

Finis Origine Pendet: Recipients of 2021 Andover Alumni Award of Distinction Celebrated at ASM

BIANCA MORALES & VERA ZHANG

Honoring alumni who have made ‘significant positive impact on their communities, society, or the world’, All-School Meeting (ASM) this past week featured three alumni who received the Andover Alumni Award of Recognition.

The recipients included Ming Tsai ’82, a nationally-acclaimed chef, as well as host and executive producer of Simply Ming, a public television cooking show, William Lewis ’74, an economist and philanthropist, currently serving on the boards of several education and nonprofit institutions, Dorothy Tod ’60, an award-winning film editor, producer, and director who worked closely in directing

popular children’s show Sesame Street.

With each of the ASM speakers sharing insight for varying job fields and life lessons, some students found resonance from their speeches. Fred Javier ’23 appreciated the diversity of the speakers and their unique success stories.

“I really enjoyed the ASM, especially having the speakers as an integral part of the ASM. I liked their more chill and human, personal messages that they had that went a long way. I also resonated a lot with Ming Tsai’s story in career path, the idea of pursuing your dreams and persevering as well as being kind and doing what you love. Although he mentioned the message may sound like a cliché story, I was very entertained and I wouldn’t mind hearing it again,” said Javier.

In an interview with *The Phillipian*, Tsai shared his advice on staying true to yourself while chasing your dreams, reflecting back to his transition from a mechanical engineer to a professional chef. According to Tsai, his career path to success was embedded from his gut feeling to become a chef and the love he had for cooking.

“It’s so cliché, but it’s so true. You have to follow your dreams and your passions. You will never be good, forget about great, at something if it’s not something you really want to do. When I got to Yale, I was a good Chinese boy. [I was going to be] an engineer. And I did fine in the classes, so I just took engineering, as many classes as I could. But,

Continued on A5, Column 1



L.OSPINA/THE PHILLIPIAN

To celebrate Día de los Muertos and to honor family members and community members that have passed, Alianza Latina set up an *ofrenda* in the lobby of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library this week. Alianza Latina is the affinity space for Latinx-identifying students on campus.

Andover Hosts First-Ever GSA Ball

JACQUELINE GORDON & ALLY KIM

More than 30 years ago, students first started the Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) to acknowledge gay students and faculty as equal members of the Andover community. Although the group was initially titled Gay-Straight Alliance, the name evolved over time to include the wide range of gender identities and expression embodied by Andover community members.

GSA’s role on campus is to help create a community that supports students in their gender and sexuality identity development and at times call out oppressive practices or thinking, according to Corrie Martin, Instructor in English. On Friday, October 29, GSA presented Andover’s first-ever GSA ball.

From 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., many attendees danced and listened to music, some wearing suits, dresses, or halloween costumes. The Mural Room was decorated with banners and streamers, providing a colorful backdrop to the film photographs that were taken. A few members of Blue Strut, Andover’s audition-based jazz dance group, participated in the event and presented a short performance of “Womanizer”. Karsten Rynearson ’22, a co-head of GSA, elaborated on what inspired the first GSA ball on campus.

“I am really happy how this turned out. After the student-faculty mixer at [the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archeology] in the fall, we really enjoyed seeing the outfits that people put together for that so we thought, ‘Oh, we should throw a formal event,’ and the idea was born. I am so glad that it came together this way, seeing the community gather. These moments of joy, especially going into a difficult week of the term feels really nice. I am really happy to do this and see everyone here. It feels really good to know that all the organization has paid off,” said Rynearson.



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Above, Samuel Phillips Hall decorated to celebrate GSA (Gender and Sexuality Alliance) weekend.

Highlighting queer identity,

history, and culture, GSA Weekend hosted many other celebratory events in addition to Friday’s ball. On Friday, there was an Addison Gallery of American Art tour which looked at works by Lew Thomas, Donna-Lee Phillips, and Hal Fischer. GSA also hosted an art and writing workshop on Sat-

Continued on A5, Column 4

Ben Perez ’23 Provides Haircuts for Peers

ASHLEY AGYEMAN & AVA CHEN

Last spring, with limited access to outside campus due to Covid-19, students were unable to visit barbershops for haircuts. Ben Perez ’23 had a simple solution. He would be the barber. The first students on campus to receive Perez’s haircuts were his own dormmates in Stuart House.

“Charles Murphy [’23]—he was in my dorm, [and] we’re pretty close friends—he was the first person who trusted me to give him a haircut, and then he actually really liked it... after that, people saw that I would give him a haircut, and then my other friends who were in the dorm, they were like, ‘give me a haircut now, you know I want a haircut,’ so then eventually that’s how it went around,” said Perez.

Perez credits his mother, YouTube tutorials, and his background in art for helping him to hone his skills in haircutting. He feels that many of the techniques he uses in drawing overlap with haircut styles, such as shading with a pencil and fading, a haircutting technique that gradually transitions skin to hair through layering.

“My mom is a hairstylist, so she kind of taught me how to cut my own hair, like watching YouTube videos, looking in mirrors, stuff like that; I used to do it in my bathroom, so that’s

how I started... People will walk around with my work—I feel like haircuts are kind of like a piece of art in a way—especially as I like to draw, and I’m an artist. Shading, [and] stuff like that, that you do in drawing... definitely translates into haircuts and making sure that there isn’t too much contrast, you know where can you make it darker, where can you make it lighter,” said Perez.

His own experiences of not being able to get a routine haircut due to the inaccessibility of barbershops prompted Perez to start giving haircuts to other students who are also in need. Perez started inviting his friends to find him if they needed haircuts.

“I know how it feels when you need a haircut, especially for people who are used to getting a haircut every two weeks. I mean going a month without a haircut, two months without a haircut, it really brings down your self-esteem and confidence. So then I went to my friends [and said], ‘hey if you need a haircut, let me know, I know how to do it,’ so my friends will come through and get a haircut,” said Perez.

Perez stated that he usually cuts short to medium hair and can do haircuts such as fades and line-ups.

“Usually, I do short to medium hair; I don’t really know that

Continued on A5, Column 4

Mask Protocol for Halloween Dance Faces Difficulties

CHRISTINE LEE & EVIE WOOD

Alongside Abbotween, pumpkin carving, horror movie screenings, and other Halloween festivities, Andover held its annual Halloween Dance. A collaborative effort between both the Pine Knoll and Flagstaff clusters, the Halloween Dance was hosted on Saturday, October 29 and had cobwebs lining the walls, an inflatable spider hanging above the gym, and a DJ taking student song requests. The colorful crowd of basketball players, fairies, zombies, and various other costumed students congregated on the dance floor. Alongside their devil horns and cat ears, participating students were required to wear masks.

According to Flagstaff Cluster Co-President Kennedy Ndiaye ’22, the dance was initially scheduled to occur outdoors in a tent. However, the cold and rainy weather led administration to bring the dance

indoors and into Borden Gym. With the event indoors, faculty asked that students wear masks for the duration of the dance. Teacher at the entrance handed out masks to students without them.

In partnership with the Flagstaff Cluster, Pine Knoll Cluster Co-President Chase Reynders ’22 worked as a part of the team to organize the event. He explained that the dance’s mask mandate was the result of positive Covid-19 cases on campus and close contact tracing. Along with Ndiaye, Reynders stated that it wasn’t clear who made masking mandatory as it wasn’t decided by Pine Knoll and Flagstaff Cluster Councils.

“Masks were required because of some positive Covid cases and close contacts. We decided to be indoors because of the cold and the rain. I’m not sure who made the final call,” said Reynders.

According to Mia Abou-Ezzi ’25, many students, however, did not follow safety protocols and remained unmasked even

as the DJ and other faculty members stopped the music to remind students to keep masks on. Abou-Ezzi expressed her lack of surprise, as she expected that students would not wear masks.

“There [were] a lot of [masks] down. And then the [DJ] had to keep on reminding us to pull [them] up... I was kind of expecting it because it was a hot room and there was a lot of kids in there and everyone was dancing and screaming and singing, so I think it kind of makes sense, but I think... people should have been wearing masks, because it was so many people in this small room,” said Abou-Ezzi.

Curiosities still arise as to whether future dances and large events this year will be held indoors, as the mask mandate proved unsuccessful during the Halloween Dance. According to Ndiaye, it is unclear whether the Covid-19 protocol for the Halloween Dance will be the same for future dances this term and this year.

Brace Fellow Dorian Park Wang ’23 Analyzes Trans Monster Metaphors in Cinema

CISCO HERNANDEZ & JENNY JIN

Examining trans monster metaphors in cinema, Dorian Park Wang ’23 shared a Brace Center for Gender Studies presentation on trans “monstrosity” in Hollywood. Park Wang recounted the prejudiced portraits of queer people in old movies and analyzed three metaphors of the deprivation of queer people’s identity in film: “Frankenstein” (1931), “Psycho” (1960), and “The Silence of the Lambs” (1991).

Stemming from the question “What is a monster?”, Park Wang looked into the adjectives associated with depictions of monsters. The descriptions fell into two major categories of interior adjectives, such as “scary,” “cruel,” and “queer-coded” and exterior adjectives, like “mutated,” “deformed,” and “ugly.” Observing how these



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Dorian Park Wang ’23 utilizes classic horror films as case studies into “trans monstrosity” in Hollywood.

traits are illustrated in the film industry, specifically old-Hollywood, Park Wang developed the theoretical framework of the presentation: The Grotesque and The Abject.

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Commentary, A2

Returning Home

Claire Cheng ’25 reflects on the unique challenges that going home over the weekend presents for boarding students at Andover.

Eighth Page, A8

You Don’t Need to Graduate to be an Alum

You can donate anyway! More ways to be a good former student on A8.

Sports, B3

Powered by Perseverance

Charlotte Whitehurst ’22 sets new Deerfield course record despite rainy conditions, leading Girls Cross Country to its fourth consecutive victory.

Arts, B8

Look of the Weekend

This issue’s LOTW features students’ outfits from this weekend’s GSA Ball and Halloween dance.

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Editorial

Grades Matter. Now What?

As the term ends and finals week is just around the corner, perhaps it is worth reminding ourselves that the grades listed on our report cards do not determine our self-worth or possible development as learners. But as any student would know, saying that grades don't matter is more wishful thinking than reality. That leaves us with the big question that students must learn to grapple with over the four years at Andover: what do we do about grades?

First and foremost, we want to express that grading is more complicated than a simple numerical quantity associated with student performance. Sometimes, how students are graded can be composed of arbitrary means. Take, for example, Andover's 'faculty lottery,' the random teacher assignment process that occurs within each student's course selection. Teachers in all subjects vary widely in teaching style and grading systems. The lack of cohesive standards across each department makes it harder for students to understand what is expected of them and easier for many to be subjected to an unfair grading scale. Some teachers—without a strict curriculum to adhere to—may even neglect to include key elements of the learning process in their personalized syllabus, largely hindering a student's opportunities to grow and improve. With vast grading disparities across departments, many students feel as if they have no choice but to 'cheat the system' in a desperate attempt to improve their learning experience. According to the 2020 "State of the Academy," 45.9 percent of the student body attempted to switch teachers to obtain a better grade, while the statistic was 39.5 percent in 2021. In a situation where students have to rely on chance to end up with a satisfactory grade, a greater problem to be addressed within the school system rather than the student's competency itself is revealed. A numerical grade is largely dependent on a teacher rather than reflective of the student's performance itself.

However, simply understanding that "the number doesn't matter" is not enough. For students, especially Seniors in their Senior Fall Term, while a grade is not indicative of a student's worth in their totality, grades do matter. To ask students to simply not think about grades would be asking them to ignore an obvious truth. As teachers ask their students to prioritize their learning over the grade they receive, instructors must also remember that the

number on the report card is not reflective of this learning and growth; it's indicative of quantified success. Further, for students who have spent a pretty good chunk of their time being, in some way, shape, or form, the best, trying to shake off the urge to quantify our performances is easier said than done.

So, what must be done? Those who read our paper might often mistake our editorials for a written rant from angry board members of The Phillipian. While we often reserve space for rage in the editorial, we write this piece in hopes of presenting alternative modes of grading and assessing student performance in class. One direction to look at it in these considerations is Andover's experimental learning project—The Workshop. The Workshop spans over Spring Term, in which Seniors can learn in a non-graded format. Essentially, students have the opportunity to undergo nontraditional, collective learning. While The Workshop requires students to apply and only have limited space, it is worth considering how this nontraditional, non-graded format of learning can also apply to classes in general. Getting rid of grades isn't that radical. In fact, with large numbers of Seniors applying for The Workshop every fall, there is a positive and eager reception to the possibilities of non-graded learning. Another possible alternative is to associate the numerical grading scale of 1-6 with standards of growth and mastery, rather than say, a 6 ranging from 93-100. Some teachers at Andover already implement this system, creating a rubric of different standards a student can attain in a certain skill: beginning, approaching, proficient, and advanced.

At the end of the day, wishful thinking or not, there is so much of a student that a numerical grade cannot possibly encapsulate. As members of the Andover community—a school known for its intellectual vitality and rigorous curriculum—we must put in the effort to evaluate ourselves in a more holistic approach, even if that means betraying tradition and confronting the ugly truth.

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

The Emotional Burden of Going Home

CLAIRE CHENG



COURTESY OF PANET

INDEPENDENT, mature, and self-subsistent. These are the attributes that come to mind when I think of a boarding school student. However, in truth, we are all still in our adolescence; we rely on the love and care of the adults in our lives to, essentially, hold us together. We all want to go home every once and a while, wishing that our caretakers could pick us up and cook us something home-made. But when we consider the consequences of going back, is going home for long weekends really worth it after all?

Returning home invokes a

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

persistent fear of missing out as friends that remain on campus mingle; it breaks an established, on-campus routine; and

it prompts new waves of homesickness. As a student who has the option of returning home to New York over the long weekends, I believe that the benefits of going back for short periods of time do not outweigh the mental

though I know that I don't have to be present at all these events to have a social life, it still causes unnecessary stress that offsets the comfort that home offers.

Leaving campus also changes my whole routine, forcing me to

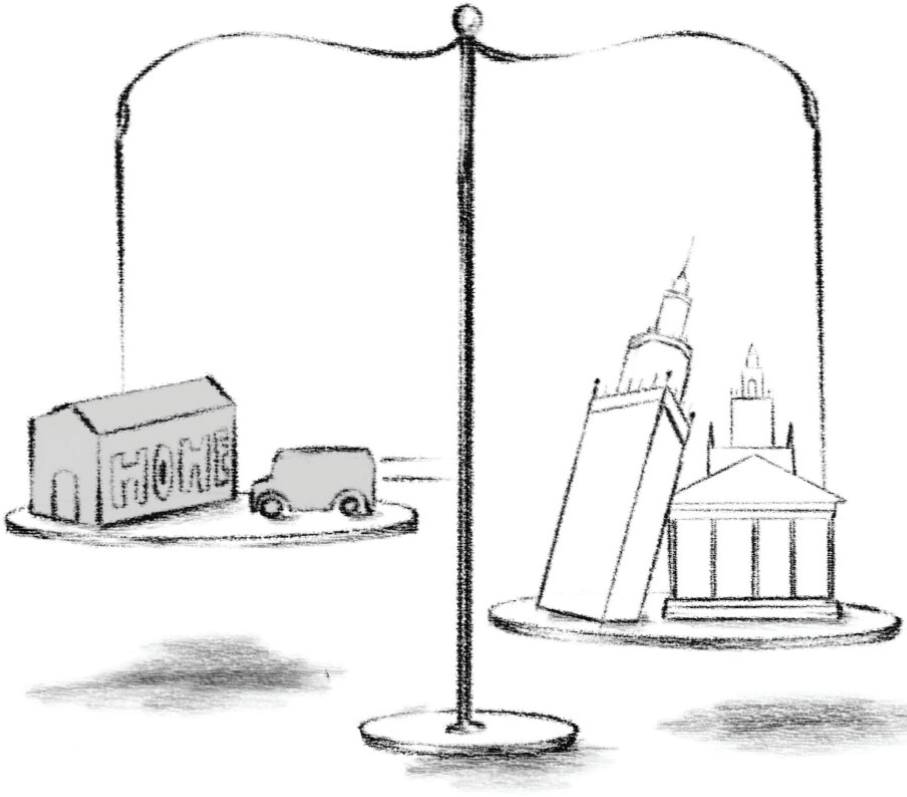
environment, and after getting so used to life on campus, going home throws in so much unnecessary stress as it becomes more difficult to complete my weekend workload. There were so many things that felt

where it almost ruined my weekend.

Leaving home for the first time was hard. Even though I'm accustomed to the way of life on campus and enjoy it, when I went home I realized how difficult it would be to return to school again. The process of packing my suitcase, getting in my parents' car, and driving away from home invoked an unanticipated wave of homesickness. Being in New York reminded me of the luxury of talking with my family face to face, and in turn, makes the whole process of leaving home so much more burdensome. The whole process of leaving is inevitable, and thus inevitably leaves me weighed down and homesick.

Being a mere four hour drive away from my house is nothing in comparison to the twelve hour flights some kids on campus have to take to even get a taste of home. Nonetheless, four hours is still a lot of time that could be spent on social life, homework, studying, or sports here on campus, and going home just to worry about school is pointless. Returning back is a luxury I'm grateful to have, but at the same time, for every reason I want to go home, I have so many more reasons to stay.

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VICTORIA NAKAWEESI / THE PHILLIPIAN

strain it entails.

Every Thursday, The Weekender comes out with events that have the potential to create unforgettable memories with friends on campus. Even if they don't turn out to be all that they are advertised to be, the thought of being absent as these memories are created lingers heavily on my mind while trying to enjoy time at home. Al-

adapt to a new schedule to continue my work. When I drove back for parents' weekend, I realized how unproductive my bedroom at home had become. I used to be able to knock out hours of work at my desk, but as I sat myself down to start doing history, I could not focus for more than five minutes. Any of us would struggle with adapting to the new (though not really)

different when I went home, like not having the resources I'd usually have, not being able to use my go-to study spaces, and encountering the distractions of home. These factors prevented me from doing work and consequently, made me more stressed. I could only focus on everything I'd have to catch up on back on campus, to the point

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What is Art?

JONATHAN JI



Merriam Webster defines art in two ways: something created with imagination and skill that expresses emotion or beauty, or a work created by an artist. Why, then, are video games and anime viewed as different from other mediums of storytelling and expression?

When I was in middle school, I had a difficult time admitting that I watched anime or played video games, sometimes outright denying that I did. I did not want to be associated with the stigmas of unhealthy obsessions and a shut-in lifestyle. Further, I feared that this interest would be taken less seriously, and although I have noticed

less ostracization at Andover, these stigmas still persist. With notions that animation fans are “nerdy” or “otakus,” these stigmas unduly divert attention and detract from artistry in these mediums, stifling artistic expression as a whole.

The sound tracks are just as beautiful or intense as they are in films. The story is engaging and the lore and worldbuilding can be just as extensive as any Marvel movie.

Anime is film. Anime conveys familiar messages in

an unfamiliar way. Anime is commonly dismissed for one of two reasons: it’s considered immature or pure children’s entertainment. The animated and often cartoonish aesthetic of anime can be deceiving, though. Anime is a medium that has been able to tackle the most gritty and sensitive topics than any other I have come across. Shows often comment on human nature or societal structures, such as racism and poverty, wrapped in a fanciful story. The break in reality provided by the animated quality and fictitious premise work as a stop gap when dealing with these topics and makes them more palatable and digestible. When anime is adapted to live action, it loses its animated charm and ability to engage these topics in the same way. Fittingly, live action adaptations do not see the same attention that the original does. Video games also often

aren’t perceived as art. However, similar to films, video games tell a story. Film combines elements of plot, visuals, and music to connect with the viewer. Video games achieve this same effect, combining the same elements with the addition of input from the player. The sound tracks are just as beautiful or intense as they are in films. The story is engaging and the lore and worldbuilding can be just as extensive as any Marvel movie. When another layer of game design is added atop everything else, video games become an even more engaging storytelling device than film. Being able to interact with the world creates another layer of immersion that film simply lacks. A great deal of this artistic value is neglected in societal views of video games. It is difficult to view art in a vacuum. When we take a step back and look at the place of video games in society, we also

When entire categories of art are left unconsidered, gems of creativity and craft remain buried. It is a disservice to those who may enjoy it and to art itself.

see the culture surrounding it. There is frequent conversation about video game addiction and predatory business models in the video game industry in the media. While these are conversations that should take place, they are like a haze that shrouds the art in video games, one that dismisses the artistic validity of video games.

When entire categories of art are left unconsidered, gems of creativity and craft remain buried. It is a disservice to those who may enjoy it and to art itself. No matter how alt-culture something is, no one can dismiss it as not art. “Don’t judge a book by its cover,” is a cliched but pertinent phrase. We must approach all mediums of art with an open mind, not only avoiding judging them by their covers but also preconceptions.

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REBECCA YANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Hot Takes

Lasagna is, quite frankly, a type of cake. Structurally, it has the dough/flour-based layers, as well as the semi solid sauces, such as tomato sauce—the inner cream and filling. Lasagna also has toppings, such as cheese and the occasional dried parsley leaf, which serve as the frosting and decorations on the top of a cake. What more do cakes have?

Alice Fan '23

I don't think that the green boxes were that bad. They were convenient and you could drop them off in a bin by your dorm. They got your food a little soggy but so do DoorDash and GrubHub.

Grant DeHoog '25

I know it's getting cold, and that college in your northeastern hometown (or the one California school you visited on your way to Hawaii one winter) makes a pretty cozy sweatshirt, but please, for the sake of the seniors, maybe put them away for the next couple months. We are very stressed about the college process, and being unexpectedly reminded of the school I am applying to can sting. It's no one's fault (except the dang College Board) that it is this stressful, so please don't feel bad about your past gr-outfit choices. All I ask is that, until early to mid December, your switch to the Black Dog Cape Cod crew neck or maybe rep the school we all know and love, Exeter.

Loulou Sloss '22

Posey Beckwith '24

Beds should be clean at all times. We sleep in them, and sleeping in someone else's or our dirt is gross. We should stick to rules to keep our beds clean. First, no street clothes, no shoes. Second, always shower before you get in bed. Finally, you should be pretty much the only person allowed on your bed.

It's called a water bottle... we all need a wake-up call. Caffeine is not going to cut it in terms of staying healthy and awake, even if it's readily accessible in Commons. Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to go make my double-packet mix coffee.

Jaeho Lee '24

Recreational space travel is unreasonable. The money going to extraterrestrial projects would be of better use if redistributed to help people actually on earth. Recreational space travel, such as Elon Musk's Blue Origin program, uses individualism in a way that gives certain people with immense economic capital a “once in a lifetime experience” while doing nothing for the greater global community.

Kiran Ramratnam '22

RAINA YANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Spiders Are Alive Too



Nikki Giovanni’s poem, “Allowables,” starts, “I killed a spider/Not a murderous brown recluse/Nor even a black widow/And if the truth were told this/was only a small/Sort of papery spider/Who should have run...” Sitting on my bed, my eyes traveled to the end of the page and the words started to blur.

As my eyes drifted off the page and up the side of my radiator I noticed a brown house spider, about two millimeters wide. It was simply living on its web, but that infuriated me.

Why am I, as a human, more important than a spider? Why do I feel as though I can decide whether or not to end a life?

What right did it have to be in my room, my space? I picked up an old shoe and smashed it. I washed my hands, climbed back into bed, and turned to the

next page. Giovanni continued: “...I don’t think/I’m allowed/To kill something/Because I am/Frightened.”

I was taken aback. It was a simple spider, why did it matter? Then, it hit me. Why am I, as a human, more important than a spider? Why do I feel as though I can decide whether or not to end a life? We shouldn’t kill spiders due to their benefits of preying on smaller household creatures, but also because exterminating an animal simply because we view it as insignificant promotes belief in human superiority.

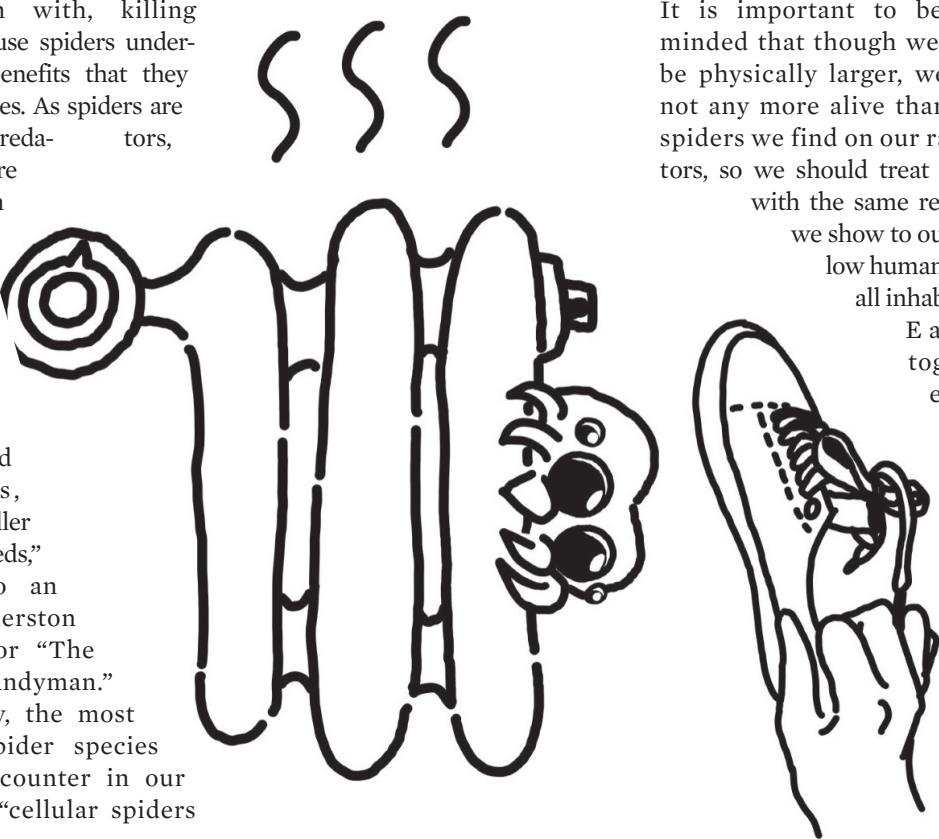
To begin with, killing common house spiders undermines the benefits that they bring to homes. As spiders are natural predators, they capture pests within houses, preying on indoor insects such as “cockroaches, mosquitos, earwigs, and sometimes, some smaller moth breeds,” according to an article by Kierston Hickman for “The Family Handyman.” Additionally, the most common spider species that we encounter in our homes are “cellular spiders

(also known as daddy-long-legs), cobweb spiders, and brown recluses.” These common household spider species all capture their prey with webs. When these spi-

ders decide to create their webs, it indicates that there is an abundance of prey in a certain area. Killing spiders therefore destroys the preventative solution to festation of other bugs in the surrounding environment. You are indirectly leaving more bugs in your home by killing the harmless spider on your radiator than by leaving it alone.

Additionally, humans are no more alive than the spiders we kill. An organism is an individual life-form, which includes

ings on the earth. As a result, we also feel as though we have the right to decide whether these non-human animals live or die because we view them as inferior and unnecessary additions to our lives. We believe that the consequences of our decisions against non-human animals, no matter how harmful, are trivial, as long as it benefits us. Analogous to the narrator in Giovanni’s poem, many humans decide to kill animals out of fear and are undisturbed by the consequences their actions have on the animals themselves. It is important to be reminded that though we may be physically larger, we are not any more alive than the spiders we find on our radiators, so we should treat them with the same respect we show to our fellow humans; we all inhabit Earth together.



MICHELLE FANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

plants, animals, and single-celled creatures. Though many of us know we are organisms just as spiders are, we still believe that humans are the most significant be-

Next time you decide to kill a spider, think about the self-centered view of humanity that you are perpetuating. This concept, anthropocentrism, or a view of humans as more significant

than other animals, gives us the false sense that we can decide which lives we can and cannot take, simply because we perceive other lives to be small and insignificant relative to our own. But we are simply different from spiders, not superior. Just as we humans have evolved to our own specific environments, other creatures have, too. Every organism, from the birds we

Every organism, from the birds we hear in the mornings, to the trees we see in front of Sam Phil every day, has a part to play in their ecosystem.

hear in the mornings, to the trees we see in front of Sam Phil every day, has a part to play in their ecosystem. So do spiders. We need to stop viewing non-human animal ecosystems as “others.” They are not yet another part of the earth that we, as humans, can exploit and manipulate, nor are they a resource that exists simply for our benefit. When you see another spider on your radiator, put the spider outside of your room. It will find somewhere else to go, and at least it will have a chance to survive.

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“Do You Like Anyone?”



The last thing I was aware of as a freshman during an online, Covid-19-filled year was relationships. It wasn’t until 2021’s “National Girlfriends Day”—during the summer—when I scrolled through my friends’ Instagram stories, realizing they were and had indeed been in relationships throughout the year. According to the 2020-2021 State of the Academy survey, 15.3% of the school population had a committed relationship last year. Just last week, I posted my own poll on Instagram—“do you like anyone?”—and received these results: 61 percent yes, 39 percent no.

Thirty-nine percent is no small number. That accounts for 28 individuals (out of the 71 Andover students who voted) in the same position as me. Yet, we’re in the minority. In society today, dating occurs as early as high school. If you don’t like someone, you are viewed as “missing out” on a big part of high school. And to me, I feel like the odd-one-out, latching onto societal trends later than everyone else. I imagine others in the same position. Why is there a natural tendency to associate not having feelings for anyone as negative?

One potential explanation could be—ahh the cliché phrase—peer pressure. You and your friends sit together during lunch, and the inevi-

table question pops up: “Hey, do you like anyone?” We’ve all been there before. Regardless of your answer, the follow-up questions flow in. If your answer is a yes, the goal of the day will be to discover who that special person is. If the answer is a no, you will encounter denial, doubt, and disbelief. It is no longer a “who don’t you like?”—but a “why not? How? Really?” These instinctive reactions tell us that liking someone has become natural, even though our natural state is independent of everyone else. I would argue that we are born without feelings for someone, and that liking someone is, in fact, an emotion that develops over time. In other words, rather unnatural.

The very inevitability of the question “do you like anyone?” suggests the heavy dependence on romantic ideals in our time. Romance is discussed in a wide range of media and settings—literature, music, school gossip, and even within a family. In this state of mind, not being romantically interested in someone restrains what you can reso-

Why is there a natural tendency to associate not having feelings for anyone as negative?

nate with.

A second, less obvious explanation is the pressure put onto yourself, by yourself. Personally, I feel mediocre at Andover. I don’t wear nice, meticulously planned-out outfits. I seldom go to public events. I don’t know that many people. I don’t have

those Netflix shows to talk about. I get average grades,

do I envision it to be like? And what do I think my role in that



CLARIS SHIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

and not that many passions to expand upon, no big dreams to pursue... or else why would I be writing about high school relationships for a school newspaper. I’m just a 15-year-old trying to get through high school. I consider myself average, awkward, and slightly boring initially, traits which society has told me are unlikeable. In turn, I tell myself that the chances of reciprocated feelings are low. As expected, in this case, I will most likely not like anyone either.

Here’s why we should normalize not having feelings for anyone: we are all focused on different things. Ask yourself two realistic questions—If I do get into a relationship, what

relationship will be? Personally, I cannot imagine myself

Here’s why we should normalize not having feelings for anyone: we are all focused on different things.

maintaining it. I have a hectic schedule (as I am sure all of us do), and not the best or most-effective time management skills to accompany it. On an easier day with no assessments, my biggest goal is to get my homework in. On a normal day, I’m in the library during lunch, cramming that

last French vocab in. In reality, Andover stresses me out. I am rarely in the mood for anything that won’t “help me get my homework done,” neither having the time, energy, or willpower.

The outcome: a focus on only school. I think this is shared within the Andover community. At Andover, it’s normal to zoom through our days, rushing from one class to the next, one club to another. Sometimes, you happen to develop feelings for someone along the way. But amid life at Andover, it is unreasonable to expect that we will.

Being single, or even just not liking anyone, is natural. While it is widely viewed as negative, there’s also a whole lot of advantages. You get to focus on yourself completely, not having to adjust your schedule for others. In China, November 11 is equivalent to Single’s Day. People celebrate this day by going on shopping sprees with huge discounts. The nature of the celebration reminds us of our individuality, letting us know that there is nothing “wrong” with being by ourselves. We’re still young. We’re changing. Now, that being said, if anything exciting ever does happen, I personally will not hesitate to embrace it. Maybe, just maybe, I’ll be able to get a glimpse of what the 61 percent from my poll (do you like anyone?) experience... or maybe even the 15.3 percent from SOTA (are you currently in a relationship?).

Gloria Chen is a Lower from Germantown, Tennessee. Contact the author at ychen24@andover.edu

Park Wang Shares Metaphors Illustrating Transphobia in Film History

Continued from A1, Column 5

“The Grotesque, I defined it as a body defined through sights of abjection or orifices and convexities through transgression of life and death and individual collective boundaries. The Abject is sort of built on this previous notion of The Grotesque so it’s defined as the specific reaction or the response to a grotesque figure,” said Park Wang.

Park Wang then delivered three metaphors that illustrated transphobia in the early film industry and how they showcased themes of Grotesque against Abject. The Frankenstein metaphor is located in surgical procedures as transgression and modifications of one’s body. The Skin/Clothes metaphor elaborated on how shedding of clothing is portrayed and utilized in films, focusing on the reorientation of bodily topography, according to Park Wang. For each metaphor, Park Wang used clips from classic horror movies to show the lack of acknowledgement of the queer figures in the industry.

“We see this dramatic shedding of clothing to reveal some sort of ‘sexed truth.’ As we saw this, this sort of response to it that is of shock and fear, for that abject—the trans character. And in this scene when hollywood-men comes in all guns ablazing, metaphorically, and sort of strips Norman Bates of this exterior gender presentation—this is a reveal, this is less

of an invitation for the viewer to identify with Norman Bates but rather a sort of movement of the audience into the place of the viewer that is meant to be horrified, that is meant to be shocked,” said Park Wang.

Park Wang continued, “In these old films, we see a lot of these gender nonconforming figures, we see a lot of these queer-coded figures, threatened with violence. We see queer characters just go through really traumatic experiences without even an verbal or outright explicit acknowledgement of their queerness, and it is the silence that really exacerbated from the ’30s to the ’60s by the Hays Code.”

Dr. Marissa Schwalm, Park Wang’s former English instructor and Brace fellow faculty advisor, took note of the amount of effort that Park Wang has put in for the presentation. She was impressed by Park Wang’s intricate ideas and abilities to transform research on films and gender into a larger conversation for the Andover community.

“This has been a tremendous amount of work, research, watching movies, reading endless theory both in terms of film studies and beyond. And so I think it’s really fantastic to see how Dorian has taken this idea that’s really intricate and involved in the written piece... and was able to translate it to a larger conversation for us so that we can see how those intersections are really present in our lives,” said Schwalm.

Darla Moody ’24, resonating

with the presentation and personal experiences, expressed that the topic on queer monstrosity in cinematic productions is essential as many people ignore it when watching films.

Moody said, “I do know for a fact that a lot of the cis-people around me have not and probably would not agree to go to this presentation or watch it because they’re the ones who get me to watch these movies full of transphobia saying like “oh this is a great movie, it’s a classic, it’s great you should watch it, let’s watch it together.” And then I am sitting there uncomfortable and they’re sitting there chilling. So it’s proof we need these presentations to exist to bring this topic to people who it doesn’t affect personally.”

Similarly, Sakina Cotton ’24 regarded the topic as essential and appreciated the fact that Park Wang made the thoughtful and profound discussion easily comprehensible for the audience.

“And I think that the degrees that Dorian covered were really in depth, but delivered in a way that was easy to understand. I thought it was just a profound point in what messages are being portrayed and is a great critique of what the Hollywood industry has ingrained in the media that it publishes,” said Cotton.

Editor’s Note: Dorian Park Wang ’23 is an Arts Associate for The Phillipian.

Tsai, Lewis, and Tod Share Life Lessons Gained from Unique Success Stories

Continued from A1, Column 3

in the back of my head I knew that I wanted to be a chef,” said Tsai.

He continued, “Your gut never lies. Your gut doesn’t get any bias from anywhere else. I loved the hospitality. I loved making people happy through food. A good price, a big smile, a delicious thing, it’s an awesome job. That [idea] was always at the back of my head as something I really wanted to do, and I’m good at it.”

Lewis shared a sentiment on giving back to others, a philosophy Lewis formed from receiving educational opportunities with financial aid. Growing up, Lewis lacked financial security that many of his peers had, thus prompting him to return the favor once he was in a place to do so.

Lewis said in an interview with *The Phillipian*, “For me, I went through the ‘A Better Chance’ program, which means that somebody, somewhere, paid for 100% of my education at Andover, and then at Harvard college. And I felt that it was my duty to basically start giving back as quickly as possible, that was

my number one. And number two, [I wanted to] figure out how to create and expand opportunity. And that has been sort of the basis of my philanthropy for the last 50 years or so, figuring out how to expand opportunity.”

Dorothy Tod ’60 spoke about her job experience as a film editor, producer, and a director. According to Tod, directing Sesame Street enabled her to explore the world and learn about balancing between the message she wants to convey and the logistics in the film.

“Working at Sesame street, in a way, I saw the world. I got to go to a desert, a jungle, and see African animals. I had a wide range of environments that I was able to explore through the process of filming there. I ended up with a library of footage and then I was able to make the film. [During the process], you learn about what the media roles are for the culture, and that was pretty interesting for me to see what worked and what didn’t,” said Tod.

She continued, “When you do media and it ends up airing in a significant way, you really learn how the culture is put together. There is always

this tension, discovering what works, what doesn’t work and where you fit in with what you believe and what you think. That was something I had to grow and learn through during my career.”

According to Kiran Ramratnam ’22, the ASM helped her gain perspective on life after Andover and reflect on the opportunity she is given. Ramratnam finds significance in the privilege of attending Andover for its resources and opportunities that go beyond her current experience at Andover as a senior.

“It is really cool to see how Andover alumni moved forward with their lives after leaving this place. I feel like at Andover, it’s easy to get caught up in just being at this school, but not really how [the resources provided here] can impact their later lives. It’s honestly such a privilege to be at a school with such resources. Things here feel like they’re the end or they’re everything. But there is so much more. I am existing in Andover right now and I am a student here, but I will leave this place to go on and do other things, and [that’s] important too,” said Ramratnam.

Andover Aims to Find Homes for Student Belongings Through Lost and Found System

JENNY JIN & CATHY MA

In a white plastic box labeled “United States Postal Service,” a dark blue winter jacket and a notebook sit, waiting to be claimed. This is the lost and found box in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL), where library staff collect items that are forgotten by their owners. Once found, the items are placed in the bin for students to retrieve them.

Emily Goss, Access Services Librarian at the OWHL, takes care of the lost and found items. According to Goss, a variety of items can be found in the lost and found bin, including chargers, calculators, and AirPods. If items

are found with student names on them, the librarians will contact the student in order to return their belongings. However, in most cases the items are unlabeled. Unlabeled items kept in the box and later transferred to the Dean of Students Office.

“Unfortunately, the majority of the items we received don’t have names or any way to know who they belong to. In those cases, we keep the items for a few days, maybe a week (depending on when it is found). About once a week, one of our work duty students brings all the items in both our Lost & Finds to the Dean of Students Office. Once the items go to the Dean of Students Office, they become part of the school’s general Lost & Found,” wrote Goss in

an email to *The Phillipian*.

At the Dean of Students Office, located in George Washington Hall, more lost items fill the clear plastic bins shelved in the storage closet. The shelves are lined with water bottles, clothes, and other forgotten items from around campus.

According to Claudia Scofield, Manager of Information Services for the Dean of Students, the office organizes the items and informs the entire school about the lost and found at the end of the school year. If items are left unclaimed, they are donated by the year’s end.

“About two weeks before the end of school, we email all the students. We let them know to come look in the lost and found, come look through the items, see what you can find. We try to take all of the items that can be hung up and put them on the racks so it’s easier for kids to look at them. And adults, because sometimes adults lose items too. And if after the end of those two weeks, nothing—things aren’t claimed then we donate them,” said Scofield.

However, the office doesn’t donate all unclaimed items. The more valuable items are saved and the office tries to contact students again the following year to return their belongings.

Andover’s First GSA Ball Encourages a “Snazzy” Dresscode

Continued from A1, Column 3

urday, with a Brace Fellow presentation concluding GSA weekend on Monday.

Many student attendees felt the ball was a success. Ella Kowal ’25, who decided to attend the event after receiving an email from GSA, believed the event to be supportive of everyone’s identity and promote individuality.

“I thought it was great. Everyone seemed really free to express their most authentic selves. Plus, the music was good too... I would definitely participate in this type of event again, especially because you get to dress up in a way that makes you feel great,” said Kowal.

Although no specific dress code was required, the PAnet news notice mentioned the dresscode to be “snazzy” and open to interpretation. Attendee Serafina Shin-von Nordenflycht ’25 enjoyed seeing other attendees’ outfits and appreciated the dress code’s open-endedness.

“I liked it. I think it is really amazing how they could do this,

even at [Paresky Commons]. For GSA weekend, there are rainbow cupcakes and [Samuel Phillips Hall] is dressed up and it is all super amazing. So, I am loving it... [The Mural Room] is not super hype which I kind of like. The last few dances I’ve been to have had many mosh pits, but this seems more chill. It has some awesome music, so I’m happy... Everyone looks amazing here,” said Shin-von Nordenflycht.

Corrie Martin, a coordinator of the CAMD Scholars Programs, helped organize Friday’s ball. Martin expressed hope for the LGBTQIA+ community despite historic discrimination, highlighting the group’s resilience and resistance.

“The wave of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, hateful rhetoric, and increase of physical and even deadly violence against our community happening nationally cannot repress our dignity and humanity. Throughout history, our community has survived and thrived, we speak out, fight, and yes, we continue to have parties,” wrote Martin in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Students Show Appreciation For Ben Perez’s Haircuts

Continued from A1, Column 5

much... I could do little pieces of work, but mostly fading, fades, line-ups, I could cut a little bit off the top, [but I stick to] short to medium hair,” said Perez.

Murphy received a haircut from Perez last spring and expressed his satisfaction with the result and recommended Perez to other students who are in need of a haircut.

“It was an amazing haircut, one of the best I’ve ever received. And when he’s giving you a haircut he blasts Bachata, which is cultural, Hispanic music and it’s amazing. It’s a lot of fun.... [I recommend Perez to other students] 100 percent. Yeah, he

gives some really nice cuts,” said Murphy.

Another recipient of Perez’s haircut, Adrian Morrison ’23, was also impressed by Perez’s work. Morrison described Perez’s haircut as good as some of his previous barbers.

“I was really happy with the whole experience. I went to the common room of Foxcroft and just relaxed while he did his thing. We put on some music and were just talking. At the end, I was actually surprised at how good the cut was. He’s definitely as good as some of the older barbers I’ve had cut my hair in the past,” said Morrison.

Editor’s Note: Adrian Morrison ’23 is a Copy Associate for The Phillipian.



COURTESY OF BEN PEREZ
Above, Ben Perez ’23 gives a haircut to a classmate. Many students who received haircuts from Perez lauded him for his haircutting skills.



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN
Above, the lost and found box in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL).

WILLIAM RAVEIS

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COURTESY OF @DEREK.JACOBY
Above, the back entrance to Stimson House, showing off the colorful fall foliage.



A.NEAL/THE PHILLIPIAN
Above, the Richard T. Greener Quadrangle illuminated by Wednesday's sunset.



L.OSPINA/THE PHILLIPIAN
The Addison Gallery of American Art, pictured above, is one of the few spaces on campus that still requires masks after the campus transitioned to Green Zone.

Seniors Comment on Last Week’s Senior Boat Cruise

REPORTING BY JULIA FOX & BIANCA MORALES

On October 25, the class of 2021 traveled to Boston and sailed around the harbour as a part of the annual Senior cruise tradition. Although proms have previously been hosted on boats, the senior cruise tradition primarily started in 2016. Members of the graduating class celebrated the opportunity to socialize with their peers and take a break from the stress-inducing college application season.

Seng Meng ’22:

I think that it was a really great chance to dress up and really take in the fact that we’re Seniors. Personally I felt it kind of kicked off the Senior energy, it was a very good opportunity, it was a really nice vote. There was catering. I don’t think we’ve ever had a chance to really come together in one venue and do something, so that was awesome.

Emma Jing ’22:

The boat cruise was super fun, and I’m really grateful that they did this for us. My only thing is that they put it at a pretty inconvenient time for Seniors since most of us were rushing back or couldn’t make it because of college visits. It was also a Monday night, so I know a lot of us crammed our homework after the cruise. The dance floor also gave middle school dance energy.

Kiran Ramratnam ’22:

My favorite part was getting to do something fancy with other people, with friends, getting to feel special and celebrated. It was definitely a shock, I did not expect it to be that fancy, as it was, but I felt that the deans put in a lot of planning to make sure that we could have a senior cruise this year, even though we’re returning back for the first year.

Yariana Manzano-Maldonado ’22:

I think my favorite part was dancing with my friends, and I forgot which song came on but we all knew the lyrics so we started singing them out. We were all stressed, you know, writing everything and it was a nice time to let it all out.

Mary Muromcew ’22:

I thought that the energy was really good. I thought that it was a nice break from the stress of college. I think that people were not having super high expectations but I think our expectations were all exceeded.

Eshu Venkataswamy ’22:

Many of us were just dancing on that one floor in the middle of the boat. There was a DJ there and they played a lot of good music... I had fun. This was probably one of the best events so far.

Andover Students Advance to Semi-Finals of S.-T. Yau High School Science Awards

WENDY WANG &
ANGELINE ZHAO

After months of research on topics of their choosing, six Andover students qualified for the 2021 USA Regional Semi-Finals of the Shing-Tung Yau High School Science Award competition. Founded by Harvard mathematics professor Shing-Tung Yau, the research competition encourages high schoolers from around the world to explore and conduct research on specific areas of science and mathematics. These areas include mathematics, biology, chemistry, computer science, economics and financial modelling, and physics. Over 5,800 teams of students compete for the award each year.

William Yue '22 and Nathan Xiong '22 each conducted research on mathematics. In the field of computer science, Michael Huang '23 and Claire Wang '23 worked together while Dongcheng Han '23 led an independent research project in machine learning. Shawn Guo '23 qualified in the economics and financial modeling section. On Saturday, October 30, the five semi-finalists presented the results of their research to a panel of judges, followed by a Q&A session.

In his independent project, Guo studied optimizations of airline flight strategies. His research was inspired by Covid-19, which caused travel restrictions and lower flight demands that he had personally experienced. Guo's personal connection to the topic led to his project's goal: discovering the best method of minimizing airline costs.

"Last spring, when we all went remote, I couldn't go back to China because there was just no ticket for me. And then I saw on the news every day how the airline companies lost money, and I just thought that this topic would be really relevant to me, and I wanted to look at what really happened... My topic was how to optimize the arrangement or the assignment of plane models and flight routes, so how to assign planes to different routes in pandemic times," said Guo.

After participating in the competition during the previous year, Xiong entered this year independently. He was initially intimidated by the amount of information he had to address in his project in mathematical physics, but he had fun with the challenge.

"It seems very scary at first. I know that I was pretty scared at the start because there's just so much out there that you have to read and understand... it's a lot of reading articles, textbooks, looking through background material, trying different ideas, seeing what doesn't work most of the time," said Xiong.

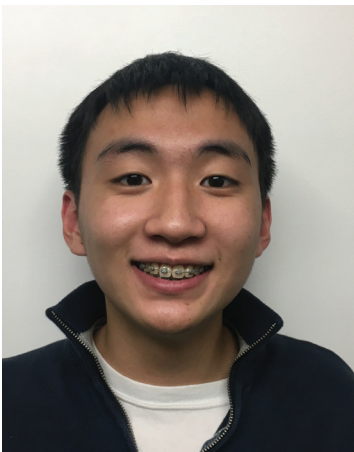
Xiong continued, "This year, I'm individual, which is a lot harder and a lot more work. Like when you're in a group, I'd say it's more fun because you can work with your peers and stuff. Individually, you have to rely on yourself as well as your mentor."

A unique aspect of the S.-T. Yau Science Award is the present element of teamwork. Unlike some other research competitions, students have the option to register either as groups or individuals. Yue, who competed in a group with Sebastian Zhu '20 and Vincent Fan '20 two years ago with a theoretical computer science project, found benefits in having many ideas and diverse perspectives within a group. This year, Yue worked on another group project in low-dimensional topology and noted that working as a team made the research an easier and faster process.

"I do like the group dynamic of being able to bounce ideas off of other people and then just having other people there to motivate you on your work. And sometimes I don't see the crucial finish or some other idea that cracks open the problem and one of my group mates will see it," said Yue.

On the other hand, Huang recognizes that working in groups presents a set of challenges. According to Huang, teammates may disagree on how to work on the problem at hand or have different ideas about what the final research paper should look like. Working through those differences and coming to an agreement is an important skill that Huang learned.

"We are co-authoring this paper, and obviously there will be disagreements. Our interests are quite different, so we sometimes separate work into separate parts. And

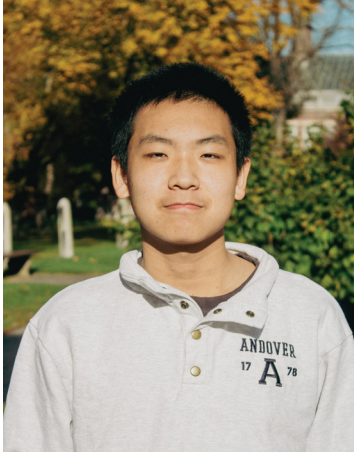


A.NEAL/THE PHILLIPIAN
Will Yue '22 has worked on both math and low-dimensional topology research.

stitching them together sometimes can be difficult," said Huang.

Xiong spent months studying complex areas of mathematics to understand how researched information might be used to reach a conclusion about his research topic. Often, his hard work led to dead ends. Despite this, he considered the many roadblocks he faced in the research process to be impactful components of the learning experience.

"I think the hardest part of research is just persisting, because there's a lot of times where... you try a lot of different techniques that just don't work, but you always have to remember that there's that one tiny chance that the next thing you try magically works. I think it's having that mindset, so you're anticipating that you're going to fail... because I know that there's a tiny chance that it will succeed,"



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN
Shawn Guo '23 qualified for the awards in the areas of economics and financial modeling.

said Xiong.

The S.-T. Yau Science Award provides an opportunity for students to learn about and develop skills in scientific and mathematical research. Beyond this, however, the award program provides students with the chance to meet other high schoolers around the world who are similarly interested in STEM research.

"Research has been fun. I'll probably do some more as an undergrad in college... It's fun meeting [people] in person... [and] seeing all the other motivated high schoolers doing cool research projects and learning what they're about," said Yue.

Editor's Note: William Yue '22 is a News Editor for The Phillipian.

Class Bells Removed for the 2021-2022 School Year

ASHLEY AGYEMAN &
GUILHERME LIMA

The loud class bells that announced the transitions between classes across campus during the 2019-2020 school year are now gone. According to Rajesh Mundra, Dean of Studies and Instructor in Biology, the change was made due to inconsistencies in the bells across campus and feedback from faculty members.

"This year, we started to recognize that class bells are really inconsistent around campus—some buildings have them, other buildings don't. Some buildings where the class bells go off, they go off really loudly, and it's kind of like a shock. In others, it feels a little bit more natural. So we just wanted to try not having class bells in our regular schedule," said Mundra.

Mundra continued, "We heard from faculty on both sides, some were like that's such a better way to sort of end class instead of like a jolt, and other teachers said that they actually like that structure, and we like the signal because sometimes I get lost with what I am talking about and get lost with time. We just decided to try without class bells to see how it would go."

While the Dean of Studies office has not heard huge opposition against the removal of class bells from faculty, they have made efforts to address possible difficulties from the absence of class bells, such as offering clocks in classrooms to faculty.

"I think where it gets difficult is if faculty don't end class on time, then I have heard that it makes it more challenging for students to make it to their next class. So, I think that I have heard a

couple of just feelings of frustration around that. We have offered to any faculty if they would like to get a clock in their classroom or some sort of reminder when class will end. They can have their own internal alarm in class—they can do that—and a couple of people took us up on that, and did get clocks," said Mundra.

Some faculty have shown positive reactions to the withdrawal of class bells, as they have often disrupted the flow of class discussions and prompted students to start packing up. They have stated that the removal of class bells has allowed for a more respectful ending of classes, according to Mundra.

"I have also heard of faculty saying that it's nice not to have bells, it's just kind of a smoother way to end class, especially if somebody is in the middle of a discussion, or making a point. I think in the

past when the bell rang, even if there was a discussion going on, people would start to put their bookbag on and stuff like that because they knew it was the end," said Mundra.

Patrick Reilly, Instructor in English, also found that class bells are disruptive and agreed with the change. Reilly reported feeling confident in managing class time even without class bells.

"They're kind of loud, too much noise to direct where I'm going... I feel pretty confident in managing time [without the class bells]," said Reilly.

Other teachers, such as Elizabeth Meyer, Instructor in Classics and Chair in World Languages, gave neutral opinions regarding class bells, with no particular preference. Unaware of the reason behind the decision at the time of the interview, Meyer believed she did not have sufficient information to have a defined position.

"Class bells sometimes interrupted class. This year, my phone alarm interrupts class about as often as the bells did... I don't understand the decision, so I don't feel I have enough information to agree or disagree," said Meyer.

Angela Chen '23 also felt indifferent towards the change, but was initially surprised about the removal of class bells.

"To be honest, I guess I'm a little bit surprised that the bells are being removed because classrooms usually have bells... I don't have an opinion on class bells. I think they were helpful because they reminded us when class starts but I didn't see the point of why they would get rid of it. Usually, I would be going to a different class in a different building, and you wouldn't be able to hear the bells outside

when you're walking to class anyway," said Chen.

Nolan Goldthwaite '22 believed that class bells do not have a large impact on the duration of classes and preferred the absence of bells.

"Honestly, I think teachers are going to hold class over a bell or not no matter what. I had times where a bell would ring and the teacher would say 'Hey, give me a couple more minutes' and you stay because you're not going to leave your teacher. But now, because there is no bell, there is no hard interruption in the class so you don't realize the teacher is going over and you stay more engaged. You're not packing your bag while they're going over something that might be important. So yes, I think without bells is better," said Goldthwaite.

John Latham '23 shared a similar sentiment as Goldthwaite and believed class bells were unnecessary. Latham also felt that class bells created a slightly more stressful atmosphere, with its contrast of free time and class time.

"The bells were a little unnecessary because people, for the most part, either had a good concept of when their classes were or knew their time frames for how long a class would be, so they didn't really need the bells because of their phones... I think the anticipation of the start of class was a little stressful with the bell—just a little bit, because it sharply contrasts the difference between free time and class time, while it's more of a merge now. It's more of the teacher's responsibility to merge the class into a learning environment, rather than free time," said Latham.



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN
Like many academic buildings on campus, Pearson Hall, pictured above, no longer has class bells to mark the start and end of each period.

Write for News!
Email jchyu23, egoncalves23,
ekim23, + hnardone23

I CAN'T GO TO ABBOT WITH YOU. PETE DAVIDSON ALREADY ASKED ME.

Ultimate Week Ultimatum: Amid the Stress of Doing Their Jobs, Teachers Demand Faculty-Only Spa

NED THORNTON

Dear Alumni,
Especially to those of you who are successful (i.e. gave up on your childish dreams and now work in finance), we, the faculty, hope you are doing well, or at least better than when you were taking our physics classes. Your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren keep the community as stimulating and lively as you all did during your respective time at the Academy. As always, we are incredibly grateful for all of your generous donations this year. They were certainly put to good use; the hand sanitizer dispensers and the air purifiers were a smashing success. (They still are necessary, so keep those donations coming. Money is more reliable than that vaccine.)
Real talk though. While your kids are having fun, we, the teachers, are not. You would not believe how hard it is to come up with an endless stream of assignments, post them to Canvas, and then grade it all. Personally, I don't even like what I teach anymore. Chemistry is



pretty pointless. I really wish I took that part in "Cats the Movie" when I had the chance!
Also, guess what? Your kids are not that great! They are so lucky to come from a wealthy family because they are going nowhere. Our backs hurt, our eyes are strained, and we still can't seem to work the SmartBoard. What to do?
We, the teachers, pose an ultimatum. If no alumni gift a faculty spa by the end of the year, we quit. It's that simple. A sauna, a jacuzzi, some hot rocks, body wraps, salt scrubs, a dozen or so massage tables, and a few full-time masseuses. Maybe a happy ending station? But that's about it. Faculty only. Open 24/7.
The school has the space for it, too. We

could just clear out Pearson! Who even takes Latin? I haven't heard anyone speak that language in like two thousand years. Also, we can use all those unused planners in the ASC as flip flops!!
Also, I've spoken to Dr Kington about it. Well, I've never actually spoken to him, but once, I overheard him talking about how much he needed a spa day after sending a "Welcome Back" email and delivering an incredibly long Family Weekend speech.
You have until June. It's your choice. Just slide a couple milly to the Academy's Venmo, @gungasgreen69, or see your school cease to exist after we all quit.
With contempt,
The Faculty

WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- *Common App Confetti Keeps Seniors Hanging on Just a Little Longer*
- *Abbot's Coming up! So Your Three Year Ago Todays Are About to Get REALLY Awkward*
- *Assassin Player Misses News About Dog Dying to Avoid Being Eliminated*
- *PE Class Meets in Sykes to Discuss Slang Terms for Substances, Students Finally Know What to Ask their Plugs For*
- *Admissions Already Identifying Which Members of the Graduating Class's Future Children to Reject*
- *In Student-Run Campaign Against Skateboarding, Wheels to Be Unscrewed by Librarians Every Night*
- *JV2 Team Dinners in Lower Left Provoke Even More Hazing From Upperclassmen*
- *Halloween Dance DJ Booed off the Stage After Turning Down Third Kesha Song to Tell Students to Mask*

Grievances Against the Academy By Andover's Former Students

Grievance 1

The intense amount of homework made me feel as though 20-hour Wall Street work days were normal. I thought having my own cubicle in a desolate office was luxury compared to studying in the modly library basement. Andover, how could you let me have such low self-worth? How could you let me become another cog in the machine? I'm too humbled to ask for a raise since everytime I asked my teachers to round my grade up to a 6, all I got was a passive aggressive email!

Grievance 2

The mosh pit during dances caused permanent toe numbness in my left foot. My doctor said the surgery to regain feeling in my big toe would cost \$69,420. Andover, care to actually use some of the billion-dollar endowment for my poor toe?

Grievance 3

The terrible living conditions of Pine Knoll made me think it was okay to live in a NYC twelfth floor walk up for 4k a month. At least I can bring girls into my apartment without arduously asking my landlords for permission. Do you even understand how many uncomfortable conversations I had with my house counselor just to lie that we were very platonically watching a movie in my room? All those years of having yucky hookups in the squirrel-infested sanctuary...

Grievance 4

The food served at Commons made me gourmet-food-intolerant. When I went to New York last weekend, I ordered lemon-grass pork at Nobu. They said it wasn't on the menu, so I threw a tantrum until they went to the grocery store. After waiting for an hour, I sent the pork back because it wasn't dry enough. I don't think I'll ever be able to eat seasoned food again.

Grievance 5

I forgot to invite my parents to my wedding. Yes, Andover, that is your fault. During my young, formative years, I had grown accustomed to going months without calling my parents. Andover forced me to stick my nose into the books, so I simply had no time to chat with mommy. My friends had to explain to me why remembering to invite my house counselor instead of my parents was messed up. At least my house counselor finally blessed me with a parietal for my wedding night.

HEY! THAT GIRL WHO WROTE ABOUT NOT WEARING COLLEGE SWEATSHIRTS HAD A POINT... Who said that??

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

"So the Andover Shop sells a PA flask and salmon capris? One stop shopping!!!"

"Don't worry no one else will be dressing up as fairies for Halloween."

"I'm pretty sure most kids get a boat for their 17th birthday. What are your parents supposed to get you?"

"Do you put your balls in the condom too?"

Another car?"

"Lit, Crazy, Movie."

"Of course I'm wearing shorts, it's not even snowing yet."

"If I can land an ollie, will you go to Abbot with me? I promise I did it yesterday."

"Can I get a restraining order on all chem teachers?"



The Phillippian SPORTS

Volume CXLIV | Number 21

SPECIALFEATURE

manchester is
blue

November 5, 2021

Boys Water Polo Bids Farewell to Borden Pool



Andover Boys Water Polo's record in the 1912 Borden Memorial Pool this seasons was 2-3.

PATRICIA TRAN

Since the beginning of the program, Andover Boys Water Polo has held all practices and games in the 1912 Borden Memorial Pool. The team played its final home game in Borden on October 22 and will transition to a larger and deeper pool in the Pan Athletic Center next season.

According to Marcel Montemayor '23, the smaller, more isolated pool environment in Borden created a tight-knit community within the team. "My favorite part about playing and practicing in Borden would probably be... how close we are to each other. The pool isn't that big, so we're kind of just forced to talk to each other [and] participate when we're not doing drills, or when we're just chilling. Borden also makes us feel at home because... during practices we just feel away from school, away from all the stress, away from all the work. It's just an opportunity to have fun," said Montemayor.

The tighter space also provided the team with extra confidence and motivation during games, especially from the thunderous echoes and cheering of the crowd, according to Marek Deveau '23. "I know a lot of players like playing and practicing in wider pools, but I kind of like the small pool just because... it just gives me the feeling that I can shoot from anywhere. Also, when there's a ton of fans in the crowd, it gets super loud, and there's an echo, so it's fun when people show up to support the games," said Deveau.

Surrounding the pool are inspirational messages, banners, and photos that serve as daily reminders of the team's past achievements and core values, according to Montemayor and Trey Wolfe '23. "You get to see the history around you. Walking in, sometimes you see the records, sometimes you see the pictures that are up in Borden and the All-Americans. For me, I see a couple [of] pictures, and I'm like, 'Alright, I want to be up there one day.' We see the banners as well, and for the one water polo banner we have, we want to be back to where we once were," said Montemayor. "Walking out of the locker room, there are two signs. One of them says 'Swim fast' and the other one says 'Do your job,' and those have been up there longer than I have been at the school, so... it is something you see every day. It's a reminder to do well, and try your best," added Wolfe. Understanding that the team would be leaving behind the program's rich history in Borden, each player this season wanted to commemorate the program's original pool by playing at their very best, according to Deveau. "Towards the end of the season, everyone in the back of their minds, as much as we don't want to bring it up, is saying that it's going to be the last few games in this pool. Everyone knows it, so everyone tries to step it up. Coach always says to play as

if you were a Senior, so everyone tries to take on a bigger role and really be careful with their plays and not make any stupid mistakes," said Deveau.

Wolfe and Montemayor both believe that the water polo program will be strengthened significantly with the move to the Pan Athletic Center.

"You know, it is a little sad to see the 1912 pool go, but at the same time, having a bigger pool means we'll be able to have a bigger JV program. We'll be able to attract more swimmers and water polo players, and because of that, over the years, it's just going to make the aquatics program so much better," said Wolfe.

"For playing in a new facility, we'll not only be able to play water polo the way it's supposed to be without having a shallow end and touching the bottom but also, I think the new environment will help the team improve. The team by the end of the season next year will be a lot stronger physically, emotionally, and mentally, to the point where we can try our best to do anything," added Montemayor.

Girls Cross Country Coach Keri Lambert Enforces a 'Team Mindset' in First Season



COURTESY OF KERI LAMBERT

At one point, Head Coach Keri Lambert was the national champion in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

MEG STINEMAN

In her first season coaching, Girls Cross Country Head Coach Keri Lambert hopes to uphold teamwork and togetherness as the team's core value this year. Reflected in her actions as coach, collaboration and a team mind-

set have become more prevalent in more group focused running strategies.

Lambert said, "The values that I hope runners take from cross country is just that real team mindset that requires everyone to work on behalf of their teammates, and to support their teammates, and build one another up, day in and day out in order to really kind of savor the hard work that goes into this sport and to make the most of the training."

Interestingly, Lambert strives to move away from the idea of cross country being an individual sport by appreciating and embracing the team aspects.

"I would say that one of the things that I love most about cross country is that it turns what could be considered an individual's sport, mainly running, into a team sport, in so far how the meets are scored, and how workouts and training kind of take place. And I think that cross country really, in a really visceral way, kind of captures the non-sibi value actually, of the school," Lambert said.

Captain Natasha Muromcew '22 acknowledges the changes that Lambert has made on the training strategies as well as the time dedicated to team bonding, which furthers the team's relationship.

Muromcew said, "Last Fri-

day, she got us games and we had pumpkin carving contests. It was just really nice to be together as a team and a really low-stress situation where we could just hang out and not run, because a lot of our teammates are injured, so it's hard for us to be together. So she's very conscious of the team."

Not only does Lambert focus on what goes on while running, but she also focuses on important habits off the course. Post-running care is an important part of the cross-country team focus this season, according to Lambert.

"The best cross country runners are the people who have the motivation to train in June and July and August in order to have a really solid training base coming into the season. So that's kind of just even, even before he stepped foot on this campus, the number one thing that you can do to be a good runner. Number two, like I said, self-care. Number three, probably practicing mindfulness and mental toughness, half of what you do as a runner is actually physically stronger. The other half is being able to get comfortable being uncomfortable," Lambert noted.

Despite rough conditions, Lambert always pushes the team to adapt to different circumstances through mindfulness. She helps the team embrace the situation

and use the conditions to its advantage, according to Maya Tang '23.

"Even in really not ideal conditions like yesterday... she told us to use that to our advantage because we were practicing in rainy and muddy conditions and she encourages the team to not see that as a bad thing and to just continue to push ourselves even when it's hard. She'll have a few minutes of mindfulness and to visualize our race and its entities, some excerpts like mind exercises and are helpful to get through the really tough parts of the course because she has us think of a mantra and to repeat it," Tang said.

As the team heads into the end of the season and hosts the elite championships, Lambert works to improve the specificities of running. According to Lambert, her goal is to help the team understand the details and the little things that go into being the best runner possible.

"We've been focusing on basic self-care and trying to develop better running habits, meaning better biomechanical form, better post-run and post-workout recovery habits, things like that, in order to be just well rounded, strong runners, ideally to help prevent injuries. But also just to learn or learn about what it takes to be a strong, healthy runner, not just in

terms of the hard work that we do at practice, but also things like fueling and sleeping and hydrating and stretching and rolling after workouts and things like that. I think sometimes running can be perceived as a really simple sport, right? You put one foot in front of the other, but actually, there's a lot that goes into being a successful runner," Lambert said.



COURTESY OF AMHERST COLLEGE

Head Coach Keri Lambert Lambert won All-American honors her junior and senior year at Amherst College.

BOYSSOCCER

Boys Soccer Ties for the Sixth Time this Season, Suffers Loss to Worcester

JASON KIM

Nicholas Lam '22 and Ethan Hong '22 led a stout Andover defense in a 1-1 tie against Deerfield Academy this past Saturday. The team followed the tie with a 0-1 loss against Worcester Academy. Andover Boys Soccer now stands at a 4-3-6 record.

Lam noted the harsh conditions and mentioned that even with a slow start, Andover found its rhythm by the end of the first half.

"I think we did a good job moving the ball around despite the harsh conditions, it was pouring... I think mentally, it took us a bit of time for us to warm up. It really showed from Deerfield's first score. But as the game progressed, I think we did well moving the ball forward which is something we've been struggling on through-

out the season," said Lam.

According to Co-Captain Adam Hassanein '22, a turning point of the game relied upon Hong's offensive playmaking ability. Hong offered many attacking chances by playing aggressively, trying to put points on the board.

"One turning point was when Ethan played a more offensive role. A lot of times, he plays a strong defensive role for the team. While defense is equally important, I feel like sometimes Ethan can offer a lot offensively as well. The majority of the opportunities to score came from Ethan being dangerous down the wing, crossing balls down into the box, and I hope that's a position he gets to play more often in the future. And making that switch and transition to help the team offensively was beneficial mentally to the team as well," said Hassanein.

Hong noted that numerous close games ending in ties are a

result of Andover's offensive inefficiency and a reliance on the defense.

"We have been at a tie for a lot of games and I think there is a reason for that. We have excellent defense, and as a team, we tend to allocate most of our efforts to the defense. As a result, we sometimes forget about the offensive responsibilities," said Hong.

Hong described the loss against Worcester Academy, mentioning that the team had improved drastically since the previous tie.

Hong said, "It was a tough loss, they scored a late penalty in the second half. It was by their star player. Overall, it was a tough result, a bit disappointing. Worcester was predicted to be an excellent team: a lot of versatility and pressure. We really prepared for a skilled team. Even though the score was 1-0, it really showed that we can hang with a top team. There were a lot of opportunities



S. OMAR/THE PHILLIPIAN

Ellis Denby '24 (pictured above) is Andover Boys Soccer's top scorer with seven goals on the season.

for us to score. From the Deerfield game, we realized that we had to work on our offense. Even though we have a bit of ways to go, we were much better. For this game, we played more defensive,

jamming the middle and blocking their star player. It did work well."

Andover Boys Soccer will play at Kimball Union Academy this upcoming Saturday.

BOYSFOOTBALL

Andover Football Takes Deerfield Into Double Overtime

DAIGO MORIWAKE

On a rainy afternoon at Deerfield, Andover Football took the game into double overtime, coming up short with a final score of 14-20. The team's record now stands at 1-5.

Co-Captain Cato Legaspi '22 noted the team's strong performance after suffering consecutive losses in past weeks.

"I actually feel like this was our best game, we played super well throughout the whole thing, obviously, [it] never feels good to lose, but Deerfield is one of the best, if not the best team in our conference, and the fact that we got it to go to two overtimes is a good accomplishment for us, especially coming off two pretty down games. So, it never feels good to lose, but I'm really proud of how we played," said Legaspi.

Legaspi highlighted the team spirit at half time as one of the key moments in the game. Unlike previous weeks, in which halftime consisted of negativity, the general atmosphere was one of encouragement.

Legaspi said, "When the half ended, one thing [of note was that] everyone was so encouraging, I haven't actually been a part of a half time like that when everyone is really just patting each other on the back, complimenting each other, and I think that showed how we've grown

over the weeks. [On] other weeks, we've gone into halftime losing, and guys are pointing fingers or blaming each other, but this week, everyone was just super encouraging. Even the guys who aren't starters on the sidelines were being super loud and vocal."

Joseph Carrara '24 echoed Legaspi, saying the team was full of confidence and came together to motivate each other.

"I'd definitely say the end of the first half was a really thrilling point in the game, because all of our excitement was there, and everyone was feeling really good about ourselves. I mean [we were confident] the whole entire game, but definitely, at the end of the first half we felt really good," said Carrara.

According to Kevin Flores Blackmore '23, the team was able to adapt to the afternoon's incimate weather after a week of practice in the same weather.

"The weather was not a huge factor in Saturday's game since we had trained in that weather all week and prepared for a run-heavy game," wrote Blackmore in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Legaspi believes this performance against Deerfield could act as a turning point for the team as it looks forward to its upcoming games against Suffield and Phillips Exeter Academy.

"We had a really tough stretch of hard competitions. Suffield at home is... definitely our



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Andover Football was held scoreless in its most recent matchup against Deerfield, falling to a 14-0 loss in 2019.

most winnable game. They're a program that's not quite at the level of Loomis [Chaffee and] Deerfield, all those. So [against] Suffield, we should definitely win, and then [for] Exeter,

we always match up really well against them. I definitely think this was a great game for the team because we kind of found our identity. I think we all feel pretty confident about winning

out [in] the last two games of the season, especially Exeter," said Legaspi.

Andover will hope to snap its five-game losing streak against Suffield at home next Saturday.

Girls Volleyball Falls Below .500 after Loss to St. Paul's



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Despite leading the team as one of two co-captains, this is Sophie Watson's '22 (#4) first season on Andover Girls Volleyball.

ELLE MENDEZ

Despite winning the first set against St. Paul's 25-10, Andover Girls Volleyball fell in four sets this past Wednesday. The team lost 0-3 to Deerfield on Saturday. Andover's record is now 7-8.

Although the game against Deerfield ended with a score of 15-25, 13-25, and 19-25,

leaving Andover with a loss, the team was able to maintain its Andover spirit while on court, according to Mary Lord '24.

"In both Deerfield and St. Paul's we excelled in getting excited after pumps and being excited to play. We did very well with defense which is something we are very strong with," said Lord.

Dagny Bingham '23 believes that, despite the out-

come of both games, Andover had some highlights throughout the competition.

Bingham said, " One moment that especially stands out to me was in the third set our middle hitter, Pauline, had an incredible kill that was nearly impossible for anyone to return. The team was really excited for her!... Ridley had a great game! She was a consistent server and had some amazing kills. She also maintained the energy while keeping it lighthearted and fun."

While Andover struggled in various aspects throughout the game, the team improved in its ability to play scrappy volleyball, according to Bingham.

"Serving was a big struggle for us this game. We missed quite a few serves, however we made up for it in a scrappy defense and aggressive offense," said Bingham.

According to Jessica Ma '23 , the team's main goal while playing against Deerfield was to keep its Andover spirit, keeping the motivation going all throughout the game.

Ma said, "I think the main thing that we worked on as a team prior to the Deerfield and St. Paul's game was our mentality. We had always known that Deerfield is a strong team, arguably one of the best in the league. But their strength is also what made us excited to play them. We really aimed to be in the moment and focus on the game itself instead of the scoreboard during those two



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

After its matchup against Milton, Andover Girls Volleyball will face Worcester at home and then travel to Exeter, seeking revenge for its earlier 0-3 loss.

games. And that's why in the end we felt really good as a team regardless of the outcome."

Girls Volleyball will play at Milton this Saturday.

GIRLSSOCCER

Girls Soccer Extends Win Streak to Three, Defeating Deerfield and Nobles



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

"Player of the Game" against Deerfield, Emily Mara '25 (#12) is the only Junior on Andover Girls Soccer.

STAFF REPORT

Co-Captain Mary Stuart Kerrigan '22 capitalized on a penalty kick after Emily Mara '25 was taken down by a Deerfield defender to tie the game 1-1 at halftime. In the second half, Andover scored three unanswered goals en-route to its 4-1 victory against Deerfield on Saturday. With a 3-2 win against Noble and Greenough on Wednesday, the team's record now stands at 8-5-1.

According to Jazzy Cormier '24 and Kendall Toth '23, maintaining composure and keeping consistent pressure throughout the game propelled the team to victory.

"Pressing and pressuring the team [were important in the win against Deerfield]. We've been working on that a lot [during] practice so it's

nice to see it [in the game]. Also throughout the game, we stayed consistent with our pressuring so that we didn't let up throughout the game," said Cormier.

"We did really well at staying composed, staying classy and calm in a very stressful situation. We played with cool heads and maintained our aggressive pressure. We didn't give up and gave everything we had until the end. We had fun and stayed focused and got the job done. Our communication as a team was also really good," added Toth.

Outscoring its Wednesday and Saturday opponents 7-3, multiple individual performances led the team's successful offense, according to Cormier.

Cormier said, "Emily did amazing. She always plays hard, but last game she was playing, she did incredible. I would say [she and Marie-Eve

Marleau '22 stood out], we call them pests because they're both like constantly disrupting the other team's defense and offense."

In preparation for its final two games of the season, the team is looking to maintain its consistency and energy against formidable opponents, according to Cormier.

"[We are] just working on staying consistent with our energy throughout the game and constantly pressuring because we are going to play really good teams so we're [going to] be preparing for that," said Cormier.

Andover will host Lawrence Academy on Friday for its final home game of the season.

BOYSWOPO

Boys Water Polo Defeats Deerfield but Falls to Exeter in Season Finale

ANNABEL CURRY

Led by strong performances from Marcel Montemayor '23, Marek Deveau '24, and Co-Captain Sean Meng '22, Boys Water Polo earned a 15-7 victory over Deerfield but fell 9-4 to Phillips Exeter Academy in its final game of the season. The team's final record is 7-6.

According to Deveau, the team started off strong against Deerfield, and never wavered throughout the game, leading it to a comfortable victory.

Deveau said, "We dominated from the start. Deerfield did not come close to us at any point in the game so we weren't too scared of them

coming back, so we wanted to try some new things to prepare for Exeter because we knew that that was going to be a hard game."

Despite facing a mid-game injury, the goalies impressed, helping hold Deerfield to seven goals, according to Deveau.

"Our goalies played really well. Trey Wolfe '23 got a few shots to the face and actually got a nose bleed so we had to call a timeout to get our other goalie in, but other than that, [the game] went really well," said Deveau.

After a victory against Deerfield, the team faced a must-win situation against Exeter in their regular-season finale, requiring a victory to qualify for the playoffs. According to Deveau, the combination of the

high-pressure environment and the strength of Exeter's team led to a hard-fought 9-4 loss.

Deveau said, "It was a difficult game. [Exeter is] definitely a strong team and there are some strong swimmers there, and they have some really strong shooters. Everyone is able to shoot the ball, which [makes playing defense] super difficult. Usually, we play teams with one or two star players, but here, everyone had to be on their A-game. Exeter came out swinging and scored [to make the score] 2-0, but then we tied it 2-2, but after that, they just went off, and they dominated."



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Co-Captain Sean Meng '22 (center) recorded four steals and two assists in Andover Water Polo's 15-7 win against Deerfield.

GIRLSXC

Girls Cross Country Wins Again, Breaks Previous Record Set By Exeter

EVAN CURTIN

Placing in first, Charlotte Whitehurst '22 received her third individual win this season. With her teammates, Izzy Alvarez Martinez '23, Caroline Empey '22, and Emma Hagstrom '25 all placing behind her, Andover secured the top four spots in the race, and seven out of the top ten, triumphing 17 - 42 against Deerfield.

New Andover Girls Cross Country Head Coach Keri Lambert was awed by the team's performance and perseverance, especially through the rainy weather and muddy shape the ground was in.

Coach Lambert said, "I truly believe that the girls saw

the rain as more of a challenge than anything else, that they needed to overcome, and they gave it their all because of that."

Coach Lambert was also impressed by new member of the team, Hagstrom, whose dedication and enthusiasm has stood out during both meets and practices.

"It is so impressive to a person so young to be doing so well out there. I can not wait to continue to work with Emma," said Coach Lambert.

In addition to her win, Whitehurst broke the 5k record that had been previously set by a runner from Phillips Exeter Academy. Whitehurst's teammate, Naima Reid '25, spoke about the positive impact she has on the team.

Reid said, "Charlotte is so nice and brings so much enthu-

siasm to the team. It is hard to imagine what the team would be like without her."

While the rain made Andover's meet against Deerfield a unique one, Deerfield's course also challenged the team as it differed from what the team is accustomed to, according to Coach Lambert.

Coach Lambert said, "Their course was very flat, very much like an actual track rather than a cross country course. Which is also very different from our course, for it has much more hills and stairs which would not help their odds in the race, being the away team; the course can seem very unfamiliar. Yet they came out with another win."

Girls Cross Country will look to carry its momentum into its upcoming meet at home against Exeter next Saturday.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Following its meet against Exeter, Andover Girls Cross Country will host Interschols on November 13.

FIELDHOCKEY

Field Hockey Scores Thrilling Last-Minute Goals to Defeat Both Deerfield and Nobles

PATRICIA TRAN

With just eleven seconds left in a scoreless game, Julia Hall '22 passed the ball to Georgia Adams '22, who dribbled down to Deerfield's baseline. Adams fed the ball to Gwyn Lapp '22 who scored to propel Andover Field Hockey to a last-minute 1-0 win over Deerfield.

On Wednesday afternoon, the team was down a goal to Noble and Greenough through the end of the third quarter. Faced with pressure, the team took advantage of corners in the final minutes to overcome the deficit. In the end, Andover Field Hockey beat Nobles 2-1, staying undefeated with a 12-0-1 record.

Going into the Deerfield game, the team understood that they would be facing an opponent that had historically been very strong, according to Siobhan Riedy '23.

"Knowing that this was going to be one of the toughest games, [Head] Coach Dolan told us that PAFH hadn't beat Deerfield in a very long time, and if we were to win, it would be the first time that anyone on our [current] team, including all the Seniors, would have won against Deerfield. So it took all of our energy

to get to the last eleven seconds of the game when we scored that last goal," said Reidy.

According to Neily Ware '25, Deerfield was well-rounded, so the team was unable to pinpoint specific players and sections of the field to focus on.

Ware said, "They were really just all over the field. They were always there for their balls. They got in front of the balls really well to cut off passes and intercept, so that was definitely something to get accustomed to, but once we did that, we started to dominate a little more."

Despite the challenge of Deerfield's playing style and rainy weather, Reidy observed high intensity and positive energy levels in all members of the team.

"I would say immediately as the game started, the energy was just taken to a whole other level. From the players on the field and from the players on the bench, everyone was in the game, and it wasn't just the twelve players who had been participating in the game. Everyone wanted to win," said Reidy.

The electrifying last-minute goal not only brought the team a wave of excitement and relief, but also displayed the team's abilities when playing under pressure, according to Riedy.

"It was really one of those things where everyone's anxiety and emotions and intensity that we had started the game with was really just [compact-ed] into these last ten seconds of the game. We either scored a goal right [there] or [went] into overtime. When the final ball went into the back of the net, everyone went crazy [and] jumped up and down: the parents on the sideline, all the girls on the bench, all the girls on the field just went crazy," said Reidy.

According to Liz Assimes '22, the frantic search for the back of the net serves as a lesson for future games as it showed the team the necessity of starting the game off with vigor and maintaining its energy levels.

"Definitely [one of the take-aways was the importance of] playing with a sense of urgency. As the season has progressed, we're really trying to make sure that we come out strong as well as increase [the intensity] throughout the game. Definitely in the Deerfield game, I think we weren't [very intense], but it's really important to come out strong. We don't want to leave it to the last ten seconds to score. We really want to be aggressive from the start. But hey, a win is a win and we'll take it," said Assimes.

With just two games remain-



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Prior to Andover Field Hockey's late 2-1 win over Nobles, each of its last three games had ended in a 1-0 win.

ing, the team has emphasized the importance of family, support, and non sibi in hopes of finishing the season strong, according to Ware.

Ware said, "We've really just talked about being really close, being family. We have Cushing and [Phillips] Exeter [Academy] coming, so these are definitely more challenging [games]. We've talked about how everything we need to win is inside us and beside us. We have to... find it in ourselves to win, find it in our teammates, and do it for each other."

On Saturday, Field Hockey will play its last home game of the season against Cushing.

BOYSXC

Boys Cross-Country Suffers Narrow Defeat at Deerfield

ANDREW ZHOU

Tam Gavenas '25 sped down the course in a cut-throat race with a Deerfield runner on a rainy Saturday afternoon on a rainy Saturday afternoon on a rainy Saturday afternoon. Gavenas ultimately finished second just behind the opposing runner, unable to catch up in the home stretch after lending a hand to the other runner, who had taken a fall. Andover settled for a 33-25 defeat against Deerfield, bringing its dual meet record to 1-3.

The race conditions proved to be a challenge for the runners that day, according to Luke

Williamson '25. The team was running on an unfamiliar course that did not include any paved sections, forcing the runners to run through a muddy trail that had developed from the rain.

"Every turn, I was sliding and had to slow down a ton just to not fall," Williamson said.

According to Captain Matthew Ottenbreit '22, not only were the rainy conditions a challenge, but the unfamiliarity of the new path proved to be a challenge as well.

"There were parts that were really muddy and that really slowed down the race... no one in our program, including myself, had ever raced on the Deer-

field course before this because it was rained out two years ago when we were supposed to race there. It was a new course to all of us and that's always a challenge because you don't know the optimal way to run it and pace the course," said Ottenbreit.

Despite the harsh conditions, Ottenbreit believes the team remained optimistic and pushed throughout the entire race.

"We knew we couldn't control the weather so everyone really leaned into the tough conditions and embraced it...I thought everyone just performed really well," said Ottenbreit.

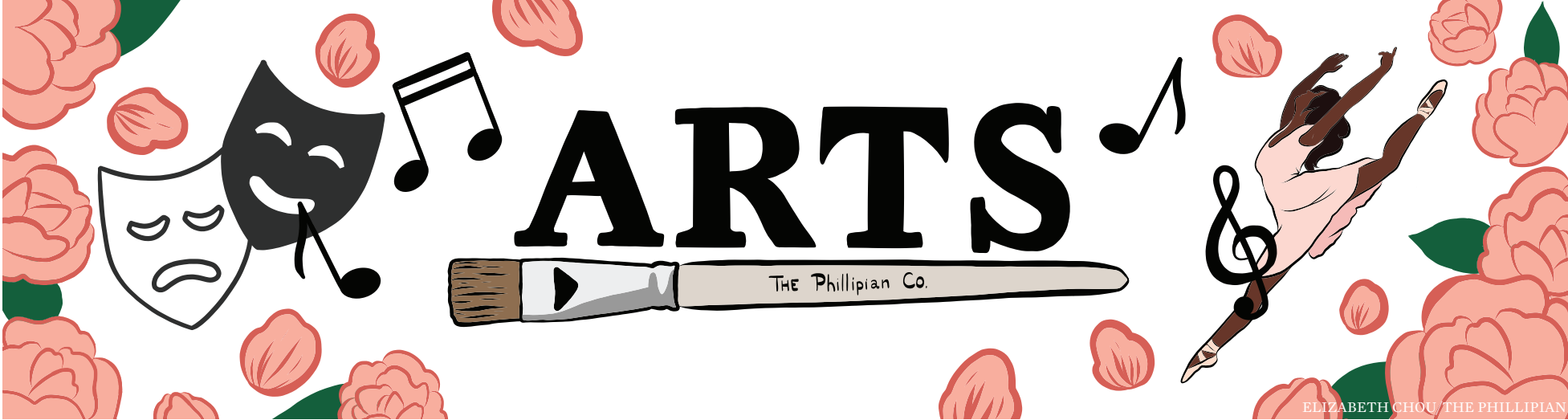
Constantine Krenterras '24 agreed, adding that Andover runners stayed calm even through the unfavorable conditions.

Krenterra said, "[We were able to] keep our composure and spirits up even though it was not a very nice day."

Though Andover did not leave Deerfield with a win, Ottenbreit feels that the team had notable performances. According to Ottenbreit, many members of the team rose to the challenge, including Matt Waselews '24, who beat his personal record by two minutes and seven seconds in the race. Ottenbreit also praised Glen Cahily '23 and Rohan Kapoor '23 for their performances that day.

"[Cahily and Kapoor] are two guys who were at preseason, really strong runners in our program, but have both been dealing with injuries this season, and for Glen this was his first race back at just about full strength and for Rohan this was his first time competing this season, so two really important returns from injury for us," said Ottenbreit.

Andover will host Exeter on Saturday during A/E weekend.



Look of the Weekend: From Disney Classics to “Celestial” Elegance, Halloween and GSA Ball Showcase Array of Student Outfits

SARAH HASSANEIN & CHLOE RHEE

This past weekend, while students lined the streets for Halloween festivities, GSA (Gender-Sexuality Alliance) weekend kicked off with its first GSA Ball. Held on Friday, October 29 in the Mural Room, GSA Ball attendees sported suits, skirts, and sparkles in keeping with its “snazzy” theme. Saturday and Sunday saw students gather for Halloween events, including the annual Halloween dance and Abbotween. Event organizers and attendees spoke to *The Phillipian* regarding their outfits and the week-end activities.



Halloween:

Ginny Marshall '25 as Vector from “The Incredibles”



COURTESY OF GINNY MARSHALL

“I’ve always been interested with Vector since I was a young sprouting child. [He’s] always my favorite...[the costume is] really practical because you’re just in a sweat suit all night, but it’s a little bit spicy with the wig and the glasses...I had to cut the wig myself because it was a bob, so I had to turn it into a bowl cut.”

GSA Ball:

Nikita Harwich '23: Event Coordinator



COURTESY OF NIKITA HARWICH

“When I was picking out this outfit, I was thinking about looking celestial, which is what inspired both my make-up and my dress. My makeup specifically, with the gold leaf and the rhinestones, makes me look ‘snazzy’, but I wanted the culmination of my whole outfit: the black, the metallic, and the sparkles, to be elegant and over-the-top at the same time.”

Will Posorske '24 as a Cowboy



COURTESY OF WILL POSORSKE

“I’m a cowboy. I didn’t have an outfit. I didn’t realize Halloween was a big deal this year...I went to the thrift store, and I found a cowboy hat on the free bin. I found a shirt and I cut the sleeves off it. I [also] have a pair of jeans and a bandana, so now I’m a cowboy...I went to Montana and I grew up on a ranch. I rode horses a lot, so that’s my inspiration. My dad was a cowboy too.”

EV Heck '25

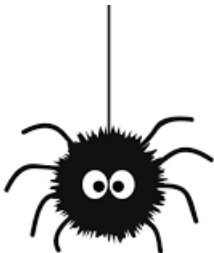


COURTESY OF EV HECK

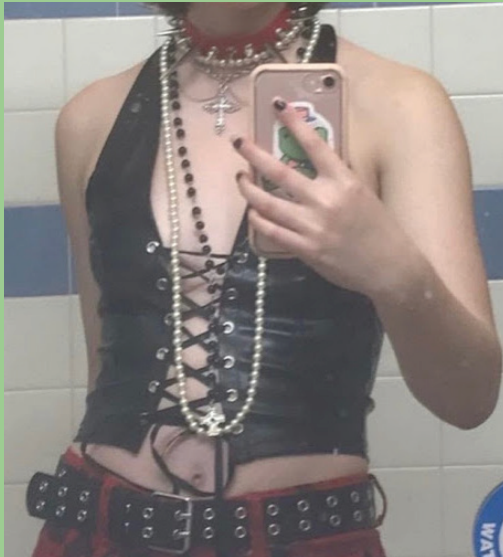
“What’s more snazzy than a black-and-white V-neck? While I love looking fancy and put together, I also value comfort and self-expression. I wanted to wear a dress that was casual yet elegant, because it truly reflects how I want to show myself in front of others.”

Meg Stineman '25 as Iridessa from “Tinkerbell”

“I am Iridessa from “Tinkerbell.” I am wearing a yellow dress, because she’s the yellow fairy...and I love bubble braids, so I’m wearing bubble braids in my hair...I could not find wings anywhere. I DIY made my wings [at first], and then I found some.”



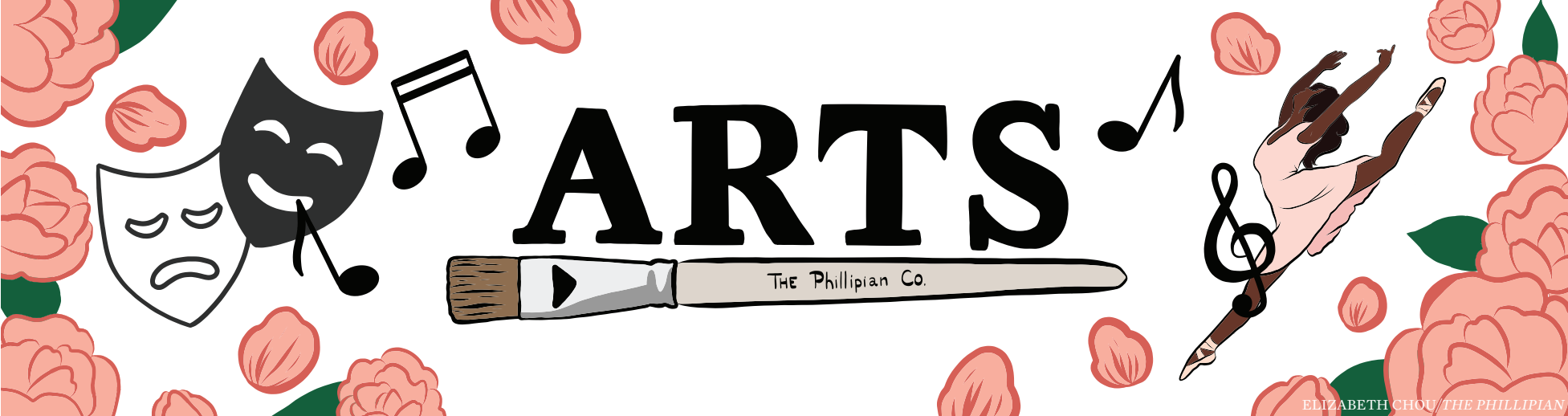
Fae Ross '24



COURTESY OF FAE ROSS '24

“I wore a black latex lace-up halter top, red leather snake-skin pants, and a red spiked choker to the ball. When picking out this outfit, I was thinking about what a classic rock star would have worn if they were slightly more modern and gothic.”

Write for Arts!
Email jjli23, mwang23,
+ msatterthwaite23,



Solar Lu '24 Combines “Mystical” Style and Realistic Portraiture to Comment on Identity

AVA CHEN

Plastic wrap stretches over half of Solar Lu '24's face as they fix their gaze beyond the canvas. Their features depicted in acrylic paint, this self-portrait, titled “Suffocation,” displays Lu's signature combination of symbolism with realistic portraiture.

“I like playing with expression and how we can use values, colors, and angles... Because right now I'm pretty young as an artist, I'm experimenting with a lot of things,” said Lu.

Lu works exclusively in traditional art, preferring tangible paper and canvas over digital artwork. Lu has seven years of experience in oil painting, has dabbled in pencil and colored pencil, and now mainly works with charcoal and watercolor in addition to playing around with other unconventional media. According to former Art-505 classmate Abbie Cheng '23, their style of experimentation and expression-centered portraiture is something that sets their art apart from others.

“Solar's style is unique because they can depict realism in a mystical way. They have mastered portraits of people and add another layer of emotion with a variety of colors and strokes. Solar's style is

also so versatile as they can convey a similar vibe with watercolor, acrylic, and even dry mediums like charcoal,” Cheng wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Last spring at Andover, Lu took Art-505 (Advanced Drawing, Painting, and Mixed Media), taught by Rita Obelleiro, Instructor in Art. Lu expressed that the class pushed them to develop and broaden their artistic ideas and further experiment with many mediums and styles. A technically and thematically skilled painting, their final project, “Suffocation,” was a large acrylic self-portrait on wood portraying the stress Lu was feeling at the time.

“I think [Ms. Obelleiro] really helped me develop my ideas, and all the prompts were really broad and open, so it really depended on yourself to come up with creative prompts and how you can manipulate the materials... I got to experiment with more things... and I got more comfortable with different mediums,” said Lu.

While Lu initially used their art as a creative outlet, their work has broadened and evolved into a method of activism. Using color, value, and various forms of media to depict messages about both societal and personal topics, Lu, having lived in Singapore, China, and the U.S., has integrated themes of intersectional race and

ethnicity, convergence of cultures, technology, and climate change in their work.

“It started off as self-expression and being something that helped me convey my words because I was a very quiet kid. I was really shy, so I didn't speak a lot, so art was my way of having a voice... As I'm growing older, I can use art to help people as well, to raise a message to people to realize things, or notice things that they wouldn't on their own... But it's important to remember that art should be first coming from yourself, so I think activism from within [is important], rather than trying to say something to others before saying something to yourself,” said Lu.

Looking forward, Lu is hoping to take Art-505 again and further develop their art style by experimenting with more unconventional media such as Plexiglass, mirrors, various textures, and even trying integrating music with art. Another ongoing overarching goal of Lu's is to improve and develop their art concepts.

“I know that's something I'm always working towards, just bettering my concepts... bettering that bridge, that connection between I want to say this versus I'm going to depict this,” said Lu.

Editor's Note: Abbie Chen '23 is an Illustration Associate for The Phillipian.



COURTESY OF SOLAR LU '24

“My Hero Academia: World Heroes’ Mission” Doesn’t ‘Go Beyond’



ALICIA ZHANG



ALICIA ZHANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

In a world where having superpowers is the norm, mysterious terrorist group Humarise rises from the shadows, hoping to eradicate all those with special abilities. Released in U.S. theaters on October 29, “My Hero Academia: World Heroes' Mission” is a supplementary movie to the Japanese superhero series. It centers around Izuku ‘Deku’ Midoriya (Daiki Yamashita/Justin Briner),

a boy born without a quirk who wishes to become a superhero. Directed by Kenji Nagasaki, the movie follows Deku and his allies after the fifth season of the series as they work to defeat Humarise. While the series' motto may be “plus ultra” or “go beyond,” the movie—though enjoyable—was a disappointment; the plot and new characters of the movie were subpar and the animation was incon-

sistent. Spoilers ahead.

The movie's plot was predictable; even before starting the film, it was incredibly obvious that the heroes would win and the new character would save everyone. However, this would not be particularly bothersome to the target audience of the movie—the fans. Those familiar with the show would understand that “My Hero Academia” is a series that follows all the hero stereotypes, even centering around the trope where the ordinary character suddenly becomes powerful through obtaining special abilities. In that vein, it was unsurprising that the movie adaptation would also follow the stereotypical plotline. What mattered more to me, and perhaps to the rest of the audience, was the colorful animation and appearances of the favorite characters.

However, while the bland plot didn't necessarily harm the movie's quality, the lack of originality in the new characters made the film boring and lacking in nuance. Like many cliché villains in film, Flect Turn (Kazuya Nakai/Robbie Daymond) decides to kill all people with quirks because of society's dismissal of him. Even one

of the main protagonists of the film, Rody Soul (Ryo Yoshizawa/Ryan Colt Levy), lacked ingenuity and complexity. Following the stereotype of the flawless hero, Rody seemed to be solely fueled by his love for his family. His quirk did not reflect either creativity and power. While it made sense to write the savior of the film as an ordinary person, Rody's quirk, a bird that expressed his emotions, was simply underwhelming. To see the powerful main character and equally strong side characters sit back while a small and annoying bird ‘rescued’ the world felt like an unresolved and unsatisfying ending.

Additionally, while the movie had its share of breathtaking scenes, the animation was nonetheless inconsistent. Dramatic fight scenes were the highlights of the main series and the movie lives up the expectations set by its predecessor, masterfully using music to evoke a sense of suspense and thrill. However, animation in other scenes was less successful. While fluid and natural during the fight scenes, other more standard moments throughout the movie—for example, a character talking—

featured less detailed and unrefined animation styles, making certain scenes look a bit odd and out of place.

Even in the series, “My Hero Academia” seemed to persistently push the message of going beyond (or “Plus Ultra”) your limit. As much as the message of never giving up is inspiring, “My Hero Academia: World Heroes' Mission” incessantly advocated this message, getting rather annoying as the film progressed. Whenever a protagonist seemed on the verge of defeat, bloodied and mortally wounded by a villain, they usually made a remark on the lines of never giving up and wanting to bring smiles to people's faces. This repetition of a generic and oversaturated theme made the movie difficult to bear at times for even the most dedicated fans.

Regardless of its shortcomings, “My Hero Academia: World Heroes Mission” is an enjoyable watch. It still manages to carry the same wonder and thrill that drew me, and likely many other viewers, to the series in the first place and therefore receives 4/5 stars.

“Night Teeth”: Netflix’s New Vampire Movie Fails to Leave a Mark



JACKIE LI

Driving takes a dangerous turn for college student Benny Perez (Jorge Lendeborg Jr.) when he gets himself caught up in a supernatural conflict threatening the safety of humanity in Netflix's newest Halloween release, “Night Teeth.” Released to the streaming platform on October 20, the film follows Perez as he unknowingly gets caught up in a powerful vampire's plot to take over LA's dangerous underworld. While the film introduces creative angles and an artful execution of aesthetics, its uninteresting characters, unremarkable acting, and awkward pacing make it all the more forgettable. Spoilers ahead.

One of the film's biggest flaws comes from its lackluster characters; protagonists and antagonists have shallow motives and generic characterizations, leaving the audience with no one to engage and interest them throughout the movie. The main character Benny is almost portrayed as too “quirky” and “relatable,” with mannerisms so exaggerated that he begins to feel less endearing and more embarrassing. Additionally, his motives throughout

the film are unreasonable and hollow. Initially, Benny is understandably frightened for his safety and the well-being of the city when he first discovers the truth about his murderous passengers. However, it only takes 30 minutes with a girl that he has little to no chemistry with for him to assist the violent and highly unethical efforts of the very people that are putting his life in danger.

Moreover, any theme that the film wants to convey with Benny's character development also goes out the window. Though the beginning of the movie frames him as a socially awkward optimist who just wants to make a living out of his musical passion and financially support his grandma, the end of the movie neglects these defining characteristics as soon as he becomes wealthy and powerful. It only vaguely brings up how he uses his newly gained money to support his family and forgets to even address his dream of pursuing a musical career. As a result, the movie's plot promotes all the wrong themes regarding how to gain monetary success in life. Rather than emphasizing the importance of hard work and staying true to your ideals—which, though cliché, does hold

true—it implies that the path to wealth is one of participating in illegal activities and becoming a socially acceptable party-goer. Probably not the best message to sell to impressionable teens, Netflix.

Not even the antagonists in “Night Teeth” can provide any good entertainment. Both Zoe Moreau (Sydney Sweeney) and Victor (Alfie Allen), the power-hungry couple desperate to assert their superiority over the human race, lack substance. Though Victor makes it quite clear that he intends to fit right into the superiority-complex villain stereotype, Zoe's motives go entirely unaddressed throughout the course of the movie. The movie tries to advocate an underlying theme of ‘girl power’ by framing female characters as powerful and assertive, yet Zoe isn't even given her own compelling reason for participating in the mass slaughter fest other than following the lead of her boyfriend—a move that was not very girlboss on their part.

However, “Night Teeth” still managed to somewhat redeem itself through its artistic set design and camerawork. Contrasting the city's bright colors with the dark night sky, the film's setting masterfully used and cap-

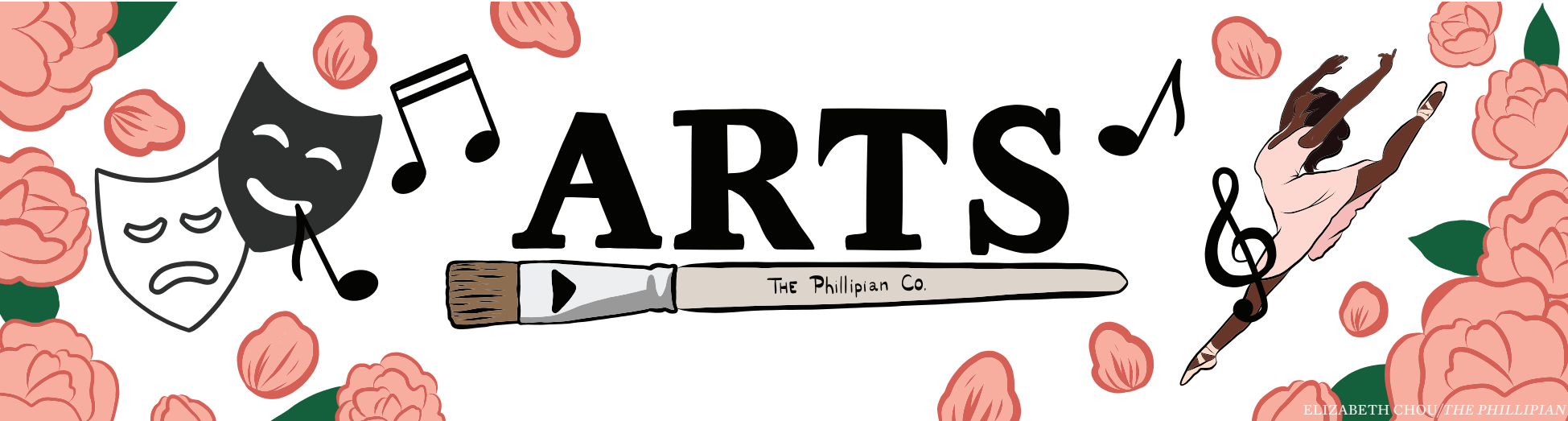


MARIKA SAITO/THE PHILLIPIAN

tured multi-colored lights within each shot, creating a rendered and two-dimensional quality in scenes throughout the movie. Additionally, the use of street art, vibrant neon signs, and other stylistic props demonstrated a good understanding of appropriate aesthetics for the movie and clearly embodied the atmosphere of the city it took place in. The cinematography was also clear and innovative. One particular shot of Victor taking a bullet to the head features a unique perspective

where the camera looks through the bullet wound at the surprised assailant's face. Though slightly gory, the scene works to establish a sense of disgust within the viewer and demonstrates the ingenuity and creativity behind the movie's camerawork.

Despite its uniquely stylized aesthetics, color palettes, and filmography, Netflix's “Night Teeth” gets a 2/5 stars for an inconsistent and poorly-developed main character and insipid adversaries.



AWA and GSA Collaborate Held First Ever Creative Writing Cafe Themed, ‘Queering Your Writing’

ATHENA RHEE & ASHLEY PARK

As the Gender and Sexuality Alliance (G.S.A.) weekend continued last weekend, the Andover Writers Alliance (AWA) and the G.S.A. collaborated to host a Creative Writers Cafe at the Addison Gallery of American Art. The cafe served as a place where students and faculty could use their words and creativity for self-expression and exploration, prompted with the theme of “Queering Your Writing.”

One of the coordinators of the

AWA, Frank Zhou ’22, explained the purpose behind hosting this Creative Writers Cafe, the intention behind the theme, and what impact he hoped it would have on his fellow students and faculty members.

“The Creative Writing Cafe was an attempt to fill an academic lacuna on campus. Creative writers have opportunities to submit via our campus literary magazine, the Courant, but there are no ways for writers to network or to be in community and solidarity with each other. The creative writing center is an attempt to adjust that—to be able

to integrate different influences. This particular installment was inspired by the G.S.A. weekend: having the opportunity to present writing as something that is intersectional and necessarily relevant to whatever we’re doing on campus is even more important given that we’re newly in-person again,” said Zhou.

The writing cafe was centered around writing “creatively,” but as it was a collaboration with the G.S.A. weekend, its greater focus was on the expression of gender identity through arts and literature. Co-advisor of the G.S.A., Corrie Martin, Instructor in English, was also at the cafe last week with AWA, and shared information with students about the idea of queerness and its direct relationship with writing.

“The idea is to queer your writing, to think about how questioning gender and sexuality can change your writerly perspective even how you write. You can queer your writing not just the stories you tell and the kinds of characters, but also the way you write. So thinking about how questions of gender and sexuality change your identity as a writer,” said Martin.

During this cafe, writers were given two images with no background information, following a prompt asking them about the pieces’ representation of queerness. Emily Xia, ’22, an international student from Hong Kong, explained that through writing about gender identity, she was able to listen to other writers’ stories and even share her own.



COURTESY OF THE ADDISON GALLERY OF AMERICAN ART

Painting titled “Val d’Aosta. Man Fishing” by John Singer Sargent discussed and referenced during the workshop.

“My main takeaway is that we can see many different perspectives from a single image, from a single painting, and that everyone has so many unique perspectives to share and that’s really important to put it down on paper, to share with the world or just to share with yourself, and I think it’s really wonderful to see because when we’re discussing about an image, everyone is like, ‘What if the aquarium wasn’t an aquarium but a mirror?’ or the different perspectives of the fish,” said Xia.

Kate Horton ’22, who enjoys writing poetry, also attended both the creative writing cafes hosted last week and the week

before, and shared how this specific cafe was more streamlined and centered around one specific idea on one topic: queering your writing. This workshop, according to Horton, touched on the universal conversation about queerness and transness.

“As someone who is a part of the LGBTQ community, it was nice to talk about representation in both literature and art. But also having a conversation, not necessarily all of them were part of the LGBTQ community, about the representation of queerness and transness and how we can incorporate it and be representative of people across the world, but also not alienate it,”

Violinist Cathy Cho ’22 Finds Friendship and Mentors from the Andover Music Community

SARAH HASSANEIN

According to Cathy Cho ’22, it was sitting in the Berliner Philharmonie, surrounded by musicians, that made her realize the “power of music” and make the decision to seriously pursue the violin. From a young age she was enrolled in violin lessons, but it was not until this moment that Cho knew she wanted the violin to be a significant part of her life.

At Andover, Cho has learnt from and practiced with older students, some of whom have served as mentors to her. Although Cho enjoys practicing the violin, her favorite part of playing the instrument is the mentorship she has gained through these groups and lessons.

“I came to Andover, and I was just so inspired by how much someone can music so much. Luke Henderson, he graduated last year, but seeing him practice, and seeing him trying to teach me how to practice in Graves all the time, and take time away from his own studies to help me—it was so inspiring...I want to have that kind of passion,” said Cho.

Since coming to Andover as a Junior, Cho has taken lessons and participated in Chamber Orchestra. With an upcoming performance this

Saturday, November 6th, Cho’s latest music endeavour is a trio coached by Dr. Jacoby.

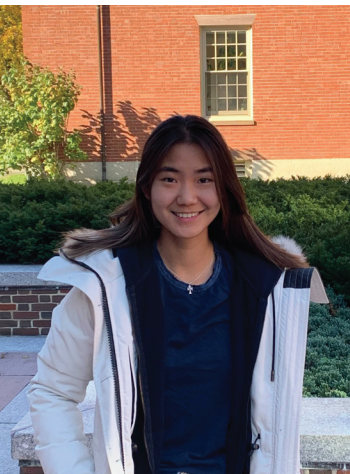
“Right now, I’m in a chamber music group with Sophia Marina ’22 and Andrew Kim ’23. We formed a trio just like the Phillips trio did last year and our coach is Dr. Jacoby. We’ve been working as a trio since last spring, we wanted to stay together for the rest of the year, and [we wanted] to enter competitions,” said Cho.

During Cho’s upper year, she took the music 400 sequence, taught by Dr. Jacoby, which she cites as her favorite class she has taken at Andover. Bonding with classmates over a shared passion for music, Cho expressed that the class gave her a sense of excitement and community.

“Dr. Jacoby is such a great teacher. Everyone in our class was so excited and motivated to be there, and just we’re bound together by our shared passion for music...We also composed for each other, towards the end of the term, in spring. We composed a trio for each other, then we played it and recorded it. That was really cool, because you get to play your friends’ compositions, and get a recording of it,” said Cho.

Looking to the future, Cho hopes music will remain a central part of her life. While she stated she may not pursue it professionally, Cho wishes to use music as a tool to create community at college, just as she did at Andover.

“I definitely will continue playing music in college. I don’t know if I’m going to major in it, but I’m looking forward to use music as a way to make friends, because I’m going to be in college, there are going to be so many people, how am I going to make connections right? I think I’m going to use it to bond, and make connections, make relationships,” said Cho.



M.DOUCETTE/
THE PHILLIPIAN

Artist Feature: Belle Brown ’23 Views Art Through Emotional Eyes

SERAFINA NORDENFLYCHT

Belle Brown ’23 views the world around her with an artistic lens, looking to her family, nature, and simple everyday objects for inspiration. As an artist, Brown hopes to fill the world with emotion and liveliness, creating textured scenes and telling layered stories.

“I find significance in [art] because I really want to make people feel something when they look at it. I like pieces that when you look harder, more stands out, or makes you feel a certain way... I think as a person I’m very consistent with what I admire, and what I like to have around me. I think it’s honestly just how my vision works,” said Brown.

Brown prefers depicting still life, while also bringing an aspect of motion into each of her pieces. Even when

painting a simple, motionless subject, she looks to light and contrast for an added sense of dimension. Whether it is her paint strokes adding depth or the colors adding contrast, Brown’s perception of movement in the world is highlighted in her own creation of a scene.

“I really like texture, and pay close attention to the mood of a color scheme. I also really like to work with light, the way light reflects off objects particularly stands out to me. I also really appreciate eyes, and I appreciate specific things like tea sets and sometimes plants and floral arrangements. I also tend to incorporate patterns like tablecloths and wallpaper,” said Brown.

Brown has been inspired by her childhood teachers and past art teachers, such as the late Emily Trespas, Instructor in Art, and her current teacher Ms. Obelliero. One



COURTESY OF BELLE BROWN

Brown ’23 utilizes multiple mediums, mixing watercolor and collage for an Andover painting class.

of Brown’s favorite artists is Frank Corso’s, whose life has influenced the way she views creativity. For Brown, using Corso’s free-flowing and spontaneous painting style is essential for understanding what the norm is, and then going beyond it, mixing tradition with abstract.

“...[Frank Corso’s] professor came over and critiqued his work...and he just got so mad he took a bunch of gray paint and scribbled all over it...And then he ended up winning the contest because he accidentally created this amazing, funky, kind of all over the place tornado over this really really beautiful traditional landscape-looking era painting. And so that really inspired me to just go with the flow, and just let your emotions come out,” Brown said.

Overall, Brown believes that her art is more about the process of creation than it is about a final product. The moment she steps back to reveal in the beauty of her expression is what makes her feel like a true artist, able to share a piece of herself on a canvas.

“I think that my art is really just the time I put into it. Whether it be a lot or a little. That’s what’s really important to me, the time I spend painting. Sometimes it feels like work, and sometimes I get frustrated with it, but it’s the times when I’m painting, and it just feels so right, that I love what I’m doing... That moment, when I can see my work paying off, is an amazing feeling,” said Brown.



COURTESY OF BELLE BROWN

Brown ’23 experiments in her free time at home, often favoring acrylic paints.