



Jennifer Elliott '94 Reflects on First Year as Dean of Students

CECELIA VIEIRA

Sitting contentedly under an image of the Armillary Sphere in the middle of the busy Dean of Students Office, Jennifer Elliott '94, Dean of Students and Residential Life, gave off the impression that she had been in the position for years.

Over a year ago, Elliott met news of her appointment to the Dean of Students position with a mixture of excitement and nerves. This summer marks the end of the first year that Elliott held her position after she was officially appointed on July 1, 2015.

As the Dean of Students, Elliott has worked with the Cluster Deans and Raj Mundra, Assistant Dean of Students, to tackle day-to-day student issues, train student leaders, help in the Student Activities office, and assist with building the new Health and Wellness curriculum. Elliott's first year in the position was characterized by increasing conversation about the meaning of healthy, consenting relationships.

"I've done a lot of work with [Maureen Ferris, Director of Risk Management] in thinking about our policies and protocols around preventing sexual assault and also navigating cases and concerns around sexual assault," said Elliott in an interview with *The Phillipian*.

Continued on A3, Column 1



Seniors cheer in celebration of their last ASM.

T.RYNNE/THE PHILLIPPIAN

All-School Meeting Honors Graduating Seniors and Retiring Faculty

WILL ENNIS and ANDIE PINGA

The ringing music of the Handbell Choir welcomed Seniors as the Class of 2016 cheered its way into the last All-School Meeting (ASM) of the school year – and its last at Andover. The final ASM celebrated the graduating Seniors and retiring members of the faculty.

Head of School John Palfrey expressed his gratitude for the embarking faculty in his opening remarks.

"In this particular job, I get to see the enormous devotion that our faculty put into aspects of their teaching," said Palfrey in his opening remarks. "By teaching, I mean what happens in the

classroom, of course – but also on every playing field, every one of the dormitories... and so many different aspects of the culture here on campus. Our faculty members here devote literally 24 hours, seven days a week for much of the year to the task of instruction and task of connecting with all of you. This is an enormous gift and I very much hope that everyone in this chapel recognizes what it is."

The retiring faculty members include Seth Bardo, Instructor in English; Kathleen Dalton, Instructor of History and Social Science and former Co-Director of the Brace Center for Gender Studies; Marc Koolen, Instructor in Biology; and Christopher Walter, Instructor in Music.

Speaking in honor of Bardo,

Peter Hahn '16 reflected upon his experience with Bardo as his teacher for English 100 four years ago and this fall in Rosebud, one of Bardo's Senior English electives. Bardo is a 35-year veteran of the English Department, and hopes to spend his time post-retirement relaxing and writing.

"Although I would have deemed myself a lost cause, Mr. Bardo never gave up on me. Every essay I handed in came back with pages upon pages of careful, handwritten feedback. Looking around the classroom, I could see all of my peers had received a similarly threes of comments on their work. So, yeah, Mr. Bardo roasted me [Junior] year," said Hahn.

Continued on A3, Column 1

Forum Held To Discuss Potential Civil War Memorial

TIFFANY CHANG

Though the Andover campus boasts memorials dedicated to alumni who fought in World Wars I and II and the Korean War, Andover has yet to install a single memorial dedicated to the Civil War, wherein dozens of alumni fought on either side of the war. Gathering in the Freeman Room last Friday night, students, faculty members, and alumni discussed how Andover could incorporate a Civil War memorial into campus and the ethics of honoring soldiers who fought for the Union and those who fought for the Confederacy.

"Three memorials to Phillips Academy alumni grace the southern side of our campus, testimonials in brick, stone, and mortar to those who gave their lives in military service to the nation in the wars of the 20th and 21st centuries. No such memorial exists, as of yet, to the dozens of alumni who fought and died during the American Civil War," wrote Christopher Jones, Instructor and Chair in History, in an email to the Andover community. "The absence of such a memorial is conspicuous... There are few campuses... in the eastern United States that do not have some monument to Civil War soldiers. Now [we have] taken up consideration of such a memorial."

Continued on A3, Column 1

The Impact of Global Tragedies On International Students

JP RAMOS and MAE ZHAO

When al-Qaeda led a terrorist attack that broke out at a restaurant that Malika Dia '17 frequently dined at with her friends and family back home in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, last January, Dia found it hard to cope with the situation while maintaining her life at Andover.

"Initially [I felt] fear, but it was a very detached sort of emotion or something that I could push away because it was not directly in front of me. It was more like, I'm scared because I know that other people are scared but I didn't feel like I was in personal danger... I [wished] I was there, I just wish I could say something to them that was more than like 'I'm sorry' because I didn't go through it," said Dia in an interview with *The Phillipian*.

"I don't know what exactly [the Andover community] could

do more, except [to] realize that international tragedies are as important as American tragedies or like Western tragedies... I think that a lot of people forget that," said Dia.

Dia is one of twelve students who shared stories about the time they've had to deal with a tragedy back home during a meeting co-hosted by *The Phillipian* and International Club.

A common issue brought up at the meeting were the difficulties of staying in contact with friends and family despite the physical and, sometimes, emotional distance.

"Being an ocean away means that there is a time zone difference," said Jennie Guo '19. "The time that you can actually communicate with your parents is very restrictive and because my parents are busy people and Andover is pretty busy, it is hard to coordinate a time, so I find that I have less time to talk with them."

Expanding upon Guo's reflection, Max Huang '17 shared the struggle of finding time to stay updated with events occurring back home in the midst of Andover's intense academic environment.

"Although there is communication that exists through the Internet, the work and the activities that go on here take away the free time that I usually have to check things on the Internet, look at news, talk to my parents, or what not," said Huang.

Susanne Torabi, International Student Coordinator, reminisced on when an earthquake hit Sichuan, China, in 2008 and how Andover established the Phillips Academy Natural Dis-



Max Huang '17 is from Beijing.

aster Relief Association (PANDA).

"Following the earthquake in Sichuan that happened a few years ago, students were just paralyzed. They could not function really in class and they were coming to me and they were asking what they could do," said Torabi. "We sat down, along with some other faculty members joining this initiative and we created PANDA, which has come alive several times, such as when the tsunami hit Japan," said Torabi.

She continued, "What was beautiful here is that students and faculty worked together, we made flyers together and fundraised a lot of money. It was definitely a poll that was started by international students but then the domestic students, as well as clubs and faculty joining."

Continued on A3, Column 4

Baseball, Softball, and Track Championship Victories: A6-A7

Harriet Beecher Stowe's Legacy at Andover

ABDU DONKA and LARSON TOLO

Harriet Beecher Stowe's legacy as a historical figure at Andover remains quite notable today, and her legacy began when she arrived on campus in 1852. Characterized by her willingness to challenge social norms and her commitment to the abolitionist movement, Stowe embodied many of the principles the Andover community values today.

Stowe, an American abolitionist and author, resided in multiple locations around campus. First living in Samaritan House, she finished her time at Andover in present-day Stowe House, which was later named after her. After the Stowes left campus, the house was converted to a dormitory.

"Harriet Beecher Stowe was a courageous forward thinker who challenged gender roles and used her writing to understand her world, process her experiences, inform, challenge, provoke, question, and connect," said Jennifer Elliott '94, Dean of Students and Residential Life. "Harriet Beecher Stowe was unafraid to speak her mind and think, act, and do in accordance with her own values with little regard for social norms or expectations."

"[She] ignored several... social restrictions or expectations. She loved to host social gatherings and would host holiday parties even when this practice was frowned upon by her peers. I have the sense that Harriet Beecher Stowe did not care much for the rigid rules and social norms of the seminary. She encouraged all of her children – boys and girls – to work hard, travel, write, and speak their minds," Elliott continued.

During her time at Andover, Stowe became a known voice in the fight against slavery. Having completed the last installment of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in March of 1852, Stowe described her time in Andover as one of happy days and hope.

In a letter dated May 5, 1892, Stowe wrote to a friend, "Your note reaches me this lovely spring morning, a pleasant reminder of the happy days of long ago in Andover. My life there, was a pleasant one, full of work and of hopes to be realized. I saw much in the future and much to live for. Of course, my horizon is much narrower now. My life lies all in the past now. This is the time of waiting and of rest."

Continued on A3, Column 1



Malika Dia '17 is from Burkina Faso.

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Harriet Beecher Stowe

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COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA

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Bring your bib, it's about to get messy. #Feast

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Camille Little '16 Breaks School and Meet Records

Little ran a record-setting 100-Meter Dash at the New England Prep School Track Association Division-I Championships last Saturday.

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To the Class Of 2016:

With boards turned over, rooms reassigned, captains elected, and Blue Keys chosen, it seems – in every manner we’ve learned to recognize – as though we are prepared for your departure next week. But the truth is that when we arrive on campus next fall, without you for the first time in our Andover careers, we will be struck hard by the reality of your absence in ways we cannot yet understand.

As we pack our College Boxes and suitcases like we have done in previous years, the permanence of your graduation feels surreal. Andover has always been a cycle of leaving and returning, with the one constant being your presence in our lives. We watch you now with a certain melancholy, struggling to grasp the idea that you are leaving for the last time, that your familiar faces will no longer be there to guide us as we make our way through our three remaining terms at Andover.



A.LU/THE PHILLIPIAN

The understanding that you are not returning reminds us of how limited our time at Andover is. As you step up to accept your roses, cigars, and diplomas, we too consider what it means to leave this place. While you share your last moments with one another, we watch and try to imagine what this campus will be like without you here. As you move on, we prepare to move into your place.

We will look for you without success on the paths, in our dorms, on our teams. We will miss your laughter, the sound of your voices, your enthusiasm, and your cynicism. We will often think of the things you taught us about growing up here.

Class of 2016, thank you for everything. Congratulations on making it through, and best of luck out there.

This editorial represents the view of The Phillipian, vol. CXXXIX.

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CORRECTION:

A Sports caption misidentified a rower on Andover Girls Crew. Allegra Stewart '18 rows seventh seat on the G2 boat.

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Letter To The Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

On April 23, Campuses Against Cancer hosted its third annual American Cancer Society (A.C.S.) Relay For Life – the culmination of one year’s worth of vigorous planning, advertising, and fundraising. This year, the event raised an incredible 55,000 dollars with nearly 400 students, faculty, and staff participants – almost doubling participation from the 2015 Relay.

Despite the success of the event, “Smart Donations,” an article written by Noah Wintman ‘16 in the May 6th issue of *The Phillipian*, questioned the authenticity of Relay For Life as a fundraising event and denounced the American Cancer Society as a charitable organization. Wintman said, “The A.C.S. is a poorly-run charitable organization... [spending] only 59.5 percent of the money it takes in on actual charitable programs.” Additionally, Wintman examined the rating of A.C.S. on Charity Navigator, which he described as “a trusted charity watchdog site,” as well as the salaries and actions of several A.C.S. employees. Campuses Against Cancer hopes to clarify some of the details Wintman addresses and to reiterate why we choose to devote our time and energy to Relay For Life and the American Cancer Society.

According to the most recent financial data – collected in 2014 – 74 cents of every dollar raised by A.C.S. are directed toward research, prevention, detection, education, and patient support. The remaining 26 cents fuel supporting services to manage and fund those programs. A.C.S. bears the Better Business Bureau Accredited Charity Seal, which requires specific industry standards to be met – including A.C.S.’s administrative costs. This information is public record and can be found on the can-

cer.org website.

In terms of the salary of John Seffrin, the former C.E.O. of A.C.S., with consultation from outside independent experts, the Board of Director’s Compensation Committee evaluates and establishes salaries for A.C.S. employees every year. The Board partners with Towers Watson, a professional service firm, to analyze market data from published surveys – data that pertains to similar positions in similar organizations – and to set salaries accordingly. As previously mentioned, A.C.S.’s administrative expenses, including compensation, meet standards of the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance.

Wintman also discusses the value of Charity Navigator as a resource. The rating of A.C.S. provided by Charity Navigator does not reflect A.C.S. itself so much as the rating methodology of Charity Navigator. For example, specific overhead categories – which Charity Navigator utilizes to determine financial performance, including fundraising expenses – are counted twice.

As for the misconduct by A.C.S. employees, the actions of specific individuals should not be regarded as a representation of the intentions of A.C.S. as a whole. As an organization of more than 6,000 employees, it is almost impossible to avoid a “bad seed.” If A.C.S. policies or federal law are violated, however, employees face punishment – which, in the case of embezzlement, includes, but is not limited to, termination of employment, return of the money to A.C.S., and prosecution by A.C.S. – often resulting in jail time.

While it is true that there are a variety of alternative charities to consider supporting, A.C.S. actually serves as a supporter of many of these smaller-scale organizations and connects people with

them through its 1-800 number. A.C.S., however, provides a number of programs and resources for those facing cancer-related hardships that smaller organizations do not. For instance, Massachusetts is home to two Hope Lodges. According to A.C.S.’s website, Hope Lodges “offer cancer patients and their caregivers a free place to stay when their best hope for effective treatment may be in another city.” A more comprehensive list of A.C.S.’s services and programs can be found on its website.

Finally, on a level linked more to Andover, it is vital to acknowledge that Relay For Life transcends its monetary importance. As a community-oriented event, Relay For Life offers a unique opportunity for Andover to unite as a community and to support one another. Relay For Life provides a time for us to grieve for those we have lost to cancer, a time to consider how cancer has impacted us, and a time to look within ourselves with quiet reflection to find hope. Campuses Against Cancer recognizes that we, as an Andover community, along with A.C.S., share the same hope – the hope that we will one day live in a world where the words “you have cancer” do not exist. We are fighting the same battle as A.C.S. A.C.S. is not our adversary; cancer is.

Sincerely,
 Kyle Kingston '16

Signatories:
 Adri Allen '16
 Sarah Humes '16
 Payton Jancy '16
 Sara Luzuriaga '16
 Mihika Sridhar '16
 Megan Gatton '17
 Alex Kruiuzenga '18
 Lisa Joel
 Brian Alexander, American
 Cancer Society Representative

A Safe Space

AVERY JONAS

“HI, NUBIAN!” WE EXCLAIM as we see each other around campus. Spotting one another along the manicured paths, we walk and talk about current events, our mahogany and caramel skin tones shining in the bright sun amid the structures of brick and stone that surround us. Our most recurring conversations are Senior Prom, Commencement, how we’ll coordinate wardrobes at Commencement, how we’ll react upon receiving our diplomas, college, the thought of living hours and miles away from each other, who we’ll ask to Senior-Faculty dinner, and food at Paresky Commons, among other relevant or arbitrary things. We think alike. We think vastly different. When I am in the brisk quarters of Andover, I can often depend on my three-person posse of equally-inquisitive and earnest prep-school black students to keep me warm with the humorous nature of our association. “Team Nubian,” we call ourselves. Our “team,” as we call it, resulted as a need for companionship, and it has taught me how to love all of myself, wholeheartedly.

During his May 4 All-School Meeting address, Head of School John Palfrey stood before the entire student body, as well as a small number of faculty members, to address his thoughts regarding campus diversity. There were a number of opinions and comments shared about his speech. Some praised Palfrey for expressing how liberal, conservative, and neutral voices can appreciate and learn from one another. Others criticized Palfrey’s speech for being too vague, placing a band-aid on a wound inflicted by numerous unproductive conversations around diversity and its importance. A few noted that he did not succeed in communicating his message. They concluded that he conflated people’s identities, political views, religious beliefs, and extracurricular activities, trying to equate the oppression of marginalized groups to the skepticism towards those from privileged backgrounds.

Though I have my own thoughts, appreciations, and qualms in regards to Palfrey’s speech, he said something seemingly profound

that I wanted to dig deeper into. He said: “My call to you is to speak and act with respect to one another and also to tolerate views that may seem deeply wrong to you. Actually, I’d go one further. I’d urge you to seek out those with views distant from your own and see what you can glean from hearing about them. Sure, you may simply come away convinced that you were right all along. Nothing good, in human history, has come of societies retreating to homogeneity or to demagoguery. It can be tempting, for all sorts of reasons. But it’s not a good idea. And we, here in this intentional community – we can do better.”

I could pick out a few good nuggets of wisdom in this quote. If the word “views” did not have such a heavy, political connotation associated with it, I would see the validity in Palfrey’s statement. I, however, disagree with it as a whole.

If there is one thing I appreciated from taking History 300 my Senior year, it is that I did not take two terms of the class amidst the stress and pressure of applying to college. After receiving my first college acceptance in the beginning of Winter Term, I was able to become a lot more intrinsically motivated in my classes. I listened a lot more closely and attentively, specifically in History class. The readings and discussions in class pointed to a trend in the history of the United States: Those of privileged identities have never been able to fully contextualize the experiences of those who identified differently from the norm. What has resonated most with me is the parallel between this trend and the social dynamics at Andover.

If I could offer a revision to Palfrey’s statement, it would be: “Nothing good, in human history, has come of class-privileged, white or white-passing, straight, cisgender, men retreating to homogeneity or to demagoguery.”

For those who have marginalized identities, for those who come from less privileged backgrounds, for those who feel isolated, and for those who are the first in their family to have access to social mobility, it is a lot harder, more difficult, and more painful to seek out views different from their own, considering that such views probably negate some aspect of their own identity.

As a black American, it is hard for me to willingly seek out those views that try to discredit my experiences or attempt to question my existence. It is hard for me to willingly seek out views that demonize immigrants and those of lesser economic privilege. It is hard for me to willingly seek out views that belittle women, gender-nonconforming individuals, and those who aren’t cisgender. The list goes on.

To tolerate the different views of one’s peers for the sake of existing in an intentional, pseudo-liberal, and tolerant-yet-not-totally-accepting community is like effacing a crucial part of myself. The experience of a student of a marginalized group is already alienating. Marginalized students already have to speak on behalf of their identity category. That work of always having to represent the “other” is mentally and emotionally taxing. Asking those students to try to have a “kumbaya” moment and seek out the views that trivialize and politicize their experiences is unfair and perpetuates cultural voyeurism. I feel as though under-represented students are paraded as a token of the institution to show how far Andover has come since the days of the “old boys club.” In the classroom, our identities and backgrounds come up as intellectual debates, and we are left often uncomfortable as our more privileged counterparts take a peek into our lives through an objective and sterile lens.

Therefore, I advocate for homogeneity. Yes, I believe that students from marginalized backgrounds should have spaces to themselves. In these spaces, they can live their truths and be authentically themselves. In my safe space, “Team Nubian,” I feel relieved. When I am in the comfort of those who share a prime aspect of my identity as well as similar views and thoughts as myself, I feel joy, because I often find that I can’t afford to engage with dissenting opinions. Therefore, I ask my fellow students who have felt the same pressure to create their own ‘team’, their own safe space. You owe it to yourself.

Avery Jonas is a four-year Senior from Brooklyn, NY, and was a Managing Editor for The Phillipian, vol. CXXXVIII.

Elliott Works to Stay Balanced in Role as Dean of Students

Continued from A1, Col. 1

“Trying to create a culture of consent has been one of our goals this year in terms of reading and discussing with peers on other campuses and thinking about how best to go about creating a healthy space here,” said Elliott.

In the coming year, Elliott hopes to make progress on a variety of student issues, including healthy relationships, all-gender housing, and the role of student leadership on campus. Elliott has worked closely with the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center team to develop an Empathy and Balance curriculum that will expand upon the current Personal and Community Education (PACE) seminar.

Mentoring and training three new Cluster Deans has been one of Elliott’s biggest projects this year, and she considers the group dynamic one of her greatest sources of pride in the position thus far.

“I’m probably really most proud of right now the fact that

the [Cluster Deans] function as a really supportive team. We don’t always agree, and that’s a really important thing, that we can challenge each other, but that feels right, and I feel like that sense of collegiality and support and generosity of spirit, I hope extends to the ways we interact with kids and our colleagues,” said Elliott.

Elliott, who is an Instructor in History and Head Coach Andover Girls Squash, cites interacting with students as her favorite aspect of the job – even if it is also the most challenging.

“Probably my greatest challenge is that I’m typically a pretty upbeat, happy person, and as a parent I know this, that you only feel as happy as your least happy child. In this role, we always have a student who feels like he or she is really struggling, and trying to know that and be mindful of that and take care of these individuals and, at the same time, feel like you have to be upbeat – that’s hard,” said Elliott.

When Elliott first learned

of her appointment, she fell back on the support and mentorship she received from Paul Murphy ’84, the Dean of Students from 2008 to 2015, who worked with Elliott while she served as the Dean of Abbot Cluster.

“I was super excited and probably pretty freaked out at the same time,” said Elliott. “Mr. Murphy has been a really important mentor for me, and I got to work with him for three years when I was the Abbot Cluster Dean... He was right there in terms of offering guidance and support and advice... I hope to be anywhere near as supportive as I felt Mr. Murphy was while I was a Cluster Dean.”

Murphy said, “I think she’s leading well. She’s got a couple of new Cluster Deans – three people who are new to Cluster Deaning this year. That’s a lot of work, just mentoring those folks. There’s a whole office to run, and I think she’s done that very well. I think she’s put her good spin on the job in the sense that she’s not me, so she

gets to be herself, and she’s set a good example for having a good attitude.”

Elliott hopes to continue to be even-minded and goal-oriented during the next five years of her term as Dean of Students.

“I’m constantly trying to find that balance between keeping school and doing ev-

eryday things and keeping up, and then also sort of keeping a set of clear aspirations and things that we really want to get done. This is a finite period of time. I’m one year into a six-year term, so there’s a bunch of things that we’d really love to keep moving on, trying to find that balance,” said Elliott.



L.LUO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Jennifer Elliott '94 was the Dean of Abbot Cluster from 2012 to 2015.

Stowe’s Impact Remembered at Andover

Continued from A1, Col. 5

Elliott regards Stowe’s legacy in U.S. history as one of great impact.

“Harriet Beecher Stowe is one of the most influential figures in U.S. history. Her novel, ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin’ played a significant role in raising awareness of the horrors of slavery in much of the U.S. – most importantly in areas of the U.S. where slavery was not seen or experienced firsthand. This raised awareness garnered support for the abolitionist movement that was essential in challenging the expansion of slavery and ultimately igniting the Civil War,” said Elliott.

Elliott served as a house counselor in Stowe House from 2012-2015.

“Our family absolutely loved living in Stowe [House]. We loved learning more about the history of the house, Harriet Beecher Stowe’s impact on our community and her life while she was in Andover. We loved having nine girls living with us, and I very much believed that Harriet Beecher Stowe’s spirit was there empowering, emboldening, and inspiring us,” said Elliott.

Buried in the Chapel Cemetery by George Washington Hall, Stowe’s influence and her passion for writing remain values still integrated throughout campus today.



T.RYNNNE/THE PHILLIPIAN
Harriet Beecher Stowe’s grave in the Chapel Cemetery.



T.RYNNNE/THE PHILLIPIAN

A tender embrace was shared by Seth Bardo and his English-100 and Rosebud-elective student Peter Hahn '16.

Andover Bids Farewell to Retiring Faculty

Continued from A1, Col. 4

“He questioned my choice of vocabulary, challenged the validity of my arguments, and informed me on many occasions that my thesis was, in fact, a fact. He was the first teacher I met that would look me in the eye and tell me that my work was simply not up to par. But, he never left me there,” said Hahn.

“Rosebud’s success was built entirely on Mr. Bardo’s ability to foster trust in between the students... It was a class [dedicated to] self-exploration. In the span of two weeks, [my class started] from a collective of individuals into a tight-knit group. A group that followed the example of our benevolent leader,” Hahn continued.

Marcello Rossi '16, Marwa Al Alawi '16, and Fadzai Gambiza '16 all spoke in recognition of Dalton, recounting their stories of her compassion and ability to inspire her students in her history courses. Dalton came to Andover 36 years ago and has served as the Co-Director of the Brace Center for Gender Studies.

Al Alawi said, “I came in as a new international student from Bahrain, who was never exposed

to U.S. History before. From the very first moment I walked up to [Dalton] to share my concerns, she helped me. She held my hand and supported me all the way through... With every step I took, Dr. Dalton’s words helped push me forward. And with every effort I put into her class, it felt like her genuine care gave me a welcome pat on the back.”

Peyton McGovern '16 spoke about Koolen, expressing how he made her love his Biology-100 class although she did not take naturally to biology. She admired Koolen’s daily humor and passion for various undertakings, qualities she thought those in the audience should seek to emulate.

“Despite the tangible records of his contributions here, such as the list of dorms he’s lived in or the vast number of classes he’s taught, I think Mr. Koolen’s greatest gift to [Andover] is how he lives his daily life as an exemplary human being,” said McGovern. “The way Mr. Koolen conducts himself embodies the goodness of the human spirit, and [he] has taught me two lessons that I believe are valuable for everyone here today. The first is to do every project you partake in with passion... The second is to add humor into your daily life as

much as possible.”

Walter’s career at Andover was honored by Charles Stacy '16, Co-Head of The Fidelio Society, a student choir co-directed by Walter. Stacy expressed his appreciation for Walter’s continuous support and for his work as an integral part of the music department at Andover for 39 years.

“If there’s one thing I’ve learned about Mr. Walter during my four years here is that he is patient... It shows during the countless number of times he asked chorus or Fidelio to stop talking between singing. It comes when people forget their music. And when he tirelessly rehearses students – both amateur and expertised. It has taken me all of these four years to realize that he’s been extremely patient with me... Mr. Walter deals with my incessant chatter, always keeps me in check, and always reminds me for whom I’m writing the music,” said Stacy.

Krishna Canning '16 and Louis Aaron '18 concluded ASM with a rendition of Bob Dylan’s “Dream,” providing a time for reflections for the student and faculty body.

Students Reflect On Andover’s Response To International Tragedies

Continued from A1, Col. 3

Alex-Maree Roberts '16 became involved with PANDA after Tropical Storm Erika hit her home in Dominica last August.

Roberts said, “Ms. Torabi told me about [PANDA]. I was sitting in Commons for a couple of days and people made donations to rebuild schools damaged [by the tropical storm]. [My campaign] lasted about a week and a half. It was a short project but the school’s response was pretty great.”

Torabi also acts as a mentor to international students every year, constantly reaching out to offer support and guidance. One of Torabi’s previous advisees often struggled due to trauma experience back home. The student, who was from Syria, often stepped out of class due to overwhelming sounds and excessive pressure.

Torabi said, “Whenever there was a loud sound – such as when a student was playing a loud game on his iPhone and it



L.LUO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Alex-Maree Roberts '16 is from Dominica.

sounded like thunder or something explosive sound – the girl just ran. She would run out of class because she couldn’t handle it at all. In this case, I would say that our school was a bit overwhelmed because we really didn’t understand what this girl had gone through.”

Torabi believes, however, that Andover’s demanding environment helped her advisee better express her thoughts and grow from the challenges

Torabi said, “[This student] was really good [at] talking and sharing her experience, so she presented a few times in front of her peers and she actually gave them a good lesson, reminding them of what is important, of what matters in life.”

Dia said, “The school is extremely fast-paced, so whatever happens, even if [faculty] are like ‘We know that you are going through a tough time, you need to keep moving on. It’s just kind of hard [to be at Andover] if you are just deeply affected by something,” said Dia.



J.SCHMITT/THE PHILLIPIAN
Susanne Torabi is the International Student Coordinator.

Pick up your copy of Commencement 2016 next week!

History Department Leads Discussion On Implementation of Civil War Memorial

Continued from A1, Col. 5

The forum was moderated by Head of School John Palfrey and featured a panel of history teachers, including Jones; Damany Fisher, Instructor in History; Mary Mulligan, Instructor in History; and Chris Joel, Director of Business Services and a former Marine.

The forum began with the panelists delivering opening remarks proposing potential discussion topics for students.

Fisher, who teaches History 300 and will teach a course on the American Civil War, asked the attendees whether or not the Andover community can judge those that fought for the

South, whether military service ought to be honored regardless of the principles motivating it, and whether omitting the stories of the alumni that fought for the South would tell an incomplete version of history.

Reading from the “Cornerstone Speech” by Alexander Stephens, who served as Vice President of the Confederacy throughout the war, Fisher stated that the South entered the war in an effort to protect the centrality of slavery, white supremacy, and racism.

In his speech, Stephens wrote, “Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite idea; its foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests, upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that

slavery subordination to the superior race is his natural and normal condition.”

Jones concurred with Fisher’s analysis of the racist principles that the Confederacy was founded upon, but also framed the discussion in terms of viewing the Civil War as a conflict surrounding the slave trade.

In an interview with *The Phillipian*, Jones said, “The Civil War is ever-present. If we understand the Civil War as this terrible cataclysm that was really about the experience of racial slavery in America, then the legacy of that conflict is our obligation to always strive towards a more equitable society.”

The legacy of Harriet Beecher Stowe, who authored “Uncle

Tom’s Cabin,” and the role that women had in shaping the course of the war were also considered in terms of their relevance to a war memorial.

Flynn Bryan '18, an attendant of the forum, said, “I thought it was handled really well. I thought that Dr. Fisher’s insight in particular was very good because he definitely knew exactly what he was talking about.”

Jones said, “I think there will be a memorial and I think everyone, not only everyone in the panel, but my sense was everyone who spoke in the room seemed to think that a memorial was a very good idea, so I believe what will happen.”



E.KAUFMANN-LADUC/THE PHILLIPIAN

The Memorial Bell Tower commemorates Andover alumni who served in World War I.

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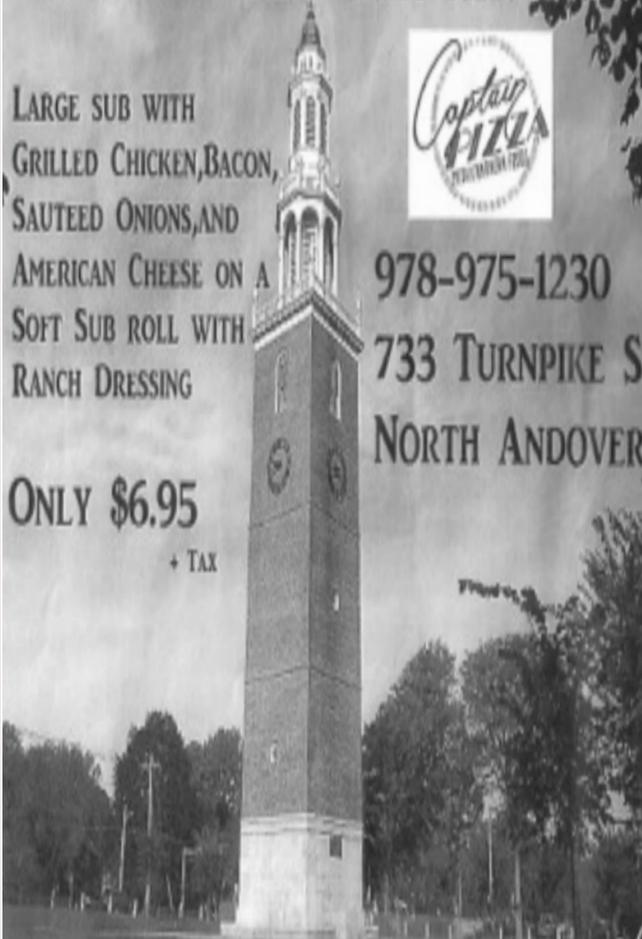
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Fire Up Your Grill: It's Prom Roasting Season



Kyle Kingston '16 & Ben Andresen '17

It's that cool Blue Key Head with the bucket hat!
Grade: Oh never mind, it's just Ben.

Sloane Sambuco '16 & Misha Song '16

She thinks she's something special, he thinks he's going into the NHL.
Grade: High expectations, long fall.

Gillian Cline '16 & Jax Ross '17

I wonder if he has seen the tattoo. Wait, we have all seen the tattoo.
Grade: JaxMac.

Tamar Sifri '16 & Christian Lippey '17

"Oh this couple looks nice!"
Grade: No, Mom, he's Weird.

Victoria Bergeron '16 & Peter Heckendorn '17

Varsity Basketball bench-warmers unite.
Grade: Put me in Coach!

Fire '16 & Ice '17

This has intentionally been left blank.
Grade: Euro.

Lincoln Herrington '16 & Emma Kelley '17

She's really into ALL the power he had as Front Page Editor.
Grade: 6.0.

Carson Wardell '16 & Margot Steiner '17

How will they adapt outside of silent study??
Grade: Marriage.

Orlando Figus '16 & Anna Kramer '16

Corona > Peroni.
She has a thing for guys with accents.
Grade: Bring Back Juan Pa.

Parker Tope '16 & Howard Johnson '17

I mean, he kind of looks like Durham?
Grade: She ain't got no type.

Nick Ellerton '16 & Beth Krikorian '17

She loves her in-season boys.
Grade: She Doesn't Settle.

Alex Dziadosz '16 & Sarah Humes '16

Back at it again with the Adam's Gal Pal.
Grade: Fostering love, not Division I tho.

Olivia Picchione '16 & Edward Elson '17

She likes that he's more into crumpets than Gords.
Grade: #legz.

Noah Wintman '16 & Susan Yun '17

He really wanted to go with her, she really wanted to go.
Grade: Touring Taylor.

Tyler Levine '16 & Marina Hunt '17

Ask after a race when she's exhausted and can't say no? A classic maneuver.
Grade: Short.

Diego Chavez '16 & Laura Bilal '17

They have the same exact hair.
Grade: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2...

Krishna Canning '16 & Erica Nork '16

The librarian and her liberal.
Grade: In the stacks.

Savannah Mastrangelo '16 & James Wolfe '17

She's as scary as his last name.
Grade: Ohana

Dewitt Burnham '16 & Ally Klionsky '17

California is the only thing they have in common.
Grade: Stranger Danger.

Tiffany Bauman '16 & Danny Evans '16

In a shocking turn of events, Tiffany goes with an athletic PG.
Grade: Danny's hotter.

Alessandra Allen '16 & Karissa Kang '17

Maybe they'll move to Vanuatu after Trump gets elected.
Grade: Make Vanuatu Great (Period).

Hallvard Lundevall '16 & Claire McDonnell '16

They kind of look like twins...
Grade: Second cousins don't count.

Payton Jancsy '16 & Madi Bradford '17

So, it wasn't too late to say sorry?
Grade: Fake it 'till you make it.

Brad Schlosser '16 & Roya Abedi '17

Too bad Lovers can't go to Prom.
Grade: Peach emoji.

James Flynn '16 & Courtney Masotti '17

Making a trend with the dad-bod.
Grade: #keeptheshirton.

Chris Kralik '16 & Alexa Rodriguez Pagano '16

Green eyes replacing red hair.
Grade: Nicest Kids in Town.

Elizabeth Latham '16 & Jules Gilligan '17

~~~OPERA SINGING~~~  
Grade: Shoulder Bags.

**Will Humphrey '16 & Ellie Formisano '17**

Maybe he can Walkher to the dance floor.  
Grade: Abandoning Ship?

**Claire Tellekson-Flash '16 & Andrew Reavis '17**

Big Calves, bumper stickers, and Bernie.  
Grade: Opposites Attract.

**Jennifer Kim '16 & Marcello Rossi '16**

Her gluteus maximus is more muscular than his bod.  
Grade: International Relations.

**Alessa Cross '16 & Rob DeLaus '16**

What happens in Atlantis stays in Atlantis... just kidding.  
Grade: But she doesn't bleach her hair!

**Haley Avery '16 & Pranav Tadikonda '16**

If Mom and Dad are out, who will watch the kids?  
Grade: Friend-zoned.

**All Crew Seniors & All Crew Uppers**

They will probably talk about their blisters and Erg scores the whole night.  
Grade: ROWsted.

**Jack Belluche '16 & Isabella Haegg '16**

We hope they bought a 3rd ticket for their Egos.  
Grade: Hot and humble?

**Chiraag Gohel '16, Skylar-Bree Takyi '16, & Nicole Rodriguez '17**

After a few years together, Sky and Chiraag wanted to add something spicier to their relationship.  
Grade: Upper tag-along.





# The Phillipian SPORTS

the end is near

Volume CXXXIX | Number 14

May 27, 2016



Andover Baseball poses with trophies after defeating Worcester 2-1 in the championship game.

COURTESY OF ANDOVER BASEBALL

## Andover Wins its Tenth Championship Title

### NITHISH KALPAT

With the championship game locked at a 1-1 tie in extra innings, Co-Captain Payton Jancsy '16 turned on a first-pitch fastball and slammed it far beyond the 370-foot left-field fence.

Jancsy's home run secured Andover Baseball a 2-1 victory over Worcester and a Central New England Preparatory Baseball League (Cnepsl) title.

Andover entered the tournament as the second seed and faced the third seed and its arch-rival, Phillips Exeter Academy, in the semifinals.

Andover had defeated Exeter in the regular season, and the team knew what it would take to advance to the championship game.

Head Coach Kevin Graber said, "Our mindset offensively was to be surgical, hunt fastballs in prime locations, and layoff off-speed pitches, especially early in

counts, and then battle like crazy with two strikes. We worked on it all week in practice. We'd seen Exeter's pitcher before, knew what to expect, and found success by staying true to our plan."

Throwing a complete game shutout, Travis Lane '18 played a crucial role in the team's 3-0 victory. Lane struck out seven batters, and held Exeter to just three hits. At the dish, he drove in a pair of insurance runs as well. After Andover's victory, Lane was named the tournament's most valuable player.

"This was a team we split the series with earlier in the season. I knew for us to win the game I was going to have to do my part. I worked on keeping the ball down and hitting my corners, which allowed my fielders to do most of the work behind me. Focusing on this every inning eventually led to Exeter not scoring," said Lane.

After the win, Andover learned it would face the same Worcester team that it lost to in

the Cnepsl championship game last year. The team also lost to Worcester twice during the regular season.

Jancsy said, "We knew Worcester was going to come ready to play. They got the best of us twice earlier in the season, but we knew going into the game that if we played our game, we could win it all."

With last year's defeat in the back of their minds, the team's players were determined to not let the same result happen again.

"We had an extra chip on our shoulder after losing to them last year, and to be honest, it made this year's championship that much more sweet," added Jancsy.

The game turned out to be a pitcher's duel, with Anthony Redfern '18 starting on the mound for Andover. Redfern came to watch the championship game last year, where he saw Andover fall to Worcester.

"The moment I went to the

game last year, I knew I wanted to be a part of this Andover team. Being able to get the ball from Coach Graber to go out and pitch in the championship game was an amazing experience," said Redfern.

Worcester struck first in the second inning, but Sam Conte '18 answered with a lead-off home run in the top of the third inning to even the score at one a piece.

Andover nearly lost the lead in the bottom of the seventh, as Worcester had an opportunity to notch the go-ahead run with two outs. With a runner on second base, a Worcester batter lined a ball down the right field line. However, Conte played the hero once again, leaping for the ball and making a game-saving catch to send the game into extra innings.

In the end, it was Jancsy who rose to the occasion and won the game for Andover. With one out, Jancsy crushed a solo home run to give Andover a 2-1 lead that

would last the rest of the game.

Redfern surrendered just one run and five hits through 6 innings pitched, before handing the ball off to Post-Graduate Matt Wesoloski '16 to close out the game.

The team relied on pitching from Lane, Redfern, and Wesoloski. Throughout both tournament games, Andover only allowed one run.

The victory marked Andover's tenth Cnepsl title in the 34-year history of the event. It was also the team's third championship victory in the last five years.

Coach Graber said, "We were able to win back-to-back titles in 2012 and 2013, and we came so close in 2014 and 2015. Bringing the championship back to Andover feels great, and we'll enjoy it the rest of this spring and all summer, but when we return next fall, our focus will be on 2017 and taking care of the little things that lead to success."

## SOFTBALL

### Girls Defend Championship Title

#### REUBEN PHILIP

With the score tied at 0-0 in the Big East Tournament championship game, Erin Gallo '16 hit a ball out of the infield to reach base and commence a six-run fourth inning against BB&N. By the end of the fifth inning Andover was up 10-0 and the game was ended by mercy rule. With the win, Andover captured its fifth Big East Championship in the last six years as well as its second straight title.

Throughout the tournament, Andover won games by large margins, recording victories over Tabor and Milton in its first two games on Saturday. Andover went into its first game on Sunday knowing its opponents very well, as it would be the third time it would face off against BB&N this season.

The Big East Tournament was a double-elimination tournament. Both BB&N and Andover had lost no games going into the final day of the tournament.

Andover prevailed in its first game 9-1 against BB&N, and after BB&N triumphed in the elimination bracket, the two teams squared off again in the championship game.

Gallo and Co-Captain Kristina Haghdan '17 both pitched spectacularly throughout the tournament. Haghdan pitched for 11 innings, recording 23 strikeouts, three hits, and one earned run. Gallo pitched 10 innings, tallying 17 strikeouts, five hits, and no runs. Gallo and Haghdan earned Co-MVPs for their performances last weekend.

Throughout the Big East Tournament, Andover outscored its opponents 38-1. Andover only allowed a single run due to its outstanding pitching by Gallo and Haghdan as well as its incredible defensive play in the outfield.

"Of course, defense in diamond sports begins with pitching, and Erin and Kristina were named tournament Co-MVPs in a vote of opposing coaches. Still,

as our defense improved, our pitchers didn't have to feel they had to strike out so many batters, which spread around the responsibility and, to me, as much as I love shut-down pitching, made the games more fun," said Head Coach Peter Drench.

"In our past regular season games, there had been moments when teams would be putting the ball in play and our defense wasn't stepping up. Throughout the tournament our defense was in sound and in the championship we let up zero runs," said Co-Captain Victoria Bergeron '16.

Andover has won the tournament many times in the past few years. As the most important event of the season, this year's victory is a huge and impressive accomplishment for the team.

"The [tournament] is obviously something that we look forward to all season, it's something we work towards. So winning it is a great accomplishment for us as a team," said Bergeron.

## GIRLSTRACK&FIELD

### Seniors Lead Girls to Championship

#### ANANDA KAO

Sprinting across the finish line, Captain Camille Little '16 set the meet and school record in the Girls 100-Meter Dash with a time of 11.94 seconds. After earning 123 points, 39 more than the second place finisher from Phillips Exeter Academy, Andover Girls Track won the league title at the New England Prep School Track Association (Nepsta) Division I Championships for the first time since 2011.

Little set two league and school records in the 100-Meter and 200-Meter Dash. She also came in second in the long jump and ran the last leg of the 4x100-Meter Relay to clinch Andover another first place finish.

Andover won both the 4x100-Meter Relay and the 4x400-Meter Relay. Lexi Johnson '16, Fredericka Lucas '18, Taryn Gangi '16, and Little ran the 4x100. Lucas, Sarah Humes '16, Michaela Jones '18, and Caroline Shipley '16 ran in the 4x400.

Despite several outstanding individual performances, the entire team contributed to the resounding victory. Gangi said, "Winning the championship feels amazing because it's a way for us to demonstrate to everyone - including ourselves - how hard we've truly worked all season, and the reason for that work."

Jones said, "Going into the weekend I think everyone believed we could do it, and on paper it looked like we could do it, but it feels great to have actually won. We have been working hard this whole season for this moment and it is nice to feel that our hard work paid off."

After a heart-breaking



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Sarah Humes '16 captured a victory in the 100-Meter Hurdles.

second place finish last year, every member of the team was determined to come out on top this season.

Lucas said, "The championship shows how much we've improved as a team. We went from scoring 82.5 points last year to 123 points this year, and we had numerous personal bests. We worked hard all season to get stronger and faster and it paid off with this win."

Humes and Shipley each placed in two races, and both ran legs of the 4x400-Meter Relay. Humes won the 100-Meter Hurdles with a time of 15.82 seconds and came in second in the 300-Meter Hurdles. Shipley won the 400-Meter Dash with a time of 58.64 seconds and came in fifth in the 200-Meter Dash.

Shipley said, "I know this is something we all knew we were capable of since our first Interschols freshman year, and it's such a perfect way to end our time with Andover track. I think the

Seniors especially inspired one another to be our best - we all wanted to win it for each other."

Jones and Lucas, two-year members of the team, proved to be vital assets to Andover's victory. Jones won the 800-Meter Run with a time of 2:19:17 minutes, and came in second in the 3000-Meter Run. Lucas came in fourth in the High Jump, and ran in both of the winning relays.

The victory came from each member's devotion to the team and the effort put forward by each and every person.

Deyana Marsh '17 said, "Our hearts were all out in that track, there was nothing left of us. We gave everything for the team. The energy, the morale, the spirit of the team was all high and we just wanted it for our Seniors, for our coaches, for ourselves, for [Track & Field]. We were hungry for the win and we went out and gave it our all."



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Andover Softball takes a celebratory selfie after winning the championship.

GIRLSTENNIS

# Girls Place Second in Nepsac Tournament, Fall to Milton

JENNIFER LEE

In a high intensity match, Charlotte Welch '18 handled the pressure with ease, smacking a precisely placed volley deep into the court to put Milton's third seed doubles players back on their heels. Welch and her partner Lauren Fanning '19 came back from a 6-2 deficit to claim a 9-8 win in an 8-6 tiebreaker for Andover Girls Tennis in the finals of the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (Nepsac) Tournament on Sunday, where Andover placed second overall with a 5-3 loss to Milton.

Head Coach Deborah Chase wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*, "The team played our best tennis of the season for sure, especially in the finals against Milton. No one let up until the final point was played. I was proud of how we came back from behind on several courts both in doubles and singles and saw incredible performances across the board. I was also proud of how we carried ourselves with dignity throughout."

Leading up to the finals, An-



Dariya Zhumashova '17, playing first seed doubles with Co-Captain Reagan Posorske '17, captured a doubles win.

dover earned impressive 5-0 wins over Thayer and Groton in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively.

Lauren Fanning '19 said, "Overall, we all tried our best and were able to put everything

out on the court. All the matches we had previously played led up to this, and we were all able to do our best. Throughout the tournament, we kept our composure, and that also helped us come back in certain matches

and win."

Against Milton, first seed doubles players Co-Captain Reagan Posorske '17 and Dariya Zhumashova '17 earned an 8-5 win, while Fanning also won her singles match 6-2, 6-4.

Katherine Hu '19 fought off a match point in the second set to win 7-5, but ultimately fell in a ten-point tiebreaker.

Katherine Hu '19 said, "This team's second-place finish reflects how hard we worked and trained to get to the Nepsac finals. We have improved individually and as a team. We have gained experience through our wins and losses. Because the score was so close, it shows that we have improved since and learned from our mistakes."

Next season, the team hopes to continue its success.

Co-Captain Isabella Haegg '16 said, "I couldn't have been more proud of these girls. The results of New England were determined by only a few points here and there - it couldn't have been any closer. I am always blown away by these girls' poise, composure, and determination. They fight off match points, they run down every ball, and they play with intelligence and class. The tennis team has undoubtedly been the highlight of my time at Andover, and I'm so excited to hear about the team's success next year."

## ULTIMATE

# Andover Finishes as Runner-Up

ANDY KIM

Scoping out a low throw from the opposing team aimed directly at the end zone, Co-Captain Darian Bhatena '16 laid out for a superb defensive block, depriving the Choate point. Maintaining a focused, zealous atmosphere throughout the New England Prep School Ultimate League Tournament last Saturday, Andover Ultimate finished the tournament in second place.

Co-Captain James Wolfe '17 said, "For the most part, we played really great defense. We faltered a bit in the beginning of the championship game, though. The team was intense, high-energy, and relentless, all the ingredients needed for a great defense. Playing four games in a day is grueling, but we prepared really well, so we had energy even toward the end. Also, besides possibly in the championship game, our zone offense worked very well. We were really persistent. A couple points, it took us a long time to work the disc up the field, but that's what it takes sometimes in a zone offense. We were focused and deliberate with our throws."

Although Wolfe was unable to compete in the first game against C.S.W., Andover displayed explicit skill in the sport, taking the win with a score of 13-3.

Following the matchup against C.S.W., Andover faced off against Hotchkiss, whom the team had defeat-



Kastan Day '16 steps in to throw a pass.

ed earlier in the season. Andover once again overcame Hotchkiss 10-6.

In the game before the final, Andover faced Choate, earning a 13-6 victory with a strong defensive performance.

In the final, Andover contended against Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH). Despite strong performances from many Andover players, NMH displayed exceptional talent in the final game, bringing Andover's three-game win streak to an end. Andover lost by a score of 11-7.

"The game against NMH was tough," said Bhatena. "We were a little psyched out at first, and we stopped playing our game. We let them get in our heads a little bit, and we lost sight of what we were playing for. That changed, though.

I can't be prouder of how we saw that game through. Even though we were down by an almost insurmountable deficit, we played the end of that game point by point, and brought our best by the end."

Reuben Philip '18 said, "Even though we lost the final game it was by far the most competitive. Our three games before the finals were not challenging our skill sets, and we were not playing the best ultimate we could. When the finals came, we [knew] NMH would be a really good team and their high level of ultimate forced us to play our best, making it the most competitive and fun game [in] the tournament."

*Editor's Note: James Wolfe is a Photography Editor for The Phillipian.*

## WATERPOLO

# Girls Place Third in Nepsac

JENNIFER LEE

After falling 16-8 to Greenwich Academy in the playoffs last Saturday, Andover Girls Water Polo went on to defeat Deerfield 8-6 to claim a third place finish at the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (Nepsac) tournament.

Post-Graduate Giulia Paletti '16 said, "We arrived at the New England Championship with a lot of energy and we were all willing to do our best, after our great victory against Loomis. The first team we faced, Greenwich, had some really good players and the game was a tough one, but the team kept a positive mindset."

Against Greenwich Academy, Paletti, Morgan Rooney '17, Allyson Ty '18, and Co-Captain Sasha Newton '16 each scored goals. The team, however, struggled to play a heavy press defense to minimize its opponents' opportunities to score.

"In the first game, Greenwich had a lot of penalty shots and their good shooters brought the score up since the beginning of the game. Even though we did a great job as a team looking for goal opportunities, Greenwich showed to be a very good team, with a lot of experienced players," said Paletti.

Against Deerfield, Newton, and Ty each scored three goals, while Sarah Al-Mayahi '17 and

Co-Captain Alexa Rodriguez Pagano '16 each scored one. Additionally, Goalie Anna Dear '16 contributed to Andover's victory, blocking multiple shots on goal.

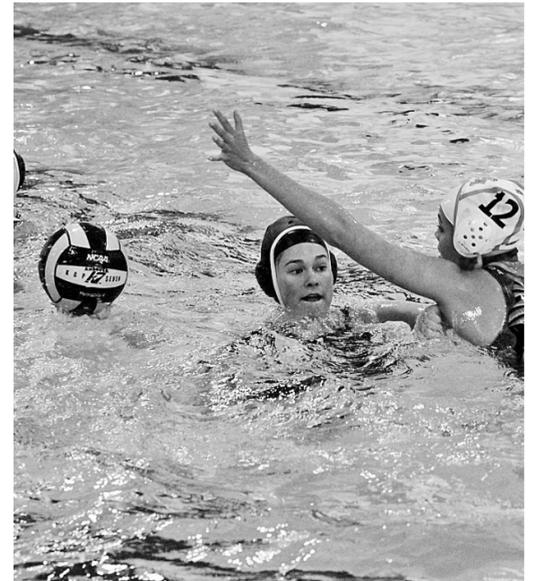
Newton said, "Our third-place finish speaks to our ability to rally despite tough odds. We were the underdogs heading into the end of our season. We had previously lost twice to Loomis but were able to rally in the play-in game. Then in the tournament, we continued to employ our grit and focus as a team, which led to our success. Our third-place finish speaks to our determination, our collabo-

ration, and our desire to win."

The team is looking forward to continuing to be a strong force in the pool next season.

Head Coach Dan O'Shea said, "To see our girls bounce back, realize their potential, and finally come together was a wonderful thing to have happened. They played very hard to get to where they finished, and they absolutely deserve their ranking as one of the top teams in New England."

*Editor's Note: Sarah Al-Mayahi is an Illustration Editor for The Phillipian.*



Jess Gearan '18 wards off a defender.

## TRACK&FIELDFEATURE

# Alex Apgar '17 and Noah Ward '17 Shine in Nepsta Championships

ANJUNAE CHANDRAN

Shuffling to the line, Alex Apgar '17 leaned back with his right arm outstretched and flung the javelin 162 feet and 4 inches. Across the field, Noah Ward took a deep breath, spun in a circle, and threw the discus 172 feet and 3 inches. Apgar's throw went on to win the New England Prep School Track Association (Nepsta) Division I Javelin Championship, and Ward's throw broke the Andover School Record.

Last Saturday, Andover Boys Track & Field ventured to Phillips Exeter Academy for the Nepsta Division I Championship Meet. Although the team only secured fifth place out of 12 teams, Andover still triumphed over Exeter. Some of the highlights of the meet were the performances of the team's throwers, especially those of Apgar and Ward.

Although Apgar picked up the javelin for the first time this year, he has had a triumphant personal season. As the season progressed, his throwing improved enormously, especially after adding an effective run-up to his throws.

Apgar said, "On the day I went out there, did everything I had been practicing, listened

to [Coach Richard] Gorham, listened to my body to make sure I wasn't hurting, and I was able to inch out the other competitors. On meet days like that I wasn't thinking about setting a new PR [Personal Record] or receiving a certain number of points; even at Interschols my ambition wasn't to win, but my foremost goal was to help the team out in every way possible. The fact that my best efforts transpired into a first place finish is absolutely exciting, but more so was the fact that I was able to contribute to the team, especially when it made the difference in our interschols triumph against Exeter."

Apgar's championship day was accompanied by the excitement surrounding Ward's record-breaking discus throw.

Ward said, "I've been trying to break this [discus] record for a while and throughout the season I always came up just a little bit short. However, at Interschols there was good competition from all the teams but especially Exeter's top thrower. So we went back and forth and he was able to push me past my PR resulting in my best throw."

Ward's throwing prowess has been a combination of his innate athleticism and Ando-

ver's excellent throwing program.

Throwing Coach Louis Bernieri said, "We develop throwers from when they are ninth graders. We also have always been excited about the throwing program. Also, we have been the dominant throwing program in New England on

and off for the last 40 years. To have all these 11th graders who are top throwers, it is incredibly exciting. Next year for the championship meet, for the throwers, it could be all ours. We work with boys and girls together and that's a really great thing to have. Some years our girls are better and some

years our guys are. For me as a coach for 39 years, it has been a great joy to work with [Andover] athletes in the throws."

The future looks bright for Uppers Apgar and Ward, as both of the athletes hope to increase their PRs and improve next year.



Alex Apgar '17 and Noah Ward '17 have led a core of talented throwers for Andover Boys Track & Field.

T.RYNNE/THE PHILLIPIAN

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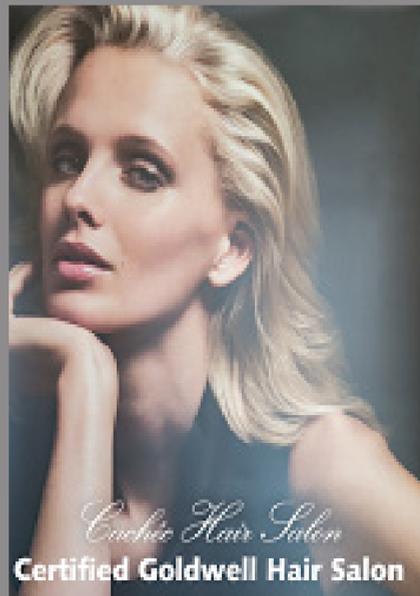
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# Arts & Leisure

A. TAMKIN / THE PHILLIPPIAN

## Sara Luzuriaga '16 Spins Philosophy into Senior Dance Project

LAUREN W. LEE

As the lights shifted to a tint of blue, four dancers emerged center stage holding hands and gathered around Sabrina Appleby '17. While Appleby turned her head to the left, two dancers ran backwards, seemingly controlled by her movement. This unique movement

from "On the Spirit of Gravity," performed to David Bowie's "Five Years" was one of many stylistic techniques throughout the dances that captivated the audience.

"I loved the energy of ['On the Spirit of Gravity'] and the way the movement allowed the dancers to come alive. I have been dancing with some of these girls for four years now and I loved watching

them dance to Sara's beautiful choreography," said Lydia Paris '17, one of the dancers in Luzuriaga's show.

"Everything Goes, Everything Comes Back," a THDA-902 Senior Dance Project by Sara Luzuriaga '16, was held last Friday in the Modern Studio of Borden Gym. The project consisted of seven dances and was guided by Judith Wombwell, Chair of the Theatre and Dance Department.

Inspired by her Choreographic Elements and Existentialism classes taught by Erin Strong, Instructor in Dance, and Thomas Hodgson, Instructor in Philosophy and Religious Studies, respectively, Luzuriaga thought this project would be a great opportunity to continue her research in both areas for each class.

"It was a real privilege to get to work with such amazing dancers, to get to experiment on them and try to bring [Nietzsche's, a German philosopher], ideas to life. The whole project was really a lot of trial and error, putting phrases in different arrangements and different facings, and seeing what

happened. The dancers did my choreography so beautifully, and it really all came together amazingly on Friday. These dancers are my peers and friends, and to see them dance my choreography was so humbling and emotional," said Luzuriaga.

A highlight of the show was, "On the Moonlit Sky," a duet performed by Appleby and Hannah Beaudoin '17. Opening with Beaudoin sitting on the right corner of the stage, Appleby walked upstage, imitating Beaudoin's position, causing Beaudoin to look towards Appleby. Laying down side by side on the floor, the dancers kicked their legs while rolling over one another.

"['On the Moonlit Sky'] was meant to represent two people, each experiencing a different sort of pain, but struggling to keep loving and supporting each other," said Luzuriaga. "Sabrina and Hannah are incredible dancers and have such a strong friendship outside the dance studio, so working with the two of them really allowed me to experiment with different types of partnering and cool,

quirky movements."

Wearing gray dresses, the show concluded with 14 dancers performing a piece titled, "On the Last Time" to LCD Soundsystem's "All My Friends." Sitting in the same position as Beaudoin in her previous dance, three dancers appeared in a purple light while rolling their heads in unison. As a more upbeat piece, the dancers integrated a variety of rises, attitude kicks, and slow walks, as performed in previous pieces.

"['On The Last Time'] was meant to tie in some of the threads that I had woven in throughout the show. It was the only piece that featured all 14 dancers, but I didn't want it to feel like a finale. I had the dancers perform phrases in different groupings and facings, structuring the space of the stage in a way that was somewhat chaotic," said Luzuriaga. "I visualized this ending one night as I was trying to sleep. I'm still not quite sure what it means, but I thought it was very visually striking and somehow symbolic, though I'm still not sure how."



R. KINDANGEN / THE PHILLIPPIAN

Sara Luzuriaga '16 choreographed a seven-dance show, "Everything Goes, Everything Comes Back."

## Charles Stacy '16 Performs Original Compositions at Senior Concert

ROMULUS SOTTILE

For an encore and a "promposal," Stacy performed on the violin to Angela Tang '16 on the piano. The piece was dedicated to Stacy's girlfriend, Daphne Gatte '16. In contrast to a lot of Charles's other compositions which jump around in pitch and dynamic and tone, often all at the same time, this song was reserved and quite lovely. The piano

This piece was one of five plus an encore that was performed at Stacy's senior recital last Saturday in Cochran Chapel. The first half of the performance featured the string quartet along with "Spanish Songs", also by Shostakovich, which Stacy sang in Russian. The rest was all composed by Stacy.

"String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110" was Shostakovich's parody on what Stalin and his regime wanted him to compose. The first of five movements opens with his musical signature, D-S-C-H. That

movement, slow and creepy, leads into a section that is speedy and intense. The drama builds to a climax that dwindles down for minutes on end into a final note that seems to never end.

Herbert Rimerman '17, an audience member, said, "[The performers] work really well together as a team, and it definitely shows in the performance... [String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110 has] got incredible motifs that it keeps bringing back throughout the entire piece. It actually has movements that run together. They don't really have pauses in between, and that creates a really cool effect despite the fact that it is divided into movements... It really has a very evocative score, especially with the third movement which is sort of like a demonic waltz."

The next piece was "Broken Suite for Keyboards". The first movement featured the organ played by Forrest Eimold. The initial loudness of the organ subsided into quieter, sustained notes. Stacy

came in for the second movement on the celeste which explored the range of sound that the instrument could produce. Eimold came back on the piano for a longer, darker section, using a variety of motifs. Sergio De Iudicibus then came in on the harpsichord for a simple and joyful movement. The fifth movement combined all the instruments.

"I didn't have any inspiration for the "Broken Suite for Keyboards." So I just picked up on a tone row, a series of 12 notes, that my teacher, Rodney Lister, told me about, and that became the center around which the piece revolved," said Stacy.

At Andover, Stacy has picked up more than four instruments including the viola, trombone, bassoon, and harp. His life as a composer and conductor also started here.

"Everyone has been remarkable. Especially Mr. Walter, who has never really cast an eye down upon my sometimes crazy compositions. He's really been supportive.



E. KAUFMANN-LADUC / THE PHILLIPPIAN

Charles Stacy '16 plays more than four instruments.

He's been a great friend. Dr. Jacoby, of course, has taught me for four years now, and he's always been

supportive of my compositions. [Also] Rodney Lister, my other teacher at NEC," said Stacy.

## Janice Cheon '16 Draws Inspiration from Shostakovich in Senior Dance

HANNAH ZHANG

With a sudden crescendo, Janice Cheon '16 began playing a fierce melody on her violin as Isabelle Bicks '18 performed a high kick to match the increasing intensity of the music. Cast in an orange light, five dancers transitioned from the

previous mood of serenity and calm to a discordant atmosphere by jumping and twirling across the stage. The dance, in combination with the frenetic music, created a sense of conflict and discomfort within the performance.

Choreographed by Cheon for her THDA-902 Senior Dance Project, the dance was based on

musical themes and moods from Dmitri Shostakovich's "String Quartet No. 8, Op. 110." The dance featured Lizzie McGonagle '16, Sabrina Appleby '17, Bicks, Suning Wang '18, and Romulus Sottile '19, and was accompanied by a string quartet composed of Cheon, Florian Geyer '16, Charles Stacy '16, and William Wang '17.

"[Dimitri Chostakovich] has been and is one of my favorite composers and I've had this idea germinating for about two years now. The quartet yields itself so well to choreography because the use of motifs and also just the percussive nature of it and the different characters of each movement... I thought [this 902] was the perfect opportunity, plus through this project, I was able to combine my passion for music and for dance. It was just a nice way to wrap up everything that I did at Andover," said Cheon.

Illuminated by red lights, the five dancers entered a formation with Sottile in the middle and Appleby, Bicks, McGonagle, and Wang surrounding him during the

second movement of the piece. Contrary to the vigorous quality of the music, the dancers began to move in slow motion as one, single unit. They swayed with the rhythm of the piece, moving side to side, until the music reached its climax and they formed a circle, suddenly dropping to the floor.

"I loved the second movement, the end when everybody goes into slow motion. That was a very new idea, I always try to choreograph to the beats but pushing myself to do something that goes completely against the music was really cool too," said Cheon.

During the fourth movement of the song, Appleby knelt on the ground while Sottile hugged her. Bicks, McGonagle, and Wang formed a circle, meant to represent a "house" according to Cheon, around the pair, elegantly pacing around the duo. As the circle disbanded, Sottile and Appleby transitioned into a pas de deux, a dance for two people, as they leaped and twirled across the stage. The soft tone of the quartet combined with purple lighting created an air of ro-

mance and tranquility onstage.

"My favorite part is definitely the little interlude between the fourth movement... I just think that it's so powerful and it's this last, almost oasis, of calm and affection before everybody succumbs to death or totalitarianism. That was one of my favorite parts and working with Romulus and Sabrina. It was my first time choreographing a pas de deux and seeing it in action [was] really cool," said Cheon.

For Cheon, dance has always been a big part of her life at Andover. She has participated in dance as a sport in addition to being a part of Andover Dance Group since her Junior Winter.

"The teachers and older students helped me foster this love and desire to keep dancing. [Dance] also has been such a release for me because every time I was stressed with schoolwork or something, I would find solace in the dance studio or just in technique class or sitting down, turning on music and saying, 'Okay, I am going to choreograph a piece,'" said Cheon.



K. KWANG / THE PHILLIPPIAN

Sabrina Appleby '17 and Romulus Sottile '19 were among five performers in the dance.

## Art-500 Students Grapple with Abstract Concepts in Gelb Gallery Exhibit

SERENA REN

In the corner of the Gelb Gallery, "Facial Recognition," is projected on woven polyester. The film, which plays on repeat, shows various people smiling, laughing, being serious, or sad. With the sound intentionally muted by Emma Kaufmann-LaDuc '17, the creator of the film, the elemental reactions of excitement, confusion, thought, or nothingness are emphasized.

Kaufmann-LaDuc is one of the six students in the ART-500 course who are currently displaying a collection of their recent artworks in the Gelb Gallery as part of a new spring exhibit. It features pieces that range from oil paintings to video game designs.

Inspired by her favorite book, "The Song of Achilles" by Madeline Miller, and artists Max Ernst, Kara Walker, and Robyn O'Neil, Margot Shang's '16 mixed media installation occupies an entire wall. A variety of small and large

pieces are scattered across the wall. Each is a collage of text from the book, photocopied drawings, pen and ink, and acrylic paint, predicated on experimentation.

"My project is mainly in response to my favorite book because when I am confused about something, have a lot on my mind, or am just generally feeling like a little bit lost, I return to my favorite books that made me who I am to think through things. I'd say all the work here are both a response to the text but then showing how I use the text to try to figure out and process my own emotions and feelings," said Shang.

On the wall facing Shang's piece, "Loose Love," a collection of portraits painted and drawn by Camilla Guo '17, is displayed. Colorful oil paintings integrated with more abstract ink sketches with India ink, washed backgrounds, and charcoal or graphite drawings fill the wall. For this project, Guo was encouraged by Zemlin to let loose and experiment.

"I was trying to express grati-

tude [with this project]. It is easy to get caught up in Upper year and feel like everything is so hard for you and you are feeling alone in certain moments and you really are not. So even though not all these people consider me as someone who depended on them, they were so helpful to me," said Guo.

"Security Blanket," a wall hanging made from woven yarn was inspired by Kelsey Norris's '16 childhood obsession with willow trees. She fell in love with them after reading her favorite book, "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett. To Norris, willow trees symbolize a secret hiding place, protected by their thick veil of leaves. The large size of the piece brought Norris many challenges.

"I had to weave each half of the tree separately and I had to try and do some guess-check measuring, because I needed it to match up, bottom-to-bottom, top-to-top. That was really hard. When you do pattern and then a more loose design, it causes the weft, which is



T. TRYNNE / THE PHILLIPPIAN

Lara Danovitch '16 created a piece focused on body image.

the strings that go up and down, to either go out or in, so that it's not the same thickness all the way. I had to make really sure to pull all

the strings tight and be a uniform, straight line," said Norris.

The gallery will be on display until June 6th, 2016.

# Arts & Leisure

## Theatre 901 Review: “Recent Tragic Events” Tackles Topics of Death and Disaster

**MICHELLE JEON**

Surrounded by darkness, a TV screen suddenly turns on and begins flickering through various news channels, all playing clips from the day of 9/11. The videos show images of the Twin Towers in flames after being hit by two commercial planes in the 2001 terrorist attack on the Towers. So begins “Recent Tragic Events,” a Theater-901 production directed by Theo Pérez '16.

The play focuses on the aftermath of 9/11. The five characters all react to the tragedy in a different way. As they attempt to come to terms with what happened, each character juggles the concept of fate and its capacity to redefine lives and connect strangers.

“For all of us students here, who were way too young to remember anything of the day, we don’t realize just how catastrophic [9/11] was. I didn’t even know when I first started directing the play and casting, but it was really talking with older adults that I learned a lot about how significant it was. I got everyone to interview older individuals who had lived through the event. I had everyone watching documentaries, reading clips, watching newsreels from the day, and really trying to get that level of it, so that was sort of what was special about this play,” said Perez.

The show was prefaced by Lesley Tilghman '19, its stage

manager, who asked a volunteer from the audience to flip a coin. She explained that depending on what side the coin landed on, a different course of actions would play out. Every time an event could have occurred had the coin landed a different way, a beep would sound during the story.

The play focuses on Andrew, played by Foster Conklin '16, and Waverly, played by Lizzie McGonagle '16. The two were set up on a blind date planned for the day after 9/11. Andrew is a quiet, awkward character who runs a bookstore at an airport. Waverly is an energetic, young woman who happens to share the exact same book interests as Andrew. Throughout the play, she attempts to discover what happened to her twin sister in the aftermath of 9/11.

“There are certain moments and things my character says that I really, really relate with... She just seems like a really fun character and just relaxed and together, just a very normal person so I relate with her on that level. I also relate with her on the level she cares for her sister... If I was in that situation with my sister, I would have totally been lost so I think she really does have a lot of care for the people around her. I think she really is holding it together for them which, I think, makes her incredibly strong,” said McGonagle.

Later, the audience discovers that Andrew had actually met Waverly’s twin sister before and



Ian Hurley '19 played the quirky next-door neighbor named Ron while Foster Conklin '16 played the average airport bookstore owner.

had even encouraged her to take a job in the World Trade Center, ultimately resulting in her death.

“The entire play, the premise is that I made a decision that ultimately ended up in Waverly’s... twin sister dying. It was my fault and so I have to deal with that for the entirety of the play, which kind of overrides everything else,” said Conklin.

Waverly’s neighbor, Ron, played by Ian Hurley '19, provides some of the comic relief in the show. His strange habits, such as taking of a single shoe or talking in a completely different voice, help relieve the tension of the dark topic.

“I like a lot of the stuff I do

with Ron because that’s really funny. It’s tough doing the heavier stuff for such a long time because even just acting it, it starts to actually get to you... So I really like the lighthearted, funnier moments of the show with Ron because Ian does a great job. We play off of each other and it’s good,” said Conklin.

In the second act, Joyce Carol Oates, depicted as a sock puppet played by Nell Fitts '18, spontaneously visited this group. During her visit, Joyce Carol Oates brings up the subject of destiny. Each character has a conflicting opinion on the concept. Waverly does not want to accept the fact that it was her

destiny for her sister to die. Conversely, Andrew and Ron are determined to believe there is no such thing as free will. In the end, Oates declares that free will decides everything but people’s belief in chance can give them an excuse to not do anything when confronted with a disaster like 9/11.

“The whole premise [of the argument] is weird because Joyce Carol Oates’s argument doesn’t really address either mine or Ron’s and it leaves [the question of freewill] up in the air. Theo thinks that it’s decided that free will does exist in the play. I don’t think it does but it’s open ended,” said Conklin.

## Fashion · Style · Design CHLOE’S CORNER

A weekly column by Chloe Lee '17



Wow, the school year is officially coming to an end! To get you ready for all the summer fun (and fashion), I want to share a little D.I.Y. on how to make the distressed and frayed denim cut-off shorts. Whether you are going for the overly distressed denim look or a more subdued, classic pair of ripped shorts, the basic idea is the same.

### What You’ll Need:

Jeans/jean shorts  
Permanent Marker  
Scissors

### Steps:

**1.** If you have a pair of regular old jeans that you want to cut, measure and mark with a permanent marker how much you are planning to cut. Once you have decided how short you want your shorts to be, cut off the excess on the bottom. I’ve noticed that the magic inseam length is about 3 inches. This will give you great versatility.



S.REN/THE PHILLIPIAN



S.REN/THE PHILLIPIAN

**2.** Next, cut off small triangle patterns at the bottom of your shorts, all the way across.



E.WU/THE PHILLIPIAN

**3.** Now, the edges at the bottom of your shorts are more frayed and loose from cutting the triangular patterns. You should be able to see threads that wave horizontally and vertically. Start taking the loose threads and splitting them from one another, vertically. The more horizontal threads you pull and slit, the more frayed your shorts will be.

E.WU/THE PHILLIPIAN

**4.** Now, you can stop right here, but if you also want some rips throughout the rest of the shorts, use scissors to make two parallel slits for one rip. Then, pull on the loose horizontal strands one by one. This will give you the perfect rip.

## Sean Hawkins '16, Joel Peña '16, and Tevis Vitale '16 Blow Audience Away in Senior Recital

**ANDI CHENG**

Cascading through melodic trills, Sean Hawkins '16, Joel Peña '16, and Tevis Vitale '16 closed their Senior Recital with “Trio in C Major, Op. 87” by Ludwig van Beethoven. Following the trills, a series of jarring chords disrupted the melody played by one oboe, before leading to a rapid set of scales and a single, final chord.

Hawkins, Peña, and Vitale performed in their recital last Sunday afternoon in the Timken Room of Graves Hall. The concert featured an assortment of pieces from a range of classical and contemporary origins.

Hawkins first performed “Toccata in E flat minor” by Aram Khachaturian on the piano. The piece started with a disjointed melody, gradually blending together into a smooth tune. Despite the fluid tune, hints of dissonant notes continued as the piece concluded the piece.

“I chose [the Toccata] because I thought it would be one that not everyone would know already, so it would kind of be a new piece of music for people to hear. I wouldn’t be competing with other pianists to sound better; it would just kind of be my own thing,” said Hawkins. “I like how it changes tempo a lot, and there’s also syncopation and stuff. I know it’s kind of repetitive, but I kind of like that too because there’s subtle variations.”

Following the piece, Hawkins and Vitale played “Sonata for

Oboe and Piano in D Major, Op. 166” by Camille Saint-Saëns on the oboe and piano, respectively. The piece began with gentle piano cascades followed by oboe scales. Next, rhythmic, repeating piano notes contrasted with a faster, higher-pitched oboe section to form the melody. The piece closed with a repetition of the first section.

“I had the most fun performing [the Sonata]. I think I excel most in the slow, more emotional pieces, and that was a great piece to allow me to showcase how emotionally I can play. I like it because it starts and ends with basically improvisation. The notes are there, but the way in which you play them is completely up to you, so I’m just able to make the piece my own,” said Vitale.

Peña concluded the concert with “This is the Moment” by Leslie Bricusse and Frank Wildhorn, accompanied by Hawkins on the piano. A mellow piano harmony opened the piece as Peña started singing with a soulful, sad, yet hopeful voice. The piece gradually built from its peaceful beginnings to a dramatic final chorus. Peña belted out “This was the moment, the greatest moment of them all!” closing the piece on a loud, high note.

“My favorite piece to perform was probably ‘This is the Moment.’ It’s a song that means a lot to my mom, and it’s a good culmination of my Andover career, like this is the moment that I’m moving on, this is the moment that I’m graduating,” said Peña. “Besides the meaning of the song itself, part of it’s also the vocal range. It’s a song that I’ve

heard and listened to and wanted to sing, but it’s always been out of my reach, and it’s only recently that I’ve developed the range to actually sing it.”

Although Peña first started playing the oboe in seventh grade, music has been a large part of his life since he was born.

“In Filipino culture, a big thing at parties that we do is we have karaoke, so throughout my whole life, every time we had a party, there was always a lot of music, a lot of singing, and I was always a part of it,” said Peña.

Vitale first discovered music when he started playing the oboe when he was in fifth grade. Even though Vitale started playing the instrument partially because it was a school requirement, he quickly found a love for the instrument and has been playing it ever since.

“[I think part of the reason I still play] is probably just stubbornness and not wanting to quit, but also I enjoy performing and I enjoy making music with friends and being in rehearsals and I love playing in the orchestra, and it’s an experience that you get to have with everyone,” said Vitale.

Hawkins started playing music in middle school when he learned how to play piano in third grade. Digging deeper into the art, Hawkins started oboe in eighth grade and found a love for music from playing in ensembles with other musicians.

“I really enjoyed playing in this concert not only because every piece went really well but also because it was a nice way to end my music career at Andover with my friends cheering me on,” said Hawkins.



Sean Hawkins, Joel Peña, and Tevis Vitale came together to create an afternoon of music.

SWANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

## CONCERTS

What not to miss this weekend:

### FRIDAY

Academy Concert Band  
7:00 p.m. Cochran Chapel

### SATURDAY

Chamber Music Society  
6:30 p.m. Timken Room, Graves Hall

### SUNDAY

Academy Chorus Concert  
3:00 p.m. Cochran Chapel

# Arts & Leisure

## Behind the Scenes of “Black Gods of the Asphalt”

“Black Gods of the Asphalt,” the THDA-920 play this spring, relies on a large group of student participants to bring the show to life. Several of the show’s dancers have helped choreograph parts of the performance, and the technical team is composed entirely of students who have been involved with the play since the beginning of term.

“[Having a lot of students run the play] adds authenticity. It adds more detail and life. Anybody can tell someone where to move, but if the performer knows why they’re moving, or something they even know why, they can’t really generate the actual authenticity to do it. So it’s really important that it’s a collaboration. [Students’] ideas and their impulses are honored,” said Grimm.

Here is a behind the scenes peek of “Black Gods of the Asphalt.”

### Stage Manager

The stage manager’s job is to help the show run as smoothly as possible. The stage managers of “Black Gods of the Asphalt,” Lydia Fikru ’17 and Emily Ndiokho ’18, are responsible for creating and gathering props, calling various cues during the show, and keeping everyone on track.

“The idea of taking a look and understanding a narrative that is not really addressed in predominantly white spaces such as Andover is crucial in order to empathize the stories that one might not experience in one’s life.” Stage managing a show such as ‘Black Gods’ gave me the opportunity to see who told these stories, how these stories are performed, and help bring these untold stories to a community that needs to hear them,” said Ndiokho.

Fikru added, “I basically just wanted to do it because I love theater and I love the story that was being told, especially because I spent a lot of time in Roxbury [where the play is set] growing up because that’s where my church is. So everything in the play really hit home and I just wanted to help tell a really amazing story.”



ALL PHOTOS BY TYLER RYNNNE AND ALE MACAYA



### Sound Operator

As Sound Operator, Morgan Rooney ’17 is in charge of choosing, cutting, and mixing different songs for the play. She also acts as a DJ during the show and is in charge of playing the pieces at the correct time.

“I was approached last year by [Erin Strong, Instructor in Theatre and Dance] who knows I love hip-hop and asked if I would be up for working on music for an original play. I was a bit scared, as I had never really been a part of anything with the Music or Theatre Department, but it was an awesome challenge and I was excited to have my input in something so intricate and connected to Andover,” said Rooney.

### Dramaturg and Projections Operator

The dramaturg is responsible for researching and answering any questions the cast and crew may have about the historical and cultural context of the play. In this production, Isabel Jauregui ’17 fulfilled the roll. Jauregui worked with the playwright, Onaje Woodbine, Instructor in Religion and Philosophy, to further understand the historical and social significance of parts of the play. Jauregui is also the projections operator for the production and is in charge of running the projections during the play.

“Lower Winter, I took Mr. Grimm’s hip-hop theatre course. Since learning about the infinite possibilities that meshing the two mediums allows, I’ve been curious about what it takes to make such a production. When I learned about ‘Black Gods of the Asphalt,’ I felt like this was my chance to apply my knowledge onto a fresh, never-been-done script. I signed up to discover how a team of dancers, painters, directors, and historians could create a single show,” said Jauregui.



### Assistant Director and Lightboard Operator

As assistant director, Kalina Ko ’17, works with the actors to help develop their characters and improve their performance. She works with individual members of the cast on specific monologues or moments in the play and gives notes to actors. Ko is also in charge of the light board and runs the lighting during each production.

“I think ‘Black Gods’ is unique in that the play is so dependent on each actor’s personal connection and commitment to their character and to the play. It’s really an ensemble piece because the actors are on stage for pretty much the entire show. So they have to learn to build on each other and work in sync with each other in order to make the show as powerful as it’s meant to be. If they can do this, and I think they have, the play will have a really incredible impact on the audience,” said Ko.

Editor’s note: Kalina Ko is an Arts and Leisure editor for The Phillipian.

## Painting a Story: JayShawn Fuller ’17 Creates Murals for Theatre 920 Set

### LAUREN W. LEE

As JayShawn Fuller ’17 walked down a street in Roxbury, Mass., a bright mural caught his attention. Spanning across a brick wall, the mural contained symbols from different periods of history, starting with Ancient Egypt and moving into the modern day. As he examined the mural, Fuller excitedly began envisioning his own mural. In an interview with The Phillipian, Fuller recalled taking this trip with Onaje Woodbine, Instructor in Religion and Philosophy, to find inspiration for his murals in this spring’s production of “Black Gods of the Asphalt,” which is set in Roxbury.

“It was cool to get to know some of the history [of Roxbury], and also to incorporate [the murals] into my art... I really liked [the mural showing different periods of time] because at first the symbolism was really great and I liked the evolution of the story, managing to tie in those different periods of history into the black narrative. It’s definitely stayed with me with my own work,” said Fuller.

Fuller is largely involved with art on campus through art courses. From a young age, he has been drawing in his free time, re-drawing cartoons from

TV shows and comics, and observing images from the environment around him.

“Drawing, and art in general, have always been a method of interacting with the world, in a sense. I began drawing by simply observing the world around me and capturing what I saw. Over time, my art has become an outlet for creativity and expression,” continued Fuller.

After seeing Fuller’s artwork from his ART-404 Drawing II class hanging up in Elson Art Center, Woodbine approached him about painting murals for his play, “Black Gods of the Asphalt.” Fuller took on the project as an opportunity to grow as an artist, but he also described feeling a connection to the plot of the play on a personal level.

“I think I kind of identified, not with playing basketball, but with being from an urban neighborhood and different situations that come up in terms of dealing with violent murders... I chose to tell the story through black silhouettes, because I wanted to emphasize the idea of incarnation and the life cycle,” said Fuller.

Already in the process of making three murals for the play, Fuller believes his experiences with this new art form has helped him grow as an artist. Focusing mainly on drawing before taking on this project,

Fuller has become more open to widening his skills as an artist.

“This was my first time working with the medium of paint... and it’s definitely influenced my creativity in terms of what I can make, learning to work with painting and the mural format. I was used to drawing people or things that I saw in the aspect of taking time to think about what I want to convey in my art. It’s part of the process that I’ve really enjoyed and part of myself I never really had a chance to play around with,” continued Fuller.

One of Fuller’s favorite pieces that he has painted for “Black Gods of the Asphalt” is a series of portraits. The portraits are only of the subjects’ faces and feature famous activists from Roxbury. These pieces are hung all around the set.

“With the exception of Malcolm X, all of the people that I painted were people that I had never heard of. I’d noticed that two of them, the women, named Melnea Cass and Elma Lewis, were appearing in a lot of the art I had seen around Roxbury. It turns out that one of them, the former, was a civil rights activist and a community activist, and the other was an educator. So, it was interesting to learn about these important black figures that were completely foreign to me. The men [I painted] were both victims of street vio-



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JayShawn Fuller ’17 took a trip to Roxbury to find inspiration for the play.

lence, so it was powerful to be able to learn the stories of two black men who would often be overlooked in the grand scheme of things,” said Fuller.

As he looks forward to touring with the performers in South Africa this summer to showcase “Black Gods of the Asphalt,” Fuller is also excited

to see where his passion for new art forms will take him.

“I have begun to engage in a bunch of different mediums. Painting is very new, but sometimes I like to dabble in photography, all different visual mediums. I don’t know how it happened, but I’m so glad it did,” said Fuller.

# BLACK GODS OF THE ASPHALT



ALL PHOTOS BY TRYNNE

## STAFF REPORT

Having just lost a basketball game, CJ, played by Dakoury Godo-Solo '17, forces Derrick, played by Joshua Jordan '16, to the ground with a loud shout and a quick stage punch. As Derrick lies on the floor in pain, CJ and a few other gang members repeatedly kick him. The dynamic scene shows the intensity of the basketball court in the play "Black Gods of the Asphalt" written by Onaje Woodbine, Instructor in Philosophy and Religious Studies.

"Black Gods of the Asphalt" is the Theatre-920 play this spring. The cast will also take a trip to South Africa over the summer. The play is directed by Allen Grimm, Instructor in Theater and Dance, and choreographed by Erin Strong, Instructor in Theater and Dance.

The play follows the story of three main characters: Lightsey, played by Teagan Thompson '18, Derrick, and CJ, all of whom play basketball. All three characters struggle to come to terms with the deaths of family and friends around them.

"At some point, everybody will experience some certain kinds of grief and certain types of experience, it may not be as traumatic as this, but suffering loss and being resilient is important and you get to see that a lot with characters' growth throughout the piece," said Grimm.

Lightsey, having just reconnect-

ed with an old friend, learns how impactful the effects of prison can have on a person. She struggles to come to terms with both the impact of prison on her friend and of the death of her coach, Manny Wilson.

"The most interesting aspect of Lightsey is the fact that she is the only girl, out of the main characters, who plays basketball..."

**Teagan Thompson '18**  
*Actress playing Lightsey*

"The most interesting aspect of Lightsey is the fact that she is the only girl, out of the main characters, who plays basketball. She is confident, funny, and fits in with all of the other main characters, who are males, and overall, they have a great time playing ball with each other. She brings positive energy and good vibes everywhere, not just on the court," said Thompson.

With the help of his grandmother, played by Madison Pettaway '17, Derrick works to under-

stand his role not only as a black athlete but also as a member of the community.

"A lot of the [the play] has to do with black masculinity, and the culture of the intercity. That's where I grew up; I went to school in Harlem and spent most of my days in Harlem and New York. And the basketball court is this place that people go for anything, and it's like [if] someone died, people would go to the basketball court, and before this play, I never really thought anything more of it. It was just this thing that everybody did," said Jordan.

Like Lightsey, CJ works to understand the role of prison and death in his life. Every time CJ and his mother, played by Mofepoluwa Olarinmoye '16, visit CJ's father, played by David Onabanjo '18, in prison, CJ brings his basketball. Basketball serves as a connection between the two characters despite their separation.

"CJ is the youngest of the three leads, and he's the least mature of the three leads, and that really shows. Getting the youthful aspect of CJ was probably the most difficult thing to grasp because I don't think I have a particularly youthful energy... CJ also lacks a guide on the court, because there's not someone who really understands what CJ is going through with his father in prison and can understand how he expresses things on the basketball court, so I think CJ is lost and vulnerable in that sense," said Godo-Solo.

"Black Gods of the Asphalt"

was written by Woodbine and was based on the stories of residents of Roxbury, Mass. It focuses on humanizing black men and separating them from the stereotype of athleticism. In addition to the play, Woodbine wrote a book, also

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**Onaje Woodbine**  
*Instructor in Philosophy and Religious Studies*

titled "Black Gods of the Asphalt," which elaborates on many of the themes in the play.

"There are universal questions that all human beings ask. And that's what I hope everyone gets out of [the play], is that rather than seeing young black men through a particular racial lens, that this myth that they are just super athletic - that they're not necessarily sound in mind - this sort of myth that we carry with us, rather than

seeing them or this story through this lens, that we recognize something of themselves in these stories. I ask the same questions: Who am I? What is my purpose? What happens after you die? I hope this play and the book allows people to see the humanity in young African-American men," said Woodbine.

Grimm continued, "The genesis of this is a very masculine piece of work. If you read Dr. Woodbine's book, who we had to cast didn't involve a lot of young women, because playing basketball and love and grief, your gender doesn't matter and so we could have been rigid and kind of forced that but we didn't and we were better able to take advantage of the student population that was interested in doing this."

The play also features a lot of student involvement. Several members of Hypnotiq, Andover's hip-hop group, are participating and choreographing moments in the play. The entire technical team is made up of students and who have been involved since the beginning of term.

"[Having a lot of students run the play] adds authenticity. It adds more detail and life. Anybody can tell someone where to move, but if the performer knows why they're moving, or something they even know why, they can't really generate the actual authenticity to do it. So it's really important that it's a collaboration. [Students'] ideas and their impulses are honored," said Grimm.



James Taylor '16 takes on the role of the MC in "Black Gods of the Asphalt."



CJ, played by Dakoury Godo-Solo '17, and Ms. Lee, Mofi Olarinmoye '16, visit CJ's father, played by David Onabanjo '18, in prison.

## Pivoting from Basketball to Philosophy: Onaje Woodbine Brings Spirituality to the Stage

### STAFF REPORT

Onaje Woodbine, Instructor in Philosophy and Religious Studies, was 12-years old when he found himself walking to a basketball court in Boston after hearing of his basketball coach's passing. Woodbine recalled in an interview with *The Phillipian* that he was searching for his coach's presence on the court.

"There were gangs on every corner [in Boston], and the [basketball court] became a refuge for most of us. The gangs would actually give you a pass if you could play ball," said Woodbine. "I decided I wanted to understand the kind of meaning and questions that young African-American men were exploring in that space, because I knew from my own experience that it wasn't just about economic status or an attempt to get to the N.B.A. There was meaning being expressed here."

Inspired by this spiritual aspect of basketball, Woodbine wrote a book called "Black Gods of the Asphalt," which this spring's Theatre-920 play is based on. Although the project presented itself as a healing opportunity for Woodbine to reconnect back to the Boston community, the play also displays the intersectionalities of many themes, including race, class, and masculinity, that show another

dimension to the African-American identity.

"One of the questions I had always asked myself was: Who am I? And the way to answer that question is to reflect on the past, on sort of ancestry. And I could only go as far back as slavery, being African American. And slavery is an injury, and to have a wound or a pain... as a starting place for identity is pretty horrific," said Woodbine. "I didn't really believe what people had said about Africa, just in popular imagination that it offered nothing to the world, but I didn't have anything to disprove it, especially at [age] 13, 14. So you can imagine the kind of internal turmoil that it created."

Woodbine began writing "Black Gods of the Asphalt," when he was in graduate school at Boston University, studying philosophy and religion. Prior to going to Boston University, Woodbine attended Yale University, where he was a part of the school's basketball team. Despite being the leading scorer his sophomore year, Woodbine decided to quit the team to study the "big questions" in a way that related to African Americans living in the United States.

"I began to play basketball as a moving meditation, I played it simply to understand myself, to listen to my inner voice," said Woodbine. "It was amazing how the universe responded to that, and it transferred to my grades. I

began to study for self-education, not for grades at all, I began doing everything based on my own spiritual growth... [At Yale,] I played [basketball] for two seasons, but at that moment that inner voice said to me, 'You done it, but you're meant to do something more.' So I listened and left the basketball team at Yale."

To write the book and the play, Woodbine conducted ethnographic research by interviewing many young men in the streets of Boston's neighborhoods, such as Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan. In addition to conducting a lot of field work, Woodbine also did in-depth theoretical reading and research. Despite this, Woodbine faced a lot of critique on his work.

"I was told by some of my professors that basketball was not a really intellectual topic. One professor said, 'Well, if you write about basketball, you'll be typecast as a black man who loves basketball.' Many people in my department when I was in graduate school didn't understand why I wanted to do this project, but it was important enough for me to pursue it, regardless of the risks," said Dr. Woodbine. "What I think that some of those professors didn't understand was that I couldn't be this disembodied professor, I had to write about things that mattered to people who live in my shoes."

Bringing this play to Andover,



T.RYNNE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Onaje Woodbine has worked on the project for ten years.

Woodbine hopes the Andover community will participate in the characters' narratives and thus connect to the human, universal themes presented in the play.

"My hope is that the audience doesn't simply observe, but feels as though they've participated in these stories, because for me, street basketball, unlike the N.B.A. or college ball, there is no boundary between audience and participant.

In streetball, those boundaries are permeable, players jump in and out of the audience, there's a call and response back and forth, it's a communal experience. It's not a spectacle just to watch, and if audience members are brought into these stories in a way in which they feel empathy... then I think they will be touched by [the play] and will carry something away from it," said Woodbine.