

7 Boarding Students Test Positive for Covid-19

STAFF REPORT

Within the past seven days, seven boarding students have tested positive for Covid-19, according to Andover's Covid-19 Testing Dashboard. Two positive test results emerged on Friday, March 26, four others on Tuesday, March 30, and another on Wednesday, March 31. All students who tested positive are isolating outside of their dormitories, according to an email sent to the Andover community on Tuesday night. After conducting contact tracing, Andover has identified close contacts and

adjusted the duration of quarantine for certain individuals. Students underwent an additional round of Covid-19 testing on Wednesday due to the cases, in addition to the regularly scheduled Monday and Thursday testing.

Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington, Medical Director Dr. Amy Patel, and Jennifer Elliott '94, Assistant Head of School for Residential Life and Dean of Students, called on students to honor the Non Sibi Safety Pledge by masking, physically distancing, and holding themselves and others accountable in their email.

"We understand that the arrival quarantine is a chal-

lenging stretch, and we know that it can feel isolating to be in your dorm room for remote learning. Support each other. Send messages of support, and model responsible and caring behavior. Soak in the sun when you are able to be outside—and always adhere to our protocols that will keep us all safe and healthy," wrote Kington, Patel, and Elliott in the email.

Day students registered for the Spring Term on Wednesday, March 31. As of Thursday, April 1, quarantine is scheduled to end on Saturday, April 3. According to Patel, no students tested positive on arrival on Tuesday, March 23.



MCKENZIE WILLIAMS/THE PHILLIPIAN

Boarding students returned to campus for the Spring Term on Tuesday, March 23.

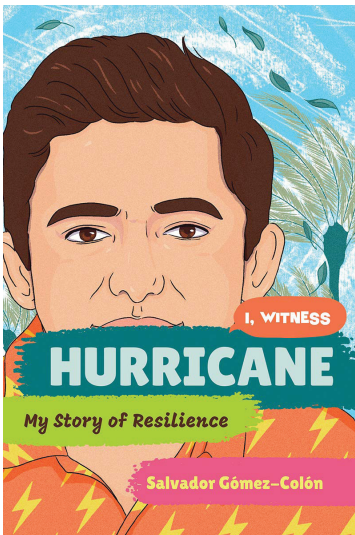
'Hurricane: My Story of Resilience': Salvador Gómez-Colón '21 Pens New Memoir

ERIN KIM

When the Category 5 Hurricane Maria devastated his home of Puerto Rico in 2017, Salvador Gómez-Colón '21 had to act. Founding "Light and Hope for Puerto Rico," an online crowdfunding campaign, Gómez-Colón aimed to help local communities deprived of clean water and electricity. Set to be released in early August of 2021, "Hurricane: My Story of Resilience," Gómez-Colón's memoir, narrates his experience living through Hurricane Maria.

Gómez-Colón will launch his memoir with W. W. Norton & Company, as part of the publisher's new middle-grade nonfiction series, "I, Witness." When the company reached out to Gómez-Colón, asking if he would be one of the featured authors, he agreed immediately.

"The reason I said yes is because there is such a need



COURTESY OF SALVADOR GÓMEZ-COLÓN

In addition to being the founder of "Light and Hope," Salvador Gómez-Colón serves as a student body Co-President.

for stories to be out there. I think the best thing you can do to affect change, especially in the environmental climate change aspect is through stories, and there's nothing more powerful than that. If my story can serve as a way to motivate other young people to take action and move past ideas, then I would take it, a hundred percent," said Gómez-Colón.

The memoir details Gómez-Colón's life from September 2017 to May 2018, when the "Light and Hope" campaign focused on distributing solar-powered lamps and hand-powered washing machines to vulnerable communities in Puerto Rico. After achieving double his initial goal of \$100,000, Gómez-Colón has expanded his campaign to support and fundraise for global communities affected by natural disasters, such as in the Bahamas, the Philippines, Indonesia, and more.

"The book details my observations of living through Hurricane Maria not only in my home but also what I was seeing beyond me, then launching 'Light and Hope' and how arduous the process was, especially as a 15-year-old, and it sort of ends there... We kept it open to the reader to want to join that journey—not necessarily my journey, but rather on a journey of their own and seeing how your journey... can be so fruitful for others," said Gómez-Colón.

This is not the first time Gómez-Colón's story has been celebrated in the media. Marvel's Hero Project featured Gómez-Colón's relief efforts in 2019, sharing his narrative in both comic book and episode form.

Given that "Hurricane: My Story of Resilience" is targeted towards middle school stu-

dents, Gómez-Colón hopes that his memoir can instill change in a community of younger readers.

"I think that being an activist has been a lot about speaking with my voice and using my actions, but the cool thing about this book is that it's something permanent, in writing... The key point of the story is to inspire middle-grade readers to feel that passion—the flame. I was in ninth grade when I started 'Light and Hope' for Puerto Rico, but I also have met many other activists and people like that who were twelve, eleven when they first started. So really, you can't be too young to create a positive impact," said Gómez-Colón.

A friend of Gómez-Colón's, Abdu Sahibousidq '21, found that even though he is older than the target reader age group, he appreciated and found importance in the message of the memoir.

"Salvador's book provides an easily digested recounting of a dramatic turn of events from his youth. Although the story upon which he reflects is a dark one (in both a literal and figurative sense), he provides a hopeful outlook on the state of his island and the world," wrote Sahibousidq in an email to *The Phillipian*.

On becoming a published author and working with a publishing company for the first time, Gómez-Colón described that despite the intricate, sophisticated process involving countless rounds of editing, the experience was very exciting and pleasant.

"There's a lot of work that goes into writing and publishing a book, for both the publishing houses and writers. However, it's very gratifying, and I'm very grateful for the opportunity of being able to share my story," said Gómez-Colón.

Natasha Singh Dissects Mainstream Pornography and Sexual Ethics at ASM

ELYSE GONCALVES

When the world went home in March of 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many had to turn to their devices for work and school. This widespread shift to virtual settings did not exclude pornography. While in quarantine, mainstream pornographic websites saw a consistent increase in viewership on the global scale. Popular pornographic streaming site PornHub reported 24.4 percent increase in site traffic as of March 25, 2020.

With an influx in mainstream pornography viewing, Andover invited Natasha Singh, an educational consultant for the San Francisco Bay Area and a sexual literacy educator, to show students her presentation on porn literacy and representation in mainstream pornography. Her work as an educator for 20 years led her to embark "on the kind of teaching [she] felt students really needed: the kind that can foster healthy relationships and sexual ethics," wrote Singh on her website.

To begin her presentation on Monday, Singh focused on U.S. sexual education. She explained that U.S. students contract 50 percent of new S.T.I.s and have one of the highest rates of teen pregnancy in the world. Singh found this statistic is due to abstinence only education in American schools. She found, however, that Dutch students experience the opposite.

Singh said, "Dutch students have the lowest rates of S.T.I.s, one of the lowest rates of teen pregnancies in the world, and unlike their American counterparts, most Dutch students actually report that their first sexual encounters were pleasurable and consensual."

She continued, "The Dutch tend to start their sex education at the age of four or five... Educators focus on feelings and emotional literacy, the anatomy, names of body parts, to help build comfort and resilience with regard to talking about the body and feelings and the whole range of emotional responses that someone can have towards someone else."

After covering sexual education, Singh continued on to discuss mainstream pornography. She emphasized that mainstream porn is a business first, so billionaires profit off of consumer viewership.

"I tend to describe [mainstream pornography] as the industrialization of sex and that's a somewhat academic way of acknowledging that the porn landscape is a really important industry... It's a multibillion-dollar industry and highly profitable, which means that the folks

who are making and producing porn and disseminating porn are thinking about how to create a consumer base and how to profit," said Singh.

Singh explained that young people look to mainstream pornography because it is free. According to Singh, the ethical foundation and accuracy of mainstream porn affects young people's sexual understanding.

Singh said, "People come to pornography, sometimes, to find an accurate reflection of themselves. It's great when you can find that, but often you're met with something that distorts who you are or negates who you are and what your expression is. It can create harm both personally and societally."

There are alternatives to mainstream pornography, such as ethical porn. This type of pornography displays a more realistic standard for sex and focuses on the ethics of sex work and building a safe environment for performers.

"Ethical porn... is where people really care about storylines; they may showcase a diversity of bodies, a range of shapes and sizes and ages that are far more realistic. They may care about how much performers are paid, the set conditions, the working conditions, consent, safety, and so on. Again, much like fair trade chocolate or fair trade coffee where you care about the product and how it's made, you have to pay for it, and that's the same with ethical porn, which may make it difficult, of course, for younger people to access it," said Singh.

Singh emphasized the racial stereotyping of people of color in mainstream pornography during her presentation. At first, Kelly Bu '23 was caught off guard by the topic of the All-School Meeting, but she found Singh's commentary on racial stereotyping to be particularly prevalent.

"In this day and age, I think her mentions of Asian fetishization were necessary to shed light on the racism and misogyny that [people of color] face on a daily basis because these things are so engraved in our society and culture," said Bu.

Similarly to Bu, the racial imagery resonated with Warren Clark '21, a member of Andover's sex education group YES+. The images showed Clark a visual depiction of subject matter she had discussed while part of YES+.

"A lot of the times [in YES+] we talk about... sexualizing races through porn, but we've never shown that imagery to the school before. We talk about it, but we've never shown it, and [Singh] did a really great job of almost brutally laying out like, here's the evidence, here are the receipts," said Clark.



MCKENZIE WILLIAMS/THE PHILLIPIAN

After undergoing an arrival quarantine, boarding students are expected to be released from quarantine on the morning of Saturday, April 3, despite multiple students testing positive for Covid-19 in the past week.

Commentary, A2

My Name is Pronounced Tina

Tina Zeng '24 reflects on her name and how it's impacted her Andover experience.

Eighth Page, A5

Andover Exploiting Ultimate Players?

If you have time between spit tests, check out the Eighth Page!

Sports, B1

Alumni Feature

Kat Conlon '04 supports the next generation of female athletes as Executive Director of Vanessa Bryants' Mamba & Mabacita Sports Foundation.

Arts, B5

The Golden Age of Piracy

Fighting, romance, and rough seas. Read a review on "The Lost Pirate Kingdom," written by Dorian Wang.

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Editorial

Allyship to the AAPI Community

Anti-Asian racism is nothing new in the United States. One only needs to look back to the Page Act of 1875, the Chinese Exclusion Act, the infamous internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II, and countless other instances of institutionalized racism to see how deep-rooted anti-Asian hate lies within the country. Stereotypes and tropes such as the model minority myth, “yellow peril,” “perpetual foreigner,” and more have festered for centuries, and these harmful ideas are directly connected to the rise of anti-Asian hate crimes during the Covid-19 pandemic. The recent shootings in Atlanta, in which eight people were murdered, six of whom were Asian women, have been a wake-up call for many who consider themselves to be allies to the Asian community. Young Americans have taken to both social media and the streets to protest these violent displays of hate, and many non-Asian communities have been left wondering how to navigate allyship at this particular time.

Especially during an age in which racism spreads not only in-person but also virtually, an integral part of allyship is sharing online content that is not retraumatizing to AAPI communities. It is vital that users spread supportive, effective information without burdening minority groups with explicit, traumatic images. These graphic images unnecessarily resurface traumas, instead of effectively furthering institutional or interpersonal change. Allies need to go beyond sharing content about instances of hate crimes against Asians; we need to donate to affected families, research organizations, advocate for these communities, and extend our actions beyond social media.

Allyship, for our work to effectively aid the AAPI community, must be sustainable. In other words, the momentum of the current #StopAsianHate must continue and retain visibility even off social media. These efforts to engrain anti-racist allyship must begin with us. While it is easy to repost the words of other social media activists, the unlearning and interrogating of our own oppressive tendencies is quite difficult. Allyship is understanding why rhetoric such as the “Chinese virus” and “Kung Flu Virus” is harmful, and condemning its use within our own communities is crucial. Allyship is interrogating the media we consume and calling out monolithic, singular representations of the AAPI community.

Allyship is learning and celebrating Asian Americans’ contributions to American history. Anti-Asian racism pervades current society in nuanced, complex forms. Fully committing to allyship requires channeling this anti-racist energy even when this labor might seem invisible, and holding ourselves accountable for our own internalized, racist perceptions.

Most importantly, the work of educating our peers and calling out anti-Asian rhetoric and action must not fall on the shoulders of the AAPI community. Far too often at Phillips Academy, the Community and Multicultural Development office, along with students and faculty of color, shoulder the responsibility of informing others and combating ignorance on campus. Constantly asking Asian students to explain their feelings and contextualize recent events is an insensitive way of extracting more emotional labor from a community that is already grieving. We, as individuals, need to take the initiative to incorporate already-existing resources into our anti-racist learnings. Engaging in conversation and making space for these discussions is the responsibility of all allies.

It is painfully clear that many communities of color are grieving. In addition to the mental burdens of the pandemic, the recent shootings in Atlanta and the current trial of Derek Chauvin, the police officer who murdered George Floyd, show how allyship to multiple communities must be maintained. The oppression that communities of color face happens simultaneously and their sufferings don’t simply fade away once the social media movements and mainstream news media stop reporting it. We need to recognize that all oppression is intertwined, and thus liberation needs to be collective; if we are fighting for the rights of one marginalized group, then we need to be fighting for the rights of all marginalized groups. They are not mutually exclusive. These difficult times present a testament to our individual acts of anti-racism. True allyship means standing up to racism, beyond visible, temporary moments of activism, and standing in solidarity with our peers of color.

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My Name is Pronounced ‘Tina’

TINA ZENG



WHEN I MOVED TO Palo Alto, California in fourth grade, I discovered a love for the West Coast way of life. I adored the fresh air and sparkling sun, tried Chipotle for the first time (discovered I hate hard shell tacos), and developed an addiction to “Geronimo Stilton” books. I found myself becoming increasingly similar to my classmates who had lived in California all their lives. Yet sometimes, I was reminded—often publicly—of the ways I’d always be something else.

“Yoo- yooheen?”

My homeroom teacher shouted from the back—“it’s Tina!” I shuffled up to the stage and collected some candy, confused for many seconds as to what “Yoo-sheen” was supposed to mean.

Names are a beautiful thing. They’re only a few characters, yet they repre-

sent who we are as people. We all know the minor frustration of having our name misspelled, forgotten, or confused with another’s. But not all of us have another string of letters fighting against the one we know represents our identity, vying to be the “real” name as if the one we chose is invalid.

When I entered seventh grade, we started to use email. I don’t remember how many times I had to explain why my email read yzeng instead of tzeng when my name was Tina, but eventually, when I approached IT with a separate issue, they looked at my address and asked if I would like to change it to tzeng. I nodded enthusiastically and felt a heavy weight lifted from my shoulders.

The same year, a teacher called roll as we prepared to take a standardized test. When he called my Chinese name, a few times, fumbling with the pronunciation, I walked up to his desk for my copy.

“Oh, yeah, that’s me.”

“I didn’t realize your name wasn’t actually Tina. How do you pronounce it?”

“Tina is fine.” I held in a sigh.

“No, teach me. I have to call your real name at eighth grade graduation.”

I knew that if he called me anything besides Tina, I would refuse to get on stage, but luckily I left the school before that scenario could

play out.

At my third school, I was greeted with the very pleasant surprise of an email right off the bat that read tinzen. My name was “Tina Zeng” on all roll call sheets, and the frequent “how do you pronounce your real name?”

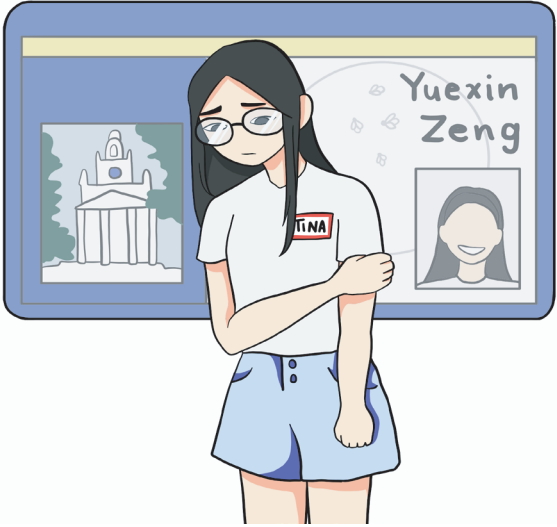
yzeng24. The answer was no. Change my name in the system and change my email by one letter—that’s all that it would take. I will never understand a rule like this.

My name is Tina. I’ve been Tina just as long as I’ve been anything else, and to begin

they’re close. But it never sounds right and it always falls on me to hand them the gold star.

It’s been a long time since I moved to California. I’m taller—though still incredibly short. I’m older, and I’ve started wearing glasses. I haven’t read a Chinese book in more years than I can count, simply because I no longer can. I visit Beijing or Shanghai for maybe three weeks maximum per year. I don’t know the memes, celebrities, slang, or anything else about what goes on in China. Instead, I read in English. I laugh about Youtubers and Hollywood celebrities. I speak to my parents in stiff Chinese and smooth over the cracks with English.

I’ve forgotten much of my native language, internalized who knows how much of America’s anti-Asian sentiments, and stumbled onto a tightrope between identities—yet for some reason, even after all this, Andover won’t allow me to introduce myself as Tina without some all-knowing legal document weighing me down. And all for what reason?



ELIZABETH CHOU/THE PHILLIPIAN

questions were finally gone. In fact, it wasn’t until after I arrived at Andover that some of my old school friends discovered my legal name wasn’t Tina Zeng.

Here, I am yet again greeted by the discomfort of yzeng all over Canvas, emails, and BlueCard, and all the uninvited scrutiny from others that comes with it.

My first ever email (sent when I first received my login) was to the tech support department asking if I could be tzeng24 rather than

with, my Chinese name is meant to be used in Chinese. I’ll respond to 岳欣, sure. But what in the world is Yuexin? If everyone could pronounce 岳欣 perfectly, I’d be telling a different story, but that’s simply not possible, and is it really so wrong to prefer one over the other when I’m at school? I don’t think anyone who has asked me the “how do you pronounce your name” question has ever said it the way I want it. Sometimes, I appreciate their effort. Sometimes,

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Out of Sync

JAEHO LEE



IMAGINE A BEAUTIFUL piece of music where each player starts an arbitrary number of milliseconds apart from each other. Quickly, the milliseconds devolve into multiple seconds’ worth of discordance, as each section of instruments collapses in on itself. Woe be to the ears of the poor parents that walk by only to hear such a class! Unfortunately, this is the reality for a talented youth orchestra attempting to rehearse remotely in real time.

The pandemic has largely robbed students of the full orchestral experience. Therefore, we music students are better off attending innovative supplemental courses, such as seminars from musical experts, in that time.

Orchestral classes are an essential component of many string players’ studies, regardless of whether the ensemble takes place inside or outside of school. I participate in a weekend music precollege program, and the orchestra class has turned into a mere shadow of what it was before. Most students would love to continue rehearsal even during COVID lockdown.

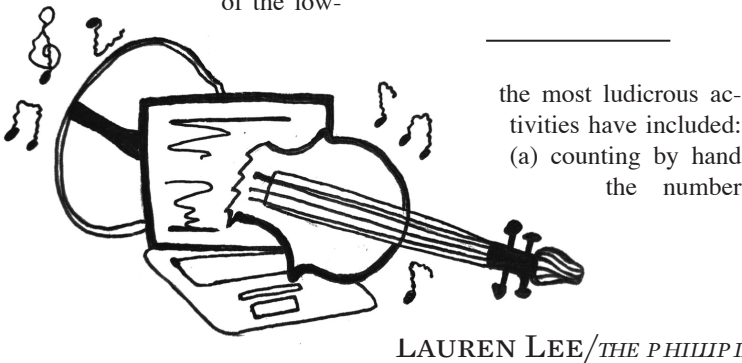
No matter how effective this conventional rehearsal may be in person, it simply isn’t viable within an online model.

However, despite many valiant efforts of teachers and conductors, obstacles such as several-second lag and mismatched audio feeds make it difficult to hold effective rehearsals. The pandemic has largely robbed students of the full orchestral experience. Therefore, we music students are better off attending innovative supplemental courses, such as seminars from musical experts, in that time. More on the specific program I attend- whereas it was once a full orchestra with dozens of musicians, the numbers have dwindled because of the low-

quality experience we have been receiving. We once used to gather on the stage and rehearse for long hours under the guidance of the conductor, which is obviously impossible now over Zoom. Some may ask why individual musicians don’t simply record their parts and stitch them together afterwards to mimic a full orchestra. To that, I reply: much of orchestral studies’ value comes from listening to other proficient players, rehearsing together in real time, and learning to adjust to each other. No matter how effective this conventional rehearsal may be in person, it simply isn’t viable within an online model.

For now, this external orchestra has resorted to busy work in order to keep students in the program occupied. Though the conductor maintains an enthusiastic manner and a great deal of love for teaching young musicians, it’s clear that virtual orchestra has become troublesome. During the last few weeks, some of

However, despite many valiant efforts of teachers and conductors, obstacles such as several-second lag and mismatched audio feeds make it difficult to hold effective rehearsals.



of times the Philadelphia Orchestra held concerts, despite the fact that these statistics were readily available, (b) doing a similar counting exercise with a different brochure under the pretense of teaching us about the diversity of music, (c) launching into an entirely irrelevant non-

I felt more fulfilled as a student afterwards, and secure in my knowledge that I would always have somewhere to apply my talents.

musical discussion about city cultures... the list goes on and on. None of these mundane activities culminated in any helpful education, and at the end of the day nothing was added to the orchestral experience. On the other hand, virtual orchestra at Andover offers solutions and ways to make asynchronous rehearsals a much more productive and compelling experience through incorporating supplementary classes. Dr. Jacoby called in a series of experts in the field of music, creating a speaker series for those who were interested. Rather than making us spend too much time fruitlessly playing on an asynchronous basis, we were able to learn about potential career paths. For instance, a passionate music therapist came and talked to us about her work, ex-

Virtual rehearsal, as it is now, is not fit for young musicians to exercise their talents—rather, enrichment classes and talks are much more empowering.

plaining what she did on a daily basis and what some of her career highlights are. I felt more fulfilled as a student afterwards, and secure in my knowledge that I would always have somewhere to apply my talents. These additional classes are definitely a great option for orchestras that are unable to rehearse in person. Virtual rehearsal, as it is now, is not fit for young musicians to exercise their talents- rather, enrichment classes and talks are much more empowering. Instead of wasting time doing things that lack educational value, actively learning from other experts is an excellent option. Orchestras across the country can learn from Andover’s actions and would benefit greatly from following their model of holding compelling classes in the little time allotted to them. As we transition back to an in-person model, I hope to see remote students continue to enrich their orchestral studies through engaging programs such as Andover’s.

Jaeho Lee is a Junior from Rexford, N.Y. Contact the author at jlee24@andover.edu.

Elon Musk’s Climate Agenda

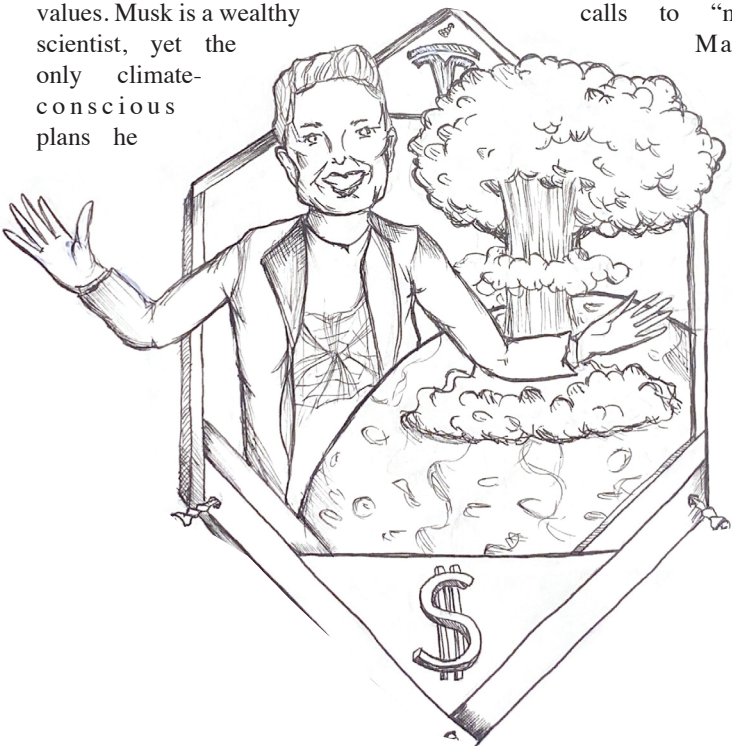
BIANCA MORALES



UPON ENTERING THE SpaceX store, it’s nearly impossible to miss the sight of the men’s t-shirt that reads the striking phrase “Nuke Mars.” in large, bold letters. Clearly, Elon Musk has big goals for the red planet: he released a plan for an uncrewed spacecraft to be sent to Mars in two years, and aims to land the first human on Mars by 2026. The kind of space travel Musk plans for could potentially lead to a promising future filled with innovations and opportunities that can’t be found on Earth. However, as is the case with most powerful, cutting-edge technologies, these advances come with a price. The underlying intentions behind Musk’s trip to Mars are questionable. His climate activism is largely performative, as

he uses climate change as a tool to push his own personal agenda and support his public image as a self proclaimed “technoking.” Musk’s “climate agenda” is at the forefront of his endeavors to get to Mars. Musk is known as a climate advocate, and recently pledged to donate 100 million dollars to whoever comes up with the “best carbon capture technology.” With such financial dedication, it is easy to assume that Musk cares deeply about fighting climate change. However, as generous as his offer for a sliver of his salary is, it doesn’t prove much about his values. Musk is a wealthy scientist, yet the only climate-conscious plans he

has released are the carbon-capture technology reward and his electric cars. He may believe in climate change-- most scientists do-- but he does not distribute his wealth productively and refuses to help bypass the systemic barriers to overcoming climate change. Musk’s wealth equips him with the capability to pressure governments into systemic change and to offer resources to put each nation on a level playing field to combat climate change, yet he has not done so. In addition to his lack of monetary action to alleviate climate change on earth, Musk’s calls to “nuke Mars”



JESSICA XU/THE PHILLIPIAN

also complicate the narrative that he is a climate activist. This plan seeks to release enough carbon emissions to make the planet habitable for humans, but in reality, it is completely unpredictable and not guaranteed to achieve a desirable living environment. For a so-called climate activist, his work towards deploying nuclear bombs on Mars do not align with climate science priorities, which would put saving planet earth first. Musk’s plans for nuking Mars do not take climate science into account, only have a slim chance of success, and are not guaranteed to achieve his temperature goal

I felt more fulfilled as a student afterwards, and secure in my knowledge that I would always have somewhere to apply my talents.

even if his plans run smoothly, so we must question both the motives behind Musk’s activism. When Musk proposes nuking Mars, it is possible that he is just posing a theory rather than describing a concrete plan. In

the past, he’s justified the nuclear idea as nothing more than a “step in the right direction.” However, his unpredictability is harmful, as he is garnering public support and attracting considerable attention for something he himself isn’t entirely sure of. What’s particularly disconcerting is the lack of coverage on the potential negative effects of nuking Mars in discussions of Musk’s ideas; the radiation alone would make Mars uninhabitable for decades. Currently, many large media sources describe Musk’s hard work towards innovative new beginnings with the potential to save humanity, but his positive public image only disguises all of Musk’s transgressions against the climate. While in fairy tales, the good side always wins out, in real life, finding a happy ending isn’t guaranteed. With each gear turned and screw inserted into a SpaceX spacecraft without stricter regulation or public awareness of the issue, the threat of a Musk-led Mars grows more pressing. Musk presents an ultimatum: make Mars our plan B or eventually die on our burning Earth. I wonder, however, if we would even need that plan B if we just loved our plan A enough.

Bianca Morales is a Junior from New York, N.Y. Contact the author at bmorales24@andover.edu

NEWS IN BRIEF

REPORTING BY KAREENA DUA

Within the past week:

Following the recent Atlanta Spa Shootings, the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum hosted a national conversation on race and gender held over Zoom on March 25. This webinar featured speakers such as Representative Grace Meng, New York’s 6th Congressional District, Sung Yeon Choi, Executive Director of the National Asian Pacific Women’s Forum, and Andover alumnae Ai-jen Poo ’92, Executive Director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance.

On Saturday, March 27, the Theater and Dance department featured the Winter 2021 THD 920 production, “8 Perspectives.” This performance consisted of a short film played over Zoom and a collection of student research regarding the relationship between activism and performance. The research and individual segments were based on current events such as Covid-19, the Black Lives Matter Movement, and the students’ personal lives.

The Addison Art Gallery hosted a What Could it Meme night over Zoom on Friday, March 25 at 8:00 pm. Students were tasked with deciding captions for various pieces in the gallery and could either join the event alone or make a team with their friends. The team or person with the best captions had the opportunity to win prizes.

On Monday, March 29, the Community and Multicultural Development office hosted a virtual Stop Asian Hate vigil. At the event, remarks were offered by members of the Andover community, including Midori Ishizuka, Instructor in History, and William Tong ’91, P’24, Andover alumni trustee and Attorney General of Connecticut. Following the vigil, those interested were welcomed to engage in dialogue, and on Tuesday, Molly Engel, Instructor in English, invited community members to make an ema, a small wooden plaque for wishes and prayers.

Looking Ahead:

Health Occupation Students of America, a student-led organization of students interested in careers in health sciences, have been working with the alumni engagement office in organizing an alumni medical conference that will be held on Saturday, April 3. This conference invites students, parents, and alumni to hear from Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington and Andover Alumni who specialize in healthcare.

The Addison Community Ambassadors and Student Advocates for Climate Awareness are hosting a lunchtime conversation with artist Andrea Chung about her exploration of art and environmental racism on Friday, April 2 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. EST. Andrea Chung lives in San Diego and her work strives to highlight environmental justice and injustices, one example being how the history of sugar production and consumption is directly linked to colonization and lasting environmental issues.

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QUESTIONS

– with –

Claire Wang ’23

REPORTING BY JADEN CHYU

Joining the Andover community last Fall, Claire Wang ’23 is a new Lower from Los Angeles, CA. Aside from her interest in theater productions and meeting new friends, Wang currently serves as the executive director of AngelHacks, an organization dedicated to encouraging students in LA to learn computer science.

1. Can you tell us about AngelHacks?

AngelHacks is a hackathon for literally everyone, but we really emphasize beginner interaction. I started it back in 2018 after attending a super fun meetup with a bunch of other Hack Club leaders. We were able to inspire a bunch of people to really get into coding and raise a lot of money, so that was really awesome. Unfortunately, the second iteration had to be online because of the quite unfortunate lockdown but it actually happened to help us in the long term. We had more than a thousand attendees from sixth grade to working-age and I spent the entire weekend awake. There were 16 continuous hours of workshops from people like the head artists of “Minions” and “The Simpsons,” NASA Ames Research Center scientists, the founder of Github, and a whole bunch of extremely fun workshops. A lot of Andover students attended too. I’m the executive director at AngelHacks and there’s also a team behind it. Additionally, there were so many kind souls who volunteered to be mentors and teachers and we were able to get more than 300 project submissions. Some of our cooler prizes were a year’s worth of ramen, your age in pounds of slime, AirPods, a Tesla factory tour, and an all-expenses-paid trip to Pinnacle Hacks.

6. How did you start the Hack Club?

I found out about Hack Club a few years ago during a coding challenge on Repl.it, where there was some prize associated with checking out the website. From that moment, I was hooked. There were so many amazing people in the community, Ad Astra was extremely supportive of me starting a large Hack Club, and I was inspired by the many people in Hack Club that loved coding and making things as well. Now, I work part-time at Hack Club to keep the community wholesome, welcoming, and technical. It really is the best job and I have met so many people in so many countries—it’s very much changed my life.

2. How are you able to run the event 100 percent free? What were some challenges that came along?

I was able to run AngelHacks through funding from a lot of very generous sponsors like Procter & Gamble, Frank Foundation, Github, Repl.it, Comcast, and more. Additionally, we were able to talk to many software companies about helping mentor or providing in-kind sponsorships like free software or tutorials. Those really enhance the experience of a hackathon because attendees have the tools they need to create. In our first integral reinforcement learning iteration, Snapchat threw us for a loop the week before by telling us we had to have every attendee sign a whole list of forms in case of anything going wrong at their headquarters. Additionally, if there were anything that went wrong, my parents would be legally responsible which they did not have the ability to deal with. That was a huge stressor on running AngelHacks 1.0.

7. As the Mind Sports Olympiad 2020 Speed-Reading Champion, any tips on speed-reading?

To be honest, speed-reading is one of those skills that stemmed from just me reading too much. My elementary school teachers hated me because I read in class all the time and my librarian had to prohibit me from checking out more books from the school library because of complaints from my parents. Some tips [I have] are to not look back when reading and not read the words aloud in your mind. I think if you can force yourself to just go forward even if you might not fully know what you’re reading, you’ll eventually develop the speed to comprehend things faster.

3. Five years ago, you starred on the TV show, Child Genius. Were there changes in your daily lives?

There occasionally are people who stop me at stores or whatnot and say I look familiar. It turns out my name is not as common as I thought, so people have recognized me like that. Additionally, after the airing of Child Genius, there were some interviews I went to at various TV and radio stations. Other than that, it’s an old chapter of my life and to be honest, I sometimes cringe at some of the things I’ve said and done on the show. The great thing is I made some amazing friends that I’m still in contact with today, and that’s really the most valuable thing.

8. Where do you see yourself in ten years?

I’m really interested in computational neuroscience and just biotechnology in general, so that’s definitely a field I want to get into. I have absolutely no idea what I want to do just a few years from now, so I don’t know what job I’d have. I do hope I can be doing something that betters the lives of others, and maybe in the field of biology?

4. What were your experiences like at Ad Astra?

Ad Astra was really a weird school, in the best of ways. Some anecdotes were a huge water blaster fight where we had weeks in advance to build forts, pressure guns, and various contraptions to get as many of the other teams wet so we could capture the flag. We have speakers visit us every Friday and I had a lot of opportunities to talk to some pretty inspiring figures and even sometimes work with them on projects or products. One of the hardest classes I took was a Haskell & Combinatorial Logic course where we learned Haskell to make a hyper-realistic ray tracing program. That was quite challenging and I still don’t think I know much about Haskell.

9. What are some goals you want to achieve during your time at Andover?

I’m so excited to finally be on campus at Andover next year. Some things I want to achieve is to do more sports and possibly join the golf team or some other sport. I also want to improve my instrument skills since I’ve been very lazy during quarantine. In the theme of new things to learn, I want to get better at hip hop dance and maybe theater. While I might have not stepped foot on campus, I really want to spend time in the makerspace sometime and learn to make things. It looks so insanely cool in videos.

5. Did you get to have any personal interaction with Elon Musk?

Since I went to Ad Astra and was also school president for two years, he visited a few of our events, which was interesting. Also, at the end of the year, I presented a neuroscience project (MIRAI) at an University of California, Los Angeles symposium with him in attendance as well.

10. What are your favorite Netflix shows or entertainment for your free time?

Some of my favorite pieces of visual entertainment include “Avatar: The Last Airbender,” “Sherlock,” D.C. Comics, Marvel, and “Star Trek.” I also read a lot. Currently, my favorite author is Michael Chabon and especially his book “The Adventures of Kavalier and Clay.” It’s so well written and not shy on the details, definitely a recommendation too.

WHO KNEW I WOULD EVER BE THIS EXCITED FOR
PASTA SALAD?

Is This Freshman's Perfect March Madness Bracket his Key to Eternal Popularity?

NED THORNTON

Unless you're living under a rock (or in isolation), you've definitely heard the big news. For the first time, ever, someone has filled out a perfect March Madness bracket. That someone is me. I won. But don't get the wrong idea, I couldn't care less about basketball. You see, I'm in the statistics game. Every year, I see March Madness as an opportunity to learn, to test the boundaries of probability and prediction. Nothing gets me more jazzed up than a shiny new graph or a raw data set. It was no easy task, though; there are quintillion possibilities for a complete March Madness bracket. Good thing I picked Oral Roberts going all the way. However, since I won, I plan to live a good life. Much unlike Jeff Bezos, my billions will go to great causes.

My first purchase will be a Lam-



Yay! Sports! Go Team!!

bo. I know I'm only 14, but there's no reason to not be prepared for the future. I'll drop out of high school of course, and then create a very low-quality Youtube channel teeming with not so subtle flexes and confusing "pranks" that terrorize innocent bystanders. And from there, there's only one direction. Spending more money that I don't need to. You know how they say drip or drown? Well, my friends and I are going to be drowning in the drip. Watches, chains, middle toe rings: I want it

all. You think your diamonds are expensive? Try buying a 2011 Honda Civic with a surface area completely encrusted with 24k diamonds. I don't need it, or particularly want it, but now I'll have it

But don't get the idea that I'm a selfish person. I live by the value that when I eat, everybody eats. I'm talking LED lights, VR headsets, and bigger mini fridges for everyone I know. If you want Doordash, it's already ordered. Oh you want another McFlurry? I'll buy the whole machine.

And this is not even including what I'll do for all my Andover peers. I'll buy my way to the top, clear out the board of trustees, and order a bunch of vaccines for the school. I'm sure I'll find a way. Herd immunity never seemed so easy. Some people might be skeptical of all of these purchases, saying "You're only 14, why are you spending so much?" But for those worried about my financial future, don't worry. I'm not paying any taxes, so this money should last for a while.

If I am to ever become a rich and famous trustee, I know exactly what I would donate. Not scholarships, not a gym, not even an all eighth page newspaper. No. I would start the “Loulou Sloss Two Ply Toilet Paper Fund.” Every bathroom on campus would be equipped with the nice paper from Target, the top shelf stuff. I believe each student deserves Charmin Ultra-Soft treatment. Instead of having my name on a building or renaming the school “Philloups Academy,” all I want in return is a little plaque in every stall with an engraving of my face (before my age catches up with me) and the phrase: “Loulou is always watching... out for your hygiene!” Thank you, and goodnight.

“No, don’t worry, I
HAD Covid-19.”

“I mean ten bags, two
bags, it’s pretty much
the same thing.”

“Can you pass me that jackhammer?
This linoleum is really messing with the
vibe.”

“Mom, this can’t be
happening...You forgot the
LEDs?”

**OVERHEARD
ON MOVE-IN DAY**

“My mom said that I shouldn’t
bring the industrial fridge, but
it was totally essential.”

“I’m definitely
shanking someone
during outdoor time
today.”

“I think those stairs might be a little
too steep for the butler.”

An Open Letter from The Scheduling Office to the Andover Community

By Nicholas Essaid

Dear Students of Andover,
We know this past year has been a tough time for all of you because of Covid-19, but we at the scheduling office need to express our frustration. Remote learning has turned you people into lazy brats! As an office we have gotten an insane increase in requests for schedule changes, 4378 requests to be exact. Yes, we're sure remote learning over the winter semester must have been difficult. Rolling over in bed for class and logging into Zoom was hard for you and even harder for your teachers who had to look at your bed-head and PJs at 3:00 p.m. Honestly, we don't care that you now have to get up for an 8:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m. class, and are tired of your moaning. We know you probably had breakfast placed right in front of you with care before your first class last term and this term you have to trek all the way to your common room, stand in front of a microwave, and God forbid maybe make small talk with that girl who walked in on you in the bathroom last week. "But We Need More Sleep." Go to bed earlier then! Don't stay up for them, they sent that "wyd" selfie to your roommate too. Sorry, babe. If you absolutely need a change and decide to email us, please at least make it a good excuse. We have heard so many: "You do not understand how long my makeup routine takes; I cannot have an 8:00 am class."
"My family gives a building, and I get a morning class? I don't think that's how it works."
"All of my friends live in Cali and I have to stay up till 3:00 a.m. earliest, and waking up for a 9:20 a.m. class is killing me."
"If I have class at 9:00 p.m., then all of my dreams will be about physics."
As this letter wraps, we want to say in the nicest way possible, you get what you get and you don't get upset. We need sleep too.
With Love,
The Office of Scheduling

THE WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

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- *Andover Inn's Sunday Night Munch Given Two Michelin Stars; Rest of Student Body Grateful for Instant Ramen*
 - *Student Who Related Their Slightly Cold Chicken Picatta to Prison Food Has No Idea What Prison Food Is Like*
 - *Record-Breaking Numbers of Children Are Being Scolded by Their Teachers and Are Starting To... Kinda Like It*
 - *Campus Dogs Go On Strike After Being Walked By Every Member Of West Quad North*
 - *"Mixed Feelings" from Climate Club, Greenware is in Use but Vegan Meals Still Served in Paper Bags*
 - *Boy From New Hampshire Violently Insists He Isn't Cold After Spending Another Thirty-Degree Day in Shorts*

***You Are So Last Year!* The Inside Scoop On The Changes to This Student's Photo Wall**

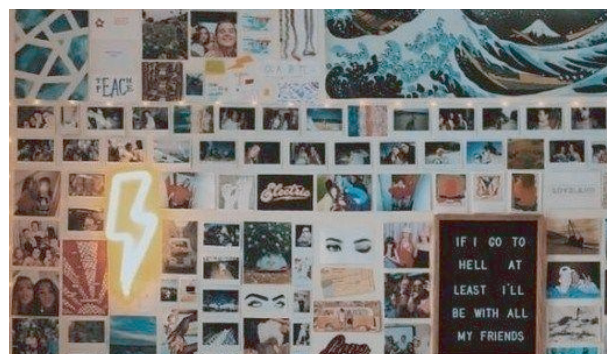
ARIANA WHITE

It's redecorating time again, and you know what that means!! Time to take the photos of everyone who isn't "New Term, New Me" off of my wall! (Or at least cut them out if I look good in the picture.)

The first picture is of me and this girl named Jessica. I'm taking this one down because she smells like rabbit food. I once met a rabbit in the forest, it bit me, and I got rabies. Rabies Jessica is out.

Second, I will be cutting out this picture of me and my friend, Maria, receiving our driver's licenses. Though it's a great memory, it turns out he was selling meth to everyone else in the class and was arrested a couple of weeks ago. If there's a mug shot on his photo wall, he can't be on mine.

Third, is my stupid Christmas card with my stupid stepmom that my



God Bless Butterfly

dad made me put up last term. I told him I would keep it up if he agreed to part his hair in the middle. Instead, he went bald! Goodbye Christ-

The fourth picture I will be removing is of me and my lying cheating boyfriend Carl. Carl, if you are reading this, I hope that "group project partner" of yours gets tired of your "that's what she said" jokes and leaves you

Next, I will be cutting my dog out of this photo from the day she was euthanized. It's her bad side and I know she would kill

me if she knew I had it up. But I look good, and the lighting is nice, so I won't take it all down. It's what Ellie would have wanted.

Last one is me in Florida this August. Didn't realize people expected me to wear a mask to the nightclub! It was outside! Covid-19 is like so hard to catch outside, all 20 people in this photo obviously agree with me. But I'm getting too much hate, so I guess it will come down for now.

Thanks for going through my collage with me, besties!! The VSCO is next...

Andover Needs To Pay Their Ultimate Frisbee Players



Recently, the idea of college athletes getting paid has garnered a large amount of media attention. These athletes make money for their college or university, so why are they not getting paid! But most importantly, why are we stopping there? Who says that as Andover athletes we don't deserve to be paid? Do we not bring endless joy and happiness to the students of Andover? I mean who doesn't love seeing us destroy Exeter. Or maybe sometimes lose. There's nothing better than standing in the freezing cold and seeing the football team try their hardest. Or pretending to understand the rules of field hockey. But arguably, the most deserving group is my team, the Andover Ultimate team. Being a varsity ultimate athlete is hard work. Throwing a frisbee in a circle for a couple of hours a day is an insane time commitment that is taken for granted. I mean sometimes during spring break there is pre-season in Florida. If that's not torture I have no idea what is. If college athletes deserve a payment, why don't we? I know for a fact that Division 1 Ultimate players across the country could be raking in millions of dollars, and there's got to be some of that money for us. What about all the money made from parents? Or maybe vendors? Merchandise? To be honest I'm not sure, but there is definitely something! Ultimate is tied for the 24th fastest growing sport in the country, and with stats that like that, it is ridiculous to not give us our well-earned respect. I say that we, as varsity student-athletes, deserve a payment for the extreme amount of stress and pain Andover Athletics makes us endure.

By Mary Lord



The Phillipian SPORTS

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ALUMNIFEATURE

Kat Conlon '04 Aims to Give Underserved Athletes and Young Women an Equal Opportunity in Life

TRISTAN MARNOTO

As a former female student-athlete at Andover, Executive Director of Vanessa Bryant's Mamba & Mambacita Sports Foundation Kat Conlon '04 hopes to promote a more inclusive era in sports. Conlon supports Kobe Bryant and Gianna "Gigi" Bryant's dream of young women having an equal opportunity to succeed throughout their lives.

After being awarded a Phelps Scholarship as an athlete, Conlon now looks to give back to those in need using the Non Sibi mentality she learned at Andover. According to Conlon, she never would have been able to attend Andover without financial assistance, which is a big reason why she hopes to give back to athletes in need.

Conlon said, "The whole school motto of Non Sibi was

something that I've been actively involved in since graduating. Honestly, just knowing that there was somebody out there [who] I never even met who was going to support me and the greatest opportunity of my life at the time, to go to [Andover], was something that I hoped to contribute to in some way in my own career someday and that was always important to me."

As a basketball player, Bryant was someone Conlon looked up to throughout her high school and college career. According to Conlon, she followed his development from his high school days and all the way through his NBA career.

"[Working at this foundation is] really a dream job for me when I think about being a young girl and following [Bryant's] career, and just how much admiration I had for him, the 'Mamba mentality,' that he's supportive, and just this grit that he had and

[his] complete confidence in everything that he did on and off the court. It was something that I really admired growing up, so this is honestly a dream opportunity for me to be able to help honor the things that I loved about [Bryant] and things that I saw in [his daughter]," said Conlon.

After Bryant and his daughter passed away on January 26, 2020, his wife updated his original foundation called the Mamba Sports Foundation, into the Mamba & Mambacita Sports Foundation, to emphasize the impact his daughter has on the foundation.

Conlon originally gravitated toward Bryant and the Mamba & Mambacita Foundation after seeing how she was able to channel her grief into being a role model for her children, as well as all young athletes. As the Executive Director of the program, Conlon strives to emulate this selflessness.

"I heard about the job after [Bryant] and [his daughter] passed, and I heard about the foundation that [the Bryant family] supported [before]. So I have always admired [Bryant] in the way that she has been a leader philanthropically," said Conlon.

Conlon added, "We hope to instill in young women confidence and a sense that they can do anything that they want to do and [that they can use] basketball and sports as a means to get there, but also instilling the values that sports bring to young athletes that are transferable to really anything else in life. We'll be doing camps for underserved athletes and not just basketball, we are supporting volleyball players right now, and boys and girls across different athletic leagues and teams so it's really just [about] instilling confidence in these young athletes."

Before donating money to

a foundation, Conlon encourages people to find a platform that they feel connected to and a space where they want to leave their mark.

"It may not be us, but there are so many great not-for-profit [organizations] and there are so many great causes that people can get involved with, for us, if you are passionate about helping underserved athletes and young women in sports, then that's something that we do really well. [Bryant's] brand is really strong and I think that people all over the world admire him which affords us partnerships and opportunities with some of the greatest organizations in the world, but if your interests lie [with another platform], my message would be, find some way to get involved and to give back because there is a lot of help that we can all do in our own way, and I think that working with not-for-profits is a good place to start," said Conlon.

SPECIALFEATURE

Most Intense Sporting Event in New England: Inside the World of Competitive Golf on the Great Lawn During Quarantine

CHARLIE FERGUSON

Tennis balls whizz through the air as golfers take to the Great Lawn during Outdoor Time throughout the mandatory quarantine upon on-campus arrival. A highly skilled circle of golfers routinely assembles daily, each participant striving to achieve the title of "Best Golfer" on campus. With tempers flaring and crowds gathering, the game has taken over campus.

According to Julian Reed '23, the lawns and quads have provided high quality playing surfaces for most golfers. Reed added that some improvements can be made in the future to maintain the course.

"The conditions have been spotless out on the lawn. The dirt is in immaculate condition. However, we did find a few divots. That is my only complaint and I think the school should invest a bit more into that. Besides that, the conditions have been great," Reed said.

Andres Aleman '23 described certain challenges that stifle his ability to perform at his best, such as slick grass conditions and high stakes. He has learned to overcome the difficulties mounted on him, leading him to individual success on the course.

"Today was very chilly and we had some big east bound winds which made it a lot harder to hit balls. The grass has been pretty wet recently and we have had to find ways to get around that. Another challenge is definitely not allowing other players to get in my head because there is a lot of pressure to perform better than everyone else, so just getting that done has been really helpful," said Aleman.

According to Cody Comyns '23, joggers have posed a distraction for his success on the course. Other minor additions, Comyns suggested, include caddies and a tee box.

"If the joggers could refrain from stepping on our course it would help. The joggers were definitely a presence in today's game which messed us up a few times. I also think a tee box would be

a great investment. There is a lot of rookie talent out on the lawn, but if our school wants to get to the next level, they have to get a tee box," Comyns said.

Reed is implementing a strict training schedule into his morning routine. He focuses on stretching, dieting, practicing, as well as using altered tennis balls to get an edge on his opponents.

"My training is actually quite intense. I wake up at 5:00 a.m. every single day to workout. I find that stretching helps me achieve maximum rotation which will allow me to get maximum distance with my shots. I always eat a hearty breakfast of around ten eggs. That is normally pretty healthy, but on campus I think that is all the school can provide. I get to the links nice and early before anyone else gets there to take a few shots. I also like to get a few specialized tennis balls that have a bit of a softer core that allow me to enhance my performance. After that, I go about my day until it is time to perform," said Reed.

While some golfers focus solely on physical training, Mason Carlow '23 stresses the importance of mental preparation for the game.

"Golf is a mind game, so I rarely exercise. Exercise is for the weak," Carlow said.

As the amount of competition increases, golfers have called upon the school for multiple additions to the lawn to enhance playing surfaces. Reed suggested adding golf carts and artificial bodies of water to add variation to the course.

"I think the best addition to the course would be golf carts. Walking takes a big toll on my legs and I cannot get the same power in my shots. That is probably the biggest addition. I also think an artificial body of water would enhance the lawn. I have been aiming for some higher precision shots and water would definitely add another dimension to the course. I would be able to skip a few shots across the water," Reed said.

The golfers look to continue scheduled competition through the end of quarantine during Outdoor Time.

SPORTSOPINION

VAR Strips Soccer of the Spirit of The Game

DAIGO MORIWAKE



COURTESY OF DAIGO MORIWAKE

With the introduction of video assistant refereeing (VAR) in the English Premier League in 2019, fans were promised the elimination of refereeing mistakes in key moments of a soccer match. Despite initial opinions that VAR ruins the excitement of a goal or a penalty awarded — as fans may hesitate to celebrate a goal due to the possibility of it being overturned — it had been implemented relatively successfully in other leagues and competitions before the Premier League, including the FIFA World Cup, the U.E.F.A. Champions League and the U.E.F.A. Europa League. However, the implementation of VAR in English top-flight soccer has arguably caused more controversy than prevented it.

I believe most of the controversy can be categorized into three key issues with the VAR system in England; two of them are issues that are widely talked about. Firstly, VAR can only correct 'clear and obvious errors' —if there is any reason to support the on-field decision, the decision stands. This has caused controversy as everyone has a differing view on what constitutes a 'clear and obvious error.' Secondly, VAR can only be used in limited scenarios, as using the system on every decision can be very time-consuming and stop any momentum a team might have. VAR can only be used for direct red cards; it cannot be used to look at decisions involving second yellow cards. In the 2020 FA Cup Final between Arsenal and Chelsea, in which Arsenal won 2-1 to win their fourteenth FA Cup, the decision to give a second yellow card to Chelsea midfielder Mateo Kovacic for a late tackle on Arsenal midfielder Granit Xhaka could not be looked at by VAR. Footage from multiple angles showed that it was Xhaka that stepped on Kovacic's foot. Then-Chelsea manager Frank Lampard said in his post-match press conference that it was "not a

sending off for Kovacic. That was pretty clear." The incident left many soccer fans wondering what is the point of VAR if it cannot be used in such a decisive moment in a match so important as the FA Cup Final.

However, in addition to these two elements, I believe there is a third issue that is not talked about enough. In my opinion, the introduction of VAR has pressured referees to strictly follow the letter of the law in key decisions, while prior to VAR, they may have made decisions according to the spirit of the law. Referees now have no excuse to not officiate exactly as in the rulebook whereas before, they may have relied on their intuition to make key decisions. This is, of course, partly an improvement. Implicit biases and moments of inattention are factors that affect referees too. Being able to see the incident in slow motion and focusing solely on the incident can help to eliminate those mistakes. However, officiating purely according to the rulebook can create perplexing key refereeing decisions that go against the spirit of soccer as a sport.

For example, when Arsenal visited the Molineux Stadium to face Wolverhampton Wanderers in February, Arsenal fans were left furious after a decision in the dying minutes of the first half by referee Craig Pawson to send off Arsenal defender David Luiz after accidentally clipping Wolves striker Willian Jose in the box, stopping a clear goal-scoring opportunity for the hosts. The common sentiment among Arsenal fans online was that a penalty was rightly given but that VAR's decision to hand Luiz a straight red card was harsh. Technically, the decision was correct. David Luiz's foul on Willian Jose in the penalty box was deemed to be a Denial of a Goalscoring Opportunity (Dogso). Prior to a rule change in 2017, every Dogso was awarded a red card. However, the rule change, intended to prevent the double jeopardy of a red card and a penalty for unintentional tackles, made it so that if the offender 'challenged the ball' and accidentally fouled an attacker, they would get away with a yellow card and a penalty instead of a red and a penalty. Crucially, this rule change did not apply for cases in which the defender did not challenge the ball nor the attacker, which is what happened in Arsenal's match at the Molineux. Luiz,

perhaps learning from a previous red card (against Chelsea in January 2020), did not attempt to tackle Willian Jose but instead accidentally clipped Willian Jose's foot with his knee while running across him. It seems unlikely from my point of view that the rule change deliberately excluded cases in which the defender does not challenge the ball nor the attacker. Coupled with the fact that 'not playing/challenging the ball' generally refers to deliberately going for the attacker, it just seems ridiculous that a rule change intended to prevent a harsh punishment for a defender excludes cases in which the defender is trying as much as possible to not break a rule. Referee Craig Pawson initially awarded a yellow to Luiz—perhaps based on his previous rulings or the intuitive feeling (that I believe most soccer fans would have had) that an accidental clip does not warrant a sending off. I believe the spirit of the rule change was to award just a yellow for all accidental Dogsos in the box. Nevertheless, the rules of the game backed the VAR officials' final decision to award a red card to Luiz.

But is it really worth sacrificing the spirit of the game, specifically the spirit of the rule change, in this case, to follow the letter of the law exactly? Soccer, at its core, is an invasion game in which 11 players (on each team) use their feet to place the ball in the opposition's goal. The rules of the game should aim to make soccer as fair, entertaining, and safe as possible. The offside rule was created to prevent 'goal hanging' and was intended to make the sport more exciting for spectators. Yellow and red cards are awarded to reduce professional fouls and dangerous tackles to make the sport fairer and safer. Similarly, the Dogso rule change was enacted to make the game fairer for defenders—to prevent harsh punishments for accidental fouls. Awarding a red card on the basis of the lack of specificity in the rulebook defeats the purpose of the rule change. The rulebook cannot cover every single scenario in soccer, so referees must interpret certain situations based on the spirit of the game. With VAR, referees are stripped of the ability to make intuitive decisions in real-time, and fans partially stripped of the entertainment that soccer once gave.

SPORTSOPINION

Should Golf Be Recognized as a Sport?

ETHAN QI



COURTESY OF ETHAN QI

JACK ROGUS



COURTESY OF JACK ROGUS

Almost everyone knows what a sport is. Maybe you play competitively and hope to do so moving forward. Maybe you played them for fun growing up. Or maybe you have just observed them being played. But what activities should actually be considered a sport? Should activities like golf be placed under this category? According to Merriam Webster, a sport is “a contest or game in which people do certain physical activities according to a specific set of rules and compete against each other.” Under this definition, categorizing sports can be difficult and vague, and it is up to the individual interpretation of what should and shouldn’t count as one.

Why Golf Should Not Be Recognized as a Sport: Ethan

While the line between what is a sport and what isn’t is quite unclear, numerous characteristics of golf make it more resembling of a leisurely game than an actual competitive sport. First, golf requires practically no physical exertion. Determining the amount of physical exertion required to constitute a sport can be difficult, but the only activity golf players go through are periodically swinging their clubs and walking around the course while their caddies carry their bag. In E.S.P.N.’s ranking of sport difficulties, golf is rated 51 out of 60, having one of the lowest scores in the speed, agility, and nerve categories. Furthermore, in 2008, Tiger Woods won the U.S. Open having torn ligaments in his left knee and suffering from a fracture in his leg. With golf having such a lack of physical exertion, the U.S. Open—one of the most prestigious and highly-regarded golf tournaments in the world—was won by a man persevering through excruciating pains. This is no knock on the skill of Woods—his talent is truly remarkable—but in what other major sport is a professional athlete able to succeed at such a high level while being significantly impaired below the waist? Second,

professional golfers are able to compete and keep up with their opponents without thinking too much about their physical condition. John Daly, known for his ability to crush the ball beyond 300 yards, had a daily consumption of 40 cigarettes and 28 cans of Diet Coke. In an interview with Graham Bensinger, Daly said, “Wherever I set course records or whatever, I would be barefooted and drunk, playing golf making every 20-footer I looked at.” In no other major sport is this behavior permitted, let alone could a professional athlete still keep up with their sport whilst drunk and puffing about. Lastly, just because golf has a competitive aspect to it does not mean it is a sport. While sports typically are of competitive nature, defining one solely by its competition is not completely accurate. Using this definition, games such as tic-tac-toe and rock-paper-scissors would both be considered sports—they are both competitive and require skill, but little to no physical exertion is necessary. Considering all of these factors, in my opinion, golf is just a casual game that has been glorified as a sport through big-money tournaments and shiny trophies.

Why Golf Should Be Recognized as a Sport: Jack

On the contrary, making the claim that golf is not a sport based on the lower physical requirement is quite subjective. Because different people may need to exert themselves more or less than others, putting constants on the amount of physical strength or technical skill for a certain sport does not hold true for many players. Furthermore, the line that is drawn for what is and is not a sport can be blurry and often arbitrary. If one were to say that golf is not a sport, what would exactly constitute a sport? Would an activity like bowling or darts not be sports either based on the same premise? Also, where does the model example of a sport even come from? Some may believe that physical exertion has more weight than skill while others may think the opposite. Many may believe that it is neither and should have an equal balance of both. The point is, who decides the point where all sports are judged from? Granted, logic like this allows many activities like thumb wars to

be considered sports, however, it is simpler to allow most activities to fall under this category of sports than to attempt at finding an arbitrary cut-off point. Many activities can be considered a sport and contain varying levels of physical intensity much like comparing curling and football. Returning to the definition, aside from physical and mental prowess, the spirit of competition is just as important. Activities such as golf not only require both strength and mental skill but also have a large following and prestigious competitions. Once again, me trying to say that a certain level of competition and viewership can be used as an argument for defining a sport is ambiguous much like the line between mental and physical skill. Therefore, I will make the claim that any activity consisting of mental and physical prowess alongside a form of competition should be recognized as a sport, but it is up to each individual to draw their own line. That is why I believe golf is a sport.

At the end of the day, the question of whether or not golf is a sport is merely up to your own interpretation of what constitutes a sport. Is a sport more technical and skill-focused, or should it require intense physical activity? There are certainly two sides to the matter, both of which interpret the definition in a different way. Regardless, since its recognition as a sport in 1744 and introduction to the Olympics in 1900, golf has been enjoyed by many and will continue to be recognized officially by the International Olympic Committee as a sport.

CAPTAINFEATURE

Co-Captain Jack Penney ’21 Shines Both Mentally and Physically in Baseball, Persevering Through Hardship

JUSTIN HARDY

After joining the varsity team and winning the Nepsac championship his Junior year, Jack Penney ’21 was chosen to lead the team as one of the three captains for this upcoming season. According to Penney, baseball has always been his favorite sport because of both its competitive and technical nature. “Baseball is a different kind of game from other sports. I grew up playing other sports like basketball, hockey, lacrosse, and baseball. But, I like baseball because there’s no time limit, [and] everyone gets an equal opportunity to do what they can. I like how hard the game is to play—it’s not that easy to hit a ball that’s being thrown at you fast. Overall, I like running around the field and the general concept of the game. I like the infield, tracking ground balls, I just naturally like the game. I’ve always liked competitive sports and baseball has all of that together.” His exceptional athleticism helps make Penney a valuable part of the team according to Head Coach Kevin Graber. Graber wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*, “Jack’s a really good athlete. He made the [Andover Boys Baseball team as a Junior] and transitioned last year to squash and got good at it really quickly. That athleticism translates to the baseball field, especially at shortstop, where Jack catches everything and is especially adept at making accurate throws on the run.” According to Penney, the mental side of baseball is just as important as the physical side of the game, and learning how to persevere through the low points is a crucial part of the sport. “You have to persevere through hardship. That’s the biggest thing I’ve learned through ten plus years of baseball. It’s a really hard sport to play—even the pros

struggle a lot—you have to learn how to deal with that and knowing how you can get out of a jam when you’re on the mound or if you’re not hitting well, knowing how to get out of that and getting back to having the best performance that you can have if you’re struggling is the biggest thing. Learning how to control your emotions is another big thing. If your head is down below your heels it’s really hard to get out of the track that you’re going down. I try to lead the team, I try to keep my mindset straight and my attitude positive so I don’t fall down any rabbit holes or anything like that.” Penney exemplifies all the qualities of a strong leader by setting a good example for his teammate according to Graber. “We’re specific about what leadership means in our program. Jack exemplifies all of it, from work ethic, to supporting teammates, to always playing with energy and enthusiasm. Jack spreads contagious, positive energy and enthusiasm among teammates always,” wrote Graber. By using his influence as a captain, Penney tries to lead with his actions by holding himself to the same standards that he does everyone else. Penney said, “I don’t say a lot, I’m not very talkative, but I try to lead by example. At practice each day, I try to take the lead and show people how to do drills, or tell them if they’re doing something wrong and try to help them fix what they’re doing. During games I try to lift people up in the dugout. We have a rule that you can’t sit on the bench during the game, and I try and keep that rule on the field with everything that I do with the team just so everyone keeps the same mindset and so that no one slacks off. I think that keeping myself to those standards will keep everyone else on the same track because as a captain, you’re looked at in a spotlight more so than others, and I want to use that spotlight to set a good example.”

CAPTAINFEATURE

UMass Lowell Commit and Co-Captain LJ Keevan ’21 “Is Always On His ‘A’ Game”

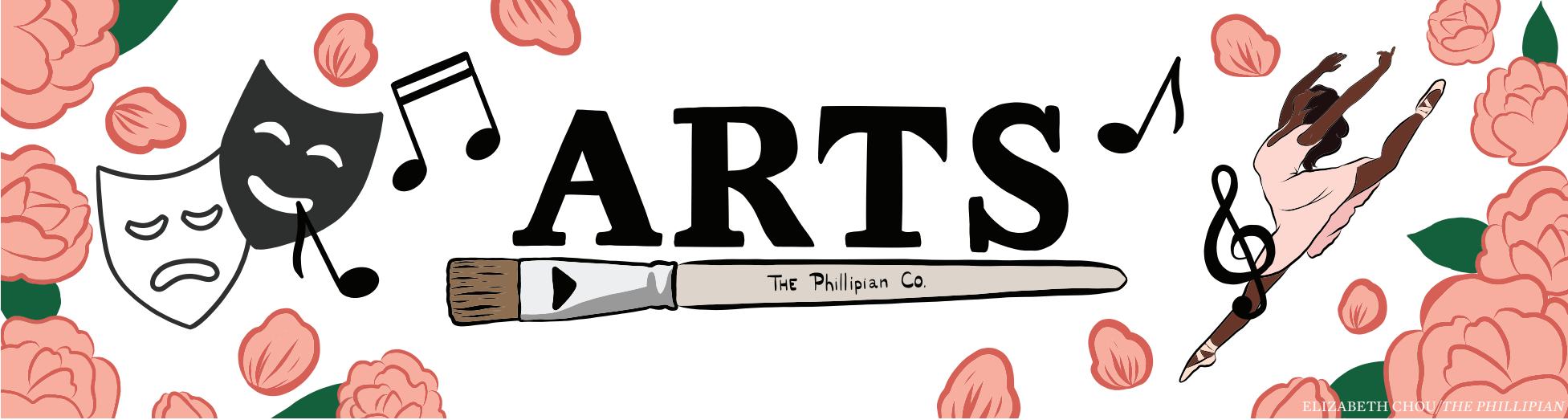
ETHAN QI

Picking up the sport at an early age, Andover Baseball Co-Captain LJ Keevan ’21 has evolved from a t-ball player to the starting pitcher for Big Blue Baseball. According to Keevan, a coincidental meeting with Head Coach Kevin Graber at a summer game first sparked his interest in Andover. Keevan said, “I’ve been playing baseball for as long as I can remember. I was probably five [years old], I played t-ball, and it kind of just went from there. Before Andover, I played on a bunch of travel teams, and [Graber] was at my travel game. He was just looking for kids who played baseball in the local area that had good grades, and he happened to be at a game that I was playing in, along with Jonathan Santucci ’21, Jack Penney ’21, and Matt Sapienza ’21. All four of us were playing in that game, and we all ended up going here, and three of us are [co-captains] now, so that’s pretty cool.” A pitcher, Keevan was initially drawn to the position from his desire to control the game. Growing up, he looked up to former Boston Red Sox pitcher Jon Lester as a role model as they both pitched left-handed. “I like being in control of the game, and I always liked watching Jon Lester growing up, he played for the Red Sox. He was my favorite pitcher, and I kind of wanted to be like him because we’re both lefties. He was kind of

my role model growing up as a baseball player, and I just like the thrill of pitching. It’s one of the best feelings when you strike someone out; that’s honestly the best feeling in baseball— you feel really cool after doing it,” said Keevan. Since coming to Andover, Keevan’s pitching abilities have been an integral part of the team’s success; in the 2019 season, the team finished the season with a 13-2 record and reached the Central New England Prep Semifinal game. According to Co-Captain Matt Sapienza ’21, Keevan’s prowess on the field and inspiring leadership qualities made him a suited choice for co-captain. “[Keevan] really is a good example of what it is to be a part of a team. He is someone who is easy to talk to and become friends with. He also plays for the name on the front of the jersey and not the back... He likes to have fun and make the most out of being a part of Big Blue Baseball but also knows when to be serious and take care of business. He’s trustworthy and very friendly especially with the underclassmen on the team... As far as baseball goes, [Keevan] is always on his A game. He is a leader on the mound and a beast at the plate,” Sapienza wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*. Just last year, Keevan committed to the University of Massachusetts Lowell to further pursue his baseball and academic career. According to Keevan, numerous coaches throughout his

career helped him reach this point, and moving forward, he looks to take the lessons he has learned from Andover to his college experience. Keevan said, “The coaches here at Andover and also the baseball coaches I had conversations with throughout the whole recruiting process [have] helped me every step of the way... The big things that I know I’m going to take into college are positive energy and positive mindset, and just working hard. Putting in 100 percent effort all the time, [Graber] has helped us and trained us to be able to compete at the college level, so I think he’s done a great job preparing us for college in that sense.” As interscholastic competition resumes this spring, Keevan looks to cultivate a light-hearted environment with the team while maintaining focus on success. “As a [co-captain], I just want to do everything I can to keep positive energy on the team and be there for any guys that need me or anything like that... When we face adversity, we just need to know that we have each other’s backs. Even if someone isn’t having their best game, there’s always someone there that is going to pick them up and keep the game going for the team... As a team, obviously, our first priority is success, we want to win our games. Even if we don’t have a league or playoff championship we’re playing for, we still want to get out there and win every single day,” said Keevan.

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A Guide to the Academy’s 2021 Best Picture Nominees

JASMINE MA

In the pandemic-encompassed year of 2020, there’s no doubt that the film industry faced unprecedented challenges during every step of the movie-making process. However, it seems that the resilience of these filmmakers ultimately claimed victory, since the candidates for the Oscars’ Best Picture category did not falter against the usual high-quality standards. This year, the Academy is hosting the Oscars on Sunday, April 25. After the announcement of the full list of nominees, Hollywood critics have busied themselves with the responsibility to compare the nominees and pitch their predictions. Now, let’s take a closer look at the qualifications of each of the eight 2021 Best Picture nominees. (Content warning: mentions of sexual assault.)

The Father

With a whopping 100 percent positive rating on Rotten Tomatoes, “The Father” explores the relationship between a daughter (Olivia Colman) and her aging father, Anthony (Anthony Hopkins), whose early-stage dementia takes over his mind and shrouds his world with confusion and skepticism. As Anthony’s reality and fabrication grow into a boundaryless blur, the story dives into the reflection of identity and coping with grief. Directed by Florian Zeller, this movie of connection and alienation boasts nominations in six categories at the Oscars, including Best Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Film Editing, Best Production Design, and Best Picture. Although Hopkins’ and Colman’s stellar performances amplified every aspect of the film, critics predict that this film is placed at a disadvantage since it is not as flashy as the usual Best Picture winners.

Minari

In the pursuit of the American Dream, Jacob (Steven Yeun) moves his wife (Yeri Han) and kids (Alan Kim and Noel Kate Cho) from Korea to California, and they later relocate to rural Arkansas. Intertwined with the challenge of growing Korean fruits and vegetables on their new fifty-acre farm, the relationship between Jacob and his wife, Monica, spirals into daily bickering. This family-themed drama that explores cultural identity and generational anguish is directed by Lee Isaac Chung, and has already won Best Motion Picture (Foreign Language) at the Golden Globes. Produced by the same companies as previous Oscar Best Picture winner “Moonlight,” “Minari” does indeed share many similarities with its predecessor. Pegged as one of the best movies of the season by Hollywood critics, is possible that history will repeat itself? If it does get bestowed the Best Picture title, “Minari” will follow in the history-shattering footsteps of “Parasite” and become the second Korean-language film to take home the trophy.

Mank

Set in the 1930-40s, “Mank” follows the journey of a screenwriter struggling with alcoholism, Herman J. Mankiewicz (Gary Oldman), as he races to finish the screenplay of “Citizen Kane” within a ticking 90-day deadline. In this movie, Mankiewicz (also known as Mank) traverses down his memory lane as flashbacks of years prior become interwoven into the screenplay of one of the greatest movies of all time. Directed by David Fincher, whose films have received forty Oscar nominations collectively, “Mank” topped this year’s list as the release that received the most Oscar nominations with a stunning ten total. With reminiscent Old Hollywood-styled cinematography and competency in nearly all categories, many critics deem “Mank” a major competitor for the Best Picture trophy. However, since the Academy recently freshened up its voters with younger generations, the real question becomes—is Old Hollywood’s influence powerful enough to stir appreciation from this new crowd?

Nomadland

The story of “Nomadland” follows the journey of Fern (Frances McDormand) while she navigates through her bleak economic future as a nomad after losing her job. Left with nothing but memories, Fern adapts to a life on the road, and meets fellow modern-day nomads who suffered from the 2008 financial collapse. This beautiful naturalistic filmmaking that portrays a woman from an intimate humanist perspective is the third feature film by Chinese director Chloé Zhao. Given the success of similar film “Searchlight” in the Best Picture category, “Nomadland” seems to be the frontrunner amongst this year’s nominees. Besides, it recently won the top prize at the Producers Guild Award (P.G.A.), which critics usually regard as a reliable prediction for the Oscars, so keep an eye on this masterpiece on Oscar night.

Sound of Metal

This innovative film intimately portrays the life of punk-metal drummer, Ruben (Riz Ahmed), as he begins to experience hearing loss during his adrenaline-fueled one-night gigs. Although he is welcomed into a community at a secluded sober house, he faces the dilemma of choosing between adapting to his new conditions or escaping back to his former lifestyle. Directed by Darius Marder, the sound effects throughout this film utilize innovative sound techniques, making it likely to win in the Best Sound category (the Academy recently combined Best Sound Mixing and Sound Editing into one category). Although most critics are not expecting “The Sound of Metal” to win in the Best Picture category, none can deny that the leading actors’ strong performances are likely to sweep several acting awards.

Judas and the Black Messiah

Revolving around the Black revolutionary organization, the Black Panther Party, “Judas and the Black Messiah” depicts the dilemma of undercover F.B.I. informant William O’Neal (LaKeith Stanfield), who was tasked with keeping tabs on a Party leader, Fred Hampton (Daniel Kaluuya). Falling too deep into the game, O’Neal has to decide if he should align with the Panthers’ forces for good, or obey his superior’s commands and subdue Hampton and his Party. Critics believe that the Academy’s decision to nominate two supporting actors from this production indicates their favorable response to the film. Already breaking the record for being the first film produced by all Black producers, it looks like there may be even more trailblazer moments on the horizon if the film takes home the Best Picture trophy.

Promising Young Woman

After the sexual assault of her best friend, the life of a promising med school student, Cassie, spirals into confusion and chaos as she drops out of med school. Hoping to teach men a lesson, Cassie spends her nights pretending to be drunk at the bar, until one day, she comes face to face with the choice of avenging the bitter past or having a potentially happy future. Directed by Emerald Fennell, “Promising Young Woman” is considered a strong candidate, having earned numerous nominations at the Screen Actors Guild Awards, Critics’ Choice Awards, P.G.A.s, and the Golden Globes. However, according to film critics, it seems unlikely that this movie will claim Best Picture at the Oscars, since it didn’t make it to the list of likely nominations on various critic review websites.

The Trial of the Chicago 7

Based on the initially-peaceful-protest-turned-violent-clash at the 1968 Democratic National Convention, “The Trial of the Chicago 7” depicts the worlds of the seven accused ringleaders of the protest while featuring glimpses of their court trials. The second directorial effort of Aaron Sorkin, the plot of this film echoes that of our current society as the world and justice systems come under the spotlight of partiality and the power of protest. Led by terrific performances by the entire ensemble, critics believe the topic of this film might be just right for the Academy’s taste. Although it didn’t earn a Best Director nomination at the Oscars like most of its fellow nominees, keep in mind that “Green Book” and “Argo” both recently grabbed the Best Picture title without Best Director nominations.



ERIN KIM / THE PHILLIPIAN

Oboist Adrian Lin ’22 Enjoys the ‘Tiny Details’ in Reed Making

SARAH HASSANEIN

Adrian Lin ’22 scrapes off the last millimeter of wood using a small bevel knife after an hour of hard work—he has just finished making an oboe reed, a thin wooden mouthpiece, completely from scratch. As an oboist, Lin believes that making homemade reeds is an essential practice for all oboists trying to develop their style. “Reed making is a really important part of playing the oboe; it’s what ultimately forms your sound. So being able to make your own reeds and shape your own personal voice in the oboe is really quintessential to being an oboist and also being a musician... Every oboist sounds unique and reed making is what brings that uniqueness to life,” said Lin. Lin began playing the oboe five years ago, and at Andover, he is a part of the symphony orchestra, band, and chamber music groups. Adrian credits Andover for developing his passion for not only playing the oboe but also classical music in general.

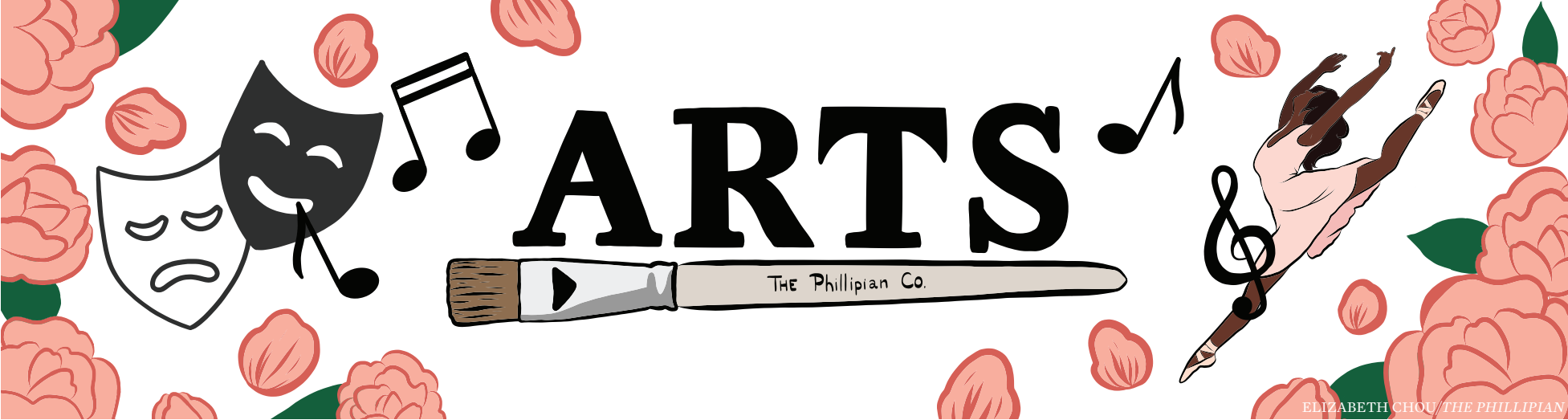
“Before coming to Andover, I wasn’t that interested in music. But it was really coming to Andover and having the music department offer these ensembles that really helped me gain interest,” said Lin. Lin started making his own reeds when quarantine first started in lieu of buying reeds online, and since then he has been making reeds every day. In particular, what Lin enjoys most is the personal touch and the detailed process that goes into making each reed. According to Lin, each millimeter is imperative to the overall reed quality, and scraping too much or too little could potentially throw off the oboe’s sound. “The tiny details [of reed making] and the subtlety really aligns with what I like about music too because there is so much delicacy and [there are so many] personal nuances that you bring into the music, and reed making really reflects that detailed part of music-making. It really allows you to build a personal voice and that is something unique to [the] oboe because you are building your

sound the way you want it and not many other instruments have that,” said Lin. Lin’s attention to detail is part of what makes him such a great oboist in orchestra and band, according to Brendon Chung ’22, a friend and fellow orchestra member. Chung commented on Lin’s dedication and motivation for playing music, which is what he admires most about Lin as a musician. “I’d say since he is so dedicated, he practices a lot, and even though I do like playing music I can’t really find the motivation sometimes. He always seems to have that energy to practice,” said Chung. Lin hopes to carry on his musical career by playing the oboe in college. Although he doesn’t plan to major in music, he wants to continue to be a dedicated oboist by playing in ensembles in college and beyond. “Engaging with the oboe throughout my whole life is something that I plan to do. Just as an amateur musician, someone who does it just because they love it, just for fun,” said Lin.



COURTESY OF ADRIAN LIN

Adrian Lin ’22 constructs at least one homemade reed per day from scratch.



Review: ‘The Lost Pirate Kingdom’ Meanders in the Shallows, Never Puts to Sea



ABBIE CHENG/THE PHILLIPIAN

DORIAN WANG

Set against the roiling backdrop of the early-1700s high seas, “The Lost Pirate Kingdom” is a limited documentary drama series that plunders its subject matter of true excitement and depth, leaving the Golden Age of Piracy a smoking wreck in Davy Jones’ Locker. Written by David McNab and Patrick Dickison, “The Lost Pirate Kingdom” premiered on Netflix on March 21, and made Netflix’s Top 10 Most Watched. However, despite popular success, the show leaves much to be desired—it struggles to balance information with watchability and is often inconsistent and scatterbrained. While strolling the deck

of the show’s schooners, sloops, and frigates on the high seas, we find ourselves not so much faced with wild seas and fascinating glimpses into pirate life, but a becalmed vessel, superficial flash, and a gaudiness so tacky it makes us want to hurl over the gunwale. A significant quarrel I have with “The Lost Pirate Kingdom” is that it plays into every story, stereotype, and misconception it tries to deconstruct. As a little bit of a maritime history and media aficionado, I’m often interested in pirate history and portrayals of Golden Age piracy in the media. I’m also especially grateful when a piece of media deconstructs long-held images or sheds new light on Golden Age piracy while not over-romanticizing it. “The Lost

Pirate Kingdom,” unfortunately, did not measure up. Despite its trove of valuable historians, academics, and authors that lent their expertise to its commentary segments, the acted and narrated sections often felt flimsy and superficial. Garish fight scenes are blurred by choppy cuts, over-dramatic moments leave no room for nuance, and gratuitous sex scenes with almost non-sensical pairings (Anne Bonny and Blackbeard? Hello?) are generously peppered throughout. The commentary and acting often feel at odds, with genuinely interesting historical tidbits undercut by scenes that commandeer the history and take it on a joyride far beyond its scope and responsibilities as a documentary. There’s nothing new to be gained that we couldn’t have cobbled together from a Wikipedia page and the gift-shop imago of a pirate. Another one of the docuseries’ issues was its mishandling of social issues and its dedication to quasi-political style over substance. For instance, Anne Bonny is portrayed as a ‘girlboss’-like figure, described as ‘fiery’ and ‘independent’ and saddled with periodical man-hating tirades. However, her trauma and status as a woman aren’t given room to be explored, pondered, or even connected to the social contexts of the era. She is also unnecessarily sexualized and given pointless flings with men she had no historical record of being involved with. The revelation of her sexual abuse

at the hands of her father (which there is no easily-accessible record of) occurs in a post-coital scene with Benjamin Hornigold, a man she historically had no romantic or sexual involvement with. The revelation of significant amounts of Bonny’s character through sex scenes rather than her piracy (which she is most known for, and also the topic of the documentary) feels in poor taste, and does not allow for adequate exploration of her character as a historical figure, nor the historical context of women in the era. Another example of mishandled social issues was Blackbeard’s initial portrayal as a non-racist figure, with lines that feel jarringly modern. In one scene, he gives a short speech to a doctor reluctant to treat a Black crewmember, with lines such as “maybe God is a Black man. Or maybe He is a She,” and the series emphasizes his belief in racial equality. However, in a later episode, it is revealed that he strikes a deal with the governor of North Carolina to enslave and sell a number of his Black crewmembers. The commentary in this scene states that Blackbeard had never believed in racial equality, with one historian saying that “to [Blackbeard], they were slaves, and they always were slaves,” retroactively voiding the series’ portrayal of Blackbeard’s relatively progressive ideas on race. The inconsistencies and often bungled portrayal of social issues undermines its attempts at productive

discussion of historical and social contexts during the Golden Age of Piracy. In a year marked by various nautical happenings—from the sea shanty revival that originated on TikTok around January to the recent blockage of the Suez Canal by the Evergreen Group’s Ever Given—“The Lost Pirate Kingdom” could have been a welcomed addition to piratical media. Unfortunately, it played into used clichés, mucked up its discussion of historical social issues, and remained fairly superficial throughout. However, the docuseries had some redeeming qualities. Its superficiality could function as an introductory platform for viewers unfamiliar with piratical history, its flashiness could serve to shore up interest in pirate history, and all things considered, it does lay out a fair summary and run-down of major events in the rise and decline of Golden Age piracy. Despite these qualities, “The Lost Pirate Kingdom” is ultimately shallow, disorganized, and often too infatuated with the very romance it attempts to deconstruct to sustain a strong narrative. Perhaps this ship would have been better left berthed in its port, far removed from the site of the stories it raids and leaves wrecked in the depths. This series receives a 2.5/5 for its informative—albeit shallow—over-romantic, and incohesive introduction to the Golden Age of Piracy.

The Language of Fashion

JANIE TOMPKINS

Language is the basis of human connection. It is believed that our human ancestors began using a language of sorts about two million years ago, and doing so gave them a distinct survival advantage. Now, language is a cornerstone of our society; we would not be able to exist without it. Since we are no longer a primal species solely concerned with survival, we have new modes of communication, such as art, music, poetry, and even fashion. Clothes speak louder than words. Clothing sometimes indicates religious affiliation—like the dastars that some Sikh people wear. Regional identity can also present itself through clothing, such as how preppy, beachy styles are often seen in coastal regions of the U.S., such as Cape Cod, Mass., and people working in New York’s financial district can be seen in formal work attire. While the aforementioned examples may not have been applicable to all people, the idea that we express our identity through fashion still holds true. In her book “Dress Code: Understanding the Hidden Meanings of Women’s Clothes,” Toby Fischer-Mirkin states that “whether your selections are made out of impulse or calculation, your choices are always profoundly revealing—whether you know it or not.” When we choose to wear logos, we are



LAUREN LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

consciously or subconsciously adopting the aesthetic that accompanies those logos. When we wear college names on hoodies, sports teams on hats, or designer names on purses, we are again associating ourselves with the group of people and the message behind them. Some clothing is situational. Job interviews, for example, typically mandate well-tailored suits if one desires to make a good impression. Sweatpants and a stained t-shirt on the other hand will likely form an unfavorable impression. Like language, there are certain registers of formality to fashion

that are ingrained into our culture. No matter how much you may dislike them, rebellion is not an option; it’s social suicide. Fashion, like language, is something we all must partake in. We must dress ourselves and we must speak every day, and our experiences and cultural norms highly inform both. Even if people believe the clothes they wear are chosen at random, there is most likely an unconscious reason behind why they made the choice to wear them, and such choices consistently affect the ways in which others see us.

Ben Pérez-Villatorio ’23 Guides Young Men Through YouTube Channel

MAGGIE SATTERTHWAITE

Ben Pérez-Villatorio ’23 released his first YouTube video (@BenPV_) in August 2020. In a vlog filled with dancing, music, and insightful advice, Pérez-Villatorio shared his thoughts on a variety of male-related topics, such as fitness, growing up, boarding school, and living in a city in order to help his community. “I want to have a vlog type of channel, and also have storytimes about how I got into boarding school. Especially because people who come from East Boston and The Bronx, more urban areas, don’t really come to boarding school. I want to open up those resources to people who come from those places—I want to help them be aware of what is out there,” said Pérez-Villatorio. Pérez-Villatorio’s interest in watching YouTube inspired him to create his own platform that would share the values and messages of his favorite YouTuber, @JustFanum. “[Fanum] is from New York, he is from The Bronx and that is very similar to Boston, where I’m from, East Boston.

So I wanted to create that type of vibe for my videos,” said Pérez-Villatorio. In addition to getting general inspiration from Fanum, Pérez-Villatorio also hopes to echo Fanum’s high energy, specifically when he shows himself dancing. In every video, Pérez-Villatorio includes a clip of him dancing to upbeat music. “I have gotten a lot of positive feedback, from family members and friends, especially when I start dancing in my videos in the intros. They love that. They just get hype. I am happy that they have something they can look forward to in the video,” said Pérez-Villatorio. Pérez-Villatorio’s driving values for his YouTube channel focus around guidance and positivity, as well as being a role model for others in his community, giving advice on topics ranging from boarding school to shaving. “Obviously I am not a perfect person, but I just want to be there for them kind of like a big brother, telling them this is something you should know about, something you should think about as you get older so kind of somebody to look up to or just come to for advice,” said Pérez-Villatorio.

David Zhu ’21 Utilizes Trendy Style through Accessories and Pastel Color Palettes as Form of Self-Expression

JASMINE MA

David Zhu ’21 pairs a light green sweater vest, white shirt, and light blue jeans with a gray jacket that drapes over his shoulders. A light sheen of nail polish covers his nails, and accessories place the finishing touches on his look. “I’m pretty trendy. I wouldn’t say I’m super unique, but I keep up with everything that I see on Instagram [and on other] social media. My style, I wouldn’t say, is extremely special, but I think it’s aesthetic in a sense,” said Zhu. Zhu takes inspiration from TikTok and various social media sites. He also subscribes to a softer color palette and is often aligned with the season. “If I see something I like online, I save the video and look through the comments and see where they got the clothing from, and then I see if I want to buy it... [I have]

lighter colors, [like] pink, sage, and lavender. Is it called a soft aesthetic? I think that’s mainly my style. Nothing too edgy, but it’s light and spring,” said Zhu. According to Zhu’s friends, he has grown more conscious of his style since Junior Year. Friend Sophia Lee ’21 stated that Zhu’s style has evolved, citing his attention to detail and accessories as a staple of his current style. “[Zhu] will sometimes match his nails to outfits and small intricate pieces—like shoes, that kind of thing. [I admire]... the consideration he puts [into] an outfit... There’s a lot of love and a lot of care that goes into his outfits,” said Lee. Another friend, Ross Vieira ’21 has also noticed Zhu’s stylistic evolution. He said that during Zhu’s time at Andover, Zhu has grown to use his outfits as a platform of self-expression and has developed a passion for his style. “I think [Zhu’s] style has really

evolved a lot over the years. I met him [Junior] year, and he [wore] a basic, everyday style, like what I still wear: hoodies, maybe jeans, khakis, running shoes, stuff like that. As he’s grown into himself as a student, he’s really learned what he likes to wear and learned how to express himself with his clothes,” said Vieira. A recent evolution in Zhu’s style has taken place over quarantine. Returning home to Shanghai, China with one week’s worth of clothing when campus closed last spring, Zhu experienced a stylistic reset when he had to purchase a large amount of new clothes, along with spending more time on social media. “In quarantine, everyone is on TikTok, everyday, so I saw a lot of new styles and outfits I wanted to try out but never got the chance to, either because I was on campus or I already had so many clothes. So back home in Shanghai, I really got to explore everything and



buy pieces of clothing I usually wouldn’t have, and that started my closet now,” said Zhu.

COURTESY OF DAVID ZHU