activities are nauseatingly false." James Kelly '06 agreed that although "there are a few bad apples, for the most part this is an amazing dorm."

Taylor Hall is a community of leaders: in sport, in academics, and in extra-curricular activities. To my

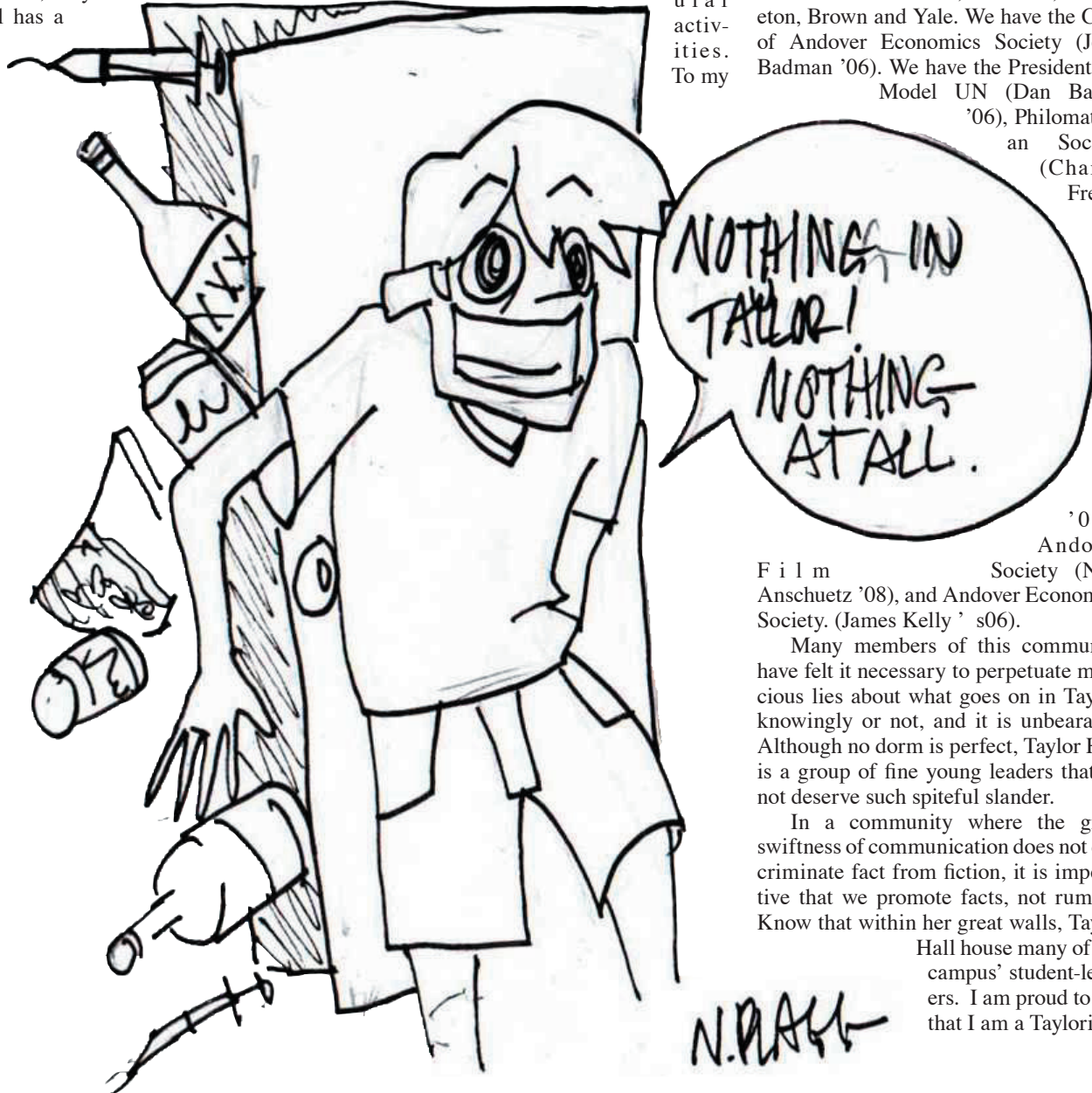
knowledge, no other dorm has ever held as many important leadership positions as Taylor Hall. The list is quite long and quite convincing, so you may choose to skip over this section. However, I do not mind elaborating for the stubborn reader.

In the halls of Taylor we have the captains of the Golf Team (James Watson '06), Baseball Team (Matt Boylan '06), and Lacrosse Team (Matt Yeager '06). Two among our ranks will go on to play division one college hockey. In addition, we have an All-American swimmer (Bob Divers '07). We even have a few students with 6.0 averages, a rarity indeed. The majority of graduating seniors from Taylor have been accepted to prominent schools like Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, Brown and Yale. We have the CFO of Andover Economics Society (John Badman '06). We have the Presidents of Model UN (Dan Bacon '06), Philomathean Society (Charlie Frentz

'06), Andover Society (Nick Anshuetz '08), and Andover Economics Society. (James Kelly '06).

Many members of this community have felt it necessary to perpetuate malicious lies about what goes on in Taylor, knowingly or not, and it is unbearable. Although no dorm is perfect, Taylor Hall is a group of fine young leaders that do not deserve such spiteful slander.

In a community where the great swiftness of communication does not discriminate fact from fiction, it is imperative that we promote facts, not rumors. Know that within her great walls, Taylor Hall house many of our campus' student-leaders. I am proud to say that I am a Taylorite.



SHOULD HONESTY DURING THE DISCIPLINARY PROCESS BE REWARDED?

WRITE YOUR OPINION FOR COMMENTARY!!!

YONI- x6531
DANIELLE- x6843



The PHILLIPIAN

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EDITORIAL

Congratulations...And a Word of Advice

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our newly elected student leaders for the 2006-2007 school year: Danny Silk as President and James Freeman as Vice President. This is quite an honor that the school has bestowed upon these two Uppers, and we feel that they deserve it. We also would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ali for his tenure as President. He still has plenty of commitments for Spring Term, including finalizing the online sign-in plan and giving that last Commencement speech, but then again, don't forget to enjoy Senior Spring, Ali.

We hope that both Silk and Freeman continue the Andover tradition of strong student leadership. Andover students are well-known for taking the initiative, both during their time on campus and during their professional lives. PA students take the lead in all fields, ranging from mathematics and the sciences to government and law, all based on their experiences at PA.

Keeping this idea of initiative in mind, we ask that Silk and Freeman push forward the ideas that Ali has given to the Student Council and the Administration throughout the course of this year. The concept of an ID card acting as both a key and a debit card would be extremely beneficial to students for years to come. The return of the Abbot Scholar Program and the Washington Intern Program will help Andover's best students get the opportunity to explore their beloved fields in greater depth with the larger number of resources. Wireless internet would also be helpful with students' educational experiences at PA.

This student body has high expectations from Silk and Freeman. Both come in at a point when there has been a great deal of debate on campus regarding student-administration relations, which are vital to maintaining a strong community. Our student representatives should be cordial in working with the Administration, but should also stand firm on what is best for students, and for the community as a whole. Administration initiatives that would have a large impact on PA students, such as the call earlier this year to increase the academic calendar by 10 days, should be referred to the Student Council and to faculty prior to being brought before the entire community. The main purpose of Student Council is to give students a say as to what PA should be like; giving Silk and Freeman the chance to advance their vision for PA, and for adding their own input to administration initiatives, would help the entire community. Again, our sincere congratulations for all your hard work, along with our great hope and expectation for your tenure as our most prominent student leaders.

This editorial represent the view of The Phillippian.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

As an alumnus who still feels a strong connection to the school, I will, from time to time, glance at the online version of The Phillippian. As one might imagine, the article on last term's spike in DC's jumped out at me. Students, of course, gave their usual spiel about the diabolical faculty who are "cracking down" on students, or as one student said, "kids are just not being as careful." Yet the article's author could not point to a single cause for this trend.

Ironically, the adjacent article on philippian.net covered admissions statistics, boasting a 20 percent acceptance rate. This had to leave me wondering, is Phillips Academy accepting the right students?

Granted, if I were to make such a claim, I would have only anecdotal evidence. Even so, while visiting a former classmate

two weeks ago, he mentioned to me that his younger sibling, still a student at PA, was growing more and more disaffected with the school and that it had changed since our time there. He told me stories of students flushing banned substances down the toilet and a culture completely different to the one of my Andover years (only three years ago!).

This is not to say that drug and alcohol use did not occur during my time. I know that it did. Yet this trend is certainly alarming. Perhaps it is time for the Admissions Office to re-emphasize how integral it is that they accept not only those who are academically qualified (and with the record number of applicants, there appear to be many), but also those whose personalities mesh with the school's values. After all, the words "finis origine pendet" appear on our seal for a reason. The end does indeed depend on the beginning and

it is the Admissions Office that provides the beginning.

All the best,

Evan Panich '03

The Phillippian welcomes all letters to the Editor. We try to print all letters, but because of space limitations, we recommend brevity and conciseness. We reserve the right to edit all submitted letters to conform with print restraints and proper syntax. We will not publish any anonymous letters. Please submit letters by the Monday of each week to *The Phillippian* mailbox in G.W. or to *The Phillippian* newsroom in the basement of Morse Hall, or send an e-mail to philippian@andover.edu.

Stolen Goods

Kate Iannarone

THIEF IN THE NIGHT

pler outweighs moral obligations. None of this would be an issue, however, we should guard our possessions more carefully, to guard against theft from strangers and roommates alike.

One of the worst experiences is returning to the spot where you left some-

Campus is generally a safe place. But students still need to be responsible for their belongings.

thing, only to find that your possessions are gone. Immediately, paranoia shakes your faith in the virtues of this student body. It's a disconcerting fact to realize that we are living among people who are willing to take what isn't theirs and feel no qualms for the frustration and unhappiness that they've caused. In a school whose motto is "Non Sibi," the irony of these reoccurring thefts is brutal.

The fact is that we, the student body, are entirely to blame. By strewing our iPods and books carelessly about, we are practically begging for someone to pick them up for us.

Sometimes, we are lucky; a good-hearted soul comes across our items and returns them to the Lost and Found. So when we appeal in a desperate panic to the Dean of Students and PAPS, we are

able to be reunited with our wandering possession. For the unlucky ones, our things are picked up by students who still abide by "Finders Keepers." It wasn't cool when we were five, and it still isn't cool now. But we wouldn't have to worry if we don't set ourselves up for the situation in the first place.

Many places on campus are considered 'safe zones' for coats, backpacks, books, etc. The benches in the mail room of GW are laden with people's stuff; this area has now become the official "Land of the Mislabeled Miscellaneous." I once found two sweatshirts of mine buried under textbooks, papers, coats, umbrellas, bowls, etc.

The shelf before the stairs to the PACC in the library has also become a safe-haven for things we don't want to carry around. I have seen a particular calculus book that has taken up permanent residence. Commons was a place formerly believed to be safe, as students would leave hats, mittens, and coats in the cubbies when the weather changed unexpectedly.

No matter where you leave your things, whether it is in a danger zone or a safe haven on campus, students have to understand that we are vulnerable to theft. We have become too careless and we are paying the penalty. It doesn't hurt to keep a tight rein on your stuff, especially if it's valuable to you. It's a huge bummer to have to buy that math book again because you left it alone in library.

A string of thefts from Commons has made it a danger zone. However, there are places on campus that still seem safe to leave your things for extended periods of time.

THEFT IN COMMONS?



A New Look at Andover's Alcohol Policy

John Gwin

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

As *The Phillippian* reported this week, more than thirty students were placed on Sanctuary or DC'd for drinking alcohol during the Winter. Obviously, such a dramatic increase raises questions, especially about the total number of students drinking on campus. This situation also brings to light some important issues surrounding our disciplinary system.

No one questions that faculty and administrators are primarily concerned with the health and safety of students in their charge. However, I would advocate some minor changes to the way our discipline system works, specifically concerning ex-post facto situations and the possible use of a breathalyzer.

The Blue Book states, "As a community concerned about health and safety, we strive to educate students about the potential dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs."

As this implies, the health and safety of students is the primary reason for our discipline system. However, there have been some concerns raised throughout the term about how students are becoming involved with discipline. On at least two separate occasions last term, groups of students were involved with drinking and were not caught in the act

by faculty members. Later, the students involved had conversations with their cluster deans and confessed to their actions. In some cases, these students were then DC'd and given probation, while in others, they were given a form of sanctuary. Obviously, nothing excuses the conduct of these students and the pun-

The school ought to reconsider its ex-post facto alcohol policy.

ishments they received were warranted by their actions. However, there is more to consider.

As WQN Cluster Dean Chad Green said to *The Phillippian*, "We are not purposely trying to discipline students...we are more concerned for their well being." I don't think there is a dean on this campus that wants to discipline students, and thus, the school should consider changing how "after the fact" cases are handled.

When Deans hear of future drinking cases, students should be approached and told that they were rumored to be drinking, but that they will not face any discipline, only Sanctuary, so long as they tell the complete truth.

This method ensures that health and

safety are the primary concerns because there is absolutely no motivation to lie and any problems a student faces will be placed right out in the open. The student would then face the normal regimen of Sanctuary to help understand the health risks involved with drugs and alcohol, and avoid problems in the future.

Obviously, this system should be modified for those students with a previous drinking offense. Clearly, if they are caught drinking before and are disciplined but then caught again, there is a problem and they should face the ordinary punishment for a student in their situation.

However, aside from these hopefully rare cases, a system such as this ensures that students' health and safety are the top priority, with discipline only as the last resort. Andover has offered students a tremendous service with its sanctuary policy and the same idea should be extended to these unique, "after the fact" situations.

While on this topic, I feel that it is important to address the issue of using a breathalyzer, which has come up multiple times throughout the last several years. I don't support using a breathalyzer randomly on Saturday nights in Ryley. But, I think the device does have a useful purpose in limited situations, namely in "presence of alcohol" situations. Andover maintains a policy that students who

are caught in the presence of alcohol or drugs face the same punishment as the students actually using the illegal substances.

This policy seems to have sprung from two different concerns: technical and moral.

Obviously, when students are caught with alcohol, it can be impossible to distinguish between those who were drinking and those who were not, especially when a student absolutely insists that they were not consuming alcohol. A breathalyzer would solve this problem: students who insist that they were not drinking would simply consent to a breathalyzer to prove their innocence.

Obviously, this leaves the moral issue of being in the presence of rule-breaking. A student is obviously exercising bad judgment when they are around people that are drinking, but they have made one very large right choice: they are not drinking. While students in the presence of alcohol should be punished, it hardly seems equitable that a student who drank and one who did not should face the same punishment.

Andover has an excellent drug and alcohol policy and students are offered many opportunities to redeem themselves. However, I believe that the health and safety of students would be even better served if the academy made these minor changes.

DO YOU
HAVE ANY
SUGGESTIONS FOR
PRESIDENT-ELECT
DANNY SILK?
WRITE A
COMMENTARY ARTICLE.

Danielle x6843

Yoni x6531

Overworked

Every year, prospective Andover students are told, by enthusiastic admissions officers, of the incredible opportunities just waiting to be pursued. They are told of the interesting, yet challenging classes taken by all students and the amazing facilities they will find on campus. But what is most pleasing for many potential students is the special environment that they can join, where they can pursue their interests at greater depth than they would be able to at other schools.

Little are they warned that the time spent with mandatory academics and sports will leave them with minimal time to pursue much else. Although many students are excited to pursue their interests, they aren't given enough time to follow such interests as deeply as they would hope.

For almost all students at PA, their days are scheduled and structured from the minute that they wake up until the early morning when they collapse into bed. From 8 AM until about 3 PM, one spends his or her time in and out of class. Then, as required by the school, heads off to sports practice, a commitment that normally lasts until Commons begins to serve dinner.

Finally, around 6 PM, students are finished with their mandatory academic and athletic commitments for the day; except, of course, for the piles of homework and studying assigned earlier that day. On average, Juniors and most Lowers are assigned forty-five minutes of out of class work from each teacher, each day, which adds up to a hefty total of 225 minutes each evening, about 3 3/4 hours.

This number, however, doesn't even begin to compare with the loads assigned to students taking A.P. courses and specialized electives, which have more than the normal amount of homework a night.

**Annalee Leggett and
Michaeljit Sandhu**

WAIT 'TIL UPPER YEAR

An Upper, taking the normal curriculum, would end the day with five hours of work ahead of them back at the dorm. Over all, on average, a student would spend more than four hours in class, one hour in commons, two hours at sports, and five hours of studying. This adds up to thirteen hours, leaving only eleven left for other non-mandatory activities

**Easing up on the work
would let students pursue
their unique interests.**

(including sleeping). And of course, the above schedule does not leave much time for socializing, which for many takes up significant time. A long day, like the one described above, would leave even the most energetic of people, exhausted.

Herein lies the problem, if the average student is left with only a few hours in the day to pursue extracurriculars such as clubs and community service, how is it that students find time not only to participate, but also to do the activities well. The important distinction here is that most students can attend a half an hour meeting once a week for a club, but whether the exhausted, strained student can actually participate to the best of their ability in a club is an entirely different story.

The pitched version of Andover conveniently excludes how students can actually fit the myriad different things offered on campus into their already packed

schedule. Andover also claims that other passions can continue to be pursued, but with only a few hours to pursue on campus activities, it is extremely rare to find a student who can actually manage to participate in an off campus activity.

Especially at Andover, where the majority of students come with developed talents, it is crucial, not only for the student but for the school, that the student be able to maintain passions that are found outside of the walls of the fabled classroom buildings. In the current school environment the logistics prevent those enrolled at Andover from maintaining out of school passions.

There are a variety of ways to fix this problem; unfortunately adding ten more days of school is not one of them. The most viable solution that the administration should consider when addressing this issue is to structure more time into the day for extracurricular activities.

This can be done twofold: first, students who have an advisor approved off campus activity can be excused from a certain amount of work twice a month on Wednesdays in order to pursue other interest. Second, each regular class should have forty minutes of class time as opposed to forty-five minutes. This would allow for a day when sports would also start earlier and, therefore, many club meetings could take place before and after dinner to allow students with the opportunity to participate.

Andover is a remarkable place to learn, but to meet extremely rigorous academic requirements, students are rarely left with enough time to pursue their other dreams. In order to live up to their promise, students should be able to pursue their interests in substantial depth on campus.



Changing the Guard

Cora Lewis
FRESHMAN

Many students had the thrill of finding a slip of paper in their mailboxes this past week. These sheets of paper informed the recipient that he or she would be hosting an admitted student the following day. Because there are the most new members of the Class of 2010, Junior classes were packed with guests.

Speculation and high hopes accompanied the little information that the paper supplied: a name, hometown, and possibly a common interest. The next morning, the visitor - an anxious, meticulously dressed, bright-eyed teenager - was picked up from the Underwood room and taken from class to Class by a student.

Quickly, they learned the difference between Lower Left and Lower Right, marveled at the size of Andover's campus and its unnaturally green grass, and wondered if he or she would be able to keep up with discussions in biology class.

A fast-talking, well-informed PA Junior breezily explained the sign-in procedure, glossed over the choice of weekend activities, and assured their charge that the food in Commons was actually not too bad.

This well-adjusted host goes by another name here at Andover: "stupid

freshman." But not for long. As prospective students tour the hallowed halls of Andover in the early weeks of spring, all juniors share a common thought: "I can't believe that was me," and "Next year, I won't be a freshman anymore!"

This time, when spring re-visits came around, we were not on the receiving end. To be on the inside looking out, for once, is a welcome and relaxing shift in perspective. Juniors at Andover may

**The joys and horrors of being a freshman.
Soon it'll be Class of 2010.**

be the least respected and appreciated of all grades; we are cruelly mocked if not simply ignored, and yet now we have someone to look down on with pity and a laughing gaze: the Class of 2010.

I wonder if any of us asked if there was a dress code, when a girl walked by in a mini skirt, tank top, and flip-flops? Was it that hard to figure out that Commons offers vegetarian options, when the salad bar was in plain view? Maybe freshmen really are kind of slow.

Did we all really believe that "the food is pretty good most days" and "you don't miss your friends that much" when our host students told us that a year ago? It seems hard to believe it really took us weeks to catch on to the right times to sign in, to get by without TV, and to adjust to lights out. Was it really so hard to remember which building was Morse and which was Graves during the first week?

Now, everything seems almost second nature.

Still, as happy as most of us are to forget the early days of trying to find someone to eat with in the dining hall and of struggling to remember the name of that girl in English class, it will be sad to leave behind junior year.

The workload wasn't bad - at least not compared to what I hear of upper year - and the thrill of everything new was intoxicating. There were new places, new peoples, and new teachers; a whole new life. Now some of that excitement has worn off. The first snowfall was beautiful and completely alien to some far-traveling students. The fifth snowfall was just cold.

While I am jealous of the entering Class of 2006 for their fresh start at PA and the great experience they will have their first year here, I do not envy them the brutal shock of starting at a new school, far from home, knowing nothing but their SSAT scores.

Seeing the Seniors on the lawn, sunbathing and playing Frisbee, I know that there are still long, hard years until that happy time. But it is comforting to know that next year, someone else gets to be the "stupid freshman."

Honesty and Policy

James Sawabini

AN HONEST OPINION

It goes without saying that honesty is a cornerstone of this school's belief system. However, it seems that there is a discrepancy between the values which the school believes in, and the values which the school acts upon. For in reality, it is not the liars who are punished at this school, but those who are honest.

In last week's *Phillipian*, Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Students Kennan Daniel said, "there has never

It's harder for students to be honest when the school's policies encourage dishonesty.

been a student disciplined for something he says he didn't do." Now perhaps what Ms. Daniel meant was that no innocent person has ever been DCed; this is something I believe and am proud of. However, what it implies is that every person who ever lied about drinking, or stealing or cheating did not even go before a Disciplinary Committee.

What kind of a message does this send to the students? If I was a smart student, as most are here at PA, I would realize that as long as I lie it is extremely unlikely that I will be punished for my crime. My hope is that this is not true, but nonetheless, it brings us to an important point: the role of honesty in the discipline system.

Among what we learn at PA, there are certain things we experience that no other teenagers have the opportunity to learn. This is a place where society's values are not just present, but they are tangible. Every day, students, staff and faculty exemplify the ideas upon which this school was founded. As Mrs. Chase discussed in her All-School Meeting speech last week, it is remarkable that at such a competitive school, there is not more cheating. Unfortunately, there is one area that is in dire need of reform.

When a person breaks a rule at this school, they are encouraged to be honest. However, the punishment, regardless of honesty level, remains the same. In fact, as I discussed earlier, it is sometimes those who are honest who face punishment. This policy discourages honesty, and implies to the student body that if they wish to escape from controversy unscathed, all it takes is a lie. For a school with such an outstanding reputation for producing young people of the highest character, this is an unfortunate blotch on our record.

However, I would also like to express that the status quo is not by any means ridiculous. Rather, it is the result of some unfortunate circumstances which are for the most part out of the school's control. The administration has done an excellent job of not accusing someone of breaking a rule without first being sure that he or she did it. What this means is that they must have solid evidence, which I would imagine is very hard to get at a school where privacy is respected. In addition, while I'm sure many in the administration would like to be able to grant leniency to those who choose to be honest, the legal implications of such discretion could threaten the operations of this institution.

Given the lawsuit-prone society we live in, it would be foolish for this school to tone down its stance on illegal activities. In the eyes of the law, for instance, drinking is drinking; whether you are honest or not. Unfortunately, PA's policy must reflect that, or the school risks a multitude of lawsuits. Therefore, regardless of whether or not a student got so smashed that he puked all over your common room TV, or whether he took a sip and left the room, he must still be put on probation.

This brings us to a very unfortunate

paradox; on one hand the school wants to teach us values, and on the other hand it must protect itself legally. There is much left to be desired in this school's policies on honesty.

Unfortunately, I don't have the solution to this problem. However, a leader defends and acts upon - not just talks about - values. You cannot expect your students to act honestly if your policies encourage dishonesty.



Fight for Finals

Victor Kim

WORLD TRAVELER

Editor's Note:

According to Dean of Studies Margarita Curtis, exams can only be rescheduled if a student has a conflict that is very important and cannot be moved. In this case, because Victor Kim was able to both attend his interview and his final, his request was denied.

I'm enjoying the first week of my Senior Spring. I'm taking good classes, and deciding where to spend the next four years of my life. I'm happy that this term is starting on a good note, because my winter term didn't end as well. Not because of anything I did, but because of rules here that cost me over a thousand dollars, hours upon hours of useless shuttling across the country, and my faith in this school.

Here's the story: I'm taking a year-long physics course, and the final exam last term was scheduled for the Friday of finals week. Since I'm a Senior, it was the only final I had, and since I'm a Senior, I was also involved in the college admissions process.

As a required step in this process, I was to visit the University of Southern California, tour the main campus and the medical school (I'm applying to a combined Baccalaureate/MD program), and interview with members of the medical school faculty and the admissions department. The only date possible for

this interview was on Wednesday the week of finals, and since this is an extremely competitive program, I was not going to give up my chance for admission.

One hopes that since Phillips Academy is a "prep" school, it would do everything it can to help "prep" me for entrance to college. Sadly, I must conclude this is not the case. I asked the Dean of Studies, Dr. Margarita Curtis, if I could move my physics final. I suggested that I could take the final after classes on Tuesday, before I left for Los Angeles for my interview on Wednesday. My reasoning was that after my interview, I could simply stay at home in LA. I really did not want to spend money and time flying back to Andover just to take a one hour exam on Friday, then fly all the way back to the same airport to spend my break with my family.

I did not request this so I could have a few extra days of break. I live in a one-bedroom apartment in the business sector of downtown LA, and I actually have more space in my dorm room than I do at home. There is nothing for me to do downtown, and since I just moved to LA last summer, I don't know anyone. I wouldn't especially enjoy the beach, as it was winter. All I wanted was to save time, save money, and get some sleep.

The answer, as you can guess, was a resounding "no." There were rules against this, I was told. While Dr. Curtis would not tell me where I could find those rules, she assured me that exceptions were only made

in the most dire emergencies. Exam schedule changes almost never happen. It would be best for me if I could "complete the term just like every other student."

Although I thought I had remembered hearing many stories of students changing exam schedules so that they could spend more time in the Bahamas or Hawaii, I couldn't name any examples and believed that the administration was really following the rules. Besides, she told me it would put a huge burden on my teacher, Dr. Watt, as he would have to rewrite the entire exam just for me.

So I bitterly accepted this policy, thinking, "What better reason is there for a high school than college admissions?" I made my flight reservations, called the cabs, reviewed my physics notes, and read about the Keck School of Medicine. Just to make sure, I asked my friends if they knew anyone who had changed their finals schedules. Sure enough, I was able to come up with many examples. But rules are rules, and I wasn't going to argue with the people who enforce them.

Then, on the Monday of finals week, my teacher announced that he would see us on Friday for our final, and that he would see two others on Thursday for their finals! There were two others in the same section that were changing their final schedule! I was shocked. I thought there were rules against this, and so did my parents. So they called the Dean of Studies to find out what exactly was going on.

There was already an alternate final for the other

students taking it early, and my teacher didn't have to rewrite it.

To me, this all didn't make sense. Classes ended on Tuesday, so why couldn't I take my exam then? Do I gain some strange advantage by taking it earlier? Perhaps they assumed that if I had extra time to study, I would do worse. I guess they were really looking out for my performance as a student, since taking a final on time is much more important than getting into college.

They actually had the nerve to suggest that I take an incomplete grade for the course, and take the exam after spring break, after colleges made their decisions based on a big fat incomplete grade for my winter term.

As you can imagine, my mother is frustrated by this policy. She has already spent her money on her son's plane ticket and she has seen him arrive, leave, and arrive again over the span of a few days. Each time, I'm sure she was worried about her son's health, and the sleep he was losing on the plane.

When a policy's implementation is inconsistent or costs a student hundreds of dollars and a ridiculous amount of hassle, it needs to be reassessed. Either the policy in itself is bad or it is not being implemented correctly. The administration needs to evaluate the policy concerning exam rescheduling immediately, so that no other student has to go through the hassle I did.

FACULTY EMERITUS VINCENT PASCUCCI PASSES AWAY

Continued from Page 1, Column 6

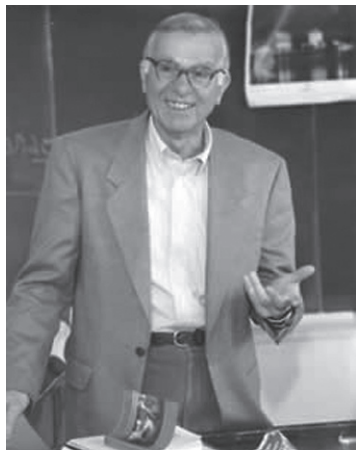
to teaching. He was extremely lively and tried to infuse his love of languages into his students. He included conversation in all of his classes, even Latin and Greek.

Mr. Kip said, "He tried to make dead languages live."

He was Chair of the World Languages Department when Andover merged with Abbot in 1973. He was vital to former Head of School Ted Sizer in resolving diplomatic disputes with the School Year Abroad program. He also coached tennis and taught the senior class to sing "Gaudemus Igitur" before Commencement ceremonies every year.

Mr. Pascucci had suffered a stroke 10 days earlier. He died in Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, Mass. from complications arising from the stroke. His memorial service will be held in the Cochran Chapel on Saturday, April 22 at 1:00.

Mr. Pascucci was a resident in Marland Place, an assisted-living facility in Andover for several years, before recently moving to Wingate, a nursing home.



Mr. Pascucci teaching students in Pearson Hall.

— Picture of the Week —



Seniors Owen Remeika and Justin Yi cheer in response to School President Ali Siddiqi '06's call during this week's All-School Meeting.

B. Canaday/The Phillipian

33 Substance-Related DCs & Sanctuaries Rock Winter Term

Students and Faculty Search for Reasons for the Increase in *Blue Book* Violations

Continued from Page 1, Column 6

confront students varies with each case. "[Like students] we are aware of our surroundings and we follow up on concerns brought to us," said Flagstaff Cluster Dean Clyfe Beckwith. Though deans do act upon rumors, whether or not discipline will follow depends on the individual case.

Mr. Beckwith continued, "We try to confirm [rumors] by investigating, by asking questions."

"It basically turns into a series of conversations until we get to a point where [the incident] all makes sense," added Mr. Green.

While a Cluster Dean can question a student based upon something they have heard, he or she will not always intend to take disciplinary action.

"I would hope that all members of the community would understand that when I speak with them about [my] concerns, [I have] their best interests in mind," said Mr. Beckwith.

Questioning a student does not automatically lead to disciplinary action. If suspicion surrounds a student regarding his or her involvement in a particular incident, the deans cannot act upon it without solid information.

When questioning a student, deans try to be as non-confrontational as possible, according to Mr. Green. He said, "I try to be as respectful and straightforward as I can be it is all about getting to the truth." According to Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Students Kennan Daniel, "there has never been a student disciplined for something he says he didn't do."

Mr. Green acknowledged that honesty is a valued characteristic in a person, "but unfortunately it is the people who are honest that get disciplined. Our system is based upon of honesty and integ-

rity — our whole system functions because we assume that integrity matters."

Students cannot be disciplined based upon what other people have said or believe, but only upon a confession.

"It doesn't matter if three teachers see a student and think that he or she has been drinking, if that student says that they have not been drinking, we have to go with what the student said," said Ms. Murata. She also advocated the use of a breathalyzer on campus to avoid circumstances such as the one listed above, so that a student can either be definitively cleared of guilt or accused of wrongdoing.

"I feel that it is better for a student's long term growth to be able to admit to his or her actions and accept the appropriate discipline," continued Ms. Murata, "Even if you do lie and get away with it, everyone on campus is going to know that you did what you did, and didn't own up to it."

If a student is found guilty he or she will face a five-person discipline committee to determine an appropriate response to his or her actions. "A DC is not a court of law," said Mr. Green, as it only [occurs] once guilt has already been determined."

The results of a DC are based upon numerous factors.

"It is possible for two students to receive different responses for the same offense," added Ms. Murata, "because it depends not only on precedent, but also on that particular student's personal statement, and whether or not he truly understands his actions."

Mr. Green said, "We maintain a careful system of checks and balances so that responses remain as consistent as possible, and prevents us from having any overzealous cluster deans."

449 of This Year's 2,250 Applicants Accepted; 300 Expected to Revisit Percentage of Sexually Active Phillips Students Low, According to Dr. Libby

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

music or athletics assessed the files as well.

"The process is very thorough and personal. We read every file regardless of grades and scores," said Mrs. Murphy.

Applicants are assessed in three basic categories: academic, extracurricular, and personal quality.

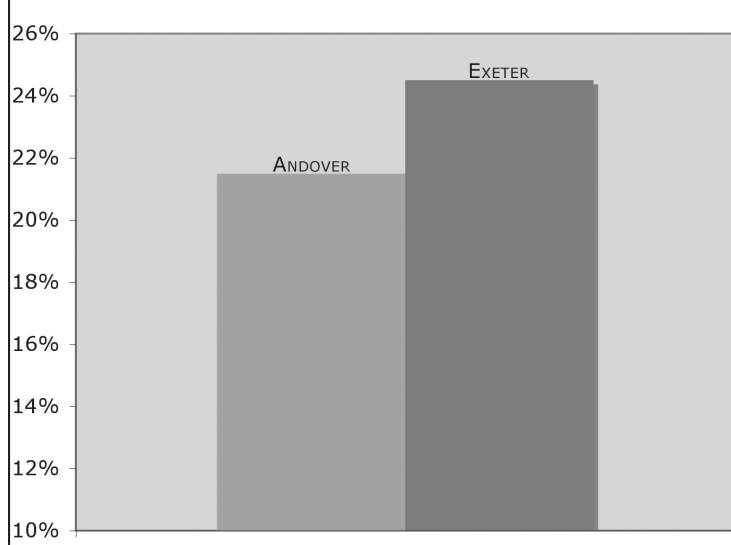
The admissions officers look for strengths in all three categories, not necessarily students who are at the top in every category.

The admissions team also looks for a "hook," as they call it. A "hook" is an area in which a student has succeeded before and should continue to succeed once at Andover. This allows the student to immerse themselves in the community upon entrance.

In terms of financial aid, Phillips Academy has a budget of \$11.7 million in grants and \$500 thousand in loans, the highest amongst prep schools.

However, Andover does not have a fully needs-blind policy; rather, Andover is "needs sensitive." The admission officers try to read applications without looking at financial situations. However, there is a point when the budget is overspent and some cannot be admitted for financial reasons.

According to Mrs. Murphy,



In 2005, Andover had an acceptance rate of 21% compared to Exeter's 24%. Andover's rate is now 20%; the Phillipian was unable to obtain Exeter's updated rates.

the number of such students is usually around twenty. The school is eager to continue to raise money for financial aid in order to decrease the number of students who the school cannot afford to take each year. However, she also stresses that the students in a better financial standing who are admitted over the students in a poorer financial standing are no less qualified.

With a motto of "Youth from every quarter," Andover has always tried to create a very diverse community in every aspect of the word.

To keep diversity at a maximum, members of the Admissions Office travel all over the country and the world to educate students about the opportunities at Andover.

This year, students were admitted from 38 different states, 1 U.S. territory (the Virgin Islands), and 22 countries.

As always, there will be spring visits this year, which start on Friday March 31 and end Friday April 7. About 300 of the 449 acceptees are expected to attend.

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

results were, to him, unbelievably low. "I think if you had an honest response, the figure would be higher...I don't even believe it. I think it is an underestimate."

When told that only about 730 students out of the student body of over 1000 responded to the survey questions, Dr. Libby said, "There may be a bias or an undercount because of the number of respondents." He then explained how some students might not have answered truthfully in fear that the survey was not anonymous or they felt awkward answering yes.

"If the students are being truthful [and the data is correct] then the school is being more conservative [than others]," said Dr. Libby.

Also, 60.2% of the respondents to the survey felt that the Andover administration discouraged sex. Dr. Libby was not surprised by this and said, "Most administrators would like to see students wait to have sex."

Dr. Libby has just published his new book titled *The Naked Truth About Sex: A Guide Intelligent Sexual Choices for Teenagers and Twentysomethings*. Dr. Libby is also a former co-host of "The Pleasure Dome," a popular radio talk show in Atlanta which discusses sexual issues for 15-25 year-olds.

"I did this book because there have not been books about sex except only the abstinence only ones," he said. Dr. Libby's ideas defy the current movement in the U.S. towards abstinence-only sex

education. "This book is going to be very controversial because I am very honest in it. I know that the Christian right wing will attack me, but I'm ready."

In his book, Dr. Libby emphasizes that sex is not privilege, but a right for all people, including teenagers, in our society. He feels teens should be able to make the decision whether or not to have sex.

"I am pro-sexual pleasure,

but I am also pro-responsible behavior," Dr. Libby said. "I think that most kids are unprepared for the challenges of intercourse...we are not living in a society that prepares people for intercourse at that age." He mentioned the risks of sexual activity, such as STDs and unplanned pregnancy.

Dr. Libby's objective is to inform kids about sex so they are better prepared if they decided to have it.

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Award-Winning Director Kauffman to Visit Campus

By CONOR MCKINNON

Director Ross Kauffman's "Born into Brothels: Calcutta's Red Light Kids" earned the status as Best Documentary Feature of 2005 with an Academy Award.

Mr. Kauffman will come to campus on April 5 to present his documentary as this year's Kayden Visiting Artist. Since 1970, the Bernard and Mildred Kayden Fund has brought exceptional artists and journalists to campus to show and discuss their work.

The documentary depicts the Sonagachi red-light district in Calcutta, where prostitution is widespread and socially acceptable, and has become a multi-generational occupation within families. Co-directed by Mr. Kauffman and Zana Briski, a photographer from New York City, the film was released in 2004.

The film was released statewide at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2004 to much acclaim; the highly lauded film won the Audience Award. Since then, it has won 40 other awards, and has been entered in over 30 film festivals across the globe in the past two years.

Awards include The National Board of Reviews Best Documentary, Los Angeles Film Critics Best Documentary, Independent Spirit Awards' Truer Than Fiction Award, and the International Documentary Associations Distinguished Feature Documentary Award.

Mr. Kauffman began his work with documentary film in 1992 as an editor. He worked at Valkhn Film and Video Inc., and then in 1994 he started his work with Emmy Award winning film producer and editor Sam Pollard. Additionally, Mr. Kauffman edited films for National Geographic and the Discovery Channel.

In 2000, he began to diversify his repertoire, entering new areas of documentary filmmaking. For example, he served as director of photography during the production of "Family Stories", a film about an extended African-American

family spread across the globe.

In 2001 he began working with Ms. Briski to produce "Born into Brothels." Mr. Kauffman was initially hesitant to begin firsthand production of a documentary, as he had only edited films in the past. However, after seeing video footage of Calcutta and the children, he decided to work on the project. The following year, the two received several grants from the Sundance Institute, the Jerome Foundation, and the New York Council on the Arts to complete production.

The documentary itself shows the lives of children through photography. Co-Director Ms. Briski gave a camera to eight individual children, along with several lessons in photography. In this way, she collected images for several years of urban Indian life through the eyes of those children.

Eventually, moved by the photography produced by the children, Ms. Briski and Mr. Kauffman worked to get the underprivileged kids into boarding schools and off the streets, through a lengthy process of negotiation with the Indian government.

In 2002 Ms. Briski began a foundation named Kids With Cameras. Many of the photos taken during film production, along with information about the foundation, can be found on the Internet at www.kids-with-cameras.org. The foundation is a non-profit organization that raises money to build a school for the children through donations and sales of the children's photographs.

Currently, Mr. Kauffman is working on Project Kashmir, a documentary film examining the conflict on the Indian-Pakistani border and, more importantly, the people involved.

He will show his acclaimed documentary in Kemper Auditorium with a discussion session in the Underwood room. Mr. Kauffman will also participate in some classes.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Angus Davis '95

Angus Davis, who would have graduated from Phillips Academy, was suspended as a freshman after a prank that cost the school thousands of dollars. Mr. Davis hacked into the school phone system, changing the wiring to provide free long-distance calls. When the hoax was discovered five months later, the Academy suspended Mr. Davis.

After finishing high school at another private school, Mr. Davis was hired as a product manager at Netscape, where he later headed a 25-person group. His experience at Netscape was a good preparation for TellMe, a company he and his boss co-founded in 1999. TellMe's technology, which helps its customers search for information by phones, has achieved great profitability, and generates more than \$100 million dollars in annual sales.

Although he never made it to college, Mr. Davis believes in the values and importance of education. He volunteers as a teacher's assistant at a local school, lectures at University of California at Berkeley, and actively serves in an educational organization called Big Pictures Foundation.

Was Phillips Academy a rewarding experience for you? In short, I am fond of Andover,

it is an amazing institution. For the right student, it is a wonderful opportunity... [However] for some students, Andover is not a fit, because there just isn't anyone doing a halfway decent job of serving the role of "Mom and Dad" for the students. The school fails in its duty to act, as the handbook would say, "In Loco Parentis." And, despite the arrogance I had at age 15 of being certain I didn't need parental guidance in my daily life, I was wrong, I did [need parental guidance]. Some kids will find this at Andover if they play a Varsity sport and have a close connection with the coach, or something similar. But others will not, and for them I do not think Andover is the right choice.

Then, what was a subject in school that you enjoyed?

I had Mr. Regan for English. He was the best English teacher I had. He was excited about the language. He would teach us the etymology of words; each week he would give us a different word.

Looking back on life, what would you have done differently?

I can't imagine being the person I am today if I had taken a different path through life. Sure, I made many mistakes, but I learned from them and upon reflection I

am grateful I had opportunities to learn from them. You can always look back and find things you wish you handled differently - to be better person, a kinder friend and a more supportive family member.

Could you compare and contrast your feelings towards PA then (right after your suspension) and now?

When I left PA, I was relieved. I knew I was leaving behind a beautiful campus, amazing student resources and world-class teachers. However, I gained the opportunity to establish more meaningful relationships with my lifelong friends and family by completing school back home... Today, I consider Andover not through the lens of a past student, but as a potential future parent. Perhaps someday PA will be the right option for my son or daughter [but] it all depends on the person and what's right for them.

You have been a successful entrepreneur - what does it take to be one?

Succeeding in business requires you have to believe in yourself, in your vision and in your team. You must be willing to take risks. You must be a self-starter able to get things done - "Apologize later, don't

ask permission first." Strong interpersonal skills are essential to success in business. Having a good idea doesn't hurt either.

How exactly did you hack into the school phone system? How did the school find out?

Well, hacking the phone system was no great feat. In the words of Will Ferrell, "Everybody's doing it!" In our case, they really were. We discovered that simply by dialing "9 Star" before placing a call, we would not be required to type in our student access codes to pay for calls. Word spread quickly and before long, everyone knew the trick. The accounting department didn't catch on for several months, but when they did, records were available to show which student phones around campus had been used. It wasn't my first offense, so it became my last, and my most notorious.

Do you have any advice for current Andover students?

Seek out meaningful relationships with adults around you. Find someone to give you advice. I also encourage them to go to college: do as I say, not as I do.

-Sundhendra Sundaram

Instructor in Chemistry John Rogers to Replace Dr. Curtis as Dean of Studies in Six-Year Term

Continued from Page 1, Column 6

"Of course, I consider John a friend, but when I look at him professionally, what strikes me most are his broad interests. As Dean

of Studies, his work must bridge between disciplines, something he already does well in his own intellect," said Chair of the English Department Jonathan Stableford '63.

As Dean of Studies, Mr. Rogers will have many responsibilities. Aside from coordinating the school's academic program and curriculum, Mr. Rogers will work with other school officials to oversee the implementation of the Academy's new Strategic Plan. He will also hold a position on the Senior Administrative Council.

"The faculty are also discussing more individual projects as well as interdisciplinary work and other programs designed to generate open-mindedness in the student body, as well as a notion of what it means to be a global citizen that should accompany graduating students," said Mr. Rogers.

He also shared some thoughts on the issue of the pace of life.

Mr. Rogers said, "While it is an issue which needs to be discussed by the entire faculty, I think they are certainly working towards making requirements less strenuous

by consolidation. Earlier this year, Mr. Efinger and Mrs. Svec worked to combine German and Theater requirements into one class."

He and the faculty members are also considering reduction in non-academic requirements, so the Academy can open space during the day for individual work.

Mr. Rogers hopes to incorporate different perspectives and methods to his new position based on his experiences, such as the five summers he spent in the Oceans program, where teachers conducted studies in the ocean with students.

Increase in Multitasking Causes Sleep Deprivation, Lower Literary Skills

By KELLY LACOB

Rapid technological advancement allows PA students to multitask; one may research for a paper online while surfing Facebook.com and Instant Messaging (IM). However, such a rise in multitasking may be affecting students negatively.

According to an article entitled "The Multitasking Generation" which appeared in the May 27, 2006 issue of *Time Magazine*, students' future success is in peril because of the monumental increase in multitasking over the past twenty years. This trend is prevalent on the Phillips Academy campus, affecting students' lifestyles.

In a random survey of 20 PA students, about half the polled students listen to music and/or talk on IM while doing homework. They spend a calculated average of two hours and 15 minutes actually on IM per day.

About two thirds of polled students said they had attempted to give up the distractions, believing they would be more successful and efficient without them. The third that did not try said it was because they were dependent on music or IM, and would not be able to focus without it.

Nearly 80% of polled students had either a MySpace.com or a Facebook.com account. Results also showed that about 85% of students have IM. Most were logged on for several hours every day, and

almost half of them remain logged on 24/7.

Some of the specialists think this penchant reflects the core of adolescence: the search for identity, according to *Time*. They believe kids experiment with their identities by switching their picture on Facebook.com or changing their AIM profiles.

According to *Time*, the multitasking obsession originated so that students could continue with their increasingly fast-paced lives. A group of researchers from UCLA and University of Michigan agree that the current generation of teens has much more pressure than former generations. These researchers say that this generation tends to over-commit itself to maintain daily demands.

According to *Time*, the teenage generation is very adept with technology and extremely skilled in locating and manipulating information. They are also proficient at analyzing visual data and images because it constantly surrounds them, and these skills will later aid them in the workplace.

However, data shows that multitasking is not nearly as functional as it may appear.

PA faculty members claim that there has been a decline in literary efficiency, from papers to letters. Instructor in Mathematics Dan Schneider agrees that he notices this frequently.

He said, "When students send emails to teachers, there is no sense

of propriety anymore. They use slang and short-hand as if they were talking to their friends on AIM. I'm sure it must be a result of the time they spend logged online."

Instructor in English Patrick Morrissey also cited the decline of writing decorum. He asked his class to remember that this was a class assignment when posting responses to the reading on the online discussion board. He said, "Use proper English. None of this using random letters and number stuff. No JK's ["just kidding"] or LOL's ["laugh out loud"]."

According to *Time*, multitasking is not only affecting class work; students spend time online, watching TV, or e-mailing when they ought to be sleeping, exercising or being outside, having family meals, or just relaxing.

There has been an increase in sleep deprivation, and a reduction in exercise and family atmosphere according to the UCLA team in *Time*.

Although many schools recognize the benefits of adapting classes to incorporate media and play to the student's strengths, there are many concerns. Some ban internet access during lectures or in dorm rooms.

Additionally, teens' brains need actual time spent without stimulation to help them unwind. According to *Time*, teens may be under the impression that IM and surfing the Internet helps them relax, but it keeps their minds producing rapid, stress-signaling transitions.

NPR Correspondent Mike Shuster to Share His Journalistic Experience in Iraq

By ALICIA KEYES

From Turkmenistan to Tajikistan, Mike Shuster has traveled the world for over a quarter of century as a correspondent for National Public Radio (NPR), covering the reunification of Germany and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

A correspondent since 1994, Mr. Shuster will visit Phillips Academy as the John H. Hosch III lecturer, and as a member of the 2006 Andover Symposium entitled "The Challenges of Globalization," a new year-long education program. He will present "Covering the Axis of Evil: Intelligence, Nuclear Proliferation, and the Public's Need to Know" on Friday, March 31 in Kemper Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Shuster will focus on his recent time spent reporting in Iraq, Iran, and Korea. He aims to raise questions about journalism, and to share his thoughts on how to extract news from some of the world's most troubled areas.

Since 1994, Mr. Schuster



Mike Shuster shares advice with journalism students.

has reported from Iraq, Iran, Korea, Israel, Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, the Congo, and the Central Asian nations of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan.

He often reports on difficult subjects such as weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, and the Pacific Rim.

Mr. Shuster said, "Reporting in the Middle East can be very

difficult. I have been to a lot of dangerous places where the quality of life is poor. Sometimes you have to go to places where there are hostile governments which keep close track of reporters. Then there is also the matter of a foreign culture, foreign language, and other conflicts that may be going on in the area."

"The topics of intelligence, nuclear proliferation, and public's need to know are all related. I meant to lump them together. We have faced a number of situations in recent years where the U.S. has had to rely on intelligence to decide on the proliferation of nuclear weapons and what to do about them. In one of the cases we have gone to war on the case of faulty intelligence, which the public needed to know about. All of these topics are important for students to know about," he continued.

In 1970, Mr. Shuster began his career in journalism as a freelance foreign affairs reporter in Africa. A decade later, NPR welcomed him as freelance reporter covering business and economic issues.

Mr. Shuster then became editor of NPR's "All Things Considered" before heading to its New York Bureau, where he served as both a reporter and the Bureau Chief.

Soon Mr. Shuster moved on to England where he served as Senior Editor of NPR's London Bureau. During this time, he reported from the Malta Summit and Moscow, and covered the reunification of Germany.

From 1991 to 1994, Mr. Shuster was stationed in Russia as NPR's senior Moscow correspondent where he reported, most notably, on the collapse of the Soviet Union. Returning to the United States in 1994, Mr. Shuster began his current occupation as a diplomatic correspondent in New York before moving to NPR's Los Angeles Bureau in 2000.

On what he hopes students will learn from his talk, Mr. Schuster said, "I think students are interested in current affairs and I hope students will understand the seriousness of this situation and the complexity of these topics. It might provoke some interest on the pursuit of more knowledge on these issues."

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FEATURES FACEOFF

If you don't know what the Faceoff is by now, you're obviously missing out. Please vote for your favorite writer: there will be a ballot box in GW. Only one vote per person, please. If you see someone vote multiple times, we encourage you to beat them repeatedly over the head with a ski pole. Please be gentle.

Whoever receives the most votes will have the opportunity to write again next week.

FACIAL HAIR

by Sam Weiss

FEATURES 5 BLADES! AND A 6TH BLADE FOR GROOMING!

You can tell a lot about a man by his facial hair. Though it is never good practice to stereotype, particularly in a matter as personal as this, facial hair is a key to the core of one's being. The goatee denotes a man hunched over his PowerBook G4 in the front window of Starbucks. You want his table, but with iTunes blaring Beck into his 20-something brain, you'll be hard-pressed to let him know. However, things get slightly trickier with the full "Grizzly Adams" beard. This man could be a lumberjack, or he could be Santa Claus. He could just as easily be Blaine, who is supposedly neither lumberjack

nor Santa Claus. I don't buy it.

Given the power of facial hair, the moustache alone can make these kinds of distinctions. The large, bushy mustache gives its owner a sense of control. In fact, many believe that William Howard Taft was never elected president, but that his facial hair alone was given his seat in the Oval Office. Similar folklore alludes to Confucius' wisdom residing in his whiskers, and the impeccable dance moves and infectious disco beat of the "Village People" being due in large part to their signature handlebar moustaches.

However, the facial hair most common to my daily routine is not a moustache like those of my heroes Taft, Confucius, and... the Village People? No, it is the dark, wispy, little-moustache-that-could known by many as, "The Dirty 'Stache." Despite your initial reaction to this term,

"The Dirty 'Stache" is not literally a professional wrestler, bar mitzvah dance craze, or slang term for a particularly pesky STD. Metaphorically, however, I consider it to be closely related to all of these things, in one way or another. Like Hulk Hogan, it has our fine place of learning in a headlock, showing up at every twist and turn in all of its pubescent majesty. Like the electric slide, it is a cheap excuse for something far superior, like the chicken dance or mutton chop sideburns. As for my last comparison... I imagine it's itchy.

As many naysayers around campus are aware, the Gillette Corporation has recently released the "Fusion" razor. This five-bladed razor ensures a close shave with every stroke, despite notions that the Fusion's fifth blade does little more than one-up Schick's four-bladed "Quattro." Regardless of our fear of a hygienic cold war, one would still think that this new innovation in facial hair maintenance would be of assistance in the fight against "The Dirty 'Stache." This is clearly not the case. When I asked an employee at the Main Street CVS about sales of the razor, she had not noticed an abundance of "Dirty 'Staches" on Fusion-buying patrons, but rather a large number donning PA varsity swimming jackets. Despite the glimmer of hope provided by the Fusion's advancement in shaving technology, the Gillette Corporation will not be our savior in the fight against this unseemly trend.

So, as you take a look around you, don't write this follicle faux pas off as left-over chocolate milk. As a community, we need to be assertive. Think about the magnificence of a moustache done right. Don't let its name be soiled by this ugly cousin. Shame on you "Dirty 'Stache"... Confucius would be turning in his grave.



K. Matsumoto/The Phillipian

Sam Weiss '09 prepares for his cameo in *Hook*.

STRAIGHT OUTTA HADLEY.

[EXPLETIVE]!

by Glenn Stowell
FEATURES UNDERWHELMING

During finals week, many students spent time packing pounds of luggage away in their suitcases. They then had to wait in a security line for hours before they could board a plane and begin their way home. However, I didn't indulge in those prizes. I didn't pack, and by pack I mean grab two handfuls of clothes and carry them to the car, until after my parents had arrived at PA. It's true that I lost no sleep over packing, but the trade-off was that I was going home, to the proverbial boonies.

Some may argue that the western-most reaches of Massachusetts are not in fact, the boonies. Clearly, you have not been to the town of Hadley. I mean, yes, there are other areas in this world that could also qualify for being "the boonies." If there was a store that sold Hadley souvenirs, the postcards being sold would read something like: "Hadley, that strip of farmland, kind of close to UMASS Amherst."

Despite where my home is, I am always happy to return for a good home cooked meal. Like all PA students, I enjoy a break from Commons' delicacies. Many of my fellow students enjoy plates decorated with various leaves, colorful centerpieces and expensive entrees. Personally, my mother's cooking is what I look forward to. She is always prepared to serve up whatever unidentifiable mass of road kill my father has hit driving his tractor home from work, and frankly, she does a great job. My father works both on our farm and on our neighbor's. He needs to compensate for my mother, who doesn't work because she occupies her time parenting my thirteen siblings, cooking for them, and washing their clothes, which is work enough.

After we have eaten our dinner, both my mother and father turn their attention to protecting our



R. Waldo/The Phillipian

Due to a grave communication error, Glenn Stowell '09 hopped on the Yoni and voted for pony.

lands. To do this, my mother arms herself with a bell and my father with a pellet gun. They have organized a system where my mother rings the bell to alert my father that she has spotted a trespasser on our property. My father then fires at the man to scare him off. Living on the frontier is tough, but my parents take it in stride, as their parents and grandparents have been doing for years. At first, it was rough for my hall mates living alongside me at Andover because instinctively I tried to ward people off from my room, as my ancestors did at home. So I guess what I'm saying is, sorry guys for the rocks and other hard and/or sharp objects you may have been subjected to upon entering my room.

I've already told about my family, so now I'd like to tell about my time with my only friend, over spring break. Our nearest neighbors live merely ten miles from our property, over the hills

and through the woods. I visit their only son whenever I am home. He is a nice kid, although he is mute. However, he needs no speech to be a great person and a true motivator. His actions speak louder than any words I've ever heard. Whenever I visit him we engage ourselves in shooting things and blowing stuff up. These activities have never failed to inspire me over the years. Every time I visit him, I take a brief trip back in time and realize that my source of inspiration to apply to PA came from him. I dreamt that maybe one day I could shoot things and blow stuff up on a larger scale, with bigger explosions. Only a few years ago I realized that through PA I could land a job where I could achieve my dream: president of the United States of America. These dreams were inspired by my time with my mute friend. For the record, I would have had more friends, but they live many miles away.

Twins

by Larry Dai

FEATURES ON PAR WITH CHUCK NORRIS

The other day, when I was walking down the steps of Sam Phil, a strange man crossed my path. He wore rags of filth and smelled like the smell a wet dog makes while it's making sweet, sweet love to a skunk. This man somewhat resembled Alf. Not saying that Alf smells bad or anything like that. I love that alien talk show host. Anyways, this man grabbed me by the shoulders and shook me quite violently. My catlike reflexes responded as usual, and I instantly subdued him with a quick uppercut to his pancreas. He collapsed to the ground and I knew that my title as heavyweight champion of the world was still intact. "What in tarnation do you want with me?" I asked. The man was too busy coughing up blood to respond, but after 2 minutes he weakly uttered a few words. "What do you love, my friend?" he said, in his dying breath. The man then had a series of spasms and flopped over dead. As I walked on, I couldn't help but ponder his question. What do I love? Well let's see, I love football on TV, shots of Gena Lee, playing with my friends, and twins.

Twins. Now that's a topic for discussion. First of all, I have to set things straight. The groups/types of twins consist of fraternal twins, identical twins, evil twins, Siamese twins, and twins separated at birth and then reunited as teenagers. Too much for one article if you ask me. This calls for some X-treme sorting. X-treme with an X so you know it's intense. For discussion purposes, fraternal is

just flat out boring, because the two people in question don't even look alike. Throw that one out. Evil twins only exist in my head and twins separated at birth only exist on the Disney Channel. The interest lies all in the identical and Siamese twins, both of which I am an official world expert in. I even have a certificate I printed off to prove it.

Let's start with the basics. Identical twins look exactly the same. Duh. No kidding. Not rocket science here, people. Even a cave-

man would know that. And cave-men do not exist, contrary to what the people at Geico think. But back to the topic at hand here. Every time I ask a set of twins if they are identical, they tell me no. But I only bother to ask that question when they look exactly the same. I don't know what those twins are playing at, but to me as well as anyone else, they look the same. Therefore, using the gift of logic, they are identical. I don't know. Maybe it's some sort of conspiracy theory, maybe it's some sort of

secret twin code, but I don't care what Mary-Kate and Ashley tell me. They are identical. And that's final.

Second issue. If you were twins, you would probably have to do all those popular tired out twin clichés. You know what I'm talking about. Switching classes, making up your own language, wearing the same outfit—usually sailor suits, dating the same girl, finishing each other's sentences, and the list goes on and on. And I'm not gonna lie, all of it is fantastic and worthy of a numerous episodes on poorly made sitcoms about twins. I'm just waiting for these producers to think a little outside of the box. I was thinking along the lines of Twins A and B go out on a date with Twins C and D and then A gets married to C and B gets married to D. Couple A and C have a kid, named person E and couple B and D have a kid named person F. It just so happens that person E and Person F are identical seeing as they have identical parents. And then Person E and person F get married and they have kids with 12 toes. Crazy stuff, I tells ya. Now that we have a plan set, we can replace twins A and B with Kevin and Kyle Ofori '09. Then Twins C and D can be Eugene and Anthony Chau '09. I, Lawrence Dai '09 am actually person C and person D is the man that died on the steps of Sam Phil that fateful day. Oh, what a twist. But it gets better. If there aren't enough '09ers already, then enter Iris Chang '09, the neglected, long, lost triplet. Bam! Mix in a midget who soils himself and you have a classic R. Kelly "Trapped in the Closet" rip-off. And what could be better than that?



Courtesy of Ryan Furlong

Lawrence Dai '09 does something potentially humorous with a pair of twins. Unfortunately for Larry, they are boys.

Top Ten

Things to do over Spring Break

10. Read the book you were supposed to have read for your English final
9. Get your stomach pumped at the hospital after what can best be described as a "cheeseburger overdose"
8. Realize that, when provoked, your parents can be just as ornery as your math teacher
7. Plot ways to ruin Senior Spring, once and for all
6. Get a spray on tan so that your friends think you actually went somewhere exotic.
5. "Train" for Varsity Ultimate Frisbee
4. Scarlett Johanson
3. Pretend you're crippled in Disneyland
2. Catch Doc Quattlebaum doing the boogaloo in Cancun
1. Sleep

Features Creatures!



Chris Mattison; Frank Lane Picture Agency-Corbis

Fire-Bellied Newt

This little guy may look harmless, but rumor has it that he went All-American. Newts enjoy sky-diving, wind-surfing, lazer-tag, and all other sports with hyphens in their names. The most famous newt is Newt Gingrich.



Paul A. Souders-Corbis

Common Beaver

The beaver is extremely photogenic. Other woodland creatures dislike its upbeat attitude and boyish good looks. Thus the beaver is often picked last in pick-up stickball games. This one has a huge rump.



Hans Reinhard-Zefa-Corbis

Common Musk Ox

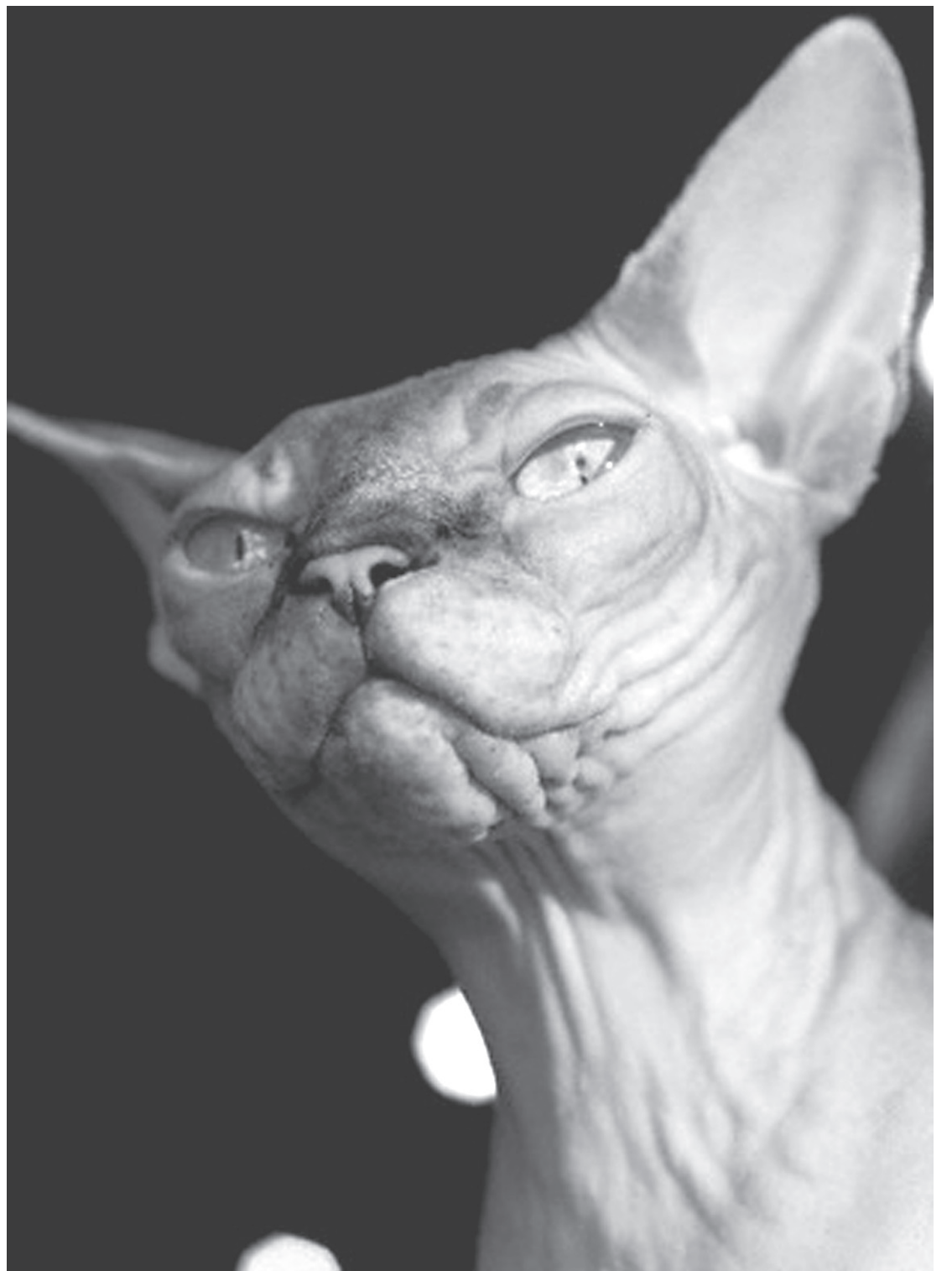
Unlike Prateek Kumar '07, this musk ox is a real American. He fought in 'Nam and eats red meat. The musk ox loves country music and can be seen at town square dances sporting his Stetson cowboy hat.



Yuriko Nakao-Reuters-Corbis

Common Godzilla

Indigenous to the island nation of Japan, Godzilla haunts the nightmares of Matharine Katsumoto every night. As exemplified in the photo above, the common Godzilla tends to have terrible breath and a plastic suit.



Kuzmanovic-Reuters-Corbis

Hairless Sphinx

This picture is the **creepiest** thing ever. No joke. Seniors, beware! It has been speculated that this is what happens when one overdoses on springtime fun.



M. Darby/The Phillipian

Boys Crew looks forward to another strong season and hopes to defeat Kent to win the Dent Oars for the second year in a row. Almost all of the first Boat returns for Andover.

Boys and Girls Crew Both Entertain Thoughts of League Titles; Though Many Boys Return and Girls Need to Replace Rowers

By Ali Zindman and Tori Brophy
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITERS

The Andover Boys Crew Team recently began its 2006 season, with a mix of experienced rowers and quite a few novices. Last year, the team had a successful season as B1 finished second at Interschols, while B2 got edged out in the preliminaries, and B3 placed 5th in its race. This coming season looks promising and all are hoping for better places at Interschols.

There are ten varsity returners this year, Karl Hirt '06, Justin Yi '06, Scotty Morgan '06, Brian Shen '06, Matt Weiss '06, Rush Martin '07, Dougal Sutherland '07, Geoff Martin '07, and Chip Schroeder '08. With so many returners, there will only be six open spots for the rest of the boys to fight for, and the decision will be difficult for the coaches to make. With many new rowers, as well as improved returners from lower boats, B3 should shape up to be quite competitive as well.

Coach Peter Washburn says, "I'm guardedly optimistic. Right now we're not in a total slam-dunk situation, but we are doing well. There are a lot of fast schools out there, and we simply hope to be one of them."

Some of the team's rowers decided to compete in the Crash-B's over spring break, which is a 2000 meter competition on an erg. Hirt

performed exceptionally well, finishing 11th out of 172 with a time of 6:21.

Beyond the rowers, though, are the all-important coxswains. Michelle Darby '07 was the B1 coxswain last year, and Mia Kanak '06 was the B2 coxswain last year. Both will continue coxing in their respective boats this year. Stacey Middlebrook '07 is another returning cox, and she coxed the B3 boat at Interschols last year.

The schedule ahead is grueling. Beyond Kent, B1-B3 have a race every single weekend until interschols on May 27th, while B4 and B5 will have fewer races, their spring will be difficult as well. The team feels confident that it can weather its tough schedule and have a good season.

Under the leadership of Coach Kathryn Green and Captain Katherine Adams '06 the goal for this year's Girls Crew team is clear: to win first place at Interschols for all three boats, G1, G2, and G3. While this may seem a lofty goal, Captain Adams is confident that it

can be achieved.

She said, "I think that this is going to be a good season. We have a lot of experienced people, both returning and new to the team."

Captain Adams, Katie Faulkner '06, and Erika Roddy '07 are all returning to provide the team with some needed experience. Returning from G2 are Emily Chappell '06, Jackie Price '06, Pia Heilmann '07, Olivia Coffey '07, Erin Mullany '07, Morgan Broccoli '07, and Carly Villareal '07. The team will be looking to the core group of seniors to help guide the younger players, while the uppers will be counted on to fill some big shoes.

Captain Adams said, "We have some great novices, who are very strong and very fit. This is always good to see because technique can always be improved but strength cannot be coached." Captain Adams also continued by saying, "It is great that we have so many new people and so many positions open because it makes the entire try-out

process more competitive. This competition is good because it drives people and pushes them to row their best in every practice."

With their first race about two weeks away Coach Green has been focusing on technique. Once the rowers have learned the proper form and become accustomed to each other's styles, everything will be much easier, and they can begin to focus more on speed, strength, and endurance. Also, by teaching proper technique from the beginning, only small improvements would be necessary as the season continues. The Big Blue will face an annually strong Kent team first. Captain Adams said, "Kent is the defending champion, while we would like to defeat them, this race will show us where we need to be, so that we can beat them at the Interscholastic Tournament."

Cycling has the Right Prospects; Girls Team Looks To Win League

By Janet Scognamiglio
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Entering his fifth season as coach to Andover's cycling team,

Coach Thayer Zaeder is psyched for the upcoming season. He commented, "Last year was a rebuilding year, this is a stronger team." Last season, Andover lost

to Exeter both during Andover/Exeter and New England Championships. The thought of avenging these losses fuel PA's drive to beat them this year. The girl's team, which also finished second at last year's New England Championships, is lead by 2005 Cyclocross National Champion and team captain Arielle Filiberti '07. It too aspires to capture the New England title this year, as all of last year's athletes have returned to the team.

With the exception of Andover/Exeter weekend, there are no dual meets for the team this season; athletes from all different schools will attend the races. Andover's best competition will be Exeter and Holderness. The size of Andover's team is its biggest weakness. While many schools have as many as twenty-four riders, Andover's only has twelve and sixteen riders. As of now, Andover is on the larger side with sixteen riders, welcoming two Juniors and two Lower. Within the next week however, this number will dwindle as try-outs conclude. It is possible that with the addition of more coaches to the squad, the team's size will increase. As of now however, Coach Zaeder, Coach Derek Williams, and Coach Henry Wilmer could not supervise more than sixteen riders on congested and dangerous roads.

Three-year varsity member, Captain Filiberti '07, serves her second year in a row as captain, and is the powerhouse rider for the team. She has the most experience in competition outside of Andover,

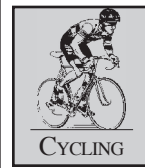
and is currently training for the Junior Road Nationals, to take place this summer in Chicago. From there Filiberti hopes to qualify for the World Championships.

Lilli Stein '07 is another stand-out on the team. She placed third in a time trial against Exeter last year. Road-racing since age 12, she carried her talent directly over to Andover, first competing in her Junior year.

Colin Touhey '06 is the leading Senior on the boy's team, taking over the positions of last year's Andy St. Louis '05 and Julian Dames '05. Although this is only his second year racing at Andover, he was an experienced biker when he came to Andover. Senior Dave Heighington is also entering his second year of racing. A novice to the sport last year, Heighington competed in the C races, intended for the less experienced riders, but achieved times that rivaled those of the experienced riders in the A races. Michael Monaco '06 completes the team.

Andrew Clay '08, William Hunckler '08, and Walker Washburn '08 are all up-in-coming riders on the team, coming off a successful season. Clay '08 had two third place finishes in races last year.

Currently during try-outs, the team is focusing mostly on acclimating the athletes to racing technique. After final cuts are made the team will enter its conditioning phase, which consists of alternating days of sprint workouts, distance workouts, and hill repeats. To train for Andover/Exeter and the New England Championships, the team will bike on average between 30 and 40 miles a day. Filiberti attributes much of the positive attitude on the team to the coaches, commenting, "They're laid back and great about encouraging kids to ride." With many returning veterans and a few newcomers, the team eagerly anticipates kicking off an amazing season with its first race on April 23 at Adelphia USCF.



Captain Watson '06 Heads Golf; Other Seniors Provide Depth

By Brad Marvin
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Captain James Watson '06 leads the Varsity Golf team into a 2006 campaign where it looks to continue the success of last year's team.

Captain Watson has proven himself time and time again to be solid and consistent golfer. He will not be alone, as a core group of upperclassmen have shown that they are more than able to support him.

Andover, on paper, looks to have a very strong team. The key reason for this is quality play from the class of 2006. Seniors Tom Tassinari '06, Simon Keyes '06, Owen Remeika '06 and many others will definitely contribute a lot and look to guide the team and hopefully prepare the underclassmen for next season. Many of these Seniors have participated on the team for multiple years, and their games have improved drastically. Andover also looks to defend its title as the winner of the Witherspoon Bowl, won in thrilling fashion last year against Exeter and Governor Dummer. Following the departure of Nat Smith as head coach, Coach Christopher Odden has stepped in as Varsity head coach. Coach Odden was an assistant under Coach Smith and looks to

continue his winning ways.

Commenting on the coaching change, sophomore talent Michael Sullivan '08 said, "Coach Smith... will definitely be missed, but the new coaches seem to be picking up exactly where Coach Smith left off."

Although the Senior class has a huge load on its shoulders this season, the performance of the team's underclassmen will be equally crucial. There is a great deal of talk about Evan Harmeling '07 after his accomplishments this summer. Harmeling won a few large invitational tournaments across the country and was the No. 1 player on last year's Andover squad.

Those new to the school will also affect the team. New Lowerers Tanner McNeil '08 and Nicholas Koh '08 look to have a strong impact at the varsity level.

The ladies also look to play an important role for the Big Blue. Returning players such as Andrea Coravos '06 and Kristin Macdonald '07 will hopefully guide the ladies group to several strong performances.

The 2006 season will hopefully be a strong and promising one. When asked about the upcoming season, Sullivan replied, "We definitely look to have a strong team and a promising season."

The Big Blue will travel to Tabor to open the season on April 8th.



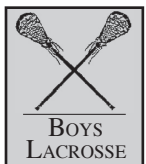
B. Canada/The Phillipian

Boys Lacrosse practices after returning from a week of spring training in Florida. The team's speed and athleticism highlight its strengths.

Boys Lacrosse Boasts Great Athleticism; Strength, Defense and Attack Hide Weakness

By Ella Kidron
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

As the Boys Varsity Lacrosse team comes back from a preseason trip in sunny Florida the team members are all ready to work hard and improve upon last



year's successful campaign.

Looking into the new season, defenseman and Captain Matt Yeager '06 comments "I think our strengths are on both ends of the fields at defense and attack."

The team has many strong returning players concentrated in defense including goalie Sean Aaron '07. At attack, Patrick Curtin '07 and newcomer Kevin Gould '06 are expected to score a good portion of the team's goals. One weakness observed by Captain Yeager is that while the attack and defense lines are determined, the team graduated many midfielders, which he sees to be a small void.

Most of the competition PA will face this season is similar to Andover in terms of strength and size. At this point, the team expects to play many close games. However Captain Yeager is not worried. "If we can pull together before the season and get good chemistry going with hard work, we can expect to win a lot of games."

Last season, the team posted an impressive 10-4 record. The team had wins over Brooks, Tilton, Brewster, Hyde, Tabor, Worcester, K.U.A, Moses Brown, Choate and Exeter. On the Deerfield game,

Last year the team found themselves dependent on a few good players and there was a huge difference between player's size and strengths. This year the team has a lot of kids playing that are even in their talent and strengths. Cap-

tain Yeager does not view this as a disadvantage. Instead he sees this as an opportunity for growth since the team will have to play more like a team this year and everyone is going to have to do their part for the team to succeed.

Returning for another season with the team are defensemen Captain Yeager, Spencer Johnson '06, Mason Fried '06 and Jake Edwards '06. Returning to play midfield are Matt Ward '06, Zack Johnson '08, Khaki Burke '06, Ben Weiner '06, Justin Lee '06, and Tony Christiano '06. Two powerful additions to the team lineup are attacker Gould and midfielder Dylan Green '06.

Gould was captain of the Massachusetts state championship team in 2005. He scored 130 points his senior year at Duxbury and was first team All-American. Gould hopes to bring both experience and knowledge of the game to the team. Looking into the season he commented, "I am interested in how we will match up against the better teams in the league".

Green '06 looks forward to bringing a strong work ethic and experience to the team.

He comments, "I have been looking forward to the season all year long and I believe this team has a lot of potential."

Green predicts that this athleticism should enable the team to out-run most other teams for the full 48-minute game.

TAKKLE Will Provide Online Sports Forum

Andover Weighs the Pros and Cons of New Website.

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

In a few years I think this will be a great site. If coaches are able to trust this site, it will give kids who go to a small school a chance for coaches to see about them and hear about them."

In order to help to prevent players from posting fraudulent stats, TAKKLE has a system built into the site monitoring the accuracy of each post. Similar to ebay.com, users will receive a ranking for the quality of their stats.

Observers of a player's profile have the option to either approve the stats if they are correct or dispute them if they are incorrect. A user's stat ranking increases with the amount of approvals, and decreases with the amount of disputes.

Even with these safeguards, some students remain suspicious about the site.

Alex Schwartz '07 said, "I think this site is a good idea, but I don't think it will become big because people won't trust a facebook-like site for recruiting. Facebook.com also has most of the people wanting to socialize hooked so it will affect the site's popularity."

As of now, Andover coaches are staying away from the site. Football, basketball, and lacrosse coach Leon Modeste said that he wouldn't "look at the site."

Mr. Modeste feels that the accuracy of the profiles is too uncertain and that the site allows athletes to be exploited. He feels college coaches will probably stay with their usual methods of recruitment.

TAKKLE is currently undergoing stages of beta tests with feedback from selected schools around the country. Its nationwide launch is expected later this year.

Season Opening April 1st
National Award Winning Flavors Made on Site!



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Ultimate Debuts as Varsity Sport; Team is Young but Talented

By Sara Wallace
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Phillips Academy's newest varsity sport has arrived. The athletes can be seen sweating, running, jumping, and throwing on the fields. No, this is not football, but Ultimate Frisbee.



Not many people are very familiar with the sport, having not quite reached the recognition of soccer or lacrosse. It began in the 1960's and is now played at all levels, from middle school to the world championships.

One of the more surprising things about Ultimate that sets it apart from other sports is the lack of referees. The players are responsible for knowing the rules of the game and calling out when one has been broken, even if it puts their own team at a disadvantage.

The three R's, respect, and responsibility, are stressed not only by the coaches, but also by the players, who have come to respect and appreciate fair play above all else.

Instead of lining up and slapping high fives at the end of the game, the teams will congregate for several minutes to invent a creative cheer, which is recited, sung, or rapped to the other team. However, this awareness of the rules does not dull the players' competitive streaks in the least.

The sport of Ultimate came to PA over ten years ago, but it wasn't until Coach Scott Hoenig arrived in 1998 that the program truly began to develop. Coach Hoenig played Ultimate at Bowdoin College, and when he came to Andover as a mathematics teaching fellow, he brought his knowledge of the sport with him.

The very year he came, he set out to build an interscholastic schedule of ten play dates, including games and tournaments.

Andover competes annually in tournaments such as the Amherst Invitational Tournament, hosted by the powerhouse Amherst Regional High which attracts teams from California to Georgia. This year, as with the past two years, Phillips Academy will host the New England Prep School Ultimate League (NEPSUL) tournament. Last year, the team pulled off a proud third place finish in the tournament. Annual Ultimate powerhouses typically include Northfield Mount Hermon, Hotchkiss, and Milton Academy.

With the solid captains, Peter Kalmakis '06 and Jonah Guerin '07, PA looks promising.

As for this year's performance in the tournament, Coach Hoenig is confident.

When asked for his predictions for the season, he said, "I expect us to be competitive within NEPSUL. Last year we tied for third in that league. I expect we will probably be right around the same. We'll be in the fighting for one of the top four spots again."

The Ultimate program is large and coed. Everyday, two practices, the "A practice" and the "B practice" are run. The varsity players practice in the "A practice." Sixteen or seventeen team members will be chosen to play for the varsity team and are in the process of trying out right now.

Although the Ultimate team is new, Coach Hoenig insists that it is just like any other varsity team, practicing five days a week and playing games. There are lots of other high schools in the area with teams.

The team will be largely full of new players as most of last year's squad graduated.

Still, Coach Hoenig remarked, "There is a good core of about six to seven players from last year's team that are going to be on varsity this year. We have lots of good athletic kids who are new and younger kids who have played before."



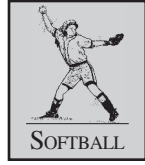
M. Discenza/The Phillipian

Lindsay Maroney '07 throws from shortstop to first base during practice. Softball expects the strong defense from its middle infielders, Maroney and Captain Tetreau '06, to be stellar.

Softball Must Overcome Loss of Many Seniors; Captain Tetreau '06 has Ability to Fill the Void

By Sara Ho
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Captain Melissa Tetreau '06 will lead the Andover Varsity Softball team in its anticipated upcoming spring season.



Though the team has yet to be finalized, many key players graduated last year, which has further cemented Tetreau's role as the team's talented and confident leader. Along with Tetreau, many newcomers look to step up and join the remaining eager veterans.

Head Coach Peter Drench and Assistant Coach Douglas Kuhlmann will manage the team this year to what they hope will be quick progress and success.

This season's team will carry a large hole in the beginning of the season as five fantastic players graduated: outfielder Becky Paskievich

'05, outfielder Sam Demetriou '05, outfielder Natalie McGarry '05, outfielder Katie Koh '05, and catcher Megan Winn '05. The seniors will be sorely missed this year, as they were the foundation of last year's strong team and the catalysts for the team chemistry.

Even with these significant losses, there is a bright future ahead for the team, as veteran players include an impressive group of strong and able girls. These include second baseman Captain Tetreau, shortstop Lindsay Maroney '07, pitcher Claire Fox '06, catcher Ariana Wilkinson '06, infielder Jamie Love '06, and third basemen and catcher Stephanie Clegg '08.

Said Maroney of the upcoming months, "This year, we look to build upon the team chemistry that was so strong last year. Although we lost 5 seniors, our returners still hold a strong relationship, something that will be important with newcomers to our team."

Last year, the team ended on an

impressive note, crushing Exeter ruthlessly in its last double-header 7-0 and 2-1. By the end of the season, this year's team hopes to reach and surpass the same intensity.

Senior Fox and returner Veda Eswarappa '08 will bring strength and experience to Andover's pitching staff.

The team welcomes new pitcher Sarah Boylan '09 who shows promising talent in the pre-season practices and will indeed be a valuable component as the season progresses.

Said Fox of the season, "This will probably be a rebuilding year for us, but as long as we can bond as a team we'll do well."

Wilkinson '06 will catch for Fox, backed up by Clegg and possible newcomer Sara Ho '08. A great challenge this season will be the catchers' ability to gain experience rapidly as the regular season starts off immediately.

All returning players are infielders, leaving a need for new outfielders this season. Young players are eager to fill the spots, including Nicole Duddy '08, Eswarappa, Ho, and Lauren Shevlin '08 all of who anticipate filling the outfield spots with great intensity.

On the offensive end, Andover hopes to increase its power this season. Last year Captain Tetreau and Maroney aggressively stepped up to the plate.

For a successful campaign this season, the team will need more contributors to follow suit.

Girls Track Features Strong Depth in Every Class on Team; Long Distance Runners Will Support Championship Drive

By Katie Michaelson
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Coming off of last season's impressive second place finish at Interschols, things are only looking better for Girls Track. The team lost a significant number of Senior scorers, but a new group of girls are stepping up to make for a successful season.

This first week the coaches are running a decathlon to see what they have for new talent and what the new girls will be doing this season.

The decathlon consists of ten running and field events, and the coaches are impressed by what they have seen so far.

Abby King '07, Ali Holliday '06, Becca Howe '06, and Sarah Dowd '06, the fantastic four of long distance events, are back and healthy again this year.

They are looking forward to improving their times from last season but have to be careful to avoid early season injuries. New distance runners joining the team are PG Hannah Comeau '06 and solid cross-country runners Brianna Jordan '09 and Sarah Cohen '08.

Jordan is from Plymouth, Mass. and competed on the Varsity Track team as a seventh and eighth grader at her middle school, Sacred Heart in Kingston, Mass. and commonly placed first in the mile against girls more than four years older than her.

Ali Holliday '06 was especially peppy when asked about how the long distance girls are looking. "The first two days of training were challenging, but everyone embraced the challenge! Everyone is keeping up, and the new runners look very strong. Best of all, everyone is staying positive, enjoying the weather, and having fun!"

Returning sprinters include Captain Marty Schnure '06, Rosie Dupont '06, Jeanette Francis '06, Ola Canty '07, Mgbechi Erundu '06, Colleen Thurman '07, Katharine Matsumoto '07, and Nico Larsen '07. Big things are expected from new sprinters Simone Hill '08 and Jenna Castellet '08. Erundu, Captain Schnure and Ola Canty '07 lead the team in the hurdling events. The team graduated its leading

sprinter last season, but everyone is working hard to get into top shape for the first meet.

This season, Uppers will be controlling the jumping pits with lead jumper Colleen Thurman '07 and Maura Mulroy '07.

Coach Patrick Farrell has been working with the girls to improve their form and speed at practices this week. And of

course, the champion of throwing events, Aba Temeng '06, is back and ready to dominate. Akosua Oforiwaa-Ayim '07 and Carly Williams '06 will be throwing the javelin this spring to score some points for the girls. Jeanette Francis '06 and Kate Therkelsen '06 lead the pole vaulting. For high jump, Atima Lui '08 is ready to fly, along with

newcomer Cecily Pulver '07.

The season kicks off in a home tri-meet against Andover High/Wilbraham Saturday, April 8 at 2:00pm.

Andover High always has a great team and competing against the close neighbor always has an element of friendly rivalry.

Co-Captain Kalter '07 and Schwartz '07 Star; Many Players Will Play New Positions this Year

By Chad Hollis
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Following last year's disappointing season, the Andover Boys Volleyball team is hungry for a more successful season. After graduating only five seniors last year, the Big Blue will depend on eight returning players, including four returning starters, to carry the team.



The team is taking a fresh start from last year by shifting key players to positions more beneficial to the team. Co-Captains Alex Schwartz '07 and Howie Kalter '07 hope to once again dominate the court with their height, athleticism, and skill. Co-Captain Schwartz, who is moving from outside hitter to middle hitter, intends to bring his volleyball knowledge and experience to his new position to help generate more blocks and kills for the team.

Co-Captain Kalter is making the move from weak side hitter to setter. His improved setting ability will help run a more successful offensive for the Blue. He will be responsibly placing the ball where Andover hitters can strike back.

Ekow Essel '07 and James McGuinness '08 join the two captains as the other returning starters. McGuinness, who is also changing his position, is making the move from libero to outsider hitter. Joining him at outside hitter is Jonathan Lee '07. The outsiders this year will focus primarily on defense, including us-

ing their quickness to make more successful passes to the setter.

Essel brings his height to the middle to stop the other team's offense cold. Although often expected as a defensive player, Essel can execute smart plays in order to get kills.

Returning letterman Peter Yao '07 is stepping up to a key role as setter for the Andover offense. After an active off-season playing club volleyball, Yao aims to improve his play from last year and run the offense along with fellow setter Co-Captain Kalter.

Completing the starting line up, Wesley Mui '06 is playing the back row as the libero.

Along with the returning players, there are a few new faces making appearances on the court.

Co-Captain Schwartz said, "The new players add depth to the team adding height and athletic ability."

The new players to join the team are Andrew Park '06, Jeff Bakkensen '06, Ahmet Tanner '07 and Jason Zhu '07.

The main difference with this year's squad and last year's is the added height and athletic ability both the returners and newcomers bring to the team. This year, the Blue boasts a hard-hitting offense backed by relentless spikes from the front and back row.

Co-Captain Schwartz said, "Everyone on the team can score from every position. The problem will be getting them the ball on defense in order to make the plays on offense. After our disappointing finish in the final tournament last year, the team is thirsty for a more successful fin-

ish."

Defense has been a perennial problem for Andover. Starting early in the season, they will focus on improving defense with drills designed to make players used to digging the ball in different situations. The Blue's overpowering offense will be maintained throughout the season with daily hitting drills.

Co-Captain Kalter said, "Everyone in the team is willing to put 110 percent on the court because we don't want a repeat of last year."

Co-Captain Schwartz added, "We really plan to wow the crowd this year and hope to advance further in the post season."

Disappointing '05 Interschols Fuels Track

Boys Track Looks to Dominate League Again

Continued from Page 12, Column 1

tested by PG Merzudin Ibric '06 and Soule. Han and Saxena will contribute to the 400 relay.

The league champion last spring ran a 48.65 to win Interschols; Ibric already ran a 49.37 during the indoor season, only .72 seconds slower. With another season and an outdoor track, faster than an indoor track, Ibric will close in on the mark and undoubtedly contend for the title.

As for distance, the entire top seven from this fall's cross-country team, Captain Sean Hamilton '06, Kentaro Watari '07, Addison Godine '07, Ben Bramhall '07, Elias Howe '09, Mike Discenza '09, and Dave Wilson '09 will be on tap for 800m through 3,000m. Hamilton took fourth last spring in the 3k with a time of 9:22.68. Godine and Bramhall return to track from last spring while Watari is new to the outdoor track.

Casey Shannon '07 and Clinton Prospere '06 return to the shot put after both competing at Interschols last year, where Shannon placed third. Another shot putter, Joe O'Hern '07 holds the Junior shot record while Shannon holds the lower record.

Shannon and Prospere also competed in the discus last spring, with Shannon taking fifth at Interschols.

Joey Lokitis '06, Greg Pucillo '06, and Mario Noyola '06 will be the major players in the javelin while Ibric and Jae-Yeop Kim '07 will be the main long jumpers.

However, with no real competitions as of yet, the high jump and triple jump will need to find athletes for competition at the league meet. The team has many all-around athletes, such as Ibric, who could compete seriously in any of these events but will not be able to do everything.

Less than one week into the season, and with seven more to go, it is tough to say who Andover star runners, jumpers and throwers will be. By the end of the season, however, Andover should have everything figured out and will bring a fearsome squad to compete at Interschols.

Girls Tennis Boasts Talent; Lack of Experience May Hurt

By Dave Koppel
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

With tryouts beginning earlier this week, and their first official match this Saturday at Noble and Greenough, the Girls Varsity Tennis team is on the brink of yet another exciting spring season.

The team this year has only a few returning players, including only two seniors, Captain Alyssa Hill '06 and Lucretia Witte '06 and no uppers. Captain Hill has high hopes of leading the talented squad to an impressive season, while looking to build on their performance last spring.

Looking forward to the sea-

son ahead, she said, "We have very high expectations going into this year's season. We had a strong performance last year in the tournament, and we will miss the Seniors dearly, but with three returning players and lots of new talent, we should be very strong."

Coach Martha Grant, who has been coaching the girls varsity team for three years, also has high expectations for the group this season. "We had a strong team last year, so I'm hopeful that we will have an equally successful season despite the more challenging schedule."

Commenting on the team's abilities, Coach Grant said, "Our main weakness is that we are a young team, but the top part of our ladder is made up of experienced tournament players."

The girls will be playing a number of tough squads this spring, including Loomis, St. Paul's, and Milton; with two of their 15 matches coming against their arch rival, Exeter. Four new teams have been added to the already challenging schedule: Nobles, BB&N, Groton, and Williston.

Playing at number one will most likely be Elena Jacobson '08, who earned the top spot last year as a junior with some spectacular play and a well balanced game. Also expected to make the varsity squad are Maggie Maffione '08 and Lauren Wilmarth '09.

With the entire season ahead of them, the Girls Tennis team has a lot to look forward to. They will look to make a strong stand at the NEPSAC tournament, wreck the Exeter squad, and perform up to their potential as a young, talented group of girls, despite a grueling schedule.

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Boys Track Could Reclaim NE Prep Title

Team Shows Potential
Early in the Season

By Ben Bramhall
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

This spring, Boys Outdoor Track will look to improve on last year's sixth place performance at the league meet and hopefully bring back first place.

Captain Mario Noyola '06 will replace last year's captain, Kojo DeGraft-Hanson '05 as the team leader. A standout in the pole vault, Noyola finished third last year at interschols, jumping 12-06.

This year Noyola hopes to better the school record of 14-0.75, held by Chris St. Lawrence since 1969. He will also throw the javelin. Out with an elbow injury last year, which luckily did not end up hindering his vaulting ability, he was unable to compete in the javelin but is back for spring 2006.

Noyola's goal for the team is to win Interschols. With the amazing talent present on the team this year, winning is not only attainable but probable.

In the sprints, Greg Hsu '06 will combine with Charlie Houghton '06 and Matt Fernandez '06 to make up a formidable crew. Most of these runners will see nothing over 200 meters. Last year Hsu tripled at 'schols in the 100, 200, and 4x100.

Jason Soule '06, Lou Tejada '08, Jeff Zhou '06, Chris Han '07, and Rajeev Saxena '06 will contend for hurdle spots at Interschols. All of these athletes waged successful indoor campaigns except for Zhou, and should have continued success through this season. Last year, Zhou finished ninth at Interschols in the 110 hurdles.

The 400 will mainly be con-

Continued on Page 11, Column 6

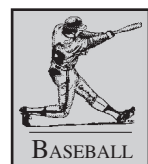


J.R. Santaniello '08 pitches in an intrasquad scrimmage. Almost the entire roster for Andover Baseball will be new to the team this season.

Four Returners Key Boys Baseball this Spring; Younger Players Will Play Crucial Role in Success

By Chris George
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

After a 9-7 record and a second place finish in league play last year, the Andover Baseball team is back with elevated goals for the upcoming season. Twelve seniors have graduated from the team that was handed an



early exit in tournament play against Deerfield last year, but this young group of talented players looks to continue the strong tradition and competitiveness that has come to define PA baseball.

Although only four players return from last year's varsity team, this year's squad showcases an experienced core, featuring Co-Captain pitcher Matt Boylan '06, Co-Captain catcher and 2005 All-Star Tom Dignard '06, and postgraduate pitcher Tommy Arrigg '06.

Co-Captain Boylan brings last year's team best ERA, 2.24, back to the mound, where he has been working on his command, as well as a split-change that he has improved to go along with his fastball-curveball strikeout combination.

While the seniors provide stability and experience, the younger pitchers will be given a chance to step in and contribute right away in the rotation. The infield is also deep in talent, and Coach Andy Cline stressed the players' potential to grow and become more seasoned as the year progresses. The team has also found strength in another crucial area: outfield defense. Along with having a deep core of players at all positions, the outfield has an especially experienced bunch at the respective positions. Tight glove work and strong arms will also help to run down more fly balls and cut down on extra-base hits, tremendously helping the pitching staff. Andover has already seen a good amount of action so far, going 3-3-1 on the spring

break trip to Florida, where they got their batting strokes and the feel of the game back, among other things, after a long winter. Coach Cline said, "We learned some things, and the whole team really benefited from the game experience on the trip, especially the younger players."

Looking forward to the league schedule, Andover looks to field a talented team that can compete well in the widely competitive Central New England Prep School Baseball League. While experienced leaders hold key positions, the younger players will be largely counted on to contribute to the team's successes this year.

"I think it's a reflection of a healthy program overall if kids can come in from JV and contribute well at the varsity level," Coach Cline added.

Girls Waterpolo Shows Promise; Lowers Return to Power Squad

Sisi Ruan
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

The Andover Girls Waterpolo Team is hungry to improve on last year's fairly disappointing season record of 7-9. Cindy Efinger is returning as the head coach of the team with



the help of newcomer assistant Catherine Carter, who was also assistant coach of the Girls' Swim Team. The 2005 team roster was dominated by underclassmen with little playing experience; practically half of the team was comprised of juniors. However, the core of last year's team was exceptionally talented, and is mostly returning this year; although three seniors graduated from the Class of 2005, only two of them were starters.

However, the loss of two of its standout players isn't putting a damper on the team. Led by Co-Captains Parla Alpan '06 and Emily Brenner '06, the team is returning the Chang dynasty, Kelly '07 and Kimbo '08, to the starting lineup, along with six other experienced players eager to delve into the season. Among those six players includes goalie Amy Fenstermacher '07, who looks to fulfill Kathryn Uhl '06's spot in front of the net, and defensive player Devon Zimmerling '07, who ravenously stops balls by any means. Sarah Pucillo '08, Caitlin Feeney '08, Liz MacMillan '08, and Lily Bowers '08 are all returning and will bring depth and experience to the squad.

This year's team boasts not only experience, but many talented newcomers as well. Amy Prosper '06 joins the team with an athletic background and an especially strong throwing arm from softball, despite having no

previous water polo experience. Prosper is tentatively set to play the goalie position, although she would be a great asset out in the pool as well. Although many Juniors signed up to play, the level of talent isn't by any means sparse. Many of these underclassmen players have shown great potential and a natural aptitude for handling the balls.

Despite the disappointing record, the team has a lot to be proud of from last year. Notably one of Andover's best qualities was team unity and communication among players during the games, especially on defense. Coming out of two promising wins against Worcester and Deerfield at the start of last season, the Andover girls had a slight droop in aggressiveness and confidence by mid-season, accompanied by frustration from the grueling games. Offensive shooting difficulties and various rules that Andover was rumored to have violated contributed to the losing streak.

The team hopes to make it into the A tournament, which singles out the top four teams in the prep school league. Last season, the team was only able to play in the B tournament due to the mid-season spirit slump which dropped them from a reputable fourth-place seed. Yet, the team was seeded fifth out of ten teams and was ranked first in the B tournament division. The gains seem to outweigh the losses for this upcoming season, so the team's view is optimistic.

As Co-Captain Emily Brenner '06 expresses, "Last year was a fairly tough year for our team because most of our players were new to the sport. However, this year, with the number of returning girls as well as many more new freshmen added to the team, I think that we have a lot of potential to go far and hopefully make it to the A tournament this season."

Captain Wagman '06 Leads Boys Tennis; Team Looks to Improve Postseason Performance

By Matt Schubert
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

The Andover Boys Varsity Tennis team enters the 2006 campaign with a bit of unfinished business in mind.

Last year, the team performed well in the regular season but failed to make any noise in the playoffs. Driven by the memory of this frustrating experience, Andover hopes for a more successful outcome this year, and its talented group of players could make that

desire a reality.

Returning from last year's squad are six players, five of whom played in the top six last season. Led by Captain Dan Wagman '06, these returners have all worked hard to improve their games in the past year and, with the addition of some new talent, promise to form a strong lineup that could contend for the league championship.

Michael Li '06 comes back for his fourth season on the team. He has played at the number one position for his first three years, where he has never failed to post a winning record. Li is ready for the season and recognizes the team's considerable potential.

At the same time, he is cautious about looking too far ahead. "We need to take our season one match at a time," said Li.

Captain Wagman also hopes to pursue this patient approach, and he seeks to develop a well-rounded team. Taking after fitness maven Captain Jon Weigel '05, Captain Wagman values physical conditioning. He looks to help build his teammates' stamina and strength, which are already at a high level.

Wagman himself, is well conditioned, and he brings to the court an aggressive serve-and-volley style of play. He will lead a group of heavy hitters.

Matt Schubert '07, Andrew Chan '08, and Foster Jebson '08 are the three other players who have previously spent time in the top six. Schubert was successful in the 2005 season and has improved since. He will look to become more consistent and strengthen his mental game throughout this year.

Chan and Jebson formed an impressive freshman duo last season that guided the team to several key victories. Chan's powerful serve and penetrating topspin forehand are the most intimidating weapons in his arsenal.

Jebson has a powerful game as well. His competitive edge gives him a resiliency that is hard for other players to handle. He had an impressive run last season but was hampered by a left wrist injury that weakened his backhand. His wrist has fully recovered for this season, however, and his backhand is as strong as ever.

Trey Meyer '09 is a newcomer to the team. He has a versatile game with consistent ground strokes and estimable foot speed. Though the team is relatively young, the players have considerable experience, and Andover's most potent asset will be its depth. The team's biggest challenges will most likely come against perennial powerhouses Milton and Choate, and Andover will hope to overcome these opponents with lower-ladder victories.



Michael Li '06 maintains the number one spot for Boys Tennis for the third straight year.



Jamie Harisiades '08 and Stuart Anderson '07 battle for position in practice. Andover fields one of its best Girls Lacrosse teams in years.

Girls Lacrosse Holds Realistic Championship Hopes; Captains Wadland '06 and Scott '06 Lead Charge

By Jen Downing
PHILLIPPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Spring term brings anticipation and enthusiasm for the seventeen girls on the Varsity Lacrosse team—this year more than ever.

Though last year's team consisted of a strong line-up and tight dynamics, the overall record ended with 9 wins and 3 losses—less than impressive for the group.

For the first time ever, sixteen girls traveled to Cocoa, Florida over break for spring training, providing extra preparation for the upcoming season.

During the six days, with up to three two-hour sessions each day, the girls received valuable instruction from coaches Kate Dolan, Megan Harlan, and Martha Fenton. Focus centered on playing a smart mental game and quickly evaluating the game situation to make snap decisions in crucial plays.

Practice of concepts such as

crease defense, double-teaming, and cross-field passes also improved team play. In addition, conditioning and skill work presented a thorough refresher and warm-up for the spring season.

Captains Tess Scott '06 and Julie Wadland '06 led the group by example with their unending intensity and passion, as well as with encouragement, guidance, and humor. Coach Dolan expressed gratitude toward the players for their effort during the trip, calling it a great success and something definitely worth continuing in upcoming years.

Though not all team members traveled to Florida, each returned spring term eager to play.

Both the promising new players that have made the team and the improvement among returnees will fill the gap left by the seven girls who graduated in 2005.

New players include two post-graduates, Allyse Kennedy '06 and Whitney Annicelli '06, who will both be crucial to the team's success this year. In Florida as well as in try-outs, the two proved to be powerhouses on offense with profi-

cient stick-skills and fast, precisely placed shots.

However, any shot would have trouble getting by Captain Wadland, who has held her position in the Varsity goal since her Junior year.

She comments, "We'll have to work on a lot—more so than other years." These veterans are a group of diverse players including skilled offensive executor Carolyn Pollard '07, strong voice on defense Karen Schoenherr '07, and speedy mid-field players Annie Boylan '07 and Captain Scott.

Future practices will aim to improve the weaknesses the coaches have observed in the dynamic of the team's play.

With high expectations from Dolan, Harlan, and Fenton, each player will sweat through practices to achieve personal and collective goals set for the season.

The Varsity Lacrosse season will open with an away scrimmage against Duxbury High School this Saturday and continues next Wednesday against Middlesex.