

Interim Head of School Jim Ventre '79 Announces Head of School Day 2020

HANNAH JUSTICZ
& AMBER TING

Interim Head of School Jim Ventre '79 sent a video to the Andover community titled, "What Would Gunga Do?" on the morning of Sunday, February 16. The video featured Ventre asking school mascot Gunga how he should announce the annual Head of School Day (HOSD). At the end of the video, Ventre donned his Andover varsity sweater to announce that Monday, February 17, would mark Andover's 29th HOSD.

Per tradition, Ventre canceled all classes and most athletic commitments for Monday. Typically, HOSD is announced by the Head of School the night before in the lobby of Paresky Commons. Ventre's decision to make his announcement by video instead of in person came to Owen Bae '21 as a surprise.

"I think it's interesting that [Ventre] announced it with a video this time. It was a welcome surprise even though I would have liked a little more of the tradition of walking into Commons and just revealing the sweater there,"

said Bae.

Ventre explained that sending the announcement by email allowed all members of the Andover community to receive the news at the same time. Additionally, Ventre's decision was made so that the announcement could be followed up by another email detailing information concerning dorm sign-in and Paresky Commons hours.

"My decision... was the result of [thinking] about how many of our students and faculty and administrators and staff are affected by Head of School Day. I wanted to offer an opportunity for our whole community to get that news at the same time, including day students and their families that might not be on campus. That was the strategy, to try to impact everyone," said Ventre.

Ventre's second email contained details on how HOSD would affect academic programs, music commitments, athletics, boarding life, and more. According to Saida Ibragimova '22, the follow-up was a welcome surprise, as it

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COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Head of School Day has been an Andover tradition for almost 30 years. The above video, titled "What Would Gunga Do?" Announced the 19th HOSD.

Prison Abolitionist Angela Davis Addresses Social Justice and Career in Activism



AMARA NEAL / THE PHILLIPIAN

Angela Davis integrated climate change and environmental justice into her talk this past Friday evening.

STAFF REPORT

While Angela Davis was imprisoned on charges of murder, kidnapping, and conspiracy in 1970, the "overwhelming emotion [she] experienced was fear" for the potential death penalty charges she was facing. In her talk on Friday, February 14, Davis explained how news of immense public support for her freedom and solidarity with her cause overshadowed her fear. Davis was acquitted of all charges two years later and carried on her lifelong career of radical activism and scholarship.

Davis is a political activist, scholar, author, and currently a Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Davis is perhaps most well-known for her pedagogical work on the prison industrial complex and political philosophies.

LaShawn Springer, Director of the Community and Multicultural Development Office (CAMDO), organized Davis's visit to campus and introduced her talk. In her introduction, Springer talked about Davis's impact on her both personally and academically. According to Springer, discovering Davis's work while in undergraduate school was particularly impactful, as Springer was able to name the marginalization and structures of power that she felt personally affected by.

"[Davis's works] were starting points in my own development as a black woman and my development as a black scholar....It was through

[Davis's] work that I discovered there was a space for black women, that we were master carpenters, carving out spaces for our whole selves. It was through [Davis's] work that I was able to articulate the ever elusive and conditional feeling of freedom in the academy and my neighborhood, in this world. And it helped me name the structural and institutional violence as enacted on my loved ones in my community. And that equipped me with the pedagogy of love to enact change," said Springer.

While much of Davis's work has focused on the American prison system, she doesn't consider herself a prison reformer. Davis corrects people when addressed as a reformer, instead choosing to identify as a prison abolitionist. In her talk, Davis explained how the prison industrial complex was a relatively new term in the late 20th century and analyzed the structure of prisons and their relationship to marginalized groups.

"There are no easy solutions [to the prison industrial complex] because we were dealing with an amalgam of economic, political, cultural, representational forces that were responsible in a complex way, for the ruling notion that black people, people of color, poor people, trans people, and others are naturally inclined to criminality and that the only way to address this was to put people in prison. At that time, politicians were winning elections by exploiting the notion of law and order, corporations were profiting, estab-

lished media were riding the waves of these ideas for their own success," said Davis.

Ariana White '22 highlighted Davis's points about the abolition of the prison system and institutionalized power. White was particularly interested in how Davis analyzed structural marginalization and the moral assumptions made about those in prison.

"I really, really enjoyed the way [Davis] spoke to the community and her concerns with societal problems regarding race and overall marginalized entities. I think her ideas about abolishing the prison system were very interesting. I think it's very interesting that she fully believes in the rights of all people even when you do bad things and that it is systems that are put in place that make people act a certain way, so it's not all necessarily one person's fault," said White.

Environmental justice and climate change were also focal points of Davis's talk. Davis emphasized how, first and foremost, climate change affects every facet of social justice.

"Environmental justice is ground zero of such injustice. If we don't manage to save this planet, then it makes little sense to be involved in all the other struggles that we face... We purge the world of racism, but then there is no planet left to appreciate a non-racist world. Or we final-

Continued on A4, Column 1

William Tong '91 Emphasizes the Strength of Immigrant Communities

HANNAH JUSTICZ
& AMBER TING

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong '91 used to look through the window that divided the kitchen from the dining room at his parents' Chinese restaurant. This window came to symbolize a barrier between himself and the people he served at the restaurant. According to Tong, he has spent his life trying to break that barrier and create a seat in the metaphorical dining room for himself and others.

The Andover community welcomed Tong back to campus last Friday for this year's Youth From Every Quarter All School Meeting (ASM). Elected as the first Chinese-American Attorney General in the United States, Tong has been fighting for the rights of underprivileged communities.

"We cannot abandon people who need our help if they don't

have shelter, if they don't have food, if they don't have health care. It's my job—it's our job—to help them. War, poverty, homelessness, and a broken immigration system causes untold damage to real human beings, people who are suffering, and we have to confront what immigrants go through every day, their sacrifice, their suffering and their pain, with all the gifts and the privileges that we have," said Tong in his speech.

LaShawn Springer, Director of the Community and Multicultural Development Office, explained that ASM was an opportunity for the Andover community to complicate the narrative within which the words "Youth From Every Quarter" have existed and reflect on what diversity means at Andover today.

"[This ASM] speaks to a capacity for change and our ability to look at wrong and think about a place of making it right; to think about who is missing and make space for them, not conditional

space, but an unencumbered, free-to-be-oneself and live and thrive kind of space," said Springer.

Tong expressed gratitude to his parents for their hard work to give him the "American Dream" but acknowledged that immigration structures today make it more difficult for many families to do the same.

"[My parents] fled war, hunger, poverty, homelessness, just to get to Hartford, Connecticut, of all places. I'm often reminded of the extraordinary sacrifices my parents made, how hard they worked, how hard I worked with them, to pay the tuition in this place, how they suffered, how my dad still has heart trouble from working seven days a week, 15 hours a day. My mom has chronic back pain from carrying five of us to term, on her feet, packing take-out orders in that Chinese restaurant," said

Continued on A5, Column 1



AMARA NEAL / THE PHILLIPIAN

William Tong '91 spoke about his personal experience as the child of immigrants and the importance of representation.

Never Again Club Holds Vigil for Two Year Anniversary of Parkland Shooting

MELISSA DAMASCENO
& PHILLIP KO

Around 40 students gathered on the steps of Samuel Phillips Hall to honor the victims of the 2018 Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting in Parkland, Florida on February 14. The Never Again Club, led by Jessica Scott '20 and Cameron Kang '21, hosted a vigil in remembrance of the tragedy that occurred two years earlier.

Attendees of the vigil observed seventeen minutes of silence, each minute representing one life lost at the Parkland shooting. Henry Crater '20 and Kang delivered opening and closing speeches that reminded students of the importance of standing

up and honoring victims. As a Parkland resident herself, Kang became emotional during the vigil and while speaking to the crowd. In an email to The Phillipian, Kang described how the visceral act of remembering her personal relationships with those affected induced an emotional response.

"I had practiced reading the personal statement a few times in my room and each time, I got choked up. I cried while reading it during the vigil and had to hand it off for my friend to finish. People think that Valentine's Day is the only reminder I have of the tragedy, but I think about it every day. Two years have passed since the shooting and I'm still usually in shock. I feel like the shooting isn't my story to tell and that it happened to someone else. I think being able to cry and be openly emotional

about the situation was a big step for me in realizing and accepting that the Parkland Shooting did happen and it happened to my friends. The vigil was beautiful and powerful and could not have gone better," wrote Kang.

Attendees at the event felt that the vigil provided a way to support those deeply affected by the tragedy while also promoting awareness of the work that must be done to expand gun safety. Teddy Wilkin '20, described his views regarding the vigil and the importance of preserving these types of events.

"I think that try as we might, I'm not sure we could ever really do justice for those victims. But I think that

Continued on A5, Column 1



COURTESY OF NEVER AGAIN ANDOVER

Posters, such as the one above, were circulated on social media by members of Never Again at Andover.

Commentary, A3

Bernie Sanders in the Polls

Katie Wimmer '21 analyzes Bernie Sanders rapid rise to the top of the polls after Iowa and New Hampshire

Eighth Page, A8

Anyone Hungry?

thAnkS foR coMinG to SketChy lAsT wEEK.

Sports, B5

Boys Swimming & Diving

400-Yard Freestyle Relay team breaks longstanding record to secure combined team championship at Easterns.

Arts, B7

Sunset Coffeehouse

Students perform original compositions at the Sunset: Cafe and Lounge coffeehouse

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Editorial

It’s Everyone’s Problem

On January 23rd, Dr. Amy Patel, Medical Director of the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center, sent out the first of three emails regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The email stated that if students have had a history of travel to China and are experiencing minor respiratory symptoms, they should immediately visit Sykes. Additionally, the email highlighted the low risk of COVID-19 in the local community, citing the Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner that “the risk to the public from the 2019 novel coronavirus remains low in Massachusetts.”

Despite the administration’s efforts to inform the Andover community about the facts of COVID-19, there continue to be instances of insensitive comments made about the fatal disease. These insensitive comments minimize a threat that is serious to many students on campus and creates a divide between domestic and international students. Given that the U.S. is more broadly considered a “low-risk” zone for COVID-19, it may be easy for domestic students to say that the outbreak does not affect them, nor is it a problem that Andover students face.

While it is true that COVID-19 is not yet a major domestic threat, we live in a community that is home to many students from around the globe. For many international students, the issue hits close to home, especially if they are

unable to travel back home. Furthermore, quarantine policies leave students separated from their loved ones for extended periods of time.

International students already face the struggle of having to adapt to a new environment that may be vastly different from the places they call home. Seeing the trivialization of COVID-19 in this time of crisis leaves an integral section of our student body without proper support. As a result, students affected by the COVID-19 outbreak are left feeling marginalized and alone in a time where the Andover community should be at its most supportive.

As a community, we should rally behind our friends and loved ones who are being seriously affected by what some merely pass off as a joke. Such support could take the form of something as simple as checking in with those who are directly affected to offering those who cannot return home during break a place to stay. An institution that values “Youth From Every Quarter” should come together in support of the entirety of the student body, and we must educate ourselves before we panic or joke about sensitive topics like the COVID-19 outbreak.

This editorial represents the views of The Phillipian, vol. CXLIII.

Letter to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

I agree with much of what Angela Davis had to say at her Friday presentation at Andover. To paraphrase the title of her latest book, freedom and justice are a constant struggle.

What I found troubling was her singling out the State of Israel as the paradigm of injustice. I found this troubling, but not surprising, for two reasons. First, because it was consistent with what she has said in the past and second because criticism of Israel from the left has become routine and predictable.

I find this to be sadly ironic. Dr. Davis advocates for justice for LGBTQIA+ people. Yet while be-

ing gay in most countries in the Middle East is illegal and subject to imprisonment, LGBTQIA+ people are welcome in Israel. Israel’s stance on LGBTQIA+ issues is considered the most tolerant in the Middle East. Tel Aviv is known as one of most gay-friendly cities in the world, hosting an annual parade of some 250,000 participants, the largest Pride parade in the Middle East and Asia. The city is home to a plethora of LGBTQIA+ bars, gyms, beaches and hotels.

Dr. Davis advocates for justice for people of color. And in 1984 and later in 1991 Israel conducted dramatic and dangerous airlifts to rescue thousands of Ethiopian Jews from Sudan and Ethiopia

who were endangered by political instability. These operations were dubbed Operation Moses and Operation Solomon, respectively. Over 20,000 people were airlifted and brought to Israel, where they were granted Israeli citizenship. Today there are over 121,000 people of Ethiopian descent living in Israel, going to school, to the universities, serving in the military, raising families and contributing to Israeli society.

Dr. Davis advocates for justice for women. Israel has long offered her female citizens—regardless of ethnicity or religion—broad freedoms. Women are protected from discrimination by law. This is in stark contrast to how women in Israel’s neighboring Arab coun-

tries are often treated.

In contrast to the regular attacks against Israel from many progressives, it is instructive to read Freedom in the World, the annual report of Freedom House, an NGO that promotes open government, defends human rights and seeks to strengthen civil society. Freedom House has consistently given Israel high marks in its two categories of political rights and civil liberties. In fact, Israel and Tunisia are alone in the Middle East and North Africa as being rated “free” by Freedom House. Every other country in the region is either “partly free” or “not free.”

Criticism of Israel is not anti-Semitism. Many Jews and others

who support Israel, myself included, are often critical of some of its policies and its government. But when Israel is constantly singled out in progressive circles as the poster child of injustice, while injustice, unfortunately, exists in virtually every country and society around the globe, the line between criticism of Israel and anti-Semitism becomes blurred. The situation in the Middle East is far too complex and nuanced to constantly condemn one participant to the exclusion of all the others.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Michael Swartz
Jewish Chaplain

Letter to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

Inviting Angela Davis to campus and lauding her is clear evidence of the irrational and leftist mindset and increasing moral degeneracy at Andover. In describing her background, a glaring omission is that Angela Davis knowingly supplied three guns to a domestic terrorist who, in a courtroom attack attempting to free three fellow Black Panthers, killed a California Superior Court Judge while trying to escape. Davis was subsequently ac-

quitted of murder and kidnapping charges, but her supplying of the weapons was not denied. Other omissions are that she supported known terrorist Marwan Barghouti and cozied up to brutal oppressors like Erich Honecker and Fidel Castro. Angela Davis should be excoriated, not exalted, and should have been disinvited from speaking.

Sincerely,
Michael Scharf ’60 P’02
’04



“Yup, nothing to see here, Senators.”
RORY HALTMAIER/THE PHILLIPIAN

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CORRECTIONS:
News misattributed a photo. Beckett McKee took the photo for “Andover Boys Squash Computers Go Missing at Exeter Game.”
News failed to attribute a class. Johann Asmus Leon is a member of the class of 2020.
Sports used an incorrect photo for Victoria Kadiiri in the Andover Girls Indoor Track & Field spread.
Sports misspelled a name. Kurt Prescott is a coach for Andover Indoor Track & Field
Arts failed to attribute a banner. Daniela Velasquez made the banner for the Addison spread.
The Phillipian regrets these errors.



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Why Bernie Sanders Won New Hampshire



LAST WEEK, PRESIDENTIAL candidate Bernie Sanders secured a stunning victory in the New Hampshire Democratic primary. He was able to obtain 28 percent of the vote, making him triumphant over the second-place candidate, Pete Buttigieg, who was able to walk away with only 22 percent of the vote. New Hampshire has long been a very important state in primary elections, and this year's results were devastating for some candidates, especially Andrew Yang, who decided to suspend his candidacy following the outcome, and Joe Biden, who realized his defeat and left the state early to pursue voters in South Carolina. I have lived in southern New Hampshire for most of my life, and a few weeks before the primary, I went home for the long weekend. In the span of three days, we had four campaign representatives canvassing for three separate campaigns, and I was astounded by the vast

Immediately following Sanders' victory I found that many of my friends, both at Andover and back in New Hampshire, were shocked by his success and the lack thereof from other candidates.

amount of signage, flyers, and other paraphernalia that overwhelmed my stay. It was clear that candidates were being relentless in their attempts to achieve an early victory. Immediately following Sanders'

victory I found that many of my friends, both at Andover and back in New Hampshire, were shocked by his success and the lack thereof from other candidates. While New Hampshire results can always seem surprising since it is one of the first two primaries, I can't say this year's outcome was entirely bizarre. Bernie, in his policies and ideology, appears as the ideal prospect for New Hampshire voters. First off, Bernie has been a major advocate for the environment throughout his run for president. Referring to climate changes as the "number one threat facing our planet," Sanders has announced an ambitious plan to shift the country to renewable energy and expand the job market while doing so. New Hampshire has been fighting the deterioration of its natural resources and projects such as the Northern Pass (a project that will harm the white mountains to build a network of power lines). It must also be noted

that according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, New Hampshire has the sixth highest unemployment rate in the country. Bernie's "decade of the Green New Deal," his elaborate strategy to alter America's energy supply, can appeal to a vast amount of people living near the White Mountain region or those who make a liv-

Bernie's "decade of the Green New Deal," his elaborate strategy to alter America's energy supply, can appeal to a vast amount of people living near the White Mountain region or those who make a living through tourism of the area.

ing through tourism of the area. This is not to say that other Democratic candidates have not addressed the climate issue, as competitors such as Tom Steyer, who actually spent the most money on advertising during the New Hampshire race, have been making claims to institute major measures to combat climate change once in office.

However, Steyer suffered a devastating defeat as he only received a meager three percent of the vote. This is because Sanders is able to bring more to the table for New Hampshire residents. Bernie's socialist policies are a substantial amount of his campaign, and they seem to have rallied many voters in less affluent towns. The Washington Post displayed the vote by township, and it revealed a common trend and the correlation between class and candidate. Towns such as Durham, with a 17-percent poverty rate and 17,000 residents, and Plymouth, with a 13-percent poverty rate and 9,000 residents, handed Bernie the majority vote. Other towns like Newport, Franklin, Berlin, Littleton, Farmington, Claremont, and Somersworth, which also have high poverty rates, voted for Sanders. Overall, Sanders won 40 percent of the vote from those with an income under \$50,000, which was more than twice the amount of any other candidate. By contrast, wealthier towns such as Windham, Hampton Falls, Amherst, Auburn, and Hollis (all with a median household income of over \$115,000) supported Buttigieg as their candidate. In fact, almost all of the highest-earning towns in the state showed significantly less support for Sanders. These are very notable trends that could potentially continue into other state elections. It

will be interesting to observe the future results from different communities of varying socio-economic standing. Aside from environmental and socio-economic commonalities, the majority of New Hampshire voters agree with other policies Sanders aims to enact. In an exit poll, it was reported that 60 percent of voters supported abolishing private health care and replacing it with a government plan for everyone. Bernie also has an ambitious plan to tackle drugs and the justice system for offenders. Considering New Hamp-

We must consider the implications of those who vote for personal benefit and those who also look toward the state-wide implications.

shire's problem with drug use, this is also an aspect of Sanders's campaign that voters can appreciate. We must consider the implications of those who vote for personal benefit and those who also look toward the state-wide implications. The amount of far-left or far-right citizens can be important, as Sanders claimed over 40% of voters who identify as "very liberal," but it is clear that some can alter liberal or conservative views to support specific aspects of campaigns. For example, over 35% of voters said the most important issue was income inequality, which could explain why almost 20% of conservative voters backed Sanders in the election. Bernie's victory in New Hampshire may seem unexpected to some, but the voting trends simply explain what the voters want.

Katie Wimmer is a three-year Upper from Windham, NH. Contact the author at kwimmer21@andover.edu



Letter to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR: This is a call to build a war memorial. We have one, to be sure; in fact, we have many. We have the Bell Tower, and the bench outside Borden on which we take team photos, and probably others I have not yet noticed. This is a call for a different kind of war memorial. This one is for all the victims of Yemen, Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, Somalia, et alii; for the indigenous peoples who have been eradicated by the American experiment; for the enslaved whose lives and ancestral memories have been stolen for profit. The memorials we currently have honor the alumni who have passed in service; they are etched with names, class years, and wars fought. Let us continue to mourn those lives, for we knew them, and they have passed. But let us, too, mourn the lives of the unnamed, the unknowable, the uncountable. I am an alum who came to the Academy at a time when the country from

which my parents emigrated was being terrorized by America. My parents were among the privileged. While technically refugees, their connections and wealth enabled them to relocate to America, continue their schooling, and establish a life here. They granted me a life imbued with the social and monetary capital that enabled me to go to Andover and be comfortable while in attendance. Yet the dearth of space to acknowledge and mourn the loss of a homeland induced its own kind of trauma. Further, I witnessed the valorization of American soldiers who had waged war in Afghanistan, with no acknowledgment of the casualties, be it people, land, or culture, of that war. It is but for a quirk of history that I am not one of those casualties. I just graduated from an elite, residential college whose attitude toward landscapes and memory, in contrast to Andover's, is one of subtlety. My college campus did not inundate

me with memorials of soldiers and white people like my high-school one did. It is only upon graduating that I have come to understand the notion of erasure by selectivity. Let us even the scales of memory, then, and honor the victims of wars waged by a nation with no end other than hegemony in sight, the multitude who have lost their homes and lives and liberties at the expense of an American myth. We are told that the end depends upon the beginning, but this should not only apply to those whom we extol. Taken at its meaning, our motto implies a type of determinism that demands a reckoning, an acknowledgment that our alumni do not always do good things, and that what they do depends upon their beginnings. Many of our national tensions and anxieties stem from the unwillingness of the privileged to admit to causing harm to those they victimize. I am thinking of Brett Kavanaugh here, but also now of Michael Bloomberg, and

of course, of Donald Trump: people—usually men—who live by the belief that to seek penance is to admit defeat. Many of the deaths included in the innumerable toll above are at the hands of alumni, and I am not referencing the soldiers. In the "The Afghanistan Papers," a startling investigation recently published by The Washington Post, Craig Whitlock highlights how Presidents W. Bush, Obama, and Trump mislead the public about America's political failings in Afghanistan, and how many people, Afghans, and Americans, died as a result. The perennial joke of an election year is: "How will we fund it?" To this question, asked about this war memorial, I'd say: "Easy, let's ask President Bush to do it." A central component of growing into adulthood—and traditional notions of manhood—is being able to apologize: thoroughly, sincerely. Seeking penance and striving toward redress are fundamental parts of the many religions Andover

celebrates, including the Protestantism of the school's roots and the Methodism of President Bush's own faith. If the end really depends upon the beginning, then we have some work to do. Andover is no longer a school of all white-Americans, home-coming war heroes. Coming to terms with pluralism necessitates re-writing our landscapes: having white students walk paths that acknowledge the existence of other, eradicated races, and allowing non-white students to walk paths that give them validation, comfort, and safety. A public, visible mourning of our nation's victims might cause future students to view differently the costs of war or the lives of people unlike them. So let's do it. Let a new beginning induce better ends.

Sincerely,
Keton Kakkar '15
Swarthmore College '19



Brace Board, MVP, and YES+ Collaborate to Create Love Better Week

HANNAH JUSTICZ & LAURA OSPINA

“Are you okay with that? I’m just making sure. Consent, yeah, it can be a cure,” read a consent valentine made at the “Will You Be My Consensual Valentine?” workshop held this past Tuesday, February 18. “Will You Be My Consensual Valentine?” was the inaugural event of the first Love Better Week. Created by the Brace Board, Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), and Youth Educators for Sex Positivity (YES+), Love Better Week was founded to raise awareness surrounding healthy relationships, according to Flavia Vidal, Director of the Brace Center of Gender Studies and faculty advisor to the Brace Board and co-advisor to YES+.

“We might be in the relationship and not realize some things that are not really that great about it and [we are working on] feeling, recognizing, learning how to avoid that, learning to have conversations with the other person in the relationship,

learning to be upstanders if we notice that somebody else in our life is stuck in these unhealthy relationships, what can we do to help that person, to help those people get to a place where they can have a healthier relationship... So that was our motivation,” said Vidal.

In addition to the “Will You Be My Consensual Valentine?” workshop, Love Better Week included MVP’s annual contraceptive awareness event, Cupcakes and Condoms, on Wednesday, February 19, and a forum on relationship violence on Thursday, February 20. The final event of the week will be a Keynote presentation by Mary Margaret Scharf, an advocate against domestic violence, on Friday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. in Kemper Auditorium. According to Emma Slibeck ’20, a member of the Brace Board, Love Better Week serves to publicly highlight consent and relationship violence.

“I think the name of the week sums up the goal pretty well. Ultimately, we want everyone to feel empowered in their self love and relationships and to speak up for

others who do not. Love also means consent and pleasure and having healthy relationships, and we all deserve those relationships,” said Slibeck.

Maya Shkolnik ’21, a member of the YES+, emphasized the importance of educating Andover students on how to engage in healthy relationships. Shkolnik believes that Andover’s hookup culture makes raising awareness especially relevant.

“I think Love Better is important to have at Andover because it’s important for everybody to learn how to act in relationships and engage in ways that are healthy for themselves and healthy for other people. But I think specifically at Andover, since we have a very interesting, strange hookup culture that I feel like no one really understands, the more that we can educate others, the healthier that Andover’s campus will be. I just think it is important to raise awareness. Even if 15 or 20 people can learn something new, that makes Andover a healthier campus,” said Shkolnik.

Vidal stressed that unhealthy

relationships can stem from more than just romantic relationships and can also appear in familial and platonic connections.

“I think one of the things that we really specifically wanted to touch on with Love Better Week is this idea of relationship violence, beyond just asking for consent during sexual encounters, it’s this idea of sometimes there are relationships and not always romantic. It can be relationships between friends or relationships between parents and children and siblings and family members and romantic relationships that can be unhealthy in a variety of ways not even necessarily involving sex,” said Vidal.

Before participating in the MVP program, Harry Kahane ’20, board member of MVP, was not aware of the systemic violence that women and female-presenting individuals face, as well as the impact of the male gaze. According to Kahane, the joint efforts of the three clubs during Love Better Week spread awareness more efficiently.

“When I came to Andover... I joined the MVP program [and] I

learned about what it’s like to be a woman really. That inspired in me the motivation to prevent that. It’s an issue that’s especially prevalent on college campuses and school campuses. A lot of hormones going on and a lot of adrenaline, a lot of socially awkward situations—and if we can learn how to navigate that, I think we’re much better off,” said Kahane.

According to Karsten Rynearson ’22, “Will You Be My Consensual Valentine?” was an important event as it highlighted how necessary consent is to Valentine’s Day. Rynearson emphasized that there are ways in which love can be improved during Valentine’s Day.

“[Consent] is the most important part of Valentine’s Day. Without consent, there can be no sex, there can be no love, it’s the most important step of anything. It is important to make it very clear that consent is something that is sexy. It’s a part of sex, but it’s not something that’s clunky or shouldn’t be there. It’s so central, and I’m really glad that we’re able to explore that here,” said Rynearson.

VEX Robotics Team Qualifies for Regional Competition in Final Season Tournament

WILLIAM YUE

Among 50 other robotics teams, the Andover VEX Robotics team attended their final tournament as a school this year held at the University of New Haven last Saturday. Andover made it into the final round of competition for the first time this season, thus guaranteeing the team a spot in the VEX Southern New England Regionals, which will be held on March 14 and 15.

The Andover team brought three robots to the competition and each qualified for the playoffs and quarterfinals. Two of the three robots advanced to the semifinal round, each directed by a novice team, and the robot directed by the advanced team placed second, qualifying for the regional competition.

Robert Hickman, Instructor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, is the faculty advisor for the VEX team and is proud of the growth the students and team exemplify.

“I’m really proud of the students because throughout the whole year, for every tournament we’ve gone to, they’ve had a better result than the previous tournament. At our very first tournament in November, we took two robots, and neither one made it to the playoffs of the tournament. And I’m not even sure how many matches they won, but it wasn’t very many, if any at all. And now, this tournament, we had a robot that was 5-1 going into the playoffs, so it’s really exciting to see the progression of the team from the start to

now,” said Hickman.

According to Hickman, four robots compete in each match of the competition, with two pairs of robots in alliances. This year, teams were tasked with designing robots that could complete two different tasks during the match, adding another layer of technical challenge.

“So the engineering challenge here is really that there’s two separate activities which aren’t very compatible to one another. One is stacking and the other one is lifting and placing. It sounds the same, but they’re quite different to do efficiently. And so one of the most significant engineering challenges here is how to design a robot that will do both well. So we decided to focus on making a robot that’s just a very, very good stacking robot. And then hopefully we’re paired with other team robots that are good with the tower component, that makes for a really good scoring alliance,” said Hickman.

CC Song ’21 originally joined the team because of her previous experience in robotics in middle school. As one of the Co-Presidents of the Andover VEX team, Song has been working on building the robot.

Song said, “Collaboration and being a leader have been really important for me this year, because I’m the Co-President of the club now and we’re getting a lot of new people in. So learning to teach new students and making sure that they stay interested, and they have the opportunities to learn that they need, that’s super important to me. And then collaboration, in terms of working in the [Nest] around other

clubs and other people, and with the new sports offering, all of that has been a lot to work with.”

This year, robotics has been offered as a new sport option for Andover students. Anthony Kim ’21, the other Co-President of VEX, appreciates the newly freed time to develop robotics skills offered by the sport, and is excited for the future of the competition.

Kim said, “I think this year was a lot of figuring things out, because this was the first year doing the sports program, so I think next year, we should have it better structured. We will have to see what the new game is for next year, but I think we learned a lot throughout the course of this year by rebuilding our robots multiple times. And I think next year a lot of the returning members will be able to succeed.”

Emily Mae Murtha ’22 joined the robotics team due to the appeal of the sport option, despite not having any previous robotics experience. She enjoys both the community and technical aspects of the competition.

“I think that community, honestly, is a really big part of robotics, just because at competitions, especially overnight trips, we all have fun and I think coming every day to the [Nest] with this group people really makes you appreciate the bond, I guess. And then, other than that, I think it’s satisfying to make a robot from scratch and just see how it progresses and then your final result.”

Like Murtha, Irene Kwon ’21 joined the team when robotics became a sport option. Kwon appreciates the diverse community



ETHAN ELLSWEIG/THE PHILLIPIAN

VEX Robotics was made an official sport during the 2019-2020 school year.

in robotics, but would like to see more gender diversity in competitions.

Kwon said, “For robotics itself, when I was at the last competition, I noticed that around ten percent of the participants were girls, up on the field. [There are] around 12 people actually on the field and maybe one or two of them would be girls. At this school, we already have a very good gender balance. But overall, I hope to see more of a balance or equality every time I go to competition. I want to see more girls participating.”

Hickman appreciates the current diversity on the team and hopes to continue increasing accessibility and growing the team dynamic. If the team places into a top spot at the upcoming regional competition, they will qualify for the world championship in April.

“Our plans are to compete in the Southern New England regional during spring break. And if the team qualifies for Worlds, we’ll be taking a robot to the world competition in April, so that’s still to be determined. I think the plan for next year is just to continue on this path of improving our access to all different students on campus, and make sure that many different students are considering this as an opportunity for them. We just want to grow the team dynamic more, in terms of having students collaborating and learning from one another,” said Hickman.

Editor’s Note: Anthony Kim ’21 is a Digital Editor for The Phillipian

Angela Davis Visits Campus

Continued from A1, Column 3

ly manage to deal with misogyny, but then climate change is so bad that there’s no future,” said Davis

Throughout her career in social justice, Davis has been considered somewhat of a controversial figure, not just because of her criminal case, but her past and current political affiliations. Specifically, Davis was associated with the Black Panther Party and the Communist Party before creating her own political group, the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism.

“I suppose [critics are] referring to the fact that I was a member of the Communist Party. Now it’s taken all of these years for scholars to recognize that there are many aspects of U.S. history that have been marginalized or silenced because Communists were involved... And so I think that we’re just now beginning to learn about the contributions that Communists made. And it’s so important to [talk about] capitalism and I try to talk a lot about capitalism, simply because we never discuss it. And we’re all affected by capitalism, racial capitalism. Capitalism is always racial capitalism because it is deeply connected to slavery. I still consider myself a communist, maybe with a small ‘C’ instead of a big ‘C,’” said Davis.

Davis addressed efforts by Native Americans at Phillips Academy (NAPA) and their work in bringing formal land acknowledgements to Andover. She emphasized the historical significance of recognizing colonized land and how she felt land acknowledgements should be social norms implemented by every insti-

tution across the U.S.

“We should all remember that the land on which we live and learn and work and love and party and struggle, is colonized land. We cannot forget the foundational violence of this country, violence visited on Indigenous people who were the stewards of the land we now occupy. If we do not count ourselves among the first peoples of this country, and even if our ancestor’s immigration was forced, when you remain complicit in one way or another, the damages of the original genocide have not been undone. And the invisibility to which native people have been relegated is a form of violence that reveals deep affinities with the original genocide,” said Davis.

The recognition of land acknowledgments made an impact on Mareesa Miles, Teaching Fellow in English, who appreciated Davis’s candor and how she spoke directly to the Andover community.

“From what I gathered afterward, and I don’t want to speak for anyone, but it seemed like [Davis’s talk] was a really empowering moment, for especially students of color who got to see this actual queen speak and show her courage and ability to make a difference. I hope that the message would impact other people because she was so big on land acknowledgments... She obviously had, coming in, some understanding of what we are and was really like, ‘I’m not going to shy away from things that I really believe in.’ I think that’s an empowering message for young people to think about. Just because an institution is refusing to do something doesn’t mean we step down; it just means we keep fighting for it,” said Miles.

Continued from A1, Column 1

took away a lot of the confusion that comes with Head of School Day. Moreover, some students found that the early announcement relieved stress concerning homework and assignments, especially since long competitions for both the robotics and debate teams were held over the weekend.

“I was really happy because I have so much work and [because] I was not on campus yesterday. I think it’s good that [Ventre] sent the email ear-

ly in the morning, because if he didn’t, everyone would be really stressed and would be waiting for dinner. Everybody has a different approach, [maybe] Mr. Ventre is more official and formal. I liked it. I also liked the details about sign-in, they were pretty helpful,” said Ibragimova.

The extra time off is intended to help students and faculty catch up on sleep, future assignments, or simply to decompress. Ventre himself spent the day catching up on work and delivering breakfast to admissions officers in Shuman. For Adaeze Izuegbunam

’20, Head of School Day was a welcome opportunity to relax and take her mind off of work.

“I did not leave my dorm. I ate. I watched TV. I didn’t do as much work as I should have, but that’s okay. I feel like you’re always like, ‘I need to do work, I need to do work, I need to do work,’...I’m definitely behind, but it was just nice to have a day to exist... I haven’t really realized how much I need that here until Senior Year, and whenever it’s those days I try to take advantage of them by doing that,” said Izuegbunam.

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Alice Keller '20 Pursues Horseback Riding Passion in Time Spent Outside of Andover

MELISSA DAMASCENO
& ANANYA MADDURI

Alice Keller '20 started horseback riding at four years old, following in the footsteps of her older sister, who also practiced the sport as a child. Keller used to tag along for fun but ended up sticking with it and developed a life-long passion for the sport.

At Andover, Keller does not have an outlet to practice horseback riding. However, she tries her best to make time and spend long weekends and school breaks travelling and competing. Keller described the difficulty of pursuing the sport while at Andover and how she has found ways to ensure that horses remain a part of her life.

"It's kind of tough to do it here, just because there's not a ton of show barns near Andover. So I keep my horse on Long Island and then every break and long weekend, I'll go back and ride. Throughout most of the summer, I travel to competitions and different horse shows on the East Coast. I want to take advantage of my free time as much as possible. But, in terms of in the Massachusetts area, my friend Coco [Rawles '20] and I volunteered at a therapeutic riding facility last year, just to be around horses. We would clean up around the barn and help out in other ways, but I don't get to ride when I am up here," said Keller.

To Keller, horseback riding is a lifelong sport. Keller intentionally got her current horse, Jack, while he was still at a relatively young age. Pursuing horseback riding in the future is important

to her, so being able to have her own horse as she moves through college will be helpful in continuing to ride. Keller does not currently plan to go professional, but hopes to join an equestrian team in college.

"I have my own horse. His name is Jack, and I have had him for four or five years now. I got him when I was super young. He is from Holland, and I got him intentionally as a young horse, so I can ride him throughout high school, throughout college and later in life... I plan on doing what I am doing now, joining a team in college but not necessarily going professional or anything, just competing throughout the year as much as I can but I don't plan on stopping any time soon," Keller said.

The competitive and collaborative aspect of horseback riding has been a crucial part of Keller's experience, particularly in regards to the many ways in which she has learned from the sport.

"I have learned how to be a good competitor. I feel like it is a very individual sport, but you're not on your own because you have a horse that you are working with. I also learned how to be a participant in a sport very much affected by politics and money. I learned how to work within my place and focus on communication, as opposed to getting wrapped up in the whole politics of it all. I have just learned a lot about human-animal relationships," said Keller.

Because of Keller, classmates and friends have had the opportunity to learn more about horseback riding and understand the sport on a deeper level. Will Yun '20, a friend of Keller's,

remarked how he learned more about the demands of horseback riding and the significance of the rider's relationship with the horse.

"I've learned that some stereotypes are true, such as horseback riding events, [and] according to Alice, being very attentive to details. For example, when you get on your horse, you have to be very proper, your horse has to make all the right movements. It seems like a pretty strict sport. One thing I didn't really know about is that a lot of horseback riding has to do with the love for the animal, the love that you have for your horse. I didn't really understand that connection until I got to know Alice," said Yun.

Violet Enes '21, another friend of Keller's, noted Keller's determination to pursue her hobby, despite the inaccessibility of the sport on campus.

"Whenever I go home, I sleep a lot, or I don't really do much, but she always tries to see her horse as much as she can. To see so much dedication and connection to an animal and a sport is just really cool, and it's not something you see a lot. I don't think there are any other sports like horseback riding. I think we see a lot of volleyball team stuff, or lacrosse team stuff, or football team stuff, and to see something that most students aren't really exposed to, but still make up a large part of a student's life, it's really refreshing. She's just a very determined person in general, and shows through in her commitment to her horseback riding hobby," said Enes.



In addition to her 14 years of horseback riding experience, Alice Keller '20 is Co-Head of Bracelets 4 Benefit.

Never Again Vigil Recognizes 17 Minutes of Silence for 17 Killed in 2018 Parkland Shooting

Continued from A1, Column 1

in remembering them... it's hard to say that they live on, but, in remembering them, we remember the cause that we strive towards. The ideal of our society being safe, or safer so that that kind of tragedy never happens again," said Wilkin.

Crater, a board member of Never Again, expressed similar sentiments. To him, the memorial did not aim to amass a large turnout or reintroduce discourse about gun legislation, but simply allowed attendees to be present and aware of the tragedy.

"I think remembering and just taking time to just sit with some of the harrowing things that happen in society and just kind of sit in silence with them is really powerful... I said this to my fellow board members

before the vigil happened, 'Guys, it doesn't matter if people actually show up for this. And even if it's just four of us, it's just the fact that we're here and we're standing here for 17 minutes. That's what matters,'" said Crater.

After the 2018 shooting, student activists from Parkland articulated the importance of dialogue concerning gun safety. Emma Gonzales and David Hogg, along with other Marjory Stoneman Douglas students, founded the March for Our Lives and pioneered the #neveragain movement. The Never Again Club, founded in 2018 after the March for Our Lives, similarly discusses gun legislation and hopes to honor all those affected by shootings across the United States. Scott explained the importance of continuing to fight for change and using social media to prevent the cultural and political movement from becoming ephemeral.

"This is always something hard, because you don't want people to have to get really into gun violence and advocating for victims, because in an ideal world that wouldn't be a thing. But since that's just not reality, we definitely need to just remember it's not just a trend that went around Instagram for a year. It's 17 people's lives, students and faculty. [There are] so many, so many cases—each year, 80,000 people are killed by gun violence," said Scott.

She continued, "I think a way that we can kind of get people talking about it again... [is through] social media, even if people are just following a trend, if they see their friends post something on their story and then they repost it, it might be superficial at first, but after a while, after you see stories and messages all over social media, you'll look into it and you'll start caring."

William Tong '91 Encourages Andover Students to Recognize Surrounding Communities

Continued from A1, Column 1

Tong.

During his talk, Tong shared the story of Miriam Martinez, a mother of two daughters who worked two jobs to support her family. She went to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for her annual visit and was told to leave her family and return to Guatemala. Tong, then a Connecticut State Representative, was asked to help Martinez and her family.

"[Martinez] had two teenage daughters, one of whom has diabetes, Brianna. She depends on her mom to give her insulin every day... I thought, because of my legal background, they were asking me to come down and give her

some legal assistance. When I got there, I saw a gathering of clergy and other elected officials, and someone told me ICE [was] circling the block right now, threatening to raid Miriam's apartment and come take her from her family," said Tong.

He continued, "I gave [Martinez] a hug when I walked in. I happened to look down and I caught a glimpse of her ankle bracelet ... I can't tell you how chilling it is to see someone in your own community shackled like that and reduced to something less than human. That was a stark reminder to me on that day that that is not who we are. Yet, I'm very concerned about who we're becoming. We live in a country now that bans people at our airports because of who they are, where they come from, the

god they worship."

Tong urged students to understand and recognize the immigrants in their lives. He suggested talking to employees at Paresky Commons or to Andover's night custodians, like Paulino Ortega, whom Tong met during his time at Andover. This sentiment resonated with Zar Cordova-Potter '20.

"I think we involve ourselves in politics a lot, but we're not really sure what that means on a micro level. We think about things on a macro level in that we all hold opinions about what's going on in the country, but [Tong is] right... It's good to think about something on a level where we can actually confront it instead of just trying to comprehend [these] huge subjects," said Cordova-Potter.

NEWS IN BRIEF	
Reporting by Karen Wang	
A GLANCE BACK	
Friday, February 14	
In the week leading up to Valentine's Day, students bought their friends kisses, compliments, candy , or a special "extravaganza" from the 2019-2020 Blue Key Heads . On Valentine's Day, the Blue Key Heads walked around campus and Paresky Commons giving kisses and the other gifts to students.	
As a part of their Black Arts Month Celebration, Af-Lat-Am hosted the Wild N'Out Comedy Show . Wild N'Out is based on the MTV Show hosted by Nick Cannon, where participants freestyle rap and make jokes about their opponent in order to win the Championship Belt.	
Saturday, February 15	
Andover's sketch comedy group, Sketchy , performed original comedy sketches with topics including their Valentine's Day plans, Juniors on campus, and a "Weekender Update" segment.	
Wednesday, February 19	
The 2020-2021 CAMD Scholar and BRACE Fellow applications were due this Wednesday, February 19. The CAMD Scholar and Brace Fellows do research over their summer break and write a full-length research paper, presenting their findings when they return to school the following year. The program serves to promote Andover's mission of diversity, inclusion, and Youth From Every Quarter.	
LOOKING FORWARD	
Friday, February 21	
Lani Silversides , Instructor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, will present her workshop titled "Performing Under Pressure" at 12:30 p.m. in the Tang Institute. Silversides developed the workshop in order to provide students with peak-performance test taking strategies , which she has previously given with a focus on student athletes.	
Wednesday, February 26	
All school Geograbee Finals will be held after two preliminary rounds. First rounds were held in dorms and at a session for day students, and cluster finals were held last Wednesday, February 19.	

CATHERINE NGUYEN/THE PHILLIPIAN

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

Reporting by Amber Ting	
The following selected domestic and international events provide an image of the world in brief.	
CULTURE	Susan Fowler Speaks Up on Harassment and Discrimination in Silicon Valley
On Tuesday, February 18, Susan Fowler released her book, "Whistleblower: My Journey to Silicon Valley and Fight for Justice at Uber." Two years ago, the former software engineer for the ride-sharing company wrote a blog post about experiencing sexual harassment and gender discrimination at Uber. Her story ignited a firestorm that ultimately ended with then-CEO Travis Kalanick's resignation. In re-telling her story, Fowler provides commentary on sexual harassment and discrimination that reflects the continual unfolding of the #MeToo movement two years after the hashtag entered the national dialogue.	
Russian Economy Remains Stagnant	
ECONOMY	
In 2019, Russia's GDP growth rate was 1.2 percent worse than in 2018 and more than 1.7 percent behind the global average. The actual statistics are better than ministry officials predicted. Nonetheless, they are tell-tale signs of an economic slowdown. Analysts say the reasons are two-fold. Firstly, the Russian government has always been hesitant to invest in its private industries. Secondly, European nations have sanctioned oil companies supporting Venezuelan President Maduro in recent years. For example, the United States imposed sanctions against a subsidiary of state-controlled Rosneft Oil Company as recently as Tuesday. It remains to be seen whether or not the Russian industries will adapt in time to allow for economic revival.	
HEALTH	Coronavirus On the Brink of Global Pandemic
There are currently more than 70,000 active cases of Covid-19. At 1,772, the death toll has officially passed that of 2003's SARS epidemic, and deaths have been reported in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, the Philippines, and France. 542 people have coronavirus on the Diamond Princess, a cruise ship that Japan quarantined after a passenger who disembarked was diagnosed with coronavirus in Hong Kong. The U.S. State Department collaborated with the Department of Health and Human Services to fly the estimated 380 Americans on board to America, even though the 14-day quarantine period had not been completed; 14 of those Americans tested positive for coronavirus. As people were mandated to stay in their cabins during the duration of the quarantine, the rapid spread of the virus onboard stressed the need for more comprehensive and rigorous protocol.	
Proxy War in Syria	
WAR & CONFLICT	
The Syrian War is currently in its ninth year. In recent days, Russian-backed government forces and Turkish-backed opposition forces have clashed in the rebel stronghold of Idlib. The northwestern province is a densely-populated civilian region. According to the United Nations, more than 700,000 Idlib residents have already been displaced, and there are periodic reports of children freezing to death. Continued talks between combatants have yielded no cease-fire as of yet.	
POLITICS	Democratic Primaries Continue
For the first time, Democratic presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders has surpassed former Vice President Joe Biden to lead in national polls. On February 11, Sanders won the New Hampshire primary by a two percent margin over former South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg. As of a February 12 YouGov/Economist poll, Sanders led Biden and Buttigieg by four and twelve points, respectively. Per Nevada-specific polls preceding the upcoming caucus, however, Sanders leads by as many as seven points.	

MELISSA DAMASCENO/THE PHILLIPIAN

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COURTESY OF PAIGE ROBERTS

Questions with Paige Roberts

REPORTING BY WILLIAM YUE

Paige Roberts is the Director of the Archives and Special Collections at the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library. When Roberts is not on campus, she enjoys hiking in the White Mountains and going to the beach.

1

What's your favorite part of your job?

My favorite part of my job is working with students. I feel like there are so many interesting projects and compelling questions that students have that are worth exploring through material in the Archives. That's fun.

2

What is one thing you've learned during your time at Andover?

One interesting thing is the wide variety of questions that people can ask using the material in the Archives about school history or other topics in, say, U.S. history.

3

What's it like doing research into the past?

I'm thinking about my own experience as a researcher, and I have to say that it can be very frustrating. Because unlike in the library, where you can go and either pull a book off the shelf or somehow find it from some other library, you're having to look through a lot of primary source documents, and you may not actually find what you're looking for, and you may have to shift your question a little bit, the issue that you're exploring. So it can be frustrating. Research can be intimidating. It can be sad if there's sad information, let's say about a student who passed away 100 years ago. And it can be exciting. I think particularly the connections that you can make about people in the past are really pretty amazing sometimes.

4

What does your daily routine look like?

One thing I really like about my job is that it is very varied. Because I am the only person doing the Archives and Special Collections, I do everything from working with alumni to bringing new donations in and new collections in...I also have various transcription projects, so projects for students to transcribe primary source documents in the Archives. And then I'm always trying to work on improving my website.

5

What is your favorite book?

It's such a common thing to say probably, but, in some ways, my favorite book is the one I've read most recently. I feel like I've read so many amazing books lately. One of them was actually this really incredible book called "Soul Mountain" [by Gao Xingjian]. He was, I think, the only Chinese

6

What's something that most people don't know about you?

I have recently become sort of a reluctant dog person. I never liked dogs, and now we have a dog and I like dogs now.

7

Do you have any crazy experiences you want to share?

I've had some pretty intense experiences winter hiking in the White Mountains. You know when it's below zero and there's ice and you're trying to climb up this sheer face with ice, wearing crampons after hiking eight miles.

8

What's one thing you cannot live without?

Water.

9

What's your favorite spot on campus?

I don't know if it's too weird to say, but right here [in the Archives]. I love the Washington Elm. I'm very lucky to have the Washington Elm right here. Well, maybe that and also Elm Arch, too.

10

Who inspires you?

Maybe it won't sound sincere, but I mean it sincerely that a lot of the students here inspire me. I think in terms of their motivation, curiosity, and energy to improve things.

Spanish Department and Tang Institute Revolutionize Curriculum

ALMA MARK-FONG & ALEX ZHANG

Clara Isaza-Bishop, Head of the Spanish Department, is spearheading an initiative to completely change the Spanish Department curriculum by eliminating textbooks and implementing more culturally-focused materials. The Spanish Department has been receiving support from the Tang Institute, Associate Director of Educational Initiatives Erin McCloskey, World Languages Division Head Elizabeth Meyer, and others in order to execute the changes they have been planning over three years, according to Isaza-Bishop.

"It's been a process of three years... we were following the textbooks and we decided that we could do better. The vocabulary wasn't interesting [and] wasn't relevant to the students'

lives... it was difficult to make all of a sudden; it's difficult to create everything from scratch," said Isaza-Bishop.

The changes are mainly focused on allowing the students to make connections between what they are learning in class and real-world communication. They are also working on exposing students to a variety of Spanish dialects, such as Spanish spoken in Spain, Spanish spoken in Latin America, or Spanish spoken in America.

"Everything that happens in the classroom is related to the lives of the students and connected to the Spanish world. We want to make meaningful connections, so that [things] are relevant to the students' lives. This used to happen a lot in the high level courses but not the low level courses. Our classes are not all about verb tenses and it's more about what students can do for communication or

what would be interesting for them," said Isaza-Bishop.

With the new curriculum, multimedia resources will be used to educate students rather than traditional textbooks. 100 and 200-level Spanish courses forewent their textbooks this year in favor of more authentic and personal materials, such as audio or news articles. The department has been working very hard to successfully navigate the curriculum to a new place. According to Isaza-Bishop, the new curriculum is based on the World-Readiness Standards For Learning Languages created by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

"At the high level we already don't use textbooks, but at the low-level we are using old materials. We are using authentic texts, and by authentic texts I mean articles and music. We use multimedia made for some-

one in Spain or Columbia, and what we do is we work with those and create exercises that are comprehensible to the student," said Isaza-Bishop.

The department is also trying to incorporate climate and sustainability into the new curriculum, partially inspired by the efforts of Salvador Gómez Colón '21. Gómez Colón is an activist for social-humanitarian work and was invited to the World Economic Forum (W.E.F.) to talk about sustainability, so Isaza-Bishop recorded a conversation of theirs in Spanish about the W.E.F., his work, and climate activism.

"I interviewed him in Spanish so he could tell us about his experience and why he became interested in environmental issues. Now we are in the process of editing the video and making activities with it. This video will be used in the 200-level course where we are studying how our

daily habits have an impact on the world. This video will help us review vocabulary and learn about Salvador's story on how he became involved in environmental issues," said Isaza-Bishop.

Nico von Eckartsberg '23 is in Spanish-200 and enjoys learning from this culturally-oriented curriculum, versus one focused on a textbook.

"I think learning from authentic materials is better because you really learn a sense of how people talk in Spanish-speaking cultures, as well as what is useful knowledge. Some things in the textbook you just will never use when actually talking to a person. I also think in my class we focus on speaking a lot and that's really important because if, let's say, you visit Mexico, speaking is probably the most important skill to know," said von Eckartsberg.

Meet the 2020-2021 Student Body Co-Presidential Candidates

REPORTING BY ESTEE DABBOUS

On Tuesday, February 18, the four candidate pairs for the co-presidency participated in a debate in the Mural Room, after having released their campaign platforms the previous Friday. Students will vote today, Friday, February 21, to determine which two pairs will advance to the final debate at the start of Spring Term.

JACK PALFREY AND SUMMER SEWARD:



TYLER WEI/THE PHILLIPIAN

Summer Seward:

Students should vote for us because we are determined to make Andover more equitable for all students regardless of race, class, gender, and sexuality. Diversity and inclusion are some of the main points on our platform and are our driving force in this race. We will be a voice for all students and make sure that every voice is heard. Being an Andover student means so much to both of us, and we would like to do everything in our power to make the Andover experience enjoyable for everyone. Both Jack and I are committed to being available for all students and making changes for the better of Andover.

AIDAN BURT AND ABBY RYAN:



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Abby Ryan:

Overall, the [BlueLife] app encompasses several aspects of student life and fosters transparency between student council and the student body. In general, Aidan and I want to focus on time and transparency. All of our goals, like extending the cut policy to the full double-block, match the new schedule. For our time initiatives, we are hoping that these changes accomplish our main goal of adapting policy to the new schedule so we can create more time for students to make the most of Andover.

BEN FU AND LIZZY GLAZER:



TYLER WEI/THE PHILLIPIAN

Ben Fu:

We hope that our peers will understand that we are genuine and are eager to make changes. We made sure that everything on our platform is 100 percent achievable within our reign as co-presidents. There are no empty promises. Here's our biggest principle: solidarity. We are here for everyone at [Andover]. We relate to you. We are going through this unique experience together, and we want to make it clear that we're not just broadcasting banal platitudes. We're just two people trying to platform a message of solidarity. Our platform and ideas are different from the other candidates. We have found that aren't the ones that have been found on platforms for years. We're pragmatic and principled.

MEGAN CUI AND SALVADOR GÓMEZ-COLÓN:



TYLER WEI/THE PHILLIPIAN

Megan Cui:

Our platform is a collection of creative, feasible, and exciting ideas that represent the interests of the student body.

Our proposals include categories of sustainability, student well-being, and school policies. We're the only Co-Presidential pair that addresses sustainability as a key priority. We'll advocate for the implementation of the Climate Curriculum and work with administrative and cluster leaderships to make Andover a more sustainable campus. We hope that by introducing Wellness Day, extending Personal time, and establishing our "Feel-Better" stations, we can greatly improve the wellbeing of our student body.



The Phillippian SPORTS

Volume CXLIII | Number 3

super-fan alex
park '21 has
attended every
home bball game

February 21, 2020

BOYSSWIMMING&DIVING

Boys Swimming & Diving Secures Second Consecutive Easterns Championship



COURTESY OF DAVID FOX
Max Hunger '20, Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20, Co-Captain Arnold Su '20, and Marcus Lee '21 broke a longstanding Easterns meet record weekend in the 400-Yard Freestyle Relay.

JAY AZIABOR

In the final individual race of the meet, Yubo Jin '21 finished fourth in his 100 breaststroke final with a time of 55.53 seconds, setting new Upper, school, pool, and New England records. Jin broke former Co-Captain Neil Simpson's '19 groundbreaking record from last year, exemplifying the growth and dedication of this year's team, according to Hank Yang '22.

"I think that for him to break the school record that was set by Neil Simpson last year was really special because I think after Neil broke it last year, we thought that it was never going to be touched. So for Yubo to break it at Easterns was a very monumental moment for himself and for the team. I know Yubo worked very hard to accomplish this goal and I think it shows that our team has a very competitive mindset and that we will do what it takes to achieve our goals," said Yang.

Andover accumulated 641 points during the meet, beating the second-place team by 155.5 points to win its second consecutive Easterns Championship. Divers Zack Peng '21, Johann Asmus Leon '20, and Bennett Pease '21 competed in eleven dives each and placed fourth, 20th, and 22nd, respectively.

The team set a total of 23 new records and surpassed 24 All-American standards, and many members

of the team achieved personal best times. Winning another Easterns Championship after the team's monumental first victory last year was the team's ultimate goal since the beginning of the season, according to Yang.

According to Co-Captain Arnold Su '20 and Brendon Fang '22, Eastern's differed from Andover's other meets this season because of the intensity on deck and the amount of preparation that went into such a successful overall team performance.

In an email to *The Phillippian*, Su wrote, "The meet is much larger and more competitive than our normal dual meets. For starters, there are over ten schools attending, and [oftentimes] we would have to fight for our place. I think the atmosphere was a lot more exciting and intense, as we cheered each other on and [were] able to watch some really close and intense races play out."

"It was a lot more focused because our previous meets have been dual meets. So we were more focused on practicing for Eastern's. So this time suiting up, swimming multiple events, and having a final, you tend to become more nervous and become more focused on placement and points," said Fang.

The meet culminated in a record-breaking 400-freestyle relay performance from Marcus Lee '21, Su, Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20, and Max Hunger '20. The race was tied after the third leg, and Hunger finished in a time of 43.98 seconds

to secure the victory for Andover by almost two seconds over Episcopal Academy.

"I think that the last 400-Free Relay was perfect because it was the last event and we didn't have that many first places because our team was pretty well-rounded. But the last race was really close and then Max Hunger '20 really went for it and that helped us win so that was really memorable," said Fang.

According to Su, the meet provided an opportunity for the team to bond outside of the pool. The team will shift its focus to improving for its final two meets of the season: a dual meet against Exeter and finally, New England.

"I think the best takeaway is that a lot of people went to the meet and were able to achieve personal bests, as well as supporting and cheering each other on. It was a great experience for everyone to be competing at such a competitive and fast meet, and I think we all grew closer as a team in the process," wrote Su.

He continued, "The team will continue to train hard and hone in on the events we will swim at New England. I think our goals will remain the same as they have ever been, which is to keep improving as a team and to achieve 100 percent personal bests for everyone."

The team will travel to Phillips Academy Exeter on Wednesday, February 26 for its annual Andover/Exeter competition.

GIRLSSWIMMING&DIVING

Girls Swimming & Diving Places Fourth at Easterns

CHRISTINE MICHAEL

Graeleigh Jones '21 broke the previous school record set in 2017 for the 100-Yard Breaststroke with the time of 1:05.37 this past weekend at the Eastern Interscholastic Swimming & Diving Championships (Easterns). Due to Jones's performance and the multiple personal and season records set by the rest of the team, Andover Girls Swimming & Diving was able to finish in fourth place at Easterns with a total of 418 points.

According to Gwen Empie '21 and Co-Captain Grace Hitchcock '20, the team was not anticipating an exceptional improvement from last year's eighth place championship finish, and is impressed by the number of personal and season records broken this past week.

"Having almost 100 percent season or personal bests is pretty incredible, especially in swimming which doesn't really happen often because it's unlikely everyone hits on the same weekend... It definitely came as a surprise to me that we improved so much compared to last year. Last year we had a really strong team and obviously this year we have an even stronger team. It's super cool to see how our team managed losing so many Seniors last year and how we recovered from that," said Empie.

Hitchcock added, "I think this year, a lot more people were really happy and satisfied with how they did. Personally, last year, I remember that some of my other teammates and I were kind of disappointed in our performance and felt like we could have gone faster or we should've raced harder. This year, all of the intense training throughout this season really paid off, and I think people did a great job of putting a finishing touch on their races."

The team attributes its successful meet to the overall hard work the swimmers and divers put into practice the entire season, according to Hannah Ono '22 and Emma Cheung '23.

"It's definitely really satisfying to see all of everyone's hard work pay off at the end of Easterns, especially since we rested a lot more for this meet than we have for dual meets," said Ono.

Cheung said, "There were some people who may have added time during preliminaries, but coming back to finals, they were able to bring their A-game. A lot of people ended up getting season bests. Although there were a few races where people added time, in the end they came through and really pushed themselves."

Looking towards the end of the season, Andover is hoping to use its performance at Easterns as an example for New England's in two weeks, as well as for motivation for the team to push for faster times.

Veronika Kisova '23 said, "We had a really good season up until now, and I think Easterns was just building on that. Our main focus is New England, which is in a few weeks, so I think this was a really good example of what we're going to be able to accomplish there. We all swam really amazingly well, and I think it was just really good to see what we can all accomplish together at the meet."

Hitchcock added, "One of the things that I've noticed in a lot of our races this weekend was our ability to chase down another person. Not very many swimming races come down to you being neck and neck with the person next to you, but it's always the most important ones that end up that way. In looking ahead to New England, that's definitely something that we're going to try to hone in on and be able to attack the races and chase down the person next to you and be the one that does the out-touching instead of the one getting out-touched."

Andover will travel to Phillips Exeter Academy next Wednesday.



COURTESY OF GRACE HITCHCOCK
The Girls team's fourth-place finish boosted Andover to an overall combined win.

GIRLSHOCKEY

Girls Hockey Ties Undeclared Nobles

CHARLIE FERGUSON

FRIDAY	
Andover	2
Milton	1
SATURDAY	
Williston	0
Andover	5
WEDNESDAY	
Nobles	1
Andover	1

Off of three quick passes in the Andover neutral zone, Olivia O'Brien PG'20 crossed in front of the net to score the crucial goal that led the team to a 2-1 win over Milton this past Friday. Following the win, Andover Girls Hockey suffered a 5-0 loss against Williston Northampton on Saturday. On Wednesday, Andover came to a 1-1 tie against an undefeated Nobles and Greenough team. The team now stands at a 13-

7-1 record.

Andover was able to start off the Milton game in control on defense which led to numerous offensive opportunities, according to Co-Captain Lilly Feeney '20.

"We were aggressive on our neutral zone forecheck, so we made them turn the puck over in the neutral zone, which gave us some offensive chances. We just came out really fast. The power play goal by Olivia O'Brien was really nice. We all connected on three different passes in our neutral zone that led to a shot from right in front of the net that went in," said Feeney.

According to goalie and Co-Captain Sophia Merageas '20, Andover's defensive game was successful in holding Milton to very few offensive opportunities.

Merageas said, "There was a moment on defense that was kind of small where there was really good defensive communication and coverage between our two defensemen. We were able to break the puck up and generate more opportunities. So, over the course of the game, having good defense and being able to shift accordingly was really important."

Against Williston, penalties were one of the problems for Andover. Going forward, the team looks to refine skating technique in order to react quickly during changes of possession, according to Rachel Neyman '20.

"In the Williston game, we had a lot of penalty kills because we got a lot of penalties called on us. We did really well killing them, and we were able to make it through almost all without goals against. After the Williston game, we need to improve on using our speed as well as stops and starts. We need to stop on the puck, turn around, and back check because the teams from here on out will be quick and transition from defense to offense quickly," said Neyman.

Due to its undefeated record, Nobles was one of Andover's toughest opponents. According to Merageas, Andover was able to find its rhythm throughout the game, resulting in a tie.

"We went into the game knowing we were an underdog and weren't expected to win, and coming out with a tie was honestly just as impressive in my book. I think that really came from the energy that we

had on the bench. Things were just clicking on so many levels. One thing was breaking out of our defensive zone, our wingers were able to get the puck out very well. We didn't allow the Nobles defensemen to intercept passes from us, and we made tape to tape passes which was awesome," said Merageas.

The team looks to fine tune its overall play and start the upcoming games off with explosiveness, according to Feeney.

ney.

Feeney said, "I think just consistency [is something to work on]. If we come out fast every game I think we could win the entire league, but we have had games where we come out flat. So, I guess just playing just as fast every game [is our goal]."

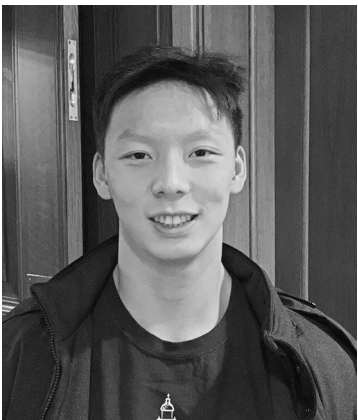
The team will play Worcester away this Saturday.



AMARA NEAL/THE PHILLIPPIAN
Kylie Quinlan '20 scored one of Andover's two goals against Milton.

Co-Captain Arnold Su '20 Exemplifies Consistency and Devotion

CASSIDY SADOWSKI



COURTESY OF ARNOLD SU

Co-Captain Arnold Su '20 has swum five out of the eight individual events at a championship meet.

Holding school records in three separate relays, Andover Boys Swimming & Diving Co-Captain Arnold Su '20 placed fourth in both the 200-Yard Individual Medley and 100-Yard Freestyle at the Eastern Championships, leading Andover to a first place finish.

According to teammate Ralph Lam '22, Su's success in the pool comes as a result of his relentless work ethic and commitment.

"Arnold brings a lot of dedication to the team and also a great level of focus and intensity, but in a good way. Although he has moments where he is very light and goofy and funny, he is able to

quickly switch into this very focused and disciplined mode that is truly admirable," said Lam.

For Su, swimming has been an integral part of his life, as he began to swim at the age of nine.

Su said, "When I first started swimming, at the time I was trying a lot of sports because I was just a small kid so my parents put me in a lot of sports. One of the sports I tried was swimming and I ended up being pretty good at it so that's how I started. First, I just started it as a form of exercise, then I started liking it more so I started competing and getting a more competitive feel... I think [Andover] is where I really started to like swimming a lot more [because of] competing with the team and everything."

As a captain, Su works with his fellow Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20 to build a strong support system for the team.

"Sam and I, both as captains, like to think that we have to be good role models in everything... [We try to] be very approachable and comforting and easy to talk to because sometimes it can be a little intimidating being part of a team for the first time especially if you're new, but know that's something you have to be able to do as a captain," said Su.

According to teammate Yubo Jin '21, Su lets his actions do the talking and sets the standard for everyone on the team.

Jin said, "He leads through actions much less than his words. He's arguably one of the best swim-

mers on the team. He's always very consistent with his technique, his dedication to swimming is amazing... He's consistent, he's fast, and mainly he inspires others by doing well himself and everyone strives to be him. [Su] and Sam together make a great combo, the team this year is really good thanks to both of them."

With two big meets left in the season, Su's goals for the team lie in performing well at New Englands and keeping the foot on the gas pedal after performing well at Easterns.

"I think the team has been doing very well so far. Since the beginning of the term, people have been a lot more focused and a lot more engaged in practices. This past weekend at Easterns, there were a lot of personal bests which is pretty great to see and I think the best part is a lot of people were cheering for both the boys and the girls," said Su. "Now we've really got to carry that momentum all the way through to New Englands."

With his Andover career nearing its end, Su hopes to simply give it his all, like he has for the past four years.

"Personally, I want to get out some good swims. Just swim a good one for one last time for Andover. I just want to do my best," said Su.

Editor's Note: Ralph Lam '22 is a Video Editor for The Phillipian. Yubo Jin '21 is a Multilingual Editor for The Phillipian.

Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20 Sets the Standard for His Teammates with Dedication

CHARLIE FERGUSON



ETHAN ELLSWEIG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20 earned All-American status in all four of his events at Easterns.

After earning All-American status in the 100-Yard Butterfly last season, Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20 has assumed the role of a utility teammate and has adapted to swim any event in order to score for the team. Donchi has dropped significant time in all of his individual events since joining the team as a Junior, and he has been a crucial member of numerous record-setting relay teams during his four years on Andover Boys Swimming & Diving.

At the team's most recent meet, the Eastern Championships, Donchi swam the lead-off backstroke leg of the 200-Medley Relay and third leg of the record-breaking 400-Freestyle Relay, which secured a combined victory for Andover. Both swims, in addition to his individual swims in the 100-Butterfly and 100-Backstroke, earned Donchi All-American status.

During his time on the team, Donchi has never specialized in just one event.

"[My best event has] changed season by season. I was All-American in [the 100-Yard Butterfly], so that was cool. Last year, I focused more on distance freestyle, but this year I volunteered to do what the team needed to fill in just because of the class we lost last year," said Donchi.

Donchi attributes his exponential success over the past few years to his natural development as an athlete, his focus during practices, and Head Coach David Fox's leadership.

"Coach Fox is really great because he knows exactly what he is doing, so I think having that and a change of scenery has been really good... I guess just being consistent [is my goal]... [My strength is] just working hard. You know, a lot of people get burnt out in the sport, not here, and they end up messing around at practice. So, I think I'm good at focusing at practice, dedicating that time to swimming," said Donchi.

According to teammates Trey Wolfe '23 and Yubo Jin '21, who was a member of the All-American medley relay with Donchi this past weekend at Easterns, Donchi sets a standard for dedication to the sport.

"He's never late to practice. He works harder than probably anyone else on the team. He knows what he is doing, and he makes sure that everyone else is doing the right thing too, so he looks past himself," said Wolfe.

Jin wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*, "Sam's grit and dedication is second to none. He will always choose the hardest times to complete the set in, while the rest of us tackle easier paces. During training, when I am struggling to push past the pain, I can always think about Sam and know that he is working just as hard or even harder than me because he has the toughest set."

Donchi believes that he is able to improve because of his focus on improving his fundamentals. According to Jin, Donchi places an emphasis on technique and smaller details while still pushing himself in difficult workouts.

"Sam's grit and dedication are the fundamentals of any good swimmer, but Sam is also extremely diligent when it comes to technique. A lot of times, especially when you are tired, your technique will start to fall apart and your stroke will become a lot less efficient, however, this rarely happens to Sam as he is able to pay attention to the minor details even during extreme conditions and it is what makes him so good," wrote Jin.

One of Donchi's primary goals as captain is validating all swimmers for their individual successes, no matter their overall contributions to the team.

Donchi said, "[My goals are] making everyone feel important on the team, and they're are a lot of people who think because they are not winning events, they're not important. It's not really about speed, it's more creating a culture that allows everyone to be successful in reaching their individual goals and their team goals. So, [my goal], it's to set that culture."

According to Jin, Donchi maintains a strong leadership presence while also treating his teammates like friends.

Jin wrote, "Sam's best trait as a leader is his ability to inspire others both as a friend and a role model. Often times, especially during practice, I will look to Sam to see whether I am where I need to be in regards to the effort put in. Not only that, but he also takes his job very seriously. During team meetings, Sam will call you out if you are speaking out of turn but everyone respects him for it as it is what a good leader does."

Editor's Note: Yubo Jin is a Multilingual Editor for The Phillipian.

'Textbook' Claire Davis '20 Leads Diving Team as Technical and Supportive Captain

CHRISTINE MICHAEL



GRACE WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Claire Davis '20 was a competitive gymnast before joining the Diving team at Andover.

Despite having no prior experience in competitive diving, Captain Claire Davis '20 joined the team as a Junior, and has proven to be an integral member of the diving team. Earlier this season, Davis won her first meet of her diving career.

According to Davis, her extensive experience in gymnastics allowed her to easily transition into diving. As with gymnastics, Davis has enjoyed the opportunity to keep learning new techniques as her skills progress.

"I like that you can be constantly learning and growing in diving. There isn't much room to be stagnant because there's always some new dive that you can learn or new technique that you can try. In that way it's similar to gymnastics because you move up levels and get certain classes of skills, so you can constantly be improving and you don't really have that plateau effect that I think happens in many other sports," said Davis.

Davis's favorite part about being Captain is the opportunity to bring the team together and create a supporting environment. According to Davis, having a leader on the team was vital to her as an underclassmen, as diving is a mentally chal-

lenging sport.

Davis said, "The diving team was one of my first introductions to feeling really at home at Andover... It just felt really cool to know that my support would really mean something to people now that I'm this leadership role. I think [supporting each other] is something that is especially important on a diving team where a lot of the problems you have in diving are mental ones. It's really important to feel like you have a network of support and that you don't feel competitive with each other in a way that's not productive."

According to teammate Presley Kmeta-Suarez '22, Davis is a key part of the team due to her diving skills as well as her humility and positive attitude.

"Claire is an insane diver. [Head Coach Belinda Wolf] calls her 'Textbook Claire' because any dive she does is perfect. She has the perfect form, perfect pointed toes. Every time she does a dive, the team always watches it back because Coach always says, 'Watch how Claire does it,' because she does it so well, yet Claire still stays humble," said Kmeta-Suarez.

In addition to leading the team technically, Davis also consistently checks in with the divers to see how they are doing outside of practice, according to Kmeta-Suarez.

Kmeta-Suarez said, "I think everyone can agree that [Davis] is a great leader. She really does care about every single one of us and how we're doing outside of diving. She always asks, 'Oh, how was your day?' or 'How have you been feeling?' which is just such a nice thing to do and makes you feel listened to."

According to Ingrid Appen '22, Davis is able to bring the team together through small gestures before meets and by giving advice during practice.

Appen said, "One of the really nice things Claire does is that before big meets, she gives us cards and candy, which is really sweet because it's sometimes a stressful time, but she makes it a lot more

positive and brings the team together. She's a really great person to talk to. She's a great person and a good friend. I go to her for advice a lot about diving. If I don't know what dives I should do, I'll ask her, and usually she'll be able to answer pretty well... If we are struggling in practice or even out of practice, she brings us all up and helps us out."

As a captain, Davis hopes to demonstrate the same leadership and kindness that her previous captains exhibited. Davis took this opportunity by traveling to Easterns in Pennsylvania last weekend to cheer on her team despite a back injury that prevented her from competing.

Davis said, "I, unfortunately, was not able to compete [at Easterns] this year because of a back injury, but with the support of the swim and dive coaches, I decided to actually go to Easterns and watch even though I didn't compete. I just felt it was really important to be there for the team... When people on the team told me that they were really glad that I came or that they were happy I got to see their dives, it felt really fulfilling and made me happy that even doing something kind of small can really help."

As the season comes to a close, Davis hopes the team can perform at its best at New Englands in two weeks by completing new dives and taking risks.

Davis said, "My freshman year, I learned one of my dives right before a meet. I had done it once or twice before, but it was pretty sketchy, and I was on the board shaking before I went. I hope that everyone gets through those dives that are a little bit suspicious because they're new. I just really hope everyone dives their very best at New Englands because that's an 11-dive meet, so you have to compete pretty much every dive that you know you can do well. I just hope that we can all be well-rested and really mentally and physically ready before the meet so everyone can be in the right headspace and get all of their dives done to end the season on a good note."

Co-Captain Grace Hitchcock '20 Brings Organization and Passion to the Team

JAY AZIABOR



TYLER WEI/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Grace Hitchcock '20 brought her former Olympian coach to work with the team.

This season, Andover Girls Swimming Co-Captain Grace Hitchcock '20 has developed her versatility as a swimmer, swimming the 100-Yard Butterfly in addition to the 500-Yard Freestyle. According

to Hitchcock, noticing what made her previous captains special has helped her improve as both a teammate and leader.

Hitchcock said, "I think the biggest part of [being on the team for four years] has been having several other amazing captains to look up to and see what they've done to make our team faster and better each year and sort of building off of the trajectory that they've laid down... I think that that has sort of opened the door for me and my Co-Captain, Jackie [Rossi '20], to step up and make some changes to the team this year that we really think will allow the girls to have a better time during the season and also to perform better as a team."

Mary Kate Turk '22 and Rossi admire Hitchcock's commitment to the team and believe that it has been crucial this season.

Rossi said, "Grace is a planner, which is a great thing because she's super organized in the way she leads the team. She has this term called 'garbage

yardage,' and what it means is swimming just to swim yards and not really doing anything with that distance. I think that her strength as a captain is that she really tries to eliminate that 'garbage yardage' and make every minute in the pool as efficient as possible."

Turk added, "She has really stood out, because you can tell that she cares about the sport and the team. She also knows a lot about the sport and that is reflected back on the rest of the team. This year, before big meets, we do ice baths. Earlier in the season, she brought in a [former] Olympian to help us with our technique. So, there are a lot of little things that show that she really cares."

Hitchcock strives to maintain a sense of closeness among the swimmers and believes the team's camaraderie plays a large role in its success.

Hitchcock said, "Supporting each other is always my number one priority. I think what makes our team so special is the fact that we will always be

at the end of the lane cheering for each other when we're not swimming. It honestly makes your job as an individual swimmer on the team so much easier, because you know that you're not just standing up on the blocks competing to get a best time for yourself; you are really up there to score points for the team," said Hitchcock.

According to both Turk and Head Coach Paul Murphy '84, Hitchcock's love for the team and for swimming make her an exceptional captain.

Murphy said, "Grace reads people really well [and] tends to be a little bit more of an assistant coach. She really has helped give feedback to us, especially in the late part of the season about resting or how much we should be doing or pushing. It is an important role that I don't necessarily hear from everyone."

Turk said, "I think she definitely is someone who her teammates look up to because she's a really good leader... She's done a really good job of

bringing the team together and making us all care more about the sport."

After being on the team for four years, Hitchcock is grateful for her experiences with what she considers a tightly-knit group.

Hitchcock said, "This team truly is at the very pinnacle of the definition of a team. In practice, we push each other on sets so we can all be faster when it comes time to compete. We sit down and talk to each other about what our individual goals are, and how those goals will all fall into place so we can achieve the team goals. We all have that extra energy that we want to put towards swimming so that we, as a team, can be the best that we can be. So for me, those aspects of our team have really invigorated my love for the sport, and I don't think that I could have found that anywhere else besides here."

SWIMMING&DIVING


SWIMMING AND DIVING SENIOR REFLECTIONS

T

Reporting by
Preston
Whitehurst


Spread by
Tulio Marchetti

Anthony
Minickiello


EMMA CHEUNG/THE PHILLIPIAN


There is no feeling in the world more thrilling than madly sprinting to the end of a grueling Andover swim practice. I know that my hard work is my reward. I can always find meaning and silver linings in my failures. I realize that my performance never defines me as a person. I never count myself out. I believe without seeing. I have untouchable dignity and harness pain. All this because I am an Andover swimmer.

Riku Tanaka


KRIS AZIABOR/THE PHILLIPIAN


My favorite part about swimming at Andover is the team camaraderie that exists in and out of the pool. Although swimming is an individual sport, we always cheer on each other in practice and in races. I am often really moved when I swim butterfly or breaststroke and take a breath. I see my teammates cheering for me at the other end of the pool. I think each of us harnesses so much from energy from the support we get from each other.

Max Hunger


JESSICA XU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Swimming has taught me values that I will keep with me for the rest of my life. There is a sense of community and belonging that I have yet to find anywhere else. Personally, I will never forget when I had to spend my very first days at Andover in Sykes with a fever, and almost the entire swim team came in to visit me and check in on how I was doing, even though the swim season was over three months away... There is a bond between teammates that is hard to put into words, but it makes for long-lasting friendships that continue well beyond the years people spend at Andover.

Johann
Asmus Leon


KYLIE FRANK/THE PHILLIPIAN

My favorite part about diving at Andover is my coach, Belinda Wolf, along with my teammates. Diving has meant distraction, overcoming mental boundaries, meeting new people, and just having a good time.

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SWIMMING&DIVING

Co-Captain Jackie Rossi '20 Leads with 'Amazing Heart'

TIFFANY TANG



DAVID ZHU/THE PHILLIPIAN
Co-Captain Jackie Rossi '20 will also serve as Girls Water Polo Co-Captain in the spring.
After swimming on a club team throughout middle school, Andover Girls Swimming Co-Captain Jackie Rossi '20 found the transi-

tion to Andover to be very transformative for her as both a swimmer and teammate. According to Rossi, Andover is more team-oriented than other places, as it prioritizes team performance and attitude over individual success.
Rossi said, "Swimming at Andover is very different from my club team at home, because my club team was very individual-results focused, where at Andover it's really about winning as a team. Everyone has to contribute their own skills to contribute to the team goal, and we're not ranking swimmers individually. That joint goal makes the team bond a lot stronger, just because everyone that comes from club teams needs to change their mentality."
According to Rossi, she contributes to this strong team bond through her mental strength and motivation to the team to work hard.
Rossi said, "At Andover, swimming hasn't been as serious for me as it used to be, because now I'm

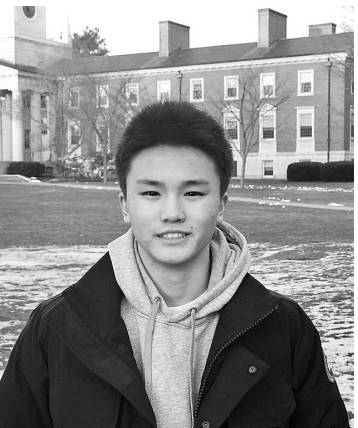
only training one season a year rather than year round, so I've definitely lost some of the speed that I had in middle school. As [Co-Captain], I don't necessarily bring a lot of speed, but I bring a lot of mental strength."
According to fellow Co-Captain Grace Hitchcock '20, Rossi influences others through her positivity and encouraging presence.
"I think part of her amazing heart is her ability to really inspire people to push themselves in practice... She really makes every single person on the team feel incredibly welcome and like they are equally as much part of the team as the next person. That's something that takes place both in and out of the pool," said Hitchcock.
Rossi encourages and supports the team during both practices and meets, according to teammate Alexa DiCenso '21.
"During practice, in between sets and repeats, she's always motivating us, like telling us, 'Good

job, girls,' and 'Keep going, it's our last one,' things like that. At the end of our set, she gives us high-fives, [and] she's just very bright. At meets, she's always cheering. Whenever she's not doing a race, she's always at the end of someone's lane, cheering them on," said DiCenso.
Out of the pool, Rossi is more than just a teammate, and she serves as a friend and mentor for many on the team, according to DiCenso.
DiCenso said, "I've been on the team with her for three years, and she's someone that I feel like I can talk to if I'm ever having a problem or [need] to vent to someone, while at the same time she's serious and serene in a way. She's really great at making you cheer up and things like that."
Although swimming is a big team sport, it also has its individual aspects. For Rossi, she enjoys the mental challenge and constantly works to improve her skills.
"It's a very individual sport; it's

really just you and yourself during practice. You have the support of your teammates around you, but you're really just pushing yourself through each set with the goal of improving your technique, your stroke rate, how far you're moving with each stroke—those are things that only you can push yourself to do. No coach can push you to improve that," said Rossi.
As the season nears its end with only two meets left, Rossi hopes to lead the team to a New Englands Championship win after coming in second two years in a row.
Rossi said, "Our goal this season is to win New Englands. It's a very ambitious goal, but we've been runner-up for two years now, behind Greenwich Academy. They're a really strong team, but we got a bunch of strong recruits this year, so if anything, the goal is to keep closing the gap towards first place. If we don't get first place, [second will] be at least a very good result!"

AOTW: Record-Holder Zack Peng '21 Dives with Experience and Intensity

JUSTIN HARDY



BECKETT MCKEE/THE PHILLIPIAN
Zack Peng '21 placed fourth at the Easterns Championship this weekend.
Zack Peng '21 currently holds Andover's school record for one-meter diving as well as the Andover/Exeter record. After leaving his competitive swimming career behind to start

diving at his local recreation center, Peng has made it to Nationals for diving and placed fourth at Easterns this season. According to Johann Asmus-Leon '20, Peng's complete focus both during meets and at practice is an inspiration to the rest of the team.
"Zack is a super nice teammate. He motivates us all, and he makes sure we're happy on the team... in practice and out of it too. Zack works really hard. He's never really happy with himself; he always wants to improve, and he's always very focused during his dives. Zack is a really great diver," said Asmus-Leon.
Peng's hard work and determination have earned him The Phillipian's title of Athlete of the Week.

the dive, not only in practice but in competitions when all the pressure is on you, and being able to do the dive well.

How were you introduced to diving?
I used to do competitive swimming when I was younger, and one day I looked over to the deep end of the pool at our local rec center, and I saw a bunch of people doing flips and spins off of various heights, and I looked at my mom and said, 'Mom I want to try that; and that's how it all started.'
What's a favorite memory you have from diving?
I think a favorite memory is just last year because since coming to Andover I haven't been able to do year-round diving, which I used to, so I only dive in-season. Last year my coaches, both here at Andover... and back home... wanted me to dive at U.S.A. Diving [and] to go to Regionals. So I went and I did really

well, especially for the three-meter. I literally just showed up and chucked all of my dives without any practice. I think I got fourth and then third in the one-meter, which was just insane, and that was a really big victory for me, and I carried that all the way through to Nationals actually.

Do you have any pre-meet rituals?
Mainly for me, it's just always making sure I'm stretched out. That's a really important thing. Honestly, I also have to go to the bathroom before I dive in order to dive well.
Is there a professional diver who you look up to?
His name is Qiu Bo. He's a Chinese diver. He's insane, and he's gone to the Olympics multiple times.

Do you have a role model on the team?
Besides my [Head Coach Belinda Wolf] I'd probably say my captain, Claire Davis '20. She's always so calm and collected, and she always knows what she's doing. She's also very consistent.
What are your goals for your future in diving?
I hope that I get the chance to dive in college. That's my current plan, and then hopefully I'll do really well in the NCAA.
Do you have a favorite food at commons?
Creamy tomato soup, generally, with grilled cheese is my favorite.
What type of music do you like to listen to?
I like a variety of music. I like certain country songs as well as certain pop songs as well as certain hip hop songs. My favorite artist is J. Cole. He hypes me up a lot.

AOTW: Veronika Kisova '23 Brings a Motivational Spirit to the Girls Swim Team

AVA SULLIVAN



MAYA LAI/THE PHILLIPIAN
Veronika Kisova '23 is the team's top swimmer in the 100, 200, and 500 -ard Freestyle events.

Veronika Kisova '23, a new member of Andover Girls Swimming & Diving, started swimming competitively at the age of 6. Kisova mainly swims in distance events, in particular the 500-Yard Freestyle, 200-Yard Freestyle, 200-Yard Relay, and 400-Yard Freestyle Relay. According to teammate Katie Swan '23, Kisova is a motivated swimmer who always pushes herself and her teammates to do their best.
"She is a really great friend, I love her so much. She is also super hard-working, so she always pushes other people to work harder also," said Swan.
Kisova's athleticism and support towards her team has earned her the title of The Phillipian's Athlete of the Week.

When did you start swimming?
I've been swimming competitively since I was 6 years old, but before that I honestly started when I was 6 months old, but that was just for fun.
How would you describe the team at Andover?
At Andover, our team is just so much fun. We all get along so well, and practices are so much fun, because we are all just having fun and working hard together for the same goal.
What do you like most about your events?
I am a distance swimmer, and that's what I swim [in club swimming] and at Andover. Distance is not everyone's favorite—usually people kind of hate it, and I hated it at first. I like that you can pace

yourself, and it's not just a sprint, because in a sprint, if one thing goes wrong and you have a slow start, then everything is over, and you aren't going to have a good swim. But in distance, you always have time to build on what you are trying to accomplish.
What goals did you accomplish so far this season?
I was really looking forward to the team aspect of swimming at Andover, because on club swimming, it is a very different dynamic, where you are swimming for only yourself. But here it is different; you are more swimming for the team than for just yourself.
What has been your favorite memory of the season so far?
Honestly, Eastern's. I feel like [the team] got to know one another so well because we were together

for four days straight, and our relationship got so much better.
What are you looking forward to next season?
For next season, just again strengthening our team connection. Our season isn't over yet; we still have New Englands coming up, which is our main meet. Eastern's is a big meet that we focus on, but New Englands is [more important]. New Englands is a league meet against all of the schools we compete with... I am looking forward to that.
What is your favorite building on campus?
I like [Paretsky Commons] because it has food, but I also like [Borden Memorial Gym] and the pool.

ANDOVER BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

SAM DONCHI '20 [C]
PORTLAND, ORE.

JOHANN ASMUS LEON '20
GOTTINGEN, GERMANY

ARNOLD SU '20 [C]
IRVINE, CALIF.

ZACK PENG '21
OAKTON, VA.

ANTHONY MINICKIELLO '20
SWANZEY, NH.

MARCEL LIU '23
NATICK, MASS.

YUBO JIN '21
ANDOVER, MASS.

BRENDON FANG '22
PORTLAND, ORE.

MAX FANG '22
PORTLAND, ORE.

ALEXANDER GRANDE '21
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, GA.

TREY WOLFE '23
RUMSON, N.J.

BENNETT PEASE '21
NORTH ANDOVER, MASS.

RALPH LAM '22
HONG KONG

BRANDON GARCIA PG
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

GREGOR DEVEAU '21
BEACONSFIELD, CANADA.

MARCUS LEE '21
TAIPEI, TAIWAN

HANK YANG '22
HONG KONG

CHRISTOPHER XIA '23
FLUSHING, N.Y.

GRACE WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

ANDOVER GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

GRACE HITCHCOCK '20 [C]
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

JACKIE ROSSI '20 [C]
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

CLAIRE DAVIS '20 [C]
NEW YORK, NY.

MARY KATE TURK '22
NORTH ANDOVER, MASS.

GRACE HWANG '22
WINDHAM, NH.

GRAELEIGH JONES '21
NORTH ANDOVER, MASS.

GWEN EMPIE '21
BLOOMSBURG, PA.

HAILEY WADELL '21
READING, MASS.

EMMA CHEUNG '23
NEW CANAAN, CONN.

VERONIKA KISOVA '23
NORTH ANDOVER, MASS.

KATIE SWAN '23
PELHAM, NH.

DAPHNE EDWARDS '23
VERNON, CONN.

ABBY RYAN '21
RUMSON, N.J.

ALEXA DICENSO '21
METHUEN, MASS.

ASHLEY VENSEL '22
NAPLES, FLA.

HANNAH ONO '22
BOSTON, MASS.

SOFIA SMIRNOV '22
ANDOVER, MASS.

SOPHIA BLAINE '22
OLD GREENWICH, CONN.

PRESLEY KMETA-SUAREZ '22
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY.

AMY JIANG '21
ANDOVER, MASS.

GRACE WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

SWIMMING&DIVING

Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 and Assistant Coach Catherine Carter Lead Andover Girls Swimming & Diving Since 2001

NICOLE LEE



AMARA NEAL/THE PHILLIPIAN

Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 and Assistant Coach Catherine Carter have set their sights set on winning New Englands this season.

Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 and Assistant Coach Catherine Carter have been coaching Andover Swimming together for the past 19 years. Murphy and Carter look to lead the team to a win against Phillips Exeter Academy and in the New England Championships at the end of the season. This past weekend, Murphy and Carter led the team to a 4th place finish at the Easterns Championship.

Due to Murphy's extensive background as both a swimmer and coach, along with Carter's calm demeanor, the team has continued to extend its history with a competitive and successful season, according to Sofia Smirnov '22.

"Mr. Murphy is definitely the one who pushes us the most in terms of practices. He is the one who always makes the hard sets and gives us less rest to push our

endurance. Before any meet, we'll all gather together and he will lead and motivate us through his words. Coach Carter is very motivational as well and there for us in every way possible. She is a bit more laid back, because she understands that we have really hard practices. In that sense, I think they work really well together, because their energies really balance each other out," said Smirnov.

In addition, Murphy and Carter keep in constant communication with all swimmers on the team, which helps swimmers accomplish their season goals, according to Co-Captain Grace Hitchcock '20.

Hitchcock added, "Mr. Murphy and Coach Carter are incredibly open to collaboration from the captains in particular, but also from other swimmers on the team. I think that is a really important quality for our team's performance, because it means that they are really there to facilitate what we as a team want to accomplish and that they're willing to go the extra mile to see that that happens. It also means that they're incredibly open to listening to the swimmers which I think is really important, because we have the best sense of our personal abilities and capabilities."

What is your background in swimming?

Coach Murphy: So I started swimming [at Andover], which is not done anymore—most people come in as swimmers. I was introduced to the sport here and then just got better and better when I was in college. I really enjoyed it when I was there and

applied for one job to come back and be a teaching fellow here at my old school. I ended up teaching math and coaching [Andover Boys Swimming] the first year I was here. Ever since 1991, I moved to the Girls team.

Coach Carter: I tried competitive swimming for the first time at Grinnell College, a D3 team with no cuts, and it was a formative experience in my life, even though I wasn't winning many or any races.

What is your favorite part of coaching Andover Girls Swimming?

Coach Murphy: My favorite part is watching people progress through the season and progress from sometimes [Junior Year to Senior Year]. Sometimes it's up and sometimes it's down, but I like seeing the progression and having people's hard work pay off. I think it's really exciting.

Coach Carter: I love working with such a dedicated team of swimmers who work hard to perfect their own races in an effort to reach group goals—it's inspiring! They are also really fun, and I like their practice playlists.

What is the most difficult part of being a coach?

Coach Murphy: The most difficult part of being a coach—which isn't hard but it is part of being a coach—is helping people through a dip or not a great season or meet. I think that is hard sometimes. It is part of being a coach and I've been doing it long enough to know that there is al-

ways a better day ahead.

What makes Andover Girls Swimming unique to other teams/schools?

Coach Murphy: I often get told by other teams and coaches that what stands out about our team is that the camaraderie is really evident and real. I think we spend a good deal of time on this in the beginning of the season. I believe that people who are athletes will do best when they're happy. I think happiness comes from having a good time in practice and meets and just supporting one another.

How do your coaching styles differ but also complement each other?

Coach Murphy: We're good friends, which I think is helpful to everybody. We talk a lot about the team but also just support each other on deck and during practice. I think we complement each other in that as the head coach, sometimes swimmers don't want to come to be directly, but they are happy to go to the assistant coach. [Coach Carter] plays a really important in-between role sometimes for students, and because there are 20 kids on the team, there is no way I can necessarily appeal to everybody, so it's nice to have someone to share that with.

As the season is coming to a close, what are your hopes going into Exeter and New Englands?

Coach Murphy: We had such a good weekend at Easterns, so I'm feeling good about our prospects as long as everyone stays

healthy and uninjured. I think Exeter is having a bit of a rebuilding year, so that will be okay, but you never know. It's Andover/Exeter, so it could go either way.

Coach Carter: I'd love to see us beat Exeter and win Inter-schols; we have so much depth this year, and after seeing the times at Easterns I have a lot of faith in our taper and in the girls' determination to swim even faster at the end of the season.

What is a message you try to convey to your swimmers before a race?

Coach Murphy: Some people are very nervous and don't want to be talked to, [while] some are very nervous and do want to be talked to. I try to figure out who those people are. When I was a swimmer, I think I didn't want a coach talking to be too much before a race, because I was too focused at the time. [But] other people really liked talking about what you're focusing on, turns, the third 50 in a 200, which is the hardest part of a race. So I talk a little bit about the progression of a race often to them, and mostly we spend a lot of time in practice talking about technique and putting the details together in practice, because you don't have time to think about that during a race... You might go fast, but you're going to burn out. In swimming, you need to last through the rest of the meet or rest of the season, so we're doing pretty well on that.

Athletes of the Week: Andover 400 Freestyle Relay Team Members Break 29 Year 'Legendary' Record at Easterns

KIERA SUH

To close out a record-breaking weekend, the 400-Freestyle Relay finished with a time of 2:59.81, breaking an Easterns record that stood for over 29 years, as well as the school record, pool record, and New England record that was set by a different lineup of Andover swimmers last year.

The record-breaking team was Marcus Lee '21, Co-Captain Arnold Su '20, Co-Captain Sam Donchi '20, and Max Hunger '20.

According to Head Coach David Fox, the team was aiming to break the record rather than win the event. Though some teams at the national level had equalled or broken the record in the recent past, no Eastern team had ever accomplished the feat.

In an email to The Phillipian, Fox wrote, "In 1991, a relay from the Bolles School, led by four-time Olympic medalist and four-time Olympian, Gustavo Borges, established a National and Eastern Record in the 400 Free Relay of 2:59.98. While eight other schools (public and independent) have surpassed that National Record in the last 29 years, no Eastern School has. For the past few years, Andover

has had the goal of going under 3:00.00 and breaking that record. And in the last event of this year's meet, Marcus Lee '21, Arnold Su '20, Sam Donchi '20, and Max Hunger '20 finally did it: 2:59.81. The relay also broke the New England, school, and pool records set last year by Andover in 3:00.91."

This record-setting swim was a testament to the multiple years of training that had been dedicated to this race, according to Fox.

"The team has had the goal of going under 3:00.00 for several years, and we knew last spring that we had at least four returning swimmers, and at least one new one, [Brandon Garcia PG'20], who could be on the relay. All 18 varsity swimmers worked really hard all season, pushing and encouraging each other, so this is an accomplishment of not just the four on the relay but really all 18," wrote Fox.

The team members have developed a strong bond from training together toward this common goal, according to Chris Xia '23.

"All of the guys on that relay are obviously really strong swimmers, but they're also kind of the dads of the team because they're constantly working together to encourage everyone to push themselves. I think that's

one of the main reasons why they swim together so well," said Xia.

Due to their monumental performance and leadership on the team, the members of the 400-Freestyle Relay team have earned the title of The Phillipian's Athletes of the Week.

How had you been preparing for this event?

Lee: This relay team swam together a couple times before in-season: once at Suffield and another time at Loomis. For Easterns, the four of us were well-rested and suited so we were prepared to swim fast. We all focused on improving little details [in] each of our swims.

Donchi: Since our meeting in the beginning of the season, we've known [the record] was one of our goals, so I guess the whole season built up to the race. We did a lot for warmups and made sure to eat a lot of good food.

What were you thinking about before the race?

Lee: We didn't focus on how fast our splits needed to be, but on the small details instead. We made sure that we stayed focused in between prelim and final sessions. We also kept our bodies feeling as

fresh as possible.

Hunger: It's really important to just keep believing in the training and having confidence in the training that you've done throughout the year. Honestly, the biggest part is to get excited and to get ready, regardless of how tired or how exhausted you're feeling. Whether you're feeling good or feeling bad, you just have to stay excited and happy to race because there's so few opportunities to do so. Just have confidence, go out there, and win. Send it.

How do you think the energy on deck affected your performance?

Lee: It's Easterns, so the atmosphere is crazy and everyone's cheering. With the team, we bond really well, especially on this relay. I bond really well with all of the guys on this relay. They're all amazing people and hard workers and obviously fast swimmers. They're always there to support you when you need it.

Hunger: It's a very intense moment. It's at the end of the meet and the other end of the pool is packed because everyone has finished racing except for the eight teams that are in that race. It's absolutely ab-

surd. It's loud. It's hyped up. You kind of forget all of the pain you've gone through before. The trust, the hype, the atmosphere culminate into everyone's willingness to send it.

What did this race mean to you and to the rest of your team?

Hunger: The best way to put it is that everyone has confidence in each other. Everyone's learning throughout the entire season. New guys, as well as returners both push themselves as hard as possible and having seen that throughout the few months that we get to train together is really cool. When you put in your best effort, you get the best effort out of everyone else.

Su: Just in general, being able to watch your teammates swim fast at the end of the season and swim with them is very satisfying and very fun to do. You spend two or three months training really hard with them and watching the team push itself to the limit while you push yourself to the limit as well. That final moment at the end of the meet is very satisfying.

Coaches David Fox and David Gardner Guide Team to Second Consecutive Easterns Title

LUKE BOSHAR



COURTESY OF DAVID FOX

Coaches David Fox and David Gardner have led Andover to a current undefeated season.

In Head Coach David Fox's ninth year as Head Coach and Assistant Coach David Gardner's fourth year with the team, Andover Boys Swimming has won six total and four consecutive New England Championships and two consecutive Easterns Championships. In addition, Fox and Gardner have pioneered the team to a three year undefeated record.

According to Hank Yang '22, the coaches' success stems from their achievement-oriented mindset.

"[Fox and Gardner are] good coaches because they're very goal oriented and they're also really meticulous in how they do things. Coach Fox and Coach Gardner plan out the whole season and lay out goals for us and train us to be able to achieve those goals. On top of that, they're not one of those coaches who is always pestering you and reminding you of what to do. They set up goals for you but then they let you do your thing and let the team work together to move towards a common goal," said Yang.

How do you work together?

Coach Fox: Coach Gardner is working with strategy and directly with the boys on the team. Anyone who knows us both also recognizes that his emotional intelligence is exponentially better than mine, so he reads the swimmers and situations really well. He also reminds me of how the swimmers view me, which helps, too.

Coach Gardner: I feel lucky to get to work with Coach Fox. He cares deeply about each swimmer on the team and holds them to high standards—both as swimmers and as human beings. He has high expectations, he sincerely believes in each swimmer's ability to meet or exceed their goals, and he knows that the success of the team depends on each and every team member. Additionally, Coach Fox motivates the swimmers to focus on the things they can control—consistently working hard, remembering the details, maintaining healthy habits, embodying good sportsmanship and integrity, striving toward personal goals, supporting their teammates—rather than the things they can't control, like how or what other teams might do. Finally, Coach Fox is organized and detail-oriented, building spreadsheets and lists of data and preparing thoroughly for every season, practice, and competition.

What are your favorite memories from over the years as coaches?

Coach Fox: My favorite memory is when the 2013 team

unanimously voted to boycott the New England Championships—and a pretty certain four-peat—because the league had changed the rules for how many boys could swim at the championship, [leaving out] some of their teammates. Supporting their peers rather than winning remains a great moment for me.

What have been some successes this season?

Coach Fox: The team's primary success so far is having trained harder than any team I've seen and seeing that pay off at Easterns. With three weeks until New Englands, the boys are focused on turning things around and going faster.

Coach Gardner: The team has focused and trained hard all season, and it's gratifying to see that effort culminate in fast swims and personal best times. It's wonderful, as well, to watch the swimmers cheer each other on and take real joy in the success of their teammates. I also admire the team for their sportsmanship, as they consistently congratulate their competitors, regardless of the outcome of the race.

What makes this year's team special?

Coach Fox: This year's team is a great combination of people. We have, in the class of 2020, the best Andover class of swimmers since 1949 (which had Jimmy McLane, who won two Olympic Gold Medalists in the summer between his Upper and Senior years as well as Richard Thoman, who went on to set a World Record). More importantly, the class of 2020 contains strong leadership that is passing lessons along to the newer swimmers. This all makes my job really easy; they spoil me [a lot].

Coach Gardner: One other thing I love about this team is how readily they will put the team's needs over their own individual wishes—for instance, swimming a different event or switching up a relay (sometimes with short notice) when it makes sense for the good of the team.

SPORTS OPINION

Gambling on the Future of Sports Betting

ETHAN WEISSMAN



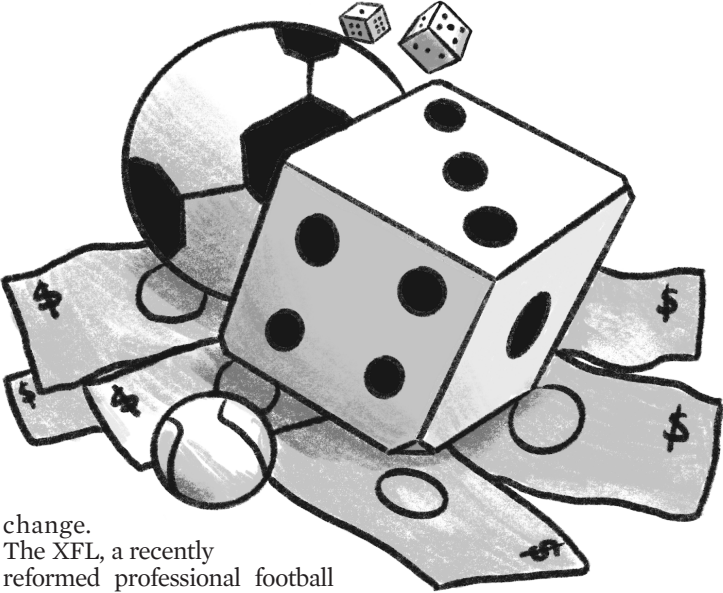
ETHAN WEISSMAN
The Phillipian
ETHAN ELLSWEIG/THE PHILLIPIAN

For decades, sports gambling has been looked down upon and faced stiff opposition. Scandals and concerns about addiction created a perception of sports betting as a threat to American sports. Outside of Las Vegas, where sports gambling was legalized in 1949, people went to illegal bookies and dubious European websites to place their bets, fueling a multi-billion dollar underground industry. However, in 2018, the Supreme Court lifted the federal ban on sports gambling, normalizing the world of over and unders and allowing people to experience sports in the way they preferred. I believe the legalization of sports gambling will be beneficial for sports leagues through increasing viewership and becoming a new profitable industry, while also changing the way the average viewer experiences sports.

The Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (Paspa), which gave sports leagues like the NCAA the ability to challenge betting laws in court, was ruled unconstitutional because it infringed upon states’ rights. As a result, states were free to decide whether they wanted to legalize sports betting and could begin to open sportsbooks. Since the ruling, 14 states have legalized sports betting, six have passed a law to make it legal but not until all rules are established and casinos are ready, and 24 states are pending legislation.

However, online sports betting still remains a complicated topic. Currently, online sports gambling is only legal in certain states. Yet, online gambling continues to be popular outside of legalized states, as it is relatively easy to create an account on online sportsbooks like Bovada and Fanduel, even for people under the required age of 21. According to ESPN, under-the-table NFL and college football wagers top \$95 billion each year in the United States, and according to the American Gaming Association, up to \$150 billion is bet online. In this year’s Super Bowl, 26 million Americans wagered \$6.8 billion, a 15% increase from last year, making it the most legally bet on Super Bowl in history, according to data from the American Gaming Association.

As the world of sports gambling grows dramatically and sports leagues begin to embrace betting, I think the way in which people consume sports will continue to



BEN FU/THE PHILLIPIAN

change. The XFL, a recently reformed professional football league distinct from the NFL, has made an effort to integrate sports betting into its broadcasts, showing the spread, odds which account for unevenly matched teams, and the total on the scoreboard. People have begun to watch sports for gambling instead of supporting a favorite team. This is great for niche sports, as people can gamble on sports that normally would not be watched. Although it can be argued that gambling does not promote lifelong fandom and loyalty to a team, as more and more viewers begin to consume sports for gambling rather than entertainment, the world of sports gambling will become extremely profitable.

Since gambling has become more normalized, it has led to the rise of a whole new industry. Media

coverage founded upon talking about point-spreads, such as Barstool Sports, and career paths specific to sports betting, such as those of professional sports gamblers, are newly emerging professions created by betting. The fact that Barstool recently signed a \$450 million deal with Penn National Gaming speaks to the legitimacy and scale of the growing legal gambling world. With the legalization of sports betting creating a massively profitable industry, owners and leagues will surely try to capitalize on the fact that a lot of people enjoy betting on their sports. Although I think sports gambling is great for leagues, as it boosts their popularity in a dif-

ferent sort of way, it is yet to be seen whether the average gambler will benefit as much as they do from the legalization of sports betting. People have already bet on sports in huge numbers, however, legalization means their wagers will generate tax income and become a source of new revenue for both states and professional leagues. Leagues can now exploit the interest in gambling to promote their games and boost their revenues.

With sports gambling developing into a booming industry, for me, the most concerning part of it is the high rate of losing money involved. Sports gambling is obviously a risky investment. In contrast to investing in the stock market, sports gambling doesn’t provide the same safety; you either gain money for betting the winner or lose it all. A way sports betting could change to reduce the risk and make it more of an investment is to make it function in a similar way to stocks. Instead of point spreads, I think that sportsbooks could create a gambling exchange system similar to the stock market. We could create a dynamic experience in which sports betters could buy and sell lines throughout games and seasons as teams odds improved or worsened based on their success. However, much of the draw of gambling is the risk of either winning or losing a lot of money. Either way, gambling has started a new sports industry that may benefit the leagues, but affect the average bettor as leagues encourage them to be more active participants in their sports.

GIRLSSQUASH

Girls Squash Defeats Third-Ranked Deerfield

CASSIDY SADOWSKI

SATURDAY	
Deerfield	2
Andover	5

Despite missing first seed Chelsea Cho ’21, Andover Girls Squash defeated Deerfield 5-2 on Senior Night, a celebration of the team’s Seniors during the final home match of the season. The team’s record now stands at 11-1.

According to Mariam Elkheshen ’21, Senior Night motivated the players as they did not want to lose during their last home match.

“We were really excited for this match, though it was sad we didn’t have Chelsea with us, because we all wanted to play the best we could and do everything to win. We managed to do that, which was really fun because we didn’t want to lose for our Seniors,” said Elkheshen.

The team went into the match knowing Deerfield was going to be one of its toughest opponents all season, leading the players to feel accomplished after they secured the win, according to Saffron Agrawal ’21.

Agrawal said, “There isn’t really one way to describe how the matches went just because Deerfield’s ladder had a wide variety of levels. I know that some at the top of our ladder had a more difficult time than the people like me who are lower down just because their ladder dropped off a little bit... I was a little bit taken aback when I found that my opponent was weaker than I imagined, but I think I did a good job just really playing offensively in my match and working on what I’d been working on all season.”

According to Elkheshen, the

team rested during some of the days leading up to the match but trained especially hard on the previous Friday.

“[Head Coach Jennifer Elliot ’94] gave us Thursday off before because we were all stressed just because this week has been rough. For Friday, we actually had a really hard practice, and she was just motivating us mentally... We were [also] doing lots and lots of fitness, so both of our coaches were just motivating us the whole time,” said Elkheshen.

Entering Winter Term’s final push, the extra fitness the team has been doing started to become evident and useful, according to Captain Skyler Spaulding ’20.

“We’ve been doing a lot of fitness, which the coaches have set up because it’s really important to be able to play and keep going when we’re tired. [Our training] definitely showed throughout these tough matches and near the end of the season. When winter is really hitting, you can tell that people are a little bit more flat or not as happy every day in practice, so I’ve been trying to make sure that we always have music going and that we’re always supporting one another so that we can be happy to go to practice every day, and therefore play better,” said Spaulding.

Going into the last weeks of the season, the team looks to step up the intensity as it enters Nationals, according to Spaulding.

“We’re going to Nationals this weekend, and I think we’re seeded ninth or 12th, so it would be really great if we could place above what we’re seeded and to win as many matches as possible at Nationals. It’s also really fun just to go on a road trip and stay at hotels with the team, and I hope that we can all bond even more,” said Spaulding.

The team will begin competition at Nationals this Thursday.

BOYSSQUASH

Andover Defeats Deerfield Leading Up to Nationals

TIFFANY TANG

SATURDAY	
Deerfield	1
Andover	6

Aidan Lin ’23 won 12-10 in the fifth game of a close match, coming back from being one game down to secure a victory. Andover Boys Squash defeated Deerfield 6-1 on Saturday, bringing its record to 11-4 as the National Championships approach.

According to Steve Nam ’20, the team was supportive of Lin from the start as he pulled through with a close win.

Nam said, “Aidan’s game was definitely one of the closest matches of the day. Even from the first game, I remember the score being very close and I could see that it would probably go to 5 games. I think what made Aidan’s game special was that once people saw how close each game was, the team began getting behind Aidan to try and support him.”

The team performed well against Deerfield, demonstrating its strength and improvement from previous seasons, according to Erik Wang ’21.

“I think the team did really well, especially because Deerfield has been a historically strong team, and we’ve never beaten them in the past. I think beating them 6-1 this year was a really strong end to our season, and we’re looking to bring that result into Nationals this year,” said Wang.

According to Wang, the team has focused on improving its fitness and technique throughout the season, and Saturday’s success reflected the hard work that the players have put in.

Wang said, “We’ve been working a lot on our fitness and keeping the ball tight under pressure, which is something our coach has been working with us a lot on. We’ve done a lot of hard sessions primarily, focused on fitness and footwork. That paid off, because we had a lot of really tight matches, and we played pretty well in those close matches and we were able to stick with our opponents and beat them in the end.”

WRESTLING

Wrestling Moves Past New Englands, Sets Sights on National Prep Tournament

INDI WAGNER
& SARAH KARLEN

Co-Captain Marisol Nugent ’20 pinned her opponent to the mat for her third first-period pin, securing her a first place finish in the 144lb weight class, and earning her the title of Outstanding Wrestler for the girls division. Nugent was one of five wrestlers to place individually, and Andover Wrestling finished its tournament placing 9 out of 47 teams at New Englands.

According to Co-Captain Eamon Garrity-Rokous ’20, the team’s focuses were aggressiveness and persistence, which were showcased by three wrestlers in particular: Nick Buehler ’21, Arnav Bahkta ’22, and Colin Nugent ’23.

“They all showed some really serious heart and grit at New Englands because once they lost in the championship bracket, they wrestled hard through the consolation bracket and ended up placing really high,” said Garrity-Rokous.

The main focus for the team after its successful finish at New Englands is the National Prep tournament this weekend in Pennsylvania. Marisol Nugent, Colin Nugent,

and Buehler qualified for this tournament.

According to Coach Carl Sangree, the wrestlers are going to face tough competition at this tournament. In order to prepare for the high level of competition, the wrestlers must focus on technique in particular rather than the persistence they relied on to advance past New Englands.

“The level of difficulty goes up exponentially for this tournament, so the biggest thing will be to review old films to identify areas for improvement, in my opinion. We won’t be able to rely on just good fitness or grit to succeed at this level. We also must be technically excellent,” said Sangree. Garrity-Rokous noted the specific areas in which the team must improve in order to have a chance at winning titles at the National Prep tournament.

“I think we need to move more and better on bottom and sequence those moves because we’re facing tougher opponents at Nationals, and because of that, we’ll need to focus on that in practices this coming week,” Garrity-Rokous added.

Due to its performance at New Englands, the team has high expectations for its performance at the national level.

In particular, Marisol Nugent shows great promise for a national title after her success at New Englands. According to Sangree, Buehler and Colin Nugent also show a lot of promise.

“Buehler has shown tremendous growth since I have known him, and his attitude of having fun on the mat with an aggressive wrestling style has proven effective,” said Sangree.

He continued, “Colin, who is just a freshman, has the exciting opportunity to prove himself as one of the nation’s top prep wrestlers.”

The team hopes to ride their motto and core value of ‘no quit’ through this final week of training and the National Prep tournament. According to Buehler, this motto signifies the team’s work ethic and mentality on the mat.

“We wrote [our motto] in big letters on the wall of the wrestling room, just ‘NO QUIT.’ You don’t quit because, like I said before, you can always still win in a wrestling match,” said Buehler.

This coming weekend, the team will travel to Bethlehem, Penn., to compete at the National Prep Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

GIRLSINDOORTRACK&FIELD

Girls Indoor Track & Field Runs at BU Valentine’s Day Meet

STAFF REPORT

On Friday, February 14, two members of Andover Girls Indoor Track & Field travelled to Boston University to compete in the 2020 David Hemery Valentine Invitational meet.

Victoria Kadiri ’20 ran in the Women’s 60-Meter Dash and placed first in her heat with a time of 7.90 seconds. Lillie Cooper ’21 placed second in her heat for the Women’s 400-Meter Dash, with a time of 1:00.07 minutes.

Over 2,000 athletes competed in the invitational, with the majority representing collegiate teams. Girls Track & Field Alumni Caroline Shipley ’16, Samantha Valentine ’17, and Fredricka Lucas ’18 also competed in the meet. A select group of the Girls and Boys Indoor Track & Field team will compete in the USATF New England Championships at Harvard University this Sunday.

Editor’s note: Lillie Cooper ’21 is a Sports Editor for The Phillipian.

ARTS&LEISURE

DAVID ZHU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Under the Bed Show Celebrates Love and Valentine’s Day

JEFFREY SHI

Incorporating the word “sandals” suggested by the crowd, Violet Enes ’21 stepped forward and pulled the one-liner, “I like my sex like I like my sandals: with more than one strap.” This game, titled “Innuendo,” left the audience cracking up as they continued to suggest other words to the members of Under the Bed (U.T.B.) like “rice” and “a cappella.”

“I think ‘Innuendo’ was new to the show this year, which I think a lot of people really liked at the end. We didn’t do that in the first show, but it has been done and practiced a lot in the past,” said U.T.B. member Myra Bhatthana ’22.

“Innuendo” was one of the many games played during the U.T.B. show held last Saturday night in Susie’s. As an improv comedy group, shows involve playing games with members following basic rules and coming up with content on the spot. According to U.T.B. Head Harry Kahane ’20, the group decided to go with a general theme of Valentine’s Day this year.

“We’ve never done a show themed all the way through before with all the different games... For ‘Experts Challenge,’ it was on the subject of love in general, [and we played] ‘Late for a Date’ as opposed to ‘Late for Work,’ and also ‘Party Quirks’ with couples instead of guests. We gave it a shot, and considering we had never done it before I think it was great,” said Kahane.

According to U.T.B. member Nick Picchione ’20, the humor in the game “Late for a Date” was received especially well by the crowd. The game involved a U.T.B. member leaving the stage and the audience proposing an excuse for being late for a date.



AMARA NEAL/THE PHILLIPIAN
According to Under the Bed (U.T.B.) member Myra Bhatthana ’22, U.T.B. has been working on making more complicated scenarios in their games with longer storylines.

The member then returned and had to figure out what the excuse was by watching the gestures of other U.T.B. members hiding in the back.

“I’d say a lot of jokes in the game, ‘Late for a Date,’ especially when the date turns around and sees what all the workers in the background are doing, are always super good because they’re always super unexpected and the audience never knows what’s coming. The shock factor really helps that,” said Picchione.

Creating a concentrated narrative for the audience to follow was one of the aspects of the show that U.T.B. worked on during practice. According to U.T.B. member Matt Veneri ’21, focusing on creating a narrative is the best and most effective type of comedy.

“The biggest thing that people find funny is if you can create a story. So [the game] ‘Montage’ does a really good example with that. We create a story based on

one event that the audience gives us and then we build it from there. I find that the best comedy is when we can build on that story, because half the reason why the audience is laughing is because they find it impressive,” said Veneri.

Audience member George Lathrop ’22 thought that U.T.B. did a good job of incorporating audience interaction during the performance. During the show, one of Lathrop’s audience ideas was heard and integrated into the game.

“They actually used one of my ideas for [‘Late for a Date’], which was using ‘an avalanche’ as an excuse for being late. I just shouted ‘avalanche’ when they asked for ideas, and I thought it was super cool that we were able to interact with the performers so well. I loved how it wasn’t super planned and restricted, how it was mostly improv, and that we were able to voice our ideas as the audience,” said Lathrop.

“The Sunset: Cafe and Lounge” Event Features Original Compositions and Complementary Decor



ELINA CHOI/THE PHILLIPIAN
“The Sunset: Café and Lounge” event featured compositions by students like Yuping Zhu ’21 (pictured above). Other students performed as part of their work for Music-380, “Heart & Soul: A Songwriting Workshop.”

JESSICA XU

Under the illuminated glow of fairy lights, Lyla Guthrie ’23 gently accompanied her soprano voice on a ukulele. As she strummed the last chords of her original song, “Five Months,” the packed audience burst into applause.

On February 16, in the Timken Room, “The Sunset: Café and Lounge” showcased various student performances of original voice and piano pieces. Differing from a traditional student recital in its coffeehouse-inspired decor and ambient atmosphere, the event also hosted an impromptu open mic afterwards.

According to audience member and friend Adaeze Izuegbunam ’20, Guthrie’s piece was proof of all of the performers’ hard work.

“[Guthrie’s] song, in particular... was awesome. I take AP theory in the room right above [the Timken Room], and... I see [the songwriting class] when I leave. So this is really interesting to see this class always working, and to

see the fruits of their labor,” said Izuegbunam.

Holly Barnes, Instructor in Music and Director of Performance, was responsible for organizing the event. Her initial goal was to provide an informal venue for students in her songwriting course, Music-380, to showcase their work in front of a wider audience.

“I hoped the kids were super pumped just to walk into this space and see how we transformed [the Timken Room]... It’s nothing like anything on campus. I thought, ‘If we have 30 to 40 kids the first time we have this, it will be a great success.’ We had over 100 people,” said Barnes.

Henry Crater ’20 performed his original composition, titled “My Place.” Despite having never heard many of the other performers play or sing before, Crater still felt a personal connection to their efforts. He also commented on the importance of the event in highlighting the accessibility of original music at Andover.

“People can step into [Graves Hall] or into any [musical] setting and feel like they’re part of the event, and they’re participating audi-

SYA Reflections:
Andover From Abroad

By: Ava Ratcliff

Ava Ratcliff ’21 is currently participating in School Year Abroad (SYA) Spain, a year-long study-abroad program that Andover founded with Phillips Exeter Academy and St. Paul’s in 1964. According to the program’s website, SYA Spain students live with a host family in Zaragoza, Spain, while taking courses with SYA and immersing themselves in the local culture. In this monthly column, Ratcliff offers her insights on studying away from Andover for an entire year.

It hits me as I’m passing by the Basilica de Pilar, on the way home from a weekend in the Pyrenees: I don’t really like living in Zaragoza. I don’t like the paper-mill smell, or the Russian salad (Russian only in name, it’s a traditional Spanish dish), or the temperature that doesn’t quite justify a coat, but is definitely too cold for just a sweater. I miss Andover. I miss confidently deciding to wear my winter jacket, bean soup from Commons, and explaining to a doctor who speaks my native language that I think I have strep throat.

It’s impossible not to imagine hordes of sleep-deprived Uppers descending upon me, yelling “SLACKER!” as I write about my grievances with a country that isn’t perfectly suited to my every whim. I am embarrassingly privileged to live in a country where I can go to a doctor about my sore throat without even considering insurance and where my history homework tends to be “google this monument and write five sentences about it.”

I’m not going to write a trite article about how everyone should do SYA because being exposed to different cultures and ways of life is important for personal growth, because: Duh. We covered that in Junior EBI. Being in Spain has taught me the value of the little annoyances, which shed new light on my personal preferences and tastes. It has also taught me to step out of that self-pity bubble that little annoyances tend to create, because being in there isn’t productive for anyone, least of all me.

After all, I love being in Spain. I love my host family, who never laugh when I pronounce “euro” incorrectly even after five months. I love the always-on-time Tranvía which glides through the center of the city, taking me to school and back home every day. I love explaining to my siblings how to properly order a coffee when they visit me (if you start with “puedo tener,” you’re American).

My privilege is clear. Before coming to Spain, I had never been in a situation where my native language, food preferences, or value system was not the norm. Even still, most Spaniards can sing along to American top fifties and occasionally enjoy hamburgers and fries.

I think students should do SYA because it teaches them about their tastes, and more importantly, their values. I believe this education comes only from meeting people with different tastes and values. And, unlike Andover, where students have the option to overlook diverse perspectives by surrounding themselves by a group of like-minded peers, there is no option to leave or seclude yourself, besides the trans-Atlantic flight home.

Being on SYA also gave me the confidence to vocalize my preferences in a productive, healthy way. Junior year, I don’t think I would have been able to admit that I was unhappy doing something I had committed to while I was still doing it, especially considering how much I idealized Spain before actually going. I wouldn’t have had the confidence to say, “Zaragoza is great, but it’s just not for me sometimes.” I would have withered away in a bubble of self-indulgence and pity until the year was up, and then I would have told everyone I knew how Spain was terrible and they should never, ever go there. This bubble, although easier to inhabit than self-awareness, isn’t productive. I am so grateful to be spending a year here, despite my petty complaints.

I was inside that little self-pity bubble when I glared at Pilar from my host family’s car window. Boohoo, a city with incredible Baroque monuments inexplicably smells like sulfur. Boohoo, I get to try new foods. Boohoo, I have to buy a lighter jacket. I have found that the only way out of this bubble is writing this down and realizing how obnoxious I sound complaining about my year abroad. The only way out of the bubble is to acknowledge the preferences I’ve discovered and realize they’re perfectly normal to have.

Students should do SYA to acknowledge and break through this self-pity bubble, which crops up regardless of the city or country. At SYA, they’re in a safe environment to test out what they love and what they dislike. Once they’ve discovered what they don’t love, they can accept it or work to change it. When I admitted to my host family I didn’t like Russian salad and bought a jean jacket, I was fine. I survived, and I will keep surviving—that is, until I find something else to complain about and turn it into next month’s opinion piece on personal growth.



ARTS&LEISURE

DAVID ZHU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Look of the Week: Lilly Yager '21 Coordinates Colors with Seasons



NATA LOUMIDIS/THE PHILLIPIAN
According to Lilly Yager '21, her closet is almost completely composed of just two brands: Free People and Madewell.

NOEMI ELLIOTT

Styling a long-sleeved maroon dress with a cinched side, light-weight black jacket, and boots, Lilly Yager '21 completes her outfit with a matching set of a white and gold Hermes bracelets and earrings. According to Yager's roommate Lola Bingham '21, Yager's closet is full of similar tones and colors that she pairs together to create a trendy look. "I would say Lilly's style is a [mixture] of a classy and preppy [look]. She always buys clothes with a specific look in mind, so she looks put together and color-coordinated, matching everything from her shoes to her jacket to her earrings," said Bingham. When putting together her outfits, Yager picks the colors based on the season. In the fall and winter, her clothing is darker, and she

often wears maroon, cream, forest green, and navy. In the spring and summer, she prefers uplifting colors like yellow, pink, and baby blue. "Spring is my favorite season, because there's a lot you can do with it. There's a lot of different materials you can wear, and it's more flexible in terms of design [and] style. You aren't limited by the weather, because it's a little bit warmer, so I like [to wear] bright and vibrant colors. I tend to wear colorful things, and I don't like to wear a lot of black or gray," said Yager. Yager's style has changed over the last two years, after switching from a mandatory school uniform to an open dress code. According to Yager, she revamped her closet to have fewer clothes and more color coordination in order to maximize space and usage. "Before I came to Andover, I had a uniform for five years, so I wasn't really able to dress the

way I wanted to. Part of the way I dress now is making up for lost years. We weren't allowed to wear bows or any other type of accessory, not even nail polish. Now, I like to dress up every day, because it's nice to finally be able to choose what I wear," said Yager. According to Yager, fashion is an important aspect of presenting herself, whether it's at a special event or just a normal day of classes. With her clothing choices, she tries to find the balance between over and underdressing, mixing and matching to create a purposeful look. "I've grown up in a way where I've always been told that how I present myself matters. My dad goes to work in a suit every day, so it's just a lesson or value that's been instilled in me," said Yager. "I want people to know that I'm put together, but not overdressed necessarily... I want to look like that everything is purposeful in the way I've chosen it"



COURTESY OF LILLY YAGER
Lilly Yager '21 says that she considers her mother as her role model in fashion.

Soph Ma '21 Evolves as Artist Through Painting and Drawing at Andover



COURTESY OF SOPH MA
This piece by Soph Ma '21, titled "Home is Coming," recently won Gold Key Honors in the 2020 Scholastic Art and Writing Competition.

NATALIE CHEN

Smith House stands at the center of a canvas, warm yellow lights illuminating the central windows. Dark power lines cut across a blue and purple nighttime sky that fades into surrounding trees full of red and orange leaves. Though Soph Ma '21 only started painting in the spring term of her Lower year during her Art-505 painting class, the painting, titled "Home is Waiting," recently won a Gold Key in the 2020 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. In addition, the piece has also received offers from two Andover teachers for purchase. "Andover first introduced me to painting, which I will [always] be grateful for. I especially have to thank [Emily Trespas, Instructor in Art] for helping me improve so much in such a short amount of time. Under her mentorship, I quickly got comfortable with things like technique and color theory. If you look at my first painting compared to my latest one, you'll definitely see a huge difference in terms of quality and the way it portrays my vision," said Ma. Trespas met Ma in the fall of 2018 in her introductory drawing course, Art-304, and has since also taught her in her advanced painting course, Art-505, and in her ceramics course, Art-302. In an email to *The Phillipian*, Trespas described Ma as an incredibly detail-oriented artist with a "voracious thirst for learning" and stated that "Home is Waiting" was her favorite piece of Ma's. "The painting invites viewers to reach out and check if the sur-

face is flat or not! While Edward Hopper initially comes to mind in looking at Soph's final building portrait of Smith House, it's a bit more foreboding, akin to Rene Magritte's 'Empire of Light,'" wrote Trespas. While Ma had prior experience in drawing before coming to Andover as a new Lower, she claims her time at Andover has allowed for not only an improvement in her painting skills but in her drawing style and technique as well. She explained how taking Art-304 in the fall of her Lower year acted as a "catalyst" for her ongoing exploration of drawing and painting. "In [Art-304], I definitely got to explore more than just graphite drawings. I got to use charcoal, which was a big help last summer when I took a drawing foundations class at RISD Pre-College. I made this huge four foot-by-five foot charcoal drawing, which was a lot more advanced than the little drawing of a pear I started off doing at [Andover]," said Ma. Clara Tu '21, a friend of Ma's, described her initial reaction to seeing Ma's art when they went to the Nest together and painted wood boards for room decorations where Ma carefully designed her wood board to match her aesthetic while others chose more random, chaotic designs. Tu admires Ma's craft and dedication to keep challenging herself as an artist. "What I truly love about Soph and her passion for art is how unafraid she is to push her boundaries. Since coming to Andover, she has painted wood boards and made scrunchies in the [Nest], taken drawing, painting, and ceramic classes, attended the RISD's

summer program majoring in architecture. I feel like she is truly exploring the field of art without boundaries—finding her own artistic style through open curiosity and discovery," said Tu. According to Ma, while her drawing and painting styles differ, she describes them both as "precise and meticulous" and tends to lean towards realism. Ma explained how although she cares a lot about detail and craftsmanship, she also likes to experiment with different colors and shapes. "Any new piece usually starts with a concept or idea that I then develop into something tangible. Once I have a vision of what I want, I use pencil to lay down the groundwork, and then I go from there. For painting, the process is a lot of back and forth between mixing colors and going in with a brush. It's definitely a lot slower than drawing for me," said Ma. Moving forward, Ma wishes to incorporate art into her life as a potential part of her career. According to Ma, one particular area of intrigue for her is the overlap of art and cognitive science, the latter of which is currently her main field of interest. "Lately, I've been looking into how architecture and neuroscience intersect, which would be incredibly cool to go into as a career. It's mainly about designing buildings and spaces that people's minds will respond the best to. For example, nursing homes can't be too orderly or institutional—they have to be a stimulating environment. So when designing facilities, you have to take into account how people respond to the space, which is where neuroscience comes in," said Ma.



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