



Prep School Students Face End-of-Term Challenges

PHILLIPPIAN STAFF REPORT

Andover and three of its peer schools have modified their exam schedules in the past five years in an attempt to alleviate students' stress. C h o a t e Rosemary Hall implemented the most drastic change of the year, eliminating fall term exams for the 2006-2007 school year. Instead, teachers will be implement their own methods of student evaluation.

While Choate's decision only applies to this fall, the administration hopes that it will give teachers the opportunity to explore new methods of cumulative assessment. Not only does this lighten the workload of faculty and students, it also enables the school to end the term without having to cram exams into a narrow four-day time frame.

The school will decide whether to cancel fall term exams permanently in December.

Meanwhile, an assessment committee, made up of representatives from each department, will examine the nature of student exams. In the middle of Spring Term, it will propose changes to the Academic Council.

While the English and Art Departments will implement few changes, the Science and Math Departments have relied on exams in the past to ensure that students maintain a grasp on material covered during the entire term. It allowed students a chance to review and show growth over the

term. Exeter dubbed its exam week "The Last Week" this year. According to Director of Studies Mark Delaney, the school made this change because Exeter's lack of final exams renders the term "Exam Week" inaccurate.

According to Mr. Delaney, less than half of Exeter's teachers give final exams. At Exeter, the only department that regularly administers a cumulative final exam is the science department. Math assessments do not include any material covered before midterm.

Mr. Delaney said that the Math Department's position is that the last exam of the term is simply another hour-long test.

Other than science and math, the only department that gives final exams is the Modern Language Department.

The current schedule for Exeter's final week consists of two and a half days during which each class meets once. The first of these days is devoted entirely to science exams, while all other classes meet for either a regular class or a test.

Just nine years ago, Exeter did not have final exams at all. The school chose to implement an exam week schedule to control students' workloads. According to Mr. Delaney, students used to have major assignments in addition to regular classes through the very end of the term. The current system prevents more than two major assignments from being due on the same day.

Andover's new Assessment Week is a combination of department and period blocks that have caused confusion among students and faculty.

Dean of Studies John Rogers said, "I think the main drives behind the changes were to allow a wider array [and] more flexible types of assessments [and] to allow teachers to use a wider range of tools. The other main thing was to allow the natural rhythm of a course to continue right up until

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Delegation Returns From 3-Week Trip To China, Thailand

Chases, Tang '56, Ebner '70 Spread Goodwill

By TRISHA MACRAE

Head of School Barbara Landis Chase returned to Andover last Tuesday after a three-week sojourn to Asia with her husband and Director of Stewardship, David Chase, President of the Board of Trustees Oscar L. Tang '56, and Reverend Michael Ebner '70, Director of Alumni Affairs. They traveled to the cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Bangkok.

PA has had a long-standing connection with Asia, specifically China. The Chinese government sponsored the first organized group of international students to come to PA in 1878.

In the 1960's, PA strengthened its relationship with China when it established the first Chinese language program.

The rapport has only grown since then. The current President of the Board of Trustees, Oscar L. Tang '56, is Chinese-American and

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Inside The Phillipian



Students rehearse for *The Nutcracker*.

Donate to Andover

The Pension Protection Act renders large donations to the Academy almost exempt from taxes. **Page 5**

Getting Your Freak On

Associate Dean of Students Carlos Hoyt speaks his mind on grinding at PA dances. **Page 3**

Winter Varsity Teams Preview

Get a sneak peek of this year's winter teams as they gear up for successful seasons. **Page 11**

Guard Your Sandwiches

Features unleashes the sandwich punch game on the PA campus. **Page 6**



M. Discenza/The Phillipian

Conductor William Thomas leads the orchestra in its annual holiday All-School performance. The group will also give a concert at 7:30 tonight in the Chapel.

New Condominiums Purchased on Main Street to Accomodate Faculty

By ANNA BURGESS

Phillips Academy recently expanded its Faculty Housing assets with a house on 221 Main Street.

Director of Facilities, Michael Williams, described the new property as a "good house at a reasonable price." The new building was originally built as a multi-unit condo or townhouse building with an extra unit over the garage.

221 Main Street was desirable real estate for the Academy because of its proximity to campus, just across the street from

the Cage. In addition, because it was built a little over a year ago, the Academy does not need to renovate the building.

Phillips Academy faculty are already living in the house, but in the future, the house should be available to all faculty through the school housing lottery.

With an ever-growing population of students and faculty, Andover is constantly renovating its many dorms and houses on campus.

Temba Maqubela, Instructor in Chemistry and Dean of Faculty, oversees all faculty housing assignments, while Marlys Edwards, Dean of Students and

Residential Life, has the final say over who will receive house counselor assignments.

Members of the Phillips Academy faculty are assigned housing through the faculty-housing lottery. Unlike the student-housing lottery, the faculty-housing lottery is a long process with many limitations.

Individual families are allowed to enter the lottery only once every five years. Before being able to bid on any non-dormitory housing, one of the faculty members of the family must have had at least eight to twelve years of experience as a house counselor at any boarding school.

Other components, which Mr. Maqubela and Ms. Edwards take into account, include the number of years of teaching by each faculty member per family and the number of years spent as a complementary house counselor.

Furthermore, Massachusetts State Law requires that all residences with lead paint cannot house any child under the age of six. Thus any lead-safe or lead-free apartments or houses are set aside for families with children less than six years of age. Age of the faculty members at the time of bidding is also considered.

Mr. Maqubela and Ms. Edwards award each faculty member a certain number of points based on the above criterion.

Families with the most points

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ABBOT GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

By JACK DICKEY

The Abbot Academy Association announced that it would finance 22 student and 28 faculty and staff on-campus projects within the next two years.

The projects include an effort by James Freeman '07, Trevor Sanders '07, and Addison Godine '07 to explore the viability of a wind power source. They plan to place anemometers around campus to measure wind speed in order to determine if a wind turbine would be a feasible source of energy.

"If it could work, we would try another Abbot Grant," Freeman said. "They sounded pretty enthusiastic about it."

The Association also awarded grants to Student Council to reconfigure the mailroom and its television system as well as to the Muslim Student Union to fund its efforts to bring a contemporary artist to campus for a demonstration.

Three of the faculty awards given involve funding summer study expositions, including one in Mumbai, India and the B.'A.L.A.M expedition in Mesoamerica.

Other faculty proposals aim to enhance the course of study such as new Chinese software for the Language Learning Center and visits from a Higgins Armory educator for all History 100 sections.

The Abbot Academy Association board elected to fund 26 of this year's 32 proposals, which, accord-

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M. Discenza/The Phillipian

Next term, students will be able to take advantage of several new additions to the library's resources.

quested books, and some curriculum reading.

The library will also purchase 12 iPod Nanos and 16 Playaways. Students will be able to borrow them with the audiobooks already uploaded. In addition, the library promises to upload books onto student-owned MP3 players if

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Instructional Librarian Mr. Blake Leaves PA for Harvard Astrophysics

By STEVE BARTZ

After accepting a position at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CFA), Instructional Librarian Michael Blake relinquished his position at the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library two weeks ago.

Mr. Blake has worked at Andover since 2003 as Associate Director of Instructional Services, where he focused on teaching students how to research effectively.

Mr. Blake had originally planned to retire at Andover, but Donna Colletti, his former coworker and director of CFA, recruited him. As his interests lie in the natural sciences, Mr. Blake said he "just couldn't refuse the opportunity to be in charge of the world's premier astronomy library."

At CFA, Mr. Blake will work with scientists from all over the world in the Harvard College Observatory, assisting them in their efforts to uphold the Center's rich legacy of momentous research.

Upon Mr. Colletti's retirement in two years, Mr. Blake will become the Director of CFA's John G. Wolbach Library.

Mr. Blake's new job is not his first at Harvard. Before coming to Andover, he spent a decade working at Harvard's Cabot Science Library.

At PA, Mr. Blake was the first Associate Director of Instructional Services, as Elisabeth Tully, Director of OWHL, created the position for him. She lobbied hard to ensure Mr. Blake was hired as a faculty rather than as a staff member, because she hoped teachers would consider him as a peer and actively collaborate in the development of instructional programs.

Ms. Tully said, "I believe there are two qualities all great librarians have. The first is a perpetual love and excitement for learning and the second is being able to spread that passion to others. Mr. Blake definitely [has] both."

As a librarian, Mr. Blake had a unique, attractive character that people appreciated. Many attest to his energy, sense of humor, and approachability.

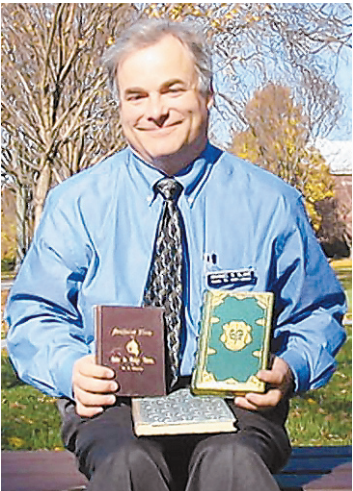
Ms. Tully said, "Blake had an infectious laugh that was heard frequently throughout the library. When I heard him laugh, I couldn't help but smile."

News of Mr. Blake's sudden

departure spread slowly, but surprised many members of the Andover community.

The library staff arranged the open-house reception held in Mr. Blake's honor, which took place in the Freeman Room from 3:30 to 5:00 on the Friday before Thanksgiving break. Student turnout

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OWHL

Mr. Blake will return to Harvard after three years at PA.

Shall We Dance?

By Carlos Hoyt



Associate
Dean of
Students

Some would say that this article is folly. Some would say that no one will read anything this long. Some would say that a reader will throw this down after the first comment of mine that they perceive as a threat, and prepare to march on GW.

Well, I ain't down with that.

In his book, *Building Community in Schools*, Thomas J. Sergiovanni explores the qualities that distinguish a true community from a mere collection of individuals who inhabit the same space. Among the useful questions Sergiovanni poses for school faculty is this one:

How can we redefine the web of relationships that exist among us and between us and students so that they embody community?

I believe that two essential factors in building a true community are communication and trust. For genuine community to emerge and thrive we must be in constant communication about how we relate to one another – and there must be trust enough that if we communicate candidly and compassionately, we will establish and maintain the type of relationships that define true community.

It is in this spirit that I invite the community into a discussion about GRINDING.

Please do not freak out! This is not an announcement of the end of dancing at Andover (or even the end of a particular kind of dancing). There is no plan or intention to stomp on your freedom of expression, monkey with your fun time, or twist your preferred manner of unwinding into something flat and dull.

This is a sincere attempt at dialogue. It is not a point seeking to provoke a counterpoint. I believe we have the sophistication, the empathy, and the creativity required to extend our ideas (our theses) and

antitheses) towards each other and dance dialectically* towards synthesis – instead of talking past each other in divisive dueling monologues.

Here I am then, my arm extended in your direction, my hand open, nothing up my sleeve. Shall we?

This is an invitation to talk about the form of dance often referred to as “grinding.” You are hereby invited to share your views and feelings about grinding. And by “you” I mean WE -- all of us: freak devotees, grind dabblers, those grossed out by the grind, and those who haven’t as yet looked up to see that dance has gone quite primal. I share my thoughts on the subject to get the party started. I hope this will encourage us all to get out on the floor, throw our views up in the aiya and be honest like we just don’t care! At the end of this interaction, as with any dance, we need not have changed the world or anything else. Dialogue, conversation, and communion are all their own reward, and all preferable to everyone standing against the wall afraid to step out and express themselves.

Let’s call this dance The Dialectic. Here’s how you do it.

First Step: Face your partner and be honest about where you’re coming from.

I am a father of a female high school junior, which disposes me to see this in a paternal and perhaps even paranoid way. I am a clinician, which disposes me to read deeply (perhaps too deeply sometimes) into human behavior. I am a former adolescent boy who grew up in the shadow of Elvis the pelvis and the bright light of James Brown’s footwork, SoulTrain, Solid Gold, Dance Fever, The Fly Girls of In Living Color, Disco, The Hustle, Michael Jackson’s moonwalk, and the Electric Slide. And I witnessed and participated a bit in the emergence of hip hop dancing and even the grind (which evolved from what we called “the dog” back in the day). I am no stranger to, nor am I an opponent of, dancing. My views on grinding are filtered through all of these lenses.

Second Step: Stand in your partners’ shoes and demonstrate a genuine willingness to see things from her or his point of view.

Particularly when I view dancing through the lens of a former adolescent, I understand and sympathize with the need, indeed a hormonal imperative, to have ways to express the energies that course through the body of the high school human. And I believe it’s only wise that adults should provide safe contexts within which such necessary expression can occur.

Third Step: Clearly and candidly express your opinion

Stapczynski

GRINDING: THE VERTICAL
EXPRESSION OF
A HORIZONTAL
DESIRE.

There are three things about grinding that concern me. They are:

1. Highly sexualized clothed rubbing of bodies or behaviors that otherwise mimic sexual acts seem to me to be patently inappropriate in a public setting. This is what I mean when I speak of grinding.

Rationalizing such behavior as OK or “different” because it is currently widely practiced is a form of reasoning that is beneath the level of critical thinking we should aspire to. Convention is not the same as justification. I am confident that we can all think of many practices throughout history that were conventional and at the same time harmful and illegitimate.

2. It is awkward for the adults in our community to witness and intervene in simulated sex between students. Especially in this residential environment where our relationships approximate the parent and child dynamic, it is common for us adults to develop genuinely paternal and maternal feelings for all of you. As a result, it is even harder here for us to see our “sons” and “daughters” getting their freak on right before our eyes.

3. Even more than adult awkwardness, I am concerned for those students who either feel alienated from dances because they find grinding, for whatever reasons, to be unappealing, or participate in dances despite negative feelings about grinding because they desire the social interaction provided by dances. In the first case we are failing to provide an atmosphere that should be as welcoming as possible to the broadest range of kids. In the second case (the worst one, I think) students are possibly compromising their sense of propriety to fit in, and they must inevitably contend with the dissonance this must cause.

Fourth step: Suggest solutions that might satisfy both you and your partner.

I’ve become a big fan of square-dancing. Have you tried it? I am just kidding.

We should not ban dancing. We should dance because dancing is healthful, dancing can be artistic, and dancing is just plain fun.

We should not simulate sex in public places. (I do acknowledge that in certain theatrical contexts sensual interaction between people can be consistent with a larger purpose.)

If by grind dancing we mean highly sexualized actions performed in public that mimic sexual acts, then it seems to me we shouldn’t grind dance. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT I WILL BE DRAFTING LEGISLATION TO BAN GRINDING.

This is only the conclusion I draw in considering this situation. In a community of diverse thinkers there is bound to be a diversity of opinions -- and thank goodness for that. I have no intention of imposing my view on this on the entire community. I intend only to share my perspective and opinion and to encourage others to share theirs.

In my view the best course of action right now is to talk about it, share our perspectives, and listen to one another. This leads to the last step in our dialectic dance.

Fifth step: Be still, be quiet, be attentive, and listen to your partner’s opinions and suggestions.

I’m not sure what I think is best in terms of agreements, accords, or policy regarding grinding. I am sure that I haven’t touched on everything that’s worth considering. I am also sure that I would benefit greatly from hearing from as many folks in the community as possible.

So here, my hand is out. Anyone care to join me doin’ The Dialectic? The steps are easy to follow, it’s good exercise, and it’s a great way to commune. And, who knows, maybe we’ll arrive at a good synthesis for all parties.

So my fellas, let me hear ya! And now laaaadies...!

* According to Hegel (1770-1831), dialectic is simply the logical pattern of thought, the overall pattern being thesis, antithesis, and synthesis. Thus, thought proceeds by contradiction (thesis/antithesis), and is then reconciled by a fusion of the contradictory ideas (synthesis). www.apologetics.org/glossary.html

ADDRESSING

NON SIBI

Arjun Sharma

As I stood outside of Market Basket waiting for the bus to drive me back up Andover Hill, it began to rain, as it seems to do every Sunday from noon to three. As I stood there, I reflected on the supposed “ideals” of Phillips Academy- non sibi, youth from every quarter, educating young students in body and mind, and so on, and I realized that the longer a student has been here, the less they seem to care or even think about these messages. The biggest issues I was thinking about that day were my math test, an English paper, a week’s worth of work on an independent project and three college applications, all of which were due the next day. Students from all types of colleges who went to Phillips will tell you how much easier their lives were after they left. Although Andover claims to teach its students about “the value of community service,” “not for self,” “the end depends on the beginning,” and all of those oft-repeated sound bites, Phillips Academy is more like the deep end of a pool filled with sharks- you either sink, or you swim.

Although the school has been trying to ease the pressure on students, its approach, which is made up mostly of seemingly arbitrary scheduling changes, has done little to accomplish the school’s goals. The school uses the “Dean’s Week schedule,” which designates due dates for major assignments in classes with no finals, and has added the “Assessment Period,” a week whose purpose and stipulations are debated and misunderstood by many of the teachers themselves. One math teacher said that the purpose of the week was clear to him and discussed point by point in a department meeting at the beginning of the term; another teacher told me that he had to take time out of one of his classes to try and figure out from his students how the new Assessment Week works and how he would need to change his syllabus to follow the rules.

When asked how the school could do more to promote its ideals, a group of students I spoke with said that the solution is counterintuitive; rather than try to make life at Andover easier, the school should try to motivate students to believe in ideas like “non sibi” to the extent that they choose to spend time furthering this message. If the school were to bring more community service projects to PA, students who would normally pass on community service would come face-to-face with issues in the world around them and might be more inspired to think about others; thus, they might naturally embrace the concept of “not for self.” Dougal Sutherland ‘07 recommended that the school offer more community service projects on Saturday and Sunday, when students have time on their hands. As noted in a recent *Phillipian* article, a large number of students have expressed dissatisfaction with the number of activities offered on weekends. By offering community service projects on these days, Sutherland said, “the school could tackle two problems at once- more students would get a chance to do community service, and more students would be occupied with meaningful activities, giving them less time to fall into the more dangerous ways of passing time.”

It is undeniable that there are issues the school needs to address regarding stress. Pulling all-nighters is not uncommon, and in a large dorm such as Stearns, there are usually at least two or three students pulling all-nighters in a given week. The use of caffeine in all its forms, such as soda, energy drinks like Red Bull, and pills such as No-Doz, as well as Adderall, a mild amphetamine, is widespread. Both issues have been common topics in *The Phillipian*, the most recent being an article entitled “Widespread Caffeine Use Among Students Could Pose Health Risks,” published on November 10th. Even though these are obvious issues that need to be dealt with by the school, it is doubtful that they could truly be stopped, or even slowed down with short-term changes. The solutions to these issues lie in longer-term changes, such as raising awareness of the health risks associated with these drugs and continuing the Academic Support Center’s initiative to help students manage their time.

As evidenced by the large number of commentary articles and editorials about having “too much work” that appear in *The Phillipian*, a lot of students would disagree with this proposal of adding more options to promote non sibi and other such ideals without first easing the stress of Andover kids. The recent trend at Andover has been to reduce the workload, and to hold students hands through their entire high school careers. The College Counseling Office steers students step-by-step from Upper Winter until Senior Spring, guiding them through the application process. There are peer tutors and subject-wide study halls for students to get academic help. If a student is having trouble in a class, there is a system for their teachers, house counselors, and advisors to be informed. There is more than enough coddling at Andover; rather than try to schedule non sibi into the curriculum the way we’ve scheduled in civil rights, gay rights, AIDS awareness, and genocide, the administration should try to create the opportunities for students to seek it out for themselves.

United We Stand

Alex McHale

ACTIVITIES

Social events on our Gilded Blue Hill lack a certain pizzazz, for lack of a better term, especially in recent weeks. The problems are numerous: dances and movies grow old after several months, and a sizeable percentage of the school population finds it more worth their time to hang out in their dorm rooms watching movies or playing video games. The diffusion of the school’s population helps to sap the energy out of what could have been a fun activity. There are many Ryley dances that would have been bearable if half my guy friends hadn’t been hitting up Halo in their common rooms, and if half my female friends hadn’t been painting their nails or watching chick-flicks in their common rooms.

The separation leads to further definition of cliques at the school. One of the surest ways to develop a clique is to isolate oneself from other groups of kids or to limit the interaction between groups of kids. If you and all your friends have a Halo-fest every Saturday from 8-11, you miss out on the possibility of hanging out with the rest of the school. In time, your best friends, and moreover, your only friends, will be your Halo buddies.

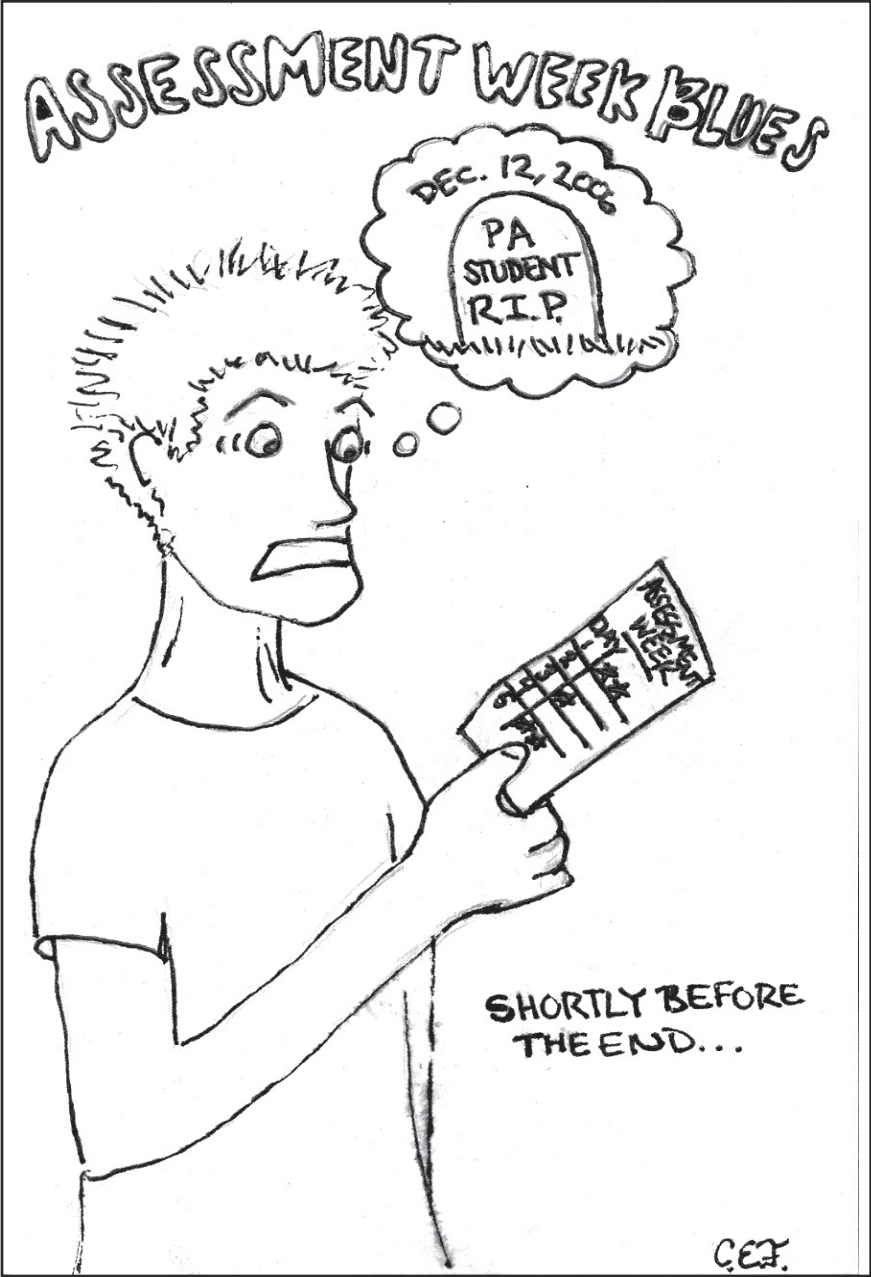
Finally, there is the issue of repetitiveness. As cliques further define themselves, it becomes increasingly hard to participate in non-clique-related activities. This leads to an unnecessary replication of social activities. Remember those Halo boys? Soon, they could develop into exclusively gamers as they become more and more uncomfortable interacting with other groups of kids

in Ryley.

The solution to our problem is a student activities center. Note that the problems I listed above are all inter related, but not necessarily present to the level mentioned. The activities center would solve the diffusion aspect that contributes to the other issues. Imagine one building where people could game, watch chick-flicks, play air hockey, dance it up, or get food, all within 100 feet of each other. Not a big deal, you say? Well, figure someone wants to see their friend from math class, but that guy isn’t a big dancer. Swing by the movie-room and he’ll be watching Wedding Crashers there instead of in his dorm room. Let’s say the dance floor is just starting to get hot and you want to let your girlfriend know that her hubby just arrived. She’s getting a Diet Coke in the next room.

Diffusion problems? Solved. Cliques- lines? Blurred. Repetition of weekend activities? Those would be mitigated with the flexibility of hangout options in a convenient location. A legitimate social outlet would also lead to a dramatic decrease in various rule infractions. Students would not resort to entertaining themselves on their computers over the weekends as much, thereby decreasing the number of bandwidth violations. The perpetually bored would also be less inclined to experiment with drugs and alcohol, negating the main catalyst behind the vast majority of DC’s.

In my two years here, I have not set foot in Pearson, and I can’t claim to have the knowledge to speak about its historical significance to this school. I can say this though: a student activities center makes sense, and the middle of campus is the best place to put it.



Up Close and Personal: My Experiences Campaigning

Yoni Gruskin

BR4G

I have been an avid follower of politics for a long time, but this year, I got a more intimate look at the election process. For almost five months, starting in June and ending with the November 7 election, I worked as a field intern for Bill Ritter’s gubernatorial campaign in Colorado. During the summer months, I put a lot of time and effort into the campaign, working nearly 40 hours and six days each week. My car became so overwhelmed by Bill Ritter pamphlets and bumper stickers that my mom started to joke that I was driving around in the “Ritter-mobile.” But as much as I gave to Bill Ritter and his campaign, I was genuinely surprised by how unique and beneficial the experience was for me.

Several months on the campaign trail gave me an up-close look at the human face of politics. Prior to the campaign, the vast majority of my political experiences were from an intellectual point of view; everything I knew came from the Op-Ed pages of the New York Times or from some other political pundits on quarrelsome talk shows. During the campaign, I was able to see politics from a ground-up perspective; it became clear that the decisions that politicians make in Washington, D.C. or at the state house in Colorado directly affect their constituents.

Our campaign had a very aggressive notion of what a field campaign should look like. During my interview, Ritter’s intern coordinator explained to me that “if there is any event in the state of Colorado with more than 10 people, we want to have a presence there.” At the time of our conversation, she was still bitter that the campaign had not thought of sending an intern or volunteer with a Ritter T-shirt to Water World’s annual belly flop contest. With such a forward-leaning field staff, I should not have been surprised that the campaign would take me out of the comfort of my sheltered suburban neighborhood and into some parts of Colorado that I never knew existed.

At the beginning of the summer, my experiences with Colorado were very limited. It seemed inconceivable to me that there could possibly be any life outside of the Metro area (Denver, Boulder, Fort Collins, Colorado Springs) and the mountain ski resorts. On behalf of the Ritter campaign, I began traveling to different parts of the state to attend annual summer events, such as county fairs. I will not soon forget the culture shock I endured when I pulled up to the Elbert County Fair on the Eastern Plains and realized that there were more farm animals in the crowd than humans. Barbara O’Brien, Bill’s running mate for lieutenant governor, attended the event and it was my responsibility to meet up with her and bring her back to the lot where the Ritter supporters were meeting. When Barbara asked me if it were alright for her to walk her dog in the parade, I thought about the small goat I had seen that was decorated from head to toe with red, white and blue ribbons, and could only laugh.

I may have been laughing at the time, but as I began to attend more of these events, like the Delta County Fair and Parade in the Western Slope, I realized that for many residents of Colorado, this is a way of life. When a politician stops through town telling the residents about his policy on water conservation, his actions back at the Capitol mean something to them. The next year that there is a severe drought, the crops could go bad and they might have to sell the farm that’s been in their family for three generations. When Congress votes to allow additional oil shale development in Routt County so that the politicians can line up campaign donations from big oil corporations, the sportsmen of Steamboat start to wonder how their way of life will change when the herds of elk and moose that they hunt begin to disappear.

When I flew back for Election Day, I started to understand how important voting is for a large segment of the population. In Denver, election officials decided to move to a new “vote center” system (replacing the precinct method) and to use new electronic voting

and registration machines. The result was a disaster. By 8:00 a.m., lines at the Denver vote centers were over two hours long. Because the key to success for any Democrat running for statewide office in Colorado is to get out the vote in Denver, Campaign Headquarters transformed into a predictable state of chaos. After the campaign began to receive reports of voter disenfranchisement and voting centers shutting down, interns and volunteers were dispatched to the polling centers all throughout Denver to make sure that everybody stayed in line to vote. When I arrived to the first vote center I visited that day, I quickly realized that all the buzz was true. The line extended well outside the door, and those coming out of the building warned others that the line was over two hours long. What really impressed (and surprised) me was the fact that the voters waiting in line did not seem to mind. Instead of leaving, everybody seemed content to wait for hours just to cast his or her ballots. When I informed one lady about how long the line was, she shrugged it off and told me that it “was just the price of democracy.” Even our own candidate couldn’t avoid paying the “price of democracy.” When I was directed by Headquarters to report from the Washington Park Vote Center, I ended up parking directly behind a large bus- the same campaign bus that had left Headquarters two hours before. Apparently Bill was inside with the media waiting in a two hour line to vote.

By the end of the day I had traveled all around the city of Denver to encourage voters to stay in line and vote. Our campaign took drastic measures to ensure that as many residents of Denver as possible would cast their ballots. We went close to \$200,000 over our Election Day budget by renting out two more campaign buses to move people from the vote centers with the longest lines to those with the shortest. We also spent tens of thousands of dollars on food and water that was to be doled out to hungry voters waiting in long lines. At one point during the day, our campaign manager handed me \$300 cash to buy food

and water, no questions asked. When the polls closed at 7 p.m., there were still lines out the door and down the block at several vote centers. The day was long and exhausting (I returned home 22 hours after I left), but I felt as though I had done my role for the campaign. When I stopped at Headquarters before heading out for Northeast Denver, I ran into Bill as he was getting ready to leave for the victory party. We both looked exhausted, and when I told him that he led the national newscast on NBC with his voting dilemma, he was surprised, but looked as if he had more on his mind than his 15 seconds of national fame.

At 8:30 p.m. (an hour and half after the polls were supposed to close) I returned back to Headquarters from the Montbello Vote Center. In one hand I had a Red Bull, in the other a bottle of Advil. I could hardly see straight, and I couldn’t help but reminisce on my conversation with Bill from just an hour before. I realized that he had been campaigning this hard for well over a year, and that a victory would mean more to him than I could possibly understand. When we got back to Headquarters, people were already ecstatic. Early returns showed Bill doing incredibly well, and one news station had already called the election for him despite the fact that the Denver tally had yet to come in.

The results instantly revitalized me, and gave me an unprecedented sense of euphoria. All of my hard work had paid off, and a great man had been elected to be the next governor of Colorado. At the Hyatt, the location of our victory party, the mood was jubilant. Bill won by almost 16 percentage points (impressive for a Democrat in Colorado) and did very well in parts of the state that have usually not been kind to the Democratic party. When Bill and his family took to the stage to give his victory speech, I began hugging all of the other interns and staff members, all while I was fighting back tears. We had been on a long and bumpy road, but the results couldn’t have turned out any better.

Enough of the Fiasco

Adam Giansiracusa

STRATEGIST

The US army needs to leave Iraq immediately. A nation once held as a new hope for Middle Eastern democracy has degenerated into nothing more than a civil war, proving the skeptics right while destroying America’s international credibility at the same time. We had our chance and failed, and it is time to accept the consequences and work to neutralize the threat to our allies.

During the Thanksgiving Break, over 200 Shia Muslims were slaughtered in a further escalation of violence in a single day. Following this, four Sunnis had kerosene poured on them before being burned alive while exiting Friday prayers. Instances of men murdered before their families, merely due to their sect, are increasingly common.

It is becoming more and more difficult to see how Iraq is not a civil war. Is the definition of such an act that two sides are consistently attacking one another? Is there an actual physical definition that the Iraq conflict meets preventing the designation of a civil war, or is it just political forces in Washington that are too scared to face the realities of their failure? There is a civil war going on in every way but official name from the White House; we should begin treating Iraq as such.

Iraq is in a precarious situation, US troops serve as nothing more than cannon fodder, and we risk handing over a prize of a nation to Iran. It took the US government three years to realize this, although according to some reports, the US is talking to Sunni extremists – preparing to take sides should US troops leave.

The majority of the world that was against this reckless war has now been vindicated. The million protesters in Hyde Park that Tony Blair stood against have proven their leader wrong; the French, Germans, and Russians, can now say that they were on the right side of history. Unfortunately, all this means little because a failed Iraq serves nobody’s interests.

The case for leaving Iraq is a strong one. American soldiers are sitting ducks for insurgent attacks, the tide has shifted against the new government, and there is little hope left to resolve the problems that plague the nation. Everyone seems to be getting impatient with Prime Minister Nur Al-Maliki; even stalwart Shia Muqtada Al-Sadr is now threatening to pull out of the coalition government. The Iraqi government is collapsing, in part because every force on the ground other than the Americans despises it.

Past history of dealing with insurgencies peacefully has never been good. When the US put down the Philippine Insurrection, it relied not on the ballot box but on violence, taking no prisoners and killing thousands. When the citizens of Hama in Syria revolted, Hafez Al-Assad leveled the entire city. And when Hungary fought off Communism for a few weeks, the Soviets came back with tanks and obliterated the opposition.

Iraq needs a strongman, not a vote. Despite his many flaws, Saddam was one of the few types of people capable of holding the nation together. In a nation as factitious as Iraq, the Shia and Sunni desire revenge more than peace. In the past, such fighting was met with an iron fist. Sadly and yet again, that is the only option left to quell the violence, but also the only one America cannot undertake.

If we leave, two things will almost certainly happen. First is that the fighting will simply become more apparent; with no government in the way, there would be little left restraining the militias. It would degenerate into a situation similar to the Lebanese Civil War. Second, regional powers will play their hands. Iran cannot resist the temptation to have control over Iraq and would almost certainly aid their allies. In turn, Saudi Arabia and others cannot tolerate the risk to their stability of Iraq becoming an Iranian stronghold.

What then occurs is a struggle until a strong, Saddam Hussein type, leader emerges. One side will have to win, and what determines it will be the amount of supplies each faction receives from their benefactors.

The sad truth is that this situation is a ticking time bomb. It is no longer an issue of if, but when, it happens. Nobody thinks the U.S. is willing to stomach much more, nor has the willingness to stay for years on end. The work of the Iraq Study Group, or the Defense Department’s laughable “Go Big, Go Long, Go Home” ideas are simply too late. The anger that exists in Iraq is a product of decades of killing, and a few years will do nothing to assuage that rage.

The biggest case to keep America in Vietnam and the one being used in Iraq was the Domino Theory – that if the US left, then every other democracy or US ally in the region would fall. In reality, the exact opposite happened. Nations in East Asia needed the US more than ever to counter a rising China. And none of them fell.

Similar ingredients are present in the Middle East – if Iraq became Iranian-dominated, US allies would be more petrified of Iran and form even closer ties with America. The tiny Persian Gulf nations, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Israel all need help to counter Iranian influence. If anything, it offers America an opportunity at regional peace it has never had before.

America does not have to fear leaving Iraq; it should begin paying attention to the almost certain aftermath and how it can use its might to shore up allies. In this pursuit, it can move knowing it has the support of the world, for few countries want to see a Middle East enveloped by chaos. Iraq will fall, but it does not have to drag down an entire region with it.

Oliver Bloom

EMPATHY

The War in Iraq is the issue that brought people to the polls, politicians to power and reports to our televisions. But for all the talk, how many young adults are truly aware of the situation and its disastrous effects? Despite all the news stories that report the horror from Iraq, the many documentaries that are released, and the rising body counts and bills we see, American youth, and many Andover youth, are ambivalent to the war. Too many of us are apathetic to the most important event of our generation. Surely we all have some tired and clichéd opinion, regurgitated from the news media, from political hacks or from our parents, but rarely do we stop and think about the numbers. Sure, the Iraq War is “bad,” but what does “bad” mean? Why, in our already busy lives, should we stop and think about a conflict thousands of miles away involving people we rarely see or hardly know.

These is no doubting that the Iraq War is a disaster: there are huge human costs on both sides, the U.S. Government is paying billions of dollars per week for the occupation and reconstruction, our economic future is being dangerously staked, our righteous and principled pre-war aims have long since been forgotten and most importantly, there is no immediate solution to a situation that is becoming increasingly worse. Before we assign blame, buy into partisan arguments or argue for change, we must scrutinize the facts. To any honest individual, whether he is a politician, voter, student or citizen, the facts are clear and indisputable. They do not lie.

As of November 2006, over 2,800 American soldiers had been killed, in ad-

dition to the additional 21,000 wounded soldiers. These soldiers are not nameless figures who we never see. For some of us, they are our neighbors, our former classmates and our former friends. Talk to most middle and lower class families and they will know someone who is serving or who has served in Iraq. Let us also not forget the more than 3,500 Iraqis dying every month. Nor should we forget that there are hundreds of thousands of dead Iraqis and millions of refugees. These are people whose homes have been destroyed, whose lives have been uprooted and whose very survival is in question.

As of September 29, 2006, the War in Iraq had cost the U.S. Government \$379 billion. That amounts to \$6.4 billion for every week that we decide to stay in Iraq. The President is still planning to ask Congress for more than \$100 billion more. The World Bank sees the eventual cost of the war being well past \$1 trillion and possibly past \$2 trillion. This is money the American Government does not have and instead has to borrow. These billions of dollars are, however, not currently translating into higher taxes; instead they simply mean higher deficits, an enormous federal debt, and eventually, a catastrophic problem that the U.S. and future generations of taxpayers will have to deal with.

And for these thousands of lives and billions of dollars, what have we gotten? America is no safer. Iraq is without a terrible dictator, but is now in the midst of a civil war. Instead of Saddam’s secret police, there are now roving sectarian militias terrorizing and killing, daily car bombings and other attacks every day. Security is a thing of the past in Baghdad. Iraqi infrastructure and healthcare are no better, and electricity and drinkable water are still sporadic. Life is little better for the people we claimed to help. There

were no weapons of mass destruction, nor any ties to Al Qaeda. Nor can we say that democracy is flourishing in Iraq or throughout the Middle East. Iraq’s shining beacon of democracy and freedom is no more than a rallying cry for terrorists and extremists across the globe.

Globally, American respect and admiration is gone. Two new nuclear powers have possibly appeared. Our military is in shambles. The threat of American military force cannot be taken seriously. The world is no safer and terrorism is still on the rise. We have problems in Afghanistan, in Palestine, in Iran, in North Korea, in Darfur, in Somalia, but do not have the money, the soldiers, or the time to deal with them.

Domestically, families are without husbands and children, and some will tragically never see them again. Our schools are failing, millions are without health insurance and millions are in poverty. What could \$500 billion dollars have done to American schools, to America’s uninsured or to America’s homeless? Is the \$2 trillion cost of the Iraq War worth it?

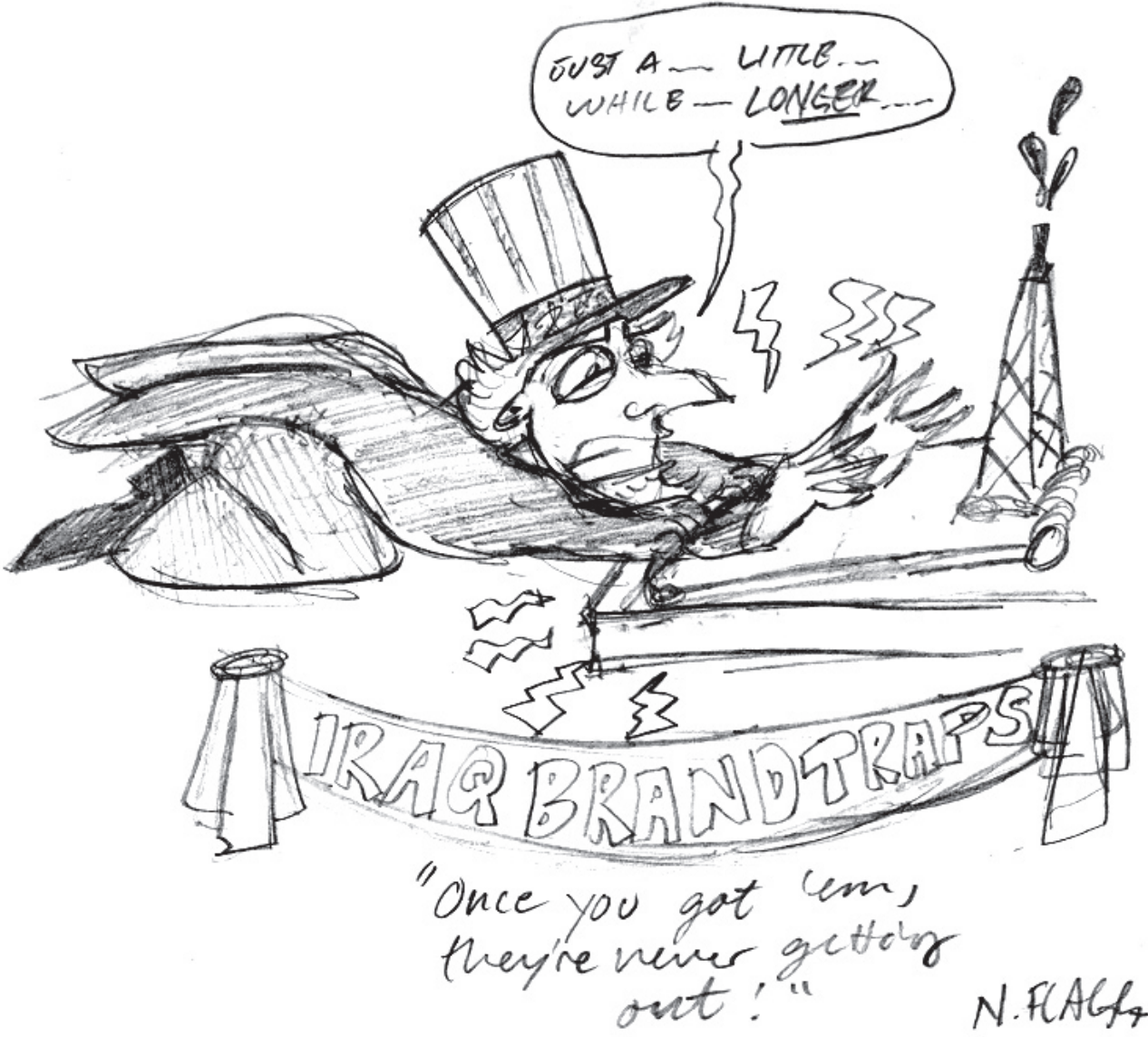
These numbers should not simply be brushed off. It is not our parents who will be footing the bill, but rather us. We will be the ones left with a broken American military unable to face new foes or even recruit soldiers. We will be the future taxpayers and voters forced to deal with the gigantic national debt. We will be the ones dealing with new nuclear-armed states and with the new terrorists being born from the Iraqi quagmire. Every angry youth that turns to terrorism is another person we will have to deal with in a few decades. Every problem, foreign or domestic, created by this war, will still be around in twenty years. Ignorance and denial are unacceptable answers.

Omitting the numbers and the vague

fears of future decades, the human costs and human effect cannot be forgotten. Our classmates, our friends and our neighbors are the ones who serve and who will continue to serve. No teenager can deny the value of human life. We cannot forget the lives being lost or the families being destroyed, especially when so many of these lives touch people so close to ourselves. Every extra day in Iraq increases the chance that someone you know will be next in line to serve. Our generation would be serving in a draft if one were to be enacted. Our generation will fill the recruiting gaps. It is unacceptable that we idly stand by and watch as other members of our generation are off fighting and dying.

Never before have America’s youth been so passive and uninterested in such an important cause. Instead of tuning in, we choose to change the channel. It is vital to any democracy, no matter how old or powerful, for the population to remain vigilant and informed. We cannot parade around the world, claiming to be the most powerful and the most important, imposing our views of democracy on the world, if domestically, our own populace remains unconcerned and uninformed. It is in every teenager’s self-interest to acknowledge and understand the issues confronting the world today, and more importantly, the issues that will continue to confront them in the next few decades.

Despite what we may want to think, it is our generation who will bear the cost of this war. And so, as distant as Iraq may seem, as boring a topic as it may be, it is more important than ever that we pay attention. In today’s ever-shrinking world, events from around the corner and around the globe are equally important. And more important than ever is for American youth to be involved in the events in which they are so deeply entwined.



Audiobooks and Search Engine in Works at OWHL

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

they are brought to the circulation desk. The playaways will arrive over winter break and the iPods will be available in mid-winter.

The librarians proposed audiobooks after realizing that many students do not have time to read. Ms. Tully said, “We came to the conclusion that it would be convenient for students to listen to stories, and it fulfills our ultimate goal of getting kids reading.” The audiobooks may be popular for bus trips to away games when car sickness prevents some individuals from reading.

The library is also working to revamp its website to make it a dynamic site with daily updated news sources and newsletters. Susan Aloviseti, one of the librarians, will be the webmaster in charge of producing the page. The new webpage will include a comment box for students to communicate with librarian officials.

The library has also formed an account on Facebook under the name of Reference Librarian Sara Ciaburri. She said, “We thought Facebook was an easy and harmless method of communication with majority of the student body. The account will mainly be used for event invites to lectures and training programs taking place in the library.” The account will also allow students to communicate online with a librarian, who can help them find call numbers or answer questions.

OWHL’s hope is that the account will answer student questions and save them a trip to the library. The OWHL staff wants to make its resources more available throughout the day so that students will not have to design their study schedules around the library’s hours of operation. The account, formed in the middle of October, is already friends with over 120 students.

The library is trying to help students sift through its academic resources. Ms. Tully said, “If anything, the library has too much research information, such that it is difficult to navigate and can be overwhelming.” To address this problem, librarians are in the process of developing a “wiki” that will sort through the various research guides. The “wiki” will be very similar to the popular research site Wikipedia, complete with a search button providing easy access to student topics.

A final change involves computer policies. Veda Eswarappa ’08, a member of the Library Advisory Committee, said, “It has become obvious to librarians that occasionally students like to play games on computers, and they didn’t want to completely prevent kids from playing games in the library.” Therefore, the library staff has permitted game playing in the main lobby under the conditions that students are not being disruptive or taking computers away from fellow students for work.

Abbot Academy Association Funds 26 of 32 Proposals in Fall Giving Cycle

Continued from Page 1, Column 6

ing to Natalie Schorr ’62, Abbot Academy Association Faculty Coordinator, was a greater number of applications than usual.

The grants, according to a mission statement, “preserve the spirit, dignity and high standard of the Abbot Academy at Phillips Academy through support of students, faculty, staff and properties at Phillips Academy.”

Grants are financed by a fund established with a 1973 donation. Three of Abbot Academy’s trustees, Melville Chapin ’36, Beverly Floe ’41, and Myndie Nutting ’40, made the donation.

Although the Association does not give more than \$25,000 in grants each year, it is somewhat more flexible when giving awards. According to Ms. Schorr, two applicants were given more money than they originally applied for, and the fund is flexible when circumstances occasionally call for extra funding.

The association board consists of 11 voting members, spanning several decades of alumni.

She noted that proposals that fulfill a community need are more likely to be funded than those that benefit individual student goals.

Each proposal requires a detailed budget request, as well as a full description of its goals. All student proposals need to be backed by a faculty advisor, and potential grant awardees are advised to consult with department chairs when relevant.

BLAKE RESIGNS TO ACCEPT POST AT HARVARD

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

was surprisingly high, considering many were unable to attend because of early travel arrangements.

Alumni had only kind words and appreciation for Mr. Blake, which they posted on the event’s comment section on Facebook.

Former School President Daniel Adler ’05 left a note for Mr. Blake that read, “You are precisely the type of person who made my Andover career so special. I feel lucky to have connected with you at PA and it is unfortunate you will no longer be around for future [Andover students].”

Many students were particularly fond of Blake, including Matt Cranney ’08, who knew him through being on the Library Advising Committee. Cranney said, “Mr. Blake’s great sense of humor tempered his notorious role as library rule enforcer.”

The library will choose a replacement for Mr. Blake next term. The position is being advertised and a few resumes have already been received. From the candidates, two or three will be selected to visit campus in early January in order to determine how well they might fit in with the students and library staff.

Although 21 of this year’s student grant recipients are Seniors or Uppers, seniority does not help the application process. All faculty, staff, and students are allowed to apply.

The process in which grants are voted on is an extensive one. There are two rounds of voting, one that decides the order in which the grants should be presented, and another after each proposal to determine whether or not to fund it.

The grant proposals for Fall



K. Matsumoto/The Phillipian

WPAA General Manager Henry Frankievich ’07 received a grant for new equipment to broaden the station’s audience.

Term were submitted on October 13. Students will also have an opportunity to submit more grants to the committee for consideration in March.

The Abbot Grants have provided funding for many of the programs that students still use, including the 1975 funding to develop the Record Library, earlier funding to hire personnel at Graham House, and to develop playground facilities on the West Quad and near Commons.

New Act Exempts Large Donations From Taxes

By CORA LEWIS

PA students’ approximately \$33,000 yearly tuition covers 60 percent of the cost of a year’s education, while donations from alumni, friends, and family, as well as Andover’s endowment support the remaining 40 percent.

This summer, the Congress passed the Pension Protection Act of 2006, which allows donors to transfer assets from their individual retirement accounts (IRA’s) to [charities such as PA], without realizing the distribution into their taxable income.”

As a result of this bill, it is now easier for a select group of people to give money to Phillips Academy.

According to David Flash, Director of Gift Planning, an IRA is a financial plan created by the government to encourage individuals to set aside money for their retirement, rather than relying solely upon Social Security. Substantial amounts of money are invested in such plans around the country. In 2005, over \$1.6 trillion of IRA’s was invested in mutual funds alone.

In the past, when individuals took money out of their retirement accounts to support Andover or other qualified charities, their taxable income increased by the amount that they withdrew. Now, however, certain financial gifts to Andover are tax-free for some donors.

Mr. Flash discussed certain limitations of the recently enacted national law. First, donors must be 70 years and six months old or more at the time of their contribution.

Second, they must distribute the money directly to the charity. Finally, the maximum gift per donor is \$100,000 per year in 2006 and 2007.

“We’re sending out postcards later this week to those who will be 70 and a half or older by the end of 2007. We count about 5,000 individuals who meet that criteria,” he added.

The Office of Gift Planning has already received a contribution of over \$70,000 from an alumnus of the Class of 1945. The alumnus had the school as the beneficiary in his IRA, and the gift was to be granted after his death. After the new act was implemented, the alumnus decided to give the money to the Academy right away.

According to Mr. Flash, it is unclear how much of a difference the new act will have on donations overall, but he believes it will have a positive impact.

He said, “The school has been getting an increasing number of inquiries, as not only donors but their advisors are becoming aware of the opportunity.”

According to the Director of Class Giving, and Reunions Anne Harris, the act will only affect the overall goal if the gifts are designated to the Andover Fund, which represents a collective effort by PA alumni, parents, and friends.

At present Andover has received \$1.5 million in gifts toward the overall goal of \$8 million to be achieved by June 30, 2007.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Tom Foley ’71

After graduating from Andover, Thomas C. Foley ’71 went on to earn a BA in Economics from Harvard and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. From August 2003 to March 2004 he worked in Iraq as the Director of Private-Sector Development for the Coalition Provisional Authority. In June 2004, he received the Department of Defense Distinguished Public Service Award for his service in Iraq. In September 2006, he was appointed the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. He is also the father of Tom Foley ’09.

How did you privatize state owned enterprises in Iraq?

Our mission wasn’t actually to privatize them. It was to put together a plan to privatize them once the new Iraqi sovereign government was in place. Our goal was to assess businesses and determine which ones should be privatized and which ones should not.

Do you think the mission was a success?

Yes. Basically, what we were trying to do was restore the thriving private sector that had been in Iraq before the Baathists. In the 50’s and 60’s, there was a vibrant market-based economy. The Baathists pretty much took over the whole economy and centralized it in a Stalin-based model. We were trying to pave the way to restore that private sector.

What do your responsibilities as the new Ambassador to Ireland entail?

An Ambassador is the personal representative of the President in a foreign country, first and foremost. TheresponsibilityoftheAmbassador is to carry communications back and forth between the United States government and a foreign government. Ambassadors manage

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as Ambassador?

There are a few things that are on the front burner. The United States supports North Ireland in the current peace process, and it looks like there might be progress made on that front in the next four to five months. We also have a lot of “publicdiplomacy”activities.These involvecommunicationbetween the Irish and U.S. governments to help [the Irish] understand the United States. Sometimes, problems arise because not everyone approves of U.S. policies. Our aim is to make people understand our goals, because often they don’t fully grasp them. We’re also building a lot of education and communication programs. These help people who don’t have visas travel to America and work there for a summer. They also help Americans travel to and work in Ireland.

Are there any such programs in place for high school students?

Not yet. Most of our exchange

programs are for people in college, but I want to get a program going for secondary schools. Andover would be an ideal school to participate in this kind of a program.

Do you have any advice for current Phillips students who are interested in pursuing a career in politics?

There is a difference between politics and diplomacy, which generally involves some kind of foreign service. There are probably a lot of students at Andover who, whether or not they know it, will become interested in a career in diplomacy. Paul Bremer [PA ’59] went into foreign service. That’s something you look into outside of college. It’s a good career for people who like that sort of thing, because you get to travel and help people. Politics is a totally different world. That doesn’t mean, though that politicians can’t participate in foreign service, or vice versa. We hope that people from Andover get into politics or diplomacy, because the kind of people who work in those areas really make a difference, and we want the best people in that arena. There isn’t a clear road map for how to get into politics. Your professional education is usually in law...[but] it’s still possible to get into politics from other arenas, like business or the arts.

- Hannah Kauffman

Andover, Peer Schools Rethink Exam Policies

Continued from Page 1, Column 1

the end of the term.”

He added, “We’ve tried [eliminating exams for one term] at various points in the past for various reasons and it hasn’t actually worked out that well. The assessment week tends to be a little less stressful for students than a regular class week.”

According to Mr. Rogers, when exams were eliminated for one term out of the year, they were replaced by other major assignments. Teachers assigned tests, papers, or projects to be due through the final days before break. The result was that the last week of classes was just as stressful, if not more stressful, than a week of exams.

“The advantage of an assessment week is that students can focus exclusively on their assessments while not attending classes,” he said.

Deerfield Academy has also recently discussed its current final exam policy.

According to Anne Jamison ’09, exam week at Deerfield begins with two review days of class. On Monday at the beginning of the week, all normal classes are held to help prepare for exams or conclude the course. The following day, only classes that have a final exam meet for

additional review. Final exams then follow -- students typically have one exam in a major subject every day.

In addition, each academic department only gives two final exams during the course of the year. Each department takes either the fall, winter, or spring term off, meaning students never have exams in every subject in a given term.

However, in the past few days, some students have voiced concerns with the current policy, advocating change. Jamison commented, “They were thinking of getting rid of winter term exams, leaving two exam weeks in the fall and the spring. But, the idea was voted down in committee...it was seen as too major of a change right now.”

She continued, “I have spoken with some of those involved, and the idea will be brought back up again.”

However, the removal of the winter exam period would not change the yearlong exam load -- instead, students would have exams in every subject in the fall and spring, maintaining the number of two per department every year.

Jamison said that the main concern with the possible elimination of winter exams at Deerfield would be the loss of that free time.

221 Main Street to House Growing Faculty Population



M. Temple/The Phillipian

Faculty housing is assigned by lottery, based on a points system.

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

are given first priority. The process begins in the spring, when vacated residences are posted. There are four rounds of bidding because different houses and dorms become available once a family moves into another dorm or house.

Kathy Pryde, Chair of Faculty Housing, has lived on campus for over thirteen years. She has lived in Smith House, a girls’ stack dorm behind Gelb, and Nathan Hale, the largest junior girls’ dorm on campus.

She moved from Smith

House to Nathan Hale twelve years ago when her son, Julian, was born because Smith House had not been de-leaded.

The school will continue to renovate and purchase both faculty and student housing.

As Secretary of the Academy from 1995-2004, Peter Ramsey supervised a capital campaign. Part of the \$208 million from the campaign was used to expand and renovate faculty housing in order to increase the faculty-student ratio in dorms.

Future projects include the remodeling of Johnson Hall during summer 2007.

CHASE DEEMS TRIP TO BANGKOK AND CHINA A SUCCESS

Continued from Page 1, Column 1

has sponsored a series of Andover Faculty China trips, to provide knowledge about Chinese history, society, and culture to educators in many different disciplines.

The trip to Asia was meant to reinforce these ties with Phillips Academy’s partner schools, Datong High School in Shanghai and the High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China in Beijing, as well as to give Mrs. Chase a better understanding of the country as it steps to the forefront of the world scene.

In Bangkok, the Andover delegation learned more about Thailand, which has a seven-decade history with Phillips Academy. The group visited many programs in Bangkok run by the Royal Family and Andover alumni. They also visited alumni of the Thai Scholar program, which has sent students from Thailand to Andover for more than 20 years.

Ms. Chase said that the trip was an overall success. She came back with more knowledge of Asia and met her goal “to educate and strengthen support for PA” through meetings with alumni, current parents, prospective students and their families, visits to Chinese and Thai schools. She noted that it was a valuable opportunity for the school to say thank you to some of the many parents in Asia who allow their children to fly the thousands of miles to PA.

The trip also followed some of the goals laid out in Andover’s Strategic Plan, which addresses the school’s mission to serve youth from various cultural, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds. It also encourages Andover students to hold knowledge of the world at large.

The school’s commitment to “youth from every quarter” is demonstrated in its number of international students, who make up 10 percent of Phillips Academy’s current student body, the majority of whom hail from Asia. PA’s extensive Chinese language and culture program serves nearly 200 students and is one of the best of any U.S. secondary school.

Mrs. Chase could not decide upon the most memorable part of the trip.

During her visit to the Datong School in Shanghai, students were in the middle of stressful exams but still treated their guests to a musical performance of traditional Chinese folk songs and American music played on traditional Chinese instruments. “They played beautifully – with precision and feeling,” said Mrs. Chase.

She also enjoyed being serenaded by the Vajiravudh College bagpipe band with “Yankee Doodle Dandy” as practice for Founders’ Day in Bangkok.

ASSESSMENT WEEK

Schedule

Wednesday	Period 3	09:00 -- 11:30	
	Favorite Class	12:00 -- 16:00	
	History	13:00 -- 17:00	
Thursday	Period 2	09:00 -- 11:30	(Bring Comfortable Running Shoes)
	Math	13:00 -- 17:00	
	+ English		
Friday	Lunch	08:00 -- 10:30	
(Red Dot)	Period 4	09:00 -- 14:30	(Rain Location – Cage)
	Commons Duty	15:30 – 18:00	
	Spring Sport	19:00 – 21:30	
Sunday	Period R	09:07 – 11:30	
(Blue Dot)	Language	13:00 -- 17:00	(Lunch will be served)
Tuesday	Period 1	09:00 -- 11:30	
	Advising	13:00 -- 17:00	

** Exams may be given only during the second assessment period of each assessment day, but not following an exam in the previous assessment slot. Each day will have a “wild card” period when any exam, in any subject may be given. Classes that meet for four hours each week will not meet during their exam slots but during their test slot, or the following Thursday for review or presentations. Students with more than two scheduled papers due in more than one exam slot must contact the Registrar before Assessment Week begins or between their third and fourth assessment periods. Have a nice Winter Break. ~Jonathan Adler

Senseless Statements

I figured that would happen...just put some ice on it.

Oh my God, is he alright?

Want to see our secret handshake?

Can I ask you a question?

Last time I ate this I got so sick.

This smells terrible. Here, smell this.

It hurts a lot when I move it like this.

~Jonathan Adler

SANDWICH PUNCH GAME

- ### OFFICIAL RULES

 1. The game begins with the first bite of a sandwich.
 2. Once a sandwich is bitten, ripped or cut into, the sandwich is open for punching.
 3. Once the sandwich is set down, it must be covered with an object. Usable objects include fries, forks, spoons, knives, napkins, and wrappers. Any object is allowed as long as it is a solid object. For instance, a ketchup packet on a sandwich saves it from punching, but outside of the packet, the ketchup will not suffice.
 4. If a sandwich is bitten, ripped or cut into by the owner and is set down without an object covering it, the sandwich becomes legally punchable when the sandwich owner lets go of the sandwich.
 5. A sandwich remains punchable until an object is placed on top of it or until it is touched by the sandwich owner.
 6. An object used to cover a sandwich may not be touched or manipulated by anyone. If someone bumps the table attempting to knock off an object covering a sandwich and the objects falls off, the sandwich may not be punched because someone manipulated the object. However, there is an exception to this rule. See bylaws under acts of God.
 7. If a sandwich is unjustly punched, the person who wrongfully punched the sandwich must bring the victim a brand-new sandwich.
 8. Enjoy! Welcome to the sandwich punch game. You are now a player for life and we look forward to punching your sandwich! We have included the bylaws and a F.A.Q. section for questionable scenarios. Don't worry, we've got you covered!
- ### BYLAWS

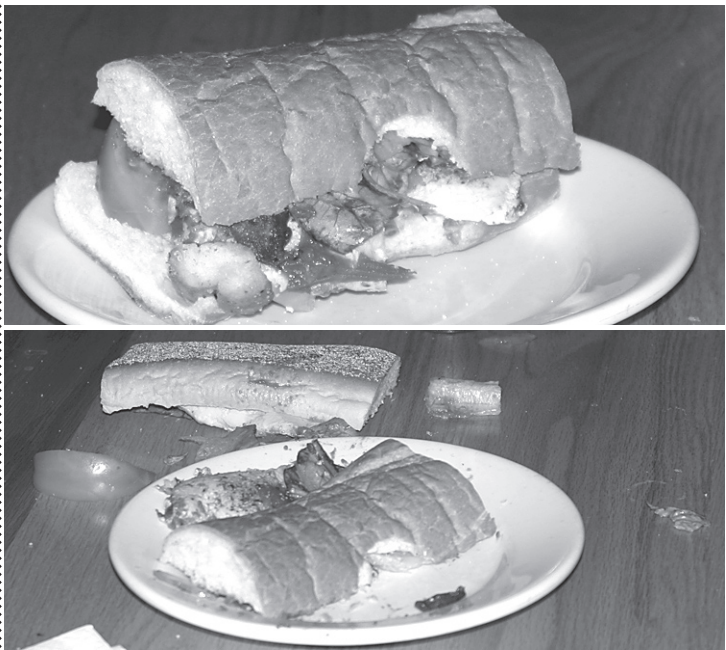
 - I. THE PRECUT SANDWICH:
If a sandwich is precut into halves or fourths, the sandwich owner will eat one part at a time. Only the part that is being eaten is in play. The other par is off limits until bitten or ripped. This rule only applies when a sandwich comes cut. If the sandwich owner cuts the sandwich in half himself, then both halves come into play immediately.
 - II. ACTS OF GOD
If an act of God removes an object covering a sandwich, the sandwich becomes punchable. If a random gust of wind blows off a napkin covering a sandwich, the sandwich becomes punchable. If an earthquake knocks off a fry covering a sandwich, the sandwich becomes punchable. These are all results of acts of God. No one in the proximity of a sandwich may legally manipulate any covering objects.
 - III. THE COMPLETE SANDWICH
A sandwich comes into play upon completion. If anyone puts down his or her sandwich and removes one piece of bread, it is no longer a complete sandwich. This method of protection is just as valid as putting an object on top of the sandwich. Keep in mind that the bread makes the sandwich whole, not the inner contents. A sandwich is complete even if its lettuce is removed. As long as there are two pieces of bread, it's game-on.
- ### F.A.Q.

What is a sandwich?
The definition of a sandwich is two or more slices of bread with a layer of something, like meat, fish or cheese, between each pair. Subs are punchable because “sub” is short for submarine-sandwich. It's safe to say that anything with the word sandwich in its name is a sandwich, including ice-cream-sandwiches. Confused? You shouldn't be. It is an ice-cream-sandwich, and furthermore, if you put down a delicious ice-cream-sandwich, it deserves to be punched. You may not punch tacos, burritos, pitas, wraps or calzones because they are not sandwiches.

What happens if another sandwich is harmed during the punching of an uncovered sandwich?
From time to time, an innocent sandwich is injured in the obliteration of another sandwich. If an untouched sandwich is damaged in the legal punching of a bitten sandwich, then the puncher owes the victim another sandwich to replace the unjustly slaughtered sandwich.

What constitutes a fair punch?
As soon as a bitten or ripped sandwich is set down and its owner is not touching it, the sandwich is open for punching until covered with an object. Many glorious punches are made while the victim is grabbing something to place on top of a sandwich. A punchable sandwich remains punchable until an object is placed on top of the sandwich or until it is completely annihilated. We whole-heartedly enjoy the latter situation.

May a sandwich be covered with another sandwich?
Yes. If one of your friends thinks he's really funny and covers his sandwich with another sandwich, all rules still apply. If the sandwich is covered with another sandwich, the top sandwich must not have a bite taken out of it or both sandwiches are very, very punchable.



K. Matsumoto/The Phillippian

Life in Maine

by Madeleine O'Connor
FEATURES NEWSGIRL

Many freshmen get stressed out while making their adjustment to Andover. They ponder: What will I do without Rosario to prepare my après-school snack? Who will make sure all seven polos match each morning? Who will do my laundry, then clothe me? Don't fret- imagine if you didn't even know what clothing was before you arrived at Phillips Academy.

I come from a land up north, a land some call 'Maine' and others call 'Canada's Florida.' Many are familiar with Poland Spring, a brand of bottled water fresh from Maine. The truth is, most Maine-iacs don't even know what a bottle is.

Maine is kind of like chicken noodle soup, but without the warmth, comfort and soda on the side. In fact, Maine lacks many of the modern wonders PA students depend on for survival. Like buildings. Or PAPS.

What Maine needs most is uniformed officers, but the federal government is oblivious to our needs and our existence. If you can imagine what a scene of anarchy the library would be without proctors, that is what Maine is like, only with wild hicks instead of the crème de la crème of society that populates our school.

While it's common to be from an exotic “quarter” of the world at Andover, everyone in Maine is from Maine. Maine's unreliable modes of transportation, like the moose and giant raccoons, make emigration impossible. And it seems that no one thinks to move to a state they've never heard of.

There are also physical differences between Maine-iacs and Andover students. In Maine,



M. Temple/The Phillippian

In Maine, there are grizzly bears.

everyone is white. If we had immigration, the melting pot would be tainted with bleach, or maybe marshmallow fluff. Due to incest, most Mainers are born without arms and legs.

Survival in Maine is a lot like being an Upper: emotionally and physically draining enough to make wrestling a polar bear uphill both ways in a Maine blizzard while clothed in only a moleskin loincloth seem like a leisure activity. Mainers often settle mating disputes by using this test of strength and agility.

When the 14 yards between Day Hall and Commons seem grueling, I just remember my former lifestyle. I lived in a sea-side cave, where I roasted deer that my brother lured to our den with his famous rabbit call. (If you've heard a sort of eager squealing noise in the Nathan Hale vicinity during Parents' Weekend, it's not the mating call of Terrence Fowler '10. It's just my brother out on a hunt in the sanctuary.)

Now that I attend school, my survival skills have deteriorated. I was once quite deft with a rock; I could eat a live lobster faster than the time it takes my Siamese-twin-cousins to impregnate each other.

When I was a toddler, my parents cast me out of the cave so I would learn to fend for myself. Those years alone in the boundless evergreen forest were the hardest I've ever known. I wish I'd known about fire then. Maybe I wouldn't have lost my toes to frost bite. Maybe I would have. Maybe Maine winters are that cold. As I reminisce, maybe I do wanna be a French fry. [Editor's Note: *Obscure reference to a BK commercial.*] They are warm and lack extremities to lose.

In the end, the hardships were worthwhile. I can still see the tears in my parents' eyes as I rode home, alive and victorious atop a great Maine moose. This same moose led me to Andover when a hunting journey ran amok.

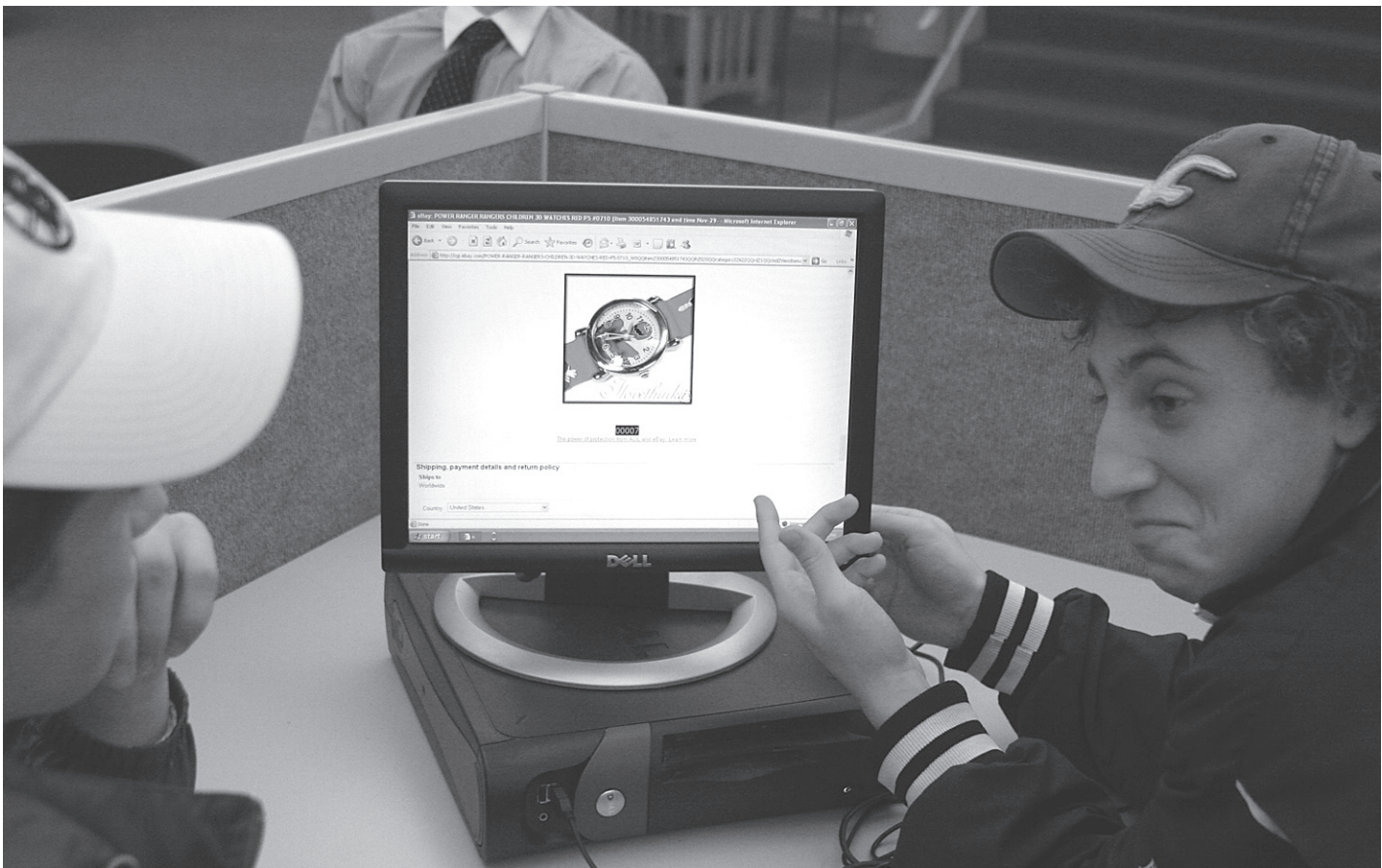
Features Presents...

Top Ten

Ways to Study for Exams

10. Eat, sleep and breathe in excess now, so you can study nonstop later
9. Naked
8. Eat a smart kid's brain
7. Review your notes, while bathing in cheap cologne
6. Run away to North Korea, then return and realize studying for exams isn't that bad
5. Get so fat you can't fit in the desks in the gym
4. Sacrifice a goat to Dionysus, then get evicted for the smell
3. Make a video montage of yourself studying, put to the tune of “Eye of the Tiger”
2. Garver Room Dance Party/Assault
1. Wikipedia

IMPORTANT NEWS ALERT!

M. Discenza/*The Phillipian*

This kid needs a different hair style, no?

“Black Friday” Trampings Drive Online Shopping

By **ELI GROBER**

Thanksgiving has become yet another old holiday surrounded by modern tradition. Turkey, football games, parades, and most importantly, shopping have become the focal point of any American Day of Thanks. As the decades progressed, and technology improved, manufacturers began to take advantage of the populace's sudden urge to buy. Re-gifting plummeted, and genuine gift-giving became the style of the times. The birth of "the sale" brought hundreds of people to line up outside the doors of every department store on the morning after Thanksgiving, or what is known as Black Friday. The sad and terribly inconvenient truth is that violence frequently erupted in the crowded stores. And so people discovered the safety and convenience of online shopping.

This year, around 60% of the shoppers who would otherwise be standing in line at a store-front early in the morning waiting in line for the new Xbox are instead at home shopping online using their computers. Using an intricate system of wires, telephone-poles and men with uniforms, the world invented something called the Internet. Studies have shown that people can even shop online. Recent research has uncovered the reason behind the sudden decrease of what is known

as the “real shopper.” Some feel more comfortable and safe in their home than in stores out in the real world. “I don’t want to relive that—that horror,” says Melissa Freedman of her previous Thanksgiving shopping experiences. “Last year, I went to an early morning sale at a department store for the latest laptop. It was finally cheap enough for me to buy. It was about 4 a.m. and the sun was still not up, yet I could see clearly the silhouettes of two men. They were half-naked and playing bloody knuckles over one of these laptops. One employee attempted to break up the fight but was beaten down by the gathering crowd. After ten minutes of grimacing, both men collapsed from the pain. In my heart, I knew I should have helped, but I just couldn’t leave that laptop there. It’s at my house now, but I’ve never really been able to force myself to use it.”

Shoppers have been plagued by the ruthlessness of fellow spenders for years. The most recent toy from the "most wanted list" has created a frenzy amongst shoppers. Jim Washington of Phoenix, Ariz. said, "I feel safer trying to purchase the new Playstation online than at stores. The shoppers are just so intense. I lost my right index finger to last year's 'Sale Finale' at Macy's. All I wanted was a new oven — but that lady took out a switchblade as soon as I went for my wallet. I've never been able to look at cooking supplies the same way since."

Though many traumatized shoppers are turning to the Internet for their holiday purchases, they may find dishearteningly similar circumstances at their computers. According to experts, recent technological advances have made it possible for shoppers to fight and harass each other even on their computers.

"It's definitely something to watch out for," said Internet economist Ryan Oscar, as he filled his laptop's disc-drive and USB ports with Play-Doh.

Viruses, spam and angry Facebook posts are just a few of the recent ways in which modern shoppers intimidate their peers into keeping away from certain products. There is a limited supply of anything both online and in stores, and shoppers have become aware of their limitations.

The ruthless and savage behavior that now plagues employees has driven up employees' insurance premiums, which might hurt the American economy. Fortunately, the sales at Best Buy and the "Two-For-One" deals at Dr. Kevorkian's Lethal Injection Shop are limited. Soon all will be right with the world in that wonderful time between Thanksgiving and Christmas sales. Broken bones will heal, and so will our hearts. It is only a matter of time before everyone forgives and forgets the incident in which a four-year-old was trampled at a Payless. Happy shopping, America!

K-Fed Cancels ASM Appearance Due to Emotional Instability

By LAWRENCE DAI

Although originally slated to speak at an All School Meeting as a part of the 2006 Andover Symposium: The Challenges of Globalization, pop culture icon Kevin Federline recently cancelled his scheduled appearance at Andover.

Federline, known to many as 'K-Fed' or 'Who?' has been in the media spotlight after his recent break-up with former wife, Mouseketeer, pop singer, celebrity and pregnant woman Britney Spears. Some say he is too emotionally crippled at this point in his life to speak about globalization in front of a crowd, but others are convinced that he is just partying with his loyal fan base. However, it is agreed that no one saw the spilt coming. The media put it bluntly, dubbing Federline with a new nickname: "Fed-Ex."

But even with all this chaos, Federline has managed to put to-

gether the little, left-over shards of his life into the man he is today. It is clear that only time can heal his horrific wounds. Shortly after the divorce, K-Fed was out and about, promoting his debut hip-hop/rap album, which he independently recorded and produced. His album is likely to be a great success and will definitely break some records in the process. The album, *Playing with Fire*, has already sold over well six copies during just the month it has been out on the market.

It is clear why Andover wanted K-Fed to speak at ASM after reading excerpts of lyrics on his hit, new single, Lose Control. "Closet full of kicks/Garage full of whips/Vegas crap table got the pit ball sticks/They never seen a kid win like this." And "win like this" he does. Federline is currently one of the most prominent scholars of globalization, especially on the topic of the streets in his hometown, Fresno County, California.

K-Fed is very modest about his self-proclaimed street-cred, which he boasts and raps about in his new song, "Crazy", which he created with Spears. "Not a gangster/But in my life, yeah, I've fought a few/Hit the hustle tight now it look/Like I'm robbing you." From committing petty theft on the streets of suburban California to being a successful background-dancer, K-Fed has certainly grown an enormous amount as a person and now as a respected professional rapper. Fortunately for Americans, his words now influence young people across the nation. He seems to be the leading male role model for kids of all ages and his devotion to family is something that surely everyone can admire.

Although his sense of fashion and lack of personal hygiene may appall those who do not know him at first, K-Fed is a true gentleman at heart.

The Andover Web site says of the symposium, "The purpose of the year-long symposium is to bring to campus distinguished experts who can speak to students and the public about globalization, global citizenship, and the daunting political, social, and economic challenges that face the world-community." Federline would have most definitely fallen into this category and would have dazzled us all with his unique not-so-articulate way of speaking. The PA community is saddened by this missed opportunity but respects Federline's wishes regardless of how stupid they seem to be.

In lieu of these new circumstances, the administration is now under a great deal of pressure to select a replacement speaker. Candidates include: Michael Jackson, O.J. Simpson, Mel Gibson, and 50 Cent.

Iraq Peace Plan Ordered, Lost In Mail

By SAM WEISS

After a promising week of negotiations, the war in Iraq rages on. Last week, President George W. Bush, former Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld (Exeter '59) and Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki met to discuss a plan for a peaceful Iraq. The two parties found the meeting particularly essential following the recent flare in violence between Sunni and Shiite. President Bush was particularly interested in getting to the bottom of the anger between the two groups, but the president just couldn't understand how a group with a name like Sunni "could be anything but smiles."

Some felt that the best way to bring the religious factions together was through a theme day, like 'Wacky Hat Day' or 'American Geek Day.' Others thought that a fund-raising carwash would be beneficial to the country. However, most were in favor of a semi-formal dance. They reserved a gymnasium and sent out flyers. Yet the men could not decide whether they would have a DJ or a band? Rumsfeld's older brother's band offered to play the gig for free, but presiding judge over the Iraqi High Tribunal, Rauf Rashid Abd al-Rahman, wanted to get down to 'Fergilicious.' People were called names, feelings were hurt and the hopes of a dance were abandoned. However, the Iraqi people had taken a liking to the idea of a 'Wacky Hat Day.' The Americans returned to Washington to draw up a treaty.

The document read: "On the third Wednesday of every month, Iraqi citizens are encouraged to take part in Wacky Hat Day. Those who do not participate will not be beheaded [as was protocol under Saddam], but may be accused of being a 'party-pooper,' or something of that effect."

President Bush signed off on the document, and Arkansas Senator Blanche Lincoln set out to send the document to the Middle East. Lincoln arranged for overnight shipping, spending precious tax dollars to obtain extra bubble wrap. He then called the Iraqi Prime Minister to alert him of the package's arrival. He was soon to be very disappointed.

rive, al-Maliki was outraged. Al-Maliki quickly dialed FedEx customer service. "Where on Earth is my package? Did you send it to Iran? It is a different country altogether! What is it with you Americans and your 'Middle East.' It's all the same to you, isn't it? Well, I'll tell you something Mr. Ex, it is already the third Monday of the month, and I've had a pirate hat ready since the peace talks!"

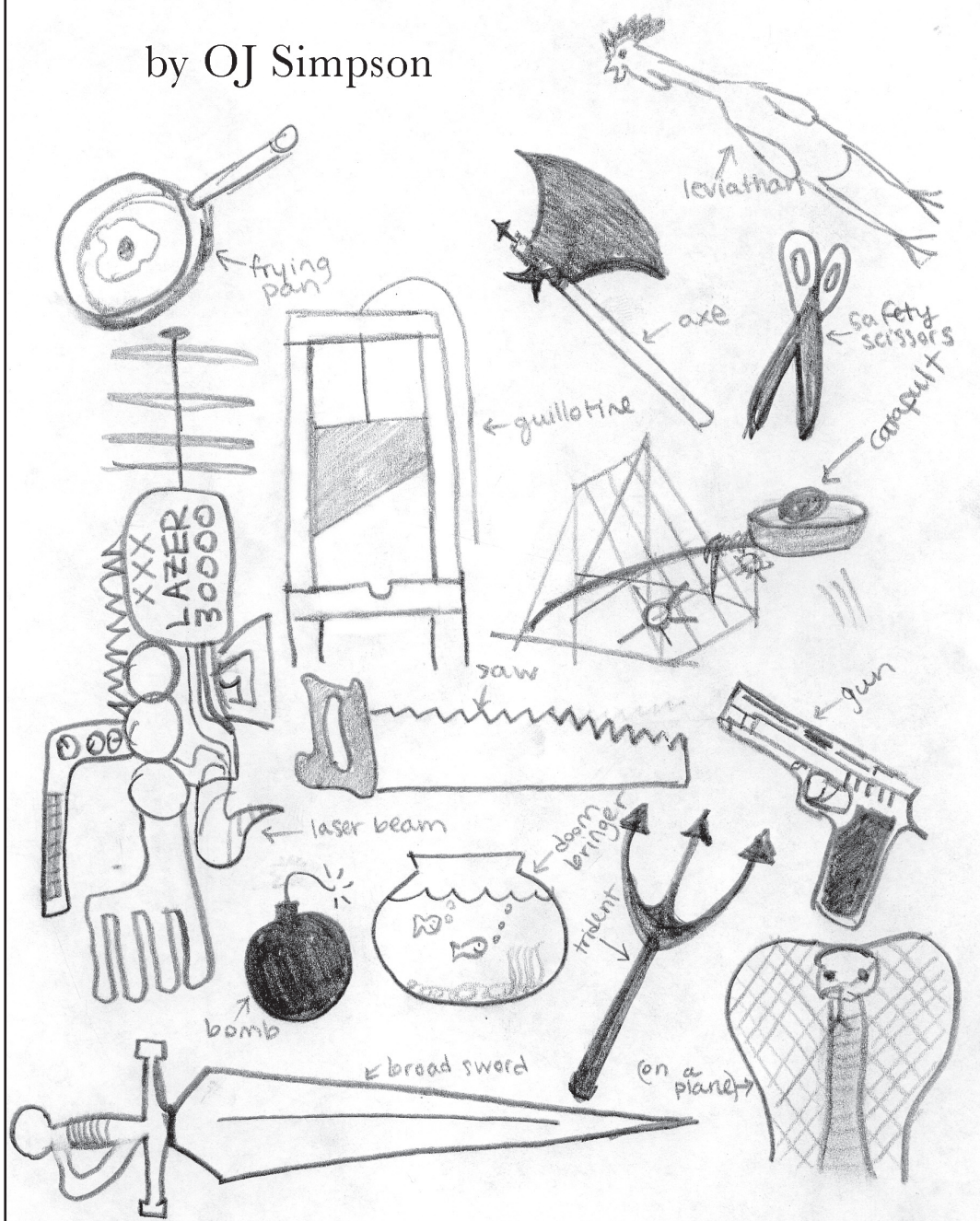
And so went the verbal abuse. Congressional reports indicate that the package had not been sent to Iran, but to Tibet. This turned out to be blessing in disguise, as more and more Buddhist monks took to wearing hats regularly. (This has been recognized as the first attempt in ages to protect the shaved scalps of these religious men. With today's depleted ozone layer and diseases like melanoma and skin cancer on the rise, there could not be a better time for such precautions.) However, as Sunni and Shiite attacks continue, it is hard to see the bright side to such a slip-up. There was no 'Wacky Hat Day' that Wednesday in Iraq, but a second copy was sent out. Surely there will be time for such a thing next month, and it will be only then when we can see if peace is in fact on the horizon. In the meantime, the only thing to ask ourselves is "What can Brown do for you?"

M. Temple/*The Phillipian*

A student is horrified to find a disembodied hand in his box.

If I Did It

by OJ Simpson



Coming soon to a bookstore near you!

K. Matsumoto/*The Phillipian*

K-Fed (left) rubs his album's success in Britney's face (right).

THE

ALTERNATIVE

ELITE



Chris Li

“9”

When Damien Rice came out with the album “O” in 2003, I found my first musical love. I’d never heard anything so moving. What passion! What beauty! What sadness! Every song, every story, carries a soft-spoken force.

The album’s most famous track, “The Blower’s Daughter,” is featured in the 2004 film *Closer*. The track is carefully scored to the plot’s themes of adulterous love and longing.

“I can’t take my eyes off of you
I can’t take my eyes off of you
I can’t take my eyes off of you
I can’t take my eyes off of you”

This continues until the final lines,

“I can’t take my mind off of you
My mind...
My mind...”

And in a whisper,

“‘Till I find somebody new”

There may be better prose out there, but Rice more than compensates with his unaffected voice and its every crack and falter. He fills the lyrics with regret, fear, anger, and hope. A one-trick-pony of sorts, Rice’s ‘O’ earned millions of sales as well as its spot in “Closer.”

In his new release, “9,” Rice begins to expand his sound while still toting the same heavy emotion behind him. The album’s shifts between genres, however, leaves it somewhat unbalanced.

The first track, “9 Crimes,” is the poster song of the album. It’s a dark track, opening with a slow and broken minor ascent on the piano. This ascent leads into Rice’s first few raspy notes. It’s brooding, built with little intention of moving forward. The song is powerful



for this reason alone.

While later songs attempt to do the same with variations on the instrumentation, none cling the same way as “9 Crimes.”

There are definitely other notable songs, however, such as the third track, “Elephant.” This song is a part two for his older track, “The Blower’s Daughter.” “Elephant,” continues to lament an obsession described in “The Blower’s Daughter,” but its tone is more uplifting. During the beginning of the song, Rice attempts to move on with his life.

“This has got to die
This has got to stop
This has got to lie down
With someone else on top”

In the end, he discovers that he can’t move on, and the song progresses into the territory of anger and betrayal.

“Why’d you have to lie?” he asks. “I take it I’m your crutch.”

He pleads, “Tell me if you want me to lie!” The song ends in a helpless whisper, just as “The Blower’s Daughter” did.

“You can keep me pinned
It’s easier to tease
But you can’t make me happy
Quite as good as me
...Well you know that’s a lie.”

Besides “Elephant,” there are other tributes to “O” in the new album. “Sleep Don’t Weep” and “The Animals Were Gone” feature the same gradual ascents and sweeping choruses as some of the older tracks did. Lyrically though, the songs from “9” don’t offer much new material.

The other tracks on the album “9” are a taste of Rice’s perusal through genres. The would-be pop pleaser “Rootless Tree” is loaded with discreet profanities that scrub it from radio-play. “Dogs” sounds like a soft-spoken Dave Matthews and is a quaint compliment to the girl of his desires. This album certainly does not portray the all-or-nothing Rice that his fans have come to know and love.

“Me, My Yolk, and I” is a nonsensical song that works as an excuse to produce a powerful rage. Yet, the lack of coherent lyrics keeps it from delivering a full blow.

Despite its shortcomings, “9” is not a disappointing second album. Trace reminders of “O” trigger the nostalgic seduction of a simpler time for Rice, while the newer ideas on the album display the possibilities.

Author Richard Russo Describes the Challenges of Being an Author

Sally Poole

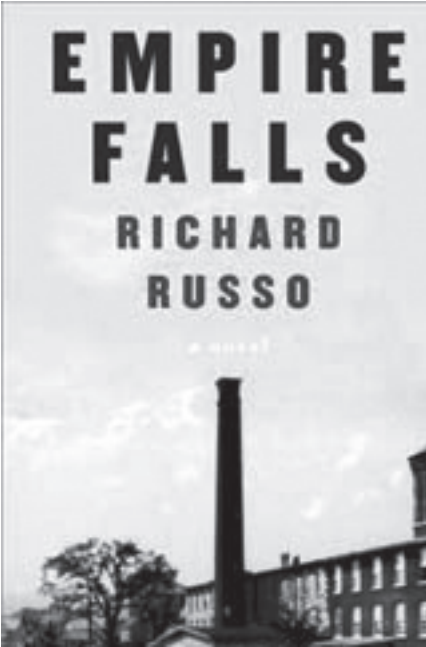
Richard Russo, a renowned author and former English teacher, won the Pulitzer Prize in 2002 for his fictional novel, *Empire Falls*. His other works include *Nobody’s Fool*, *The Whore’s Child*, and *Straight Man*. He also worked on several movies alongside famous film directors such as Paul Newman. Russo currently resides in Camden, Maine, where he is thoroughly dedicated to his writing. *The Phillpian* was able to get an exclusive interview with him during Thanksgiving break.

Phillpian: How did you first begin writing?

Richard Russo: I started late, when I was close to thirty. I was never interested in writing at all before. I loved to read, but I never read anything that wasn’t assigned. Actually, I never read anything that was assigned; I spent most of my time trying to figure out how to pass without reading the books. I went to Arizona [State University] for anthropology. Got there, found I hated anthropology and needed a new major. Saw pretty girls in the English department, and I was an English major before I knew it.

P: Did you have any role models in the writing world?

R: I read Dickens – seriously, be-



cause I wanted to. He was important. Twain was important. I was fascinated in how he was subversive and still writing literature. That’s where I really began reading. I still didn’t want to write, though I wanted to teach. At the time, I was reading a lot of books about books. Books about Twain, books about Dickens. And I hated it. I realized that the people having the most fun were the poets and the fiction writers. By the time I was 28 I started taking writing classes.

P: How did you go about getting published?

R: After about a year of writing short stories, I moved on to novels. I started my second year of writing school with 500 pages of a bad novel. But hey, my writing teacher said, ‘You’re that much ahead of most people who want to write novels.’ Most people who try give up after about 100 bad pages, but I kept going and no matter how bad it was, it was still a novel. By the time I had written one that was publishable, I’d published a couple of short stories in small magazines. I started receiving letters from interested agents, so I sent them a novel that I was three-fourths of the way through with and they liked it.

P: How does your thought process differ when writing screenplays as opposed to novels?

R: I don’t feel the same urgency or anxiety writing screenplays. Once I get to where I think it’s good, the producers still weigh in, the studio weighs in, the directors weigh in, and the actors weigh in. If a novel’s messed up, it all comes back to me. All of the merits and all of the faults come back to me. All of the responsibility is mine. But screenplay writers never get credit for successes. If you write the best screenplay of your life, the directors, actors, etc will get all of the credit. But at the same time, if you write badly, other people will suffer long before you have to.

P: When you base a character off of someone, do they ever recognize themselves?

R: People might recognize a particular thing they said or did. But that’s



Courtesy of Sally Poole

Interviewer Sally Poole ’08 sat down with celebrated author Richard Russo.

just a point of departure – as long as you’re not taking everything, they won’t feel violated. My most satirical novel was a book called *Straight Man*, which was about every lunacy that comes from teaching. When I wrote it I thought, ‘I’m never gonna be invited to a campus again, that’ll be that.’ But it became a huge book in English departments. Colleagues recognized each other but never themselves. They just don’t get it.

P: At school, we spend a lot of time analyzing hidden meanings in the texts we read. How do you go about placing them in your writing?

R: When I first start writing, I only think to entertain one person. Myself. I’m very selfish – all I care about is whether or not I’m having a good time, never mind anyone else who’ll read it. But with each succeeding draft, I think about my audience more and more. I start thinking about how they’ll react - ‘Is what I’m saying clear, is it interesting?’ When I begin writing, I don’t know exactly what the stories are about. I’ll say, okay, this is a story about cruelty. Look at the elements. Write the story. And then, after you finish, that’s when you start fiddling with imagery. I figure things out at the end. There’s a

mistake many teachers make in English class – they ask you to follow a theme throughout the novel. Now I’m not saying that that’s a bad thing to do, but it makes a lot of kids think that that is how writers think – placing instances of the theme throughout the novel and writing story around it. I start at the beginning, and then the end, and then I fill in the middle with things that work with the theme to make myself look smarter. I don’t have to be smart enough to finish at the beginning.

P: Do you ever make outlines for your stories?

R: I don’t work with outlines – though many authors do. John Irving is a voracious plotter – always comparing his stories to a journey. If you leave Camden, what kind of trip is it if you don’t know your destination? I just don’t write that way.

P: Do you have any words of advice for aspiring authors?

R: Read, read, read. Writers become writers because they love to read. I don’t know of a single writer who isn’t a voracious reader. Read then write, don’t take days off. Read, read, read, write, write, write.

HOLIDAY MOVIE EXTRAVAGANZA

Casino Royale



John Gwin

With the release of *Casino Royale*, the eagerly anticipated new James Bond movie has arrived. With a new leading man, Daniel Craig, taking over from the departing Pierce Brosnan, the latest film promised something different for fans. In good ways and bad, the movie delivered.

In the very first scene, we know something is different – the movie starts in black and white. We witness Bond brutally beat a henchman to death and then kill a British agent who has been selling secrets. This scene instantly brings a serious tone to the film, something it tries, relatively successfully, to carry throughout the whole movie.

Following the opening credits, the story begins to develop and we learn of Le Chiffre, a “private banker to the world’s terrorists and despots.” Bond pursues the villain, eventually attending a high stakes card game at Casino Royale in Montenegro.

From the outset, the film does deliver some of the things we are all used to seeing in Bond flicks. There are the appropriate chase scenes, witty dialog and fast cars.

Importantly, though, the filmmakers have made the scenes more realistic and believable. The first chase, for example, all happens on foot as Bond pursues a bomb maker that he needs to question. While the men jump through incredible sets and make death-defying leaps, it feels more plausible than the classic scenario of Bond somehow avoiding hundreds of bad guys that are aiming for him.

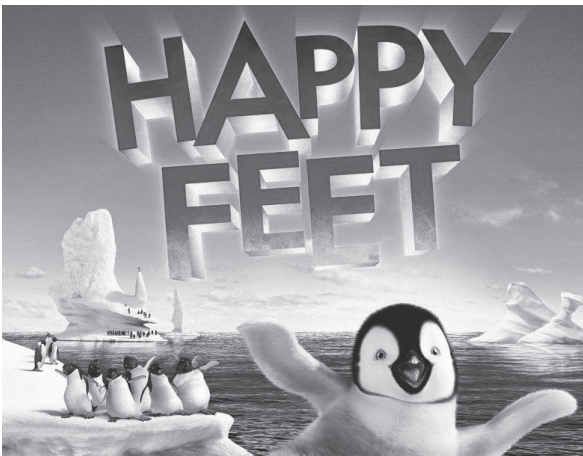
In this way, the film is much more like *The Bourne Identity* than previous Bond flicks – the action is there, but there is a thinking level too. I cannot say that this is a cerebral film like *Identity*, but it is much more intelligent and realistic than Bond’s previous outing, *Die Another Day*.

That being said, the film also manages to bring some of the classic Bond elements back into the story. No, there is no scene with the venerable “Q” to equip Bond with his gadgets, but I actually think it works here. This James Bond is not fully developed, he makes mistakes, and he is not completely comfortable with himself yet. *Casino Royale* is not perfect. It is too long and missing a little of the Bond soul, but it remains an excellent film.

Final Grade: 6-



Happy Feet



Over the break, being the great big brother I am, I decided to take my 5-year-old sister to watch penguins play in Happy Feet.

I expected something similar to Ice Age II, but instead with various species of penguins as the characters—a nice kiddie movie with witty humor and great laughs, right? Wrong.

First, the movie struggles for identity between drama and comedy. It shows how the funny quirks of the main character, Mumble Happy Feet (voiced by Elijah Wood), lead to his exclusion from the rest of the penguin clan. The movie also attempts humor, giving Robin Williams multiple roles.

However, I had a more fundamental problem with the movie. Perhaps I am a jaded, heartless conservative, but I found consistent political allegory throughout the movie in what I perceived to be a shamelessly blatant attempt to spread liberal political ideals.

For one, the movie continually attacked religion throughout. The leader of the penguin clan, a conservative penguin is shown to be an intolerant, cantankerous bigot who can’t stand anything that’s “different,” believing that it defies the will of the great penguin gods. Why an attack against religion, especially in a kids movie?

Second is the explanation for the secondary problem of the movie, which is that all the fish are disappearing and as a result the penguins don’t have enough food to eat. The shots of massive fishing tankers indiscriminately picking up thousands of fish is nothing short of ridiculous, considering many of the fishermen who head to the Antarctic region are poor Africans and South Americans trying to make a living for themselves.

In the end, the movie supports the stereotype that ignorant traditionalists oppress those trying to be different. For this conservative, that’s nothing more than pathetic. If you want to see a funny animated movie for kids about animals, I recommend Ice Age II.

Final Grade: 1

Prateek Kumar



Bobby

Yoni Gruskin



Given my obsession with former U.S. Senator and Attorney General, I was intrigued when I heard about the new Bobby Kennedy movie. I heard the star-packed movie included Martin Sheen, Elijah Wood, and even Lindsay Lohan. However, to my surprise, none played a major role.

From the outset, writer and director, Emilio Estevez knew he could not cast just anybody to play the role of the politician who captured the hearts and minds of so many Americans.

According to one of Kennedy’s biographers, Evan Thomas ‘69, Kennedy’s campaign year was full of “young people burning the flag, soldiers burning villages, blacks burning their own neighborhoods—the feeling was ominous, pre-revolutionary.”

Only Kennedy, who spoke compassionately and honestly about the most difficult issues for any politicians to address, could solve these issues.

The setting and timeframe of the film are simple. All of the events of the movie take place at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles - the day that Kennedy won the California primary and was later shot after his victory address.

The plot, however, is not so simple. Estevez masterfully weaves several people from different cross-sections of society whose lives collided with Bobby’s at the Ambassador on that fateful night. All of the subplots crash into each other through the horrific gunshots of the 24 year-old deranged murderer, Sirhan B. Sirhan.

What Estevez essentially succeeded in doing was not making the film about Kennedy’s life, but about the nation’s hopes that died alongside his slain body at the Ambassador Hotel.

With the war in Iraq still raging, it is appropriate for audiences to wonder where our “Bobby” is today. Is there any man who can remove his political lenses and see the imperfection that plagues society? As Bobby rolls to the slide show of RFK’s life during the credits, the audience grieves for the loss of such a man to a senseless act of violence.

Final Grade: 6+

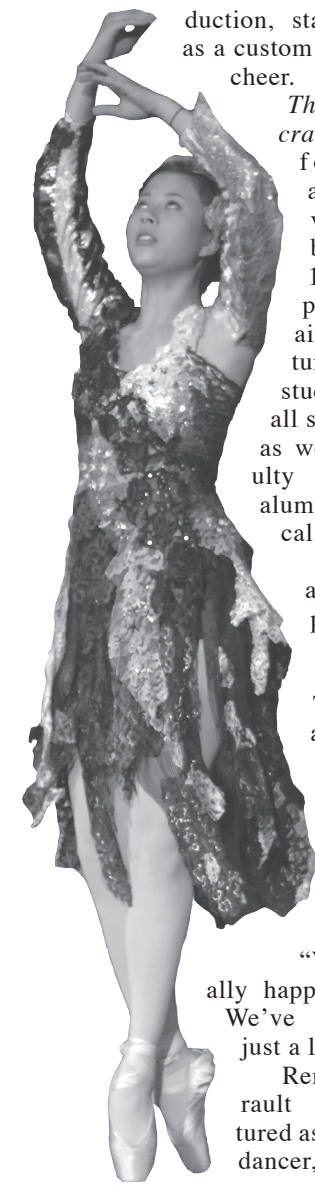


'Twas the Weekend Before Exams

PA's *The Nutcracker*

Jess White

December traditions at Andover amount mostly to final papers and exams. *The Nutcracker*, the Andover Theatre and Dance Department's biannual holiday production, stands apart as a custom steeped in cheer.



W. Hunkler/The Phillipian

Casey Aylward '09 performs as the Snow Queen.

The Nutcracker's performance at Andover dates back to 1997. The production aims to feature Andover students of all skill levels, as well as faculty members, alumni, and local children.

After over a decade of planning, Director of the Theatre and Dance Department, Bruce Bacon, says of the show, "We're really happy with it. We've changed just a little bit."

Renee Amirault '07, featured as a Spanish dancer, said, "It's

great because there are all levels of dancers in the show."

"It's cool seeing adults on stage that you otherwise only see in an academic setting," added Mikaela Sanders '08.

Each year, a guest alumnus performs in the show. This year's alumni performer is Teaching Fellow in Chemistry, Kimberly Ramos.

Hilda Buss '07, who performs as a snowflake and flower, said, "It's really exciting to have professional performers dance with us. They can be a goal to work towards for the student dancers."

The dancers are not the only professional elements of the production, though. Mr. Bacon and Instructor in Theatre Billy Murray designed all of the sets and costumes. With a \$35,000 gift from the Abbot Academy Association, the Theatre and Dance Department created over 400 costumes. In addition, the Theater faculty created between 40 and 50 set pieces using its own budget.

Many of the costumes and set pieces survived ten years worth of use and will be used again in this year's production. Nevertheless, these numerous elements require yearly upkeep.

Mr. Bacon said, "Most of what we've changed through the years has been costumes."

Andover's *Nutcracker* is different from other *Nutcrackers* not only because of the original costumes, but also in its choreography.

Instructor in Theatre and Dance Judith Wombwell choreographed Andover's production. Each year, Wombwell adapts her choreography to suit the new cast of performers.

Amirault said of Wombwell's choreography, "It's very stylistic. [Wombwell] uses all of the props very well."

In general, *The Nutcracker* consists of several basic elements.



W. Hunkler/The Phillipian

Cece Yu '07 performs the elaborate Arabic dance in Andover's production of *The Nutcracker*.

First, the ballet tells the story of Clara and her excursions into a magical world with the *Nutcracker*. Most of the First Act establishes this story through acting.

Secondly, the Second Act is dominated by a series of dances that take place in the Land of the Sweets. The dances include the Russian dance, the Arabian dance, the Waltz of the Flowers, and the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies.

"The best act of the whole show is definitely the Second Act because there's more dancing," said Sanders.

Each dance features one or several soloists and a number of supporting dancers.

This year the cast includes Genevieve Clark '08 as Clara, Chris Massie '10 as the *Nutcracker*, James Flynn '07 as the Drosselmeyer, Ola Canty '07 as the Spanish dancer, Cece Yu '07 as the Arabian dancer, Farah Dahya '08 as the Dewdrop Fairy, Casey Aylward

'09 as the Snow Queen, Carolyn Calabrese '09 and Mikaela Sanders '08 as the Merlitos, Mary Doyle '08 as the Mouse King, and Olivia Wang '07 as the Chinese Dancer.

Finally, famed Russian composer Pyotr Tchaikovsky wrote all of the music in the show. Some of the most famous numbers include "The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" and "The Waltz of the Snowflakes."

Although this is the fourth full-length *Nutcracker* at Andover, this year's show contains several improvements.

For example, Yu's Arabian Dance will be performed "on pointe" this year. Pointe is a difficult ballet technique where the dancer uses specially made shoes to stand on his or her toes.

"I think just the technical skill of the dancers is so much greater than it was two years ago. We have a lot more talented dancers and they have

attracted a lot of people to the program," said Yu.

The Classes of 2007 and 2008 should definitely catch the show, not only to see the improvements two years have made, but also because it will be their last opportunity to see *The Nutcracker* at PA. The next performance will take place in the Fall of 2008.

Mr. Bacon explained, "One of the reasons we keep doing it every two years is so that every four-year student has a chance to do it twice. Also, it's a huge, huge time commitment. We really use all of the facilities we have for this show. This takes so much energy that we can't do it every year."

Tickets can be purchased at the box-office for \$7 for the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night shows.

So instead of spending your entire weekend studying, get out and see *The Nutcracker* for a dose of traditional holiday fun.

Campus Traditions: Holiday Fun!

"Bancroft girls have 'Secret Snow-women.' Each person in the dorm buys a girl two \$1 gifts and gives the receiver hints as to who the giver is. Then at the end, each person buys their girl a \$5 present and reveals [whom] she had. It's really fun and exciting to give and receive gifts."
-Kelicia Hollis '08.



"One day a group of friends and I decided to have a knitting party in my room; chat, knit, and relax. When we're done we show off our scarves and share them."
-Claire Vogeles '07.



"When the holiday season rolls around I break out my infamous Santa hat. I wear my hat and invite underclassmen girls to sit on my lap to tell 'Santa' what they want for Christmas and whether they've been 'naughty or nice.'"
-Evan Hawk '08.

"Stowe House always goes sledding down Chapel Hill. Then together, to get psyched for snow season, we make a hit-list of people we want to attack and tackle into the snow. We just want to introduce people to our friend 'the snow.'"
-Edwin Diaz '07.

"We get dressed up in our pea coats and surprise the girls' dorms with a Christmas caroling serenade. I think people really look forward to 'Yor-keeling.'"
-Steve Farquhar '07.



Coffee for a Cause:

Center for Global Justice Coffeehouse

Megan Richards and Lisa Lian

Does relaxing to easy jazz music and indulging yourself with delicious treats sound like a good remedy to relieve the pressures of Assessment Week? If so, look no further than tonight's coffeehouse talent show sponsored by Center for Global Justice!

Head of Center for Global Justice, Becky Agostino '07 said, "The evening is not only fun for participants and audience members, but it's also an effective way to spread awareness about fair trade and several other issues of social justice."

The term "fair trade" that Agostino mentions applies to a social movement that promotes reasonable standards for international labor policies. The intent of fair trade is to help countries become more self-sufficient.

Fairtrade Labeling Organizations International (FLO) guarantees that laborers who produce fair trade goods work under the standard good working conditions and they receive a fair price. This organization also prohibits child labor. Nations that partake in fair trade receive money to support their community. This system allows developing countries to produce their goods more efficiently.

The Center has been doing their part in educating the campus about fair trade products. The club is selling fair trade chocolate, which has been available for the past few weeks, to encourage students and faculty to promote fair trade. The chocolate is sold for \$5 a bar or \$20 for five bars. Flavors include milk, dark, dark with almond, cocoa chip, espresso chip, and mint.

The sale this chocolate serves as a fundraiser for the Genocide Intervention Network, which is an organization in support of peace in Sudan. So far Center has raised over \$900 for this organization and is hoping to reach \$1,000 by the end of the week.

The candy bars and slices of pizza will also be sold at the Coffeehouse to support the cause.

And if the free fair trade coffee and tea donated by Starbucks and the free cookies and brownies are not enticing enough, perhaps the show's twenty acts will do the trick. These acts range from student bands to slam poets to individual pianists.

"Last year was the first year we had the coffeehouse. I worked with Commons throughout the year to get them to serve fair trade coffee. After a lot of hard work, it was a success and now all of the regular coffee in Commons is fair



S. Burwell/The Phillipian

The Center for Global Justice helped bring fairtrade coffee to Commons. Now the Center is bringing Starbucks to its coffeehouse.

trade. People knew the coffee tasted better, but they didn't know why. The coffee in Commons and the Coffeehouse were all meant to raise awareness," said Agostino. "There was such a great turnout to the event, so we decided to continue the tradition!"

During the two weeks after Thanksgiving vacation and before winter break there are few events to attend on-campus because most clubs and community service groups have already finished their activities for the term.

Also, between in-class review and studying for finals, it is also hard to find any weekend activities to attend. The Coffeehouse is strategically scheduled in these two weeks so students can take a break from academics and stay connected with friends during this stressful time.

The coordinators of the Coffeehouse invited Grasshopper Night '06 favorites such as James Sawabini '08 and Nick Anschuetz '08. The duo will perform an encore of their parody "Test Her Gently" among other songs. The crowd will no doubt look forward to the duo's creativity with Sawabini's talent on the guitar and Anschuetz's crooning voice.

Also, Andover's Improvisation

group, "Under the Bed," will be at their antics again, playing quirky games with the audience. Another Grasshopper Night crowd pleaser, Max Meyer '08, will be performing on his own as well as accompanying Susannah Poland '07 and Britney Achin '08. In addition, Jessica Cole '08 will be performing slam poetry.

"This year we're trying to focus on fair trade but also incorporate other social justice issues by getting other groups such as [the Phillips Academy Partnership for AIDS Awareness] and [the Gay-Straight Alliance] involved," said Agostino. "We've also made a conscious decision not to charge admission because we want people to come and learn something new and enjoy their Friday night. It's not a fundraiser, but of course, donations will be accepted."

The coffeehouse will be a really chill event; you can come for a few minutes, or stay for longer. The point is just to have a fun time and spread awareness," concluded Agostino. Whether you decide to pop by the event for a few moments or get comfortable and stay for the whole evening, Center's Coffeehouse is sure to be a night to remember."

Boys Squash Starts Season off Strong with Win vs. Belmont Hill

By Dave Koppel PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER	
Andover	6
Belmont Hill	1

Playing in their first team competition of the winter, the Boys Varsity Squash team took on Belmont Hill last Wednesday in a pre-season scrimmage, which Andover dominated with an impressive 6-1 victory.

The Andover squad this year is lead by Captain Sam Gould '07, Graham Miao '09, and Danny Silk '07, who are the three returning players and will be playing in the top three positions.

New on the team this season are Foster Jebson '08, Andrew Chan '08, Matt Schubert '09, Dave Koppel '08, John Bukawyn '08, and Jorden Zanazzi '08.

Coach Tom Cone has high hopes for his team this year: "After all the graduations we had last year, we have a young, eager team that will play hard and be quite successful."

The graduations of three-year starters number one and two Derek de Svastich '06 and Daniel Wagman '06 will prove to be a difficult loss for the new team, but the new team looks forward to overcoming this adversity.

Senior Danny Silk also commented on the upcoming season: "Even though we only have three returning players, everyone already knows each other and has seen each other play. For a team to have that kind of bond at the start of the season is truly unusual, and I think that it will without question contribute to our success this year...I also think we will surprise some of our competition this year, not only because of our good looks, but also because of our unwavering endurance and fierce determination."

Silk spoke for the entire team when he mentioned the new captain this year, Sam Gould:

"Sam is deeply respected by everyone on the team. Not only is he very approachable, but he is also found offering advice and helping others both on and off the court. While he works us hard, he is always watching out for everyone, and I am confident that this team will reach its full potential under his leadership."

Last season, Belmont Hill was one of the best teams in the league, with their top three players ranked top ten in the nation.

Fortunately for Andover, two of these players were seniors, and in all, Belmont lost six varsity athletes.

The Andover squad came into the scrimmage looking to prove themselves as a league force, despite their youth and inexperience.

Every player from both teams played two matches against the person above or below them, and also against their corresponding spot.

Andover won every match except for the two against Belmont's number one, Ryan Dowd, who is ranked among the nation's top five players.

In fact, the wins were so dominating that many team members believed the eating contest at the end of the match between Graham Miao and Foster Jebson was more competitive than the matches themselves.

Sam Gould and Graham Miao fought Dowd hard, but could simply not keep up with Dowd's tight rails and error-free play.

All in all, the team played well, although as Coach Cone observed, some of the players were out of shape and need to undergo extreme conditioning before January.

The Andover squad, which Captain Gould refers to as "the best looking team on campus," will take on Tabor next Saturday before winter vacation begins.

With a three week vacation quickly approaching, the team will have to keep up its fitness over the break and practice individual skills in order to maintain its high level of play.



Matt Silva '07 (left) dribbles by a Brooks defender, and Mike Palermo '08 drives past an Avon player during Andover's scrimmage against Brooks and Avon.



M. Disenza/The Phillipian

Boys Basketball Looks Impressive in Preseason Scrimmage; Strength Rests in Speed and Size but Reserves Need to Step Up

By Matt Schubert
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

The Boys Varsity Basketball team opened its season Wednesday with a pair of scrimmages at home—one against Brooks and the other against Avon.

Though the teams kept score, the games were designed more for evaluation than competition.

Each match-up was divided into two fifteen minute halves, but scores were reset to zero at the beginning of each half. This, in effect, created four mini-games, and Andover's record on the day was 3-1. It split games with Brooks and swept Avon.

Andover started out against Brooks. In the first half, Andover got off to a slow start. The team struggled to find its rhythm and quickly fell behind 16-4.

"[At the beginning,] we

were out of place on defense," said Steve Loeffler '07. "But we started marching back."

Near the end of the first fifteen minutes, the score was tied at 24, but Brooks overtook Andover in the final seconds and came away with a 29-24 first half win.

Andover regrouped for the second half of the game and came away with a victory. It made the turnaround by improving its passing and shooting.

"We were much more sound in the second half against Brooks," said Loeffler. "We had good ball movement, and people were making shots."

Against Avon, Andover won the first half and then kept up the strong play in the second half to win 19-18. One of the keys to Andover's success in this game was strong low post play.

"Avon was a rugged team—they had some good ball-handlers, but we played well," said Loeffler.

Throughout the afternoon,

Andover implemented an atypical strategy. Andover plans to use its speed as a main weapon this year, but Wednesday it capitalized on an unexpected height advantage. In terms of speed, Andover was evenly matched with Avon and faster than Brooks, but it was taller than both squads.

"We threw the ball up to set up our offense," said Loeffler. "This is a different strategy than we will probably use for most of our games this season."

Though Andover took the games seriously, the informal format allowed for some experimentation. Before Wednesday, Coach Leon Modeste looked forward to the scrimmages as a team-building opportunity: "It will be a matter of trying to find each other. We won't even worry about the score."

Though the score wasn't important Wednesday, Andover will hope to carry the momentum from this mostly successful afternoon into the rest of the season. The team starts at a disadvantage with Captain Chris Bramwell '07 and Will Sherrill '07 on the bench with injuries.

"With Sherrill and Bramwell down, it will be an opportunity for us to see if we have depth," said Modeste.

Coming into the season, the team is shaping up to be an athletic one. With a core group returning players that includes Captain Bramwell, Sherrill, and Matt Silva '07, Andover will look to use that experience to its advantage.

Andover also hopes to strengthen its team with the addition of some outside talent: Jelani Floyd '07, Javier Vazquez '07 and Brian Watson '08 all join the squad.

Andover looks to build on its foundation of speed with good rebounding. The team is tall, which will help on the boards, but it could encounter some problems.

"We have height but not girth," said Modeste. "We could get pushed around."

If Andover can overcome this challenge, however, it will hope to ignite offensive drives with rebounds and speed.

It will also spread the ball around and look for contributions from a diversity of players.

Lack of Poise in the Defensive Zones Proves to be Andover's Demise; Lawrence Academy's First Line Has Six Points in Win

Continued from Page 12, Column 1

handed goal five minutes in. Andover would answer shortly however, on a 5-on-3 power play, when Captain Smith fired a wrist shot from the slot to beat LA's goalie top shelf.

Lawrence's pressure continued to add up however, as the hosts racked up 18 shots on goal in the 2nd period.

With Andover behind 2-1 but mounting a comeback, a rebound off PA goaltender Glenn Stowell '09 was lost in a scrum out in front of the crease, until a Lawrence forward fired it into

the net for the two-goal lead with a minute to play in the period.

"We really need to clean up our defensive zone coverage, there were too many people running around," said Coach Dean Boylan. "The special teams, our puck awareness and protection, they need a lot of work, but we saw some positive signs to build on, especially in the younger players. We have a long way to go though."

Andover had trouble converting power plays due to a lack of passing and quickness.

Instead of exploiting the one man advantage and passing

until an open man was found, Andover tried to beat Lawrence on a one on one basis.

Also, Andover's defense was caught off guard throughout each power play.

Lawrence continued to pull away in the 3rd, notching two goals in the first eight minutes, before Andover answered again. Defenseman Bennett Carroccio '10 blasted a shot through some traffic from the left side of the blueline, finding the net just above the goalie's glove-side shoulder, for his first career goal for the Blue.

Fellow Junior and forward Charlie DiGiulian '10 also

opened eyes with his hustle and will, as he drew penalties and helped spark some nice bids.

Trading the final two tallies with LA in the final minutes, PA's Bobby Farnham '08 rolled into the offensive zone on a 5-on-3 power play, and walked in front of the net with the feed from Captain Smith.

After the Lawrence goaltender committed his stick to the ice, Farnham backhanded the puck to the top of the net for the 3rd Andover goal of the afternoon.

Although PA was outshot 46-30, Lawrence Academy head coach Kevin Potter had positive things to say after the game about Andover. "I'm very excited for the win; we beat a team that I think will be a top team in the league very soon. We just played an excellent game and worked hard."

Potter was also pleased with the production of his first line. Leading the way was BC bound player Joe Whitney '07 with one goal and two assists. His younger brother and line-mate, Steve '09, also chipped in with two goals.

Against Worcester, Andover allowed the opening goal to the visitors, before exploding for seven unanswered goals, including four in the 3rd period.

With four power play tallies, the team's strength of depth at forward revealed itself, as Terry Woods '07 (1g, 2a) and Andrew Cox '08 (1g, 1a) helped pace the dangerous PA offense, while four different lines chipped in on the scoring.

Andover travels north to Proctor Academy tomorrow, before its home opener next Sunday, December 10 against Pingree.

Andover, ranked 12th in the Hockey Night in Boston pre-season poll, will then participate in the highly regarded Flood Marr tournament during winter vacation, taking on the prep powers Salisbury, Nobles & Greenough, and Westminster.



W. Hunckler/The Phillipian

Joe Smith '07 carries the puck up-ice. Smith's goal and two assists were not enough to overcome Lawrence's attack.

Maroney '07 Serves 20 of 21 Against Loomis in Semifinals

Continued from Page 12, Column 5

match. Led by the great leadership of Captain Cassidy Carpenter '08, the Andover offense displayed excellent teamwork. On defense, Sarah Beattie '07 and Lindsay Maroney '07 both stepped up with six stuffs and shut down Hotchkiss' powerful net game. Due to an all-around consistent effort, Andover was able to take the first two games, 30-26 and 30-24 respectively.

Andover went into the third game looking to cap off their perfect season with a win. Although the stakes were high, both teams kept their composure and continued to play with few mistakes.

However, in the end the Andover offense was just too powerful for their opponent and they won their final game of the year, 30-26. After a 3-0 victory over

Hotchkiss, Andover became the New England volleyball champions.

After a memorable season, it was only fitting that Andover was rewarded with a championship. Coach Clyde Beckwith summed up the amazing year, saying "While I do not begin a season with the goal of an undefeated record it sure is a nice tribute to a group who has worked so hard and so well together as these girls did."

With a strong group of returners including captain Carpenter '08, the team promises to be a contender next season.

However, the team will miss the leadership and play of its four graduating Seniors: Pia Heilman, Joyce-Mendive, Sarah Beattie and Maroney, all of whom contributed to the girls volleyball team's amazing season.



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WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW 2006

Girls and Boys Track Hopes to Continue Dominant Legacy

By Chad Hollis and James Ricker
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

Boys Track

The Andover Boys Indoor Track team will look to use its all-around depth to match last year's successful season.

Leading the team this year will be Captain Peter McCarthy '07, who is strong in the 200, 400 and the 4 x 400 relay. McCarthy is recognized universally as a great leader. He is looking to build off of the two personal bests that he achieved at last year's New England Indoor Championships.

The boys distance team figures to be strong as it returns several key runners, including David Wilson '09 and Eli Howe '09. The two Lowers will also be joined by Alex Hugon '07 and Steve Stapczynski '07.

Also looking to build of his success last season is shot-putter Joseph O'Hern '07, who placed 3rd last year in his division in the championships. Martin Serna '07 will join O'Hern to form what should be the one of the strongest shot-put duos in the league.

The team's opponents include cross-town rival Andover High, Lawrence High, and Exeter. Andover looks to avenge its only loss last season when it runs against Tewksbury High School on January 10th.

Girls Track

The PA Girls Track team hopes to add to last year's success with another winning season. Although there was no official league championship, the team lost only one regular season meet, ranking it among the top squads in the New England Prep School league.

Major returning contributors include Captain Kit Harris '07, Nico Lanson '07, Simone Hill '08 Colleen Thurman '07, and Sarah Cohan '08.

In addition to her leadership, Captain Harris' work ethic improves the runners around her. This year, Harris will compete in the high jump as well as the 300-yard and the 600-yard dash.

Hill, who ran exceptionally well in the 50-yard dash last year, said, "We expect to win a lot. Our team did well last year but we always hope to improve."

Jumping for Andover this year, Thurman returns as the top long jumper, coming off a great consistent season last year. Thurman hopes to improve her record jump in her last year on the team.



Kentaro Watari '07 struggles to finish up his last lap as Boys Track looks to win the New England championship.

Girls Basketball Returners Look to Win

Hollis and Beattie Lead Core of Seniors

By Frank Pinto
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

The start of the Girls Varsity Basketball season looks a lot more promising than it did at this time last year. The team has three-fourths of its players returning, meaning that the team unity is strong, and most of the squad has played together before. This will improve the strength of the team as a whole.

Kara Hollis '07 said, "Last year we had a problem with cohesiveness." This seemed to be the general feeling felt by the team as Kelly Fox '08 agreed: "Last year we didn't bond as much."

This year's season there are nine returnees to the Varsity team. At least four of the returnees made the team as Juniors, Kristen McDonald '07, Sarah Beattie '07, Kelly Fox '08, and Hailee Minor '08. The girls on the team also have another reason as to why this year's season looks a lot better. "We'll play cohesively, much more so than last year," said Kelly Fox. This year's team looks to be ready to play as a team. "We don't really have any superstars so everything's going to be a real team effort, it also gives people a chance to step up," said Kara Hollis.

Andover's first game is this Saturday against Brewster. The team is working hard this week, because they recognize they have the potential for a winning season, and it has a full week's worth of practice before the first game. Last year the newly formed team dove immediately into the first game from tryouts. Andover will go into its first game confidently and hopes to come out with a win, setting the tone for the rest of the season.

Five Returning Seniors Lead Nordic Skiing this Season

By Anne Elder
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER

The Nordic Ski team, led by Arielle Filiberti '07 and Co-Captain Jim Elder '07, began training the week before Thanksgiving, and now they return with a fervent wish for snow.

The girls Nordic team is dominated by returning seniors. Morgan Broccoli '07, Filiberti, Abby King '07, Roxy Pierson '07 and Co-captain Sarah Dewey '07 plan to race this year, joined by Berol Dewdney '09.

Hilary Rich '09, a new Lower, joins the team with an impressive background in Nordic skiing, and the team expects great things from her this season.

Co-captain Jim Elder '07 commented, "I think the girls' team has a strong chance, due to the number of returning racers and the promising new recruits. The boys are looking to improve. No one graduated last year, so I think that will help us."

Returning to race for the boys are Elder, Kit Halvorsen '08, Dave Holliday '08 and Walker Washburn '08, who all arrived this past week excited for a new season. Since the boys team consists of only four racers, they will be seeking talent among the new freshman and lowers who have decided to try out Nordic skiing.

Both boys and girls varsity compete in the Lakes Region league, and race every Wednesday along with an occasional Saturday. The Saturdays not spent racing allow the team to travel to Waterville, Vermont or other nearby ski areas for extra practice and experience. When not training in nearby resorts, Coach Keith Robinson grooms the upper field of Siberia for the team to ski on. Occasionally, when there is a lack of snow, the skiers will stay in shape by roller skiing, distance running, and circuit training.

The team has been very successful in recent years, competing at the NEPSAC level and in the Lakes Region Conference. The girls varsity has placed third in the NEPSAC championship meet in 1999, 2005, and 2006.

The first race this year will be held at Holderness on January 10. This will give the team plenty of time to prepare and work towards the NEPSAC championship title.

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Rebecca MacRae '09 swims hard during practice. The perennially strong Girls Swimming and Diving program hopes to add a fifth consecutive Interschols trophy to its collection.

Both Girls and Boys Swimming Push for NE Title Boys Team Hopes to Avenge Last Year's Silver

By M. Kristofferson and A. Levene
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITERS

Girls Swimming

The six-time New England Champion Andover Girls' Swim team is looking forward to another eventful season.

With tryouts coming to a close, the team is once again beginning to train hard in the pool in order continue its undefeated record from last season. Coaches Paul Murphy and Catherine Carter work well with the girls to make sure they maintain a strong work ethic but also keep the mood of the practices fun.

Some of the swimmers have not been in the water since last winter, but that will not stop the team from exceeding their expectations to do as well as they did in their time trials before the Thanksgiving break. Selena Casha '09 lead the girls in its 100 freestyle races with a time of 56.7 seconds and she was followed closely by four-year senior Erica Roddy '07, who swam a time of 57.4 seconds. Distance swimmer and Captain Carly Villareal '07 also performed very well in the sprint with a time of 58.6 seconds.

The 100-yard backstroke heats were lead by Veronica Faller '09, who swam only a few seconds shy of her time at last season's Interschols, finishing with a time of 1:08.4 seconds. Annie Glancy '09 is a key butterfly swimmer to watch this season as she led the 100 butterfly heats with a time of 1:05.4 seconds, followed by newcomer Celia Lewis '10. The fastest breast-stroke swimmers include Selena Casha '09, Alexandra Hall '10 and Aubrey Zimmerling '09.

Boys Swimming

After a momentous 2005-2006 season, the Boys Varsity Swimming and Diving team hopes to uphold and surpass its past accomplishments. The team has a dominating force of Seniors, including Co-Captains Ryan Ferguson '07 and Howie Kalter '07.

There are also a talented group of underclassmen, and the squad appears stronger than it has in past years. Returning swimmer Will Faulkner '09 agrees, "The team this year looks unbelievable. We gained a ton of young guys who are already some of the fastest people on the team, and we only lost three Seniors. Everyone knows how good we can be, and we're excited for an excellent but hard-working season."

Head Coach Jacques Hugon '79 said, "The team is looking very strong this year. We are lucky to have no fewer than eight returning Seniors. It's a great group of swimmers who have been together for a while, and should provide excellent leadership for the team...[W]e have eight new swimmers on the team [three Lowers and five Juniors], so we expect to have better depth than last year."

Last season marked the first time in over 30 years that the team beat Exeter in a dual meet.

However, the boys were edged out for the New England Championship title by Exeter. With new talent to the team, including Brendan Deveney '09, Curtis Hon '10 and Conor McAuliffe '10, the squad hopes to finally surpass Exeter for the title.

Co-Captain Ferguson elaborated, "We definitely expect to have a strong team with enough depth to win a Championship. Exeter is always a strong contender, having won 15 of the last 16 titles, but the boys beat them in our dual meet last year and we can do it again. I know that after last year we all have some extra motivation to take Exeter down this year. We're just going to work hard all season and focus mainly on winning a New England Championship."

Wrestling Prepares for GA, WA

Captains Paintal and Dunn Have High Hopes

By JR Santaniello
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATE

Captains Akshay Paintal '07 and Colin Dunn '07 are looking to lead the 2006-2007 wrestling squad to a Class A league championship.

The strong returnees include Paintal, Dunn, Shaun Stuer '09 and Hector Cintron '08. All these wrestlers had strong seasons last year.

Paintal astonished teammates and opponents alike as he set the record for most points in a season and was named an All-American. Stuer is currently unable to wrestle due to a wrist injury, but the team hopes to have him back by the end of winter break.

Alex Green '07, who is returning from SYA in Italy, promises to be one of the top wrestlers in his weight class. Other returnees who are looking to make a difference include A.J. Charles '07, Ben Elder '09, Rachael Cohen '08, Alex Gotfried '09, Chris Latham '09 and C.J. Queenan '09.

Cohen is looking to solidify her position as one of the top female wrestlers in New England this season.

She will most likely be wrestling in the 125 lb. weight class this season. Reid Mosquera '09, Duncan Crystal '10 and Scott Sanderson '09 are all looking to have an impact as newcomers to the team.

Stuer said "This year's team looks to have a lot of strong returnees, but they all have an extra year of experience going for them. If the kids work hard over break and the wrestlers gel together, it is possible for us to have a special team this season."

Andover Wrestling opens up its season this Saturday with a tri-meet against Governor's Academy and Worcester Academy at 3:15.

This is the team's only meet before they split up for winter break. Over the break, athletes will work to keep up their fitness level.

After a middling season last year, Andover hopes to prove themselves as one of the top teams in the league.

Girls Squash Crushed by St. Georges Lineup; Injury of Captain Zindman Offsets Match-Up

By Jen Downing
PHILLIPIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATE

St. George's	7
Andover	1

Julia Watson '07 played with poise and wit to beat her St. George's opponent 3-1 on Wednesday. Unfortunately, this was the only Andover victory, as the team lost 7-1 on the whole because of rusty skills and an injury which sidelined number one seed and Captain Ali Zindman '07.

Watson and her St. George's counterpart seemed a fairly equal match until Watson began to strategize based on her opponent's shot patterns. She said, "After I noticed she was staying behind me, I began hitting more drop-shots." Watson has returned to the team after spending her Upper year in China with the SYA program.

Although similarly strategic, Grace Gordon '08 was not able to pull ahead in her match. She said, "My strategy was not necessarily to hit the ball hard, but to hit it high and with leverage so that it would die in the back corner. I also tried to return early by volleying when I could."

The pairing of players was thrown off because of Zindman's injury. She pulled her quad during the field hockey season and will be out until January. Every Andover player had to play up to meet the skilled St. George's players. Fortunately, Andover's girls did not seem discouraged by the loss; Carolyn Brown '09 said, "My opponent got the ball out of the back of the court very well and played really consistently. The first match is always tough, but we'll see them again at New England's and we'll be much better."

The team lost only two seniors last year and has replaced

them with experienced players. New members played up with the varsity occasionally from the JV team last year. The importance of such experience is emphasized by Coach Tom Hodgson, who said, "We've got pretty good experience this year. We don't have Ali until January, but that gives some of the younger players more experience. We're looking pretty good, but it's always hard to loose your number one."

Coincidentally, Zindman and the number one player on St. George's team are both members of the Junior Women's US Squash Squad. Due to Zindman's injury, however, Diana Wilson '07 took her spot playing number one. She exhibited agility and skill in returning many of her opponent's trickiest shots. Several times during the match, the two girls volleyed the ball tighter and tighter against the left wall. Wilson dealt well with this challenge, often sending the St. George's player to the back corner of the court's opposite end.

In order to improve upon last year's record of 5-10 and a 12th place finish at Interschols, Zindman predicts increased work on fitness and hitting the ball tight to the wall. She also points to the technique and the ability to anticipate the play with proper positioning as areas that dramatically improved over the course of last winter and areas she hopes will continue to further enhance.

The team will play Westminster at home this Saturday at 2:15.



Steph Marton '07 returns a volley from her St. George's School opponent.

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M. Disenza/The Phillipian

Salisbury defenders smother running back Anthony Ambrosi '07. Andover lost in the New England Championship game for the second straight year.

Football Loses to Salisbury 19-14 in New England Championship; Big Blue Stages Comeback but Falls Short in Final Seconds

By Will Sherrill PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER	
Salisbury	19
Andover	14

In its second straight trip to the New England Championship game, the Phillips Academy Varsity Football team fell again, this time losing 19-14 to the Salisbury School in a thrilling game for the ages. Co-Captain Will Sherrill '07 threw two touchdowns in the game, but an Andover comeback effort fell short in the final seconds.

Going into the game, Andover and Salisbury had marched through their divisions with ease, dominating their opponents en route to undefeated regular seasons. The championship game was a battle of will and attrition as much as it was a battle of two very talented teams. Salisbury came out on fire in the first quarter, scoring a touch-

down on its first drive of the game after stopping Andover's initial possession. The touchdown drive was keyed by a long pass play on a blown Andover coverage. After missing the extra point to take a 6-0 lead, Salisbury scored again on a punishing drive as the Salisbury running back pounded the ball in to give his team a 13-0 lead over the Blue. Andover responded quickly in the second quarter. After moving the ball successfully in the first quarter but being unable to turn yards into points, Andover finally broke through in the second quarter. A screen pass to Luke DeLuca '07 and a run by Anthony Ambrosi '07 set up a 12-yard touchdown pass from Sherrill to Ambrosi to pull Andover within six points, 13-7. A few minutes later, Sherrill threw another touchdown pass, this time a 55-yarder, to Chris Bramwell '07, who emerged as Andover's go-to receiver in the game, with over 100 yards receiving. The first half ended with Andover leading 14-13. In the entire game, Salisbury

shut down Andover's vaunted running attack, holding Ambrosi to less than 80 yards rushing—120 yards below his season average. With the running game unable to get going, Andover was forced to go to the air. Salisbury recognized this and rushed six and seven defenders at Sherrill every time he dropped back. In the third quarter, Andover's offense could not move the ball at all as the Salisbury cornerbacks jammed Andover's wideouts at the line of scrimmage and the linebackers blitzed on every play to stop the run and tee off on Sherrill. Andover's defense, however, stood tall, stopping Salisbury from getting any points on three consecutive trips to the red zone. DeLuca, hobbling heroically on a hurt knee, and Co-Captain Peter Casey '07, hampered by cramps all game long, anchored a tremendous defensive effort as Andover went into the fourth quarter leading by one, 14-13. After an Andover punt, Salisbury finally put it in against the exhausted Andover defense, scoring a touchdown with six minutes

left and missing the two-point conversion to lead 19-14. Getting the ball back with two minutes left in the game, the Andover offense stood at its own 30-yard line, needing to drive 70 yards for the game-winning touchdown.

Volleyball Wins New Englands; Defeats Hotchkiss 3-0 in Finals

By James Ricker PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER	
Andover	3
Loomis	0
Andover	3
Hotchkiss	0

Andover Girls Volleyball capped off an undefeated season by winning the New England Championships over Hotchkiss. After school was dismissed for Thanksgiving break, the girls volleyball team headed to NMH on Saturday for their semifinal matchup against Loomis Chaffee. Although the team was motivated to reach the championship game, they were careful not to look past a strong Loomis team. Loomis came as the number four seed, boasting a 12-5 record. Loomis knocked out Exeter in the quarterfinal round by a score of 3-0 and advanced to the final four. Andover came out firing on all cylinders, as their powerful offense took over the first game. Loomis was unable to gain momentum and had a hard time adjusting to the powerful serves by Andover. Led by their core starting lineup, the Big Blue were able to take the first game by a score of 30-15. In the second game, Loomis adjusted their line-up and made some defensive changes. With a

new group on the court, the Pelicans took an early lead. Andover fought back to gain a 27-25 lead, but then Loomis had four straight aces to take control of the game. After Loomis won the second game 30-27, the match was tied at one game apiece. The third game was marked by spectacular play all around, as both teams' offenses were in sync. After some long rallies, Andover took the last points of the game and managed a 30-27 win. With the match on the line, both Andover and Loomis played their best volleyball in the fourth game. Once again, the Big Blue stepped up late in the game, and closed out the match with a 30-28 win. The Andover starting unit all stepped up with great performances in the semifinal win. Lindsay Maroney '07 had a particularly impressive day, hitting 23-24 and serving 20-21. Also coming up strong was Dawson Joyce-Mendive '07, who had ten kills and four stuffs. With the victory, Andover moved onto the championship game held later that day. In the championship game, Andover faced off against second seed Hotchkiss, who beat Choate in their semifinal match. The Big Blue looked to get revenge against their opponent, as Hotchkiss defeated Andover in last year's championship. A 1-though both teams elevated their play, Andover was able to win the key points throughout the

Continued on Page 10, Column 5



M. Disenza/The Phillipian

Meg Shea '07 gains possession in the New England semifinal game against Nobles.

Boys Hockey Loses 6-3 to Lawrence Academy; Captain Joe Smith '07 Tallies Three Points in Loss



B. Canaday/The Phillipian

Andrew Cox '08 takes a swing at a unsuspecting Lawrence Academy skater.

By Chris George PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER	
Lawrence Academy	6
Andover	3

Andover dropped a tough contest Wednesday, opening up the regular season with a 6-3 loss to Lawrence Academy in Groton. Before Thanksgiving break, PA hosted Division II Worcester Academy and defeated the Hilltoppers 7-1 in the opening scrimmage. Captain Joe Smith '07 led the Blue in both games, notching 3 goals and 2 assists in the 2 games. Against Lawrence, ranked in the pre-season as the number five team in New England, PA opened the game with high intensity, trading good bids with its host. Lawrence Academy got the first word however, as its outstanding top line created a power play goal by drawing three defenders to the slot, before dishing right to shoot at the wide-open net. In the second period, LA broke out with the puck on an Andover power play, and scored on a 2-on-1 feed for the short-

Continued on Page 10, Column 1

Field Hockey Places Second in NE Tournament; Zindman '07 Scores Gamewinner in Semifinal

By Matt Higgins PHILLIPIAN SPORTS WRITER	
Andover	2
Nobles	1
Hotchkiss	4
Andover	1

In the NEPSAC Class A tournament, Andover was able to defeat Nobles 2-1 to advance to the finals against Hotchkiss. It was the first field hockey trip to the finals since 1993. Carly O'Leary '07 scored with 1:49 remaining in the first half with a tip off Meg Shea '07's shot. Andover headed into halftime with a 1-0 lead. In the second half Nobles was able to earn a penalty stroke with just four minutes remaining in the game. Casey Griffen of Nobles was able to beat goalie Ale Moss '07, and Nobles was able to send the game to overtime. Tied 1-1 at the end of regulation, Nobles and Andover headed into a seven-on-seven sudden

death overtime period. After 10 minutes of overtime, neither team was able to score. Moss made several key stops to match the Nobles goalie. The game headed into a second overtime, where Ali Zindman '07 poked in a cross for the Andover win. Andover was less successful facing Hotchkiss in the Class A finals, where it fell 4-1, its first loss since late September against Brooks. The win marks Hotchkiss's fifth straight New England field hockey title. Hotchkiss took a 2-0 lead in the first half off of two corners. After the halftime break, Andover came back on a goal with 16 minutes remaining in the game. Steph Clegg '08 crossed the ball to Zindman for the only Andover goal of the game. Despite Andover's best efforts, Hotchkiss was able to close out the game with two well executed corner plays near the end of the game. Hotchkiss went on to win the game, and their fifth straight championship. The Andover Field Hockey team will look to build on a very successful season this year. The team finished with a 12-2-3 record. Graduating this year will

be Captain Annie Boylan '07, Arielle Filiberti '07, Lauren Jackson '07, Kristen Macdonald '07, Moss, O'Leary, Carolyn Pollard '07, Shea, Julia Watson '07, and Zindman. With the team losing several of its top scorers as well as its goalie, the Andover field hockey team will rely on younger players to step up next season. Britney Van Valkenburg '08, Jamie Harisiades '08, and Lindsey Weiner '08, all major parts of this year's team, will look to keep the strong Andover offense going in their senior year. This year's Andover offense scored at least one goal in every game, an Andover first. In addition, this year's freshmen, Eliza Flynn '10 and Avery Stone '10, will look to contribute to next year's team. On the defensive side of the field, Andover will return two backs, Sarah Wallace '08 and Clegg. Both will look to fill in for the graduating Boylan, Filiberti, and Macdonald. In addition to these backs, Andover's goalie, Ale Moss, will be graduating this year, leaving a hole in the defense that will need to be filled for next year's team to maintain this year's success.