

Brace Fellow Nina Choophungart '22 Discusses Transnational Marriages Between Isan Woman and Western Men

VERA ZHANG &
JOHN MO

Focused on transnational marriages in Thailand, Nina Choophungart '22 discussed marriage between Isan women and Western Men in her Brace Fellow Presentation this past Monday. Choophungart introduced her research regarding marriage as a construct with various Thai article headlines.

"A controversy originating from the northeastern region of Isan in Thailand was receiving national attention. A recent survey found that the number of transnational marriages between Isan women and Western men were steadily rising, with both the government and the general public in Thailand being concerned about the implications of this trend on society," said Choophungart.

Choophungart continued by defining terms necessary to understand controversies behind transnational marriages. She introduced terms such

as Orientalism and Ornamentalism and refined the definition of agency. Specifically, Choophungart explored the difference in agency between Isan women and Western men.

"[Agency is] the ability for an individual to make decisions for their personal benefit and negotiate with the existing power structures... [The Isan] women are simultaneously restricted and [have] agency both prior to and during the transnational production. I will further claim that the Western men also experience the restriction and agency dilemma, although in a different manner. By framing these two perspectives with both sides having limited autonomy, these transnational partnerships can be understood as not only uneven power balances—where the men are getting power while the women are reduced to objects of exchange—but relationships where there's potential

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M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

A departure from Fall Term protocol, all dorms will operate as one pod for the Spring Term. Above, Nathan Hale House.

Artist Fred Eversley and Curator Kim Conaty Explore Eversley's Life and Work as an Artist

WENDY WANG

American sculptor Fred Eversley joined curator Kim Conaty for a virtual artist conversation over Zoom on Saturday, February 12. Eversley is the creator of "Light, Space, Surface: Works from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art," which is being displayed in the Addison Gallery of American Art until March 20, 2022. After retiring from engineering at age 25, Eversley began his pursuit of art influenced by science and technology. His work is now exhibited in over 200 museums and galleries worldwide.

Eversley was first introduced to sculpting after working alongside artist Charles Maddox. The initial works he crafted under Maddox would lay as the foundation for his later artistic pieces to follow.

"There was an artist named Charles Maddox, and he offered to share his studio in return for me to engineer his sculptures committing to his thoughts. Casting multiple ways and conceptual planes of plastic, using the colors that I found on shovels, different types of materials, and using a special type of machinery to capture the colorfulness and subtlety of colors. They were powerful, as you see me using them, and they cover various

shapes. They later became my first series of sculptures," said Eversley.

Pieces in the exhibition investigate the understanding of the form, volume, presence, transparency, and absence of light. Eversley also explored novel mediums of art, experimenting with newly developed industrial materials including sheet acrylic, fiberglass, and polyester resin.

"Light, Space, Surface' draws on LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art)'s deep holdings of this material, revealing the vibrancy and diversity of this aspect of American art history. Featured artists include Larry Bell, Billy Al Bengston, Judy Chicago, Mary Corse, Fred Eversley, Robert Irwin, John McCracken, James Turrell, and Doug Wheeler, among others," according to the Addison Gallery's website.

As the curator of the exhibit, Conaty guided the audience in exploring Eversley's artistry while providing context for his artwork. Conaty also expressed appreciation for the experience of presenting with Eversley.

"I don't know if I've ever had more fun as a curator, putting on an exhibition together with Fred, these works are so fabulous to work with, and to be in-

Continued on A6, Column 1



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Blue Key Heads Myra Bhatena '22 and Sam Elliott '22 holding a small picnic in commons for Valentine's Day.

Return of Valentine's Day Kisses: Blue Key Heads Celebrate Long Running Tradition with Love and Excitement

VERA ZHANG

Along with the fanfare of chocolate-covered strawberries and bouquets of roses, the Andover community celebrated Valentine's Day with a special tradition, carried out by the Blue Key Heads. For this year's Valentine's Day programming, Blue Key Heads interacted with people of all grades, granting kisses and acting out their extravaganzas, which ranged from a violin performance to a serenade.

Two days before Valentine's Day, Blue Key Heads sat in the foyer of Paresky Commons selling kisses and extravaganzas to students. The Blue Key Heads sent out a video to help promote it among those who were unfamiliar to the tradition. Cathy Cho '22, one of the ten Blue Key Heads, described the video and the excitement surrounding the day.

Cho said, "[Valentine's Day Kisses] is our favorite event because everyone has been looking forward to [it] since three weeks ago. We knew we had a standard to meet, an expectation the past Blue Key Heads set for us. So we were just really thrilled and excited to film this video and get everyone hyped up."

Since Blue Key Heads consist exclusively of Seniors, Cho recognized the event as a way to meet new people, in particular underclassmen,

and as one of the last chances to connect with members of the wider community.

Cho added, "I'm really excited to get to know people because [when I was] looking at my list, [there were] some people I didn't even know. And I know I need to look them up in the directory, and it's going to be hard with masks to identify people. But I'm excited to get to know underclassmen. It's the final push where you can get to know people as a Senior. So I just want to use this opportunity to really create and foster new friendships, foster new bonds with these underclassmen."

With the loud clamoring of laughter and music, many students welcomed the return of Valentine's Day tradition. Lora Oh '23, who entered Andover as a new Lower, commented on her first Valentine's Day at Andover, especially the traditional extravaganza acts from different Blue Key Heads and on the new kissing policy that was implemented for this year.

"I really liked [the event]. I love the Blue Keys, they were super cool. When I was in Commons [and] they were doing one of the extravaganzas, they were running around singing 'I Kissed A Girl' in a kilt—it was really fun. We were all singing along [with them], which was really giving off the Valentine's vibes. The tradition was really cute [and] nice. Also, having the stamps as an alternative than the physical kisses was a big

improvement, in my opinion. People can get like, multiple all over their face, which I saw quite a few people had done. [Covid-19] has made us more aware of germs, and I personally wouldn't be comfortable with Blue Key Heads kissing me," said Oh.

The stamp kisses were newly implemented, deviating from the original tradition of giving physical kisses upon students' purchases. Regarding consent and inclusivity brought up by both faculty and students, Blue Key Heads resorted to offering kiss marks using stamps instead of physical ones. While there were measures taken to get affirmative consent from both parties in the past, safety concerns with Covid-19 and matter of inclusivity had caused the shift according to Sam Elliott '22, one of the Blue Key Heads.

"In the week before Valentine's Day, students have the option to buy kisses for their friends from Blue Key Heads, as a charity fundraising event. But with [Covid-19], it was adapted a little bit, so we ended up doing red lip shaped stamps instead," said Elliott.

Elliott explained how it has been an ongoing problem for the past few years. The administration would decide on various rules for different years, shifting boundaries

Continued on A5, Column 1

ASM: Julie Lythcott-Haims Explores Sense of Belonging Within A Mixed-Race Identity

BIANCA MORALES &
NAHILA HUTCHINSON

Following a week of discussions, posters, movie screenings, and specially-designed cakes, Mixed Heritage Awareness Week was concluded with an All-School Meeting (ASM) featuring Julie Lythcott-Haims. Novelist of four books, Lythcott-Haims delivered a thirty minute speech centered on her experience as a bi-racial Black and white woman. Her books include commentary on parenting, adulthood, and writing prompts. Lythcott-Haims also has a phone line dedicated to providing people a space to vent and seek advice. She encourages anyone interested in learning more about her work to follow her social media handle @jlythcott-haims.

Natasha Muromcew '22 and Christine Michael '22, co-heads of MOSAIC, an affinity group for mixed-heritage students, opened Friday's

ASM with Lythcott-Haims' introduction. Mixed-heritage week, planned by the MOSAIC board members, brought to light the experience of being a mixed-heritage person in today's world.

Camila McGinley '23, a board member of MOSAIC, offered information on the challenges of grappling with her own heritage as a mixed white and Latinx person. McGinley reflected on her perception of her own mixed race identity and how it has changed over time.

"For me being a mixed heritage person always meant not fitting in. I always felt too much or too little of my ethnicities. Before I was able to meet other mixed heritage people I felt very alone in my identity. However, as I have gotten older I have been able to recognize the beauty of my mixed identity and what it means for me. For me now being mixed means having the capacity to withhold assumptions and connect with folks of different groups," McGin-

ley wrote in an email to The Phillipian.

Lythcott-Haims first opened up about how much of her experience as a biracial woman has been defined by hardships inflicted upon herself by others, specifically non-mixed race people. During the ASM, Lythcott-Haims offered examples of challenges that mixed people may encounter.

"These are just some of the things mixed race people have to work out. This part of my family hates this part, and vice versa. Perhaps relatives resent me or are outright cruel or reject me or disown me. Or they overly praise me because I ended up with the good features; the good hair... Being misidentified by others, mislabeled. Feeling a kinship to an ancestry of a people yet not looking enough like them, so our own people don't recognize us as one of them. See-

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Commentary, A2

Vaccine Availability

Andrew Chinn '24 argues that international efforts to disperse vaccinations are necessary to ensure the safety of the larger global community.

Eighth Page, A8

International Day of Loneliness Strikes Again

lol ur still single

Sports, B1

Winter Olympics Feature

Athletics Director Lisa Joel and former Olympian Assistant Director of Admissions Jamie Hagerman Phinney explore gender in Olympics.

Arts, B7

Flash Films

Arts follows up on News article with detailed coverage of each flash film.

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Editorial

Protect “Protected” Time

Each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, students gather between 6:20 p.m. and 7:50 p.m. for their music commitments. According to The Blue Book, students commit to at least two evening rehearsals per week to participate in Academy performance ensembles, with most groups meeting Tuesday and Thursday from 6:20 to 7:50 p.m. The Blue Book also promises that “this time is protected for students participating in musical ensembles; rehearsals take priority over any other scheduled event (extracurricular, cocurricular, or academic) on campus.” But is the time Andover sets aside for music—commonly termed “protected time”—really protected?

Students often face a choice between pursuing music at Andover and participating in their other commitments. Despite their Blue Book status, music programs at Andover are often walked over when it comes to scheduling. For instance, while Andover’s weekly schedule lists set hours for “Athletics and Community Engagement,” music’s protected time does not appear on the tally. This discrepancy leaves this so-called “protected” period up for interpretation, especially for clubs and groups looking to organize meetings during the week.

With the rigor of Andover’s workload, time is already scant for club meetings, group classwork, and other extra or cocurricular activities to meet during the week. Working against the clock and an already wrung-out schedule, many clubs and activities schedule meetings during music protected time. For those participating in Academy ensembles who are also active club members, this scheduling conflict presents a dilemma—attend clubs at the expense of their ensemble membership, or skimp on club participation and their extracurricular passions. This dilemma especially affects underclassmen, who have been encouraged to “try everything out,” and may limit the expansion and diversity of students’ interests across all grade levels.

This thin balance only becomes progressively more unwieldy throughout students’ Andover careers. As commitments ramp up and students have more weekly obligations, upperclassmen musicians, who have been trying to organize their schedules since freshman year, must continuously reevaluate their schedules to prioritize music against a school scheduling culture that does not prioritize their music commitments. These struggles Andover musicians face reflect a larger chaos that permeates Andover’s schedule.

On the academic front, Andover’s current schedule is riddled with frays that reveal a system which undermines student wellness. Weeks begin with a crammed Monday schedule with homework due for every class; yet, the 40 minute allotted time for classes on Monday is often too short to thoroughly delve into class topics. A day designed to balance out the schedule is often more disruptive than the “fairness” it strives to achieve. Furthermore, our 8:30 a.m. start time, combined with courseloads and adolescent sleep cycles means that students are often not at their best in the morning, disadvantaging first and third period classes.

The poor timing of the current schedule impedes students’ health and wellness throughout the week. For classes, a mere 65 minutes is allotted for conference on Monday and Wednesday. For students taking five courses, that’s an average of 13 minutes per class, and even less for those taking six courses. While students might not meet with every class using the allotted conference period, meeting with just two teachers can be difficult after accounting for commute time and other students’ needing to meet with the same teacher. Lunch is even more contentious, with students in sixth lunch and 3:15 p.m. athletics having less than 30 minutes to eat, and with sports within the next hour. Wednesday lunch, too, is difficult, chaotic, and inefficient. The 1:00 p.m. rush prevents students with early afternoon games and commitments from grabbing a quick but fulfilling lunch.

The challenge then becomes remediating the issue; what does a balanced Andover schedule look like? How can students meet baseline wellness needs (eight hours of sleep, adequate time for schoolwork, three fulfilling meals a day)—needs that, at Andover, are often an impossible ideal—but still pursue their passions? A microcosm of larger knots in Andover’s scheduling—the fragility of protected time reflects the student body’s wider inability to engage in their interests when our schedules often don’t value them as we do. As one stroke in a broader effort to ensure student wellness and limit schedule confusion, Andover should recognise music protected time in its weekly schedule and more strictly enforce its status as “protected.”

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

Elegantly Poetry

GLORIA CHEN



T. ZENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

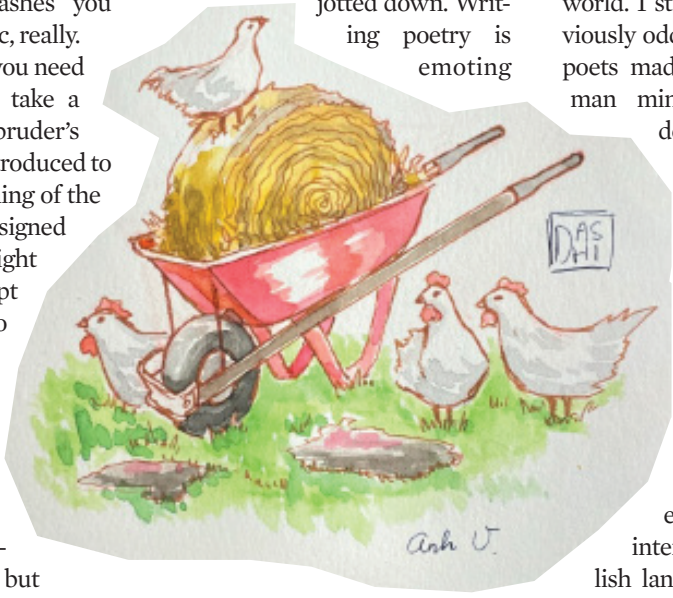
I didn’t always like poetry. As if fortifying the common poetic stigma, I found poetry disorienting, too concise, and purposefully hidden. There were three things I never hoped to do: dig my way through a poem, decipher peculiar words, and create peculiarity. As such, when our English-200 course embarked on a poetry journey this winter, I felt naturally reserved.

Sometimes, life dashes you with surprise. It’s magic, really.

If there’s one book you need to read this summer, take a stab at Matthew Zapruder’s “Why Poetry.” I was introduced to this book at the beginning of the term. At first, getting assigned chapters every other night seemed like an attempt to brainwash us into thinking that no, poetry wasn’t that bad. Yet, with my immersion into Zapruder’s words and his world, I realized that his message was true. Poetry, despised by some but now loved by me, possesses such elegance... and is, without a doubt,

“music in language.”

The grandest joy in writing poetry is rooted in its ability to express feelings ordinary prose cannot. A poem talks to the emotions. Some “things”—anything—need to be expressed through white space. There is no way I can write about my longing for a past life in full, grammatical sentences (with the occasional period and capitalized letter) from left to right. The emptiness I feel inside is suddenly congested and filled if I spell out the word. Emptiness, in its raw and unfiltered form, can only be conveyed through white space. Compared to prose, poetry doesn’t demand plots, characters, consistency, or completeness as rigorously. It is something to be experienced, and not necessarily narrated. It doesn’t live in the confine of having to “tell” something—whatever that means. It allows for spontaneous bursts of literary genius that can be quickly jotted down. Writing poetry is emoting



ANH VU / THE PHILLIPIAN

in the purest and simplest way.

In writing and reading, poetry offered me a path to represent my mind in addition to entering the mind of someone else. As I familiarized myself further into the world of writing poetry, words and thoughts started flying in my brain. There were specific words—simple, random combinations out of the same 26 letters—that just felt right. The placement of the words in my brain was right. Some words were farther apart, some were condensed. Some flew in a circle around others, some detached in the air. I transcribed that imaginary “word map” onto the page, omitting letters, skipping spaces, hopping from left to right, altering line spacing. For the first time, simple 2D letters on a page equaled my mind, perfectly.

When I inherited that thought process as a writer into my reading, I discovered a whole new world. I started to value the previously odd and arbitrary choices poets made. They reflected human minds—how could you deem a mind “odd?” They became what felt right to the poet, the “word map” of the poet, that righteously no one else had a say in. “Odd” and “arbitrary” disappeared; “personal” appeared.

Interestingly, poetry also redefined my interpretation of the English language. I soon realized that the feeling of randomness I once had, when reading a poem,

not only came from the fact that the words were random (or shall I say “personal”)—but also the context they were placed in. As I examined my own writing, I realized my hypocritical self. The words I used also came off as random to others. Not long after, I discovered in my poems that the words feeling right existed not because of their most conventional usage. If I wanted to say “a snowflake fell to the ground,” I would not use “fell.” I would use “breathe and dip.” That feels odd to the reader, doesn’t it? I would argue the weird feeling stemming from “breathe.” We breathe the air; we breathe and pause to rest. But a snowflake doesn’t normally breathe (in) the air.

Attention! That does not mean it can’t. One of the definitions Merriam-Webster includes reads “to breathe: to feel free of restraint.” It is certainly not the most popular usage, and yet, it still exists. The snowflake feels free of restraint, lets go, and free-falls to the ground. Once I realized this trait, I let go of my assumptions on what a word meant. I let the dictionary remind me of a word’s Latin roots and neutral meaning, long before society’s taints. I started noticing relationships between words like “bird” and “blurred.” A phonetic relationship: they rhyme. In English, they are connected. Poetry reactivated and reanimated the English I thought I knew.

This reactivation of the language also allowed me to slow down in life and notice coincidences I often disregarded. For example, in William Carlos Williams’ poem “The Red Wheelbarrow,” he writes:

a red wheel
barrow

glazed with rain
water

beside the white
chickens.

If this phrase was written in prose, “a red wheelbarrow glazed with rain water beside the white chickens,” I would disregard exactly that. This scene typical of a farm always came off as common sense to me—rainwater was just rainwater; chickens were always white. But in the line breaks between “wheelbarrow,” “rain water,” and “white chickens,” I slowed down and noticed—for the first time in a long time—these realities that zoomed by.

I have transformed so much since the beginning of the term. I discovered a world of delight, a world where a literal mind clone exists. A world that made me befriend English and “notice” once again, a world that gave me a pathway to define undefinable emotions. Poetry is elegant. Marvelous.

Friends, Romans, Countrymen! I have one last wish for you all.

Embrace poetry, and let it embrace you.

Gloria Chen is a Lower from Andover, M.A. Contact the author at ychen24@andover.edu.

The Phillipian welcomes all letters to the Editor. We try to print all letters, but because of space limitations, we enforce a 500-word limit. We reserve the right to edit all submitted letters. Letters must be responses to articles already published by *The Phillipian*. We will not publish any anonymous letters. Please submit letters by the Monday of each week to phillipian@phillipian.net or to our newsroom in the basement of Morse Hall.

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CORRECTIONS :
The Sports article “Nordic Co-Captain Hannah Justicz ‘22 Believes ‘Good Energy Brings Good Energy’ for the Team” was misattributed in the print issue. The correct author is Patricia Tran.
The Phillipian regrets the error.

HOT TAKES

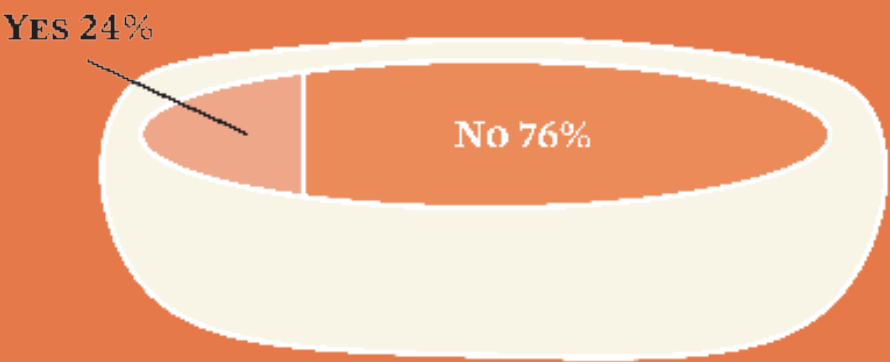
CAROLINE SHEN / THE PHILLIPIAN

REPORTING BY AVA CHEN & CLAIRE CHENG

The following hot takes were posted to *The Phillipian*’s Instagram account to poll students on their responses to each. Read the original hot take and the campus’ consensus on it below.

TARA PHAN ’24: SALSA IS GREAT BY ITSELF

Have you ever tried salsa by itself? Now, that is delicious. You can enjoy the taste of salsa without the crunch of chips scratching the roof of your mouth, [...] It’s like a salad, but better. You won’t lay in regret realizing you’ve already consumed 30 chips—instead, you realize you’ve consumed a cup of flavored tomatoes. So if you’re ever hungry at 1 a.m. go downstairs and pour yourself a glass of salsa. You won’t regret it.



DO YOU LIKE SALSA BY ITSELF?

RAINA YANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

ARIELSIE LI ’24: CATERPILLARS ARE CUTE

Caterpillars are cute AF. They are squishy and round, which satisfies like 1/3 of the criteria for cute animals. Plus they have the pretty colors and tiny little feet. Their bodies are literally made of little round spheres, which is just really adorable. And the way they move around, all slow and clueless and whatnot, just make them more of some dumb cute little fel-las.

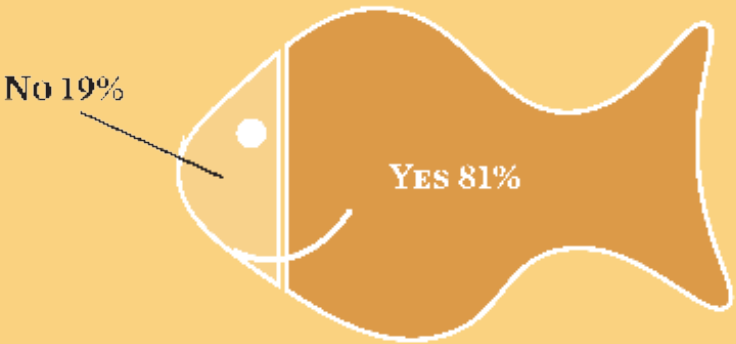
ARE CATERPILLARS CUTE?



RAINA YANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

VALENCIA ZHANG ’25: ORIGINAL CHEEZ-ITS AND GOLDFISH SUCK

People who enjoy the original Cheez-It or the original Goldfish confuse me. First of all, we all know that those crackers taste resemble a taste far from cheese. They are simply nostalgic and crunchy. Not saying that I don’t eat them, but I would never explicitly enjoy them. Personally, I will only go for White Cheddar Cheez-Its or Xtra Cheddar Goldfish. It is only in those flavors that I feel truly happy with the cheese balance.



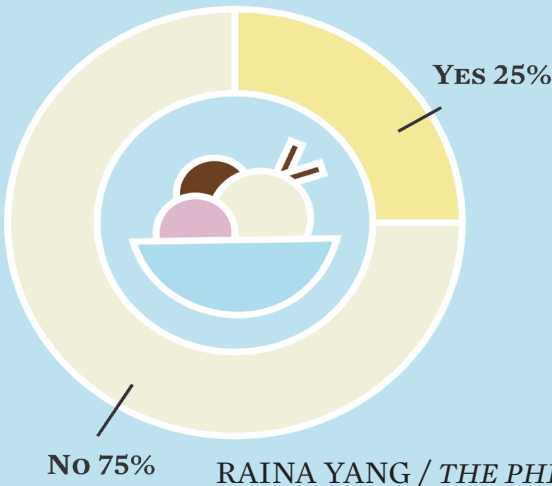
DO YOU ENJOY ORIGINAL
CHEEZ-ITS AND GOLDFISH?

RAINA YANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

AMBER CHOU ’24: VANILLA IS THE BEST

Vanilla ice cream is the best ice cream flavor of all time, and there’s nothing that comes even remotely close. The reason why is that it goes well with everything—[when] you think of a root beer float, it’s always vanilla ice cream, if you want toppings on your ice cream, you always have it with vanilla ice cream [...] Vanilla’s always a safe choice, and it tastes great.

IS VANILLA THE BEST ICE CREAM FLAVOR?



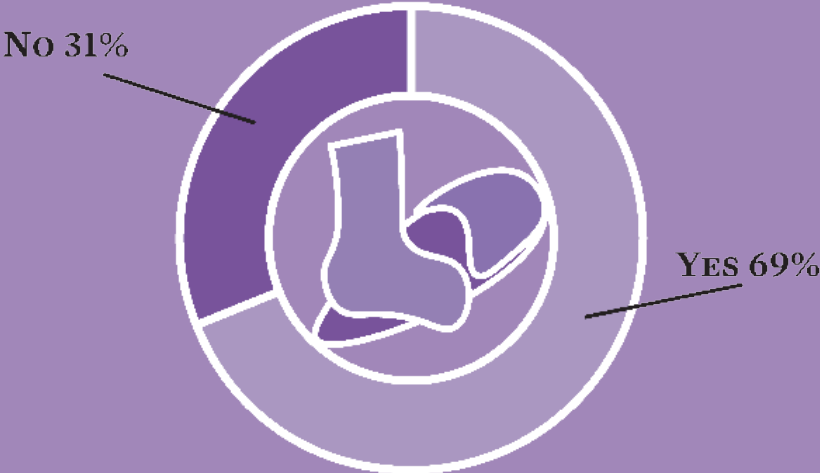
RAINA YANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

KEVIN NIU ’25: THE EDUCATION SYSTEM NEEDS REFORM

Ever since elementary school, failure has been a defining action, something that should be avoided at all costs. Our current school system trains students to value grades above learning. We are convinced that success means getting an A and that failure is getting an F. In reality, jobs want to hire people who can solve a problem creatively, people who think outside the box. The majority of our classes teach us the opposite, that there is only one correct way to solve a problem. The goal of school should be to teach students how to fail and how to create a better world for everyone, not how to succeed through grades. Learning is defined through failing and not test-taking. Even though our parents send us all to school to get a “degree,” estimations show that one in three college graduates have a job that doesn’t require a college education. School commonly leads to fatigue, anxiety, stress, depression, social integration, and panic attacks. Schools have taught students to have a longing desire to be accepted by their classmates—a safe space for only those who fit in. Change in education is needed.

DANIEL SEONG ’25: SOCKS GO WITH SLIPPERS

People who think socks shouldn’t go with slippers just don’t know what they’re saying. The warm, comforting layer of the socks complement the casual and comfortable nature of slippers perfectly; they even go with almost any outfit. Those who say they don’t go together are just jealous of the coolness of people who know this style. I rest my case.



DO SOCKS GO WITH SLIPPERS?

RAINA YANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Have a hot take?
Email azhang23 and yzeng24!

Paid Time Off

LANGAN GARRETT



L. GARRETT / THE PHILLIPIAN

ALL OF US ARE FAMILIAR with the concept of time off. In the adult world, and in most starting jobs, you get paid vacation and a certain amount of paid sick days. To have that comfort in the back of your mind, telling you that it is okay to take a day for yourself, must be such a relief.

Earlier this term, I was stressed—as we all are—and I

So, then, do you take care of the students or the curriculum first?

didn't sleep a wink. I was exhausted, bags under my eyes, and had to literally throw myself out of bed. All I could think to myself was, I wish I could just take the day off. If I had a job, I could email my boss and say that I was taking a sick day, no questions asked. But alas, we go to school—a rigorous one at that—so I had to slog through my day. I wanted to email my advisor saying class was just not going to happen. I wanted to email

my teachers and explain that I needed some time. I wanted a hall pass, a day when I could

like you cannot get through your day, to take that time for yourself, and not be penalized

support system, and encouraged the idea of a “free cut.” I get that, it makes sense. The



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throw my hands up, and say, “Today is not the day. I just cannot.”

Everyone I know here has had a similar experience. Everything just feels like too much. They need that extra day tacked on to the weekend to enjoy it, to feel like they had fun and relaxed. They have that one week with six majors looming, and the to-do list that just seems to grow endlessly. You feel crushed. You can't pick up the pieces.

Just one day per term might not seem like a lot. However, a day would alleviate some of the pressure. I need a mechanism in my life that I can count on, that tells me that it is okay to feel

for it. Knowing that I have the option to take a day off and take care of myself before I take care of my endless to-do list of schoolwork would be a priceless luxury.

I have heard of other similar solutions to this issue. Prior to my time at Andover, there was something called the “Sleep Room” in Sykes. You could skip a period, and just sleep in Sykes. You could talk to your teachers, or your dean, and get “personal time,” but the administration got rid of this policy, or at least the formal, student-known version of it. They argued that it led to abuse of the

whole idea of school is, to go to school, and to learn. Likewise, no teacher wants you

I don't expect a solution to come soon, or come during my time here, but I only hope that less and less students feel that crushing weight of stress.

to skip classes—they are passionate and want you to learn.

However, that passion might not translate on a Monday morning, on a day when you have more assignments than you can count. So, then, do you take care of the students or the curriculum first? The answer feels clear: in order to maintain the curriculum to maintain and encourage a student body who actively wants to learn and engage, you have to make sure that their needs are taken care of first.

Similarly, self-advocacy, and independence are inherent at a boarding school. One of the main things we learn, as a freshman, is how to manage ourselves, our needs, and our time. We are our best barometers emotionally, physically, and socially. Bringing back a system of student “paid time off” would only promote this sense of advocacy and independence. A sense of “I know what I need, and what I need is the day to myself.”

I don't expect a solution to come soon, or come during my time here, but I only hope that less and less students feel that crushing weight of stress. I would hope that in the future, there is an Andover where we take days for ourselves when we feel like we need it, when we are at the brink of exhaustion, when we need that saving grace. We need a day to ourselves, maybe one per term to relearn what it is to be a good student and community member. And it really is only one day.

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Prioritizing the People Behind the Medals

CLAIRE CHENG



C. CHENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

MOST PEOPLE PLAY a sport. No matter the specific sport, we all (or at least most of us) love to play it. Do I play tennis to go pro? Not at all, but I'm dedicated to my sport and will try my hardest to get as far as I can with it. By no means am I training hard enough and being pressured to go to the Olympics or any Grand Slams, but I do know the crushing pressure I feel in tournaments for many reasons, and I think a lot of us have felt this feeling too. Now, take a look at this through an Olympian or professional athlete's eyes. As they spend weeks, months, and years at a time working their hardest to represent their country at the Olympics, the burdening pressure of success becomes far more prevalent. But as we watch these athletes with high expectations and see them merely as a component to winning for our country, rather than the humans that they are, we are, in a way, dehumanizing them.

Take Simone Biles at the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo. Biles went into the Olympics known as the greatest gymnast in the world. Previously the women's all-around gymnastics winner in Rio 2016, people anticipated her participation in Tokyo 2020, and had high expectations of her to, once again, take home the title for the US. On July 28, 2021, it was announced that Biles was withdrawing from the individual all-around event. As many audience members, including myself, were confused as to why their fa-

vorite wasn't participating, it was revealed that Biles had pulled out due to mental health reasons. Biles experienced the “twisties,” and she claimed that she couldn't tell where she was in relation to the ground and that she felt some-

her team down, and was a quitter. Biles had every right to pull out of the competition to regather herself and get back in the right headspace. After all, she should prioritize herself over anything else. Yet many audience members



CLARIS SHIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

what disassociated from her body as she was flying through the air. Her choice to withdraw caused an

didn't agree with this. Many view Biles as the greatest gymnast of

China. Before even arriving at the Olympics, Zhu received a lot of criticism for not being “Chinese enough”. She was ridiculed for not being able to speak Chinese and for being born in America.

By no means am I training hard enough and being pressured to go to the Olympics or any Grand Slams, but I do know the crushing pressure I feel in tournaments for many reasons, and I think a lot of us have felt this feeling too.

uproar of both positivity and negativity within the US. Some applauded Biles for focusing on her well-being over winning a competition and called her brave, but others failed to see her bravery. They claimed she was selfish, let

As viewers begin to consider athletes as machines, their happiness and true love for their sport get stripped from them.

all time, but to what extent does their sometimes burdening support, be detrimental to her mental health? As some continue to view Biles as merely a tool in order to gain more national pride and gold medals, they are taking away from the fact that she is a human, who has dedicated her whole life to being a gymnast and doing what she loves. She chose to do gymnastics and has every right to choose what she does with her life within that.

Similar to the way Biles

We should always allow, without question, athletes to take a step back and prioritize themselves over pleasing their fans.

People considered her to be unqualified for the team because of her father's connections with the government, and people speculated that she was handed a spot on the coveted team because of this. Many claimed she was a position-stealer.

In the women's short program team figure skating, her Olympic debut, Zhu fell. She then com-

peted in the women's free skate, and fell two more times, pushing team China out of placing. As well as it being her Olympic debut, Zhu already had the pressure of feeling the need to prove herself to all of China. After both events, Zhu received immense amounts of hate from China all over Weibo, one of the biggest social media platforms in China. They called her disgraceful, trended hashtags like “#ZhuYiFellDown,” and claimed she had let the team, and all of China, down. While getting attacked for falling down, she was also being attacked for her identity. Think about this: a 19-year old girl was being unwarrantedly harassed throughout the entirety of her Olympic experience, while simultaneously having to bear the pressures of the world's expectations on her. The Chinese were angry that because of Zhu, they didn't place, but just like Biles, they saw her as a tool simply to earn more medals. In their dehumanizing eyes, she is someone who let her whole country down and is a failure, merely for participating in a sport she loves and trying her hardest. As viewers begin to consider athletes as machines, their happiness and true love for their sport get stripped from them.

As much as I love watching the Olympics and cheering for my favorite athletes, the extent to which people pressure and harass these same athletes when they don't win is concerning. Training almost their whole lives for the Olympics is already extremely difficult. Upon making it, having to continuously please their audience while also being beaten down by them, becomes painstaking. Biles and Zhu were dehumanized and seen as non-stop working utensils for essentially, doing what they love. We should always allow, without question, athletes to take a step back and prioritize themselves over pleasing their fans. After all, without them, what's the point of watching?

Claire Cheng is a Junior from New York, N.Y. Contact the author at ccheng25@andover.edu.

NEWS IN BRIEF

REPORTING BY ANGELINE ZHAO & JACQUELINE GORDON

This Week:

MOSAIC, Andover’s mixed heritage affinity group, hosted a showing of **“To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before”** in the Underwood Room last Friday night in celebration of their ninth annual Mixed Heritage Awareness Week. The movie, which is based on the first book in a trilogy by author Jenny Han, centers around Lara Jean, a Korean biracial high schooler whose life is completely upended when the secret love letters she wrote to her past crushes are mailed.

Julie Lythcott-Haims, author of *Real American: A Memoir* and winner of the 2018 PEN Oakland Josephine Literary Award, spoke about her experiences as a Black biracial woman at last week’s All-School Meeting. She described feeling as though she could never satisfy both sides of her heritage and shared her path to discovering and understanding her own identity. Lythcott-Haims hosted a Q&A following her talk and stayed after the event to have casual conversations with students and faculty about her work.

Nina Choo-phungart ’22 presented her Brace Center research project, “The Meaning of Marriage: Exploring the Nature of Transnational Partnerships Between Isan Women and Western Men,” on Valentine’s Day in celebration of this year’s “Love Better Week”. Her presentation focused on controversy over the recent increase in marriages between Isan women and Western men. She explored the prejudiced notions surrounding translational marriages and highlighted the voices of Isan women.

On Valentine’s Day, Blue Key Heads spread through Paresky Commons, each armed with a list of names and a bag of red “kiss” stamps and candies. The week prior, students had the option of buying extravaganzas, kisses, hugs, and candies for friends. Due to Covid-19, however, kisses on the cheek were modified to stamps. Nonetheless, many students sent friends gifts and fun extravaganza’s for Valentine’s Day. All proceeds from the event will be donated.

The **Abbot Cabaret 2022** was performed in Kemper Auditorium this past Saturday. Similar to Grasshopper, Abbot Cabaret is a showcase of student talent, in particular the

performing arts. The acts ranged from a rendition of Bruno Mars ‘Grenade’, a cappella groups, beatboxing, a comedy duo, and a performance featuring isolations in dance.

Andover’s Theater and Dance Department will perform **Urinetown**, a three-time Tony winning musical comedy by Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis about the limitations of capitalism when responding to climate change and racial policing. There were four showtimes throughout this past Saturday and Sunday, all of which were performed in the Tang Theater. Seating was first come first serve.

Andover Moviemakers club hosted a 24 hour filming event, aptly titled **‘Flash Films’**, in the OWHL library from 8p.m. on Friday 11th to the Screening Night at 8pm on Saturday 12th. The writers of the nine flash films stayed overnight in the library, enjoying the spaces with friends and the food provided, and were tasked to ‘unleash their creativity’ in their scripts which were filmed the day after around campus. The extraordinary final products varied in genre and content from films named “Horror Movie”, “Another” to “Livin at PA”.

Flash Films Flash Films Receives Popular Feedback from Community Despite Challenges and Strayed Traditions

AVA CHEN & JENNY JIN

While most Andover students returned to their dorms by sign-in last Friday, a group of students remained in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library. Students huddled up in the Freeman Room and began writing movie scripts for the annual Flash Films event. The event provided students with 24 hours to write, direct, shoot, and edit a short film.

According to Natalie Chen ’22, one of the co-heads of Andover Moviemakers, Flash Films is an opportunity for students interested in movies to produce one themselves. There were no specific rules except that every film had to include a cameo from one of the co-heads: Chen or Loulou Sloss ’22. The students were given 12 hours to write the script and another 12 hours to shoot their scenes.

“Flash Films has been an Andover Moviemakers Club tradition, and it’s just a space where students who want to create and are interested in writing or acting or directing can have fun with their friends and actually make a movie. Basically, writers come to the library at 8 p.m. on Friday night and they stay overnight in the library writing

their movie. The next day, the movies are directed, acted in, and edited and then they are screened at 8 p.m. that night,” wrote Chen in an email to The Phillipian.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the club was not able to host the event last year. Many participants were new to filmmaking. Thus, the event was challenging to carry out, according to the board members. Sloss thought it was difficult for the club to be held responsible for everyone staying overnight in the library.

“It’s a big thing to have people stay overnight in the library, which means we were totally responsible for everybody. If they were doing anything they weren’t supposed to be doing it was on me and Theo, not on them. So that was a challenge, to try to get that all coordinated through Covid-19 and even in a normal year it would’ve been difficult,” said Sloss.

Sloss also noted that many past traditions were not a part of this year’s event. According to Sloss, teams did not always act, direct, and write their short films.

“We kind of threw out a lot of the traditions of preparation. I think that part of the fun of Natalie and I’s freshman year was that after we’d finished writing it, we just

handed it off to some senior to direct it and to these two actors who signed up as actors and were assigned to us. And then they created their directorial and acting vision, whereas a lot of the ones this year were very coordinated. I think part of the fun is writing something and then having faith in random people to make it good, and I just don’t think that was really a thing this year. I hope in the next year people will be willing to wake up at 8 a.m. and come and help with something that they didn’t necessarily write,” said Sloss.

Despite the challenges and differences, the event was a success, according to Kevin Chen ’24, a junior board member of the Andover Moviemakers. Chen commented on the large audience that came to the film screening on Saturday evening.

“The event went well for the majority of the groups, no matter what the final product was. They seemed to have a blast making movies with their friends, especially through the comedies. Something else that went really well was the popularity of the event. 60 people signed up as writers to sleepover in the library, with even more participating in the event as other roles. At the screening in the Freeman room on



K.WANG/THEPHILLIPIAN
To read about specific Flash Films, head to Arts on B7, Column 1.

Saturday night, the entire room was packed with people, to the point that people were standing in the hallway just to watch,” said Chen.

The board members hope that this year’s event will encourage students to find their interest in filmmaking and to participate in the Flash Film events to come. Sloss believes that the event could help the club improve and flourish within the Andover community.

“I hope to inspire people to keep on the tradition after I graduate. I know there are people on the board, but the community interest in Andover Moviemakers Club is really important to the club’s survival and flourishing. The participation and the turnout for the screening and the participation in flash films itself was really inspiring to how I think of the future after I’m gone,” said Sloss.

Adjustment For the “Kissing” Tradition Due to Protocols Concerning Covid-19 and Inclusion

Continued from A1, Column 3

on whether Blue Key Heads should give actual kisses or resorting to alternative acts such as using stamps.

Elliott said, “Obviously, when you have students pay-

ing for other students to kiss their friends, there are some clear red flags [and] issues that can be raised. But my [Junior] year, they adapted what it was, and they sent out an email clarifying the rules. The Blue Key Heads had to come up, ask if you wanted to kiss, ask if it was okay to kiss you on the cheek. And if the student was uncomfortable with

that, they’d give him a Hershey kiss [instead], which I think worked pretty well and was very fun. I do worry a little bit that maybe students could feel peer pressured by their friends to say yes, which we don’t want happening. So I think there are problems and things to think about. But I think the stamps worked really well, and I hope we can just

Students Reflect on Conflict Within Mixed-Race Identities, Connect to ASM

Continued from A1, Column 3

ing evidence of violence in our DNA... As Agnes [Agosto ’24] said, ‘we are grasping for the approval of others’... This can lead to a profound sense of unbelonging,” said Lythcott-Haims.

Eleanor Tong ’24, a mixed white and Asian student who regularly attends MOSAIC meetings, appreciated Lythcott-Haims’ discussion surrounding the mixed race experience. Tong felt that Lythcott-Haims was willing to address the complexities in the journey to self-love.

“I was pleasantly surprised, I actually really loved it. I think that she was able to put a lot of people’s feelings, especially mixed race people into words, which I think is very hard to do. Because there’s a lot of conflicted feelings. And, there’s a lot of invalidating yourself in some areas that she was able to talk about. Because she talked about loving yourself and relationships with parents where you don’t necessarily feel hatred towards them, but you feel mad at some of the things that you feel are their fault... I think that she was able to highlight a lot of that,” said Tong.

Preceding Lythcott-Haims’ speech, Agnes Agosto ’24 recited a poem regarding her experience as a mixed white and Latinx person. She agreed with Tong’s sentiments on the

value of the vulnerability that accompanies the discussion and self exploration of one’s mixed-heritage. Agosto felt that Lythcott-Haims’ comments on the duality between accepting oneself while being mindful of certain privileges one may have were insightful.

“I know that Emily [Turnbull ’24] asked the question about claiming a part of your identity even if you don’t look like that part of your identity with it, like how to claim that part of identity without coopting experiences and traumas that aren’t yours... I know that she talked about understanding that you have privilege as, for example, a white passing person or just somebody who doesn’t have to experience that trauma because you look a certain way. And understanding that privilege and acknowledging it but at the same time still saying ‘Here are things I have in common with you. I hear you and I do belong with you, even if I don’t share that trauma.’ Because I think that although trauma and shared trauma is a huge part of cultures, at the same time, there is so much more and I think that she talked about that really well,” said Agosto.



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Above, the Blue Key Heads setting up shop in Paresky Commons for a day of kisses and extravaganzas.

Fred Eversley’s Contemporary Works Inspire Students and Envoke New Perceptions of What Art Is

Continued from A1, Column 1

stalling these works with Fred and thinking about how you can actually use the skylight. I feel like as curators we’re always trying to find ways to show work without having too much light on it, and here it was welcoming and dynamic and you want people to be able to walk around them from all angles and that was a very exciting project,” said Conaty.

In addition, Conaty led the virtual conversation and allowed the audience to learn more about Eversley. Conaty inquired about Eversley’s years as an engineer and his work experience in Venice, which was a turning point in his career.

“The president of this laboratory, his son, Steven, was one of my fraternity buddies at Carnegie Mellon. And he wanted me to come work for them and I was given the freedom to do special projects as opposed to doing normal day-to-day laboratory kind of things. I ended up designing the acoustic laboratories for NASA Houston, for both the APOLLO and GEMINI missions, and for the Europe-

an Space Agency in Munich. I became one of the most knowledgeable people in the country for high intensity acoustic facilities, and they involved concentrations of acoustical energy to simulate the mechanical properties that a spaceship feels when it gets launched into space,” said Eversley.

Sean Winston-Luo ’24 expressed that the conversation was honest and provided insight into the exhibition. He commented on the contemporary element of Eversley’s work, noting that his exhibit feels fresh in comparison to older artworks.

“I thought it was a great opportunity to get exposure to interesting art, since not many schools have these types of exhibitions. I feel like working with light is a very modern idea, and I thought the exhibit felt open and natural. When I go to Europe, I go to the art museums, and they always have a lot of renaissance art. Especially at the Louvre, where there’s just roves of canvas paintings, it’s just the same old stuff. But I felt that this exhibit felt interesting and unconventional from the others,” said Lou.

William Suh ’24 felt inspired by the conversation and Evers-



S. LU/THEPHILLIPIAN

ley’s ability to innovate art from unconventional ideas. He contemplated on the possibilities for creating art from trivial artifacts that he has seen in his daily life.

Suh said, “My biggest take-

away was how the artist talked about the form of the art, where he used the example of an art experiment with water he did when he was young and how the shapes work. To see that such small observations can inspire

him so much is also inspiring to myself. It makes me think about the amorphous things or other concepts that I have actually observed in real life and how that can be turned into art.”



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Brace Scholar Explores Transcontinental Marraige, “Not simply contractual”

Continued from A1, Column 1

for both parties to commodify and benefit from one another in a relatively equal net,” said Choophungart.

Choophungart examined the potential convenience behind these marriages as well as the authenticity of couples’ love. By the end of the presentation, Choophungart concluded that despite Thai media’s portrayal of Isan women as powerless in transnational marriages, Isan women retain more agency than some may suspect.

“[I’ve come to the] conclusions [that] one: that the women in these relationships have more autonomy than what society expected. And two: these marriages are not simply contractual, instead reflect a growing trend on how globalization has allowed people to better meet their individual needs,” said Choophungart.

Choophungart continued, “It’s much more complex than whatever’s perpetuated in the media or depicted in the media, in the sense that, just

thinking about narratives of both Western and other countries, such as Thailand. These narratives of love are usually reduced to one single line.”

Before the presentation began, Choophungart extended her thanks to the many faculty and friends who helped her through her journey as a Brace Scholar. Holly Barnes, Instructor in Music and Director of Performance, acted as Choophungart’s faculty advisor, working with her throughout the summer over Zoom.

“She’s done an amazing job... It’s been a long time coming, [and] she’s worked really hard on it. I know that it took up the bulk of her summer, so it was a huge thing to be able to present her findings and discuss what she’s learned through this whole process,” said Barnes.

Students who attended the presentation echoed similar sentiments, all of whom were impressed with the quality and quantity of Choophungart’s research. Fae Ross ’24 described how the presentation related to their personal life and offered a new per-

spective to familiar narratives.

“My mom, who’s Chinese, talked about a lot of the colorism issues with a lot of transnational marriages, especially because she’s married to Western man herself. She’s actually talked a lot about her experience dating and marrying a Western man coming as an immigrant from Taiwan. It was really interesting to see this perspective,” said Ross.

Student attendee Ethan Sun ’23 also valued Choophungart’s presentation, as he feels such discussions regarding culture norms and experiences are important to have on campus. Sun connected the research to current day transnational relationships in America.

“I see this happening in transnational relationships. Things like yellow fever, like what we have in America, and a lot of the relationships [between] American men and Asian women in general. I think it provides some insight into those relationships and the kind of mentalities that formed them,” said Sun.

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2022-2023 Student Body Co-Presidential Candidate Pairs

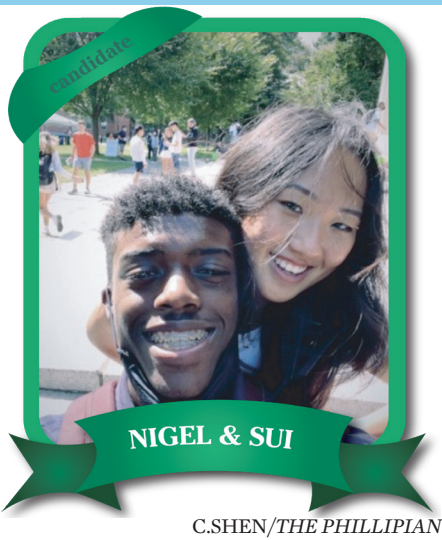
REPORTING BY ASHLEY AGYEMAN

The four Co-President pairs, who will be proceeding to the second round of voting, were announced by Kate Dolan, Assistant Dean of Students and Residential Life, in an email to the Andover Community on Monday. According to Dolan, the second round of voting will take place on Feb 21, following a forum for candidates to share about themselves and their platforms.

Nigel Savage '23 and Sui Yu '23

Nigel Savage: Our big themes are empowering students with more freedoms and more personal responsibilities. Our specific policies to emphasize personal responsibilities is through expanding room visitation hours, revival for stressroom, and abolishing sign-ins for Upperclassmen dorms. We believe that we should be able to trust the students who are all very talented and smart, to go to school and play by the rules. Students deserve that freedom, and we believe that they can handle the responsibility.

Sui Yu: We want to make our campaign as engaging as possible because we really want people to know and be aware of the changes we are trying to implement for the school, to allow them to reason as to why we are running for presidency. We're trying to make more fun engaging videos and it has been a great time. Also just conversing with people, I love talking to people about our platform, our campaign, and getting questions about it. I look forward greatly to the forum to share more about our ideas.

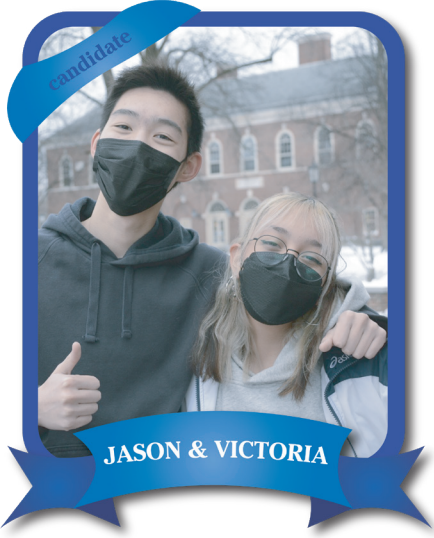


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Victoria Ortiz '23 and Jason Zhang '23

Victoria Ortiz: I do a lot of work in different spaces around campus, a lot of [Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD)] related stuff, and I feel like the culture is slowly but surely shifting towards justice efforts with more engagements and forums surrounding inclusion and equal representations for the diverse student body. We want to build a deeper sense of unity and help people understand why this sense of othering within the student body and censorship could negatively affect our school community.

Jason Zhang: I think one of the most important things we were thinking of when we were doing our platform is practicality. For us, it was really important not only to present ideas that would excite people and make people think like, "Well, this is a really good idea," but also to ensure that all of those proposals are actually possible... It's more on how we can bridge the gap between student demands and what could actually be done, so we want to communicate alongside with faculty and ensure that you know, everything is possible while basing our ideas off of students' suggestions.



C.SHEN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Allie Chung '23 and Venkat Sundaram '23

Allie Chung: Because I love Andover and love this community, it's frustrating to hear a lot more complaints around me with my friends and with people I know... the whole communication and transparency aspect between students, administration, and faculty is really important to me, and I thought that Co-President would be the optimal position to work on that through and then when Venkat reached out, it was perfect.

Venkat Sundaram: I think for us, we really hope our ideas resonate with people in our community. And if they do, we hope we're elected as Co-Presidents and get to execute on our ideas and really improve the community and impact the students. We're super excited for the next process. It's already been a lot of fun so far, but we are looking forward to more of the fun ahead. Whether that means in the next three weeks or so, we're super, super excited for the future.



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Fred Javier '23 and Kianna Jean-Francois '23

Fred Javier (in an email to *The Phillipian*): We want to emphasize our efforts to publicize and improve existing mental health resources. While this would include advocating for more flexible hours, a lot of our efforts are geared towards creating new preventative pathway plans with [the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center] and the counseling team to normalize using mental health resources as a preventative measure rather than just a reactive last resort. We believe the effectiveness and advertisement of mental health resources plays a serious role in determining the quality of student life on campus.

Kianna Jean-Francois (in an email to *The Phillipian*): Fred and I have worked together in the past, within Alianza Latina, and to organize other community efforts on campus, so we know that we work well together. We both enjoy the work of organizing, getting to interact with new people, and having valuable conversations about the future of our campus. Although we are individually passionate about student needs/issues, we sometimes have different ideas or viewpoints about campus. This is something that actually pushes us to have strong communication because we know that we want to hear perspectives that differ from our own, meaning we need to be just as strong listeners as we are sharers.



C.SHEN/THE PHILLIPIAN

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CASINO NIGHT 2022



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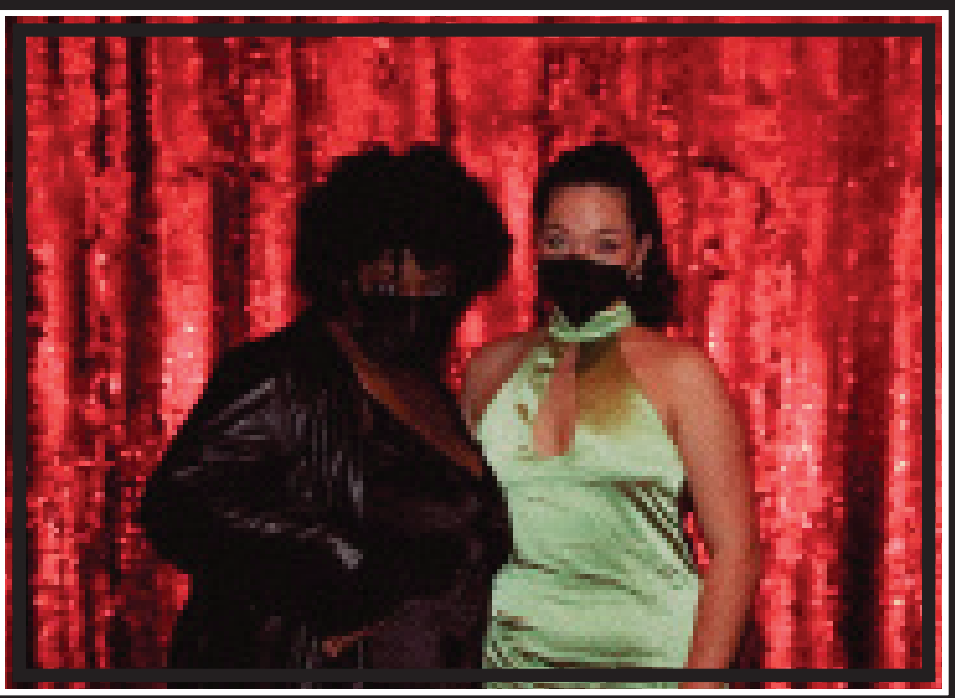
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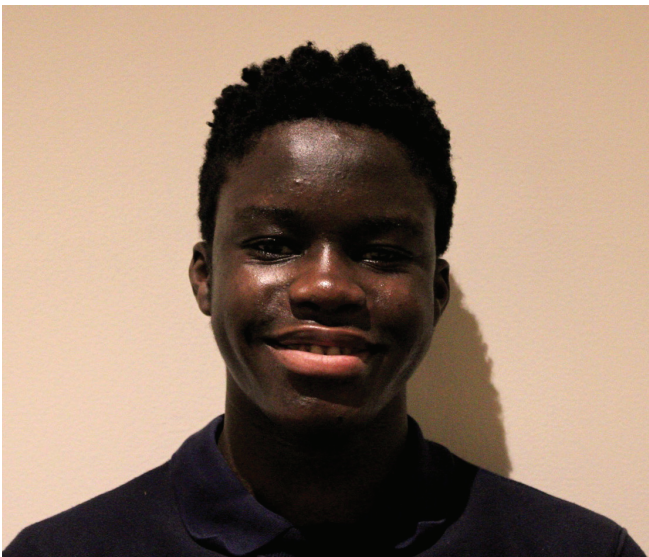
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144th Editor in Chief, Jay Aziabor Reflects on his Tenure for The Phillipian, Emphasizing Community

REPORTING BY ANGELINE ZHAO & NABILAH NAZAR



JCARMONA/THE PHILLIPIAN

1. What first made you interested in writing for The Phillipian?

It all started with my original revisit day... I remember walking to Morse and seeing a photo of *The Phillipian* Upper Management wearing their Patagonia sweat-shirts. I didn't completely understand what *The Phillipian* was at that time, but I definitely had this instinct that it was something that was truly important on campus and showed significance. Going into my lower year, I knew I wanted to, in some way, be part of the paper. Due to my love of sports, the Sports section was the way I found a home in the paper.

2. Why did you first choose to write for the Sports section?

Sports is more than just the physical games, but the culture of sports on the Andover campus, whether that's been through writing more news-type articles or through promoting the integration of sports opinion pieces... I would say that understanding sports is important, and rather than just focusing on teams, focusing on the significance it holds for Andover culture is important.

3. What was one of your most difficult experiences as Editor-in-Chief of The Phillipian?

In one of my first meetings as [Editor in Chief], I was told that I was probably the first Black Editor in Chief of *The Phillipian* and that was something which made me realize how big a privilege and opportunity I had received. I, however, also saw my identity and role as coming with an obligation to leave a physical legacy and to ensure that I wasn't the last Black student to lead the paper. Even though I had some ideas based on intentional recruitment, actually finding the time to institute my ideas was difficult. I am still very proud, though, of how we diversified our content, whether it was through dipping into the archives or including more identity-based pieces in our print issues and translating them into other languages.

4. What was your most memorable moment as Editor-in-Chief?

Seeing everybody face to face for the first time, and really reestablishing that sense of community and that sense of camaraderie—it's something I still look back on with fondness. But I'd also say that being able to sell copies of our commencement issue at graduation last year was an amazing moment. The sense of seeing like a physical representation of all the work you and the editors had put in and being able to share that with the entire community, whether that be faculty, fellow students, or alumni—I think that was an amazing opportunity. Overall, my tenure has been full of lots of moments, but when I look back on it, the things that really stand out are just those small moments that really put everything in perspective.

5. How has life changed now that you are no longer as directly involved with The Phillipian?

It is a strange feeling, taking a more backseat role with my involvement with *The Phillipian*. I still have been offering support to the new members, new editors, and *The Phillipian* in general, just trying to ease their transition in and doing anything possible to make them feel more comfortable in their new roles. That's been something that I've had to shift—not being so responsible in terms of the content of the paper, but still trying to participate when my presence is needed.

6. As someone who plays Varsity Soccer and is very passionate about the sport, what team do you root for and who is your favorite player?

I've been a fan of Manchester City since 2011. I'd say quite a long time. And my favorite player was Kün Aguero, who was a player from Manchester City. Soccer has been something that I've not only tried to make my own in terms of just playing, or just the way I interacted with the sport, but it's something that's been passed down through my family through my father. Although he supports a different team—he supports one of my team's rivals, Chelsea—I think that part of the reason why I became a Manchester City fan was to almost branch off, to create my own identity within the sport and with the team I chose.

7. Do you have any secret pregame routine in soccer?

No matter if I'm playing at home or away, in the freezing cold or in the heat, for every game, I wear the same Adidas white thermal wear shirt below my jersey. I don't know why I started doing it, but after I wore it during a few games in pre-season and made the team, it was something I refused to give up, even when it was a little uncomfortable or frankly ridiculous to wear it.

8. What was it like growing up with a twin brother and entering Andover together?

[Having] a twin who is in the same grade as you, you know someone you can directly relate your experiences to, whether that's different classes, sports, or clubs. Another advantage would be the ability to take your Andover experiences in different ways. Both of us really love soccer and tennis and we like similar subjects, but I've been more involved in *The Phillipian* and he's done more in photography and other things. I've enjoyed the opportunity, whether it's through friend groups or through the things I commit myself to on campus, to branch out and establish my own identity.

9. What music do you listen to?

I'm a big Roddy Ricch fan, I am into all of his music. Especially for soccer games, I like to listen to music that gets me hyped up and gets me in the zone, so I'd say "Every Season" by Roddy Ricch is a personal favorite. My mother and father are from Ghana, so sometimes I listen to Ghanaian and African music. Sometimes it's more hip hop. Sometimes, for my games, it's R&B or pop music. My music taste is all over the place.

10. What is your favorite place on campus?

People close to me know that I spend a ridiculous amount of time in the Newsroom. Especially over the past year, the Newsroom has been a safe space for me, but also a place where I feel constantly motivated and challenged, as well. It almost connects you with people who have been in your position before you, who aren't physically in the space. The sense of legacy is something that I've tried to establish, especially over the past year. I tried to leave the paper in a spot where future board members can make it their own, and I tried to make it my own in different ways as well.

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THE EIGHTH PAGE LOVES YOU.

EIGHTH PAGE HISTORY: ORIGIN OF VALENTINE'S DAY

NED THORNTON



Little does corporate America know... Valentine's Day is celebrated after our very own Andover alumnus—St. Valentine Sectsalot '69 (as in 1869). He is probably our most influential alumnus, sorry Bush. He's hailed as a saint for his fearless pursuit of love amidst the oppressive desolation of boarding school.

It was a dark and stormy Tuesday afternoon, and Valentine Sectsalot had just been dismissed from history class where he learned about the Bubonic Plague from a couple years ago. He sympathized with the poor students who had to endure an epidemic in high school.

After class, with a northerner's industrious determination, Valentine strode across the quad to the George Washington Hall telegraph. His fingers trembling, he slowly punched out a risky telegram to this Abbot girl, Abigail, with whom he'd been chummy with for quite some time. Without hesitation, he sent it. Valentine hoped he hadn't made any typos since he was still getting used to the technology. Almost instantly (relatively speaking), Valentine received a response a couple days later. "She must be eager," he thought to himself as he opened the envelope. As he read Abigail's message, his eyes grew wide.

As specified in the telegram, she'd come by his dorm later that day. Valentine even spoke to his housemaster and ensured that he'd keep his door open. Things were moving quickly with Abigail. Within an hour, Valentine had already shown her his annotated Bible (second base). Breaking out his Latin expertise, about to perform Virgil's "Bucolics" (third base), disaster struck.

You see, the dorms back then were quite drafty places. Since Valentine hadn't latched his window shut, a cross breeze was inevitable. When it came, a strong gust slammed his door shut and knocked over Valentine's inkwell, staining his bible.

Immediately, Valentine's housemaster was at the door. As the knocking intensified, Abigail leapt from the first-floor window to escape being caught in the scandalous act. For the rest of the year, Valentine was punished for his premarital alone-time with a girl behind a closed door. The deans grilled him with questions such as: "what could've happened after performing "Bucolics"...kissing? How undignified! You lascivious child!"

So from that day in history, romantics all around the world rallied to the support of Valentine and praised him for his daringness to love. So don't wait for someone to ask, just be a Valentine.

WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- *Elson Art Center Closes Early On Valentine's Day Because Performing Arts Belong Elsewhere*
- *Addison Art Gallery Finally Sells Ugly Sculptures to Make Up for Lost Funds to NFT Ponzi Scheme*
- *Blue Key Head Complains About Working Conditions After Giving 50 Freshmen Lap Dances in Commons*
- *Couples Go Extra Hard on the PDA To Inspire the Pitiful Singles*
- *Senior Puts More Effort Into Securing Semi-Platonic Prom Date Than Their Long Distance Relationship*
- *Instagram Censors Couple Photos After Large Amounts of Single People Boycott Meta Platforms*

LOVE POEM FOR HAIR CLUMP IN SHOWER

MARY LORD



Oh Hair-io, Oh Hair-io,
Watching you grow
has been the highlight of
Lower year.
At your birth, you were merely a
few strands
but quickly, you blossomed into a furry living creature
so faithful to your perch above the drain.

There is no greater feeling than your soft touch when I'm lonely.
I sneak a foot out of my shower shoes
and I give you the attention you deserve.

Our reciprocal love making our showers
even hotter.

Admiring all the colors of your strands,
a beautiful portrait of my peers.
Diversity has no adversity
in the haven of our shower.

I don't mind
the way you make the water in the shower build up around my
ankles
because I'm already drowning in my affection for you.

Be my Forever Valentine,
Oh Hair-io, Oh Hair-io.

PG FOOTBALL PLAYER PROFESSES LOVE TO TEACHING FELLOW:

EMILY TURNBULL

Even though football is the game I play
I have much to say

You've taught me poetry in this elective I
thought was an easy 6
But in all honesty
This class has been difficult
Because holding back my love for you
is tougher than trying not to fumble.

So here, in this mandatory assignment,
I profess my love,

I'm not just a jock
I have much intellectual depth
I've read Pride and Prejudice
You know Darcy and Elizabeth?
They were 7 years apart and still managed to fall
in love—I think...
I never actually finished the book
the movie still counts right?

Our age difference is no obstacle
I have no prejudice against millennials
We can *Live, Laugh, Love* together

I know I've repeated senior year twice
But that's what we have in common:
Never leaving high school.

Sure I'm failing Math 275
But what I lack in brains, I make up for in size,
Plus, I'll eventually be recruited to some ivy.

So what do you say, my Elizabeth?
Take my hand, set your prejudices aside,

We'll form the union of PG and Teaching Fellow.

if you correctly
guess the number of
innuendos on this
page and email it
to elee23@andover.
edu and nessaid24@
andover.edu, we will
reply with our juicy
secrets.

"I guess the deans had a rough
Valentine's Day. They took the
box of chocolates they found in
my room."

"Actually, it's not weird
to buy yourself a BKH
lapdance. It's self-love."

"Babe, let's play Wordle together, but
the dirty version."

"Are you a CCC?
Cause you make
my heart pound."

OVERHEARD FROM THE HEART

"Is it sacrilegious
to do Valentine's
Day activities in the
Chapel Basement?"

"I leaned in for a kiss, but she
just pulled my mask up over
my nose. Do you think I still
have a shot?"

also if you are reading
this and share the last
name of 'lee' or 'es-
said,' nicky and evalyn
did not write any
innuendos. we blame
our very libidinous
staff.



The Phillipian SPORTS

Volume CXLV | Number 3

Prime
McQueen >
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February 18, 2022

BOYSHOCKEY

Boys Hockey Refuses To Give Up in Losses Against Cushing and Governors

MONISHA KATHIKA

Despite entering the third period of the game against Cushing with a 0-6 deficit, Andover Boys Hockey managed to maintain its composure. The team scored three goals in the final period of the game. One of such goals was scored by Christopher Cali '24, scoring his first goal of his high school career. This 3-6 loss against Cushing was followed by a 2-5 defeat against Governor's. The team's record now stands at 13-10.

Michael Bagnoli '22 explained that the team was hoping for a win, considering they saw their game against Cushing as a way to end their losing streak. However, the team was unable to claim victory.

"Up to today's game, we were on a two game losing streak, so we were hoping that today was kind of like the bounce back game where we kind of turned it around, especially being at home, since the past few losses were away. We thought that, and hoped, that being at home would help us kind of secure the win. Unfortunately, that didn't happen," said Bagnoli.

Rory Booth '23 said he is proud of the team's perseverance while down 0-6. He acknowledged the areas in which the team needs to improve, including speed on offense.

Booth said, "We didn't quit... We came back, we scored three goals, and I would say as a team that was down 0-6, coming back and scoring three goals was pretty good for us... The only issue offensively is we couldn't really get goals going. Our timelines for production just weren't working and we got stuck in our zone a lot. It's just an all around not being able to get in positions where we can score goals, or do things where we could help our forwards from a defensive standpoint."

Bagnoli echoed Booth's sentiment, highlighting the team's combative spirit even when losing by a large margin. Looking ahead to Friday's game against Brooks, the team hopes to get off to a better start to prevent accruing a large deficit at the beginning of the game.

Bagnoli said, "I think we did a good job of maintaining composure throughout the entire game... I guess that really shows that we still cared and we still wanted to keep fighting. We

hope to carry that into our next game on Friday. I think one thing that we could have done better, definitely, is coming out to a stronger start. That's been a problem in the past."

Ahead of Andover's loss against Governor's, Sam Myles '24 underlined the importance of the team's mentality in the game.

"I feel like we just need to play every game like it's the last and make sure we come to the game not expecting to have it easy... [and to] make sure we play our best every time," said Myles.

Booth reflected that the game against Governor's started off well. However, the team later started to struggle defensively.

Booth said, "I think we started off pretty [well]. Then we had trouble scoring. Defensively, we had a couple breakdowns in our zone, so when they scored, we [could] never get goals back. We lost both games, and honestly I would say both were pretty similar. What was the same was just not being able to score and then defensive zone breakdowns that we shouldn't have had. The only difference between last game and today's game was that we actually turned back towards the end of today's game, and we actually started to play better, but as far the Governor's game goes, we truly had trouble with defensive breakdowns and scoring."

According to Bagnoli, the scoreline against Cushing reflected similar deficiencies in the Andover defense. He complimented Cali on his first goal of his high school career, and emphasized the energy it brought to the team.

Bagnoli said, "I think the score definitely reflects the fact that we could have done a better job defensively. Definitely in the first and second period, we left our goalie, Shane [Shelest '22], our starting goalie out to dry, and over time we got a little better. I think offensively we did a pretty good job in the third period. We even got a goal from a player who normally doesn't play that much. It was his first goal in his high school career, so that was big for him, and that was fun for the team, but I think if we can just get some more consistency throughout the game, that would help us a lot."

Andover's next game will be away at Brooks on Friday.

PATRICK FLANAGAN

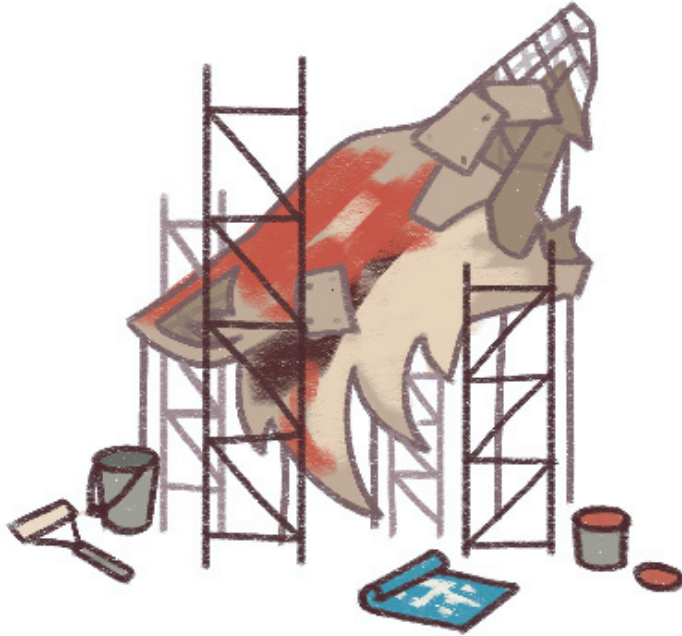
The Arizona Coyotes are a franchise in the National Hockey League (NHL). Recently, the Coyotes announced that they would be moving their home arena to the Tempe arena, a venue with a mere 5000 seats. The team missed payments of over \$250,000 to the city of Glendale as well as the state of Arizona and were forced to relocate home arenas in 2021. For reference, NHL arenas typically vary from 15,000-21,500 seats. The Coyotes were previously home to the 18,300 seat Gila River Arena in Glendale before their license expired. Throughout the previous years, the team averaged roughly 13,500 buyers per game or a dismal 76.6 percent attendance rate; on average, NHL teams report upwards of 90 percent attendance. The people of Arizona have been uninterested in the Coyotes during their time in Arizona. I feel that this move to the Tempe arena was a poorly made decision by the franchise and that a relocation to a more favorable city would have been more suitable.

During the Coyotes' time in the NHL, the franchise made many changes that led to where they are today. Starting in 1979, the team joined the league as the Winnipeg Jets

after the World Hockey Association fell apart. After an embarrassing 17 year tenure riddled with losing seasons, the team relocated to Phoenix, Arizona in 1996 and was renamed to the Phoenix Coyotes. The team consistently made the playoffs yet fan attendance would only increase by roughly five percent. In hopes of sparking excitement, the team rebranded to the Arizona Coyotes in 2014 to better appeal to hockey fans across the state. Evidently, this was not much of a success with the team consistently residing in the lower attendance percentages across the league with an unimpressive range of 76.6-90.1 percent of the fans in attendance according to ESPN. The team has consistently had talent which is entertaining to watch. This year's team hosts names such as Clayton Keller, Phil Kessel, and Shayne Gostisbehere. Despite this, it is clear that the Arizona area is uninterested in hockey and that a hockey franchise would be better suited in a different location.

Even from a financial standpoint, this move to the Tempe arena was poorly judged. In the 2019-2020 season, the average ticket price of an Arizona Coyote game was \$49.87. This cost put the team as the second cheapest average ticket price with the Florida Panthers beating them out with a cost of \$37.19. Despite the low

ticket prices, the franchise only reported an attendance rate of 90.1 percent, putting them in the bottom five teams in attendance rates that year. With the new venue holding a third of the previous arena's seats, the team would not be able to sell tickets at this low cost and still hope to make money. The franchise would be forced to raise ticket prices which would in turn result in less attendance as the fans seem to be already unamused by hockey in Arizona. I feel that the narrative of 'hockey in the desert' should be put to rest in the case of the Coyotes and that the team should relocate in order to stop the bleeding. Fans alike have been begging the NHL to revive old teams such as the California Golden Seals, the Quebec Nordiques, or the Hartford Whalers. Personally, I feel that Canada and California already have plenty of hockey teams to root for and that a revival of the Hartford Whalers would be in the league's best interests. Disregarding this, the Coyotes have locked themselves to the small 5,000 seat Arizona State University owned arena for at least the next three seasons starting in 2022. It will be interesting how this change pans out, but I do not expect the team to benefit from this move.



RYANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

SPECIALFEATURE

New Events Debuted in 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics Hope to Improve Gender Equity

PATRICIA TRAN

The addition of mixed-gender team events and more events exclusive to women make the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics the most "gender-balanced" Olympic Games to date, in terms of numbers. According to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), women account for 45 percent of Olympic athletes in this year's Games, and more than half of the events feature women – a significant increase from PyeongChang 2018.

Prior to Beijing 2022, bobsledding was limited to men. Since men typically compete in two and four-man races, the introduction of monobob, bobsledding for one, exclusively for women, broke the stereotypes typically associated with the sport. According to Andover Athletics Director Lisa Joel, the elite women who compete in such events serve as role models to the younger

generations.

"I think the most important thing is role modeling. You have to see someone doing something, so that you believe you can do it. So I think if there are more women elite athletes engaged in these, what we know is those are the people [young athletes] look up to. They will do things because they see women doing these sports, so I think that's fantastic," said Joel.

Beijing 2022 also includes new mixed-gender team events on its program, including mixed team freestyle skiing, mixed team ski jumping, mixed team snowboard cross, and mixed team relays in short-track speed skating. Although this provides opportunities for women and non-binary athletes to compete in the same environment as men, Joel also believes the IOC should not turn its back on one gender when advancing the opportunities for another.

"You don't want to advance one gender by taking away the opportunities

from another gender, which is a little bit of the controversy of what the Olympics has done in the interest of having more gender balance is them taking away opportunities of men. I think again what you want to do is be very thoughtful about looking at how you advance more women's opportunities without detracting from another gender," said Joel.

To further promote gender equity, the airtime of women's events on the penultimate day of competition increased from five hours to nine hours. Despite this improvement, Joel believes equity in terms of coverage is also dependent on the quality of the commentary.

"I mean, look at the newspaper. They do studies on this. The coverage of women's athletes and women's sports is not even close. I don't watch all of the Olympics, but I suspect they try to be more equitable in that. We also have to look at the quality of the commenting, and you see more women commentators, which is

really fantastic. But I think the coverage is still lacking, and I think the quality of the coverage is also something you want to be thoughtful about," said Joel.

According to Joel, numbers can easily cover up the true experiences, culture, and environment female athletes must compete in. For example, women race shorter distances in cross-country skiing, speed skating, and biathlon compared to men. In addition, women can only ski jump off the smaller of the two hills available to men.

"Numbers are a part of the story, and it can be distracting, so I think understanding, like anything, what's the culture for them, what are the true opportunities... The policing of testosterone still falls heavily towards, entirely towards female athletes, trans women, trans females...And that's not going to get all the press because that's what is not going to be as compelling as a story. I think it's great that we're looking at it because we've

made progress, but there's still progress to be made," said Joel.

As a member of the bronze medal USA Hockey team in the 2006 Torino Winter Olympics, Assistant Director of Admissions Jamie Hagerman Phinney wasn't focused on gender inequities during her participation in the Games, but rather on the privilege it was for her to compete on the world stage. Only after the Games did her experiences expose gender inequities in other aspects of the Olympics.

Phinney wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*, "Being an Olympian is one of the greatest gifts, and I don't often share my experiences but I will say, the minute you step into the Olympic Village, the minute you step onto your Olympic stage that you have worked your life for, nothing matters but you and the challenge before you. It is once your games are over, your time in the spotlight is over you must use that platform to make change and shed light on inequities."

GIRLSSWIMMING&DIVING

Co-Captain Ashley Vensel '22 Is 'A Leader By Example' for Andover Swimming and Diving

MONISHA KATHIKA

Andover Girls Swim and Dive Co-Captain Ashley Vensel '22 began swimming as a way to avoid the Florida heat when she was young. Vensel then began competitive swimming and developed a love for the sport, making connections with her teammates on club teams and the Andover team.

Vensel never planned on becoming a serious swimmer. However, after joining the team at Andover, she realized how important swimming was to her.

Vensel said, "I found my closest friends through my club team, and up into high school. I've just done club team just for exercise. I never thought I was going to be so serious about it. But when I got to high school, I recognized that it was a way for me to just relieve stress and a way to get away from all of the academic work and craziness that comes with it. I just really fell in love with the people I met here that became my teammates."

Vensel explained that she strives to lead by the example set by past Co-Captains. Elissa Kim '24 emphasized Vensel's leadership skills, adding that Vensel consistently maintains a high energy, and motivates others to keep working hard.

"I've tried to just help swimmers recognize their full potential in practice. I try to push everybody in practice and encourage people to do sets that are harder for them and lean into more difficult sets... I've certainly tried to continue the legacy that Abby Ryan [21], who was the last captain and Haley Waddell [21], they led the team so well with such enthusiasm and energy and I'm definitely just trying to continue how they left off," Vensel said.



T.JEFFERSON/THE PHILLIPIAN

Kim added, "She's a leader by example. She says a lot of encouraging things that help us get through tough sets. When everyone is down and really tired, she's always the one who is energetic and always goes for one more set or one more time. Even during meets, before and after races, she's always the one to give people high fives first and say encouraging words."

Vensel is an encouraging captain that pushes the team to the best of their abilities, according to Vensel and Co-Captain Grace Hwang '22. Vensel deems it important to take note of when swimmers are too tired or not up for a challenging practice.

Vensel added, "I just want to help teammates recognize their full potential... But also recognize that sometimes teammates have off days. They have days where they're just not feeling it, they're not wanting to get in the

water. On those days, it's just important for me to recognize that and help every teammate, just support them in how they're feeling that day, and kind of just cater to what they need to be their best."

According to Vensel, a great Co-Captain leads the team both in and out of practice. This begins in the locker room, specifically motivating teammates before they get into the water.

Vensel said, "During practice, I just try to get people hyped up in the locker room, because, you know, we end the school day, and people are pretty tired coming into practice, but I always think swimming is separate from academics. Physical stress is different from mental stress. So I try to get everybody just excited to get in the water, because practice flies by when you're having more fun, and you're looking forward to getting in a workout."

Co-Captain Grace Hwang '22 Leads Girls Swimming and Diving with Empathy and Enthusiasm

MEG STINEMAN

For Girls Swimming & Diving Co-Captain Grace Hwang '22, the most important values are fostering a tight-knit community and promoting only positive energy. Hwang's encouraging aura motivates her teammates to work as hard as they can; she hopes that by the end of season, all of her teammates will improve in one way or another, possibly even securing new personal bests.

According to Hwang, she values team bonding as it encourages her teammates to support each other in every meet. Forming strong bonds within the team creates an added motivation to win.

"When someone else has a good swim, then you can also feel the positive energy from that... And if you don't have any motivation, you have at least one motivation that you want to do well, for your team, at least, even if you're having a bad day, you're like, 'okay, I can do this for the team.' And then you have everyone at the end of your lane supporting you. And I think that's why I want us to be close," Hwang said.

Co-Captain Ashley Vensel '22 highlights Hwang's patience and organization when it comes to the team. Specifically, she points out Hwang's ability to work well with her teammates and contagious enthusiasm.

"She is so patient with everyone on the team and also makes sure everything gets done. She's been helping me with all of the merch and all the logistical things... She's just very cooperative with everybody. And [she is] also very encouraging like I try to be and cheers her lowerclassmen teammates on and comforts them whenever they're maybe feeling down or upset about times or whatever. She definitely swoops in and just cheers people up," said Vensel.

Hwang explained her aspirations for the team as the season comes to a close. Not only does she hope for each indi-

vidual to achieve their own goals, such as setting new personal bests, but she also hopes for the team to continue to bond and improve as a whole.

Hwang said, "I'm not sure what everyone's individual's goals are, but I hope that everyone has accomplished at least one of their individual goals by the end of the season. And then also, it'd be great if we could win New England's but we'll have to see about that, obviously. And I hope that [by the end of the season], everyone feels close to each other."

Molly MacKinnon '24 acknowledges Hwang's presence throughout the season as a tremendous help to everyone on the team. In particular, MacKinnon described the support of Hwang during relays and difficult sets to be uplifting and helpful.

MacKinnon said, "Grace has been a really good captain to everyone this year because she has been really supportive and is always cheering people on and encouraging everyone and getting us through really hard sets. Also, she has been really great in relays especially because she always supports her teammates and she's been doing really well in all of her events, especially the relays."

Hwang believes that earnest connections and trust transcend beyond the sport of swimming itself. She hopes that by forming a close-knit team, everyone will feel included and belonging.

"I think one important thing is making sure that the team knows everybody knows each other. If there are not any like cliques that are forming and that we're all like supporting each other. Everyone is a part of the team. I think that's really important. Having everyone grow up close to each other. Just in terms of supporting each other, always cheering for each other, and if someone's having a bad race, or a bad day, just ask each other how we're doing... I think that's the main thing," said Hwang.

Girls Swim and Dive Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 Fosters Supportive Team Environment, Says Coaching is 'A Lot of Fun'

PATRICIA TRAN

Since first coaching Andover Girls Swim and Dive in 1991, Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 has led the team to four New England titles, all while providing guidance for more than 25 All-Americans. He has been named Eagle-Tribune Coach of the Year three times, and his current career record stands at 193-44-3.

In his 31st season with the team, Murphy's main motivation is being able to observe consistent improvement throughout each season. According to Murphy, excitement about achieving the end goal in a training sport like swimming is equally important as the training process itself.

"I think what keeps me in it is I really love the girls team. I think it's been a long run with this team specifically. But I love watching the progress. I love watching people get faster during the season. I love the surprise on their faces when they pop a really fast race," said Murphy.

In practice, Murphy describes himself as a "cheerleader," especially during long and difficult sets. However, he prioritizes making the most out of meets to showcase the hard

work of the team.

"On deck during meets, I tend to think much more about watching their technique and watching not their mistakes necessarily, but I'm watching about things they could've done better. And really trying to lift up each individual person because what they've done that day is usually pretty awesome. It may not be exactly what they wanted, but it's their work product, and that's what meets do for us," said Murphy.

Despite the individual nature of the sport and the varying levels of strength within the team, the faster swimmers on Murphy's team are not the only ones to receive attention. Each swimmer brings their own unique traits to the team.

"I think one of my core values is that despite the fact that we have stars on our team — we've always had kids that are faster than other people — I tend to over-emphasize that I think everyone brings something to the team, and speed might be one of them. But you can also bring personality, you can also bring a sense of togetherness, funny, joking. So I think there is this fabric of the team, that all the pieces of the fabric need to be honored, not just the fast kids," said Murphy.

According to Molly MacK-

innon '24, Murphy often emphasizes that the team races for each other rather than oneself. Even in the event of a disappointing individual race, the team still remains highly supportive of one another, cheering as loud as possible.

"Coach Murphy keeps the energy of the team really high, and I think he really brings us all together. We're always a very supportive team. We cheer on one another in all of our races, and we're always the loudest team on deck, or at least we try to be. And Coach Murphy really helps foster a really good team atmosphere as well as giving us really challenging sets, which also helps bring us together as a team," said MacKinnon.

As an alumnus of Andover's swim program, Murphy understands the challenge of balancing sports and academics. He tries to maintain the intensity of practices while realizing that academic stress can play a role in a swimmer's focus during sets.

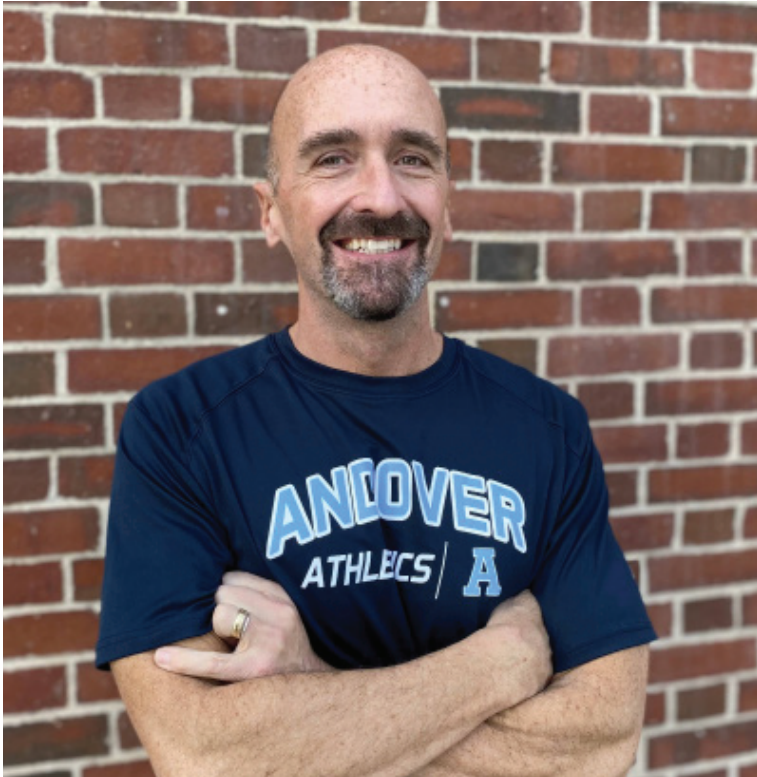
"They're thinking about what has to come afterwards, and I like talking about that because the fact that I did that myself I think makes me very empathetic about what their lives are like. We talk about leaving that stuff behind. There's nothing you can do about it while you're here in the pool except maybe thinking about your English essay...There is this marriage between academics and athletics that the school has embraced," said Murphy.

To prevent his swimmers from being overwhelmed, a tradition Murphy has consistently implemented is visualization prior to every meet. He finds that the team is more focused going into the meet, and a strong sense of community is established through this technique.

"We stop wherever we are, we get it together, we close our eyes, we do deep breathing, and we really put ourselves in the moment. And I think that kind of skill can be replicated into the rest of your life. But it definitely helps us as a team to focus on not being nervous but being focused, not worrying about what happened yesterday, what happens tomorrow, it just matters about what happens now," said Murphy.



M.BURTON/THE PHILLIPIAN



K.WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

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GIRLSSWIM&DIVE

ANDOVER GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

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MADELEINE B. SHAFFER'23 LYNNFIELD, MA	
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ELIZA J. DOW'22 WELLESLEY, MA	SOPHIA I. BLAINE'22 OLD GREENWICH. CT

ISABELLA E. AN'24 NORTH ANDOVER, MA	MELISSA CHANG'23 SHANGHAI, CN	EMMA B. CHEUNG'23 NEW CANAAN, CT	DAPHNE M. EDWARDS'23 VERNON, CT
GRACE Y. HU'24 ANDOVER, MA	GRACE HWANG'22 (C) WINDHAM, NH	LILLIANA E. KEIM'25 ATLANTIC CITY, NJ	MARIAN C. MACKINNON'24 WILMETTE, IL
VERONIKA M. KISOVA'23 NORTH ANDOVER, MA	KAYLA C. LANG'22 ANDOVER, MA	ELISSA KIM'24 FORT LEE, NJ	ORLA G NAUGHTON'25 ANDOVER, MA
KATHERINE S SWAN'23 PELHAM, NH	MARY K. TURK'22 (C) NORTH ANDOVER, MA	SOPHIA L. WALKER'24 PLAINSBORO, NJ	ARIANA W. ZHAO'25 MEQUON, WI
MIA E. WONACOTT'24 BETHESDA, MD		ASHLEY J. VENSEL'22 (C) NAPLES, FL	VALENCIA M. ZHANG'25 NORTHVILLE, MI

Girls Swim & Dive Surmounts Loomis Chaffee

STAFF REPORT

! "# \$ % & ' "	
Andover	96.5
Loomis	81.5

Breaking the pool record in the 100-meter backstroke with a time of 1:03.76, Ariana Zhao '25 helped propel Andover Girls Swim & Dive to a 96.5-81.5 victory against Loomis Chaffee. The team traveled to Windsor, Connecticut to claim victory in its final dual meet of the season this past Saturday. According to Veronika Kiso-

va '23, the team showcased many different personal bests. One of such performances included Zhao's, which broke Loomis' pool record.

"Everyone swam really well. It's amazing to see how much everyone has improved and how strong the team is looking heading into our last few weeks. A couple races stood out. One of our freshmen broke a record for the 100 [meter] backstroke at Loomis. Her name is Ariana Zhao. She is a really positive person on the team and it's great to see her achieving her personal goals for the season," said Kiso-

Elissa Kim '24 noted the high intensity displayed by teammates at Loomis, which had an unfamiliar pool. She

noted that the team overcame their nerves about the pool and kept a positive mentality.

"Everyone had a really good time there with lots of cheering, especially for tighter races. Loomis had a meter pool that people were hesitant about, but it didn't affect our mentality going into it. There was great team spirit and it was fun seeing everyone go fast times," said Kim.

Kiso-

Kisova described the team dynamic in a very individually focused sport like swimming. She added that Andover's relay teams performed especially well.

"I think it just really depends on the people you have on the team and right now, everybody's personality is so

amazing and positive in the water. We all get along so well. We are so close with one another and we trust one another to race as fast as they can, so as a team, we can be as fast as possible and place as high as possible. Our relays were doing really well at this meet. As a team, it was great to see us swim as fast as we could and the team aspect of the relays was working really well," Kisova said.

The team will now focus on preparing for the final meets of the season. Kisova noted the team's excitement for their upcoming meet against Phillips Exeter Academy.

"We have about three weeks left in our season and each weekend we have a champion-

ship meet. This weekend we have an upcoming meet against Exeter which is going to be a very exciting meet especially because over half the team is lowerclassmen who have never gotten to experience that Andover versus Exeter environment. I think that is going to be an amazing meet for them to get to experience that and to get to race. After that, we have a few of our championships which will be great experiences to have that team environment ang get to achieve the goals of possibly placing as a team highly at these meets," said Kisova.

Andover Girls Swimming & Diving will face Exeter away on Saturday.

WRESTLING

Co-Captains take First Place in Wrestling's Relentless Effort

NABILAH NAZAR

Andover All-Gender Wrestling placed third in its Interscholastic Tournament on Saturday. Co-Captains Colin Nugent '23 and Arnaz Bhakta '22 placed first, along with George Ryckman '24 placing second.

Ben Forman '23, a new wrestler who won three of his four matches, applauded the team's unstoppable mindset that guided their wins. Its positive attitude guided the team to continuously fight, even while down on points.

"I watched a bunch of [matches]. I thought we were kind of relentless. We didn't give up in any of our matches. I remember I saw one by [Glen Cahilly '23]. He was fighting the whole time. I think he lasted the whole six minutes, but he just never gave up, even when he was down. And that's something I think we did really well over the tournament," said Forman.

Ryckman congratulated his teammate, Bhakta, on placing

first. Ryckman highlighted Bhakta's efficiency and the effort he put into his two matches.

Ryckman said, "Arnav Bhakta, who's the Senior captain, was hitting some very technical moves in his matches. He came out with two, with his first match [being] a pin and... his second match, he won by points, and it was just very technical wrestling. Very, very fun to watch as well."

After wrestling two matches, Sakina Cotton '24 credited her coaches, who prepared her to face strong wrestlers. She came away from the meet with one win and one loss. Cotton mentioned how she applied techniques she had learned during practice to her matches.

"I was a bit nervous, but the coaches prepared us for a lot and gave us a rundown on how [things] went on. My first match [was against an] Exeter kid, and it was what we practiced throughout the days leading up to the tournament. A lot of the rules came in handy, so

I felt prepared for that one. There was a lot of help from the coaches, as [in] wrestling, you have to keep an eye out for what the coaches are telling you to do, and you're just not thinking about that in the moment," said Cotton.

Furthermore, Forman applauded Josh Espinoza '25 for his win. Forman emphasized Espinoza's relentlessness in a strenuous six-minute match.

Forman said, "[Espinoza] was down in a match. He kept fighting, he got a penalty, but he bounced right back. He ended up winning the match, and everyone was going crazy. A parent from the other sideline actually started yelling, but our coach stood up for [Espinoza], and honestly, it was a great win because it just showed the spirit we have."

Ryckman is particularly excited for the upcoming New England's Championship. All wrestlers placing in the top six will be able to compete in the National Championship.

"I'm looking forward to New England's next week. I'm

on Friday and Saturday and I know we've got a good amount of wrestlers going to New England's as well. And I'm just looking forward to experiencing[ing] another high school tournament and hopefully, possibly go[ing to] nationals if I place top six," said Ryckman.

Before its next tournament, Cotton expressed her thoughts on where the team can improve. Although recent practices have been focused on more in-game situations, she explained that the team needs to work on endurance.

Cotton said, "I think we're all going to start working on endurance. That's something Coach [Kassie Archambault '06] and Coach [Richard] Gorham expressed... in practice, we're always working to make ourselves better and practices have been hard."

According to Forman, nerves are unavoidable. However, he emphasized the importance of not letting his nerves override his excitement for the sport.

Forman said, "I get a little

nervous before matches or excited, like the butterflies. And it's helpful just to think about just controlling what you can control. You know, just giving and giving all my effort and not thinking about the result because you can't really control the result, [you] can control what you do... There's really no secret to get rid of the nerves, so you just got to live with them."

Ryckman acknowledges that wrestling can be a nerve wracking sport, but the feeling athletes get takes over feelings of fear.

"Wrestling could be [a] very stressful sport. Especially for a lot of the kids on our team, but I think it's less stressful, and it's more excitement is the way that I think about it. And the adrenaline rushing through your body. Just preparing you for the challenge ahead," said Ryckman.

Andover will be competing in the New England's Championship this Saturday.

Home Games This Weekend

2/19: Girls Varsity Hockey vs. Worcester @12:00 p.m.

2/19: Boys Varsity Hockey vs. BB&N @4:20 p.m.

2/12: Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Belmont Hill @4:30 p.m.

BOYSBASKETBALL

Boys Basketball Extends Win Streak to Three Before an Agonizing Loss to St. Paul's

PATRICIA TRAN

!"#\$%&'"	
Andover	62
Choate	42
!"#\$%&'"	
Andover	63
Williston	51
()&*)!&'"	
Andover	53
St. Paul's	56

With just one minute left in the game, Colby Duggan '23, receiving a pass from Diego Velez '24 in the corner, dribbled straight to the net, jumped from just outside the paint, and dunked the ball into the basket. Andover Boys Basketball ultimately defeated Choate 62-42 on Friday, and extended its win streak to three with a 63-51 win against Williston. On Wednesday, the team battled down to the wire in a tight 53-56 loss to St. Paul's. The team's record now stands at 9-9.

Andover had a larger lead against Williston than in Choate. According to Jordan Rayford '22, multiple factors could have contributed to this, some unrelated to Williston's skill level.

"They were taller. Overall, I feel like they had more size. We didn't play the day before Choate, but we played the day before Williston, so I think that could've played a factor. But I think we both beat them kind of by the same amount. I think Williston just came back at the end when we were already beating them by a lot," said Rayford.

In the game against Choate, the stands were packed. With the highest energy out of any home game this season, the support and the cheering propelled the team to the dominant victory and allowed its



R.NASSERZADEH/THEPHILLIPIAN

Colby Duggan '23 flies towards the basket to dunk over Choate defender.

players to feel more confident, according to Robbie Nyamwaya '24.

"The energy was absolutely crazy. The fan section, the bench, the players in the game—everything. The energy was absolutely top tier, and I think it was really effective, and it really helped the momentum when we needed it," said Nyamwaya.

Leading up to the weekend's games, the team prioritized running specific plays to not only counter its opponents' strategies, but also prevent miscommunication within the team. The team used film to develop plays and target certain players from the opposing team, according to Sam Rodgers '23.

"Normally we kind of do similar stuff each practice, and then we probably spend 15, 20 minutes just going over their plays and then how to defend their plays. And just knowing personnel and knowing who their best players are and how they play," said Rodgers.

In addition to Duggan's dunk, Nyamwaya credited Eric Tynes '22 in the Choate game. Tynes accounted for near-

ly a third of the team's points through three pointers.

"Eric Tynes shot very well from the three. I think he had seven or eight three pointers, so he played very well," said Nyamwaya.

Going into the St. Paul's game, the team felt optimistic and confident in great part due to the momentum of their short win streak. The team prepared for the Wednesday game like any other.

"I think we're expecting a good game. Especially I feel like we're on a pretty good streak right now, and we're playing well. I think we expect to win obviously. It'll still be a tough game, but we expect to win," said Rayford.

Despite the loss, the pre-game confidence pushed the team all the way to the last minute. In addition, Tynes, again, hit four three-pointers in a row to start the game, giving the team an initial burst of energy, according to Rodgers.

Andover Boys Basketball will host Belmont and Thayer on Saturday and Tuesday, respectively, and play away at Deerfield on Wednesday.

BOYSSQUASH

Boys Squash Goes 1-2 at The New England Tournament and Works Towards a Top 10 Finish in the Season

MEG STINEMEN

Despite having to face many difficulties including inconsistency and injuries, Andover Boys Squash persevered through The New England Tournament with one win and two losses.

According to Head Coach John Roberts, the team has recently been facing higher ranked opponents with considerable talent and passion. He believes that because of this, maintaining confidence has been a point of struggle for the team, which it will continue to improve upon during practice.

Coach Roberts said, "We've [been] playing opponents that are better than us on paper. We have had a hard time executing in games [throughout] 100 percent of the match. We get to a point about 80% through and we're just getting to the finish line in a number of games and matches has proven a bit of a mental blockade. So I think this week we'll be working a lot on just end of game tactics and short games."

Avery Lin '25 and Will Weissman '25 highlight Christian Graziano '25 and Sean Winston-Luo '24 for their sportsmanship. Lin also notes how this sportsmanship and commendable behavior was consistent all throughout the team.

"I think sportsmanship was really good, especially with Christian Graziano and Sean [Winston-Luo]. I mean, our coaches say that they're our role models for sportsmanship, and I think we conducted ourselves very well," said Lin.

"Christian [was a] great role model on the court. And I think we all support each other. In between games, we kind of give each other good advice and try to help each other so we can win each match," added Weissman.

Coach Roberts notes the nu-

merous injuries the team has needed to adapt to. Despite such challenges, it was still able to put forth its best effort.

Roberts said, "We're nursing on a few injuries at the moment and we have a pretty young team. So we're playing strong opponents. The boys definitely went pretty deep to make the matches competitive, even though they weren't necessarily at 100 percent. That wouldn't have been the case it can be sometimes quite easy just to kind of give in and they definitely put up a good fight in matches where you know, they were on paper technically out-matched."

Lin believes that his brother Aidan Lin '23 played particularly well as he exhibited unrivaled consistency, ending with an undefeated record. Lin also notes that the team needs to continue this type of play.

"I think my brother Aidan Lin, he went undefeated and won a really important match in our half. And yeah, even though he's in here for the third match, I thought he played really well. I mean, he's always reliable and consistent during matches, which is something that's kind of rare on our team," said Lin.

Roberts stated that as a young team, there is a bright future for Boys Squash. He not only hopes to continue to foster the love of squash among inexperienced players but also has aspirations of finishing the season in the top 10.

"Obviously, we have a young team so it's good to gain more experience in terms of like, our next match is Exeter at home so hopefully obviously we could result there. In terms of our result nationals. I'd like to try and just build on our finishing position from the prior year. So if we can get into the top 10 in the country this year will be kind of cool."

Andover will look to defeat Exeter at home on Wednesday.

BOYSSWIM&DIVE

Boys Swimming & Diving Continues to Finish the Season with Wins

ELLE MENDEZ

!"#\$%&'"	
Andover	102
Loomis	79

Andover Boys Swimming & Diving is leading to an end of the season with their last meet being a win of 102-79 against Loomis Chaffee after taking it easy and prepping for their final upcoming meets. The team's record now stands at 3-0.

According to Andrew Kim '23, the Loomis meet was more relaxed and laid back compared to others, but the team continued to put their all in. The team's main focus was to have fun and enjoy the last couple weeks of the season together.

Kim said, "I think that compared to other meets, this was actually a lot more laid back—I mean, obviously we were still serious about getting the work done, but it's kind of that weird place where it's not the beginning of the season but it's not too late towards the end of the season where it's getting really stressful, so I think this was something that we were doing mostly for enjoying, just being at a meet and just competing."

Despite the fun, laid back,

and energetic atmosphere of the meet, there were still crucial moments to it. According to Dylan Herlihy '22, one of the team members, Christopher Xia '23 raised his personal bar at this meet.

Herlihy said, "For me, as a diver, I can really only emphasize the diving, but I would say Christopher Xia—he broke a record so that was definitely a plus for the swimming, that was very impressive."

However, it was not just Xia who stood out, it was the team as a whole. According to Daniel Mair '24, seeing the team work together in group events was impressive.

"I would say the relay, everyone had worked together honestly to have this be their best efforts and they all worked very well cohesively" said Mair.

According to Kim, the team has developed a close bond with one another as they all work together to complete the season on a high note. Despite having good camaraderie with one another, the team has been able to maintain competitiveness.

Kim said, "I think maybe the fact that we're so overly competitive with each other, its kinda like a double edge sword in that like we can really push each other to really be our best."

Boys Swim and Dive seeks to remain undefeated as it will take Phillips Exeter Academy away.

GIRLSBASKETBALL

Girls Basketball Falls Short to Dexter Southfield, Defeats Pingree and BB&N with Calculated Offensive Play

TYLER PARKER

+, &'"	
Andover	38
Dexter Southfield	67

!"#\$%&'"	
Andover	53
Pingree	34

()&*)!&'"	
Andover	59
BB&N	52

After falling by 29 points to Dexter Southfield, Andover Girls Basketball rebounded from its loss by employing new offensive strategies, ultimately defeating Pingree 53-34 and BB&N 59-52. The team's record now stands at 10-9.

According to Co-Captain Hope Nardone '23, the key against BB&N was playing quicker and getting to the basket as efficiently as possible. She recognized that when the team was able to do so, plays would go its way.

Nardone said, "Today we scored well in transition, which is something we have been working on, so it's nice that it paid off. Ava had a really good transition basket, Sophie had some good transition points, and we did a really good job of pushing the ball, which was good."

Nardone also noted that the team needed to change its offensive game plan to counter BB&N's unique defense. In the end, this adaptation proved effective despite the team's inexperience with the formation.

"We were working on rebounding, and also our zone offense, which I think worked kind of well today. It is definitely not something we are



C.BARBIE/THEPHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 shifts towards the offensive half.

used to, so it was great to get some practice with it before today, because BB&N plays a 2-3 zone," Nardone said.

Valerie Ha '24 highlighted Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 for her effective communication and ability to make micro-adjustments in the team's strategy throughout the games.

Ha said, "Kennedy played really well these past few games. She is [one of] our [co-captains], and she makes good plays and can read the court really well. At halftime, she tells us some of the stuff we should work on, and on the court, she communicates really well and tells us how we should switch up our defense or offense to match the other team."

BB&N's zone defense initially proved to be a challenge for the team, as Andover had not faced a comparable defense all season. According to Ha, the team was able to regroup and come back stronger in the second half of the game.

Ha said, "For this particular game we started off a little flat because we weren't used to playing a zone defense. After the first half, we started getting better passes and having less turnovers, and we got into the rhythm of the game."

Brooke Hannan '23 shared

a similar sentiment to Ha regarding the difficulties of strategic adjustment. However, she noted the eventual success the team found.

Hannan said, "BB&N was running a zone defense, so it was a little hard to adjust because most teams don't run a zone defense. Midway through the first half we adjusted, but it was certainly a challenge."

According to Nardone, the Southfield crowd proved to be an additional challenge on top of the team's skilled roster. Despite the low attendance at home against BB&N, the team was able to improve upon its shortcomings against Southfield and secure the win.

Nardone said, "Today it was great to have SLAM there, as always, but it was a little quiet because most other teams had games, so we didn't have many spectators. Dexter was a Friday night game at Dexter so they had a lot of spectators. They have a really talented team, so that was a tough loss. That game really forced us to focus on what we had to grow on."

Andover will seek to continue its winning record at the NE8 tournament this weekend.

Editor's Note: Hope Nardone '23 is a News Editor for The Phillipian.

Take Photos!
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GIRLSTRACK&FIELD

Girls Indoor Track Paves Its Way into Nationals

NABILAH NAZAR

In the final official meet of the season, Andover Girls Varsity Indoor Track & Field capped off a successful season with many personal records in a home meet against Phillips Exeter Academy. This meet followed the Boston University (BU) Valentine Invitational Meet on Friday, which paved the team’s way into the New Balance Indoor Nationals that will take place in New York in March. According to Patricia Tran ’24, the team’s success against Exeter was a result of its work on strategy before the meet. She expressed her excitement that every runner could perform to the best of their capabilities, with many records set. “It was amazing. The girls’ side won... Everybody was just running as fast as they could really. [On] the distance side, we were just focusing on pre-strategy. And I think everybody just ran very smart races. The 1000 meter [race] ended in a photo finish. I think a four by 200 score record was set. It was very exciting,” said Tran. Hayden Fischer ’25 congratulated Charlotte Whitehurst ’22, another player who qualified for Nationals, on her strategic race. Fischer said, “Charlotte Whitehurst performed super well today. She ran both the 2-mile and the

1000. I think [in] a lot of those races, we were just trying to score points. She ran a very tactically smart race. She came in, and she got second for the girls in the two mile. I believe she tied with [the] first place Exeter [girl] in the 1000, but really gave it her all [in the] last lap.” Tran also highlighted Whitehurst’s race from the Andover-Exeter Meet. The race ended in a tie with an Exeter racer, a rare occurrence that reflected a titanic battle between the two over 1000 meters. “... The 1000 meter [race] ended in a photo finish between Charlotte Whitehurst and an Exeter girl who ran all out [and both] kicked very hard. [At first] Charlotte was leading and then the Exeter girl was on her tail with every step and the time was so close that there [was] no time difference. Like they had the same time. And you couldn’t even tell from the photo who won,” said Tran. The Boston University Invitational was a significant event in which Fischer, Whitehurst, Tran, and Esme Huh ’22 competed in a relay. Although the relay team made it to Nationals, confusion with officials making them run an extra 200 meters frustrated Andover. Huh expressed her satisfaction with the day’s results despite Andover’s frustration. “It’s definitely very exciting. It wasn’t exactly as clean and happy as we wanted it to be because of



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Girls Track and Field defeated Exeter 76-33 on Wednesday.

the extra lap. I finished my race. I was confused [because when I] counted the laps, I finished hard in the sixth lap, and then they had me run another one...As everyone else was going, it was definitely hard for them mentally just knowing that our time was not going to be what we thought it was going to [be] because there was an extra 200 meters in the race...It was a long process. Then, we realized

that we actually did hit the mark. So I think when we realized that. It was amazing, but there’s definitely a lot of anger and sadness in the 30 minutes to an hour in between,” said Huh. Fischer also commanded her relay team as they worked very hard to hit the mark of the Nationals requirements. She also commented on the team spirit that they have crafted thus far.

Fischer said, “I’m glad we’re going as a team, because track can come off as an individual sport. But I think the BU Invitational may definitely prove that it is a team sport, and you do run for the team.” For the rest of the season, Andover will compete among the team for runners to try out new events.

GIRLSSQUASH

Girls Squash Performs Well at the NEISA Championships in the Face of Tough Opponents and Circumstances

MATT LEONARD

Down by two in a race to win three matches, Christina Yen ’24 “dug in” to take the next two games composedly before falling short in a closed final. Overall, Andover Girls Squash placed fifth out of eight teams this past weekend in the NEISA Girls Championships. According to Head Coach Jennifer Elliott ’94, this tournament-style bracket posed challenges for the team. It forced players to compete in more matches in a shorter period of time than usual: something that

not all players are used to. “Our team is used to playing singular matches on Wednesdays or Saturdays. This tournament called for our players to compete in three matches in two days, something certainly different for most of our players who have not been playing as many tournaments recently. Endurance and stamina are important factors in the game, and players get tired when playing more than they are used to. It was evident which players had been playing in tournaments recently and which ones were experiencing this as a new format,” said Coach Elliott. This style of tournament, too,

scored the teams in a more individual performance-based point system. This put the team under more pressure than in their typical matches, as each player had to perform their best, according to Yen. Yen said, “We are unused to playing in this style of bracket. Because the tournament was one-on-one, there is more mental pressure to do well. The number of points that each individual got was fully dependent on their performance in their slot. Normally when we play team matches, we calculate how we do based on whether we won a majority of our matches or lost the majority. There is far more mental pressure compared to this style, where every match for each seating/ranking counts. We aren’t just calculating how many of us won overall versus the other team’s, we are calculating how we individually placed within our groups.” Nerves did not only stem from the strain put on each member of the team’s performance but also the competition. Andover faced the top teams in New England this past weekend and according to Liz Zhao ’24, the team felt the pressure during close matches. “Relatively speaking, matches this weekend were a lot closer than they have been in the past. We performed really well, especially considering some of these teams were really strong. We haven’t had the opportunity to play

teams at such a high level much this season. I remember distinctly watching my teammates fighting for a lot of tiring five-game matches. I was really impressed at how they never give up, even through until the last minute of the last game. Some of these teams have girls, too, [who are] top-level players at the national and even international level. There were a lot of big names at this tournament, and I know it made me and some of my teammates feel a little nervous,” said Zhao. Similarly, the top seated schools all had an edge over Andover headed into the weekend. Sacred Heart, Greenwich, and Winsor (seated one, two, three respectively) are all day schools, meaning their players can access these tournaments more frequently. They approached the championship with familiarity in the format. Coach Elliott said, “We have several players on our team who do play tournaments, but it is much harder at boarding school. They have to worry about Covid-19 restrictions, missing classes, spending time traveling—all while having to be back by curfew. Our players are competing against other squash athletes who play tournaments much more often. That puts them at a disadvantage.” This bracket style was not entirely bad, though. Liz Zhao ’24 explained how the individual-



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Kennedy Ndiaye ’22 is the fourth seed player for Andover Girls Squash.

istic aspect of matches created time for more team support. “The way the tournament was organized allowed us to watch and support our teammates. This can be a good or bad thing depending on each player’s like or dislike of spectators. The bracket also meant that more of us were available to help coach each other in between games,” said Zhao. Andover looks forward to High School Nationals this weekend in Philadelphia.

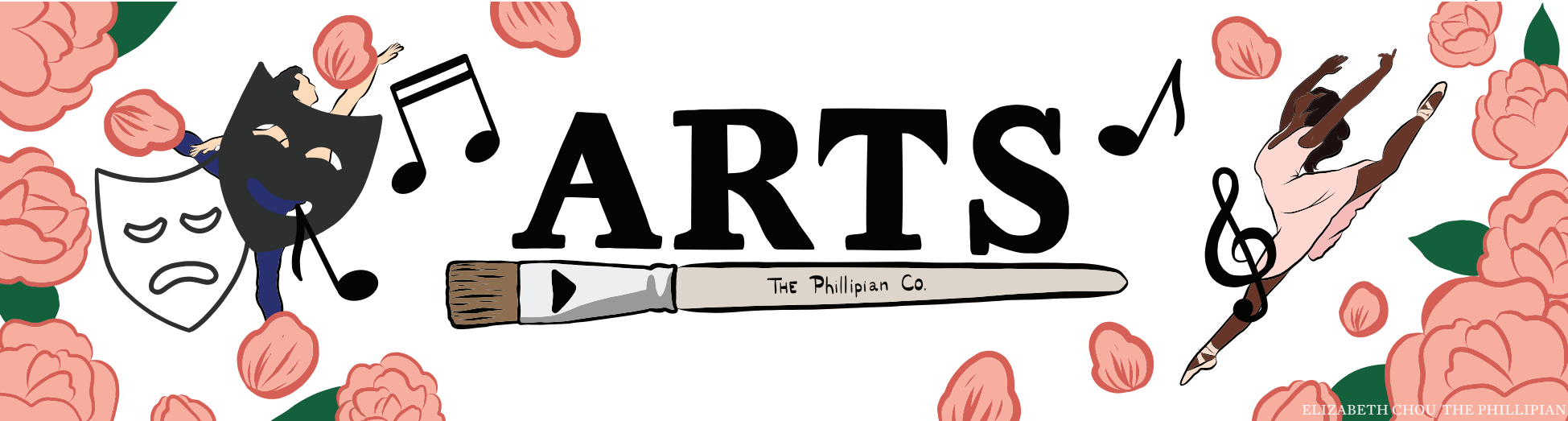


A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Mafi Pinot ’22 is the third seed player for Andover Girls Squash.

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Resplendent With Energy And Joy, Abbot Cabaret Showcases A Variety of New Artistic Talent

CHLOE RHEE & HEYON CHOI

Andover’s annual student talent show, Abbot Cabaret (AbbCab), featured performances from 15 different groups, including bands, dancing, and varying individual acts. Hosted by Abbot Cluster Co-Presidents Kate Horton ’22 and Tristan Fain ’22, the production—with showings at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.—took place last Saturday in Kemper Auditorium and presented a series of dynamic and unique talents in what Horton describes as a “great show.”

“[It] had copious amounts of friends and family, and everyone was super excited...the energy in the room was just electric. Getting to see how much work the performers put in, how much work Tristan and I put in, how much work our cluster council members put in...I was crying backstage because I was so happy it all came together so well,” said Horton.

While AbbCab was initially supposed to take place on January 29, that weekend’s snowstorm led to the postponement of the show for almost three weeks. This proved a challenge, as it meant that the performers were unable to rehearse in Kemper and had to adjust to the space only a few hours before the actual show.

“We hadn’t been in Kemper or gotten a chance to practice anything for those entire three weeks before the final production. When it was time for rehearsal, we were all a bit stressed, because we hadn’t done it in a while. Remembering what the feel and flow was like was difficult,” said Horton.

Regardless of the rehearsal difficulty, the performers were able to harness the energy of the audience and their support for each other to create a successful show. With a variety of new performers and acts, Horton believes that this year’s AbbCab was able to showcase more of Andover students’ hidden talents and give a vast platform for rising groups to shine and reach a larger audience.

“I think something really great was that we had so many bands, but they all brought something new to the table. Some of the acts we’ve seen perform before and they’re amazing, but most bands that came on stage were bands we hadn’t seen before. Being able to see so many new incredible acts was great,” said Horton.

Lauren Mahoney ’23, a member of one of the AbbCab’s new acts, Rough Draft, also echoed this statement. According to Mahoney, it was incredible to see the variety of musical acts and performers, many of which had not

performed live. Mahoney also noted the supportive environment of each of the acts, which led to an encouraging and exciting performance.

“Rough Draft is a newer band on campus, so being able to meet new people with the same interests as you was absolutely fantastic... It’s so awesome to work with kids who are so passionate to produce such a quality performance, and the audience was going crazy. Working with the Abbot Cabaret team was just so fun and so exciting, and it was awesome to play a role,” said Mahoney.

Audience member Russell Robinson ’25 also noted a palpable and excited energy within the audience and throughout the show. According to him, the show brought forth an energy that he had not witnessed before on campus.

“The best part to me was definitely the energy of the crowd. That’s the reason why we go to shows in the first place, to feel the energy of the crowd and interact with people in one atmosphere... overall, it was a[n] impressive production,” said Robinson.

In reflecting on the show, which made its comeback after two years due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Horton reminisced on the production’s changes and her last performance in the Cabaret

as a Lower. Thinking of previous performances from her own group, Downbeat, they hoped

to honor the legacy of previous members before them during the show.



C.MURPHY/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Max Guan ’22 dances in a hip hop act.



C.MURPHY/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Melanie Garcia ’22 sings solo as part of acapella group Downbeat.



C.MURPHY/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Dylan Oh ’23 and Marie Faugeres ’23 perform Duet.

Night at the Addison 2022: The Addison “Illuminates” An Opportunity For Students to Connect With Art

SARAH HASSANEIN & ALICIA ZHANG

Buzzing with energy, dozens of students visited the Addison Gallery for the annual “Night at the Addison” Event. Including activities like a scavenger hunt, blacklight blackboards for neon drawings, and a photo booth, the Addison welcomed the Andover community to engage with its many exhibitions. Jamie Gibbons, Head of Education at the Addison, explained the theme of Illumination for this event.

“So they were inspired by that exhibition to make the theme of the event “Illumination”...And so they were thinking not only about light, but about, like, illuminating context for artwork, and illuminating ideas, and kind of shining light onto new ways to connect,” said Gibbons.

Organized by the Addison Community Ambassadors, the event’s goal was to encourage the Andover Community to engage with the gallery’s pieces. It also helped students to appreciate the opportunity that the Addison Gallery offers, helping them to look closely, ask questions, and form new types of connections. Addison Community Ambassador, Melissa Damascenco ’22 shared about the event’s importance.

“With the Andover schedule, and just the hustle of the school, it’s really hard for students to kind of step back and appreciate what we have to offer on campus with the Ad-

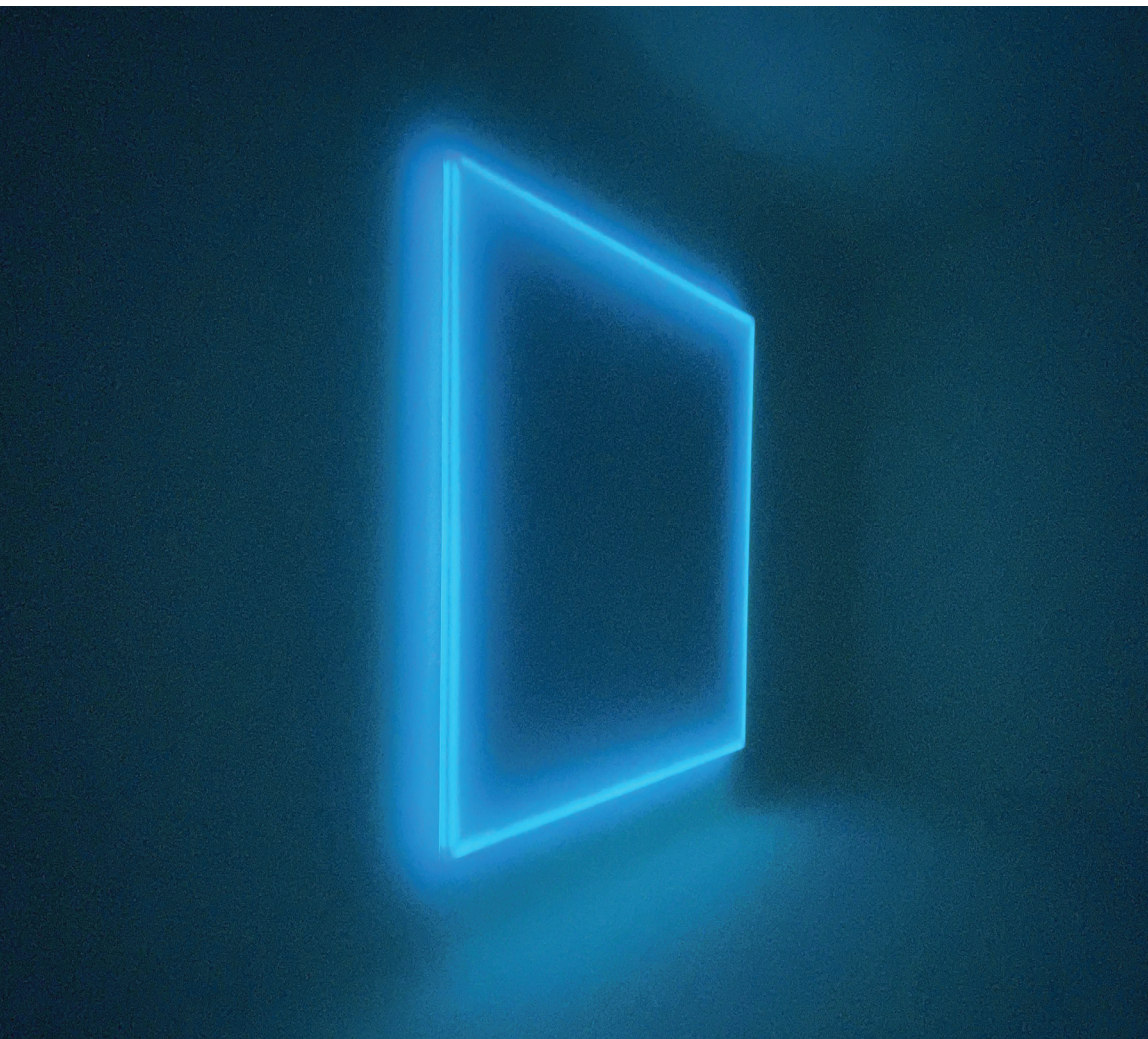
dison and the different artists included there, the different stories that are told through the pieces and objects that are all in the museum,” said Damascenco.

By including the activities, the goal of the ambassadors was to transform the Addison into a space geared toward the student body. Langan Garrett ’24 commented on why she enjoyed the night and how the different activities set up around the museum added a special touch.

“I thought it was fun that they had a photo booth, you know, everyone loves a photo booth. And I also thought that having that activity where you could write on the walls, about prompts relating to the exhibit was really nice. And then obviously, just having the open exhibit time was also really nice,” said Garrett.

Initially, the Night at the Addison was scheduled for the week prior, but because of the snow storm they were forced to reschedule, as to keep security guards safe and off of the slippery roads. Other challenges included music malfunctions and limited amounts of food. Damascenco shared why these difficulties didn’t phase the ambassadors.

“I spent the first half of the night trying to get the music to work and ended up not working, which was fine, because it got people out into the museum. We also ran out of food pretty quickly...I think it was just like those two things that didn’t fit into our initial expectations. But honestly, we were talking about



The theme of “Night at the Addison” this year was “Illumination.” The Addison Gallery aimed to encourage the Andover community to interact with the gallery’s exhibitions through this event.

this after, the night went exactly how we planned despite those two things,” said Damascenco.

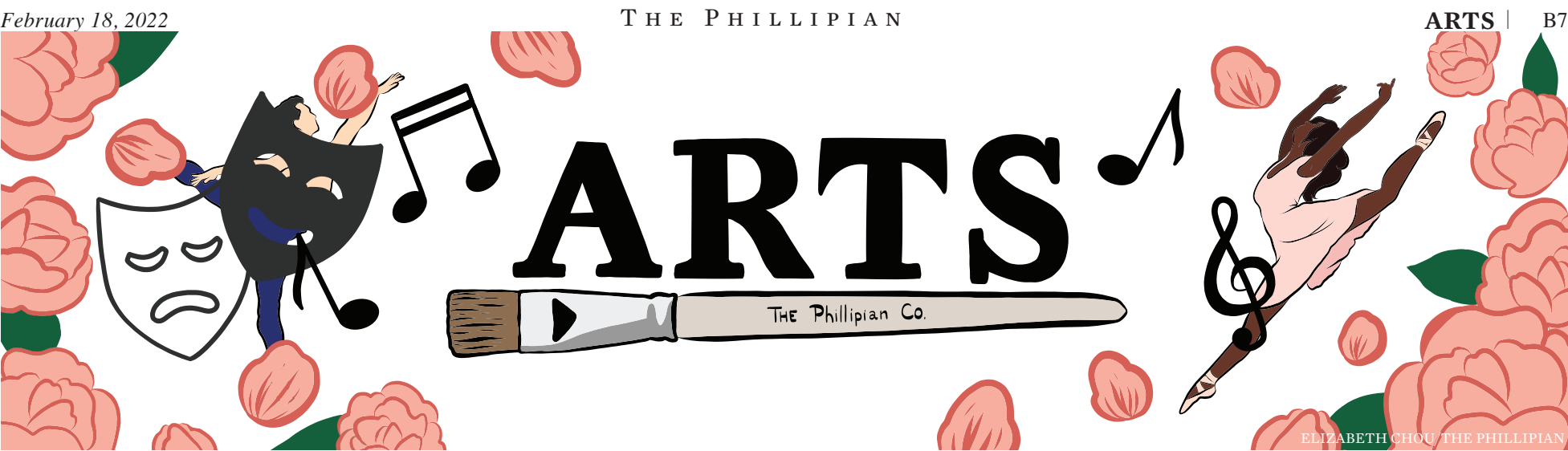
The Addison Gallery incorporates new exhibitions every few months that are unique from one another. In hopes to build interest in them, the

Addison Community Ambassadors worked on this event to encourage students to enjoy the exhibitions outside of the typical class visit.

“I hope students found new ways to connect and new things that the museum that they either hadn’t seen be-

E.FAN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

fore, or hadn’t thought about before...And I hope that they feel encouraged to come back another time on their own and think about - use those same ways of looking at art to look at other pieces of art that maybe they hadn’t connected with before,” said Gibbons.



2022’s Flash Film Showcase: A Reflection of Andover Life, Culture, and Creativity Through Film

**AVA CHEN &
AYDIN HIRSCHMAN**

Andover Moviemakers Club hosted their annual Flash Films event last Friday night. With the opportunity to write, direct, shoot, and edit a short film within 24 hours, students huddled up in the Freeman Room writing movie scripts. Here are eight of the films created by student directors. Head to our website (<https://phillipian.net/>) to read interviews with the directors.

NO CALORIES, NO SWEETENERS, ALL SMILES
(DIRECTED BY GUILHERME LIMA ’24,
AVIVA CAI ’24, MICHAEL MA ’24)

“No Calories, No Sweeteners, All Smiles” is a horror-esque comedy short film about being haunted not by ghosts, but by the popular beverage Bubly. The film begins with Lima buying an anthropomorphic Bubly drink. He then neglects the can, which is personified by sticky notes with sad and angry faces drawn on them. The Bubly stalks Lima throughout the film, following him suspensefully into various buildings across campus. In an ingenious comical twist, a Bubly army turns Lima into a Bubly as well. Inspired by a past Co-President campaign video last year, as well as Ma’s love for Bubly, the directors used this unique premise to portray conventional horror themes in an unorthodox and lighthearted way.

THE FOURTH WALL
(DIRECTED BY DOROTHY SWANSON-BLAKER ’24)

“The Fourth Wall” is a psychological thriller film in which two students, working on a flash film idea, feel as though something is off. They go to another room where they find everyone eerily fixated on their computer screens. In a unique twist, it turns out that they are watching and editing footage of the two students themselves. Another character then pulls the two confused students aside and explains what breaking the fourth wall means and that the unsettling presence they felt was the audience, watching them through the screen. According to Julia Carmona ’24, an actor and friend of Swanson Blaker, addressing the concept of the Fourth Wall helped their film stand out.

“HORROR MOVIE”
(DIRECTED BY KEVIN CHEN ’24)

“Horror,” starts off as a comedy film about Juan Sepulveda ’24 trying, yet failing, to find a Valentine. Chen found himself frustrated and saddened by the way his film was turning out and reflected this feeling in his character. Chen embraced the emotions and conveyed a character struck with sorrow. According to Chen, incorporating parts of his real self into the film was the most unique aspect of the film, which allowed the character’s emotions to come with ease.

LIVING AT PA

(DIRECTED BY JAC GORDON ’25, ANNABEL TU ’25, LILY WILLIAMSON)

“Living at PA” is a satirical mockumentary following the everyday life of a PA student, using “The Office”—like filming techniques to poke fun at certain aspects of campus such as procrastination, food in Paresky, and hookup culture. The film’s directors used their perspectives as Juniors to create this dramatic reality-TV-like comedy. Featuring cameos from many students unaffiliated with the Andover Moviemakers Club, this film also stood out with its lively and diverse range of settings and scenes.

ANGER MANAGEMENT ISSUES

(DIRECTED BY SUI YU ’23, MASON MCCORMACK ’23,
HELEN (DAGNY) BINGHAM ’23, LYDIA PALMER ’23, CISCO HERNANDEZ ’23)

“Anger Management Issues” is a comedic short film about students expressing anger in unexpected and comedic instances—hence its title. With scenes ranging from outrageous off-key singing to throwing tantrums in the Garver Room, this flash film was met with uproarious laughter during its screening on Friday. The creation process of “Anger Management Issues” was similarly fun and lighthearted. According to Yu, a challenge during the process was trying not to laugh or get distracted by the silliness of the film.

ANOTHER

(DIRECTED BY ND NWANERI ’24, NATHAN BLUMOFE ’24, JONATHAN JIN ’24,
CHRISTIAN GOMEZ ’24)

“Another” is an eerie and suspenseful horror short film directed surrounding Gomez, who plays the main character, slowly exploring settings such as the empty Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL) and Cochran Bird Sanctuary. Sudden jump-scares are scattered throughout the otherwise quiet and unsettling film, such as a hand creeping upon Gomez’s back. The complete absence of talking and diverse range of camera shots also contributed to the unique suspense of “Another.”

ANDOVER PSYCHO

(DIRECTED BY WYATT ROGERS ’22, ESHWAR VENKATASWAMY ’22, CORBIN KUKK ’22)

“Andover Psycho” is a parody of the horror thriller film “American Psycho.” Drawing parallels from the film “American Psycho,” the film follows an Andover student portrayed by Gil Parker Freeman ’22. He becomes jealous of a more successful peer, who is acted by Rogers, leading to a brutal murder. Parker goes on to confess his crime to a friend, who tells him that he actually saw Rogers recently, leading to the film ending with the student manically laughing. Though the seven-minute short is nowhere near in length to the hour and a half “American Psycho,” it still pays homage to many aspects of the original movie, including the iconic opening shower scene and the overarching theme of materialism.

TREASURE HUNT

(DIRECTED BY RONIN PULPATI ’23)

“Treasure Hunt” follows a group of friends on an adventure through the Garver Room, the Chapel, and then finally to the Sanctuary. At the Sanctuary, they find two pills: the heart pill, which represents “going into greed and what the person wants instead of picking the right thing,” and then a generic pill. One friend takes the heart pill, hallucinates a shadow figure, chases him, and eventually stabs him out of self defense. The story takes a dark turn when it is revealed that he actually stabbed one of the friends. While their storyline was intense, the group focused more on cinematography rather than plot. According to Pulpati, a notable cinematic choice was in the Chapel, where the camera was fixed along the “axis” of the paths, only moving left and right with the movement of the characters.

Review: Top Music Releases of the Week

ASHLEY PARK

“she’s all i wanna be” by Tate McRae

“she’s all i wanna be” by Tate McRae, released on February 4, is a melancholic ode to McRae’s experiences and struggles as a teenage girl, specifically in dealing with society and peer pressure. The highlight of the song is McRae’s expressive performance and musical composition. With lyrics about dressing to impress, dealing with boy problems, and wanting to be like “her”—an ambiguous character in the song representative of the expectations and demands that McRae strives to meet—the song exhibits a sense of vulnerability that allows people to resonate with her music. Beyond the touching lyrics, the fusion of a rock and pop further convey her complex emotions of dejection, enhancing a connection with her audience. Overall, this song gets a personal rating of 5/5.

“Do We Have A Problem?” by Nicki Minaj ft. Lil Baby

Released on February 4, “Do We Have A Problem?” by Nicki Minaj featuring Lil Baby brings back her distinctive style and serves as a reaffirmation of her strength, talent, and success. While the song is a showcase of Minaj’s talent as a rapper and a singer, what is more impressive is how she incorporates a sense of empowerment. Minaj addresses her own experience with slander and shuts down accusations discrediting her talents. Despite the song’s catchy beat and clever lyrics, it incorporates slightly offensive content and does not particularly stand out as much compared to the rest of her skillful discography; as a person who prefers more soft and calm music, I rate this song 3/5.

“Stay Alive” by Jungkook of BTS (prod. Suga)

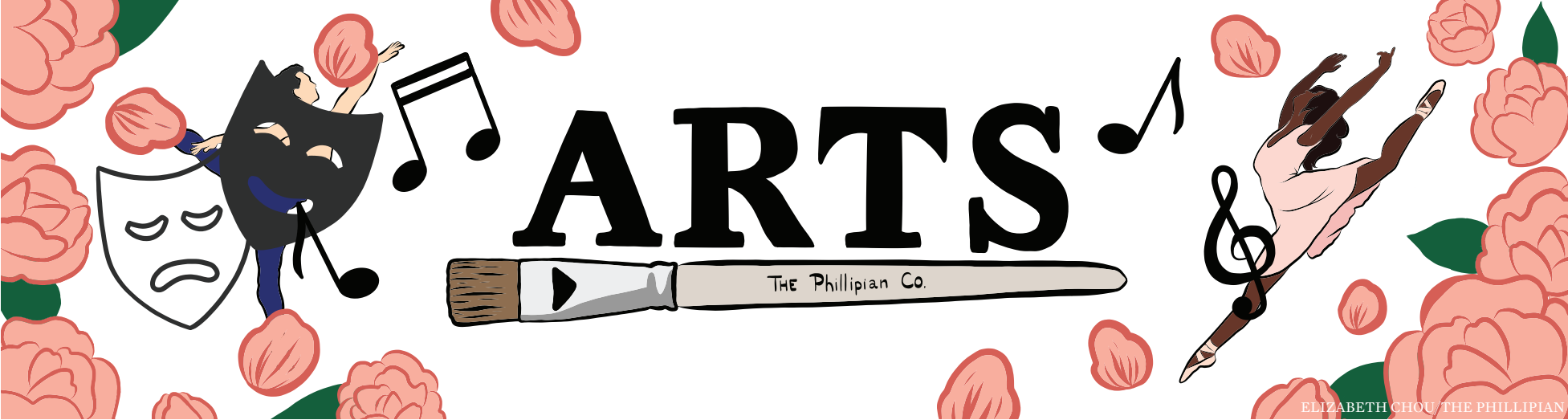
Released on February 11, “Stay Alive”, performed and produced by Jungkook and Suga of BTS, is a promotion video for “7Fates: Chakho” by HYBE, an upcoming Webtoon based on an urban fantasy story set in South Korea. The lyrics connect with the darker themes of the Webtoon, straying away from the group’s recent pattern of releasing high-energy and optimistic dance tunes. The instrumentals for this song are dangerously catchy and give a tone of suspense. Leilani Glace ’25 shared her opinions on the piece, commenting on how the song stands out amongst the rest of BTS’s discography. “Unlike some of their recent hits, such as ‘Butter’ and ‘Dynamite,’ Jungkook and Suga’s solo debut ‘Stay Alive,’ conveys sorrow and longing to ‘stay alive’ within the reality of the [story of “7Fates: Chakho”]. The strained humming and the airy voice that starts off the song paints a picture of despair, that is only furthered by the chorus, and sudden crescendo in the middle of the song,” wrote Glace in an email to The Phillipian. Looking at both complexity in the song’s composition and the unique context for its release, I give this song a rating of 5/5.

“MAMIII” by Becky G and KAROL G

Topping the Youtube Trending Music charts as of February 13, “MAMIII” by Becky G and KAROL G, released on February 10, is an upbeat, Reggaetón-style anthem of female empowerment—an impressive accomplishment even with their status as global sensations. The two artists have unique vocal attributes that play off each other to enhance the quality of the song: Becky G’s clean and higher vocals blend well with Karol G’s uniquely smooth yet powerful voice to establish a cohesive style throughout the song. The song’s Reggaetón influences and distinct rhythms establish unique melodies, making this song a great hit overall. Based on abandoning toxic relationships and the harmful sides of love, Becky and Karol’s strong rapping and singing skills enhance the message of confidence and female solidarity that this song hopes to promote. This song can be enjoyed by not only Spanish-speaking audiences, but also for a variety of others who enjoy a mix of Latin and pop music. I give this song a rating of 4/5.

**“The Joker and The Queen (ft. Taylor Swift)”
by Ed Sheeran ft. Taylor Swift**

A special remix of a previous release, “The Joker and The Queen (ft. Taylor Swift)” is a slow ballad honoring an unconditional love with soothing harmonies and instrumentals. Ed Sheeran’s solo rendition of the song was released on October 29, 2021 but the song’s remix with Taylor Swift came out on February 11. From a lyrical perspective, this song uses clever metaphors and imagery to bring out Sheeran’s appreciation for a simplistic yet beautifully touching romance. Even though this was a remix of the original “The Joker and The Queen,” this version implements a two-sided perspective on love, especially in building off the narrative established in one of the pair’s first collaborative works, “Everything Has Changed (ft. Ed Sheeran).” Adaora Mbanefo ’24 gave her opinions for the new release. “I really enjoy the lullaby love song vibes the song gives... I just find it funny that in real life, Ed Sheeran is sort of like a joker because everybody makes fun of him and Taylor Swift is the queen everybody adores,” said Mbanefo. Despite the song’s creativity and meaning, it still sounds rather generic; for that, this song gets a 3/5.



Outfits of the Week: Sean Shim '23 Employs Unconventional and Dynamic Aesthetics Unique to His Physique and Appearance

CHLOE RHEE

Since Sean Shim '23 was a child, clothing and fashion has consistently been an outlet for him to express a reflection of his physical identity and his outward approach to the world. Never sticking to one specific aesthetic or style, Shim constantly experiments with different and often unconventional mediums of clothing in his everyday outfits.

“My style of clothing is definitely more versatile... [and experimental]. Usually, when I want to make creative outfits, I try to match things that you wouldn't normally see people wear together. Sometimes it can look bad, but it's always great if it works out,” said Shim.

A big part of Shim's clothing choices reflect and enhance his physical appearance. Instead of choosing pieces that all belong to a specific category or group of colors, he lets certain traits like hair and build decide the

style of clothing he wears for months at a time.

“Hair is a big part. I used to have really long hair, and when I had that I would dress a certain way that was different from how I dress right now, or how I dressed when I had a buzz cut... My clothing style is more dependent on how I appear physically, because I think certain outfits only work with certain physical looks,” said Shim.

Despite Shim's versatility in aesthetics, he keeps to a few fashion essentials when choosing an outfit every day. One particular favorite of his are plainly colored T-shirts, which make for more unique outfits that are easier to build and layer upon. Shim also prides himself on his distinctive accessories, which include necklaces, rings, hats, and even nail polish; these subtle adornments stylishly help to bring the outfit together.

“I always need a plain black or white t-shirt, especially when it's winter. In the winter, you have to wear jackets and overcoats. It can

sometimes work to wear colorful, graphic tees under jackets, but most times it's too much and too messy... I usually also wear a lot of hats and accessories, like nail polish. I think it's important that I pay attention to those small details, because it gives the outfit more of a pop,” said Shim.

Depending on different physical traits, Shim often selects a few new inspirations that help influence his current mode of fashion. However, he has a few consistent fashion influences, many of which are Korean celebrities, including rappers G-Dragon (Kwon Ji-Yong) and Kid Milli (Choi Won-Jae). Another influencer Shim takes inspiration from is singer-rapper DAWN (Kim Hyo-Jong), who also has a unique and dynamic style.

“No one can wear the outfits [DAWN] wears, and he pulls them off really well. It's hard to get more specific inspiration from him, because he does the craziest outfits, but I get inspired by his attempts to try new things,” said Shim.

Thursday

“I wore a beige blazer with a red brooch, a white tee, a women's knitted beige vest, beige pants, and the same dress shoes from Tuesday. I styled my hair differently to reflect this outfit as well. I wanted to wear this blazer because oftentimes when guys dress up, they wear a black blazer, a white collared shirt, and dress pants. I wanted to dress up in a way most guys don't do, with a lot of bright colors and a women's vest. All of this fits well with the smaller accessories, especially the red pin, which I think popped out.”



E.YANG/THE PHILLIPPIAN

Shim's outfit on Thursday.

Monday

“This is an outfit I wear often. I wore a plain white tee and khaki pants with boots, and layered it with two flannels and a green bomber jacket. Both flannels are womenswear, and the boots are Timberlands. I also matched it with this hat, which complemented the rest of the outfit really well. I think pairing a flannel with a bomber is really cool and unique, because I don't think anyone really wears it that way.”

Tuesday

“I'm wearing women's jeans; they're kind of flared and I folded them a lot. I paired it with a black t-shirt, a blazer, and a hat with a crocheted blue bag. I also wore chunky dress shoes. The accessories: the shoes and the bag— are definitely the most unique aspects of this outfit. I decided to wear them because I thought they added some depth to an otherwise more basic and neutral outfit.”



E.YANG/THE PHILLIPPIAN

Sean Shim '23's outfit on Monday.



E.YANG/THE PHILLIPPIAN

Shim's outfit on Tuesday.



A.ZHANG/THE PHILLIPPIAN

Shim's outfit on Wednesday.

Wednesday

“These are Dickies overalls with checkered Vans, a black T-shirt, a navy blue bomber, and fur hat. I also tied the blue bag from Tuesday on the side with yellow gloves. Choosing this outfit was a fun process, because I was trying on random stuff, I saw the outfit, and thought. ‘That looks kind of cool.’ I was trying to be extra experimental. And I feel like overalls are something guys are afraid of wearing. Pairing that with a bomber jacket is even less common, and tying the gloves on the bag on the side added a bit more depth.”

Friday

“I wore semi-skinny jeans with my Timberland boots, a black T-shirt, and a purple collar under the flannel. I also decided to wear gloves, although it did hide another accessory I added to the outfit—silver nail polish.”



E.YANG/THE PHILLIPPIAN

Shim's outfit on Friday.

The 2022 Student Playwright Festival 2022 Was an Unrestricted Space for Imagination for Students of All Experience Levels

ATHENA RHEE & SERAFINA NORDENFLYCHT

As actors filled the stage with colorful expressions and dialogue, the audience erupted into laughter and applause at the Student Playwright Festival last Friday. As part of Andover's DramaLabs, this performance featured six student-directed plays that ranged from serious skits to comedy acts in the Theater Classroom.

According to one of the producers, Kate Horton '22, the Student Playwright Festival was an opportunity for veteran and novice student playwrights to explore theater and scriptwriting. Though many of the directors and performers presented their work on stage for the first time at the festival, Horton believes that all the acts

showcased astonishing creativity and adept acting skills.

“We had four plays that were written by varying grade levels, and they all wrote and cast their plays and directed them. We also had two [original] comedy acts. It was wonderful to see the creative writing talent...the acting talent and directing talent, all combined together to create a wonderful playwright festival,” said Horton.

For many of the playwrights, their work was inspired by childhood memories, random thoughts, or even just a passion for laughing. The unrestricted nature of the writing process provided an outlet for creative expression according to Dori Rosenstrauch '23, who wrote and performed in one of the stand-up comedy acts.

“In terms of coming up with any of my sketch-

es or skits, I just kind of go about my day and any funny thoughts, any funny conversations I have, I write it down in a notes document, so that when it's time to synthesize a piece, I can just pull a bunch of small bits... and then write them all together as one,” said Rosenstrauch.

Throughout the creation process, the most challenging aspect was transforming a two-dimensional “mental movie” into a three-dimensional act on stage, according to director Grace Wang '22. The actors had to learn cues for dialogues, body language for conveying emotions, and different ways to utilize the space in the theater.

“Sometimes, as someone who's not an actor, I had to step into a new role getting in the perspective of the actor. [I considered] when would they get up, when would they

move around the room, and as a writer, I feel like I'm envisioning these things, but it's hard to describe it to other people because it's all in my head,” said Wang.

Wang and the other directors' efforts to bring their pieces alive were well received by the audience. According to Emily Fan '24, the audience was engaged by the range and quality of the performances.

“I enjoyed how the audience was very engaged, and how there was such a range of performances...I feel like all of the acts were relatable in some way or another. They talked about trends and school, which I thought I could relate to a lot, and it made it a lot funnier,” said Fan.

The Student Playwright Festival allowed many new student playwrights to ex-

plore the theater world with no restrictions, encouraging creativity and sparking motivation for the community to engage in more theatrical events. Director Sara Romai '23 reflected on the festival's impact on her as a playwright and expresses her pride on her and her peers' growth throughout the process.

“I think the whole student playwright festival on its own is pretty special because all of the pieces were student-written. For me it was special because it was my first time directing, and I got to explore what that was like in a very low-pressure environment... Honestly, it was amazing to see what everyone had written [and] I thought all of them were really good,” said Romai.