

Members of Girls Lacrosse Assert ‘Racism, Homophobia, and Classism,’ Quit Team in Protest

STAFF REPORT

Today, Friday, May 21, 2021, students met on the steps outside of Samuel Phillips Hall dressed in black to support and stand in solidarity with Andover students who have been “othered” by the Andover Athletics program. The movement began this past Monday when Anna Hurd ’21, Abby Lamontagne ’21, Addy Fenton ’21, and Molly MacQueen ’21 walked out of their final week of Andover Girls Lacrosse to protest the unhealthy team culture upheld in the Andover Athletics department.

The four members of the team released a statement to the Andover community this past Wednesday, stating that their “departure was a direct response to the racism, homophobia, and classism upheld by both the lacrosse program and Andover Athletics.”

The statement continued, “We feel as though people are underrepresented, undervalued, and negatively impacted by the lack of diversity set forth by Andover Athletics. We feel as though many Andover athletics programs are

not spaces where athletes can show up as their authentic selves, and that we believe must change.”

In response to the walkout, the Girls Lacrosse team has taken time to reflect on the culture within the team, according to Taylor Ware, Assistant Coach. In these conversations, they were joined by Linda Carter Griffith, Associate Head of School for Equity, Inclusion, and Wellness and Lisa Joel, Athletic Director.

“We have been fortunate to have had the chance to come together as a team Monday and then again on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon and have been grateful to [Griffith] and Ms. Joel joining us on both occasions. We have spent time processing together, supporting each other and digging deeper as individuals and as a team into the important work around issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion,” wrote Coach Ware in an email to *The Phillipian* on behalf of the Girls Lacrosse coaching staff.

According to Coach Ware, while the coaches found pride in their players standing up for an important issue, they were saddened to see them depart from

the team.

Coach Ware wrote, “As coaches, we were heartbroken that Abby, Addy, Anna, and Molly would be leaving our team and wished we had had a chance to engage in conversation with all of them around their concerns before losing them from the program. At the same time, we felt incredibly proud of them for taking a stand and drawing attention to these important matters. Andover works hard to encourage our students to find their voices and be agents of change and that is what they are doing.”

According to Hurd, the homogenous nature of many of Andover’s athletics teams has led to an uncomfortable environment that causes many students to be ‘othered.’ This feeling was echoed by Fenton who spoke to her specific experiences as a gay athlete.

“There is such a lack of diversity within Andover Athletics right now that has, especially with [the increased visibility of racial inequity] of the last year, made me particularly uncomfortable, but that is definitely something that we want to change and bring attention to,” said Hurd.

Fenton added, “[What’s important is] trying to change the culture around homophobia in locker rooms, or on the field, as jokes that people think are okay to make and continuing the conversations that are happening all over the school on this topic.”

Joel both respects and supports the four athletes’ decision to leave the team. According to Joel, these issues of “racism, homophobia, and classism” are prevalent within athletics—both at Andover and on a larger scale. However, Joel noted that the focus should be placed on how an institution can look to address these problems.

Joel said, “In my role as an Athletic Director and as my job as an educator at this school for almost 30 years, I aspire—in every space that students exist here, including in athletics—that they are free from racism, homophobia, sexism, transphobia, every single ‘ism.’ The important thing is when you find out they exist, what do you do? What have you done?”

Hurd felt that the four athletes’ message was not received with adequate care and attention,

which she believes reflects the culture in Andover Athletics as a whole.

“I think the biggest frustration that I have felt is the lack of conversation and the lack of people that have reached out to us from the team to show us support. I think the hardest thing about that was that these are our teammates and these are kids we’ve spent the entire year training with, working with, playing with and I think a lot of the hostility that we received from the team or dismissal was really frustrating. But, I imagine that so many other teams would have similar reactions and I think that that’s something larger with Andover athletics that we’re trying to address: the culture of the teams,” said Hurd.

According to Lamontagne, in walking out from the team and releasing their statement, the four athletes hope to bring attention to reveal the inequities within athletics, a topic they feel must be more frequently discussed at Andover.

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A.NEAL/THE PHILLIPIAN

The Andover community enjoyed weather in the 70s°F this week. Above, students on the Great Lawn.

213 Andover Students Under 16 Receive Covid-19 Vaccine in On-Campus Clinic

ERIN KIM & JENNY JIN

With the expansion of the Covid-19 vaccine for those aged 12 and older, Andover hosted a Covid-19 vaccination clinic on campus to offer an opportunity for eligible community members to receive the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine in partnership with Pelmeds, a local pharmacy. A total of 213 Andover students and seven faculty or staff dependents were vaccinated on Tuesday, May 18 in the tent between the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center and Bulfinch Hall.

Students 16 and older additionally received the second dose of the vaccine on Wednesday, May 19 and Thursday, May 20 at a Lawrence General Hospital clinic off campus.

According to Medical Director Dr. Amy Patel, students’ convenience was the biggest reason behind Andover’s partnership with Pelmeds, a local pharmacy in Waltham, MA. When Sykes learned that Pelmeds was offering its services to certain schools in Massachusetts, they immediately contacted Pelmeds and made arrangements for hosting vaccination on-campus.

“We wanted to very quickly be able to offer an option for our students on campus... we’re always trying to figure out a way to be able to minimize the amount of time our students have to spend doing things that are outside of their normal routine,” said Patel.

Many students, including Chloe Bao ’24, were thrilled to receive their first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine and expressed gratitude to the Sykes team’s ef-

forts.

“I am so grateful for the opportunity to receive the vaccine; thank you Andover. The vaccine was less painful than expected. The whole process took less than 30 minutes, I didn’t even need to wait for the injection. The station was efficient and well organized,” said Bao.

Silvia Ng ’23 echoed Bao’s sentiments. Although Ng was pleased to receive the first dose of the vaccine, she expressed regret that she would not receive the second dose on-campus before leaving for the summer.

“I got the vaccine yesterday, and I’m pretty happy about it. I’m a bit disappointed that I won’t be able to get my second dose on

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How Andover Theological Seminary Influenced Christian Missions In Hawai‘i

ERIN KIM & PHIL KO

According to *The Phillipian’s* State of the Academy (SOTA) in 2020, approximately 13 students at Andover identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (1.3 percent of the student body). However, the relationship between Andover students and the Hawaiian Islands dates back to the earliest years of the campus.

Founded on June 19, 1807, the Andover Theological Seminary was an entirely different institution from Andover, albeit located on the Andover campus and run by the same trustees, according to Images of Old Hawai‘i, a website run by former Deputy Managing Director of Hawai‘i County Peter Young. As the

nation’s first seminary school as well as the first graduate institution in America, it offered students three years of study on topics such as the Bible, church history, doctrinal theology, and practical arts of the ministry, according to “The Andover Townsman.”

Native Hawaiian Henry Ōpūkaha‘ia, known as Henry Obookiah to his English-speaking friends, arrived on campus to study at the Andover Theological Seminary in 1812. Ōpūkaha‘ia, one of the first Native Hawai‘ians to become a Christian, is the earliest known Pacific Islander to study on the Andover campus.

According to “Memoirs of Henry Obookiah,” a posthumous collection of Ōpūkaha‘ia’s journal entries and memoirs compiled by Edwin W. Dwight, Ōpūkaha‘ia lived with the family of Mr. A, the

Steward of the Theological Seminary. Mrs. A described Ōpūkaha‘ia as someone who “was always pleasant. I never saw him angry. He used to come into my chamber and kneel down by me and pray... he appeared to be thinking of nothing else but religion. He afterward told me that there was a time when he wanted to get religion into his head more than into his heart.”

Ōpūkaha‘ia dreamed of spreading Christianity to Hawai‘i. Writing down his aspirations in early letters, Ōpūkaha‘ia hoped to “send the gospel to the heathen land, where the words of the Saviour never yet had been,” according to Reformation 21. The word “heathen” has been

Continued on A4, Column 4

Andover Anti-Racism Task Force Final Report Set to be Released Early June

ERIN KIM

The Andover Anti-Racism Task Force (AATF), now nearing the end of its first year since formation, is currently in the process of writing its comprehensive final report, which is scheduled to be submitted in early June. The AATF is also at its final stage of receiving community input and feedback, which they look forward to incorporating into the report.

Announced last September 10, the AATF is co-chaired by Gary Lee ’74, Chair of the Trustee Committee on Equity and Inclusion, and Linda Carter Griffith, Associate Head of School for Equity, Inclusion, and Wellness. The AATF aims to “understand and address inequities as well as identify new systems and structures of practice and accountability that will transform our community into one that delivers on Andover’s promise to be diverse, equitable, and inclusive for all racial groups,” according to Griffith.

The AATF’s work is organized in four subcommittees: Representation, Systems, Experience, and Cultural Competency, which are currently chaired by Tyrone Forman ’88, Dr. Tiffany Joseph ’00, Karen Humphries Sallick ’83, P’14, P’17, and William Tong ’91, P’24, respectively. According to Griffith, the diverse group of faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, trustees, and parents who have participated in the AATF displays Andover’s commitment to hearing and accounting for a variety of experiences in its

anti-racism efforts.

“To have so many people who signed up, showed up, contributed in the extraordinary and unprecedented times that we are in has really been remarkable. And what that says to me is that when we get ready to move forward, I think that we are going to have many, many players because we have engaged so many people—we will have many, many students, faculty, trustees, alumni involved in this process,” said Griffith.

Griffith continued, “One of the biggest highlights for me in this work is that we have eight board members from the Board of Trustees who have been engaged in this work all along—it’s unprecedented. We have parents on the Anti-Racism Task Force—this is also unprecedented. So what we have done is we have shown that people committed to this work can come together and really work toward a positive creation of a more inclusive community here at Andover.”

Student voices have also played a significant role in the process. The AATF hosted affinity group meetings where all students were invited to explore the question, “What does it really mean for [Andover] to be an anti-racist institution?”, as well as focus group meetings. Additionally, all Uppers were engaged in the AATF’s work through the Empathy, Balance, and Inclusion (EBI) program, and the AATF also worked with EBI instructors to envision what

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B.MCKEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Above, the 2021-2022 Blue Key Heads rushing the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library on May 12. Read more about the new Blue Key Heads on A4.

Commentary, A3

Empathy, Balance, & Dilution

Darla Moody ’24 and Jaeho Lee ’24 discuss their experiences in EBI and reflect on ways to improve the course.

Eighth Page, A6

Prom Roasts

If you see Loulou and John with kick me signs tomorrow, this is why...

Sports, B1

Captain Features

Read about the captains of Girls & Boys Crew, Girls & Boys Tennis, and Spring Track.

Arts, B8

Drag Night 2021

Five students gathered in the Pine Knoll Tent to perform a spirited punk song solo of their choice.

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Editorial

Visions for Leadership

As *The Phillipian* prepares to welcome new members into the board, we share our hopes in what qualities we want to see in our community members and values we hope to see in other leadership positions on campus. Clubs of all kinds need to uphold diversity, especially in gender and race.

Leadership positions across campus, such as prefects, EBI Seniors and Uppers, and leaders of affinity and community justice organizations, are filled mostly by female-identifying students. Every Spring, as the process for prefect applications arrives, there is a remarkable difference in the numbers of girls and boys who apply. In years past, dorm faculty have asked rising male-identifying Lowers and Uppers to become prefects, whereas for prefects in female dorms, there has never been a shortage of applicants.

Male students should be encouraged to represent and serve their communities, to provide guidance to underclassmen, and uphold the same values and meaningful work that so often rests on the shoulders of female-identifying students. These endeavors are far more complex and difficult than it seems. It requires changing the culture of toxic masculinity and dismantling notions that dissociate masculinity from educating and taking care of others. But it's crucial that we make an attempt at the first steps. The meaning of this editorial is not to say that we need to hold more openings for male leadership positions. This space has always existed for men.

Instead, we must evaluate these patterns and hold male students to the same standard. In fact, it is harmful to "hold" male leadership positions for the sake of having an equal amount of male and female leadership. Leaders should be chosen for both their merit and commitment to community. For example, for the 2021-2022 Blue Key Heads (BKH), rather than maintaining the

traditional five female identifying and five male identifying student split, the group is made up of six female identifying and four male identifying students. This decision was partially made in order to reflect the applicant pool of 14 female-identifying students in contrast to the six male-identifying students who tried out. Breaking this BKH tradition demonstrates how the Andover community is capable of acknowledging and adapting to the unbalance in the number of female and male students getting involved in leadership positions.

Making race-conscious decisions to guarantee a welcoming and nurturing community for all is another facet of diversity that is important. For positions including Prefect, EBI Senior, Cluster Co-President, and more, leadership positions on campus all hold forms of power. Even in clubs and student-run organizations, such as The Phillipian, student leaders and board members are able to enact change through their words, actions, and representation. Having students of color fill leadership positions and ensuring that boards and clubs are representative of our school allows young students to have role models who can actively represent their experiences.

Race and gender intersect with and impact almost every aspect of society. If Andover is to be a truly anti-racist institution, its student leadership needs to be representative of these intersectionalities. If all students in leadership roles only represent one demographic, Andover misses out on the vital opportunity to provide care, community, and representation for its students. Change is reflected not through our pursuits but the people we choose to drive these actions.

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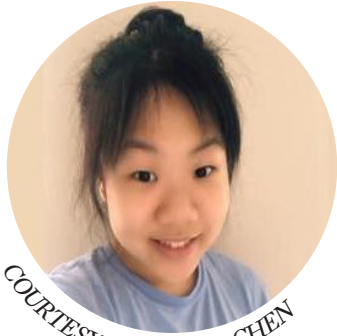
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A Case of Textbook Controversy

GLORIA CHEN



COURTESY OF GLORIA CHEN

COMING FROM A FAIRLY old-fashioned middle school, I was astounded at the beginning of the year by the fact that all my STEM classes implemented online textbooks into their curriculum. In contrast, my French class welcomed all of us with three physical textbooks and workbooks. Nearly one year ago, I carried a backpack that was half my size, filled with a 20-pound book load, every day to school. Nowadays, having packed a light, waterproof backpack stuffed with a few notebooks, I am in good shape for school. While these online textbooks have indeed saved my back, I cannot help but yearn for those hardcopy books that accompanied me for 14 years. When I asked my math teacher if there was any way I could get a hard copy of my textbook rather than an online version, my request was politely denied. One week later, an Amazon order from my parents came in, and I ended up with two identical copies: one digi-

tal, one physical. I believe that Andover, a school that strives to be accessible, student-oriented, and understanding, should provide all students with the choice of online or hardcopy textbooks for their courses.

The other day, I conducted a survey on Instagram targeting Andover students, simply asking for their preference: online textbooks or hardcopy. Out of the 75 PA students who voted, hardcopy surpassed online by 19 votes. I received several responses from people about their experiences with textbooks that attested to my prediction that hardcopy books were favored. One reply read, "I like the convenience of online books, but hardcopy books are the only ones I actually am able to focus and study with." Another read, "online books are conveyable but much harder to flip through." I am able to sympathize with these inconveniences all too well.

At the start of the year,

many a teacher of mine proposed for us to download a PDF version of the book rather than access a link to the website. Now, by itself, this seems a minuscule distinction. Yet, one explanation for this preference is that PDFs serve as the closest version of an electronic "hardcopy book." Many ebooks on the market today come in a package—they're interactive, technical, almost "game-like" with buttons that bring you from one page to the next. It almost seems as if you, the reader, are not reading a textbook, but rather a description of a piece of artwork in a museum... or accessing a scientific simulation on the internet. PDFs, on the other hand, are essentially digital scans of books—pages and pages of readings that can be read in the same way one reads a physical book. With teachers leaning toward PDFs rather than ebooks from a database, this signi-

fies that some teachers may be sculpting their syllabi so that they resemble traditional textbooks as much as possible. As much as this plan sounds promising, I believe that online and hardcopy books cannot be considered on an equal level.

While one computer might hold all the references you need for school, staring at a screen for hours and hours in preparation for a class is exhausting and distracting. Not only that, but without blue light glasses, your eyes are easily exposed to dangerous levels of blue light, potentially affecting your health over time. The practicality of having pieces of paper bound to two hardcovers is unparalleled; no PDF document or website will ever imitate the action of putting your right hand behind a page and using your left hand to flip through the pages you wish to refer back to. In a study in 2016, scientists Mueller and Oppenheimer proved that notes that are taken on paper are often compressed and less verbatim, and therefore already processed by the mind beforehand. Conversely, notes online can be easily copy-and-pasted anywhere and studied before that initial processing, eventually lowering the efficiency of a period of study.

Don't get me wrong—online textbooks remove a literal heavy burden off my shoulders. However, they aren't everyone's cup of tea.

One solution to this non-conformity is for the school to implement a plan where each student is granted a choice. This will ensure that the 63% of students who voted for "hardcopy" receive the optimal learning experience. Sadly, this solution is not trouble-proof. It places a huge disadvantage on students who are assigned electronically-born textbooks. Yet, it is important to note that ebooks were introduced to the market less than fifty years ago while hardcopy books have been in store for almost 20 times the amount of time. The odds of a book on paper being converted to online are much higher than a book being born online. This means that there is also a much higher chance of an electronically-born textbook having an equivalent—a different book, but generally the same content—on paper. Hence, if this problem were to arise, avoiding using electronically-born textbooks or selecting books with hardcopy equivalents could be two potential solutions. For now, though, let's save our imaginations for the future, take the first step, and let students have a say in "online, or hardcopy?"

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ABBIE CHENG/THE PHILLIPIAN

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CORRECTIONS:

Empathy, Balance, and Dilution

JAEHO LEE AND
DARLA MOODY



EMPATHY. BALANCE. Inclusion. These three values are essential to the pursuits of Phillips Academy, drilled into its students and even visible on the front page of its website. Unfortunately, they’re beginning to feel hollow—a sentiment that echoes the efficacy of the EBI program itself. Not included in its title, but perhaps more honest as far as implementation goes: tokenization, intellectual loitering, and discon-

Still, despite consistently falling short in practice, EBI holds copious untapped potential. Improving the program’s coverage and execution would result in a much more educated and aware student body.

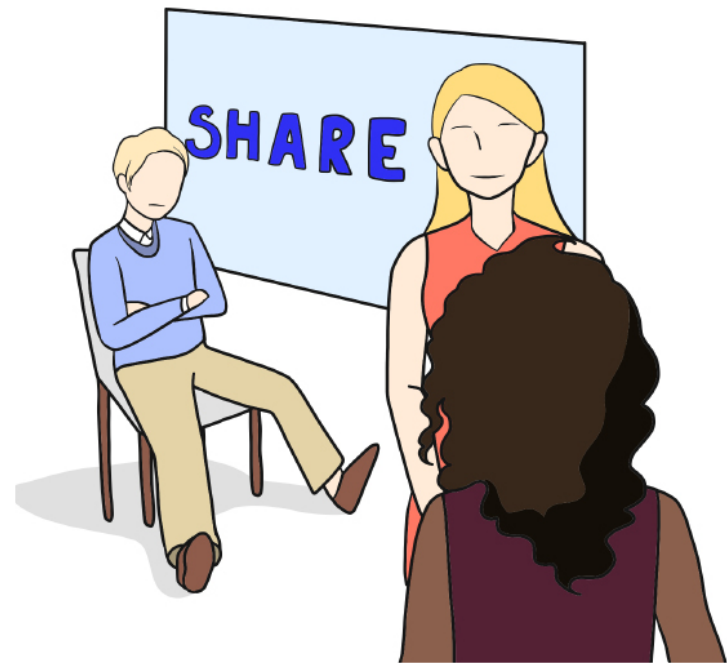
tinuity. Still, despite consistently falling short in practice, EBI holds copious untapped potential. Improving the program’s coverage and execution would result in a much more educated and aware student body. The EBI curriculum is, undeniably, white. It teaches about oppression from ground zero because it caters to a portion of the student body that has never had to experience it. EBI often forces its discriminated-against students to recount their trauma so that their male, white, neurotypical, cisgender, or straight classmates can learn without coming out the other end with guilt or cognitive dissonance. In our experiences, EBI classes have targeted “diverse” kids as the teachers’ personal wiki. It takes the form of expectant pauses after a targeted question; glances to them for approval, as if to “verify” a narrative; or requests for certain students to

casually explain a loaded topic because it’s “supposed to pertain to their identity.” This token student is expected to sit uncomfortably through their more-privileged peers’ clunky comments or telling silences, blocked from opportunities to explore the complexities of their own identity so that everyone else can catch up. In addition, EBI tiptoes around the fragility of privileged students class after class. In both of our classes, teachers have failed to unpack concepts like white guilt, imperialism, or historical

In addition, EBI tiptoes around the fragility of privileged students class after class.

justice, and they definitely never cover anything as controversial as ongoing socio-political conflicts or really any flaws in the status quo. Any intersectionality between anti-racist history and economic/political philosophy is glossed over. We’re a year into EBI and our teachers haven’t uttered the words “capitalism,” “war on drugs,” or “stonewall” once. Giving students access to the vocabulary and context we need to understand these things is crucial to PA’s antiracist mission. AWARE is proof of this, as this student-led group remains miles ahead of many of their peers on these topics. Unfortunately, because it’s optional and primarily promoted by students, the people who engage in AWARE and its expansive lessons are often those who need them the least. Similarly, those who participate actively in EBI are often the ones already most informed on the topics under discussion. Phillips Academy should be at the forefront of these conversations—and, to its credit, many of its faculty and staff are—but they are not transmitting this information to their students. Why? Likely out of a want to remain “neutral” and uncontroversial. But that’s not working, considering this skittishness is leading EBI to nothing but a standstill. Another pitfall of the program is its total lack of continuity, especially considering this year’s virtual format. Ideally, EBI would involve a curriculum that grew with its students, getting progressively more advanced throughout coverage of

each topic. Instead, each session is a recap on the week’s ASM, often introducing an entirely new topic to unpack with minimal correlation to previous sessions. It feels like taking a history course where we’ll spend one class covering the Renaissance and the next on Mesopotamia. Alternatively, if there has been a notable disaster in the time between classes, we’re offered repeated calls of, “Don’t be afraid to reach out!” along with the phone number to Sykes counseling...



ELIZABETH CHOU/*THE PHILLIPIAN*
assault, toxic masculinity, and so on.

while the teachers themselves remain stoic. The very next week, classes go on as if nothing has happened, and no further support or acknowledgement remains. Accordingly, support from EBI often feels sparse and disingenuous. That said, EBI is far from a lost cause—and we understand

That said, EBI is far from a lost cause—and we understand that complaints without solutions can serve to demoralize more than help.

that complaints without solutions can serve to demoralize more than help. The format has the potential to work well, and the intent behind the curriculum is there; EBI just needs some rethinking in order to engender the three words it’s based on. For one, especially

during Junior year, PA needs to ensure that EBI rosters do not have a few token “diverse” students who essentially serve as unpaid teachers for the rest of their classmates, regardless of PA’s intentions. Instead, much like in AWARE, early Junior EBI groups should include temporary classes for white students where they would learn the basics of antiracism together. This could be done once more with gender/sexuality affinity groups as we cover queerness, misogyny/sexual

be any different? Faculty members need real training in specific areas to allow for continuous, effective lessons. EBI teachers should be educated by experts, so they themselves can discuss these serious issues with confident clarity and well-thought-out examples. When faculty teach what they are prepared to explain, it allows their students to advance beyond the basics and into deeper discussions on identity and society. Meanwhile, ASMs could continue to inform students and reinforce EBI learning with whatever the week-to-week sessions don’t cover, such as current events. Specialized speakers can offer students insight into storytelling, relaxation, music, psychology, world awareness, whatever the school chooses—the only difference being that EBI’s class time wouldn’t be dragged along for the ride. Lastly, when comforting their students in the wake of racial violence or similarly horrific events, teachers who do not specialize on the topic should be given clear instructions on how to be most supportive, including specialized education on how to handle trauma response. This could be coupled with a guide on the appropriate ways to talk to their students, also reviewed and approved by experts. Too many times have words intended to make students feel better only served to dehumanize us. “Support” should not mean singling the “diverse” kids out, asking them to share how they’re doing like a public status update. This sort of clumsy effort coming from Andover is shameful. But, to be fair, it’s hard to find the perfect words on a heavy issue you’re not deeply familiar with. That’s why teachers should not be expected to do it on their own. This past year hasn’t been the best look for EBI but it’s time for the program to mature into something creative, something brave the way Andover promises on the front page of its website. Only once the administration acknowledges the voices calling out its issues, admits honestly to its flaws, and evolves onwards will EBI truly be empathetic, balanced, and inclusive.

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THIS TERM IN REFLECTION: A VACCINATED ANDOVER COMMUNITY



LAUREN LEE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Students 16 and Up Receive Second Dose of Covid-19 Vaccine This Week

Continued from A1, Column 3

campus as well, but I know the school is trying their best. My arm hurts if I lift it too high but otherwise, I feel fine,” said Ng.

While many other students only reported soreness in their arms, the Sykes team has planned ahead to make sure students get the care they need in a timely fashion. According to Patel, Sykes has made sure that all students would be aware of the possibility of side effects and that the intensity of the side effects may differ based on each student’s medical circumstances, especially since students 16 and older received their second dose of the vaccine. The second dose typically produces more intense symptoms, according to “The Mercury News”.

Like any other health-related issue, students who are not feeling well after getting vaccinated should be in touch with Sykes and their instructors. Students who feel well enough to attend class are given the option to join the class period remotely via Zoom instead of in-person. For students

who are feeling sick and have to miss a class, Patel advised them to call Sykes so that the Sykes team can provide the students with further guidance and a class excuse if relevant.

Students aged 12-15 years old who received the vaccine are recommended to make arrangements on their own to receive the second dose over the summer. However, Andover still plans to make arrangements for on-campus vaccination in the fall for those who are unable to receive their second dose of the vaccine.

“We want to be open to the fact that some people may not be able to get their second dose—internationally, it may actually be impossible for some folks to get the Pfizer dose. So we’re planning on having an opportunity for anybody who either didn’t get any doses or who didn’t get their second dose to get it during registration in the fall,” said Patel.

Patel continued, “There are some exceptions we want to acknowledge—if someone has a medical or religious exemption and can’t get vaccinated, we will still allow those exemptions to happen the way that we allow

those exemptions for any other vaccine.”

Patel believes that the increase in the number of vaccinated community members opens up a large number of possibilities in terms of what Andover could do in this upcoming fall term, with much fewer layers of risk mitigation due to the higher state of immunity.

“I think this is a huge step forward, and it’s really incredibly powerful to see that the opportunity for this pandemic to be managed is here 15 months after it started... [In the fall] I think we’re only going to be testing if there’s someone symptomatic. I hope that we can all still continue to have the symptom tracker in our minds, and maybe even posted so that we can support a culture where we don’t have to or we shouldn’t be going to work or going to school if we’re sick. But I think the high level of vaccination on our campus is a total game-changer for us in terms of being able to have a near-normal experience,” said Patel.

Passing Down the Skirt: New Blue Key Heads Selected for 2021-2022

JADEN CHYU

Last Friday marked the first day for the newly elected Blue Key Heads (BKH). Over a week after their auditions behind the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL), the newly elected 2021-2022 Blue Key Heads dashed through the library in celebration of their new designation.

Amara Neal ’22, Cathy Cho ’22, Nnenna Okorie ’22, Myra Bhathena ’22, Mary Kerrigan ’22, Sam Elliott ’22, Kane Goodman ’22, Presley Kmeta-Suarez ’22, Emiliano Caceres Manzano ’22, and Danny Ferris ’22 were chosen as the new Blue Key Heads for the Class of 2022. For Caceres Manzano, hearing the news was wonderful and exciting.

Caceres Manzano said, “It was a sheer joy. We all found [our position] at the same time and it was just so exciting. Because also not just for me, but to see all the people who I got picked with, I am eager and very excited to get to know [everyone] and hopefully bond with as the years go along.”

Blue Key Heads are the spirit leaders on campus, a positive source for the Andover community. According to 2020-2021 Blue Key Head Kameron Saalfrank ’21, the role of being a Blue Key Head extends further than just leading in pep rallies or being symbolic figures on campus.

“It is also the role of Blue Key Heads to be as outgoing and friendly to the people you

know. And for people that you don’t [know], it’s still your job to make them [feel] as welcomed as possible even though you are a complete stranger,” said Saalfrank.

Growing up on campus, Elliott always wanted to become a Blue Key Head ever since he was young, and was also excited to be selected.

Elliott said, “I grew up on campus as a faculty kid, [and] in third grade, I dressed up as a Blue Key Head for Halloween. I remember I was in Abbot at that time and one of the Blue Key Heads was there and he was like you are going to get my skirt when you come to high school. And ever since, it has always been a dream of mine to be a Blue Key Head. It’s such a cool tradition, meeting all the people who are gonna be your partners. It is a really fun and gratifying experience.”

The audition process for becoming a Blue Key Head was rather rigorous. Each applicant was first asked to submit a written application before the audition, then respond to random acts and questions given by the former Blue Key Heads. According to Cho, applicants were sent a mysterious invitation email scheduling their auditions.

Cho said, “They sent us really cryptic emails saying, ‘Oh the sorting hat is calling. Be here by [6:20 p.m.] and RSVP with a drawing of my patronage’... The audition requirements were to learn all of the past thirty Blue Key Heads’ names, do 10 push-ups, sing a memorized song, and know all the cheers. Those

were the audition criteria, and in between you have to go and interview them and they ask you random questions like ‘who is the oldest faculty on campus?’ And while I was playing my violin they said ‘you could redeem your musical abilities, rap right now,’ I had to make up a rap. They ask really random questions that make you act on the spot, and I think they were looking for spontaneity and energy.”

Some of the Blue Key Heads, such as Caceres Manzano, shared their ambitions for the upcoming year and sent their gratitude towards other members of the group and their hope of fostering tighter relationships with them.

Caceres Manzano said, “I think our big goals are to really make the most of everything. Because of the pandemic and everything, a lot of traditions have been put on hold and so our biggest goal is to come back with a bang, really introduce to people who missed them this year, all the great traditions, all the great things that Blue Key Heads get to carry on and the joy they bring to campus.”

“It is definitely a tiring job, the second day my legs were shaking and I was wheezing. But it’s such a rewarding experience, I love having another family on campus, having another group of people you could rely on,” said Cho.

Editor’s Note: Cathy Cho is a Video Editor for The Phillipian. Amara Neal is a Photo Editor for The Phillipian.

Andover Anti-Racism Task Force To Incorporate Student and Faculty Voices Into Final Report

Continued from A1, Column 5

an anti-racist Andover looks like.

To input feedback and suggestions into its final report, the AATF also sent out a campus-wide survey to students and faculty on Wednesday, May 19. The survey, which detailed common action items heard consistently in discussions ranging from individual and institutional accountability to curriculum change, invited Andover community members to offer comments, thoughts, and propose additional action items.

According to Griffith, the importance of Andover’s anti-racism efforts pushed the AATF to continue in its work even during the struggles of the pandemic. There were many challenges, such as the loss of physical connection and the lack of continuity of the school year, that forced the AATF to adapt, but by increasing tech-savviness and familiarity with Zoom, the AATF was able to have direct, live conversations with people from all around the country and could meet more frequently in their bigger meetings and in subcommit-

tees.

“I remain very optimistic about the future of Andover and [the] work we’ve done over the past year with the Anti-Racism Task Force—the very difficult response that happened [last summer] to the murder of George Floyd, which is actually what launched us. Andover would have done this work anyway, but we would have likely paused due to the pandemic. [While we did] not have everyone together, we knew this was urgent,” said Griffith.

Griffith continued, “I am most looking forward to beginning the implementation of the recommendations, and actually being with students in-person so that we can all partner and work together to envision the Andover that I think we all want and hope to see—which is one that is continuous on the track that we’ve been on for years but taking this work to the next level. When I think about it, we’ve still got so much to do, but I look forward to having a set of recommendations on my desk and working with the entire community to begin to bring those into fruition.”

Andover Campus Linked to U.S. Annexation of Hawai‘i

Continued from A1, Column 3

historically used to dehumanize Indigenous peoples, according to State University of New York Brockport scholar Jessica Weed.

While waiting for his wish to be approved, Ōpūkaha‘ia made steps toward developing Hawaiian culture. He formed the first written version of the native Hawaiian language, writing a dictionary for the language, and translated the Book of Genesis into Hawaiian, according to Reformation 21.

Ōpūkaha‘ia died in 1818, but his sudden death led later Andover Theological Seminary students, such as Hiram Bingham, to gain further interest in missionary work in Hawai‘i, according to an article entitled “Andover’s role in the Hawaii Mission,” on the Andover website. Bingham, class of 1819 for the Andover Theological Seminary, wrote to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (A.B.C.F.M.) that “the unexpected and afflictive death of Obookiah, roused my attention to the subject [of traveling to Hawai‘i]...I became more deeply interested than before in that cause for which he desired to live...”

The missionary work of future seminary alumni, such as Bingham, who arrived on the Hawai‘ian Islands as a member of the Pioneer Company of American Protestant missionaries, often sparked and drove the rise of white American and European power in the years following their arrival, according to Images of Hawai‘i. Initially, the missionaries collaborated with native Hawaiians over a variety of new infrastructure, including the creation of a written Hawaiian language, the establishment of schools that increased literacy, and the introduction of Western medicine and ideologies.

As time passed, however, the economic and social impacts of the missionaries on the island, along with those of white plantation owners and businessmen, led to changes in various aspects of traditional Hawaiian culture, according to the National Archives. These included the prevention of teaching the Hawaiian language and of performing the native Hula dance. Interestingly, however, in an excerpt from the instructions sent to the missionaries heading to the Hawaiian Islands, A.B.C.F.M. called for the missionaries to remove themselves from interfering with local interests, according to Images of Old Hawai‘i.

“You are to abstain from all interference with the local and political interests of the people. The kingdom of Christ is not of this world,

and it especially behooves a missionary to stand aloof from the private and transient interests of chiefs and rulers,” wrote the A.B.C.F.M.

After a power struggle between Native Hawaiians and white American businessmen, sometimes descendants of the Christian missionaries, Hawai‘i was annexed by the United States in 1898. The majority of Native Hawaiians opposed the overthrow of their government by the Americans, according to the National Archives.

In the fall of 2019, Paige Roberts, Director of Archives and Special Collections, and Corrie Martin, Instructor in English, organized a week-long series of campus events that aimed to shed light on the Native Hawaiian history and narratives that are usually untold, according to the article on the Andover website. According to Martin, who was born and raised in Hawai‘i, the presence of Christian missionaries in Hawai‘i led to the annexation of the islands.

“[This part of Andover’s history] entangles the school directly in the cultural domination and overthrow of the independent nation of Hawaii by New England–based Christian missionaries and their descendants. We wanted to give our students, and the campus community at large, the opportunity to learn about the many facets of this history, and to wrestle with the difficult questions that come with it,” said Martin for the article on the Andover website.

The repercussions of Ōpūkaha‘ia’s legacy still manifest themselves in Hawai‘i today, according to Sarah Pan ’24, a student who lives in Hawai‘i but does not identify as Native Hawaiian.

“He was very set on learning about Christianity and was always talking about how he wanted to go back home to let his people know about Christianity. It sparked a movement among the missionaries and thought that they had a new place to go. The middle school I attended is actually founded by the missionaries who didn’t want to send their children back to the United States to get an education. A big part of our Hawaiian cities was actually about missionaries and their role,” said Pan.



B.MCKEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

B.MCKEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Above, the 2021-2022 Blue Key Heads celebrate and embrace friends after rushing the OWHL on May 12.

10 Questions with David Zhu '21

REPORTING BY ALANA CHIANG

David Zhu '21 is a four-year Senior from Shanghai, China. On campus, he lives in the Bishop House, and he has previously lived in Rockwell House and Fuess House. Zhu is part of Andover Handbell Choir, a former Photo Editor for The Phillipian, and an active participant in Mahjong Club. In his free time, he enjoys trying out new restaurants downtown in Andover with his friends.



M.WILLIAMS/THE PHILLIPIAN

1. How do you balance being a student and an influencer?

I've been using TikTok for a while, just for fun, and last term I made this really funny video of my friend [Ross Vieira '21] pretending I had a crush on him and that I didn't know him. That video got 100,000 likes or something, and now I have 8,000 followers on TikTok. I don't know, I just have a lot of fun on social media like TikTok and Instagram. And so, it kind of comes naturally being a student influencer.

2. Are your eyebrows all natural?

Yes, they are. A lot of people always ask me how my eyebrows are so dark. My sister, my mother, and my dad do not have such dark eyebrows, but I obviously have very dark eyebrows. And, yes, they are all natural. My friend [Jeanette Zhang '21] actually does my eyebrows, and she is really good at it.

3. What are some of your favorite memories at Andover?

Of my favorite memories—I think it was Upper Fall—my friends and I, we all went to Canobie Lake Park on a Saturday, and it was definitely one of the most fun days of my life. I don't know, it was just a really fun time spending time together, going on roller coasters and stuff. A second one was when I became a Rockwell prefect, like just the whole thing of getting the news that I was a Rockwell prefect, but also like the first day in Rockwell as an upperclassman, just meeting my kids, that was really fun. Also, a third one was just this spring, coming back from being remote in the fall. When I came back in the winter and the spring, I hadn't seen a lot of people for a whole year. It was really fun to be back.

4. How was your experience being a remote student?

It was difficult because of the time difference, so for a lot of my commitments, like my club commitments, I couldn't really attend. But in terms of classes, I think the school did a really good job. I was in Shanghai so there was a 12-hour difference. I still had morning and night classes. But back home in Shanghai, Covid-19 was pretty under control, so I didn't have to wear masks outside since there were only a few cases every week. That was really nice, being able to go outside and hang out with friends normally in Shanghai.

5. What do you like to do for fun?

This term, I've been spending more time with friends. I usually watch a lot of Netflix shows and tv, but this term, I've been trying to spend more time with everyone outside and I've been spending more and more time playing cards in the library. You guys could probably see us as a huge group, and I became friends with a lot of new people through those card games. One is called fish, and another one, which we just started, is called Monopoly Deal. I guess that's one of the most fun things in Spring Term so far.

6. Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

Oh, Jesus. To be honest, I don't really know. I've been interested in biology and pre-med stuff for college, but that sounds really hard, so we'll see how that goes. I'll do a funny answer. In 20 years, hopefully we'll be back for a reunion at Andover, seeing everyone in my grade all grown up. I think that'd be really funny, to see where everyone is.

7. How has the pandemic or being in quarantine influenced you?

I had to quarantine when I went back home in March. I did a *Phillipian* article on this too, but when I went back in March, I didn't bring any of my clothes, because I didn't know I'd go for a whole year. So during the quarantine, I got to buy new clothes and look for new clothes that I wanted. That's one thing - I changed my fashion sense, and I think I got better clothes from that. Quarantine here - nothing really changed. Well, in the winter, I got to room with my Day student best friend, so that was a really cool opportunity, to be able to spend time with him more. This quarantine was pretty normal.

8. What is your favorite food?

Chipotle. I eat that religiously. I used to hate Chipotle, because when I was in elementary school, my dad would order me Chipotle, and he ordered me the spiciest thing. So, my sister and I literally couldn't eat it. We waited until fourth grade until our friends were like, "Chipotle's really good," and we started eating it. I ate it so much, because I live right next to one. Now, it's kind of a habit. I mean, it's easy, it's cheap, and it's very yummy. I can list my order right now. I get a burrito bowl with a tortilla on the side. I get chicken, white rice, black beans, mild salsa, corn, sour cream, cheese, guac, lettuce, and chips sometimes. And hot sauce.

9. What is your favorite thing about Andover?

It's cheesy, but I'd definitely say the people. The friends you make here are just different from any of the other friends you will make. You get so close, maybe because you live next to each other every day, but I'm so comfortable telling my best friend everything that happens to me.

10. Who do you look up to?

My [Junior] year and Lower year, I looked up a lot to the upperclassmen, like my prefects, and also my sister, who was two year above me. So I think as a [Junior] in high school or college, a lot of the people I will look up to are the people in the grades above me, because they kind of go through the same experiences that I do at that school. Yeah, my role models are often the older brothers and sisters I find in the grades above me at school.

Senior Spring: A Time of Reflection and Appreciation

SARAH HASSANEIN & BIANCA MORALES

As the 2020-2021 school year comes to a close, it is an especially bittersweet time for Andover's graduating class. Although missing out on many of the special events, sports, and time on campus this year, the Seniors will attend an in-person Senior Prom and Commencement in the upcoming weeks.

Even with a year cut short by the pandemic, Izzy Torio '21 has realized the importance of connecting with other members of the Andover community after spending time in quarantine.

"I think Covid-19 has made me realize how important it is to connect with other people whether they're really close friends or people you've never talked to before, and how spending time on the lawn or walking downtown or

spending time in the library with your classmates and friends-- that is what makes the Andover experience Andover. It's not just the classes, it's the people and the environment you're in and just kind of those in person interactions you have on a day to day basis that are small and big," said Torio.

Although many quintessential Senior traditions were not experienced normally for the Class of 2021, there were still positive takeaways, according to Kennedy Everson '21. For Everson, the Covid-19 pandemic was a time to reflect and be grateful for the people in her life. Everson shared what she learned and where she found positivity and appreciation during this year.

"It is so hard to find yourself enjoying moments in the midst of a pandemic, but I have found myself so much happier. It also made me appreciate everything that I got to experience before [Covid-19] even more. I realized

that it is such a privilege to be here and that every moment I have with my friends or teammates is something I should cherish," said Everson.

Although some Seniors found positivity during the pandemic, Spring Term of the Class of 2021's Upper year and parts of their senior year were not on campus. Ellerman Mateo '21 shared his insight on how the pandemic impacted his life and his overall time as a student at Andover.

"It really didn't feel like an Andover year. It felt like a very, very long summer break. I really feel sad because I feel like the pandemic just took Upper Year and then half of this Senior year. It really didn't feel the same. I felt very foreign to be honest, so I'd say it made Andover feel too short," said Mateo.

To some, Spring Term is also a time for the seniors to reflect on the highlights from their Andover experience, whether that be the

friends they found at Andover, the clubs they joined, or sports teams they took part in. A highlight that stood out to Everson during her time at Andover was battling Exeter in Andover/Exeter while on the soccer, lacrosse, and hockey teams representing Big Blue.

"No matter what team I am on whether it be soccer, lacrosse, or hockey, the competitive spirit of campus and the next-level spark that each player has when they step on the field against Exeter is something that I am so grateful to have experienced," said Everson.

During this final stretch of their last year at Andover, some Seniors will take time to reflect on when they first arrived at Andover and what lessons they have learned during their Andover career. In his English 300 class, Mateo shared how he got a new perspective on Indigenous peoples.

"We were talking about Native Americans for at least the Fall term, and when I was taking that

class I got the perspective of what it means to be a Native American author but also what does it mean to be part of a marginalized group, and there kind of allowed me to see I'm not alone and other Native Americans have experienced far worse than I've experienced," said Mateo.

Through their years spent at Andover, the graduating class can serve as mentors for incoming Juniors and lowerclassmen. During Everson's Junior year, her biggest regret was not being as involved on campus as she would have liked to. Through this personal experience she offered advice for lowerclassmen and new students.

"Get involved. Even if you think you can't handle it, give it your best shot. It is the best way to meet people, try new things, and build a network. I wish I had done more [Junior] Year, but now I hope that anyone who reads this knows that they should too," said Everson.

ENJOY WALKING BETWEEN TENTS IN THOSE HEELS, GIRLIE! AS REQUESTED: YOUR ROASTS.

Yuping Zhu and Kyle Garcia-Rogers

Inspiration for her Reputation era
Grade: Just another picture to burn

David Owyang and Cam Wacker

Trying to finesse a new cameraman, I see.
Grade: TikTok Creator Fund

Gwen Empie and Addy Fenton

If Yukon could talk...
Grade: Sketchy Show Reference

Warren Clark and Tulio Marchetti

Just another 900-like Instagram post
Grade: He has a car

Brooklyn Wirt and Bennett Pease

Who's gonna tell her?
Grade: Tony for Best Actor

Kyle Simard and Zara Pulipati

Which filter would make Kyle look best?
We're thinking... C7?
Grade: Saturation all the way up

Mac Katkavich and Lily Rademacher

Two former Eighth Page Editors walk into a prom together... both leave alone.
Grade: Please laugh at their jokes, they need it

Violet Enes and Zane Olmstead

Recently featured on @siblingsordating
Grade: Mirror, mirror on the wall

Sascha Evans and Luke Gordos

An All-Gender Volleyball benchwarmer
love story
Grade: Manchester sneaky link luv? xx

Phoebe Bicks and Holt Bitler

Just wait until the Upper East Side hears about this one.
Grade: Xoxo, Gossip Girl

Karoline Conte and Matt Sapienza

God's favorite couple this prom season
Grade: Rice Purity score above 50

Molly McCarthy and Eric Giarnese

If they try to start a cheer, we're leaving.
Grade: What do we eat? What do we eat?

Zaina Qamar and Koki Kapoor

Friends by extracurriculars, lovers by choice.
Grade: Plipcest

Jack Wild and Bianca Rodriguez Pagano

Bianca and that guy we see her with sometimes!
Grade: Cracker Jack

Aidan Burt and Jada Li

This oughta be a racquet, get it? Like tennis?
Grade: MARVELous choice

Sophia Lee and Ethan Ellsweig

Being the youngest is hard... and so is being under 5 foot
Grade: We like your brothers better

Emma LeBaron and Alexander Grande

"Outer Banks" casting call
Grade: Ugh, get a room.

Salvador Gómez-Colón and Miranda Stewart

A politician and his first lady... ever
Grade: Publicity stunt

Emma Kaplon and Colin McNamara-Bordewick

Stock Image of Prom Couple
Grade: Wonder Bread

Mia Levy and Ross Vieira:

One's a lesbian and one's six-two, you decide!
Grade: Crew friends, true friends

Saffron Agrawal and Theo Faugeres

His first kiss, her second choice
Grade: Punishingly intellectual

Summer Seward and Henny Chamon

She's gorgeous. He's the son of an administrator.
Can we make it any more obvious?
Grade: Flavia's condom stash

Ethan Chan and Amy Jiang:

Had to go with each other because they can't take themselves
Grade: Don't let me go

Bridget Santos and Jack Penney

Let's see if she can MANAGE to get lucky by the time the night is over.
Grade: Third Base?





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SPECIALFEATURE

Seniors from Girls Lacrosse Assert Lack of Diversity in Andover Athletics

Continued from A1, Column 5

Lamontagne said, “We want to make sure that it’s known that this is a lot bigger than just Girls Lacrosse. Some of us are speaking on being a part of other programs and hearing things from other people that this isn’t an issue that solely stems from Girls Varsity Lacrosse. We’re just trying to make a point that we don’t stand for [inequity] here and it shouldn’t be tolerated anywhere.”

The lack of diversity within the team environment that Andover Girls Lacrosse members discussed is not isolated to Andover. In NCAA women’s lacrosse from 2012 to 2020, the percentage of athletes who identified as white has not dipped below 83 percent, and the percentage of head coaches who identified as white has not reached below 92 percent.

Within Andover, the athletic department has made efforts to increase diversity within the lacrosse program through the admissions process, according to Coach Ware. She stated that the program takes

diversity, equity, and inclusion seriously within the sport.

Coach Ware wrote, “Our program along with the Shuman Admissions Office has worked to create partnerships with organizations to try to increase representation in our lacrosse program. We have also prioritized opportunities at every level of the sport to encourage new players without prior experience to learn the game, and Coach [Tracy] Ainsworth has been instrumental in this effort as our JV2 coach. We also utilize ongoing work across the greater lacrosse community in the many facets of the D.E.I. [(Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)] effort in our sport.”

However, Hurd noted that a high density of recruited athletes are from the Massachusetts area, and she suggested a reorganization of recruitment pools to create more diverse teams. Hurd believes that Andover could better facilitate change by rethinking its existing recruitment process.

Hurd said, “One of the biggest things is just honestly changing the recruiting pools because I think we’re pulling a

lot of kids from Massachusetts and it’s the same thing with the hockey team as well and so if you change the spaces that you’re drawing these kids from I think that will have a large impact on the kids that actually end up matriculating to the school.”

Lillie Cooper ’20, a Varsity athlete of color, agreed with Hurd in regards to an unhealthy team culture in the Athletic Department. Cooper believes that the organized Blackout on May 21 is only the beginning to achieving real change within the Andover Athletics program.

“While there are instances of problematic behavior and racism on Andover’s athletic teams, it’s important to pay attention to the team cultures within the athletics programs. It’s easy for harmful behavior and insensitive comments to circulate and go unchecked because of the largely homogenous nature of many of the Varsity teams. In my experience, this can create an isolating and uncomfortable environment for student-athletes of color,” said Cooper.

Echoing Cooper’s feelings

of isolation, Henrique Chamon ’21, another Varsity athlete of color, believes that athletes of color have been undervalued in the Andover community. He hopes that with events such as the Blackout, athletes of color might have the chance to have their voices heard.

“There’s just a common feeling of exhaustion and tiredness amongst a lot of the Seniors and the Senior athletes of color... I have so much respect for the girls on the team who decided to step down and no longer participate in a program that a, either doesn’t care about them, or b, doesn’t share the same values with them,” said Chamon.

Joel believes that an important step in creating long-term change is focusing on improvements to the community, rather than blaming people for specific instances. She discussed how long-term change can only occur with a unified community.

Joel said, “By being distracted by the details, the group of people we want to keep moving forward start dividing. What we want this to be is a coming-together. What

we know is this can’t just be a moment, it has to be something that in two months, in six months, in one year, we are still all in it together. What I hope is that our full community, including our students, can see this as a nod to ‘Yes, we all want to do better and we all play a role in it.’ But if we start finger-pointing or speculating, that’s where we’re going to lose momentum and go in the opposite direction of what the goals [are.]”

According to Hurd, while the four members who stepped down will graduate in just over two weeks, they hope that this walkout will spark change within Andover Athletics in upcoming years.

“We can’t lead any of these conversations, but again words weren’t doing it at this point—action needed to be taken. We’re really just hoping that the conversation can continue, acknowledging [the fact] that we’re Seniors and leaving in a couple of weeks, [we hope] that the athletic program will think very intently over [the] summer to implement actual action steps in the fall of 2021,” said Hurd.

BOYSTENNIS

Boys Tennis Perseveres through Close Matches in Sweeps against Belmont Hill and Phillips Exeter Academy



COURTESY OF KIAN BURT

All three Andover Boys Tennis Co-Captains won their singles matches against Exeter in their final home match of the season.

ETHAN QI

FRIDAY	
Andover	7
Belmont Hill	0
SATURDAY	
Andover	7
Exeter	0

Andover Boys Tennis Co-Captain Aidan Burt ’21 came back from a 0-3 deficit in singles, winning 12 games in a row to help drive the team to a 7-0 sweep against Belmont Hill on Friday. With another 7-0 sweep against Phillips Exeter Academy the following day, the team improved its record to 6-0.

Leading up to its games against Belmont Hill and Exeter, Andover expected to face challenges against a strong Belmont Hill team, according to Jeremy Liao ’24.

“Heading into the match this weekend, we definitely weren’t expecting to sweep them because we had played Belmont Hill earlier in the season, but they didn’t have their top three [players]. So I don’t think we were even expecting to win, but in the end, we pulled through,” said Liao.

According to Head Coach Leon Calleja, he places a focus on staying persistent throughout matches. The team’s perseverance was shown on the court this past weekend as multiple Andover

players came back from deficits against their opponents.

Coach Calleja said, “One thing that I’ve always tried to have the players work on is extending the point-making [so] they play all through the end of the point. And so I think that definitely showed in a few of our matches; some of our players were down early, and the idea of extending the game... put them in an advantage because they were able to extend the match to the third set and win the third set whereas I think if they weren’t used to playing the points all the way [through], they might get a little bit more tired or feel out of it by the end of the match.”

In Andover’s close matches, staying calm under pressure was a key factor behind the team’s success, according to Coach Calleja.

Coach Calleja said, “There were some really critical matches where some were behind, either early, or they got behind, maybe even dropping a full set. But being able to come back from that and not losing confidence, I think that’s probably the biggest thing that I noticed in my players and was really happy to see. There were moments when... I think some of their confidence was shot a bit, and a different player or a different team might have folded, but they got through and won in all cases. So it was just really impressive how they were able to maintain their confidence when they clearly weren’t necessarily playing their best.”

Maintaining an undefeated record throughout the sea-

son, the team has had consistent play against its opponents each week. According to Liao, the team’s success on the court can be attributed to the humble mindset it has heading into matches.

“I think going [into each match,] we try and make sure that we’re not overconfident and that we still play our best despite maybe being against an opponent that we think might be worse than we are. So I think that the co-captains have been really good at emphasizing that we shouldn’t get too cocky and too overconfident, and that we should just look to play our best,” said Liao.

As Andover prepares to face Exeter once more for its final match of the season, the team looks to work hard during practice and continue its consistent play in hopes of finishing with an undefeated record, according to Burt.

“Having played Exeter, we know what kind of a team they are, and we know that if we continue to practice hard and bring our best tennis, that will give us the best chance that we have. And I think it’s just keeping up what we were already doing, getting off to a good start to doubles, and then working on constructing points and staying patient are going to be key things for us heading into [Andover/Exeter,]” said Burt.

Andover will face Exeter away on Saturday for its final match of the season.

SOFTBALL

Andover Softball Delivers on Offense, Defeating Exeter 19-3

SIA GANDHI

SATURDAY	
Andover	19
Exeter	3

With a strong offensive front, Andover Softball secured 19 hits and 19 runs in its game against Phillips Exeter Academy this past weekend, winning by a landslide with a score of 19-3. Andover’s record now stands at 6-5.

As the season comes to an end, the team is focusing on fine-tuning its technique and recreating game scenarios as it prepares for its final match-up against Exeter, according to Sophia Eno ’23.

Eno said, “We have been doing really realistic practices and drills; we try to recreate the game pressure, so we try to do speed live pitching, so there were some really great hits in this game [so the drills] definitely helped.”

According to Haven O’Sullivan ’22, because the team entered this game hoping to bounce back from a tough loss last game, it was important for everyone to play with energy and a positive mindset.

“Overall, everyone played really well and it was a great team win; everyone contributed a lot, so I was really happy with how it turned out.... On Friday, we had a tough loss going into our game against Exeter so we wanted to come out strong from the

beginning,” O’Sullivan said.

Despite this successful win, the team is still focused on training hard in the final few practices of the season in hopes of beating Exeter again next week, according to Leila Boesch-Powers ’24. In addition to preparing for its next game, the team is also looking to build camaraderie as the season comes to an end.

Boesch-Powers said, “[We’re working on] playing our hardest because we only have one more game and hopefully we can ‘Wreck the Ex’ again and spend time with the team, getting to know everybody and saying goodbye to our captain [Katie Morris ’21]. Also... [we plan to work on] keeping the defense tight so hopefully, we [can] win again.”

According to Eno, the team has been able to connect and bond over the course of the term, and this team chemistry has been integral to its success on the field.

Eno said, “We have a saying during games and practices to never be silent, always shout out plays, be supportive, and get that energy going and that has helped a lot during our games... Being with the team is great and I really care about all of them and it is such a great community, [because we] really try our hardest at practice to also be able to try hard at games and [improve].”

Andover looks to secure another win against Exeter this Saturday at home.



COURTESY OF HAVEN O’ SULLIVAN

After a close loss to Brooks School on Friday, Andover Softball bounced back with a significant win against Exeter on Saturday.

BASEBALL

Big Blue Baseball Surmounts Winchendon with Consistent Pitches in Doubleheader Victory

ETHAN QI

SATURDAY	
Andover	5
Winchendon	0

SATURDAY	
Andover	7
Winchendon	1

Jonathan Santucci '21 converted on five out of six at-bats on the plate, securing three R.B.I.s to help push Andover Baseball to a 5-0 and 7-1 doubleheader victory against Winchendon on Saturday. Adding two more wins to its undefeated season, the team's record now stands at 12-0.

Leading up to its final home games of the season, the team is focused on committing to playing team baseball, which was well-shown on the field as the team had its best games of the season, according to Head Coach Kevin Graber.

Coach Graber said, "One thing we did on our practice plan for Friday, before our Saturday doubleheader, we actually clearly defined the combination to the lock for winning these two games. And it listed the things that we felt like we needed to accomplish with our offense, our defense, with base running, [and] with our pitching staff. And they were all attainable goals, none of which required any athleticism or baseball ability at all, only a commitment to play-

ing team baseball. And to the team's credit, they really took it to heart, they really bought in, and we did all of it on Saturday, and I think it's the best baseball we've played all spring."

According to Thomas White '23, supporting each other, capitalizing on Winchedon's mistakes, and executing strategic plays were key factors in the team's two victories on Saturday.

White said, "Playing together, supporting each other, and... capitalizing on our opponents' mistakes [were where we excelled]. The first and third play [we practiced during the week], we ran it perfectly. There were some errors by Winchendon that we took advantage of, some mistake pitches that people like [Co-Captain Jack Penney '21] and Jonathan Santucci absolutely hammered, [Sebastian Mexico '21] also hammered one. Everybody brought amazing energy to both games [and] we had them beat from just the warmups in the first game. So we were able to jump their pitcher, put up four in the first inning, and that's all we needed because [Co-Captain Matt Sapienza '21] wasn't letting anybody score on him."

Despite playing a stacked Winchendon team, Andover was able to overcome the difficult matchup and succeed in only letting up one run in two games, according to Coach Graber.

Coach Graber said, "We played against a really good team. Winchendon had 13 post-graduates, all of whom are college commits, and we

had none. But we like that kind of challenge; we want to play against the best competition we can, and preparing for that type of matchup is fun. I mean that's why you play baseball, we play baseball because it's challenging, not because it's easy."

Maintaining an undefeated record throughout the season and allowing an average of just 1.33 runs per game, Andover's success and consistency on the field can be attributed to its well-rounded roster and supportive team environment, according to White.

"Everyone produces, everybody does something. It's not like we need the top four guys in the order to do [everything], you don't need the [Division I] guys to have their greatest days for us to win games even though they always play amazing. Even when somebody has a tough day, we got teammates. They'll pick him up, they'll produce, they'll do their jobs, so that's all we really need," said White.

According to Sapienza, the team's victories against Winchendon exceeded expectations, and he looks forward to one last run with the team ahead of its matchup against Phillips Exeter Academy.

"I think the team's performance met and passed everyone's expectations. This weekend we faced one of the better opponents that we have had this season, and we dominated. I am excited for one last weekend in the blue," wrote Sapienza in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Andover will look to finish the season off on a high note as it faces Exeter away for a

GIRLSLACROSSE

Girls Lacrosse Defeats Exeter 16-9 Despite Being a Player Down in Second Half

JACK ROGUS

SATURDAY	
Andover	16
Exeter	9

With a strong defense and goalkeeper and Co-Captain Kennedy Everson '21 stopping 15 shots from Phillips Exeter Academy, Andover Girls Lacrosse held its ground against Exeter this past Saturday. Additionally, the offensive front created opportunities with its ball movement, with Isabela Miller '21 scoring 6 goals while executing agile deeks and Lucy Lasaster '21 scoring a quick response to tie the game early on. Defeating Exeter with a score of 16-9, Andover's record now stands at 5-2.

Everson acknowledges that the team faced nerves before the game, as Andover was facing its biggest rival.

Everson said, "We were definitely expecting a very competitive game and there was a lot of mixed excitement and nervousness before the game. Some of our goals were to take that and reframe it towards motivating our hard work on the field. We also wanted to make it memorable because this has been such a hard year and it was certainly a very special game."

According to Grace Hammond '23, in preparation for Saturday's game, the team worked on a variety of skills that proved to be problematic in previous games.

Hammond said, "In prac-

tice, we worked on moving the ball quickly on [the] attack and taking care of the ball. In our game [against Noble and Greenough], we had a lot of issues with turning over the ball and not moving it quick enough so the defenders would end up trapping us. We mainly focused on that and I think we did a good job executing."

Despite being injured, Emily Smith '22 noticed that these skills worked on in practice came into fruition during the game. And although the team was forced to play with one less player for much of the game, applying those skills helped it come out victorious.

Smith said, "I think a big point [we] were working on is our transition and our defense, which really kept the game together because we played a man down in the second half. Being able to catch the ball upfield and hold possession when we had it made it a lot easier to score goals and made sure that it wasn't on the other side of the field so they could [not] capitalize on opportunities. A lot of defenders got many ground balls and [that] made transitions a big part of the game."

Moving forward, the team plans to utilize lessons learned from this game to refine skills and update game plans, according to Hammond.

Hammond said, "[We will be working on] playing clean defense and not taking checks we shouldn't be taking and, overall, just playing smarter and improving game situational awareness."

Andover looks to repeat its win against Exeter this weekend at A/E.

BOYSLACROSSE

Troy Pollock Shines in Boys Lacrosse's Loss Against Exeter

TRISTAN MARNOTO

SATURDAY	
Exeter	13
Andover	10

Although Andover Boys Lacrosse lost 10-13 against Exeter after collapsing in the third quarter, Co-Captain Troy Pollock '21 displayed an impressive performance, scoring five goals, assisting one goal, and winning eight of 12 face-offs. Andover's record now stands at 4-2.

According to Marcus Sapuppo '23, the team's downfall was trying to put the ball into the back of the net too often, rather than maintaining possession.

"As we got into the second half we started losing our grip. We got a little too eager to score and I think that really cost us the game because we weren't able to calm down and keep the ball for as long as we would've liked, and I think that's why we fell apart and ended up losing by three. I think we were the better team, and we have a chance against [Phillips Exeter Academy] this weekend," said Sapuppo.

According to Head Coach James Beaudoin, Pollock rose to the occasion during the game, and was all over the field.

"[Pollock] was a Senior understanding that he was in an Exeter game, and he played that way and he put his whole heart and soul into it, and it showed up in the statistics. He really was everywhere, he actu-

ally won our player of the game offensive and defensive awards this week which is also a rarity to give out to the same player," said Coach Beaudoin.

According to Preston Whitehurst '22, Pollock's energy and tenacity served as motivation for his teammates to keep pushing throughout the game.

Whitehurst said, "Having one of our co-captains have such a great game and really put the team on his back, it was definitely inspirational for me and watching the hustle and the heart he put into every single play and not taking a single play off, made me want to play better as well and be there for him as he had an excellent game all around. Seeing him definitely inspired me and I know that a lot of the other players on the team felt the same way."

According to Coach Beaudoin, having two games against Exeter this season allows for both teams to work on improvements and look to take advantage of the opposition's weaknesses.

"I think what our players want to take away from this [loss] is to understand what we can change, what we can take advantage of, and what [Exeter is] going to try to alter. Both teams have a full week to put things into place, or change what they didn't like about the game, and watch the film over and over. Understanding that, [we] really [are] just coming into [the next game] with fresh eyes, but knowing our opponent really well now," said Coach Beaudoin.

Andover will hope to end the season on a positive note in its season finale against Exeter at home this Saturday.

ANDOVERULTIMATE

Andover Ultimate Frisbee Comfortably Defeats Concord 15-1

DAIGO MORIWAKE

SATURDAY	
Andover	15
Concord	1

In a game where Charles Murphy '23 played with one hand in a thick cast, Andover Ultimate Frisbee gained its largest victory in the 2021 season, defeating Concord Academy 15-1. The team's record now stands at 5-0.

The most important aspect for Head Coach Scott Hoenig was the fact that the team was able to play with another school, something he never could have imagined in the winter.

"I actually don't think my excitement about the game had anything to do with the score at all. It was so much more about how we played, both as a team and also as individual players... I think during that game and after that game, I was just super excited about the fact that we were able to play at all. Back in January, we had no idea if we'd actually be able to have any kind of a season at all, and then [Friday], when we were out there, it was a beautiful, sunny day," said Coach Hoenig.

Coach Hoenig attributes a part of Andover's success to a tradition that the team performs before every game. According to him, prior to each game, Andover forms a focus circle, which helps the team foster a positive mindset before the game.

"Before the game, we always circle up and we always do a focus circle, where we close our eyes, take deep breaths together, try to center ourselves and prepare ourselves mentally to play, and try to put everything else away from us, and just focus on the fact that we get to do that, and focus on the fact that we are very fortunate and we get to come out and we get to play ultimate here. [We] try to put ourselves in a good, positive mindset, because when we are in that kind of a positive mindset when we're really feeling the joy of a game,



As pictured above, Sam Elliott '22 caught the winning goal on a throw from David Owyang '21.

that's when we play our best, that's when we have our best sportsmanship, that's when we have our best enthusiasm, and it's when we have the most fun," said Coach Hoenig.

When Concord used the split-field offense, a strategy Andover hadn't faced yet, it handed Andover a challenge the team had to deal with it. Co-Captain Kam Saalfrank '21 believes that Andover's ability to overcome a new tactic was thanks to the preparation as well as the in-game advice given by the coaches.

"We'd gone over [split-field offense] a little bit in practice, so we were a little prepared for it, but it was something completely new that we've never played before. But I think it's definitely a testament to Coach Hoenig and Coach [Cormier] and their ability to teach us on the fly. After points, when they would sub us off, one of them would have a whiteboard in hand with a marker, drawing out plays and positioning, and how we can counter what they've been running. We also made a lot of halftime adjustments that let us overcome whatever they threw at us, whether it be zone, horizontal, or stack," said Saalfrank.

According to Coach Hoenig, the victory would not have been possible without the sideline players, who helped the team by counting stalls, giving encouragement, and calling out whatever they

noticed. One of these players was Josephine Banson '22, who has been sidelined for most of the season due to an injury.

"Because of [Covid-19], some teams want to have particular adjustments to the rules and Concord Academy asked to have a stall from the sideline. We had a couple of sideline players who were injured and not able to play in the game, and they stepped up and they helped out by counting the sideline stall for one. And for another, our sideline players, including Josie, were really helpful for... calling out encouragement and cheering on our players, and also helping to call out things like when the disk is up, or when there [are] turnovers, or helping identify particular situations on offense or defense," said Coach Hoenig.

By going to practices and helping the team from the sidelines, Banson feels like she is still a part of the team despite her injury.

"I think the coaches always made it really clear that [I am] still part of the team, so I've still been going to the games. I've been part of the team in that way. Even though it's a shame that I can't play, it's still nice being in that team environment and fostering that kind of atmosphere," said Banson.

Andover will look to cap off an undefeated season at home against Pingree this Friday.

Write for Sports! Email csadowski22, ttang22, lboshar22

GIRLSCREW

Girls Crew Prepares for Season Finale after a Difficult Scrimmage against Exeter

TRISTAN MARNOTO

Despite struggling in its scrimmage this past weekend against Phillips Exeter Academy's experienced team, Andover Girls Crew heads into its final race of the season against Exeter with its head held high after gaining more race experience under its belt.

According to Kelly Bu '23, because Andover's team is filled with many novice rowers, the scrimmage against Exeter was a chance to learn.

"Exeter has a really strong program, and there's a lot of returners this year so they're all pretty experienced, versus us and our girls program where there's a lot of new rowers and a lot of returning varsity girls have not rowed this year, so that makes it a bit more difficult, but we're getting there," said Bu.

As a coxswain, Chloe Rhee '24 found that watching her rowers against Exeter helped her determine what her boat needs to do in order to improve.

Rhee said, "As a coxswain, I watch what happens, we track peoples rate—how fast they're going in the boat—and you also can watch their form... I looked at what we did this week, and noticed that we needed to work on

our starts and make sure that when we're tired that our form doesn't go all out of control."

According to Bu, the odds were stacked against Andover heading into the meet, but the team still managed to maintain a positive attitude throughout the race.

"I think we all knew the level that Exeter races at because we know that they have a bunch of returners, and we're a bunch of new rowers and we haven't had a lot of training time... and I think [our mentality going into the meet was] like, 'okay probably know we're going to lose, so it's just a matter of [limiting how] little we're going to lose by,'" said Bu.

According to Emily Turnbull '24, the team has been training hard and looks forward to bringing team spirit and enthusiasm into its meet next week.

"I'm confident that we're going to do really well in the next race; whether or not we actually win is up in the air, but I'm confident that we're going to pull really hard and do well," said Turnbull.

Heading into its final race of the season, Andover seeks redemption against Exeter this Saturday.

GOLF

Golf Falls Short to Exeter in an Intense 2-6 Loss

CHARLIE FERGUSON

SATURDAY	
Exeter	6
Andover	2

With precise putting in his final holes, Alex Smyth '24 nearly completed a match-changing comeback for Andover Golf against Phillips Exeter Academy as both teams gathered to watch. Playing at home at the Indian Ridge Country Club, Andover was defeated 2-6. The team is now 2-4.

According to Head Coach Brian Faulk '00, there were numerous standout performances on the team that made for a competitive match.

"Angela Chen [23] and Nolan Sun [21] both won their matches. Angela had a great comeback from one down with four holes left to win on the last hole. Alex Smyth [24] also rallied from three down but lost when his opponent made a birdie on the last hole. I would say Nolan and Angela's wins were highlights. Nolan had a very impressive win in the eighth spot and Angela's rally was needed to secure an additional point heading into the last leg of the Lovell Cup next weekend at Exeter," wrote Faulk in an email to *The Phillipian*.

According to Co-Captain Griffin Hout '21, Smyth's play was a highlight of the match as all of the attention from both teams was on him during the last hole. Despite suffering a loss, Smyth demonstrated an ability to golf in a very high-pressure atmosphere.

"Our [Junior] Alex Smyth played really well. He was playing in the two spot. I think he was even par for 14 or 15 holes. His match was pretty intense. Near the 17th and 18th holes, our entire team and Exeter's entire team were watching just that match between Alex and his opponent from Exeter. It was really intense but really exciting to watch. Alex eventually lost to a birdie on the last hole, but he played really great under a lot of pressure," said Hout.

According to Co-Captain

Kyle Simard '21, the culminating match was most notable from the day even though it was a loss for Andover. He noted that the effort shown by Smyth will push the whole team to reach its full potential next week as Andover will face off against Exeter again.

"I will say Alex made a great comeback which is great news and really impressive, especially when we are going into playing Exeter next week. Ending with that, the team was motivated and this will be beneficial going into next week when we play them again," said Simard.

Hout described the intensity of the match as the team squared off against its rival. He noted that the competitive environment was vastly different from any other match played this season.

"There is obviously a long history between Andover and Exeter, but especially in the last couple holes when we were all watching Alex at the end, [the match] had a different feel to it than any other match we have played this year. It was a really intense environment and that is what you get when you play Exeter," Hout said.

As the team has its final match of the season on the horizon, Simard described the significance of his last match as an Andover golfer and his mentality going into it. He mentioned that the next match will be more competitive than any other this season as he is motivated by the historic rivalry.

"I am just going to try to enjoy my last match as an Andover golfer. I want to go out there and enjoy it and not think too much about it ending. I am going to be sad about it, but I am really excited to play and it will be a fun match. I am not too worried about it getting in the way of my playing, but I am excited to be out there playing and hopefully get [revenge on] Exeter. At the end of the day, I want to win every match, but the fact that it is Exeter makes it mean a little bit more. It is one of the oldest rivalries in high school sports," said Simard.

Andover will face off against Exeter away this Saturday.

GIRLSTENNIS

Brilliant Doubles Performance Highlights Girls Tennis' Victory against Exeter

DAIGO MORIWAKE

SATURDAY	
Andover	7
Exeter	2

A poach by Co-Captain Reimi Kusaka '21 in the final point of her doubles match with Co-Captain Nicole Lee '22 set the tone for the rest of the day as Andover Girls Tennis recorded a dominant display at Phillips Exeter Academy, winning 7-2 away. This win continues the team's undefeated record, bringing its season record to 5-0.

According to Lee, what was key to this dominant win was being able to win the doubles matches which gave the team momentum to do well in its singles matches.

Lee said, "Our team has focused a lot on our doubles games, given that a lot of us before Andover were primarily singles players. Because we do play doubles first, those three matches, it really helps us to get our energy up. I feel a lot more team spirit that we carry on into our singles matches as well. It offers great energy, great fighting spirit—everyone gets really hyped."

Head Coach Deborah Chase believes the focus on doubles in practice paid off on the day of the match. According to Coach Chase, the implementation of new formations was a success.

"I would say that I was most pleased today with our doubles play. We worked hard all week and worked on some new formations. To see the girls push



COURTESY OF REIMI KUSAKA

Andover will look to emulate its strong performances in doubles matches at home in a rematch against Exeter.

themselves and try to implement these new formations and be really aggressive at the net, it paid off and I was really proud of them on the doubles especially," said Coach Chase.

Although experimenting with new formations required some bravery, Coach Chase believes that their performances and results will only improve as the team gains more confidence with more experience.

Coach Chase said, "It's always scary, I think, to try some new things that have been untested in match play, but that's also where we learn... I think the biggest takeaway is [that] we know the strategies, and we're working on the tools, so now, it's taking the risks in the [matches] and continuing to implement the strategies that we know will win. I think the

more matches we play, the better we [will] get."

Looking ahead to the reverse fixture at home, Lee says that one thing she believes the team should focus on is itself rather than Exeter's team.

"I'm really hoping we'll be able to repeat the result that we had and do it again so convincingly. I think we're looking to focus on our own game, not so much worrying about what their lineup may be, or what they'll change, but just focusing on the fact that we've been working on a few things during practice, and really emphasizing that in all our matches, [we make] sure we stick to the way that we each play [because] we know how to win," said Lee.

Andover will face Exeter this Friday at home.



COURTESY OF REIMI KUSAKA

Co-Captains Reimi Kusaka '20 (left) and Nicole Lee '22 (right) comfortably triumphed in their doubles match with a score of 8-4.

BOYSCREW

Andover Boys Crew Looks to Defeat Exeter Next Weekend Despite Loss in Scrimmage

MONISHA KATHIKA

After six intense races rowed by their Varsity 1 and Varsity 2 boats, Andover Boys Crew lost its scrimmage to Phillips Exeter Academy 2.5-3.5.

Going into the scrimmage, Jackson Wild '21, who rowed on the Varsity 2 boat, and John Downing '23, who rowed on the Varsity 1 boat, both felt confident despite expecting tough competition.

Wild said, "Before the race, I was feeling good, I was feeling excited. We haven't raced Exeter in a long time. I know they're a very strong crew and so there's also that aspect of rivalry that was fun."

Downing added, "Beforehand, we were all feeling pretty confident. We were expecting it to be a tough race because we knew that Exeter was fast. But, we felt like we could definitely hold them out and maybe even beat them."

According to William Doucette '23, the Varsity 2 boat's game plan was to maintain high speed throughout the

entire race since the pieces were short compared to the team's typical races. However, because the team will be racing on a longer course in its next race against Exeter, the team plans on altering its tactics.

"Our game plan in general for the scrimmage... was to have a very fast start and then settle a little bit, but kind of maintain a high stroke rate and high speed throughout the entire piece since it was very short. Next week, we will be doing the full race course against Exeter, so it will be a much longer race. I think to kind of prepare for this race we'll have to kind of devise a new game plan. It will probably be a fast start and we'll have to focus on settling down and kind of getting into our rhythm, maintaining that for the majority of the race, and then building that speed up into a sprint at the end," Doucette said.

According to Max Fang '22, who rows on the Varsity 2 boat with Wild and Doucette, the team was successful in maintaining a positive attitude despite their defeat.

Fang said, "I think we did well with not being discour-

aged and always moving on to the next piece with a good attitude and treating each piece like a race... I think everyone kept intensity on every piece and didn't give up."

To defeat Exeter in its next meet, the team must take advantage of its power and execute on race day, according to Doucette.

"I think we've learned that our boat has a lot of raw power, but we need to learn how to polish our technique and harness that power because we have a lot of big and strong guys in our boat, but we are not really using the power we have to the fullest extent," Doucette said.

According to Wild, the team plans on improving its technique and maintaining momentum for the next meet.

Wild said, "[I think we should] keep doing what we're doing [and] try to perfect our technique and our strength. Like I said, if we can hold the speed in the middle of the race and not give up seats then I think we might have a good chance."

Andover looks to face off against Exeter again this Saturday and bring home a win.

CREW

Co-Captain Mia Levy '21 Leads by Fostering Positive Team Culture

SIMI CHEEMA



COURTESY OF MIA LEVY

Mia Levy '21 began her crew career in the seventh grade at a small rowing club in Des Moines, Iowa, where the rowers sometimes could not even fill a boat of four people. At Andover, she has been able to grow, continuing her career as Co-Captain of Andover Girls Crew.

With eighth grade being her novice year, Levy was able to begin her Junior year at Andover in the first boat. In a boat of mostly Seniors, she had many role models, and her favorite memory at Andover comes from a race her Junior year.

"[Junior] year, we raced Kent, and they had beaten us eight years in a row, and we beat them my [Junior] year. We had a really strong boat, it was mostly Seniors, but it was such a good group. I looked up to all of them so much, and when we beat Kent, one of the Seniors in my boat started crying because it was such a big moment, which looking back, it was just one race, but we were so psyched and we'd been working so hard and it was a just a really good race, even without the winning, so that was a really good moment," said Levy.

Being the only Junior in the

first boat her first year at Andover, Levy found great role models in past captains, and hopes to continue their legacy.

Levy said, "The captains my [Junior] year, Lila Brady '18 and Sofie Brown '18, were amazing captains, and especially coming in as a [Junior], I wanted to be just like them. I [thought to myself], 'If I ever got Captain, that's how I want to be Captain.' I think of how they showed up everyday with a positive attitude... talking to people outside of the varsity boat, encouraging new people... The captains from last year, Claire Brady '20 and Eliza Scheer '20, didn't really have their Senior season, and they handled it so well."

According to teammates, Levy has succeeded in living up to her own expectations. Her positive and humble spirit makes practices enjoyable, according to Maggie Satterthwaite '23.

"Mia always has a smile on her face, you can always tell even with the mask. She comes pumped up and truly excited to get out on the water every day. Even on rainy or really windy days, Mia looks forward to each and every opportunity to do what she loves," said Satterthwaite.

As Levy, Sofia Garcia '21, and Co-Captain Emily Warren '21 are the only returning Seniors, much of the team is composed of underclassmen. According to Warren, Levy works to interact with the younger rowers, such as giving them compliments on their technique.

Warren said, "Ever since Mia joined as a [Junior], she was always on the top boat. Through each additional year on the team, I have noticed how Mia interacts with more and more rowers on the lower boats. I think this also comes with the confidence of being a Senior, where you feel more comfortable giving other row-

ers more technical feedback or mental toughness advice."

Levy's interactions with the underclassmen have helped to reset the team culture, and establish supportive core values, according to Garcia.

"This year was really unique in that we had a lot of new teammates, and it was a great opportunity for us to kind of reset the culture, and think really intentionally about the values that we wanted to make a part of the core of our team, and part of that has been decreasing the culture of competition and increasing the culture of support, because no matter what, whether we're seat racing, or doing erg pieces... everyone's cheering each other on, and Mia has been a huge proponent in creating that culture," said Garcia.

On the water, Levy's composition, technique, and power propel the team forward, according to Warren.

"I am a pair partner with Mia, so I sit right behind her in the boat. Every day, I am amazed at how composed she is at the catch. Her blade work is also very efficient since she knows how to slice the blade in the water at the perfect depth to get the most leverage out of each stroke," said Warren.

With one more race against Phillips Exeter Academy left in her final season at Andover, Levy looks to get out of the water feeling happy about the results.

Levy said, "I just want to get off the water feeling like that was my last race against Exeter, my last race at Andover, and I am happy about it, that's all I want. I think the other Seniors feel that way... I really think as long as we try our hardest and make a lot of improvements this week, we'll end up feeling really proud of our race."

Levy will continue her crew career racing at Yale University next year.

Co-Captain Kevin Guo's Leadership is Defined by His Dedication, Patience, and Compassion

JACK ROGUS

After qualifying for the Grand Finals in his Lower year, Andover Boys Crew Co-Captain Kevin Guo '21 has remained an integral member of the team thanks to his work ethic. His love for being on the water with the team has kept him rowing and now as a co-captain, Guo imparts his wisdom of the sport and team culture onto the younger rowers on the team.

According to Jackson Wild '21, Guo's passion and dedication set an example for his teammates and are two of his greatest qualities as a leader.

Wild said, "Crew is a team sport and if one person is not into it, the whole boat feels it. When you see someone like Kevin who comes in every day ready to pull hard and consistently put in the work, it just makes you want to do that all the more. He is a great model for the rest of the team and what many people look up to and try to emulate, which is a great quality for a captain."

Guo believes that this strong team connection and the importance of working together is what makes the team special, and is what Guo enjoys about being on the water every day.

"Part of the crew culture is that everyone knows it is hard and you have to put in the effort if you want the results. I think the team has a lot of energy. It's cool to get on a bus and go to the boathouse, have a good warmup and practice

as well as talk to people outside of campus. I think it is really special because everyone has to put in the work as there is nowhere to hide in the boat, nowhere to hide in the water, and if you are out of time with the rest of the boat you will slow [everyone else] down significantly. Part of the team is that everyone has to be together and work on improving the same things in their boat if they want to get better. Thinking as an individual does not get you very far in crew, and that is something you find out pretty quickly," said Guo.

According to Guo, his love for crew as well as his experience as a rower reflects in the hands-on way he carries himself as a co-captain.

Guo said, "I bring a good chunk of experience that people don't have necessarily in the training aspect of crew. I think that I'm reasonably assertive and hands-on as a leader. I like to be doing the stuff with the crew and not just directing people around."

Despite being an active, rather than a passive leader, Victor Tong '22 notes Guo's admirable patience and helpfulness. Tong believes that Guo's compassion and individualized advice are some of the major contributing factors to the team's success.

Tong said, "I remember one time, Kevin was the boat leader and while we were rowing we weren't that set. However, he didn't get upset and yell at us that this was, 'unfixable,' instead, he gave us tangible advice such

as raising our handle a bit more, keeping the time, [and] overall he was really patient. He made sure that the feedback was directed to an individual in a positive way so that they could grow from it and not feel discouraged. At the end of the practice, we were doing a longer piece and we were able to keep in time and stable, and part of that came from his ability to lead and guide the boat and crew."

Along with his positive mindset and helpful attitude, Guo understands that the time commitment for crew is a big obstacle for many rowers. According to Guo, he has been committed to improving efficiency during practices.

"One of the biggest issues with crew is that we have to get on buses and get there, which burns like 45 minutes and practice is another two hours. It is a big-time commitment and any time that you spend dilly-dallying at the boathouses is time that could be spent back home getting more work done. For example one of the things I've improved is getting oars down. Typically there are six boats, so 48 oars. In previous years there was a free-for-all getting all the oars, which caused some clashing. [But now], I've gotten people to take the oars down one by one in a sort of line. Another thing is that our warmup used to be very long, but I've managed to shorten it down with the other captains," said Guo.

Guo will continue his crew career at Massachusetts Institute of Technology next year.

Girls Crew Co-Captain Emily Warren '21 Utilizes Mental Toughness and Positivity to Push Teammates Forward

CHARLIE FERGUSON

Initially following in the footsteps of her older sister as a high school rower, Girls Crew Co-Captain Emily Warren '21 carved her own path in the sport with the enthusiasm and tenacity she brings to the team. As an experienced rower and a leader on the team, Warren focuses on demonstrating mental strength to encourage her teammates and reach her full potential.

According to Warren, her older sister introduced her to crew and after she began playing the sport in middle school, her passion for rowing has continued to grow. Warren also noted the impact the older rowers at Andover had on her as she began racing during the competitive season in the spring of her Junior year.

"My sister was actually the person who recommended rowing to me because she rowed at Deerfield. My eighth-grade summer I tried it out at my hometown club [and then] when I came to Andover, I tried out crew my [Junior] year. That was the non-competitive season and I had a lot of fun and the Seniors were also really open to talking to the [Juniors] and other grades which encouraged me to continue. [Then], I tried out crew during the spring competitive season. The competitive element makes [crew] more fun because you're actually prepping for races against other strong crew programs. In that way, it also made me a faster rower," said Warren.

According to Allie Chung '23 and Co-Captain Mia Levy '21, Warren demonstrates the highest level of skill along with an energized spirit that motivates the entire team. Levy also noted how Warren is a coachable athlete who always strives to make improvements.

"I think Emily's biggest asset is her friendliness and the comfort she adds to the team environment. It's a given that she's an amazing, strong, dedicated rower, but on top of that, she brings a warmth and welcoming to the role of captain that makes new rowers like me appreciate crew that much more. The team is super large and the sport can be pretty intimidating, so little things like her approaching [me] and inviting me and my friend to dinner to get to know us have really made my crew experience," said Chung.

"Emily is a super energetic and positive presence on the team. She always has something supportive

to say to her teammates and is really great at making friends with younger rowers and making them feel like really important members of the team. She is always super focused in the boat and whenever a coach gives her technical feedback she makes the change right away which is a super important skill in rowing," added Levy in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Warren mentioned that through her positivity, she aims to push her teammates to carry an optimistic attitude while still staying focused on the race.

"I would say positivity is my best attribute. The way you act around other people really influences yourself as well as the people around you. If you are around a group of really excited people, you are automatically going to be more hyped up for a race, so I try to be a really positive influence on my teammates. Before a race, I stay cool, calm, and collected but at the same time having positive energy to get everyone excited for the race [is also important]," said Warren.

According to Aleisha Roberts '22, Warren's consistent technical skills as a rower stand out amongst the team.

"Emily is one of our strongest rowers because of her incredible consistency. Regardless of the seat that she's in, she always backs up the stroke [by] setting a strong rhythm. When she is moved from starboard to port, or into the stroke seat, she has a great understanding of what makes a good stroke, and in that way, she is flexible and reliable. She also has impeccable posture, and her power on the erg translates wonderfully into the water," wrote Roberts in an email to *The Phillipian*.

According to Warren, improving her mental toughness and overcoming fear before races has allowed her to reach her full potential as a rower.

"Mental toughness is one of my strengths. When I started rowing, it was one of the biggest parts [I needed to work on] because I was always afraid of the pain I was going to feel when I push it at the end of a race. So, it would prevent me from doing better at the beginning and I would have a lot of energy for the end. I was scared of feeling tired, but that is something that I overcame through training and telling myself that pain is always temporary. That made me a lot tougher in rowing. I don't have the height advantage that a lot of people do, so I have to row with my heart and my mind without that physical advantage," said Warren.

Boys Crew Co-Captain Holt Bitler '21 Strives to Build Connections Between Lowerclassmen and Upperclassmen

DAIGO MORIWAKE

As a captain of approximately fifty rowers across all grades, Andover Boys Crew Co-Captain Holt Bitler '21 has the difficult job of fostering a team community. Nevertheless, he strives to form relationships between older and younger rowers to help the younger rowers settle in.

"Generally, a big thing is making sure the upperclassmen who already know each other are reaching out to all the younger kids, making sure that they feel comfortable in the team because it's a new environment and everything. Helping lead the older kids into that -- you see someone picking up oars or something [and] instead of going to talk to some of the other kids after practice, you can just go and help them... That was one of the greatest things about the community -- it was all the upperclassmen actually reaching out to the younger kids, making them feel at home. That was what got me into the sport--I just love the community, so I just want to help keep that going," said Bitler.

Although he encourages rowers to manage their time deliberately because crew is a large time commitment, Bitler believes that the amount of time the team spends together makes it easier to forge connections.

"A good part of the time commitment is the bus ride there and back, and that's when you actually start to connect with a lot of the kids, where you're just sitting next to someone. This year, you can only sit next to the

person who's on your pod on the team, but there's other people sitting around you, that everyone starts talking in general on this bus, and it's a great way for people to connect... It's usually a 20-minute bus ride, so that's 40 minutes of sitting next to people and talking to them each day. It really makes for a good community. So I'd say that's one of the bigger factors of why we're so close-knit," said Bitler.

According to Trevor Moss '23, Bitler is someone that is always open to questions, and he has been a friendly and helpful captain from day one.

Moss said, "After the first day on the water, he was the first person I talked to. I talked to him the whole way on the bus ride back. I asked him about the rowing program and just got to know him a bit better. He's very friendly and he's definitely really knowledgeable about the crew program here as well."

Bitler hopes to be an inspiration for his teammates by staying positive even in difficult times.

"Honestly, I hope to inspire them just by maintaining a really positive attitude throughout the season. A lot of crew is about attitude, and it's about having a positive mindset throughout. I'll have tough days, but I think it's important that I still keep a positive mindset whenever I'm there, because I know that there's eyes watching and I want to make sure that I'm being a good leader. I want to make sure that I'm being a good role model for the team," said Bitler.



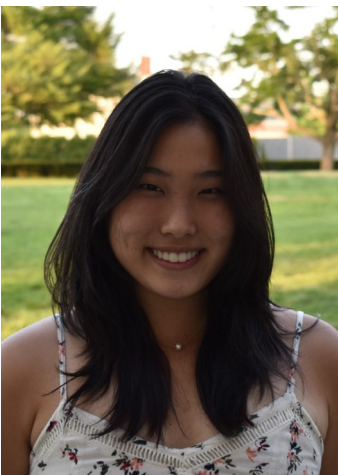
W.DOUCHETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captains Kevin Guo '21 (far left), Emily Warren '21 (left), and Holt Bitler '21 (far right).

TENNIS

Co-Captain Reimi Kusaka '21 is The 'Definition of a Ray of Sunshine'

MONISHA KATHIKA



Y.MANZANO-MALDON
/THE PHILLIPIAN

Tennis has been an integral part of Co-Captain Reimi Kusaka's '21 life since she first started playing nine years ago. For Kusaka, the sport has been a safe space where she was able to explore herself and grow into her identity.

Kusaka said, "I grew up in a predominantly white neighborhood and I was struggling with finding my identity and self-confidence issues a lot. I feel like being on the court allowed me to stand up for myself and because tennis is such an individual sport, I was able to find my identity and also gain a lot of confidence in myself."

According to Kusaka, Girls Tennis Head Coach Deborah Chase has been more than just a coach to her and has been a big support system throughout her four years on the team.

"Sometimes academically at this school and with my abilities on the court, I lost a lot of self-confidence at times. But, I really appreciated Coach Chase because she's always mentioned her confidence in me and my abilities. For me, she's more than a coach and especially being a boarder here, being away from my parents, she was really a second mother for me here since [Junior] year. She's my coach, my

mentor, and my idol," Kusaka said.

According to Emory Wilson '23, Kusaka is an approachable leader and inspires the team through her dedication to the sport.

Wilson said, "Well, she's a very talented tennis player, but she's also really warm and really caring. She cares a lot about all of the players on the team... She pushes herself really hard to be a better player, which I admire her for."

As a co-captain, Kusaka strives to show her support for her teammates both on and off the court. She reflects what her past captains have done for the team and attempts to exemplify their leadership skills.

Kusaka said, "I try to think back on what my past captains would do because they supported me so much my first and second year. I think as captain it's really important to show support for all the teammates both on and off the courts and especially during

Covid-19 times. I thought it was important to show my support and be there for people on the team even if it's not during a match, in general as well. I hope that I've been able to do that well for my people."

According to Elizabeth Zhang '22, Kusaka truly shows her support for her teammates by looking out for them and helping them if they are feeling down.

Zhang said, "[Kusaka is] always looking out for everybody, she's always asking how everybody is doing. In terms of caring, she's just very aware when people around her might be feeling a little down... She's just very cognizant of when one of us might not be in their best mood."

According to Co-Captain Nicole Lee '22, Kusaka's positivity radiates through her leadership and provides motivation for the team as a whole.

"She is the definition of a ray of sunshine, she's always looking on the positive side, and trying to make your day

brighter. She's really supportive as I said, she'll always check in on how you're doing, and she doesn't ever expect anything from you," Lee said.

According to Kusaka, tennis has been impactful in ways that go beyond athletics. Her favorite aspect about the sport is that she's able to be in tune with herself and that she's learned resilience through it.

"I think [tennis has] helped me learn a lot of life lessons. My favorite part about the sport is that it's not timed. I know that there's a countdown for sports like lacrosse or basketball, but for tennis you keep playing until the end. You get to take your own time. I think the most important lesson I learned in tennis is to be resilient in that you can come back from any moment on your own without the pressure of time. That's what I like a lot about the sport," said Kusaka.

Kusaka plans to continue her athletic and academic career next year at Colby College.

Co-Captain Nicole Lee '22 Provides a Constant Source of Positive Energy

TRISTAN MARNOTO



M.WILLIAMS/THE PHILLIPIAN

Girls Tennis Co-Captain Nicole Lee '22 gained interest in the sport once she learned about the combination of independence yet sense of community provided on a tennis team. However, the aspect of the game that particularly attracted her to the sport was the competitiveness.

According to Lee, her favorite part about tennis is the individuality of the sport, as well as the mental challenge that it provides.

"What personally grabbed my interest [in tennis] was the fact

that you're on the court alone and you have to work through that and be very mentally tough. What really continued that interest was that here at [Andover] it's that interesting dynamic where it's an individual sport, but you're also on a team that completely supports you and has your back through everything. Playing at [Andover] is combining a team sport with an individual, and it gave me both of those aspects," said Lee.

Despite enjoying playing alone, Lee also likes playing with Co-Captain Reimi Kusaka '21 in doubles. Lee is 5-0 in singles this year, and she and Kusaka are 4-1 as doubles partners.

"I truly enjoy doubles and have so much fun on the court playing with my fellow co-captain, Reimi Kusaka, so we've been playing together since my [Junior] year. [Doubles] is such a different game, it can be so much more fast paced, more dynamic, and just fun because you're constantly communicating, constantly trying to use formations and new techniques."

According to Elizabeth Zhang '22, one of Lee's greatest attributes as a leader of the team is her constant optimism and approachability.

stant optimism and approachability.

Zhang said, "One attribute that Nicole has is that she's always so positive. When you meet Nicole she's so easy to talk to and she's so bubbly all the time. Being a leader is about having a really positive attitude for the team to raise each other's spirits."

Before each match, Lee approaches each of her teammates and looks to raise everyone's confidence before they take the court. According to Lee, supporting her teammates is an ongoing effort throughout the season.

"In terms of pep talks I try to check in with each player before they go on the court and reassure them to trust in their abilities and in themselves as players because they are all super strong and super talented players. I try to connect with each one of them to offer my support and some encouragement," said Lee.

Lee's interest in Andover began when she saw the positive and caring environment that her sister experienced at school. With her interest in Andover came a desire to play in a team atmosphere, according to Lee.

cording to Lee.

"My older sister went to Andover and she played on the [tennis] team as well. Seeing her be on a team that was so supportive and so unique that you have eight individual players, but you're all working towards a common goal, that really sparked my interests, and made me want to be part of a team because I was missing that only having been playing for myself in the past, and also the community that Andover offers through sports and everything else," said Lee.

According to Lee, when she tried out for the tennis team in her Junior year, she was pleasantly surprised to make the team. Lee attributes her earlier success to the confidence she plays with and the trust she places on herself.

"I was definitely not expecting [to make the team]; nothing is given, on any day you can win or lose, which makes that sport so interesting. I went in with confidence in tryouts at my freshman year, and just knowing to trust the way I play, and with the experience I had back home, I can do it, so I was fortunate enough to win

all my matches during tryouts and make the team, but I definitely was not expecting or assuming that I would make the team," said Lee.

While she began the season without the title, Lee officially became a co-captain near midseason this spring. According to Kusaka, Lee has made a swift transition from being a teammate to her new role as a co-captain.

"The fact that she was able to change her mindset from a team player to also being a captain, I think that in itself says a lot about her and her character. I think that she's just a natural born leader, she cares for everyone and she always has even when she didn't have that title as captain," said Kusaka.

As a leader, Lee hopes to serve her teammates as a source of support throughout the remainder of the season.

"As a captain it's always my goal to make every one of my teammates feel included and supported. I hope that I'm able to be a role model and someone that they can always turn to for support, both on and off the court, not only as a player but as a friend," said Lee.

Co-Captain Aidan Burt '20 Enjoys the "Mental Side of Tennis"

JACK ROGUS



M.WILLIAMS/THE PHILLIPIAN

Competing in numerous regional and national tournaments as a representative of New England, Andover Boys Tennis Co-Captain Aidan Burt '21 spent years working on his technique before coming to Andover. More recently contributing to Andover's Nepsac championship win during his Junior year, Burt has continued

to grow as a tennis player in his high school career. Now as a co-captain, Burt leads the team with his willingness to help others and strategic mentality.

According to Burt, the individual aspect of tennis and strategy-based matchplay are why he loves the sport.

Burt said, "As tennis is an individual sport, it is a lot about problem-solving. There is no one out there on the court, it is just you and your opponent. You have to be calm and collected and figure out in any given match how to apply your strengths to the opponent's weaknesses. It is almost like a puzzle and that individual mental side of tennis is something I enjoy a lot."

Head Coach Leon Calleja notices Burt's calm and collected disposition and acknowledges its value to the team. According to Coach

Calleja, Burt's attitude is also something that the younger members of the team wish to emulate.

"Aidan has stable leadership, very organized, very strategic. [He is] one of the first people to give advice on strategy to other players. He's our number one on the team, so everyone looks up to him in a way that is meaningful. He is a really great model for all the kids," said Coach Calleja.

According to Burt, not only has he served as a role model and leader by example, but his ability to supply his teammates with knowledge and support them with encouragement is a crucial factor of his leadership.

Burt said, "Tennis-wise, I think I have a very good understanding of the game. I always try to help my teammates focus on very specific, targeted things to improve. When my match is over, I walk around

and coach a lot of the players as they are playing. Not only technical advice but ... encouragement too is something that I bring to the team as a captain."

According to Jeremy Liao '24, Burt is someone his teammates look to for guidance and his inclusivity and helpfulness make a significant impact on the team environment.

"I think Aidan is generally really organized, and he knows what he's doing. I think that he's looked at how some of the people on our team play, and he's given helpful advice on things they can improve on [and] things they can work on in practice. So I think that's helped everyone improve their game," said Liao.

More than anything, Burt is satisfied that he and the team were able to experience a season this year. According to Burt, his return to the sport

and personal perseverance through Covid-19 were what impressed him most this season.

Burt said, "I guess, coming back after a long break and being able to resume the grind [is what I am proudest of this season]. Still being able to finish a full season with no injuries and playing the whole time was an accomplishment in and of itself. Especially because after [Covid-19], a lot of places closed down and I wasn't able to play as much or train over the summer. [So], first of all, just being able to play some sort of a season, and second, being able to compete at the best of my ability was an achievement for me."

While Burt is undecided about his collegiate tennis career, he is confident that he will continue to play at least at a recreational level in the coming years.

Co-Captain Mac Katkavich '21 Leads Boys Tennis with Outgoing Spirit and Aggressive Playing Style

CHARLIE FERGUSON



M.WILLIAMS/THE PHILLIPIAN

With a powerful serve, Co-Captain Mac Katkavich '21 moves his opponents across the court while simultaneously motivating Boys Tennis with positive energy. Leading an undefeated

team so far this season, Katkavich has focused on connecting with younger players and hopes to continue to lead the team to more victories.

According to Katkavich, he began playing tennis as a kid in the summer, but his passion for tennis sprouted from his love of geography. He soon began advancing in USTA tournaments and playing competitively in the years leading up to coming to Andover.

"I was always the country club, summer player where I would go to the park or a pool club. I was playing when I was five or six and I really didn't like it as most kids do, but then I had this weird obsession with geography and I remember watching Wimbledon one year when I was 8 or 9 and noticing everybody was from different countries. I then thought I wanted to try the sport out. The athleticism was sort of second to wanting to fulfill my obsession with geography. In the process, I ended up really enjoying the sport. I played a lot of

tournaments when I was younger throughout the USTA and I got to be a pretty good player through that by being in the top 100 in New England. That culminated with me playing lots of tournaments to improve my rankings and to get into Andover," said Katkavich.

According to Head Coach Leon Calleja, Katkavich's best attributes as a captain include his aggressive, controlled playing style along with his contagious enthusiasm.

"Mac has a powerful all around game and is fearless on the court. He also has an incredible positive energy about him such that when he's on his game, he will overwhelm his opponents. And as a lefty myself, I can say that being left-handed makes his skill set that much more devastating on his opponents. He's a joy for our fans to watch play," Calleja wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Katkavich mentioned how his role on the team shifted as he advanced as a player, which allows

him to connect with younger players trying to do the same.

"In terms of the arc that I took on the team, I definitely had to work my way up. I started when I was playing doubles for my entire [Junior] season, so I had to work my way up as the years went on. It gives me a good understanding for talking to kids about where they are on the team, if they are feeling upset that they aren't higher, or if they are trying to work their way up higher. I can definitely empathize with that," said Katkavich.

According to Co-Captain Aidan Burt '21, Katkavich demonstrates confidence in his bold play, which has led to his success on the court. Burt noted his strengths that include speed and creativity.

"He's a very active player. He's very aggressive, takes a lot of his chances, and he's not afraid to go after the ball. On court, he's the one who's gonna take it to you, he's gonna make you run, he will make you get on the defense right away. And I think it's that instinct

to always be looking to move forward, he loves finishing points that way. So in that sense, he's definitely a very crafty player, he knows his way around the court. He's also very fast, very athletic and can get to a lot of balls too," said Burt.

Katkavich described how he works to capitalize on his physical strengths along with focusing on his powerful style of play.

"I am a lefty and I am very tall, so my coaches over the years have made an effort to make sure that I utilize both of those things because they are very helpful assets. I would definitely call myself a pretty aggressive baseline player, I try to attack with my serve, and then use my forehand to move around the court. My biggest strength is definitely being able to hit it hard in patterns that are unknown or difficult for my opponent to hit back," said Katkavich.

Katkavich will be attending Wesleyan University in the Fall of 2021, where he will look to walk on the tennis team there.

Track and Field Co-Captains Reflect on the 2021 Athletic Season with New Covid-19 Protocols

REPORTING BY: ETHAN QI

In a year with unprecedented challenges introduced by Covid-19, the news of interscholastic athletic competition this spring was a special sign towards a more usual season for Andover teams. After only allowing Seniors on campus during Winter Term, Andover Track and Field is now able to operate practices and compete in meets at near full capacity. For Co-Captains Zach Moynihan '21, Lillie Cooper '21, Ayana Alemayehu '21, and Myra Bhathena '22, the changes between the winter and spring track seasons have provided for a unique end to an unusual year.

Lillie Cooper '21

Highlights of the season have definitely been the two home meets that we've had. The first dual meet against [Deerfield Academy] was so fun because it was the first time in almost two years that we've competed outdoors. For a ton of the team, this was the first time they had competed for PATF ever. The girls absolutely killed it, we won 113-31. It was really amazing to see the continued strength and depth of the girls program, especially since we haven't all trained together and competed in such a long time. The ninth and tenth grade meet this past weekend was also a highlight. Competition against [Phillips Exeter Academy] is always special, the energy of those meets are really unmatched. It was great to see the younger members of our team matched up against Exeter's team, and I think it was a great preview for what is to come next week when we travel up to Exeter and compete with them again—it's gonna be exciting for sure.

Myra Bhathena '22

I have always gotten very nervous and stressed before meets before this season because I take track meets very seriously, and I put in so much work at practice that I really want to do well at meets like everyone does. But unfortunately I used to always feel enormous amounts of stress before my races. This season however, I was just simply thankful to be there on the track in my track uniform with my teammates around me. So I was less nervous and just more simply excited, and that's a feeling that I've never really felt before, and I'm super grateful to finally feel that.

Zach Moynihan '21

I learned to appreciate my individual races and events a lot more just because I have so few of them. It was easy in past seasons to take a race or a jump for granted, but now as we wind down and come to the end of the season and the end of my time at Andover, I think every single jump and every single start I have is imbued with this greater meaning that I hadn't felt before. It's also reminded me of how much I cherish those relationships that I have on the team. So sometimes it's easy to get distracted during practices just talking and engaging with fellow teammates, but those times make for some of the best experiences as part of the team.

Ayana Alemayehu '21

This spring track season is a lot closer to the normal track feel. From the community aspect, to us being able to host and travel to off campus track meets, to even the daily practices where we all work together to improve bit by bit as we work towards A/E, I think this season is a lot closer towards encapsulating the PATF feel we were so used to years before.



COURTESY OF LILLIE COOPER

TRACK&FIELD

Andover Boys Track & Field Falls to Exeter 63-75 in Ninth- and Tenth-Grade Meet

CHARLIE FERGUSON

Nick Koobation '22, Daniel Bae '23, and Kiefer Ebanks '23 secured the top three spots in the boys 200-Meter Dash for Boys Track & Field in the close loss to Exeter. Andover hosted Exeter in a ninth and tenth grade meet this past Saturday, losing with a final score of 63-75.

According to Cato Legaspi '22, the rivalry made for an energetic atmosphere and excited the team. He noted that the Blue Key Heads were leading cheers along with spectators watching from the hill above Smoyer Field.

"It was great. You could tell that everyone was excited even though it was the underclassmen meet, ev-

eryone was excited to go up against Exeter. Everyone gets hyped up for that rivalry. It was nice because some Blue Key Heads came out and we had some fans up on the hill. We were working up towards this all week in practice so we were pretty excited," said Legaspi.

According to Bae, the energy pushed the team to perform better, specifically in the sprint events. Despite suffering a defeat, Bae believes there was no clear weakness and the team can build off of the loss.

"The atmosphere was exciting and collaborative. We performed well in a lot of the sprint events. I wouldn't say we had any weakness, but I think Exeter had a really strong distance team," said Bae.

Legaspi described how the upperclassmen utilized their experi-

ence to support the younger athletes on the team.

"Our captains, Uppers, and Seniors were able to teach underclassmen techniques and how to stay calm going into the races because some of the guys were competing in their first meet. Giving them little points before they went out was great," said Legaspi.

According to Nigel Savage '23, there were numerous injuries that affected Andover during the meet. He mentioned the atmosphere during the final relay where both teams lined the sides of the track to cheer for their teammates. Savage noted how Andover will look to build off of the loss and capitalize on Exeter's weaknesses next week-end when both teams face off again.

"Unfortunately we also had a

bunch of injuries during the meet. The biggest highlight for me was the [4x100-Meter Relay] because everyone gathers around the track and watches due to it being the last race. What we are looking forward to next week is to be even more energized and ready to go at them since we have a better understanding of who they are," said Savage.

Many members of the team achieved many individual personal bests after training consistently at specific events every practice, according to Legaspi.

"Some highlights were that we had the top three spots in the [200-Meter Dash.] A bunch of guys got their personal bests. A bunch of people jumped and threw further than any of their previous meets or in practice. I have noticed a lot

of guys improving. I mainly work with the sprinters and have noticed Kiefer, Alex Ewald ['24], and Daniel get faster. All of the younger guys have gotten faster and we have seen them getting more into a rhythm because we have been practicing everyday. Their form is getting better. They run the races smarter. They don't go all out in the beginning and get burnt out at the end. They know how to run smarter races," said Legaspi.

Legaspi described the team goal which is to put in full effort throughout the week leading up to the final meet of the season. Recovering from a hamstring injury, Legaspi believes the team needs to make slight individual adjustments in order to gain a victory on Saturday.

Andover Girls Track & Field Aims to Ensure Fun and Success for End of Season

SIA GANDHI

With four class records and one school record set this last weekend, Andover Girls Track & Field competed in a ninth and tenth grade meet against Phillips Exeter Academy. Despite these records set, Andover fell to Exeter with a score of 55-66, standing at a team record of 1-1.

Although adapting to this competition season has been difficult for the team, Andover has been putting its best foot forwards by creating a vibrant team environment with persevering mindsets, according to Langan Garrett '24 and Caroline Empey '22.

"I think positivity is pretty important because yesterday was [Andover/Exeter] Day so it felt like real competition, closer to what it would have been in a more normal year....I tried to put [the meet] into perspective, trying to be positive and optimistic and not too hard on myself is something that is important," said Garrett.

Empey continued, "I try to stay positive, something our coach has told us a lot is to try and stay consistent, especially in the middle laps because that is where it can get hard, so stay focussed and stay with the girl ahead of you."

According to Charlotte Whitehurst '22 who set an Upper record in the 1,500 Meter, she de-

scribes her training and mentality towards the race.

"The race was really fun because it was great to step up on the line against Exeter. We have not had the opportunity to compete against another team in a while and the Exeter meets are always extra high energy so going into the meet the team was really focussed on wrecking the Ex... It is an Upper record and it is just out of all the Uppers that ran and it was really fun to run against all the kids in Andover and Exeter, it was a great day with the weather and the meet energy was really high," said Whitehurst.

As there are fewer track meets this season due to the pandemic, many of the younger athletes are looking up to the cap-

tains and others on the team to make the most out of the season and ensure that they are getting the most out of the experience as possible.

"I think the optimism and the energy from the captains is really helpful. Especially as a ninth grader, it is really nice to have those people that are more experienced who know what they are doing and kind of help because they understand but it is optimistic and positive nevertheless... I would say probably just trying to make the most of my last meet as a [Junior is important to me] because I will never have another chance to do that. So just trying to have the most fun which I think translates into putting in your most effort," said Garrett.

Looking towards the end of the season, Andover is looking forward to competing against Exeter again, according to Whitehurst. She highlights how the team hopes to channel all the effort put into throughout the entire season for the final meet of the year.

"The track team has worked really hard through the spring and we were all really prepared to race, we have practiced with time trials and we know that we can step up to the line and race really hard against Exeter so as a team, all of the hard work that we put in is paying off and we won the meet which was really exciting," said Whitehurst.

Andover will travel to Exeter this Saturday.

VOLLEYBALL

Andover Volleyball Falls to Exeter in Three Sets

SIMI CHEEMA

Andover Volleyball again fell to Phillips Exeter Academy in three straight sets, bringing the team's record to 1-3 as it heads into its last game of the season. Although it suffered a loss, the team played competitively, according to Henrique Chamon '21.

Chamon said, "In the third set, we were actually up by a lot, it was 7-3 at one point, and then we had the lead up to 10-8, but we were winning the third set for most of the beginning, and then we lost it, but I think having that energy, that confidence, made us play better. Zane was able to get in a nice roll of aces, which helped our confidence, and that was the main thing, when we were more confident in ourselves, we were playing

better."

After a loss in the first set, the team regrouped by focusing on having fun to better its play, according to Sophie Watson '22.

"I think each of our games has been kind of off and on between sets, especially with Exeter when we get ahead. We had a pep talk with our coach after the first set, and [he said] instead of playing to win, just play to have fun because when our team does play to have fun and we're not so caught up on the score, we end up playing a lot better, and everyone's just a lot more communicative, and I think that's how it should be," said Watson.

While the team focused on enjoying itself on the court, Andover did not experience a lack of effort or skill during the competition, according to Co-Captain Jerry Shu '21.

Shu said, "Wendy had this massive hit, she jumped like

eleven feet and hit it absolutely into the middle of the court, and I'm pretty sure left a dent there, and the other team was in shock. Henny served about six serves in a row, all aces. When we feed the ball to Henny, when he's in the middle, he takes out all of their faces."

According to Watson, the team looks to work on its mental game and technique during practice this week in preparation for this Saturday's game against Exeter.

"Especially at Andover, I feel like the entirety of our lives here is about stress, so our coaches do a great job to alleviate that, and when we do have fun on the court, everyone swings harder... I think especially against Exeter, they have really strong hitters this year, and we have [Caleb Blackburn-Johnson '22,] but all of our front row hitters have really strong swings, but if we do

start to get down a bit on points, we tend to start swinging a bit less and tipping more, so just continuing to play hard and not worrying about hitting it into the net, just keep on swinging," said Watson.

In preparation for its final two games against Exeter this upcoming Saturday, Andover looks to eliminate small errors in its play, but doesn't have any major weaknesses, according to Chamon.

Chamon said, "I don't think we have any big weaknesses, it was just a lot of small errors, which are easy to work on, and because Exeter is a good team, it's not like we let them get away with playing badly, they played well, we just need to match that energy when we play them next... I think the main thing to focus on is breaking small bad habits."

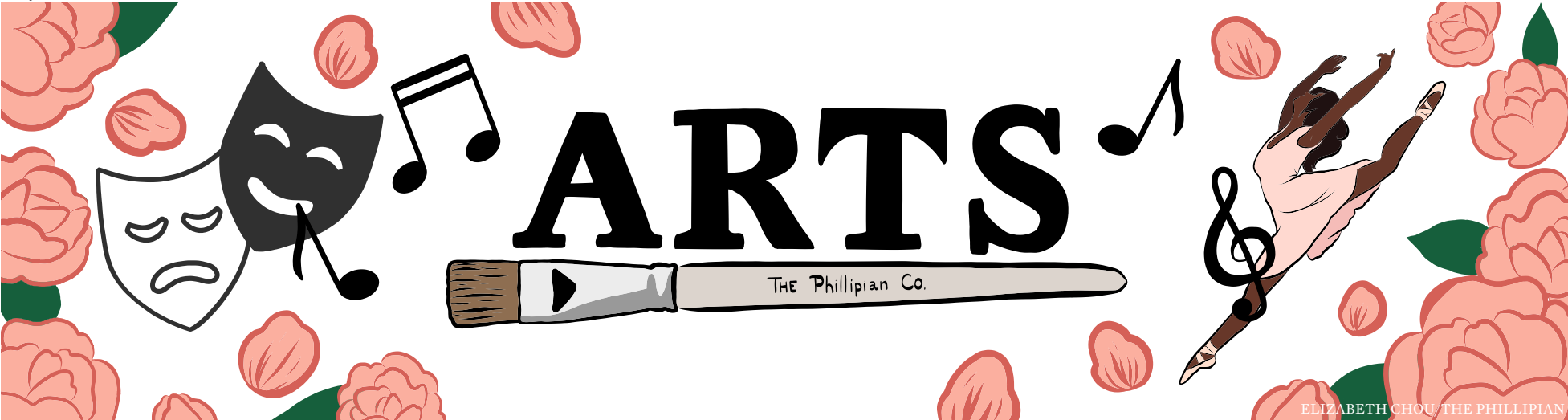
While Andover knows that

Exeter will again be a difficult opponent, playing in front of a home crowd this weekend will increase the spirit on court, according to Sam Rodgers '23 and Chamon.

"I don't think anyone's expecting us to beat Exeter this weekend, but at least maybe get a closer game, because we played them the first time like here a couple weeks ago, we did take a set. So, I mean I guess that's probably the goal, like take a set, I mean we would love to obviously win, but just keep the intensity up, don't kind of relax because it's the last week, and just do our thing," said Rodgers.

Chamon said, "Moving into the final game, it's gonna be at home, so we'll have a lot more energy going into it, and we will be more confident in ourselves."

The team looks to capture a victory in its last games against Exeter at home this Saturday.



The Addison Gallery of American Art Celebrates its Legacy as an Educational Museum on its 90th Anniversary

JASMINE MA & DORIAN PARK WANG

Silver and blue balloons numbered “90” swayed in the breeze as students gathered outside the Addison Gallery of American Art on Tuesday to celebrate its 90th anniversary, with attendees embarking on scavenger hunts and other Addison-themed activities. The Addison also hosted a slew of other events in celebration of its 90th anniversary, including a “Learning to Look: the Addison at 90” exhibit and virtual programs.

“We’ve been planning for the Addison’s 90th anniversary for a long time...[we’re thinking about] how to dig deeper into our collection to tell the story of the Addison and also help people make connections to the Addison collection current, the Addison collection past, and think about where we may go in the future,” said Jamie Gibbons, Head of Education at the Addison.

Established by alumnus Thomas Cochran in 1931, the Addison was founded to be an educational museum. According to Gibbons, while the gallery stands on Andover’s campus, it also welcomes a wide range of visitors such as public school groups, college students, and the general public.

“We have always been a teaching museum, so we think really carefully about how the museum collection connects to conversa-



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

tions here on campus... My favorite [part of the Addison] is being in the gallery with classes and seeing that lightbulb moment when students make that particular connection to a particular artwork... seeing how art can become an entry point into a topic to help people understand things in a new

way,” said Gibbons.

In the spirit of its background as a teaching museum, activities at the Addison’s birthday celebration on Tuesday helped students reflect on the museum’s role in their own lives. Planned in large part by the Addison community ambassadors, students could take

photos, participate in communal drawing, and fill a time capsule.

“[The Addison community ambassadors] planned the time capsule activity for students to think about, not only what the Addison means currently, but what their hopes for it in the future are. The collaborative drawing activity

[was] everyone making something together, and then there’s also the scavenger hunt to prompt people to go inside and do some exploring on their own,” said Gibbons.

Attendee Melinda Zhang ’21 expressed that in past years, she had attended Addison study hours and appreciated its serenity. She also raised an example of watching a performance with friends in the gallery as one of her favourite memories at the Addison.

“My favorite part of the Addison is how it always constantly rotates in terms of exhibits. There are always so [many] new things to look at and new things to explore. I like the vibes and energy and also walking around and looking at the artwork. It’s so cool that we have a museum on campus that’s open to the public and open to us, and I like how we’ll have classes in the Addison and really connect to the artwork,” said Zhang.

Looking to the Addison’s future, Gibbons stated that she was excited to see the Addison’s future in the coming years. With the Addison’s 100th anniversary in 2031, Gibbons expressed hope that the Addison would continue its legacy as a teaching museum.

“I hope that in ten years, people are still making connections at the Addison and finding home at the Addison, and for students who are graduating this year and coming back in ten years for their ten-year reunion, I hope they are finding home in the Addison again,” said Gibbons.

Club Show 2021: Dance Clubs Overcome Difficulties to Celebrate Accomplishments and Build Community

JACKIE LI

Applause and boisterous cheering imbued the Pine Knoll Tent as black-clad dancers shimmed off the stage for a new group to glide in and take their place. The teams rotated in one-by-one, and the excitement grew as the dancers showed off their talent and a year’s worth of hard work in person for the first time. Carolina Tieppo ’24, a dancer for Strypno, a collaborative group with members from both Hypnotiq and Blue Strut, shared her thoughts about the Club Show in regards to the challenges of the in-person environment.

“I think my performance and

everybody’s performance was outstanding, especially given that Covid-19 put the dance world back. Formations seemed so much harder [post-Covid-19] because we were doing all individual stuff at our houses,” said Tieppo.

However, the readjustment to dancing in-person was not the only challenge that many Club Show performers faced. Due to the short notice of the event, many team captains including JVN.E. leader Emily Huang ’21 found it difficult to practice and master an entire dance routine within two weeks. JVN.E. is a student kpop dance group on campus.

“We just got an email saying, ‘This is happening on May 15, do you want to participate?’... And

then I pulled together a piece and taught it. It was very last-minute... The challenge was finding a song in time and being able to learn it in time. We were on a very tight schedule,” said Huang.

Despite the challenges many groups faced, the Club Show went off without a hitch; additionally, it provided a way for many dancers to build connections with their groups as one of the last dance events of the school year. Huang, who was also a dancer in the group Photon, expressed how she appreciated the opportunity to dance and bond with others around her.

“I enjoyed the opportunity to have all the dance groups come together. I did Grasshopper for

the past two years, and it was nice to have everyone here [again.] For my group specifically, I was happy to dance with them again for the last time,” said Huang.

Another dance leader, Ioanna Ninos ’21, agreed with the sentiment of enjoying the gathering of different dance groups and styles at the Club Show. She commented about how it not only contributed to enhancing the dance community, but also the audience’s enjoyment of the performance.

“A lot of different clubs performed tonight. Step, Hip-hop, Jazz, Asian Dance styles... I think being able to see that all in one place and also watching your peers and friends perform is always a great opportunity and

a fun thing to do on a Saturday night,” said Ninos.

The atmosphere of the Club Show was vibrant and welcoming enough to even those who were not familiar with many of the performers, according to Sara Romai ’23, an audience member. Romai discussed her enjoyment of the Club Show despite being unfamiliar to Andover’s dance community.

“I didn’t know too many people in the performances, but I thought they were all great. I also thought the energy of the audience was fun, because everyone was very enthusiastic... I think it [was] an opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate the people who are performing,” said Romai.

‘Using Brain Rather than Just Fingers’: Senior Soloist Lexie Mariano ’21 Transcends Technique to Meditate on the Music

ZOE YU

Dancing her fingers over the piano keys, Lexie Mariano ’21 displayed a sense of composure amidst a flurry of agitated arpeggios and runs, pausing on an F minor chord, only to begin the next passage of soft, still chords.

“My favorite piece is the Chopin Ballade No.4 [in F Minor, Op. 52.] It means a lot to me. It’s one of those milestone pieces where I have always been looking forward to [playing]... Usually on stage, I have a lot of adrenaline that prevents me from thinking [about] past memorization slips and techniques, so being able to convey my emotions through that piece was

a highlight for me,” said Mariano.

For her Senior recital last Sunday in the Cochran Chapel, Mariano performed a program consisting chiefly of pieces from the Romantic period. According to Mariano, her piano teacher asked her to spend more time meditating on the pieces rather than physically practicing, allowing her to focus on the musical details.

“[For] a lot of my pieces, you have to focus and use your brain rather than just using your fingers. I think I am past the technique phase in a lot of these pieces because they have been in my repertoire for a long time,” said Mariano.

Mariano began her recital with Chopin Étude Op.10, No. 3, which begins with a singular quarter

note pick-up into its first lyrical theme in E major. Emma Fu ’21, an attendee and friend of Mariano, noted Mariano’s playing of the first note of the piece as one of her favorite moments of the recital.

“As soon as she played the first note of her Chopin Étude, my heart just opened... I feel like her style overall is very elegant, very particular, and very intentional. So every single note she plays, she has practiced. Every rhythm, every beat, everything is so perfect,” said Fu.

Kurt Meyer ’23, another concert attendee, highlighted Mariano’s “engagement” and “personality.” On Mariano’s playing style, Meyer noted that she presented a dynamic contrast throughout her pieces.

“[Mariano] did a good job of bringing all the attention to her playing and... making a contrast between more light, delicate phrases, and really harsh, loud phrases, and she contrasted those two very well,” said Meyer.

In addition to pieces from the Romantic Period, Mariano’s program also included music from other eras. According to Alana Yang ’21, another audience member, Mariano’s program was very “diverse.”

“I think she played [the pieces] well and had such a diverse repertoire that it did not feel monotonous. It was very well balanced... I think [Mariano] particularly plays everything with a lot of poise and passion, which I really enjoy about [Mariano’s] playing style,”

said Yang.

Since coming to Andover as a new Lower, Mariano has been looking forward to giving a Senior recital. According to Mariano, having worked on all the pieces in her program for the past five years, her resulting familiarity granted her the capacity to perfect her playing instead of learning new material.

“I have worked on these pieces for years and years, and this Senior recital is the culmination of the past 12 years of piano, so I liked how all of my pieces were pieces that I have been playing for a while and could just polish and didn’t have to worry about learning anything,” said Mariano.

Singer-Songwriter Yuping Zhu ’21 Captures Her Andover Memories with Her New EP: ‘High School’

CHLOE KINDANGEN & MAGGIE SATTERTHWAITE

An amalgamation of soft guitar tunes with pop elements create a mid-tempo melody for singer-songwriter, Yuping Zhu ’21, to utilize with her country voice.

Amassing over fifteen thousand plays on Spotify, “Love You Too Fast,” is one of the five compositions in Zhu’s recently released EP, titled “High School.” Zhu noted that “High School” reflects her Andover experience and friendships.

“Music has made a big impact on my life [in] the sense that I used

to be shy and I [not] be able to understand my feelings that well. I’m the [type] of person that has a lot of thoughts at all times. So, music has just been a great outlet for me and a way to [put] words into feelings,” said Zhu.

Although Zhu grew up playing the viola, ukulele, and the guitar, her musical journey began with the piano at the age of three. Zhu started songwriting in elementary school, yet only took songwriting and performing more seriously after eighth grade. Since then, Zhu has released three singles and two EPs. Tracking guitar and piano on “High School” distinguished Zhu’s most recent EP from her

previous works.

“The experiences I’ve had in high school influenced the music that I was writing [and] in turn influenced the experiences that I was [having.] It was this duality in that sense. I think especially making this record being at school has allowed me to reflect so much more and reminisce on the past and stop at certain moments and soak up what’s happening,” said Zhu.

Zhu’s five-song-long EP debuted on May 14, where she worked alongside her producer to write the lyrics for her music and put the harmonies together. Last Friday night, Zhu performed a

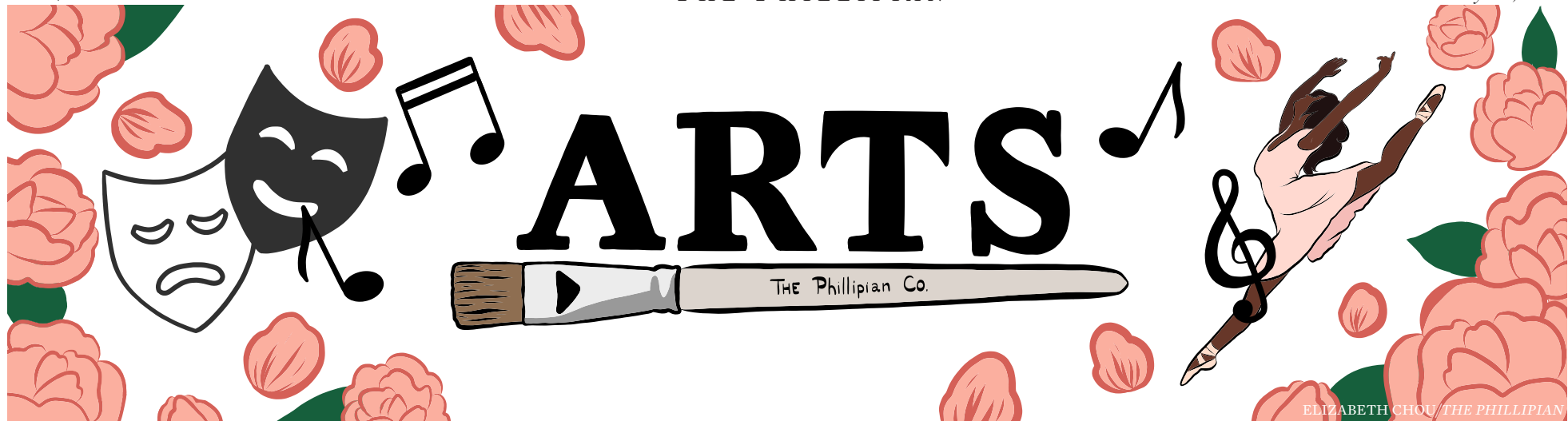
collection of her most recent music and past songs in the Graves Tent.

Zhu’s friend and attendee Maggie Zhang ’21 said, “listening to her songs brings me back to specific memories of Andover—especially songs from ‘High School.’” She references a lot of memories in her lyrics, so they are emotional to listen to. Whenever she releases music, my friends and I all celebrate and blast her songs on repeat, so hearing any of her songs brings me back to those times of joy.”

According to Zhu, she plans to continue music by becoming more involved with the creative

and business aspect of the music industry. In the future, although Zhu doesn’t have any set musical goals, she is considering minoring or double majoring in music at college.

“I think the best thing as a writer is to let yourself live and then sort of write off of those experiences that life sort of takes you on. I hope to take everything wherever I end up going in life, like taking the journey and be able to capture those feelings and experiences and just write a bunch of songs about them,” said Zhu.



Drag Night 2021: A Night of Variety and Celebration

**SARAH HASSANEIN &
CHLOE RHEE**

With dancing, singing, and lip-synching, Drag Night was full of energy from the crowd and performers. The five performers, Dorian Park Wang '23, TJ Briggs '22, Toby Gudinas '22, Nikita Harwich '23, and Karsten Rynearson '22, each had a solo act where they showcased their specialties on the stage in the Pine Knoll Tent. Park Wang shared where they got their inspiration for their punk-song solo and why they decided to change up their clothing from their everyday attire.

"I picked my drag persona, Cherry Bomb, [and it] was inspired by the 90s Riot Grrrl Punk movement. And I chose it because recently, I've been listening to quite a lot of punk music. And I thought that it'd be a good opportunity to show that side of me, because usually when you see me around campus, I'm wearing blazers, I'm wearing button-up shirts with slacks. And so I thought it'd be a good opportunity to sort of flip that image on its head and put my hair up and pink liberty spikes, and just really go wild with it," said Park Wang.

During the almost 45-minute show, there was a lot of variety offered by each of the five participants. All of them had different drag names, clothing, as well as unique performances for Drag Night. Briggs commented on where he initially got his drag name, "Sunny Side Up" and the inspiration behind his "1950's housewife" attire.

"A friend came up with it [Junior] year when I was looking for a name to match my love for the color yellow. I think Sunny is a crossbreed between a 1950's housewife, a glamorous old Broadway diva, and a circus clown. I've always been inspired by the effort and glamour of women, and for a long time, I've been obsessed with the idea of doing womanhood "wrong." That's why it was so fun to perform a song about a woman on the edge of falling apart," said Briggs.

With the audience's clapping and cheering that could be heard throughout each performance, they created a very energetic atmosphere in the Pine Knoll Tent. According to Gudinas, who performed as "Man Fieri" with a lip-syncing and dance combo, he was impressed with how positive the crowd was during his first time performing in a drag show.

"It was really fun just to be on stage and dance around. It felt like I was on a high and every time I did something, the crowd would cheer and it was like, 'Wow, I'm a person, I'm performing and people like this. And I'm having fun.' And it just felt like dancing in my room except with an audience. And everyone else liked it, too," said Gudinas.

As Gudinas noted, Drag Night offered a space for the performers to express themselves. Inspired by an Azealia Banks song, Harwich picked her drag name to be “Count Contessa.” She reflected on the night and shared why she wanted to be a part of this event and celebrate her identity and her creative side.



“I’ve always loved makeup and dressing up. And [Drag Night] was, I think, a really fun time to

just kind of celebrate my queerness and also just celebrate that creative side that I haven't really

had too much time to explore and other places," said Harwich.

First Sketchy Show of the Year Backed by Improvisational Preparation

**ZOE YU &
DORIAN PARK WANG**

Draping bed sheets across the overhead lines to create their backstage in the George Washington Tent, Sketchy transformed what was normally a dining venue into a theater. Wearing an undersized Hooters tank top and dog ear headband, Ethan Weinstein '23 crawled on the floor and bellowed in a deep hoarse voice, impersonating Yukon the dog as Hormone Monster from the Big Mouth TV series, sending the audience into raucous laughter.

"There [are] a lot of on-the-fly instances where if you looked at this yesterday, we were not put

together at all... [Co-Head Loulou Sloss '22] was wearing this shirt, which was why it was two sizes too small for me. She was like, "Throw it on". Those moments of last-minute [preparation], that's my favorite part... I think people liked it a lot more because [the show was] on the go and energetic," said Weinstein.

Students packed into the George Washington Tent Saturday evening to watch the first and only Sketchy Comedy Show of the 2020-2021 school year. According to Sketchy Co-Head Mac Katkavitch '21, they had not finalized their group for the year until a few days before the show, contributing to the show's improvisational energy.

“The highlight was definitely just getting to know all these people that I have met four days ago. And they have all learned all of these sketches very quickly and they really put themselves out in a way I was not expecting to, because they are all freshmen who have never done anything like this before” said Katkavitch.

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, Sketchy had not put on a show since the Winter Term of the 2019-2020 School Year. As a new Lower, Alex Schoonmaker '23 found his first Sketchy show hilarious and cited Weinstein's impersonation of Yukon as his favorite part of the show.

“[I thought it was] very funny... The dog one by Ethan Weinstein.

I really liked it. His voice deepened, and that was very good," said Schoonmaker.

Sloss stated that some transgressive elements of Sketchy's show contributed to the success of the show. She expressed that audience reactions differed from her expectations, but still indicated an appreciation of the show.

"I think that people really liked the outlandishness of it because a lot of the things were more [shocking] than they were [funny] so people did a lot more gasping than I was expecting. All in all, I think it was pretty good, and we touched on taboo subjects people didn't want to touch on," said Sloss.

Despite the group's efforts to

incorporate social commentary in their performance, Katkavich noted how sexually charged jokes were likely to obtain the strongest audience reaction. According to Katkavich, the two most receptive acts, "Loulou Gets a Job at Hooters" and "Yukon Speaks", did not pertain at all to social commentary.

"We wanted to pick and choose our moments to make any sort of social commentary, like 'take some hedonism'... we definitely tried to make a wide range of topics. However, we are naive each time because we always put so much effort into making these clever little one-liners, but all everybody laughs at are dick jokes," said Katkavitch.

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