



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN
Above, the Pan Athletic Center under construction. Although the Covid-19 pandemic has delayed the its access to certain materials, the Center will open in Fall of 2022. Read more about the construction of the new athletic complex on A7.

Jewel Gear '94, Sykes Counselor, to Become Liaison with CaMD Office

BIANCA MORALES &
VERA ZHANG

After the school day and during free periods, many students flock to the Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD) office, situated in the heart of campus on the first floor of Morse Hall. Through CaMD's new collaboration with the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center, a counselor will now be available in the CaMD office on certain days of the week. Jewel Gear '94, Psychological Counselor/Wellness Educator, will serve as Sykes' liaison with the CaMD office.

According to Gear, the goal of the collaboration between

Sykes and CaMD was to make a counselor available at locations on campus that students frequently visit. Gear hopes to use the opportunity to do further outreach and education on mental health, thereby increasing students' comfort levels with seeking ongoing therapy.

"My hope in making the offer to do this was that I could be more visible, and people could see who works in Sykes and maybe form a connection. And what we do in counseling is... about 15 minutes to work on problem-solving or coping skills. I thought I could do that from CaMD too, and maybe reduce some of the barriers by being more centrally located," said Gear.

Although Gear has been working as a private counselor at Sykes, in CaMD, her role is projected to become more public. Bridget Tsemo, Director of the CaMD office, believes that Gear will be a familiar, welcoming presence for students who frequently visit CaMD and hope to receive counseling.

"I can envision her being on the sofa, [with] students coming in, and she [would] just [be] like, 'Hey, how are y'all? How was your day? What's going on?'—[students] getting to know her and her getting to know them. And [Gear,] being

Continued on A5, Column 1

Open Student Forum with Co-Presidents, Deans Receives Mixed Reactions

JACQUELINE GORDON
& JOHN MO

Student Body Co-Presidents Mary Muromcew '22 and Sean Meng '22 opened the doors to Andover's student forum to facilitate a conversation with the Dean of Students, Jennifer Elliott '94 and the Dean of Studies, Rajesh Mundra, this past Friday. During the meeting, the deans answered pre-submitted student questions and addressed follow-up questions from the open discussion portion of the forum. This discussion was an effort on behalf of the co-presidents to increase transparency between the student body and the administration.

One of the first questions

concerned the decision to get rid of 'personal time.' Lasting until the 2018-2019 school year, 'personal time' allowed students to miss classes for specific, personal reasons. In response, the deans stated that faculty members did not think students were not truly utilizing personal time for intentional rest.

"There were a lot of instances where [personal time] was not working well. Students would request personal time 15 minutes before class., that didn't go so well. If you had personal time during a term, kids would often calculate, 'When's the last day I can take personal time?' And then, 'That's the day I'm going to take it.' And then students would often use this time like a free [period], or a

cut," said Mundra.

In addition to questions surrounding school and academic policy, students also posed questions around Andover's efforts, and more specifically the administration's practices, against anti-racism. Both Elliott and Mundra mentioned the reinforcement of previous actions in addition to new anti-racism initiatives.

"It's not singular...I've thought about how important it is to have adults of color in spaces where kids feel like they can see themselves. I've thought a lot about the training of my staff, the EBI staff, and student leaders," said Elliott.

Continued on A5, Column 4

Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington Announces 31st HOSD More than Week in Advance

JENNY JIN &
ASHLEY AGYEMAN

On January 21, Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington wrote in an email to the Andover community that next Tuesday, February 1 will be the 2022 Head of School Day (HOSD). Having already been scheduled as a three-day week-

end, the additional day of break will grant students and faculty a four-day weekend. According to Kington's email, it is a day that people can look forward to amidst the conditions of Covid-19.

Traditionally in the past, HOSD is announced the night before in the lobby of Paresky Commons, granting an unexpected rest day for the community. The only exception was last year, when

Kington made the announcement virtually through a video three days prior to the HOSD. However, this year also marked another deviation from the tradition as for the first time the announcement was made a week prior to HOSD. The Andover community re-

Continued on A6, Column 4



TWEI/THE PHILLIPIAN
The last time Head of School Day was announced in-person was three years ago when former Head of School John Palfrey held up a squash racquet in February of 2019, above.

Students Voice Concern with Off-Campus Covid-19 Exposure As Long Weekend Begins

ALLY KIM &
CHRISTINE LEE

With an upcoming four-day weekend, many Andover students will be eligible to travel off campus. According to a recent email from Jennifer Elliott '94, Assistant Head of School for Residential Life and Dean of Students, Andover students who received their Covid-19 booster over two weeks before departure will be able to leave campus. Students who contracted Covid-19 within 90 days of their departure will be eligible for a waiver of this constraint for another 90 days. According to an email from Campus Medical Director Dr. Amy Patel sent on January 27, 70.34 percent of students have already received their booster shot.

All Andover students that qualify are required to have their booster shot by February 1, according to an email from Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington. Pema Sherpa '23 expressed her nervousness with this decision, despite her feeling for its importance on campus.

"I think [the booster mandate] is a good requirement and will be necessary at some point in order to make our campus more secure, but at the same time it seems unreasonable that we're required to get the booster by February 1, as there have only been a couple of clinics available and because it's such a short notice. I think they should have provided more opportunities for students to get the booster and gave us more time," said Sherpa.

In addition to the new booster shot protocol, Andover has updated its guidelines to follow the revised Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Covid-19 definitions, according to an email from Kington. Currently, Andover students no longer need to test for Covid-19 unless they are reported as symptomatic. Kington explained that the administration's reasoning behind stopping campus-wide testing was due to the complicated nature of Covid-19 regulation.

According to the Massachusetts government, the state's 7-day average of testing positivity is 10.37 percent. According to Exeter's website, their average positivity rate in the past three weeks is approximately 1.98 percent. Kington added that Andover's Covid-19 rates were low in comparison to the rest of the state, and warranted a re-evaluation of Covid-19 protocol.

"We're certainly hoping that this is not the best we're going to get, but also I'm moving away from thinking about those zones. It's much more nuanced than that. Omicron is requiring a different sort of response. We have not ruled out the possibility of starting testing again in the future, but if you look at all the institutions, this is the pivot. I think the last positive percentage of the screening was 2 percent or 1.75 percent. When you get that low, you begin to wonder whether or not it's useful and we weren't seeing a lot of traction with getting prevention

Continued on A5, Column 4

Published in both Mandarin and English, international student Jonathan Ji '24 reflects on celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year in Andover and Shanghai on A3.

The History of Student Publications at Andover



COURTESY OF THE INTERNET ARCHIVE

Visual components of *The Phillipian* used to be primarily comprised of cartoons by student contributors.

WENDY WANG &
CONNOR GLEASON

First printed in 1857, *The Phillipian* is Andover's weekly student newspaper. Alongside "The Courant," Andover's oldest creative arts magazine, and "Pot Pourri," the yearbook, student-run publications have witnessed and recorded Andover's history. An examination of previous issues indicates that these student publications have evolved significantly since their respective creations, covering a wide range of content from campus news to literature, arts, and more.

During its early years, *The Phillipian* focused on events on campus and in the town of Andover as well as Andover's athletics, clubs, logistics, and academics. The first publicly archived issues of *The Phillipian* are from 1878, each issue four pages long and featuring a few illustrations but

containing no photos.

Advertisements constituted a significant portion of *The Phillipian*—dense pages of advertisements for furniture, watches, and boots were just some of many found in *The Phillipian*. Some volumes during the 1950s featured civil war-related advertisements, drawing a parallel between campus and American society.

Notable Andover alumni who wrote for *The Phillipian* include Seth Moulton '97, U.S. Representative, Susan Chira '76, former Assistant Managing News Editor for "The New York Times," Gary Lee '74, an award-winning journalist, and Christopher Hughes '02, a co-founder of Facebook. Hughes wrote several articles for *The Phillipian's* Commentary section voicing his opinion on Andover's policies. In Vol. CXXV, No. 11 of *The Phillipian*, Hughes wrote in response to the 2001-

Continued on A7, Column 1

Commentary, A2

A Fall From Faith

In light of the Catholic Church's history with sexual abuse, Andrew Chinn '24 redefines his relationship to Catholicism.

Eighth Page, A8

Loulou, You Win

Need to do something while you wait for Jesus to rise again? Don't Passover the Eighth Page.

Sports, B3

Your 2022 Cluster Basketball All-Stars

Crowd favorite Tanush Mittal '22 discombobulates this year's studs with Team Lime.

Arts, B7

Playlist of the Week

Faculty from the Music Department chime in with their "most recently listened to" tunes for the winter, ranging from classical music to 2000s funk.

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Editorial

Last Words

Reflections from the departing members of *The Phillipian*, vol. CXLIV

“I’m so grateful for the copy callouts, the newsroom Elijah flicks, and being named second-hand aux. It maybe wasn’t what we would’ve imagined, but it was worthwhile nonetheless. To CXLIV, my love.”—A. Bhat

“I still don’t know how I got stuck with two co-editors that don’t care about sports, but it was a pretty good year I guess. The Phillipian has some amazing people and I’m glad to have met and worked with all of you.”—L.Boshar

“I wish I could give freshman year me, anxious to get an article assignment and delighted when she saw her name as the byline for the first time, a big hug. My time at The Phillipian has come to an end, but I have a little family that will last for much longer. Love CXLIV always <3”—N.Chen

“happy I got sucked into the phillipian lower year <33”—E.Choi

“Enjoy it! And illustrate!”—E.Chou

“It’s hard to change the world. But if anyone has done it, it’s probably been the Eighth Page. Thank you for the great Wednesday nights Phillipian.”—J. Collett

“I guess I didn’t end up living up to the name Abby Lee. In all honesty, a bit meaner? Love you CXLIV now and forever. Don’t let the door hit you on the way out!”—N.Elliott

“O brave new world, That has such people in’t. -Miranda, *The Tempest*.”—A.Ellis

“For the last four years, I have been able to grow, stumble, and thrive in the newsroom: you all made it a space I could find joy and belonging in, through late night calls, frenzied Wednesday nights, and an endless outpouring of support. Thank you for teaching me to embrace the speedbumps, make memories while I can, and show up each day with love.”—S.Glaser

“THANK YOU to CXLIV and the newsroom for everything! Digital became the most important section this year. Also, in 2001, a pizza was delivered to the International Space Station.”—J.He

“A huge thank you to this paper and the board for challenging me, accepting me, and helping me find joy in every corner of this campus. I LOVE YOU NEWZ <3. LLAC.”—H.Justicz

“There will come a time when you are worried about following the right path: take the left.”—R.Lam

“To CXLV, appreciate every moment in the newsroom—it’s really something special. I’m so grateful for laughter filled board meetings, late nights editing, the immense satisfaction of seeing my work in print on Friday mornings, and to have contributed to a publication with such a rich history. Thanks for everything CXLIV!”—C.Rediker

“*The Phillipian* was the unexpected endeavor of my Andover career I will never forget and always cherish (sports go sports!) <3 CXLV you will do great things!”—C.Sadowski

“Without the eighth page, I’m not a writer, just annoying and loud. Thank you and I’m sorry. I love you CLXIV.”—L.Sloss

“Writing is not my weakness! Hawaiian pizza is from Canada.”—J.Shi

“I did a lot for the paper over the last 4 years, but really, the paper did more for me.”—B.Shufro

“From Wednesday nights spent in Silent frantically transcribing last-minute interviews, to the Upper Spring Sportz brunch that never was, and now, our absentee-parent Senior Winter era, it’s truly been a hell of a ride. I couldn’t have done it without the best section by my side—I’d like to thank Cass for graciously relinquishing me of my InDesign duties (very) early on, and Boshar, for teaching me the indispensable lesson of Motivation. To CXLV: I, too, implore you to fight with a chip the size of a boulder on your shoulder, whether you are about to step onto the field, into the newsroom, or onto the stage. You may surprise yourself with what that little voice in the back of your head can help you accomplish.”—T. Tang

“Thanks for an amazing IV years. In the late 1960s, the U.S. Army’s 113th Military Intelligence Unit spied on reporters and politicians using fake pizza deliveries. LLAC.”—W.Yue

“I girlbossed with passion, I girlbossed with care, and I girlbossed the best I could. UMCXLIV Laugh Love <3 (also sorry Sean for telling you to run for co-prez and stealing your spot, you would have been a shoo-in).”—C.Robinson

“I think the newsroom mold might have given me Stockholm syndrome, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. Hold onto, cherish, and celebrate every moment, even the supremely sh*tty ones. I love you, CXLIV.”—M.Damasceno

“*The Phillipian* can both be a precious inheritance and a heavy burden. But it was something we could call “ours.” To CXLIV: I dedicate to y’all the busy newsroom evenings, leftover pizza, Jay’s red hammer, five-hour Zoom calls, “cute” ed-talks, and more secrets that only we will understand. Love you always and forever. To CXLV: Sending love and love and love. It’s all yours now.”—J.Park

“CXLIV Laugh Love like Garfield loves lasagna.”—C.Michael

“CXLIV, our tenure has been nothing short of a rollercoaster ride. I am grateful for our commitment to this paper (and to each other) through it all. CXLV, as you lead *The Phillipian* into year 145, trust in your abilities as much as I do. I know you will make us proud!”—K.Suh

“Thank you to all the voices living on the Newsroom walls. The inheritance was heavy, but CXLIV, y’all made it worth it. To CXLV: we are already so proud of you. Play Kesha for us <3.”—L. Ospina

“Maybe Kesha isn’t that bad after all. But on a serious note, thank you Sports, thank you Lillie, Abby, Phoebe, and Lucas, thank you Zaina, thank you UM, and thank you to everyone who has played a role in this three-year journey, because it’s been one hell of a journey. Long live *The Phillipian*.”—J.Aziabor

The Phillipian

The oldest preparatory newspaper in the United States. Founded 1857.

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Julio Dahl
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Indi Wagner

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Commentary
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News
Jaden Chyu
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Commentary
Leila Hardy
Tina Zeng

Illustration
Abbie Cheng
Ashley Song

Photo
Mac Doucette
McKenzie Williams

Copy
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Miles Palmer
Alex Zhang

Layout
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Sports
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A Fall from Faith

ANDREW CHINN



Trigger Warning: Contains extensive discussions on abuse, sexual abuse and sexual assault.

I AM A PERSON OF FAITH—specifically, I am Catholic. However, after shedding my childhood innocence of youth gospel music and hymns, the discovery of the Catholic church’s negligence has turned my relationship to my faith sour. I couldn’t help but wonder what standards the Catholic community should hold ourselves and our institution to. To what extent are we as members of the Catholic church perpetuating the same inconsideracy and neglect of an almost century-long history of abuse? The reputation of the church still remains a pivotal pillar of morality for millions of Catholics around the world. Yet, maybe the church has taken a fall from grace that I simply cannot follow.

On October 5, 2021, international headlines swept across the world exposing systemic problems within the Catholic church and shaking the foundation of a thousand-year-old culture, tradition, and community. For many Catholics, the familiarity of such

headlines detailing reports exposing institutional neglect and complicity reveals an uneasy truth about our identity. In particular, I found myself wondering how much longer I, and others, could stay bound to this unchanging establishment that often sweeps abuse and corruption under the rug.

I remember waking up every Sunday, painstakingly crawling out of bed and preparing casual attire. Not too formal, but neat and tidy enough to avoid a scolding and the occasional lecture about ‘how necessary’ going to church is on an early weekend morning. The church, a spiritual and moral cornerstone for me and millions around the world, has turned its back on its own ethical standards. Unfortunately, there has been limited change to confront the crisis within the church and these systemic shortfalls have allowed thousands of priests and high ranking Catholic officials to escape the consequences of their crimes.

On October 5 of last year, a 2,500-page report from an independent inquiry was released, detailing the sexual abuse of more than 200,000 minors over the past seven decades within the French Catholic Church. According to a study done by Marie Keenan, the cases in this report were only a fraction of a pervasive, international problem that many had falsely believed to be resolved. While a vocalized apology from the Vatican provided solace for some, the frequency of these reports makes apologies seem nothing more than empty promises. Public speeches, compensation or even “blessings”

from the church can no longer make up for the lack of meaningful reforms and compensation for victims. Young Catholics such as myself in particular have expectations for reforms, and are open to confronting the systemic shortfalls that have been left unaccounted for. Meaningful changes, transparency, adherence to public law and an

Church expect the next generations of Catholics to maintain their faith in them?

Many of these cases were kept secret to preserve the reputation of the Catholic church and avoid public outcry. In 1995, sexual assault abuse within the Church was brought to light by private inquiries by external investigations. Widespread publications of the sexual abuse within the church prompted a church communion report in 2004, uncovering sexual abuse allegations involving over “10,000 cases children, mostly boys”. Perpetrators avoided the proper legal repercussions for their appalling crimes, and thereby failing to enact meaningful systemic changes that would protect children around the world. Even Pope Francis’s recent changes have not quelled the outrage that young Catholics around the world feel. After succeeding his predecessor and uncovering past cases of sexual abuse, he revised Vatican laws to confront sexual abuse to minors, taking accountability for the Church’s historic failures. However, small revisions to Vatican law alone are insufficient to confront decades worth of pain and abuse.

First and foremost, Pope Francis should release church documentation and openly investigate

sexual abuse within the Catholic Church. The Church should also prosecute current members of the clergy and find ways to work with families to compensate for the abuse they had suffered. Further, within the Church, it can do a much better job to proactive in the ways it protects children, enforcing stronger laws to protect children from sexual abuse and prosecute current sexual offenders within the Church. In order to reduce the amounts of cases within the Catholic church, priest and other clergy members should be directed to the proper authorities regarding inquiries or confessions on sexual abuse within the church, or implicating church members. The Catholic church can also take a more substantial stand at bringing awareness about sexual abuse, taking the lead in educating preventative measures and indicators of grooming or other types of sexual abuse.

Being Catholic will always be ingrained into my identity. But, the church’s failures have tainted how I think of myself as a part of a growing community and my perspective on the church as a bastion of morality. I have found myself drifting farther and farther from my second home. Meaningful, systemic, change is necessary to account for the thousands of cases of abuse. A lack of transparency, change, and modernization make it hard for young Catholics such as myself to continue to support the institution that the Catholic faith revolves around.

Andrew Chinn is a Lower from Indonesia. Contact the author at achinn24@andover.edu.

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RAINA YANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Chinatown is in My Heart

JONATHAN JI



J. ZENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, I held myself to a strict 9:00 p.m. bedtime every day of the year except for one night, when the sound of fireworks and festivities made it truly impossible to sleep. I remember going out to dinner during this week and my dad having to park blocks away because there was no available space. On our five-minute walk to the restaurant, I would run ahead, then turn back to wait for my family to catch up until everyone arrived. After what would be one of the best meals of the year, with full stomachs, we turned on the TV and watched the Spring Gala, an annual Chinese Lunar New year variety show, until midnight, when we headed outside to set off firecrackers. This was my Chinese Lunar New Year's Eve. These memories are synonymous with home. Up until five years ago when I left home for junior boarding school, I thought these were traditions everywhere. I thought that coming to America only meant leaving China, not leaving "home." I arrived searching for familiar scenes from my memory, asking myself, "Where is my home?"

During my later years of junior boarding school, we celebrated New Year's with a school-wide

banquet. I was ecstatic that the school hosted a banquet, but this excitement was rather short-lived. We found ourselves receiving red packets filled with chocolate coins, and regretting the absence of must-haves like steamed fish, glutinous rice cakes, and dumplings. Each dish felt like a standard Chinese American takeout menu rather than a curated selection of dishes that each represented a different fortune for the coming year. Chocolates wrapped in gold foil simply cannot conduct the same

hollow, the school had sharply reminded me of what could have been back in China.

Then, Covid-19 hit—it was a double-edged sword. I was sent back to China for an entire year to spend my freshman fall and winter at home. Had it not been for remote learning, I would not have returned home to celebrate the New Year until after college. This unexpected visit home granted me relief from homesickness that short visits during breaks could not provide.

remember. I learned how to make spring rolls with my mother and grandmother despite having no interest in it when I was younger. When my family walked to our balcony to watch fireworks displays, I noticed that the floor was marred by previous years of celebration, marked shared experience of pyrotechnics with my family. My city, my holiday traditions, and my home hadn't changed. It was years abroad that had changed my perspec-

The experience was like rewatching a movie you loved when you were younger. It was great before, but it's so much better now because you understand all the intricacies and details that were once beyond your years.



CLARIS SHIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

connection as a red packet brimming with bills and my grandparent's best wishes for my success. The new year was ushered in silently as fireworks were forbidden by the school and lights out was still enforced, stifling celebration. I was missing the intent behind every detail of Chinese Lunar New Year that doesn't seem present. By delivering an experience that felt

Returning back home, I arrived with an expectation that I would relive memories from years past. Seeing Shanghai during the New Year, I took in all the golden fortune decorations, faux firecrackers, and lights strung up on the streets. The corny skits on the spring gala were even better than I

tive of home—home is about my family. I knew I wanted to share moments like these with friends in the states as well.

It's been almost a year since I've left home again and on February 1st, I will celebrate my first New Year at Andover. Homesickness is present like many years before. But this

time around, I know I have the agency to celebrate the way I want to. Being back in China for a year, I remembered that there were parts of home I can keep in my heart and take into the greater world. Now when I am searching for home, I only need to look inwards. The customs and beliefs instilled by my family and heritage aren't something I can leave in China. My time at home may come and go but I'll always carry a piece with me. I'll always be able to cook my favorite Chinese dishes. Chinese food will always bring the taste of home anywhere I am. I'll always be able to talk to another person with the same home. The language I speak will always be at the tip of my tongue. I'll always be able to celebrate Chinese holidays with friends even if I'm not with family. Traditions will always be in my life. Home is wherever I make it to be, whether that be Andover, China, or in my heart.

Jonathan Ji is a Lower from Shanghai, China. Contact the author at jjj24@andover.edu.

我心中的中国城

JONATHAN JI

小学时，除夕夜以外，我坚持每天都准时在晚上九点钟入睡。除夕晚上的烟花、爆竹声和庆典活动会让我久久无法入眠。我还记得每年除夕我们一家人都会一起出去吃年夜饭，但餐厅旁边通常没有停车位，爸爸不得不把车停得很远。在去往餐厅的路上，我每次都会跑在前面，再转身等家人赶上来，然后继续跑，直到全家抵达餐厅门口。享受完这一年中最丰盛的晚餐，我们便会打开电视，观看春节联欢晚会。春晚是每年为了庆祝农历新年的综艺文艺晚会。看春晚看到午夜后，我们会到外面放鞭炮。这些记忆对我来说就是家的味道。直到五年前，我离开了家乡去海外留学上寄宿初中时，我一直以为农历新年是世界各地共有的传统。我以为来到美国只意味着离开中国本土，而不是放下家乡和传统。于是我来到美国时便寻找记忆中熟悉的场景，问自己家在何方？

在寄宿初中时，我们学校会每年举办全校性的宴会来庆祝新年。当我知道学校要举办晚会时，我非常高兴，但这心情并没持久。我发现自己收到的红包里装的只是巧克力硬币，饭桌上又没有心心念念的蒸鱼、年糕和饺子等美食。眼前的每道菜都像是一份标准的美式中餐外卖，而不是为春节精心挑选的佳肴。在我的故乡，

一道道菜都象征着我们对新年的祝愿的佳肴。每逢春节，我祖父母会送给我装满钞票的红包，祝愿我成功。相比之下，用金箔包裹的巧克力无论如何都不能替代装满钞票的红包，更无法与祖父母给我的美好祝愿相提并论。由于学校禁止燃放烟花爆竹并有强制熄灯，我也失去了熟悉的庆祝仪式。我们无声无息地迎来新年，毫无往年的温暖。在学校晚会的空虚中，我怅然若失，恍然意识到在中国过春节原来是如此美好。

随后，新冠来了。我被送回中国待了一整年，在家里度过我高一的秋冬学期。疫情像一把双刃剑—如果不是因为疫情中的网课，我或许要等到大学毕业才能回家庆祝新春节。（译者注：美国的假期中不包括新年。）但这次意料之外的回国，使我的思乡之情得到了缓解。这是在假期中短暂的停留无法提供的。

返回故乡时，我期望能重温过去几年的回忆。在上海过新年，我看到了象征吉祥的金色装饰、仿鞭炮和彩灯挂在街头。春晚上的老套小品比我记忆中还要精彩。尽管我小时候对春卷毫无兴趣，我现在还是跟着母亲和祖母学者一起下厨。当我和家人走到阳台上观看烟花表演时，我注意到了地板上由往年庆祝活动留下的痕迹。这唤起我与家人一起放烟花的回忆。除了我自己以外，一切都未曾改变：我称之为故乡的城市、节日传统和家。多

年的海外生活改变了我对家的看法—只要能和亲人团聚一堂，遍地皆为家。我知道我也想和美国的朋友们分享这样的时刻。

自去年二月一日离家后已经将近整整一年，我将初次在安多佛迎春。思乡之情虽然和从前一样，但这次我想要以自己的方式庆祝春节。在中国居住了一年后，我发现我已经能把家乡的剪影留在心中，伴我走向庞大的世界。现在，当我寻找家乡时，我只需要看向内心。虽然我在美国居住的时间并不长，但我不会忘记我传承的家庭习俗和信念。无论我在哪里，我随时都能烹饪我最喜欢的中国菜，它会给我带来家乡的味道。中文将一直在我的舌尖上，我也总能与我的同乡人交谈。即使我不在家人身边，我也一直能与朋友们一起庆祝中国的节日。中华民族的传统将永远存在于我的生活中。不管在中国还是安多佛，“家”都在我的心中。

翻：康一凡和朱德澍
原文：A Chinatown in My Heart by Jonathan Ji

Want to write for
Commentary?

Email azhang23
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MELISSA DAMASCENO / THE PHILLIPIAN

Pandas are Dying Out. We Should Let Them.



WITH ITS BLACK and white fur, grizzly body, and insatiable appetite for bamboo, the Chinese giant panda has starred as the mascot of the world’s nature conservation efforts for decades. For some people, it’s a national pride, for others, a cute Disney character, and for some, even the symbol of a fast food restaurant. Billions of dollars and media attention have gone to this black and white creature, more so than any animal out there in the world. But as China finalizes its plans for a new \$2 billion dollar panda reserve three times the size of Yellowstone, and with worrying new research being published, I have questions about how deserving pandas are of such unequivocal love.

As someone who grew up walking distance from the Beijing National Zoo, I’ve been gawking at these giant bears every summer since I was born. Back then, I—like everyone else in the world—loved pandas with all my heart. And even now, I don’t want to see them die. But I’ve begun to have doubts. As more and more animals are

added to the endangered list each day, and as our world begins to see (but ignore) more and more signs of climate change, my appreciation for the ever increasing zeros in panda conservation budgets has slowly started to waver. It may be time to do some spring cleaning.

Just to be clear, I am not trying to play god—just his C.F.O. And this C.F.O. says that it may be time to move on. Pandas are essentially a two billion dollar domino. Notorious for their strange genetics and fragility, the bear is extremely susceptible to any form of environmental harm. Possessing a carnivorous digestive system yet intaking a herbivorous diet, the panda must spend 80 percent of its day eating one of the least nutritious plants on the planet—while only being able to digest 17 percent of it. If a panda’s habitat were to experience just one natural disaster, whether that be an earthquake or a fire, the panda may not have enough bamboo to survive, let alone safely reproduce. It’s also to be noted that panda habitat naturally rejects the animal, with bamboo forests periodically dying off in an attempt to starve bears in the area to death. Usually this would lead to a slow migration to a different area, but with the land around the panda unfortunately so drastically changed by man made roads and structures, the species can now only wait for death. What will this massive budget have done then?

Now, you may say, “Raymond, with human intervention, we can easily save this oh so lovable creature!” However, pandas are nearly unsavable. The China state for-

estry administration states that out of the five hundred pandas in captivity, only two captive born males have ever successfully mated. Almost 70 percent of inseminations in captivity are artificial, and the birth rate is still

tant to keep around for as long as possible.” And this is the time where I kindly and sadly say that you are..wrong again. A decade of research by Dr. Fang Wang, an ecologist at Fudan University in Shanghai, has shown that pandas

of the Zoological Society of London has described how conservation in China and other parts of the world are typically based around landscape protection for specific, high revenue generating “flagship species,” thus removing the natural balance and biodiversity of the original ecosystem. The byproduct of this interference is, unfortunately, the lives of other species, showing us that the panda and its billion dollar cost is not as beneficial as it is made to be.

Biologically inefficient, artificially preserved, naturally doomed, environmentally harmful, and ridiculously expensive. The situation behind the cute eyes of the Chinese giant panda is sadly disappointing. Yet even through all of this, I do not hate the animal. After all, it has done nothing wrong by struggling to survive. What I’m truly disappointed in is us, and the fact that we treat dying species’ lives like it’s some reality TV trope, picking and choosing what survives and what doesn’t. There are countless other endangered species struggling to survive—wolves, dholes, sea otters, leopards, and more—that we barely bat an eye to. Underneath the towering shadow of the panda, they falter one by one, underfunded and overlooked. But yes, spend those millions so we can make some more panda porn. Ready, one, two, three, save the pandas! Right?

Right?

Raymond Ge is a Lower from Princeton, N.J. Contact the author at rge24@andover.edu.

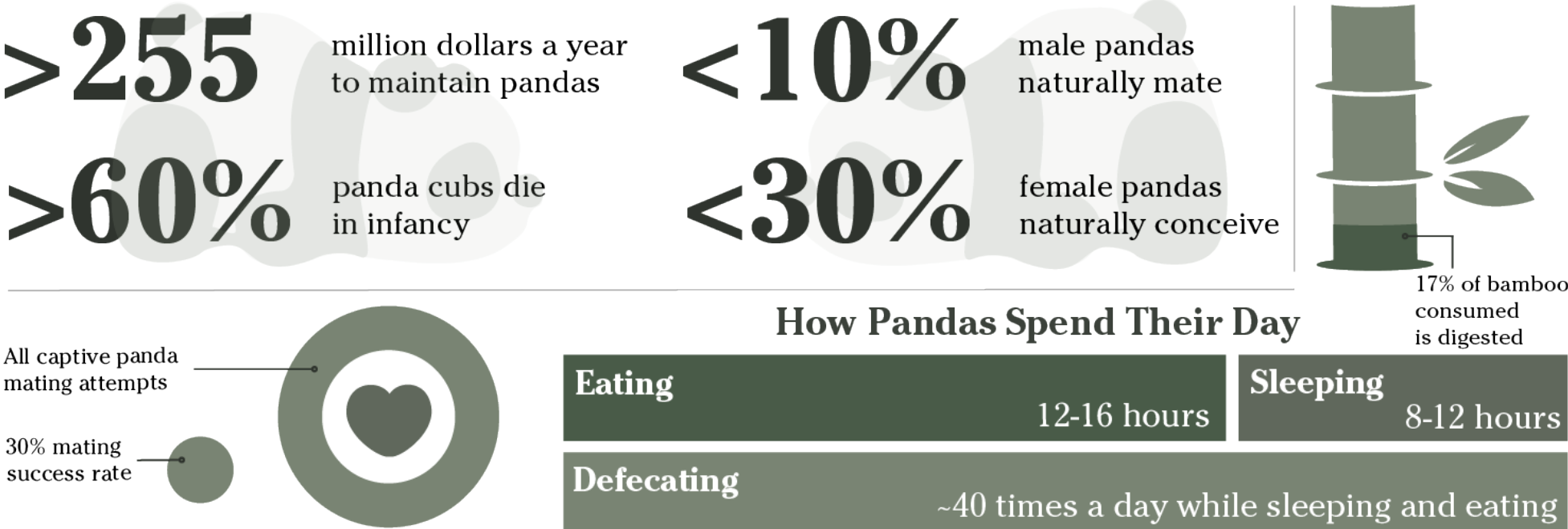


AVIVA CAI / THE PHILLIPIAN

so laughably low that it makes national news when a bear is born. So much so that we show these creatures panda porn just to get a male-female pair to even interact with each other. We’re paying \$2 billion dollars to watch pandas lazily run themselves to the ground.

And if by now, you are still saying, “Raymond, pandas are worth these two billion dollars. The panda still plays a crucial role in the ecosystem. They’re impor-

may even cause harm to their own environment. When analyzing the data of camera traps in panda reserves for over the past decade, Dr. Wang found that large carnivores such as the leopard, snow leopard, wolf, and dhole (all of them at-risk or endangered species) have retreated where pandas take residence. The wolf and dhole have become “functionally extinct” within these panda residences. Professor Samuel Turvey



NEWS IN BRIEF

REPORTING BY LEO PETERS

This Week:

Last Thursday, around 9:00 p.m., Andover’s Blue Key Heads ran through the library, yelling “Doughnuts in [Susie’s!]” to inform students that there were free doughnuts available in Susie’s for a limited time. In related news, Jennifer Elliott ’94, Dean of Students and Residential Life announced in an all-school email the following day that Susie’s would be open as a gathering place for students, though the food service will remain closed for an indeterminate time, as members of the campus community who are in quarantine must pick up their green box meals in Susie’s.

Active Minds, a student club devoted to mental

health on campus, sponsored a Stress Less Day on Thursday at Oliver Wendell Holmes Library, giving out stress balls, face maks, bubble wands, temporary tattoos, and books. The following day Active Minds also hosted a movie night and bake sale fundraiser on Friday, January 21, with proceeds being donated to the national non-profit organization Active Minds.

Guest concert pianist Victor Rosenbaum performed a recital in the Cochran Chapel last Sunday, January 23, at 3:00 p.m. (See B6)

Looking Ahead:

The Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center will be

holding a Covid-19 booster clinic on Friday, January 28, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Carter Lobby of Snyder Center.

Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington announced that “Head of School Day” will be on February 1, allowing the Andover community to enjoy a four-day weekend.

New Covid-19 Protocol Includes Student Booster Shot Requirement by February 1

Continued from A1, Column 5

of transmission by contact tracing,” said Kington. Kington continued, “The other thing that was happening was that the system was becoming overwhelmed with the PCR tests, so we were getting long delays. Everyone was. So it sort of didn’t even matter then, since students had quarantined already. It was clear the system was overwhelmed... and we’ve been following what’s been happening at the college, university level and our peers, [and] this is where the curve is bending. People are beginning to move toward what we suggested and very little institutions were having the rates that we were having, which were so low.” Cris Ramnath ’23 was discomforted by the new testing protocol. Ramnath felt as though there was a lack of clarity from Andover administration on future Covid-19 procedures. He additionally emphasized a fear of student exposure downtown and off campus. “To be honest, I don’t think it’s exactly the best decision,

especially in terms of testing. I feel like it’s very ambiguous as to why or why not we are not testing students, so to make decisions like going downtown and everything else, I feel like if you’re allowing students to be exposed to places in which we’re not sure have Covid-19 and can get students close to Covid-19. We should test to make sure that we don’t have Covid-19 on campus everywhere,” said Ramnath. Ashley Park ’24 echoed a similar discomfort to Ramnath. However, Park felt as though the administration detailed the new protocol decisions clearly in their recent emails to the campus community. She agreed with the decisions, though still feels hesitant about off campus travel. “I could understand the regulations well from the email explaining them. The shifts related to the Covid-19 regulations were definitely big transitions, and some changes felt really sudden to me, which I think affected my sense of stability and mental health. I think most of the regulations are reasonable, although there were a couple that I was skeptical about. For example, I think it’s a bit questionable that

some dorms are still not allowing room visitation while students are now allowed to go off campus and walk downtown,” said Park. Students all experience Andover’s Covid-19 protocol differently, according to Aleena Kibria ’23. She explained that although measures taken on campus make sense, they inequitably affect students with different Covid-19 experiences outside of school. She feels as though better communication could fix some of these issues. Kibria said, “I think that the protocols themselves make sense for keeping our community safe and they still try to give us as much freedom as possible. I think they take into account pretty well that we’re still in a pandemic. I just think sometimes, especially for international students, it’s a little bit difficult to accept the protocols because there’s so much inconsistency on how they treat international students, especially when going back home or coming back home, or access to vaccinations. I think, generally speaking, all of the protocols make sense. They should just communicate it clearer.”

Liasion Role Attempts to Build Trust Between Sykes and BIPOC Students

Continued from A1, Column 3

a professional, I can imagine her saying, if you want to have this conversation, let’s make an appointment... So that is intentional, the difference between watching kids play Uno or laughing with them versus ‘We need to have this serious conversation,’” said Tsemo. Tsemo continued, “[Gear] graduated some years ago, and now she’s back here working as one of the counselors in Sykes. She wanted to find a way, because CaMD was so important to her from her years of being here, to contribute to being in this office. So she volunteered and contacted us and said she would like to have some time where she just comes here, and she makes herself available to students.” Gear hopes that her presence in CaMD and casual, friendly approach to conversing with students can influence students’ decisions to seek counseling through Sykes. Gear admitted that students may often feel intimidated by reaching out for help in an unfamiliar setting. “If you never come over, then you never get the chance to know anybody who you would want to talk to. So by moving the service part of the time to the CaMD office, it just allows people to kind of get to know at least me to be a

touchpoint,” said Gear. Tsemo echoed Gear’s sentiments regarding the plan. Tsemo intends for the presence of a counselor in a space such as CaMD to build trust between students from marginalized backgrounds and the Sykes counseling team. “Maybe if they get to know [Gear] outside of Sykes, and get to see how cool she is in this environment, they can say maybe there is a counselor who will respond to my identity, my issues around identity... I know that she has an interest in students who come here. So my belief is that if she has that interest, and she’s reaching out to say what she’s trying to say—‘I am sensitive to some of the issues that may be specific to those of you who have a particular kind of identity,’” said Tsemo. Camila McGinley ’23 appreciates this collaboration between Sykes and CaMD, believing it would help destigmatize mental health conversations, especially for BIPOC students. McGinley hopes that the counselor’s presence could be further extended to other spaces on campus such as the Brace Center for Gender Studies. “I think it is a really good idea [to put a counselor in CaMD]. I feel like it can help destigmatize and make mental health resources more accessible specifically for BIPOC students where mental health can be very stigma-

tized in BIPOC communities. I think that making a counselor available in a place where many BIPOC and underrepresented students feel included and comfortable can make reaching out and meeting with a counselor easier... I feel like [CaMD is] a more private place and a place that [their] work focuses on being inclusive of individuals’ identities, which allows for people of underrepresented communities to feel more comfortable,” said McGinley. Nahila Hutchinson ’24 commented on her experience with seeking counseling in the past. Hutchinson felt that her background made her more hesitant to seek the help she needed. However, Hutchinson believes that having a counselor in a space like CaMD would help alleviate some of the stress from receiving mental health support. “Personally, I feel it would be very beneficial to the students who have counseling needs based on their identities, such as race or ethnicity. The idea of getting a Sykes counselor assigned to me has been a little stressful in the past because I’ve had to wonder whether they would understand me, my struggles, and my background. Having somebody in CaMD already trained on these topics would ease some of Black and brown students’ reluctance to get counseling,” said Hutchinson.

‘No Pivoting, Adjusting, or Shifting Plans For This Beloved Tradition’: HOS Grants Four-Day Weekend

Continued from A1, Column 3

sponded with ambivalence about this unusuality. According to Silvia Ng ’23, while an early announcement can lower the excitement that students normally feel when receiving the news right before HOSD, it also enables students to plan ahead. “I’m not too sure about how I feel about the early announcement because finding out about Head of School Day the day before brings the shock and excitement of having a day off when you least expect it. But an early announcement also has its benefits, such as being able to plan ahead. Both early and late announcements have their pros and cons,” wrote Ng in an email to *The Phillpian*. Similarly, Manou Georgila, a Teaching Fellow in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, expressed that the late announcement can both be disappointing and helpful to students. As an instructor, she preferred the early announcement as it allows her to arrange and adjust her teaching plan accordingly. Georgila said, “I’ve also heard students who appreciated knowing and having some sort of schedule in this time of uncertainty. And I think, not to speak on behalf of the school or the administration there, but I think maybe one incentive [in their pre announcing] was to have something certain. As a teacher, I like knowing ahead of time, so that I can plan my classes for next week better and see what adjustments that we need to make rather than having it be a last minute thing.” The change of schedule and academic program was to provide students more of a break than last year. Canceling one assignment per class on Head of School Day avoids the issue of students receiving a week’s worth of homework to complete in a smaller time frame, according to Kington. “[The administration] recognizes that everyone is under stress, provided the evidence that

students in particular are showing signs of stress in terms of mental health across the nation, across the world. So we thought that we could do things a little bit differently this year. And we saw this opportunity of adding a day to make a four day weekend, made a lot of sense. [Following our] decision, we thought we probably should do this in advance, so the students will have time to sort of plan and actually if they want to be away, be away. So it was just another manifestation of just the different times we’re living in,” said Kington. Camila McGinley ’23 appreciated the early announcement that allowed students to make plans for the long weekend. “I feel like folks are criticizing Dr. Kington too harshly because if he would have done it the night before many people would have complained that they could have gone home or gotten an overnight excuse if they knew. So I think it was thoughtful of him to let people know in advance so that if they could they would be allowed to leave campus” said McGinley. Kington hopes that by next year, the tradition could return back as a surprise announcement for Head of School Day. Kington plans to signal the day by lowering the Head of School Day flag in front of Samuel Phillips Hall, following the traditions of previous Head of Schools Barbara Landis Chase and John Palfrey who respectively held up a field hockey stick and a squash racquet as their symbol for announcing Head of School Day. “If next year we’re back to a more ‘normal’ normal, I would hope that we’ll be able to return to this tradition. Although we do have the problem that I don’t play a racket sport. So maybe to come up with a way of signaling in the [Paresky] that the day has arrived, but I’m sure I can pick this up. One plan would be to lower the flag, the Big Head of School Day flag in front of Sam Phil. That’s why I got that big flag. I decided that was gonna be my way of signaling, but it’s not as dramatic,” said Kington.

Personal Time, Anti-Racist Initiatives Among Topics Discussed at Forum

Continued from A1, Column 3

Mundra continued, explaining how teaching faculty generated specific goals were set for each academic department. “Last year, each academic department had some short and long term goals that they had around anti-racism, and I think that the anti-racism things that people were committing to were an extension of the type of teaching and the type of pedagogy Andover has in place, there’s a huge room for growth, but it wasn’t like we were starting from zero. I am trying to hold the departments accountable to their goals,” said Mundra. In an interview with *The Phillpian*, Muromcew explained the importance of Friday’s forum, as the first open discussion between students and deans in the four years that she has been at Andover. “It was definitely an organic idea that came from myself, Sean, Dean Elliott, and LCG. We wanted to choose a diverse array of questions, so not just asking the same thing over and over again. I also feel that the questions we chose targeted issues that were really pertinent to the student body,” said Muromcew. Some students who attended the discussion expressed

mixed reactions. Ariana Zhao ’25 felt there were many topics left undiscussed. “Personally, I don’t think the deans used the limited time we had well, as there were many other topics and questions that were important to address that we didn’t get to. I do think that the deans were very patient with the students and they listened to everyone’s questions and answered the best they could,” said Zhao. Attendee Lily Williamson ’25 also felt that some questions were avoided through vague or indirect answers from the deans. Williamson did, however, appreciate their more in-depth responses which seemed to express their genuine care for the student body’s well being. “My initial reaction was a mix between hope and disappointment. It felt productive to see faculty interacting with the students and meaningful conversations being had. What I enjoyed more than hearing the pre-prepared questions was hearing students in the audience address their concerns directly with the faculty members... However I still feel like this topic, along with many other topics in the same realm, are being avoided by administration and instead are responsibilities placed on students to educate other students,” said Williamson.



KWANG/THE PHILLIPIAN
Jewel Gear ’94, Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center counselor, hopes to embody a friendly, casual energy while in the CaMD office.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
M. DOUCETTE/
THE PHILLIPIAN

RED BRICK ROAD

#LongLivePhotoCXLIV



Construction Update: Pan Athletic Center Plans to Open Next Fall

MELISSA CHANG & VERA ZHANG

More than a year has passed since the start of the construction of the Pan Athletic Center. It will hold new facilities for wrestling, dance, and swimming, according to the Andover Athletics website. As time progressed, on-lookers saw the ever growing state of the building with an increasing appearance of completion, transforming from wooden foundations to a robust structure.

According to Paul Murphy '84, Instructor in Mathematics and Coach of Girls Swimming, the Case Memorial Cage and Smith Center, which were once where the Pan Athletic Center now stands, was demolished in the Fall of 2020, marking the beginning of the construction. Despite a few setbacks with the Covid-19 outbreak, the building has luckily proceeded more or less on schedule.

However, the challenges posed by the pandemic have still affected the construction process. Larry Muench, Director of Facilities, elaborated on the impact Covid-19 with behind the scenes insight.

“Covid-19 has been the main obstacle – it’s caused supply chain delays for mate-

rials as well as impacted several trade groups when the workers caught the virus. We were strict in mandating that all workers wear masks on the jobsite and we suspended all in-person meetings to minimize exposure,” wrote Muench in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Muench added, “Along with equipment and material delays, Covid-19 has caused price increases for many items. We carry funding in these projects just in case prices go up but a positive is we ordered many high cost items, such as structural steel, very early on and locked in lower prices accordingly.”

Overall, students have expressed anticipation and satisfaction with the new resources of the Pan Athletic Center. Andover Girls Swimmer Emma Cheung '23 looks forward to the new swimming pools, despite recognizing Borden’s significance to her.

“I cannot wait for the arrival of the Pan Athletic Center, especially as a swimmer. While Borden was the first pool I ever swam in at Andover, I’m excited about the new change. I think it’s especially fitting for the 50th anniversary of Andover girls [swimming] and [diving]. I hope the Pan Athletic Center will bring a new legacy to the swimming and diving programs,” said



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

The swimming pool of the Pan Athletic Center is currently the focus of construction, as well as installing the dry-wall.

Cheung.

Currently, the main focus of construction is the swimming pools. Muench described the current situation of the Pan Athletic Center in regards to the progression of wall foundations.

“We’re focusing on the pool construction. Now that the outside walls have been put in place, we are installing dry-wall in various areas. The upper floor is leading the sched-

ule and we plan to finish the building from the top down. Mechanical and electrical systems are being installed above the ceilings, and the façade is being constructed,” wrote Muench in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Students are eager to see the new athletic center between the Borden Gym and Snyder Center, the two main sports facilities on campus. When asked about the dead-

line of the project, both Murphy and Meunch predicted it would be soon.

“I believe the construction will be finished by the early Fall Term this year,” said Murphy.

Muench continued, “We’re planning on completing the Pan Athletic Center late August and receive the Certificate of Occupancy in time for the start of [next year’s] fall term.”

Andover Ambassadors Bring Student Perspective to the Admissions Process

BIANCA MORALES & ANGELINE ZHAO

With over 600 followers and 30,700 likes, the Andover Admissions page on the short-video sharing app TikTok has gained attention online since its first post in October 2021. A group of selected students on the Andover Ambassadors team uses the app to give advice to prospective students online and provide a lens into daily life at Andover.

Andover’s TikTok page is the newest facet of the Andover Ambassadors’ role in the admissions process. Alongside social media, the Andover Ambassadors team represents the school in a variety of mediums, through tours, panels, and Q&A sessions. The team consists of 45 chosen Andover students, according to ambassador Kevin Flores Blackmore '23.

Andover Ambassador Sylvie Archer '23 loves giving tours and speaking on panels to provide information to prospective families who are interested in applying to Andover. Archer explained that her Junior year experience as a panelist led her to join the team both as a regular ambassador and as a part of the

social media initiative.

“I applied because [during my Junior] year, I did a couple of panels for the admissions team and I really enjoyed talking to prospective families. The application process is kind of just a survey that they send out. It has a few essay questions about yourself, and then you also have to do an interview with one of the current ambassadors... [for] the social media ambassadors, which are the only real subgroup of people, there is an extra survey that we had to fill out to get selected,” said Archer.

The Andover Ambassador program additionally offers opportunities and training to students without experience in tour guiding or leading panels. Due to Covid-19, many of the ways in which admissions operates and connects with students have changed. Ambassador Lucy Booth '23 hadn’t given a tour prior to being appointed. Despite her inexperience, the ambassador program gave her the opportunity to step into her new responsibilities. Next year, she will teach new Andover Ambassadors and tour guides.

“When I filled out my application, it was asking about tours I’d given because you can be a tour guide and you can be an

ambassador, and ambassadors train tour guides. I had actually never given a tour, and it was something I’d always wanted to do at Andover because I loved talking and I loved engaging with people. I would love to talk to people about how much I love this school and how anyone can make an impact in this community. I think if I was able to say that well in my application, that was enough,” said Booth.

According to Flores Blackmore, after the February 1 application deadline for prospective Andover students, the Andover Ambassadors will have less work. However, they plan to organize more events once students are accepted in the spring.

“Revisit days [are] April 10... I’ll probably be doing a lot of virtual stuff whenever [students] get accepted in March. Last year, they had Q&A’s and stuff. We’ll probably be doing the same thing, you know, where we get on Zooms with them, and they’ll just ask us questions... Generally, we’re leaning off because applications will pass on... But other than that, our job is pretty much done. We just have little things here and there,” said Flores Blackmore.

The Andover Admissions TikTok, run by the ambassadors

on the social media team, is designed to showcase student life and school spirit at Andover. According to Whitney Kanter '24, the TikTok shows day-to-day life at Andover. However, she believes that in order for it to truly reach more students, the TikTok should be updated more frequently and actively.

“The Andover Admissions TikTok feels so similar in energy to the Instagram except modified to reach more viewers. The spirit week posts have so much big blue spirit and are really cute. It doesn’t feel cringy, per say, but it isn’t active enough with recent trends or ‘day in the life’ videos to be super cool. I love the more student life oriented videos because they show the day-to-day community life that the Instagram sometimes doesn’t,” said Kanter.

Helios Hong '25 voiced his appreciation for the unique perspective that Andover Ambassadors was able to offer him in his application process. When answering questions from prospective students and families, the panelists spoke about the school in a way which teachers and faculty alone would not be able to portray, according to Hong.

“When I was applying to An-

dover, I went to lots of webinars and admission events, and my favorite part was always the students answering questions. All the presentations by the teachers were informational, but the students’ responses revealed an authentic image of the school. Their love for the campus and their friends were so appealing, and that is part of why I chose Andover,” said Hong.

Echoing sentiments made by Hong, Ambassador Daniel Bae '23 believes the Andover Ambassadors provide a fresh sense of student perspective in the Andover Admissions and outreach process. Bae became interested in the program through friends and family, and defined what it means to be an ambassador.

“My older brother was an ambassador, one of my friends Caroline Ho was an ambassador. I think it’s a really great thing because it shows your passion for this place, to get to inspire people to come here is a really special thing to get to do... First and foremost you have to be passionate about the school. You have to love being here, I think the energy is very noticeable,” said Bae.

Centuries Long Publications Reveal Andover’s History within Their Pages

Continued from A1, Column 5

2002 Blue Book’s gender justice issues, published a few days before the policy was amended by the administration.

“Though last week’s decision manifested the administration’s

reason and humility, the possibility of a similar revision in later years is apparently still on the table. Such a possibility presents a threat to the Academy’s ability to provide a healthy and nurturing environment for its students in two respects: not only would such a change place those students struggling with their sexual

orientation under undue stress, but it would also challenge the student-house counselor relationship and pose a virtually impossible enforcement scenario for house counselors,” wrote Hughes in his piece.

Richard Greener, Class of 1865, the second-ever Black student at Andover, was an Editor for *The Phillipian*. During his time at Andover, Greener also served as Editor for “The Mirror,” the Philomathean Society’s literary publication. Graduating from Andover in 1865, Greener became the second Black person admitted to Harvard College, from which he graduated in 1870.

In recent publications, The Phillipian’s coverage of athletics, photography, and arts expanded, reaching 16-20 pages each issue. Additionally, *The Phillipian* now occasionally expands coverage to issues beyond Andover.

“The Courant,” Andover’s oldest creative arts magazine, was founded in 1873 by Abbot Academy students. Before the 1972 merger between Phillips Academy and Abbot Academy, “The Courant”—formerly “The Abbot Courant”—was run independent-

ly by the Abbot Academy.

“The merger of Abbot and Phillips Academy was a bloodletting, more of a violent and very poorly conducted occasion. Abbot Academy students felt like their school suddenly just disappeared overnight and that they were forced to go into this school, where many teachers and students back then were very averse to girls joining. So a lot of Abbot’s culture was lost in that merger,” said Frank Zhou '22, one of the current Co-Editors in Chief of “The Courant.”

Almost immediately after the merger, “The Courant” began to publish only sporadically from 1972 to 1992. The significance of “The Courant” revealed by the merger has impacted the Andover community. In fact, “The Courant” was an outlet for Abbot Academy students to heal from the trauma of the merger, according to Zhou.

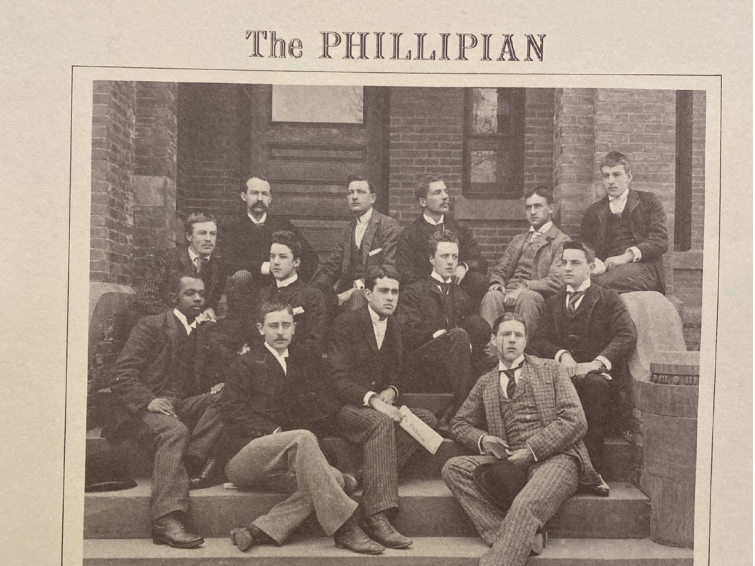
Zhou hopes that “The Courant” board expands the publication digitally in the future, especially given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Throughout the past few decades, “The Courant” has published not only prose and po-

etry but also students’ visual artworks.

“Pot Pourri,” Andover’s yearbook, is an annual publication that contains information about student and faculty members as well as student activities. The earliest publication of “Pot Pourri” is in Spring 1893. Differing from recent issues of “Pot Pourri,” most visual elements were hand-drawn illustrations by Andover students. Over 140 pages of the first yearbook included approximately 30 drawings featuring activities such as orchestra, sports teams, and subject-specific cartoons.

Ahanaf Tajwar '22 believes that “Pot Pourri” offers the opportunity for students to recollect the highlights of student life on the Andover campus throughout the past year.

“It’s nice to get a diverse look on what my peers think about the school and whatnot. There are a lot of cool photos in there, and honestly, the photos are hype, especially like the Senior Vista Walk... I feel like it covers everything,” said Tajwar.



COURTESY OF THE INTERNET ARCHIVE
Richard Greener with the rest of *The Phillipian* board in 1889.

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

LOULOU SLOSS AND JOHN COLLETT HAVE FINALLY DIED.



@loupop124



@johnc_12345

If you've ever been to an amateur audition for New Girl, you've probably met Loulou Sloss. Upon her untimely death, probably either from loneliness or crabs from her boyfriend, the Eighth Page has unfortunately been tasked with honoring her pitiful career.

She's from New York, but she'll probably tell you that after interacting with her for more than five seconds. After having to look at her face for the past few months, hopefully, she'll bring the braces back. LouLou is rarely in a good mood, but I'd be too if my face looked like that and my parents were divorced.

Her father is a one-hit-wonder for racially-insensitive "films," but hey, an Oscar is an Oscar. This position probably makes Loulou think she is "cultured," but being pale and pretending to go to art museums doesn't convince us. Her mother (specifically her Instagram) is revered around campus, but we are all very disappointed that she is dating another rich old guy (the apple probably won't fall far from the tree).

I would love to include some information here about Loulou's friend group, but in reality, they are mostly non-existent. Those that do exist probably engage in riveting conversations about being popular loners or how to put together the worst outfits. After getting rejected by half the group, she was forced to resort to an online boyfriend who is probably cat-fishing her for money. I probably won't miss Loulou, and I definitely won't miss those bug eyes. Glad they'll be closed forever.

John Collett has died this morning at the age of 17. Trap in Heaven, King.

John led a sad and disappointing life. Collett was born in iluvmacousin, North Carolina to a family of furniture makers. This family business is obviously a drug front. (Only one of the two fronts John is affiliated with, as he is on the board of Pencils of Promise...)

After merely a glimpse at Andover's diversity, John decided to retreat to his friend group. A mixture of the Vineyard Vines rich and the Stone Island rich. This demographic was more Mr. Collett's speed. I can't blame him, with these friends he has traveled The Globe many times... He is survived by his two siblings. Both of which are cooler than John in their own regard. James Collett for his work on the PAGorilla and leaving in a blaze of glory, and Ruthie for being not John. (To James: I would looove to hear about the New York Times' biases, maybe over dinner? How about you pick me up at 7 on Friday? See all my sides now...)

John's recent death is probably the best thing that's ever happened to his physical appearance. In the coffin, no one can tell that he's 5'1". And the embalming service will be more time than John had spent on his own appearance in his time alive. Maybe the funeral technician will finally shave his pedo-stache... He has asked to be buried in his Barbour jacket. Like a real man.

On a lighter note!

Most likely to hide a body in the Newsroom	Will they won't they	Newsroom crush	Did it for the CommonApp	Got the most use out of StuPubs	Most likely to be a trophy wife
Laura Ospina	Jay Aziabor & Natalie Chen	Christine Michael	All of Business	Celeste Robinson	Loulou Sloss

NEWSROOM SUPERLATIVES!

Eighth page hater	Most orangutan	The one that got away	Least editor	Most editor	Second hottest Eighth Page Editor
?????	Elijah	Aaron Chung	Preston Whitehurst	Kris Aziabor	John Collett

8p Staff's Lessons Learned

- The answer is always: "Yes, Loulou."
- Wait for Nicky to take his meds
- Fake names CANNOT rhyme with Dean's names
- Don't mess with chem.
- Clap after John practices his theater homework in front of you
- What a punchline is.
- Don't be too funny, the editors have fragile egos.

What John and Loulou are taking from their time as editors:

- Keen joking ability
- A lifelong of friendship

What John and Loulou are leaving behind:

- An Anime Mousepad (ur welcome guys)

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEMBERS REFLECT ON THE EIGHTH PAGE:

"WHAT'S THE EIGHT[H] PAGE AGAIN, ASIDE FROM BEING THE PAGE THAT FOLLOWS THE SEVENTH?"
- DR. RAYK (FAMOUSLY SAID "PENIS" AMONG OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS)

"IF YOU THINK OF THIS YEAR AS MY REPUTATION ERA (WHICH I HIGHLY SUGGEST DOING), JOHN AND LOULOU HAVE BEEN THE KANYE WEST TO MY TAYLOR SWIFT."
- MR. SETH (PG)

"I THINK IT'S A REALLY FUNNY PAGE AND I WOULD BE COMPLETELY OPEN FOR THEM TO SH*T ON OUR DORM, ACTUALLY, ONLY ON THE FRESHMAN."
- ROCKWELL DORM REPS (VERY IMPORTANT)

"IT'S NEVER GONNA HAPPEN, NAT."
- JAY AZIABOR (HEART-BREAKER)



The Phillipian SPORTS

Volume CXLIV | Number 26

GIRLSSQUASH

*jay after jay,
the sportz
regime lives on
- “lb, tt, CS”*

January 28, 2022

Girls Squash Extends Win Streak to Five, Sweeps Exeter 7-0 and Defeats St. Paul’s 6-1



A. CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Girls Squash will next play Exeter away on February 23.

Andover	7
Exeter	0
Andover	6
St. Paul’s	1

STAFF REPORT

Following the team’s 7-0 sweep against Phillips Exeter Academy on Saturday, Andover Girls Squash headed into its match

against St. Paul’s on Wednesday with a four-game win streak. Led by 3-0 sweeps from Liz Zhao ’24, the team’s third seed player, and Karen Wang ’23, the team’s sixth seed player, Andover defeated St. Paul’s 6-1. Adding two more victories to its win streak, the team’s record now stands at 8-2.

Andover will play Exeter once more before the end of the season. According to Kennedy Ndiaye ’22, the Andover/Exeter rivalry provides intense competition and the opportunity for the team to improve certain aspects of its game.

“I think Exeter is one of our favorite teams to play because of the years of tradition and the

competition. And as our coach, [Head Coach Jennifer Elliott ’94] always says, we respect them as players and students and people. So it’s intense competition and everyone’s really good and [we’re] in some of our most competitive spirit. But it was not the first time we played them this season, and it also wasn’t the last time we’re going to play them again before the season is over. So it’s a really good opportunity to focus on something specific each time that we play them and it can be different things,” said Ndiaye.

During practices, the team has been working on drills tailored towards increasing its fitness and offensive power. According to Zhao, the intense practices have translated to improvement and success on the court.

Zhao said, “One thing our coaches really like to emphasize during practice is our fitness, and we do this brutal warm-up that’s like five minutes of jump roping, then five minutes non-stop of running up and down the Snyder stairs, and then five minutes of sprinting back and forth on the court just as a warm-up. So our fitness levels have, I think, really improved, and it’s really helped during those really long rallies and points where the ball just won’t die. And then we’ve also been working on attacks and playing aggressively, and I think that also helped in order to beat our opponents.”

Defeating St. Paul’s with 3-0 sweeps from Zhao and Wang, the team saw formidable play across the whole team. Accord-

ing to Kim, the team has focused on maintaining composure and sportsmanship amidst its recent success.

“I think all of us have been playing really well, but just making sure that we’re having good sportsmanship because I think a lot of times when you’re playing really well and having matches against others, it’s easy to become a bit arrogant or kind of lay off. But all of us have been really focusing on what we can work on in each match and making sure that we have good sportsmanship and representing our team values. And that’s something that we’ve been really excelling in and just staying calm and playing our own game well,” said Kim.

Looking ahead, the team is looking forward to more competition against Exeter and the

teams it lost to previously. According to Ndiaye, the team is aiming to carry its momentum throughout the rest of the season in hopes of a deep run at Nationals.

“We’re looking forward to playing Exeter again and hopefully [beating] them again in the same way, and we’re really looking forward to Nationals which is a really great opportunity. We lost to Winsor, but we hope to play Winsor again and beat them this time because we have more players back on our team; we had a few injuries and sickness. But yes, looking forward to Nationals and just continuing to excel,” said Ndiaye.

Andover will seek another win as it welcomes Groton at home on Friday.



A. CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Girls Squash also swept Exeter when the two teams faced off last on February 26, 2020.

SPORTSOPINION

How to Bring Success Back to Boston



M. CARMONA/THE PHILLIPIAN

DAVID XIE

In the last twenty years, the Boston Red Sox, Celtics, Bruins, and New England Patriots have combined for 12 championships. However, each of these teams looks much different now, and most aren’t at the top of their respective leagues. Here, I’ll take a look at each team and make a prediction on what needs to happen to get back to contending for championships.

First, the Boston Celtics. Led by wings Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown, the team hasn’t been able to take the next step to become a true contender despite surrounding those two with an ever-chang-

ing cast of rotation players. The prediction here is that the Celtics will sign a forward such as Jerami Grant or Kristaps Porzingis that can provide spacing or playmaking on the offensive end, which the team sorely lacks. A forward like that wouldn’t compromise the team’s solid defensive identity and would allow for a more balanced creative attack, which would benefit the team greatly in its quest for Banner 18.

Next, the Boston Bruins. With the current core of players such as Patrice Bergeron (36), Brad Marchand (33), and Tuukka Rask (34), growing older, the team simply doesn’t have enough firepower to compete at the highest level. With exciting prospects such as forward Fabian Lysell and goalie Jeremy Swayman soon making their debuts, I think the Bruins’ next Finals appearance will depend not on their current core, but on the development of its current prospects. Going into a minor rebuild, as a full-blown rebuild isn’t necessary with the talent that’s already with the team will allow for a longer and well-sustained title window, and that’s the direction I believe the team will head in instead of investing heavily in the

present.

Third, the Boston Red Sox. An unexpected finish just two wins shy of a World Series appearance in a season where it wasn’t even a lock to make the playoffs, the emergence of young aces Tanner Houck and Garrett Whitlock has been the storyline of the team. Both just 25 years old, how far the team will be able to go next season will depend largely on whether they can keep up their stellar play. The prediction here is that Houck and Whitlock will keep up their development and combine for 250+ innings each season and at least four All-Star appearances in the next five seasons. This kind of volume from two pitchers who have mostly pitched from the bullpen can be overambitious, but as both have experience starting and the rotation filled with question marks, I think both of these very talented pitchers will find their way there sooner rather than later.

Finally, the New England Patriots. Now in its second year of the post-Brady era, it’s clear that this team will not dominate like the past two decades, but that doesn’t mean it can’t find success. There are many holes the team can look

to fill on both offense and defense, like a true top receiver or more solid cornerbacks, and this lack of talent will keep it out of the top tier of the league. I believe the Patriots will go after a receiver in the draft after seeing the success of other first or second-year receivers

around the league and invest heavily in defense after spending on the offense last offseason. Since there are no signs that the team is looking to go into a rebuild, adding as much talent as possible will be the goal for this upcoming offseason.



OLHA YARYNICH/THE PHILLIPIAN

NORDICSKIING

Nordic Skiing Secures 5th and 6th Team Places, Sam Gallaudet ’23 Takes 1st Individually

STAFF REPORT

With Sam Gallaudet ’23 claiming a first-place overall finish, and Remy de Saint Phalle ’23, Claire de Saint Phalle ’22, and Hannah Justicz ’22 coming in 5th, 7th, and 15th, respectively, Andover Nordic Skiing placed fifth as a team in the boys division and sixth in the girls division this Wednesday at Holderness.

According to Head Coach Keith Robinson ’96, the lack of snow this season has been a challenge for the team to overcome. Coach Robinson explains that the team does a lot of dryland training in preparation for the meets and tries to accommodate experienced and inexperienced racers

alike.

Coach Robinson said, “It has not been ideal. We’ve had the beginners out on the patches of snow on campus, there’s a couple of patches that are about 50 meters long that we use to work on technique, but for the more experienced group we’ve been doing running, core work, and things like that to keep fit.”

Remy de Saint Phalle shares a similar sentiment regarding the lack of snow. He acknowledges the dryland training that the team has been substituting in for the unfortunate weather.

de Saint Phalle said, “We haven’t really been able to practice because there’s no snow, so we just have been running and doing as much training without snow.”

Gallaudet notes how despite the inexperience on the team, he has seen tons of improvement among the team in terms of technique and familiarity with the sport as a whole.

“There were a couple people who were new to skiing and did very well, and their technique improved a lot from a week ago, so that was great to see. Everyone did well, we had a classic race last week, and I think most people placed better in this race than last race, so that was good,” said Gallaudet.

Coach Robinson believes that the amount of traveling the team has to do for each meet has impacted the team’s competition. According to Coach Robinson, the quick transition from academ-

ics to athletics can be difficult for many racers.

“We travel for pretty much every race. I think the biggest difference is our Friday night race just as opposed to our usual on Wednesdays. I feel like everyone, at the end of the week, that was probably the bigger difference. It’s hard on a Wednesday because we have to travel a long distance, run right out of class, and get on a bus and people still have work and things going on after they get back, so I think that potentially makes it really difficult to focus in on the race,” said Coach Robinson.

As it is scheduled to snow this weekend, the team is getting very excited for an opportunity to get out and experience it. Coach Robinson notes how the training has

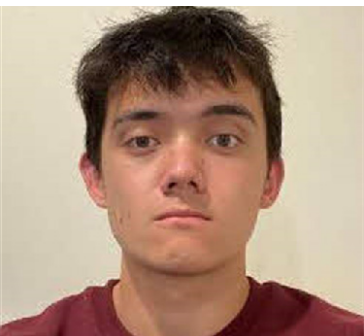
been getting somewhat monotonous so the snow will certainly up the energy levels.

Coach Robinson said, “We have kids in the sport who are doing it partially, they’re injured and can’t run a lot so it’s sort of boring time on the bike for them in the Fitness Center and the training room while we’re not on snow, but just in general, the team, they’ve done a great job managing what we could and we’ve skied when we could then the last week and a half has not been very good, but it would be great to come through that and actually get good snow and good time on snow to practice.”

Nordic Skiing looks to build upon the season as it competes at St. Paul’s next Wednesday.

CAPTAINFEATURE

Co-Captain Isaac Heitmann '22 Leads Boys Indoor Track & Field with Charisma and Respect



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

ELLE MENDEZ

Since first picking up the sport at the age of 12, Andover Boys Indoor Track & Field Co-Captain Isaac Heitmann '22 leads the team with his caring, bright, and beautiful personality. Originally drawn to the sport by his mother as his biggest inspiration, Heitmann seeks to provide compassion and support for all his teammates.

According to Rohan Kapoor '23,

Heitmann's welcoming energy and kind heart bring joy to running.

Kapoor said, "He's genuine, I think he's kind, he's pretty funny. He's just a nice person to hang around and he's fun to talk to...he's a good person.

Both Obinna Nwaneri '24 and Tam Gavenas '25 agreed that Heitmann's positive energy really adds spirit to the team. Providing a great example for his team and serving as a role model, his teammates want to spend time with their captain and learn important qualities such as respect from him.

Nwaneri said "From what I see, He's always cheering on his teammates. He gives it his all during the runs...he brings a lot of energy to everybody...people seem to respect him, he seems to have an overall positive impact on the team."

Gavenas added " Isaac is one of the most helpful teammates you can have. [He is] charismatic [and] always cheers on everybody. He's a leader throughout workouts, he as a captain is really respectful and he knows boundaries, he's funny....and

he just understands people's opinions."

Heitmann notes that his enjoyment for the sport extends beyond the meets and the physical aspect, but stems more from the bonds and connections formed among teammates and the camaraderie that comes with it.

Heitmann wrote, "My favorite aspect of Track & Field is absolutely the people. T&F is home to 100+ athletes, and I've never once disliked anyone I've met on the team-most of the first friends I made freshman year (shoutout to Jeremy Lin '22) were people I saw every day at track."

Heitmann aims to lead the team with compassion and enthusiasm, something that his teammates have seen and started to emulate. To Heitmann, the overarching goal track is to foster a supportive, enjoyable, and welcoming environment for everyone involved.

"I would say that I strive to show compassion for my teammates more than anything else. Being enthusiastic about the sport is ab-

solutely important, but my priority as a captain is creating a space where people feel like they can get support without judgment," wrote Heitmann.

Kapoor acknowledges Heitmann's effective leadership approach, stating that actions speak louder than words. He points out that Heitmann's work ethic is something that makes him admirable and followable among the team.

Kapoor said, "As a leader, I think he's good, he's like, he's not one of those in your face like yelling like do this do that leader he's like someone who leads by example I think that's probably the best and most accurate way to describe him. He works really hard, he's always at practice. He's the hardest worker during the workouts, he goes out during the meets, he's always there for you and he always shows his character."

Heitmann believes that running is more than just the races. He truly appreciates all aspects of the sports, outside of just winning race after race, whether it be running for the

purpose of relaxing or clearing his mind, or to once again, establish and refine the connections with those who share a similar passion for the sport.

Heitmann wrote, "As a runner, I would describe myself to be someone who truly enjoys the sport for what it is. Getting good times is absolutely a win, but it's more secondary to me- running itself gives me a chance to talk with friends, lets me breathe fresh air and relax after school, and connects me to my family (my mom currently runs marathons and my dad held high school records in sprints). As a person, I would say that I have really big ideas. Of course, these rarely reflect reality or my own abilities, but I like to think that, someday, I'll actually accomplish something that will help a lot of people."

Heitmann aims to continue his great leadership throughout the rest of the season, supporting his teammates and adding a little fun to track.

Co-Captain Nick Koobatian '22 Leads Boys Indoor Track & Field in His First Competitive Season



H.ZHAO/THE PHILLIPIAN

STAFF REPORT

Co-Captain Nick Koobatian '22 began his indoor track career in his Upper year. Despite this being his first season competing in Indoor Track, Koobatian's previous experience in Spring Track and Field and his leadership has earned him the title of Co-Captain this season.

"I began outdoor track [in the] spring of my [Junior] year. I started doing indoor track my Upper Year and it was on Zoom so it was kind of weird, but it was still fun. The track team continued to do stuff and we ran at home, so we kept ourselves accountable," said Koobatian.

He continued, "Since [Junior] year, I've continued to do track as a sport, just because the community was super welcoming and engaging as well. That also aided self-improvement, and the community seemed very welcoming and ambitious."

With over a hundred athletes on Indoor Track and Field and co-ed practices, the co-captains have to collaborate to lead the large team, according to Koobatian.

"Something unique is that Track & Field has four co-captains: two girls, two guys. The team is mixed, so there is not really a division between the boys' training and the girls' training. So the four captains work together in a sense since it's one gigantic team of four co-captains. I think having so many co-captains is beneficial because you get that diversity of ideas. With those ideas, there's a better way to implement solutions to problems, more depth of the ideas we can draw from to apply to practices and training and meets. It's a lot of hands-on-deck because the team is so big, so it makes sense that there's a lot of co-captains so we can adequately split up during practices," Koobatian said.

According to Matthew Ottenbreit '22 and Matthew Wasilewski '24, Koobatian's

leadership style can be described as encouraging due to his constant motivation to other team members.

Ottenbreit said, "In terms of his leadership, he is definitely one of the most spirited members of the team. During warm-ups and before competitions, he's always excited to be at practice or to be competing that day. He does a really good job of bringing the team together in terms of traditions and excitement."

In an email to *The Phillipian*, Wasilewski added, "Nick is a captain that will always go out of his way to make you feel welcomed and engaged. He does a great job during warmups making sure that everybody is energized and ready for practice. Also, before meets, Nick is always there to spread positive energy and motivation so that we can all run hard and reach our goals."

Koobatian describes himself as a passionate leader and realizes the importance of his position on the team.

"I care a lot about my leadership on the team because I recognize that I was only put in this position because I was elected by the team, so every single time I go on the track, I'm passionate because I want to make sure that the team itself is succeeding and their fate wasn't put in my and I



M. DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

wasn't doing the right thing. I'm always striving to make sure the team is doing well and all. And also passion because I care about the sport a lot. It kind of goes hand in hand. The leadership works because I care so much about the track team and it's been a home to

me for the past four years, and I love running so much. I just want to make sure that it remains that way for other kids who experience it," Koobatian said.

GAMECOVERAGE

Tam Gavenas '25 Smashes Class Record by 11 Seconds in Nepsta Meet for Boys Indoor Track

NABILAH NAZAR

With Tam Gavenas '25 breaking a class record and Joshua Park '22 claiming the 55-meter hurdle record, Andover Boys Indoor Track & Field found individual success

this past Wednesday at the Nepsta meet at home. Although it was an unscored meet, Andover still broke four records.

In particular, Emerson Kington '24 highlighted Park's and Kiefer Ebanks '23' performances in the meet.

"Kiefer was in my 4x[200-meter] relay. And he did really well.

He caught up to the person that he was running against and passed them and gave us the advantage so we could finish off the race strong. And Josh set a school record," said Kington.

According to Nigel Savage '23, the team's success can be attributed to the energy of the team, which pushes athletes to achieve new personal bests. However, Savage stated that the team could improve on finishing strong and retaining the starting energy until the end.

Savage said, "As a team, we're really firing on all cylinders... I think that's something that we do really, really well as a team, we're really working well on pushing each other and making each other better teammates. I think one thing that we can work on, individually and as a team as a whole is finishing, because we start off really, really well. But sometimes at the end of the race, like someone who didn't run, like the better race may finish right at the end, and beat you. And that happened a lot actually, at this last bit"

During Wednesday's meet against Lawrence and North Reading appeared, many individuals set records and personal bests. Co-Captain Nick Koobatian '22 calls the team a supportive one that encourages people to display their efforts to push forward.

"[The team has] continued to be supportive since the beginning of the year, and something to work on. I just say everyone has personal records, PRs. And everyone's individually trying to push them up. So I just think that continuing to sup-



M. DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

port each other to get individual PRs and see how far we can push ourselves, in a safe manner. Like as a team supporting one another during that process is pivotal," said Koobatian.

Running the 1000-meters, Gavenas strode forward against his opponents overtaking them in the last lap, finishing with 2:42:83, 11 seconds ahead of the previous record. Gavenas described the immense thrill he experienced during the race as a contributing factor to his success.

"It was crazy because I usually don't say this, but I got runner's high in the middle of the race. And I just wanted to go all out. The coach had told me to pass the guy and I

didn't know when [and] what time to go. And these guys were huge. They're like six foot two, one of the guys, I was racing. And he just was right in front of me. And I just tried to stick behind and then when Coach told me to just pass, I'm just like 'Why don't I go all out? What's the worst that could happen?' I just kind of pushed it and pushed it... You run really hard. And you just keep going, and it's just like this amazing, amazing feeling," said Gavenas.

Andover Boys Indoor Track & Field will prepare for an upcoming home meet against Marianapolis, Governor's, Wilbraham, and Phillips Exeter Academy on Wednesday.



M. DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Five of Andover Boys Indoor Track & Field's remaining eight meets will take place at the Snyder Center.

CLUSTER ALL-STARS

MONISHA KATHIKA

Thomas Taylor '22, All-Star player for Team Red is known as the “Red Rocket” on the court. According to Taylor, he takes his pre-Cluster Basketball preparations very seriously.

Taylor said, “My Cluster Ball ritual is actually a pretty extensive one. I wake up at 3 a.m. every morning, eat some oats, take a shower, shoot around the gym for like three to four hours before I start my day, and after school, I go straight to the gym, no business. I drink about six egg whites or so, and then I get ready, shoot around, talk to the team. I get into the zone. I listen to a lot of music, a lot of K-pop. At around five when the game starts, I’m ready.”

Unlike many other Cluster Basketball athletes, Taylor has dedicated his life to basketball and looks for basketball-related opportunities in the classroom as well.

“I’ve been playing basketball my whole life. I actually did come out of the womb dribbling a basketball, so I feel like it [is a] huge part of my life every day. If there were classes that pertained to basketball at Andover, I would take them. I actually wrote my History 310 paper about basketball,” Taylor said.

Taylor credits his team’s unmatched chemistry as a major success factor in the



league.

Taylor said, “The difference [between other teams and us] is that they don’t have the same kind of grit that we have. They call us the Red Team, a lot of times Andover talks about eating red meat, well today, me, myself, and the team are the red meat. We’re huge, we’re strong, and we’re ready to punish. I think we just have that over any other team in the league. The team chemistry is unbelievable. That’s how we win games. We see other teams, and they’re not necessarily thriving on the court. We go together like a family of red beings. We know basketball and we know each other. It’s like we’re all a family born from the same mother. It’s crazy, how you think we’ve known each other [for] 20 plus years and we’ve only met recently. I love it.”

MONISHA KATHIKA

Despite starting in a rough spot with little to no players, Mike “Slender Defender” Garbarino '22, was able to build team chemistry after losing the first few games.

Garbarino said, “I think I’ve been on the team that just straight-up wasn’t good at basketball for the first four games...We’ve had a lot of players come and go because originally the first two games we had four players show up on average. So we lost the first four games, [the team] chemistry was horrible. No one really wanted to show up. We went to Ms. Dolan, we were like ‘you need to help us out’ and she gave us an extra few players. That’s sort of what boosted the chemistry. We started to actually win games and kids started showing up.”

To prepare for Cluster Basketball, Garbarino follows an intricate plan with his team that leads to their success.

“It kind of depends on the day, depends on the weather. If it’s good weather, we’ll bring the team outside, we’ll have a little huddle. We’ll talk them up a little bit, get them ready for the game. We try to single out one person on the team that we really just want to attack. We have Thomas



McAndrews on our team, so we just throw him on defense,” Garbarino said.

On the court, Garbarino views himself very highly, comparing himself to a few notable basketball players.

Garbarino said, “I’ve been told I look like Kyle Kuzma and my play style is more of a prepubescent LeBron James... [and] freshman year Thomas McAndrews. That’s what I usually go for.”

Even with a difficult start to the season, the Slender Defender has no lack of confidence in his team.

“Watch out for the Orange Team, we’re coming for the championship,” Garbarino said.

DAIGO MORIWAKE

An all-rounded player with prime Michael Jordan-like offense and Dennis Rodman-like defense, Ben “Buckets” Garozzo '23 led Team Silver with his three-pointers and unwavering defense. According to Garozzo, the team did not falter, even when it lost a key player Charlie Irwin '22 to Team Red.

Garozzo said, “I think there are a lot of bright spots on the team — behind me, of course. But there’s Cole, Charles, Ronin, and those are all great players, key players. We just lost one of our key players, Charlie Irwin, to the Red Team, and the team took it a little rough. It shows how [well] the team rallies back and how our atmosphere is great and how the color doesn’t affect us because we all came back and we came to a close game with Orange this past week.”

Garozzo says he is capable of being on the Boys Basketball team, but his guilt of taking game time away from players who love the sport more than he does holds him back.

“[Boys Basketball Head Coach Terrell Ivory '00] basically asked me to be on the team. I love basketball, but I don’t take it



that seriously. I’m sure they would have loved to have me there, and I know TI would have loved to see me join the program, but I just can’t see myself doing that, especially taking away time from kids that love the sport,” said Garozzo.

After a heartbreaking overtime loss against Team Lime, Garozzo remains confident that Team Silver will defeat Lime the next time they play each other.

“The biggest rival right now is the Lime Team just because we had an OT thriller with them. Unfortunately, Cato [Legaspi '22] hit the game-winning three and it left us a little bit hurt. So I’d like to come back, play them again and see how that goes. I know we’re going to win,” said Garozzo.

MEG STINEMAN

Avi Shah '22 has officially been chosen as the Team Maroon All-Star. Coming from Andover, Massachusetts, Shah is built somewhere between a center and a point guard and dominates his opponents with his competitive spirit. Shah’s main goal is to always win and keep winning until Team Maroon is the best in Cluster Basketball.

According to Shah, his menacing, N.B.A.-like 5’10” build is the reason that he is such a star on the court. Not only is he skilled, but he brings a star’s enthusiasm to the team and is always ready for the next game.

“I think it’s because of the way I play. I’d say with my build I’m a mix between LeBron and Curry. I think I bring energy to the team, and I feel like before every game, I’m always there warming up. So I feel like that’s why I’ve been chosen as an All-Star,” Shah said.

Shah highlighted Eshu Venkataswamy '22 for his quick adjustment to Team Maroon after spending time on Team Silver. Although Venkataswamy faced problems with his equipment, he overcame this snag and left it all out there on the court.

Shah said, “We signed Eshu off free agency from the Silver Team and he stepped up and did great even



though he broke his glasses during one of the games.”

Shah mentioned the importance of beating the Yellow and Orange teams in Maroon’s upcoming games. It is important for the Maroon team to assert its dominance over other strong teams in the league, according to Shah.

“First, [we] want to win especially against Yellow Team and Orange Team, since they seem to be the best right now. I’d say we go out there and we try to win every game. We’re on a winning streak so Orange Team has to look out,” Shah added.

DAIGO MORIWAKE

As the leader of a team with “grit, passion, drive,” and most of all, “handsome looks,” 6’4”, and 192 pounds “round-ed-up,” Troy Keller '22 makes up for his shortcomings in basketball with a true will to compete and win. According to Keller, Team Yellow’s character manifests itself in its 7-2 record this season.

Keller said, “I’d say my strengths are humor, passion, and a drive to win and compete. I’m not really good at basketball, but you can tell every time I go out there that I want to be there, and I play like I want to be there, too. And it shows in our record [and] in our stats. I mean, Yellow Team is one of the top teams in the league. I think we’re six and two.”

A basketball star since his Junior year, Keller’s teammates compare him to Larry Bird for his character and unconventional shot form on the court, according to Keller. Keller laments that Bird has never had the chance to meet him.

“Some call me Larry. Larry’s a name I adopted around my [Junior] year. Some people still refer to me as Larry specifically when I’m on the court; I feel like his sort of spirit just possesses me. Is he dead? I think he’s still alive. I have never got the chance to meet him, but to be fair, he’s never gotten the chance to meet me, so it sucks for the both of us. Ethan Hong and Nic Lam sort of know me as that sharpshooter around the perimeter. Ugly-a** shot form. That’s just really how I adopted the name,” said Keller.



Keller believes his recent performances on the court combined with his academics and personality justify him a spot on the Boys Basketball team as a supporter on the sidelines.

“I think [Andover Boys Basketball Head Coach Terrell Ivory '00] can recruit me for a lot of reasons. Honestly, my charisma and my academics are something that will attract a lot of other colleges. And even in my short time playing Cluster Ball, both pre-season and [the] regular season, I’ve improved dramatically. And I think my first few games I averaged maybe a bucket and assist a game. In my last game just recently, I dropped four buckets and three assists without some of our star players... I think I could fit directly into TI’s system. With Colby Duggan, Caleb Blackburn-Johnson, Jordan Rayford, I think I could play just as brilliantly alongside them, just assisting them, encouraging them as they drive to the bucket while I stand on the sideline and clap. I think I really could just do a good job of that,” said Keller.

TYLER PARKER

Sam “Eri” Erjavac PG'22 is a defensive powerhouse for Team Blue, which is home to superstars such as Vaughn Sanders '22, and Harrison Milbert '22. Over the course of the season, Erjavac noted that his defense has been key, but not so much his offensive ability.

“Honestly, I have not improved at all. All I do is run around and get yelled at by my team to be better and not take shots. So actually, mentally, I am getting better as a basketball player,” said Erjavac.

Despite his teammates telling him not to shoot, Erjavac insists on doing so. He even has his own signature move.

“After every single shot, I always throw up the threes even if it’s not a three. Even for my other teammates’ random shots. Always gotta throw up the threes and run back on defense.”

Erjavac added that prior to each game he has to mentally prepare himself and get in the zone.

Erjavac said, “Before each game, I make sure to listen to ‘California Gurls’ by Katy Perry at least seven times on repeat.”

According to Erjavac, he tries his best



to model his style of play after NBA legend “Pistol” Pete Maravich.

“My strengths are playing defense, and that’s about it. We are working on the post-move, but that’s not really working at the moment. I personally believe in the three-pointer, but my teammates, not so much. A lot of airballs from me,” Erjavac said.

Team Blue looks to finish the season on a high note, as it currently sits in last place in the Cluster Basketball Standings.

PATRICIA TRAN

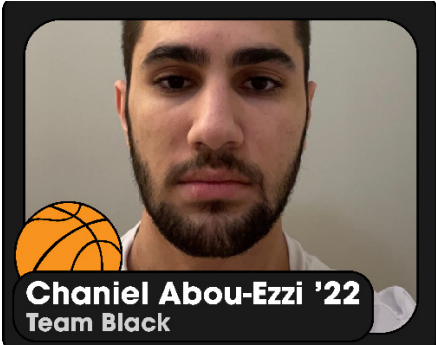
Comparing himself to the Avatar, Cluster Basketball All-Star Chaniel Abou-Ezzi '22 claims he is a master of all elements, specifically the use of airbending to alter the course of the basketball mid-air. He leads the Black Team, which boasts a 6-1 record.

According to Abou-Ezzi, his supernatural powers were no match against varsity-level athletes. Instead, he found Cluster Basketball to be a much more fulfilling experience.

“I thought about going on varsity, but I didn’t think that level of talent was where I belonged. I needed a more challenging program, and you know, I think the C.B.A. really brought that to me,” said Abou-Ezzi.

Despite the initial surprise when hearing about his nomination, Abou-Ezzi has already shifted his focus to a greater achievement: Cluster Basketball Most Valuable Player. He explains that he hasn’t been playing at 100 percent due to recovery from contracting Covid-19.

“I’m not going to lie, I’m surprised myself. I feel a little bit honored. Our team is six and one. I didn’t think it was because



of me, but now this is giving me a lot of confidence. Now I should actually start trying, maybe I could even go as M.V.P.,” said Abou-Ezzi.

Although Abou-Ezzi calls himself the “Last Airbender,” he still credits Ben Goodell PG'22 for being a key player for the Black Team. Therefore, Goodell is considered the “second airbender,” just slightly inferior to Abou-Ezzi’s talent.

“I have to shout out to my boy Ben Goodell. He’s the big man on our team. He’s a center football PG. Double athlete, I think he’s super talented. I think he’s the second Airbender, but not the last Airbender. He’s just a menace in the paint. He should be the All-Star if it wasn’t for me,” said Abou-Ezzi.

PATRICIA TRAN

Tanush “Bush” Mittal '22 splashes three-pointers from any distance. According to Mittal, he was a child basketball prodigy as soon as he touched the ball. Stating that he harnesses his natural talent every day in Cluster Basketball, he has the ultimate goal of leading Team Lime to a championship run (they are 3-6).

“I started playing basketball when I was very little. I was always very good at it, and when the opportunity arose to play cluster ball, I decided, ‘Why not take my talents to the amazing Lime Team?’ Lime Team really needed me, and I thought, ‘Why not step up, have some fun, and win a championship,’” said Mittal.

Mittal describes himself as the core bonding agent of the team: “glue.” Win or loss, he ignores the outcome of the game and focuses more on the relationships within the team, which he plays an instrumental role in forming.

Mittal said, “I think I am the glue that holds the team together: team spirit, always cheering on my teammates, always making buckets in the clutch. Sometimes, we may win, we may lose, but we’re always a team. We’ve got the best team chemistry, and I think I’m a big part of that.”

When Mittal does have the intention to show off, he believes Atlanta Hawks sensation Trae Young’s playing style is most similar to his own.



“It’s got to be Trae Young. Just dazzling with handles, step-back threes, great assists. Definitely Trae Young,” said Mittal.

Despite being named All-Star, Team Lime’s success cannot solely be attributed to Mittal. According to Mittal, he might soon be overshadowed by the skill of teammate Dominic Sciacca '22.

“There’s a guy named Dom, Dom Sciacca. He is definitely the best player on the team. He definitely brings the energy, gets all the boards, puts [up] some big buckets. He’s always there. He’s out right now, which could explain why we’re losing some games,” said Mittal.

GIRLSTRACK

Girls Indoor Track & Field Breaks Two School Records in the Same Meet

MATT LEONARD

This past week, Andover Girls Indoor Track & Field continued its successful run of home meets with the Nepsta All-Comers meet on Saturday and a tri-meet against North Reading High School and Lawrence High School on Wednesday. Andover won both meets with a score of 57.75 to 53 and 57.75 to 6.25, respectively. Additionally, on Wednesday, Esme Huh '22 broke the girls' two-mile school record and Charlotte Whitehurst, the girls' 1000-meter record.

Despite its success, Kiera Suh '22 notes that this season has been quite different from the last, and has presented minor challenges. However, even with differing indoor Covid-19 policies, Suh remarked on the support given between teammates.

"I think we were able to have more spectators last season, outdoor, because there was not a limit on how many people could

be in the building. This year, in Snyder center, we are more limited with spectators to just the Andover student body. I do not think that impacts our performance, though, because the team is so large. One of the great things about track is that the team has around 130 athletes, so we are able to support each other anyways. Even without many viewers or spectators, you are always going to have over 100 people on your team to watch and support you," said Suh.

According to Suh, the more condensed schedule has affected the team's strategy of participating in events. She notes how the number of meets forces the team to consult its coaches to determine what events to take part in during each meet.

Suh said, "Because you are having meets so often at such high intensity, we have been working a lot with the coaches to focus on being wise with how many events we compete in per meet. On that front, I would say

that we are competing in fewer events, but at the same time, it is great for the team's energy to have these meets so often."

In addition to working through the busy schedule, Clementine Lubin '24 says that the long distance runners have concentrated on long striding and cool-down since Saturday's meet.

Lubin said, "We practiced mostly running long distances over long periods of time. We ran anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour at a conversational pace during this week's practices., On the way back, towards the end of the run, we focused on extenuating our striding. We did not do any intense working out as we had a meet Saturday and wanted to avoid overworking before Wednesday."

Sylvie Archer '23 points out that the high jumpers had been refining certain techniques, specifically on how to gain power off of the ground. She also notes how as the meet came closer, the



M. DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

training became less demanding and more focused around ensuring the athlete's physical health.

Archer said, "Two days before today, Monday, we focused on our run-ups. It is incredibly important to have power off of the ground when you high jump, so the last couple of steps approaching the bar are the most important. Tuesday, yesterday, we kept it light. We made sure

that we had a comfortable clearance over our opening heights and to stretch very well before our meet today."

Andover looks to continue its overall success next Wednesday against Marianapolis, Governor's Academy, Wilbraham, and the rival Phillips Exeter Academy.

Editor's Note: Kiera Suh '22 is the Executive Digital Editor of The Phillipian.

BOYSSQUASH

Boys Squash Sweeps Hopkins, Win Streak Broken Against Hotchkiss and St. Paul's

PATRICIA TRAN

In a tight 10-9 lead, Cody Comyns '23 hit a crosscourt drop into the nick, rolling the ball parallel to the ground. Securing match point, Comyns forced Hotchkiss to accept its first loss of the season. Andover Boys Squash ultimately lost 6-1 to Hotchkiss but made a comeback by sweeping Hopkins 7-0 in a doubleheader the same day. On Wednesday, Comyns was, again, the only Andover player to win a match against St. Paul's. The second 6-1 loss now puts Andover at a 6-2 record.

According to Sean Winston-Luo '24, Hotchkiss evidently had much stronger players. However, Winston-Luo also believes other uncontrollable factors placed Andover in a much more challenging position to win, such as injury and timing.

"We played Hotchkiss first. They're a much stronger team. We were missing our number two captain, Arthur Nguyen. He was injured with an ankle injury, so he was unable to come, and that made our lineup push up. We all had harder matches,

so Hotchkiss was tough, and we ended up losing. We then played Hopkins, which is much less strong of a team," sand Winston-Luo.

Playing a more experienced team in the first leg of the doubleheader also had its perks, according to Avery Lin '25. Lin noted that with tough matches already under its belt, the team was properly warmed up against Hopkins.

"There was definitely a big gap in the level, but it was good to play a team like Hotchkiss because [that was our first loss of the season]. I feel like we got a lot better from it... Playing Hotchkiss first definitely prepared us for the Hopkins match," said Lin.

The practices leading up to the weekend's matches revolved around a common theme of repetition and consistency. The team used a technique called ghosting, which allows players to develop consistent movements and correct form.

"We did a lot of movement-based work on the squash court like ghosting. Sort of hitting the shot without a ball. We were just trying to get faster [and develop our] endurance, really trying to work on consistency on the court and hitting

shots with more purpose, and that really prepared us for our matches at Hopkins. It's definitely going to serve us well further into the season," said Winston-Luo.

For future doubleheaders, Aidan Lin '23 believes the team should work on maintaining a strong effort until the final game. According to Lin, not only can endurance training help with this but also using certain strategies to conserve energy.

"Endurance is something we can always work on. Also, shortening the points. There were a lot of times we could be more efficient there in the easier matches and conserve more energy," said Lin.

On Wednesday, the team faced similar challenges against St. Paul's as they did against Hotchkiss. Despite attempting to keep an optimistic mindset, the team knew it was the underdog, according to Winston-Luo.

"They are a better team on paper than us, and we were going in as underdogs since our captain is injured right now. Everybody played harder matches," said Winston-Luo.

Andover will look to secure a win as it faces Groton away on Friday.



R.NASSERZADEH/THE PHILLIPIAN

With its 7-0 win over Hopkins, Andover Boys Squash earned its third sweep of the season, all of which have come away from home.

GIRLSHOCKEY

Girls Hockey Remains Undefeated by Edging out St. Mark's in Overtime

TYLER PARKER

In an intense overtime thriller vs St. Mark's, Andover Girls Hockey narrowly avoided its fourth tie of the season. Andover pulled away with a 1-0 win, with Lulu Ro-

urke '23 scoring the game winner in overtime, and goaltender Lexi Secreto '22 having a shutout in net. Its record now stands at 5-0-3 on the season.

According to Anne Averill '23, despite the close final score, the game was very one sided. She believes that the team simply could not capitalize on its opportunities

and utilize its skill effectively.

Averill said, "I feel like it was a little flat. We didn't have many fans. We were consistently working hard, but nothing crazy. Also our shots weren't very good. They were mostly on the ice or in the goalie's chest. We ended up outshooting them 42-10, so it was kind of a weird game of consistent effort, but not many ups or downs."

Rourke notes that at the beginning, the energy levels were low, but they improved over the course of the game. She also acknowledges the team's joy as it pulled through with the win as finishing the game strong has needed improvement.

Rourke said, "People were pretty frustrated at the beginning because it was 0-0, but by the end it was exciting to finally win in overtime, because we have had a lot of ties in overtime."

Andover's fluctuating energy during the game proved to be a challenge to overcome, but Andover persisted and was relieved to finally win in overtime.

Averill said, "I think a challenge we definitely faced was maintaining our effort even though we weren't scoring or executing on our chances. At some points in the game it felt like we could almost give up, but we didn't. Especially when we went into overtime in a game we were supposed to win was a little deflating. But we were able to come out with a win, and we had already tied twice before, so it was nice to finally get a win."

It has been a recurring theme for Andover to generate plenty of



M. DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Girls Hockey's 1-0 victory over St. Mark's marked its second shut-out of the season.

shots, but not be able to put any in the back of the net. According to Coach Martha Fenton, Andover has been working on its scoring prowess in the last few weeks of practice.

Coach Fenton said, "We have been working hard on finishing... we are generating a lot of shots, in the last three games to be exact, but not finding the back of the net. While we worked hard for another three periods without a goal, it was great to see Lulu drive home a rebound in overtime to get the win."

Even as the team dealt with injuries, many players stepped up to the challenge and came through when the team needed to make adjustments.

Rourke said, "I'd like to give a shoutout to Molly Boyle, because she had to play a position she doesn't play and got switched to a different line."

"Losing Gwyn Lapp '22 on Friday night to a broken wrist during the Brooks game is definitely a major adjustment for us, and we were playing with a few changes in the line-up as a result. I thought the team responded really well, however, and lots of kids stepped up to the opportunity," added Coach Fenton.

Andover seeks to continue its undefeated season on Friday at BB&N.



M. DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Girls Hockey's next two games are both away from home as they will face off against BB&N and Tabor.

BOYSHOCKEY

Propelled by Student Support,
Boys Hockey Earns Two Important Wins over Nobles and Winchendon



A. CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

NABILAH NAZAR

With an early goal from Will Winemaster '23, Boys Hockey started quickly against Noble & Greenough this Saturday, eventually winning 4-2, and then followed this victory up with a 5-2 win over Winchendon. The team's record now stands at 10-6.

According to Michael Bagnoli '22, the game against Nobles was the first game in which the team did not worry about its op-

ponents, but rather, focused on playing well.

"It sounds simple, the forwards scored goals, and [the] defense prevented goals, and the goalie played really well. I also think we didn't think too much about it. In the past, we've kind of built some teams up in our head that [have] a better record [than us], or have beaten some good teams. And for [Nobles], we [played] our game as opposed to... playing reactionary early on. I think that definitely helped us be successful on Saturday," Bagnoli said.

According to Rory Booth '23,

entering the game against Nobles having lost its last three games, the team wanted to prove to themselves that they could compete and win against top-level opposition. Booth noted that Andover knew that this was a pivotal game towards any playoff hopes.

"Prior to that game, we had lost three straight games and we had lost to good teams. Teams that we would be playing against or fighting for a spot in playoffs against. [The] game [against Nobles]... was [us] proving to ourselves that we could be a playoff team. And so I think everybody kind of went into it with that kind of mindset, like 'we need to win this game if we're gonna make the playoffs,'" said Booth.

According to Bagnoli, support from the spectators created a really positive and exciting atmosphere and made the team even more excited for the game.

"I think Saturday was the first game we had fans up since winter break, and that definitely made a difference because, for example, on Wednesday, we lost a pretty tough game to St. Sebastian's at home and there were no fans there. But then on Saturday against Nobles, we had a ton of student support, which really fires up the boys and gets them going [because] obviously it's more fun to play in front of a crowd," Bagnoli said.

Bagnoli added that going into the Winchendon game, the team had been focusing a lot on its presence in front of the

net. More specifically, creating more scoring opportunities for the team in the offensive third of the rink was emphasized and worked on during practices.

"We've been doing a lot of net-front presence [drills] where someone is shooting the puck in the net, and then, someone is trying to screen the goalie and maybe tip the puck or get the rebound. In some games, we found that we haven't been scoring as many of those goals as we should, and if we can kind of take advantage of that opportunity of having a man in front of the net or a couple of people in front of the net, we'll definitely get a lot more goals that way," said Bagnoli.

Head Coach Paul Tortorella noted that the team started slow against Winchendon, but stayed focused and scored five straight goals. He added how important it is for the team to maintain

possession to take command of the game.

"The team kept their composure. We were down 2-0 early in the game and in prep hockey that can feel like a lot. But hard work by our Nolan Roche, Pat Last, and Joey Zheng line got us rolling and we scored five straight goals. There was some chippy play and what looked like a lot of missed penalty calls but the boys stayed focused on playing. We are always working on our communication on the ice and puck management. Really those are the two biggest concepts in the sport; everything flows from that. You want to control the puck more than the other team, way more," Coach Tortorella wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Boys Hockey plays at home this Friday against Choate.

BOYSBASKETBALL

Boys Basketball Ends Losing Streak
with 'Gritty' Wins Against Deerfield and Milton



BOTH PHOTOS FROM A. CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Boys Basketball's 84-73 win over Milton was the first time the team scored more than 80 points in a game this season.

DAIGO MORIWAKE

In the final two minutes, in danger of losing its fifth consecutive game, Andover Boys Basketball managed to clinch an 84-73 home victory against Deerfield following a 52-61 away loss against Worcester. Andover capped off the week with a "gritty" victory against fourth-placed Milton to follow its four-game losing streak with a two-game winning streak. This latest win takes Andover's record to 5-6.

According to Jordan Rayford PG'22, Andover did not expect such a close win against Deerfield. Ultimately, the team's togetherness in the last two minutes spurred it onto a victory.

"I think everyone thought we were going to blow them out, and I think how we stayed together [stood out]. I think we were losing [with] two minutes

left... we were down by one or something like that, and I think how the team and people playing stayed together and kept playing hard... was probably the most impressive thing," said Rayford.

Despite a loss against Worcester and a win against Deerfield, Head Coach Terrell Ivory '00 believes Andover performed better in the former game. He believes fatigue may have played a part in Andover's performance against Deerfield in which it gave up 21 turnovers.

Coach Ivory said, "Actually, I think we played better against Worcester. What I'll say is that playing better doesn't always mean you'll win, right, depending on the competition. And I've always told the guys that if we play hard and lose, I'm happier than if we don't play hard and don't play with effort and we win. [Against] Deerfield, actually, there were a couple of things that... contributed to that

game being closer than maybe I thought it would be, but they were better than I thought they'd be. They played hard and it was also back to back. We played on Friday night against a really good team, so the guys were understandably a little bit tired. I loved how hard we played and the way we played against Worcester even though we lost because they were really really talented."

Rayford says Andover was able to play without fear at Worcester in spite of its reputation as a talented team, to the point that he believed the team could clinch the win at the end of the game.

"I think also against Worcester, [we] had a lot of hype going into it, and we knew they were going to be good and how we didn't really play scared. We kind of just went in and played as hard as we could, and I thought we were going to win that game honestly. They ended up winning, but I thought that was impressive," said Rayford.

Over the two weekend games against Worcester and Deerfield, Andover boasted a 36.7 percent 3-point field goal percentage and a 55.6 percent effective field goal percentage (eFG%). Rayford believes this was a result of Andover's shot selection.

Rayford said, "We talked about not forcing threes. I think sometimes we get kind of trigger happy from the 3-point line and I think TI has just told us not to do that and kind of get good shots or great shots rather than just okay shots. So yeah, I think we have been focusing on not just shooting any shot or just a good shot."

Andover had a 71.4 percent eFG% against Deerfield compared to 47.0 percent against Worcester; Coach Ivory believes shot selection was an area in which Andover excelled against



Andover Boys Basketball is 2-1 at the Borden Memorial Gym this season, and has won three games and lost five away from home.

Deerfield but struggled against Worcester. He highlights the performance of Colby Duggan '23 from inside the three-point line, with an 88.2 percent 2-point field goal percentage against Deerfield.

Coach Ivory said, "I don't think we took as many good shots as we took against Deerfield. Deerfield, I think our shot selection was better, particularly Colby when you're 15 for 17 from two-pointers. Right. And then [Eric Tynes '22] in the first half, I don't know how many threes he had, but he had a number of threes in the first half [and] ended up with eight for the game. So, yeah, we definitely made shots against Deerfield."

Rayford played his first game in over a month against Milton. Duggan highlights Rayford's comeback as a key to Andover's win against Milton.

Duggan said, "[Rayford]'s probably our best rebounder and then when the ball is in his hands I just think he takes good care of it, and then he's like a leader on the court too."

Speaking ahead of Andover's win against Milton, Coach Ivory noted how the team missed the "gravity" of Jordan Rayford '22 through his on-court leadership

and ability to drag opponents out of position.

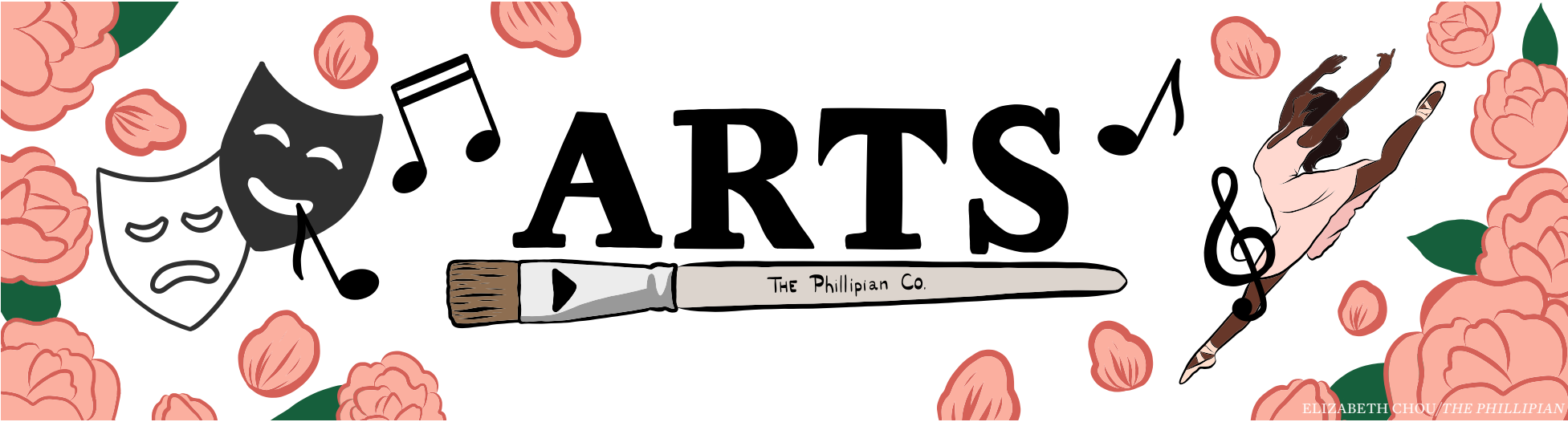
"I think [Rayford]'s definitely about our best defender. He's also a person who can help others. He sort of has this... gravity. I think he has that and the ability to create for others because people are so concerned about what he's doing, whether it's him scoring or whether it's him creating shots for other people by getting into the lane and kicking the ball out. But I would say leadership as well. I would say [defensive] leadership and his ability to help the team get better shots, whether it's his shot or him creating shots for somebody else [was something we missed]," said Coach Ivory.

Duggan hopes to carry on the momentum Andover has gained from a two-game win streak for the rest of the season.

"It felt really good. Before break and then a few games after break, we were on a little skid. Now two wins in a row... is huge for us to gain momentum and they were a really good team, played together, so that was a big win."

Andover will look to extend its win streak to three as it welcomes Loomis at home on Friday.

Check phillipian.net after
Friday, January 28, for
Game Coverage
Article on Girls Basketball



LOTW: Elina Choi '22 Experiments with Color in Diverse, Layered Outfits

SARAH HASSANEIN & CHLOE RHEE

Elina Choi '22 dons a light gold midi dress layered over a black long sleeve and black tights, accompanied by a fuzzy, beige sweater and black leather boots. For accessories, Choi mixes a cross necklace with silver and gold rings.

"I think I wear what I want to. On the weekends, you'll only see me wearing sweatpants and a sweatshirt. But in general, I don't think I really have any rules for myself," said Choi.

Instead of wearing outfits specific to a certain style or aesthetic, Choi aims to express herself with consistency in color throughout an outfit, often experimenting with clothes that match or contrast one another. Specifically in the winter, Choi loves to dress up her outfits by mixing different-colored scarves.

"I always try to make sure that if I'm wearing a certain color, it will also be represented in another part of the outfit, unless it comes from a complete statement piece. I think it's more color-oriented, in that way...I think colorful scarves are nice because they keep

you warm, but also have a pop of color. The jacket that I wear every day is a dark navy, so it's good to have a contrast between bright and dark," said Choi.

The diversity of Choi's fashion choices do not only apply to color, but to different articles of clothing as well. A friend of Choi's, Ablah Siddiq '22, noted that instead of sticking to a specific style, she tends to switch it up each day.

"Her closet is so eclectic. Like, one day she pulls up wearing cowboy boots, and another she looks like a spring fairy. She has so many different styles, and she can pull them all off. She layers so well! Also, her accessories are on point," wrote Siddiq in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Living in Korea and attending a junior boarding school, Choi's ability to develop her fashion was limited by mandatory uniforms and strict dress codes. However, since coming to Andover as a new Lower, she has been able to experiment with different clothings, suiting her personal style and self expression.

"When I first went to Andover, I was really happy about the fact that I could wear sweatpants all the time, but then I think with the Covid-19 year I began to realize that your outfit is your first im-

pression... Although I don't think my style is necessarily better than it was two years ago. I think I have a different look. I've gotten more into wearing more skirts and dresses during the week," said Choi.

Choi draws inspiration for her outfits from numerous sources online. While many of her favorite pieces reflect the unique style of her home city, Seoul, she also uses apps like Instagram and Pinterest to spark outfit ideas.

"I live in Seoul, and I think it has a lot more niche pieces that I really love. I find a lot of [pieces] on Instagram and Pinterest- the algorithm really knows what it's doing with me! I also have this Notes app that I create before the start of each term. I'll come up with five categories of general outfits, and then I'll do variations within those branches," said Choi.

When choosing each of her outfits, Choi thinks about how her clothing affects the way she is seen. Unrestricted by a specific aesthetic, she emphasizes experimenting with different styles and types of clothing.

"It's been really fun for me to think about and picture what vibe I'm giving off to the people who first meet me... But when it comes down to it, I really want to say that



EYANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

I'm just wearing whatever looks nice," said Choi.

Editor's note: Elina Choi is a Video Editor for The Phillipian.

Guest Pianist Victor Rosenbaum Draws Inspiration from Different Aspects of Life to Convey Meaning to All Audiences

SOPHIE STAIH

Harmonious chords fill the air as Victor Rosenbaum's hands fly across the piano, resonating melodies throughout Cochran Chapel as both students and other Andover community members attend the Academy's first guest performance of 2022.

A classically trained pianist, Rosenbaum has not only performed with a variety of music groups and styles, but has also composed, conducted, recorded multiple CDs, and taught widely across the country, including at Andover where he held a master class. Despite all of his accomplishments, Rosenbaum conveys that instead of just taking away an impression of his skill, he would like the audience to be moved by the emotion in his performance.

"I hope to convey the beauty of the music, the emotion of the music, the philosophy[...] the meaning of life, what it means to be alive because it expresses every aspect of human experience. [There are some performances] where people are kind of like 'Wow, how is that possible to do that, so many notes, so hard, so difficult,' where the main thing you go away with is being impressed with just the sheer skill of doing it. But my hope is that people will go away feeling touched or moved or exhilarated, and, in some way, changed. I've changed their life, at least for a short while," said Rosenbaum.

Rosenbaum's interest in piano started at an early age, but he had not always anticipated that he would pursue music, at one point considering a medical career. But after nearly a decade of commitment to music, Rosenbaum decid-

ed to follow his musical passion beyond college because certain interactions that he had with music had changed and moved him. One such experience was at The Aspen Music School and Festival in Colorado, where he was exposed to musical talent on a large and international scale.

"[It] would have probably either discouraged me and said, 'oh, I could never do this, everybody's better than me,' and caused me to give up, or it would have been sort of an inspiration. It turned out that it was that, the second. I was so inspired to be with people who were that good and to hear so much music. So I just kept going, and I knew it was a difficult profession, but I loved music and it seemed I had a gift for it, an aptitude, so I just followed the path that seemed to be laid out for me."

While following his love of music down a career path, Rosenbaum also educated himself in other areas, as he comments that all great composers know about a variety of topics. As a result of his supplementary studies, Rosenbaum draws inspiration from life, literature, art, and more; this extensive knowledge helped him develop his viewpoints on music, and find ways to connect music to everyone no matter their musical experience or education.

"Instead of going to music schools, both undergraduate and graduate, I went to universities. I had the kind of mind which wanted to know not just how to play the piano well, but how to understand music deeply, theoretically, analytically, historically, and also other things besides music, because I thought all great composers knew a lot about a lot of things. For me,

music speaks to the human condition. It bypasses language, in most cases, there is some music that has text, but most music doesn't have text to tell you a story or what it's about, but yet it speaks to the whole range of human emotion, I feel. Therefore, everybody can be affected and moved by music, they don't have to know a particular language, or have [a] background in some particular area of expertise," said Rosenbaum.

Rosenbaum's intentions for music to connect and communicate can be heard within his performances; many audience members at the recital felt that they could resonate with the music, whether it be through their imagination or a technical appreciation. One concertgoer, Evan Huang '23, commented on how Rosenbaum was able to convey a notable rendition of a familiar piece through his unique presentation of the music.

"I liked a lot of the interpretive verses that were [in] certain pieces[...]One piece that I was familiar with was the Barcarolle, the last piece that he played, and usually in other recordings when I've listened to the piece, they take some parts in the left hand faster. But, he took more time and he put more emotion into those notes. I thought that was different from everything that I've listened to before. Going on with that same theme with the piece having more time, with the piece having more emotion, he did something similar near the climax of the piece, where right before he started on the passage, he lifted the pedal [and] put more time [in] to emphasize that important part in the piece," said Huang.



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Hollywood, a Hello Kitty Bat, and 'High School Musical' Auditions: First Drama Labs of 2022 Stresses Collaborative Theater

CHLOE RHEE

With chatter and music filling the air, the lights in the Theater Classroom slowly dimmed to a blue-tinged light. As silence overtook the room, figures in the dark slowly crept up to the stage. Hushed, the audience waited eagerly, anticipating the start of the first Drama Lab of 2022.

Sandwiching its three acts between interactive games and skits, the first Drama Labs of 2022 premiered this past Friday. Performances comprised of "History with a Dash of Hollywood," "Rental," and "High School Musical: The Musical: The Drama Lab"—a critique on the role of education in the movie industry, a comedy skit involving a rented boyfriend and a Hello Kitty baseball bat, and a recreation of Sharpay and Ryan's iconic audition, respectively. According to Aleisha Roberts '22, audience/performer interaction added to a collaborative environment of the production.

"Things like [audience interaction] really help to build the theater community, and make it a little less scary for people who don't know whether they want to get involved yet... the whole point of Drama Labs is experimental theater, a low-stakes opportunity to get involved in the theater department. Seeing people with minimal to no experience coming in and putting on what I think was a really high-quality show is always really great to see," said Roberts.

Audience member Elvira "EV" Heck '25 also commented on the warm and welcoming atmosphere of the production. According to Heck, the inclusivity made the audience and performers feel more comfortable in their respective settings.

"I didn't expect it to be such an accepting environment, because in the Drama Lab you're entirely surrounded by the audience, which can be rather intimidating. But there was so much encouragement and

cheering. The whole experience felt really inclusive and inviting," said Heck.

Prince LaPaz '24, one of the performers in "Rental," also noted that the energy of the producers, directors, and actors made the event distinctly open and welcoming. Even while facing stage fright, their motivation encouraged him to perform at his best.

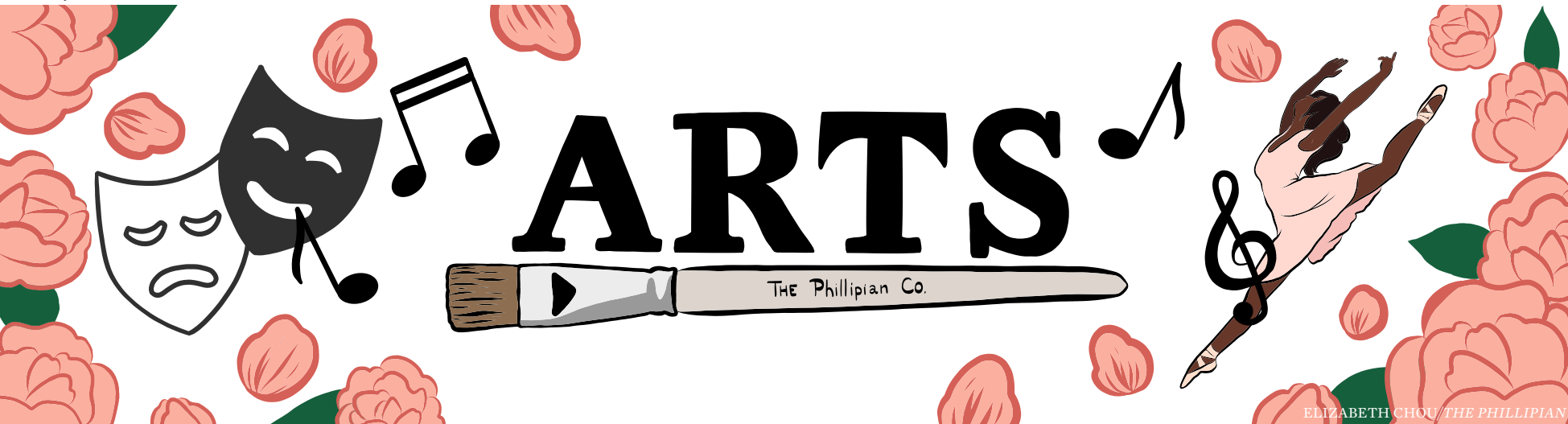
"I originally had my lines all memorized, but right before the stage I completely forgot them, which was terrifying. But the entire cast motivated me, and when I went on stage I remembered them all," said LaPaz.

Due to virtual learning during the first week back after Winter break, the cast ran into a few challenges with scheduling and rehearsing and had to push the performance back a week. However, according to "High School Musical: The Musical: The Drama Lab" director Daniel Zou '23, the actors adapted quickly and took the performance into their own hands.

"I was a director, and I think it was more of a supporting role than an actual directing role, because the cast was awesome and they did everything on their own as far as the choreography, memorizing the lines, and everything else...Since it was my first time directing, I had no idea what to expect. But everyone did a great job as far as it came to learning the choreography—I didn't have to do anything other than get them together. It was really their show," said Zou.

LaPaz echoed Zou's sentiment, expressing that the warmth of his cast and crew mates helped him feel more comfortable experimenting with his acting. He brought up an anecdote of when a moment of improvisation made its way into the final performance.

"I had a line where I said, 'Grave, in a secluded grave—no—grove,' that part wasn't on the script. But when I was rehearsing my lines, I accidentally said it, and I liked it so much I included it in the actual performance," said LaPaz.



Marissa Simeqi '25 Harnesses the ‘Power of Perspective’ in Her Acting

CHLOE RHEE

When Marissa Simeqi '25 was four years old, she told her father that she had one dream: to get on stage and perform. Several years later, she achieved this goal. In the summer of 2017, Simeqi participated in a summer camp that led to her first professional acting job: playing Estelle in the New England premiere of the show “Gabriel.”

“People were surprised at first, because I was a really shy kid. But I worked really hard to get on stage. Learning to work as a professional actor was a lot of effort, but it is such an amazing experience,” said Simeqi.

Since then, Simeqi has per-

formed in a variety of productions, including musicals and plays. Through playing roles in shows like “Ragtime” and “Fun Home,” she has won the award for Best Young Performer in New England for two years in a row.

“I do every style... and every experience has been so incredible. I love acting because it can affect the way others feel, but also how I feel. No matter what, there's always room to improve, and that's such an exciting challenge,” said Simeqi.

According to Simeqi, the diversity of her roles inspires her to undertake a unique and research-centric approach to each of the productions she participates in. In her biggest show, “Fun Home,” where she played

a young Allison Bechdel, Simeqi explored the history of the production, reading the book the play was based on and researching the story of her character, who existed in real life.

“I do a lot of research on my character, because I never want to go into a role without actually knowing why I'm there. I always want to know the story. For ‘Fun Home,’ I knew that my part in the show was to [portray] Bechdel's childhood years, but I wanted to know the full backstory. I think it helped me a lot for the production, because acting in the role without any prior knowledge would have been a disaster,” said Simeqi.

Through completely immersing herself into the lives and personalities of her char-

acters, Simeqi has been able to develop from each of her roles. Despite the fact that her characters are not always similar to her, their stories are forever incorporated into her daily life and experiences.

“Every character that I've played, I've taken away something from them. Being in another person's shoes can really change your perspective on life. It's made me more aware about my surroundings,” said Simeqi.

A friend of Simeqi's, Jack Swales '24 has witnessed her process while preparing together for the show “Urinetown” this Winter. As a fellow castmate and co-Dance Captain, Swales appreciates Simeqi's ability to understand her characters, celebrating them with

her dancing and singing.

“Each character [in “Urinetown”] has their own story to tell within the musical, and [Simeqi] acts as a pregnant woman. That can be a difficult role, because [Simeqi] has to embody that mindset into her dance, but I think she does a really good job doing that,” said Swales.

As Simeqi continues to add more productions under her belt, both at Andover and professionally, she hopes to harness the power of perspective to improve her performances.

“I don't want to just tell a story. I want to show a story. It's being active, rather than passive, that makes acting so powerful,” said Simeqi.

Playlist of the Week: What’s the Music Department Listening To?

SARAH HASSANEIN

Elizabeth Aureden, Instructor in Music

What have you been listening to recently?

I've been listening to mostly all string quartets, and they're all by the same string quartet. They're called the Attacca String Quartet, and they were really prolific during the pandemic. They came out with three albums. If I had to pick one piece of music that I would say is my playlist, I would say that it's this piece called “Entr'acte” by this American composer named Caroline Shaw.

What specifically do you like about this song?

There are these places [in the piece] where it's incredibly dissonant, and then it resolves in this beautiful, beautiful way. The piece unfolds over time. It's about ten minutes long, but it's really beautiful—you enter into this “sound world” that, every time I listen to it, I get totally pulled into. I listen to it a lot in the car when I'm driving, to work or home.

Christina Landolt, Instructor in Music

Often, in the winter, I enjoy listening to music that reminds me of summer. I find it helps me get through long winter nights to know that the sun will be shining brighter soon, that the days will be longer, with late evening dinners outside and long lazy days with my boys at home.

But this winter, I'm shifting to music that's fairly new to me, searching for songs to include in a new course I'm developing: Music for Social Justice. I'm looking for music that connects people during times of crisis, expresses a common experience, gives people a sense of hope and togetherness when facing impossible and sustained injustice.

I've always felt that the most powerful thing about music was its ability to transport you to a different time or place, such as from winter to summer. But what other ways can it transport us, from fear to hope, from violence to peace, from injustice to justice?

The course is still in early development but keep an eye out for it. Anyone reading this who wants to send me recommendations, please do! Music, movies, books, anything! clandolt@andover.edu

Holly Barnes, Instructor in Music and Director of Performance

What are some songs you’ve been listening to recently?

I listen to a lot of classical music, because I'm a classical musician, but in Winter Term, I teach songwriting. So then, I tend to listen to a lot of popular stuff, because that's what I'm teaching.

One person I really like, and I'm actually going to talk about her this week in the class is Maggie Rogers. She has a song called “Alaska” that's very upbeat. At the time, she was sort of up and coming... at the [Tisch School of the Arts]. She's very talented, and she just got writer's block. She had been writing and singing music her whole life, and then when she got to college, after a year or two, she just couldn't write anything. And it's just interesting to see her trajectory. So, she went to France, and she hiked a whole lot...She took all these dance classes, modern dance, and found her mojo again, and came back to school, and wrote this song called “Alaska.” It's really interesting because it takes place outdoors in this beautiful sort of outdoor setting in this forest and everything's really green, which is really nice right now because it's winter.

Vincent Monaco, Instructor in Music

A lot of the music I listened to is music that I listened to 40 or 50 years ago. There's a song that comes to mind by a band. The name of the band is Mallard... the name of the song is “Your Face On Someone Else,” and I really like that tune... It's the first line ‘I saw your face on someone else today. I should have turned and walked away. But like a child, I just had to stop and stare. Your face is strange when you're not there.’ Then it goes on from there. It's really pretty cool.



DORIAN PARK WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

To Natalie, Noemi, and Jeffrey: From online writers hours and walls of comments on our articles to seeing each other on the budget on Thursday night, we’ve had the time of times. Thank you so much for what you’ve done for us—your guidance and your support, your critical eye and your kindness—we couldn’t have asked for better editors. We’ll miss you. Much love, Dorian, Jackie, and Maggie (Arts Associates, vol. CXLIV).

‘Brazen’ Review: The Thriller Drowning in Predictability

★☆☆☆☆

JASMINE MA

If you’ve ever wondered what a murder mystery would feel like without the excitement of the unknown, “Brazen” might provide the answer. Released on January 13, 2022, this new Netflix thriller directed by Monika Mitchell revolves around the murder of Kathleen (Emilie Ullerup), a beloved high school English teacher who leads a double life as a famous dominatrix on a webcam site called Fantasy Inc. The movie follows the perspective of Kathleen’s sister, Grace (Alyssa Milano), who, with her novelist experience and imagination, decides to contribute to the police investigation of her sister’s case. In the midst of it all, Grace also begins a romance with Detective Ed Jennings (Sam Page) as they join forces to track down the culprit. Caution: spoilers for the movie ahead.

Though this premise may seem captivating at first glance, the screenplay failed to develop a story with complexity and depth. For a murder mystery whose entire plot depends on the thrill of “the chase,” the identity of the murderer was too obvious throughout the movie. At Kathleen’s funeral, one of her students, Jerald (Matthew Finlan), lingered and stayed with the coffin once everyone headed outside. After Grace approached the student, they talked for a while, and he accidentally referred to his dead teacher by her first name. The way that this crucial and alarming detail was brushed aside for the rest of their conversation and seemed to slip Grace’s mind afterwards showed how much the movie tried to downplay the information, which, in turn, made audiences positive that Jerald was the killer. With this in mind, the rest of the goose chase became disappointing and frustrating, since the



ALICIA ZHANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

bait that was supposed to intrigue the audience throughout the movie had failed to leave the viewers guessing and wanting more.

In addition to the plot’s coarse development, the characters also feel flat and inconsistent. The most challenging part of writing any movie is creating characters with depth beyond the limited runtime

of the film; for “Brazen,” this was an obstacle too high to overcome. It is evident that the writers sought to add dimension to Grace’s character, but her portrayal, blemished by numerous inconsistencies, falls short of being nuanced. From many decisions that she makes throughout the story, Grace is presented as a rational and thoughtful

person who is a few steps ahead of the game. However, in her pursuit for the killer, she begins streaming while dressed up as a dominatrix, a decision that seemed too audacious and out of character, especially considering the police had withdrawn their protection of her at that time. Thus, without a single well-rounded character to depend

on, the movie quickly dissipates into a series of incohesive events surrounding a cast of “strangers” that the audience can’t connect with or even understand.

To make matters worse, the feminist theme that this movie so intently tries to convey comes across as yet another knight-in-shining-armor-saves-the-day fairytale cliché. Initially, Grace comes across as an empowering novelist who exposes the injustice of the patriarchal society through her novels. However, the unnecessary romance that the writers forced into the story reduced her character to a “damsel-in-distress” who needed Detective Jennings’s guidance and protection every step along the way. The final showdown scene between Grace and her sister’s murderer is the epitome of the movie’s problematic misogyny: Grace, dressed in a revealing corset, tries to escape her attacker, is too weak to resist and needs saving. Her tight corset and high heels prevent her from moving freely, which leads to the killer seizing her neck. Then, in the fashion of a fairytale, Detective Jennings appears right on cue, heroically shoots the attacker, and secures his and Grace’s happily ever after.

Overall, I would give Brazen a rating of one out of five stars. From beginning to end, Brazen lacked the elements of a successful thriller, and in many ways, it was a bud that had potential but never bloomed. Within the limited time frame of a movie, the production failed to utilize every second to the fullest, wasting runtime developing unnecessary romance instead of incorporating suspenseful details. Though the double-life-as-teacher-and-dominatrix idea was intriguing, the movie was too insubstantial, and probably would’ve been more captivating if its plotline were explored in depth in a TV series.

First Wobbles, Midterm Stress Relief, and Disco Glam: Uppers Gather for Free Skate

ALICIA ZHANG

On Saturday night, students of Class of 2023 gathered in Harrison rink to attend the class exclusive disco-themed free skate. Students wobbled, glided, and even spun their way across the ice to ABBA, Boney M.’s “Rasputin,” Diana Ross’s “I’m Coming Out” and other popular disco hits. Uppers spoke to *The Phillipian* about this opportunity to relax, socialize, and take a break on the ice.

Fred Javier ’23 (Class Rep):

“[The Class Reps] were deciding on a couple of themes. We were thinking of doing something like the “roaring ’20s” and just with a general theme of extravagance and something similar, something, I guess, fashionable. We had the idea of doing a photo booth originally before the theme so we wanted to kind of do something that would go along with that. We had a very loose disco theme that we would have with the music and then maybe some decorations for the photo booth. So we thought that the disco theme would work well with the skating and just the general ambiance of the whole event.”



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Daniel Zou ’23:

“The people who organized it did a great job in bringing people together... and I think that [Free Skate is] a good opportunity to meet other Uppers... [I’m planning on] getting on the ice and acting like an idiot...[I’ll] try not to fall and try to learn how to skate, because I’ve never skated before.”



A.ZHANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Rebecca Yang ’23:

“[I came to Free Skate because] I used to skate as a very small child and I was like, “Well, I wonder if I am still okay at it.” Also, a bunch of my friends were going... I think it’s an opportunity to do something we don’t normally get the chance to do... Also midterms just ended so it’s nice being able to just [mess] around on ice for a bit.”



D.PARK WANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Dakota Chang ’23:

“I think that Free Skate, especially one that’s a class specific event, would be a great way for me to have time to hang out with my friends and reconnect with them. After all, Upper year’s really hard and Free Skate would be a great segue for us to have some fun and take some time to ourselves because after all, you can’t do an essay on the ice... the class reps, they did a great job organizing an event like this, I know it’s really hard, because getting the ice rink to be available, getting all the people to come here, getting the transport and all that, getting enough skates.

In previous Free Skates, [there were] never any skates, even if you come 45 minutes early. So this time, because it’s class specified... it gives an actual opportunity for people from class of ’23 to skate and I think that’s great.”



A.ZHANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Ethan Sun ’23:

“[I came to Free Skate] mostly because there wasn’t a lot to do today, and then a lot of my friends were coming, so I thought it would be interesting. Also because I wanted to learn to skate for the first time. I figured, now that I’m a lot further north, it would be good to take advantage of the opportunity... I think when I started on the ice and I actually felt the ice, I got really scared...and I was like “Oh, I don’t think I’ll even be able to not touch the wall.” But then my friends pushed me out and now I’m able to walk [on the ice]. Not skate, but walk.”

“I really liked just my friends helping me out, holding me so that I could balance on them. Also occasionally being annoying and pushing me or something.”



A.ZHANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Claire Wang ’23:

“I did ice skating last term for my sport, so I wanted to come back to the ice rink to skate again... You can do [Free Skate] with your friends, and watch them fall over, or fall over yourself, and have fun... On top of skating I filmed some videos with friends... It’s nice stress relief.”

Editor’s note: Claire Wang is an Associate Digital Editor for The Phillipian.



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