



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

“We will do what we need to do...to have on-campus learning and keep it as close to a normal learning experience as possible,” said Dr. Amy Patel, Medical Director at Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center.

## Covid-19 Restrictions Return to Campus Following Surge in Positive Cases

ANGELINE ZHAO

After the recent return of Andover’s mask mandate, Andover plans to allow students off campus for the long weekend. From April 6 to April 13, 90 students tested positive for Covid-19, according to an email from Dr. Amy Patel, Medical Director at Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center, sent on April 13. That is a 7.5 percent positivity rate amongst students in the past seven days.

Andover held another round of Covid-19 testing on April 14. The campus plans to test all students again on April 19, after the long weekend, according to an email to the campus community from Jennifer Elliott ’94, Assistant Head of School for Residential Life and Dean of Students.

“We will allow travel permissions and day excuses this weekend. As it is a long weekend, boarding students,

your REACH request is due this evening (Wednesday). We will all test again (next Tuesday) after the long weekend,” wrote Elliott in an email to the Andover community.

According to Patel, the increase in cases was a natural result of opening campus for the first time since fall term. She notes that the numbers remain comparatively smaller than those in the communities surrounding Andover.

“There’s been an increase, a very small increase, and throughout the pandemic we’ve been very transparent about the positive cases reported. The small uptick is still proportionally smaller than the increase that’s being seen in the surrounding community. Because we have opened campus again and we’re allowing students to leave campus and request overnights and visit colleges and we’re having visitors, there’s naturally going to be an increase,” said Patel.

Students who tested posi-

tive have been asked to leave campus for a five-day quarantine period and to return after receiving a negative test result. Those who have been unable to leave campus stayed or are staying in the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center, the second floor of the Snyder Center, or their own rooms if faculty could ensure that they remained isolated from everyone else in the dorm.

“If [a student] tests positive at any point, [parents or guardians] will be informed immediately and asked to bring your child home. Boarding students who test positive and are unable to go home will isolate in Sykes Wellness Center, in a satellite on-campus location, or in their dormitory room (if we are able to keep students isolated from dormmates). If you test

Continued on A6, Column 1

## Over-Enrollment at Andover: Why It Happened and What to Expect Next Year

JENNY JIN &  
MELISSA CHANG

As newly admitted students have made their enrollment decisions for the upcoming school year, Andover reflects on its trend of over-enrollment and the effects it has had on housing arrangements. Over the course of the last eight years, the number of enrolled boarders and day students has seen a gradual increase; The number increased from 1125 students with 838 boarders and 287 day students in 2013-2014, to 1154 students with 847 boarders and 307 day students in 2016-2017, to a total of 1187 students with 872

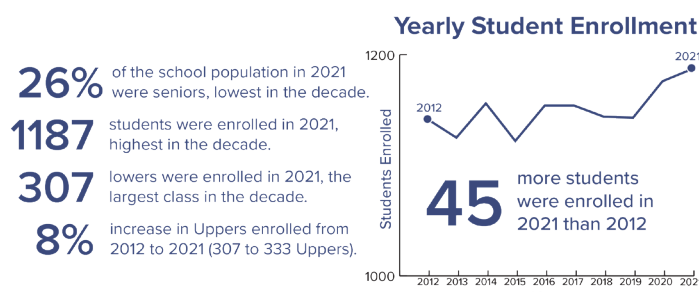
boarders and 315 day students currently in 2021-2022.

According to Jennifer Elliott ’94, Assistant Head of School for Residential Life and Dean of Students, the over-enrollment is partially due to the Admission Office having to admit more students than the school can accommodate for. Every year, the school has to anticipate unexpected situations that might result in a decrease in the student body population.

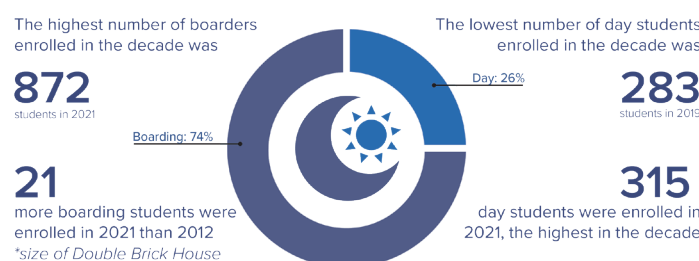
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## Andover by the Numbers

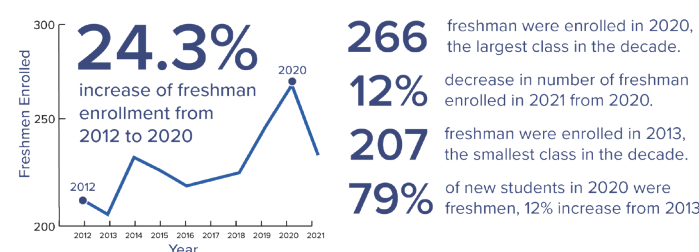
### Over-Enrollment



### Boarding vs. Day Students



### Yearly Freshmen Enrollment



Data provided by the Andover Statistics Group

R.YANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

## Model United Nations Hosts First Conference in Two Years on Zoom

NABILAH NAZAR &  
ASHLEY AGYEMAN

On Sunday, Andover hosted its first Model United Nations Conference since 2019. Delegates from Phillips Academy, Concord Academy, Northfield Mount Hermon, and Andover High School gathered on Zoom for an online conference. Many participants were hoping for an in-person conference, but school officials advised against it due to the sudden increase in Covid-19 cases.

Amara Neal ’22, a Co-Secretary General of Phillips Academy

Model U.N. (PAMUN), shared her preference for in-person conferences rather than virtual ones. In-person conferences allow for more interaction with other delegates and give people a chance to create authentic relationships, according to Neal.

“In-person Model U.N. conferences are by far a better experience because I feel like a lot of Model U.N. is learning about people skills and learning about how people can fit together to collaborate and how you can work around different personality types. Even outside of the debate aspect of it, I think being around people and that vibrance of the conference is just something you can’t really recreate

online,” Neal said.

PAMUN previously made an appeal for an in-person conference, which the administration declined due to the uncertainty of the percentage of vaccinated students. Karsten Rynearson ’22, a member of the Senior Board who gave the opening speech of the PAMUN Conference,

“It was very hectic around if we should host it in person or if we should have done Zoom... As you know, a lot of our protocols have been pretty lax, but

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E.YANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

The chairs for the Model U.N. conference were the club’s Associate Board members. They have been preparing for the conference since the summer of 2021.

## Karsten Rynearson ’22 Triumphs in 2022 Quiz Bowl Championship

WENDY WANG

80 high school and middle school students from across the country gathered in Illinois on Sunday, April 3 to compete in a Quiz Bowl championship. Outlasting all other competitors, Karsten Rynearson ’22 won The Individual Player National Championship Tournament (IPNCT) high school division. Rynearson placed 1st in Literature and 3rd in Social Science, securing him the 1st place title overall among 53 competitors.

“I don’t know if I fully processed [the fact] yet. This has been something that I’ve wanted, since seventh grade, to see...They have this little page on the website, the Hall of Champions. I have wanted to be there for so long. And now I’m there,” said Rynearson.

According to IPNCT’s website The Individual Player National Championship Tournament is a

quiz bowl competition that pits students without the support of their teammates. Players compete in small groups over several rounds and after 5 rounds, the top players compete in the championship round, where players are eliminated one by one until a champion emerges.

Rynearson first started competing in fifth grade, when Quiz Bowl aligned with his interests. According to Rynearson, his experience competing at a local tournament prompted him to continue participating in bigger events.

“I started playing in fifth grade. There was an invitational tournament run by the local middle school near me where I live in Connecticut. When I was younger, I always loved these reference sourcebooks with a bunch of facts

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**Covid-19 in China**

Jonathan Ji ’24 unpacks China’s Zero Covid-19 Policy in Wuhan during 2020 versus now in Shanghai, his home city.

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**#StayPositive**

Check out this weekend’s events in Sykes!

Sports, B1

**First Female TOPGUN**

**Pilot**  
Becky Dowling Calder ’94 earned her a spot in the Andover Athletic Hall of Honor.

Arts, B4

**New DramaLabs Producers**

The new producers for DramaLabs describe the importance of their shows.

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CORRECTIONS:  
There are no corrections to report.

Editorial

Bubble, Burst

We are facing the largest on-campus Covid-19 outbreak since the start of the pandemic in March, 2020. From just April 6 to April 13 alone, positive cases have reached a stunning 90 and counting. Isolation capacities in Sykes, Borden, and Snyder have been overrun, classes are emptying as test positivity rates spike, and a pall of anxiety has fallen over Andover. The Andover Covid-19 bubble has burst.

Now, many of us are turning to the protocols, events, and changes over these past weeks and asking: why? One culprit in particular appears to crop up most in these conversations. “Reopening” and “new normals” have been anticipated since the early months of the pandemic, with us long grown tired of Covid-19 life with seemingly no end in sight. The pursuit of these, however, have had more sinister effects that we have been eager, in our chase of normalcy, to ignore. And each time we attempt to move forward, these effects emerge to undermine us once again.

In essence, we are caught in an apparently infinite cycle where Andover’s administration loosens restrictions too quickly, cases rise, and we go right back to square one and lose all of our previous progress. The coast can be deceptively clear, and this past week, we have learnt that all too well. Now, students are forced to yet again endure disruptions to their learning, Sykes staff are overworked in infectious conditions, and unprepared parents have their contagious children thrust back upon them, with minimal warning.

It is clear now that Andover established a plan for reopening and made a trajectory to get from heavy Covid-19 regulations to normalcy. But it feels that any contingency plans made to contain potential fallout were too overconfident, too weak. And now, here we are, dozens of positive tests later, the Sykes staff overworking and the gyms repurposed. All those T lines—some of them false and some of them missed. We could have prevented this.

And yet, spread is immensely difficult to contain once the virus has broken out, without increased restrictions. While Sykes staff has been working tirelessly to keep us safe, our current

safety practices are woefully inadequate. Our rapid tests, notoriously inaccurate compared to the PCR tests we previously used, are likely leaving a slew of cases undetected. Although PCR testing reads as positive for those infected within the last three months, it may still be a worthwhile strategy to pursue to levy a more accurate gauge on campus positivity rates.

Students and the Andover community at large also need to understand that their Covid-19 practices may not only affect themselves, but the community around them. With our soaring positivity rates, it is imperative that our community does not become complacent. Dismissing Covid-19 as “not that bad” harms communities that are likely to be more vulnerable. Day students, for one, have no choice but to attend a highly infectious campus and risk bringing Covid-19 back to their families. Carelessness reflects a lack of empathy towards individuals beyond oneself.

Ultimately, this was not inevitable. The decision to move from the orange zone to the green zone two weeks ago, off-campus permissions, and loosened testing protocols all contributed to the recent spike. While we must learn from the past, it is now imperative that we focus on the response going forwards. We cannot pretend that, in the midst of this new outbreak, we may still proceed as normal, blind to the risks around us.

We sought a new normal. We now have 90 cases and counting to show for it. Now, at our wit’s end, we must consider harsher, but most necessary measures. We need clarity on contact tracing, more robust close contact protocols, Covid-19-safe options for students uncomfortable with in-person commitments (such as a Zoom option for classes), and more effective tests. Only then will we gain the ground we so desire. Only then will we avoid the mistakes that led us here in the first place.

This editorial represents the views of The Phillipian Vol. CXLV.

The Problem with Chill

SARAH PAN



We seem to really, really love chill people. Yes, it’s an abstract metric, but “chillness” appears to directly correlate with our desire to associate with someone. In response to questions like, “Do you know who so and so is?” people will often respond, “Yeah, they’re chill.” But why is this our default answer? What even is “chillness,” and why do we care so much?

Well, let’s start by defining “chill.” If I allowed someone to cut in front of me in the stir-fry line, I would be crowned with the title of “chill.” Or, if I cool-y shrugged off a sub 50 percent test score, my classmates would start worshipping me for my perceived “chillness.” The list is never-ending, but so far, “chillness” seems like a good thing. Wouldn’t it be great to not care about anything—to stay unperturbed in the face of difficulty and the ups and downs of life?

This glamorization of “chillness” comes from a natural place. In our highly emotional world, it’s so difficult for us to catch a break. In one moment, you find out about something tragic that happened halfway across the globe, and in the next, your boyfriend is cheating on you! Sometimes, we just need a compliant stir-fry line or for that one kid to not sob in the middle of physics

class. Valuing people who give you emotional space is completely valid and necessary in maintaining our own mental health, but defining someone’s worth by their ability to maintain a stoic state is a completely different story.

But this isn’t entirely our fault. We’ve been conditioned to view social worth and emotional absence as existing in direct correlation, a perfect mutualism if you will. See the phenomenon of the “Parisian girl” as an example. She’s cool, stylish, and makes cameos in just about every “Vogue” article ever. Usually donned in black sunglasses and nibbling at a croissant, she’s a trope utilized by fashion writers to materialize “coolness.” The secret to her cultural dominance is not rooted in her appearance, however, but rather in her attitude (or lack thereof). The Parisian girl is often described as “nonchalant”—someone who prefers to quietly observe life from behind the pages of a French novella. Her opinions stay quartered behind her tongue, and she never lets her emotions break her cool stare. She is (has been, and probably will continue being) the moment.

However, at the same time, this romanticized lens from

I once prided myself on my chillness. And it was fine. Well, not really.

which we view chill attitudes leads us to function irrationally. I recently read “An Anxious Person Tries to Be Chill” by Coco Mellors, an article in “The New York Times” where Mellors narrates her doomed love story with her



CLARIS SHIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

emotionally unavailable neighbor. She presented herself as this “chill” girl, which really meant being an emotionless, desireless being who would oblige to her neighbor’s any desire if it meant getting closer to him (To her own detriment of course, because, well, he just didn’t want to date her). But this got me thinking. Why are we so willing to diminish ourselves and sacrifice our own well-being for other people’s satisfaction—why must we be palatable to be valued?

I once prided myself on my “chillness.” And it was fine. Well, not really. “Yes, you can borrow my favorite sweater,” somehow resulted in “Don’t worry about losing it. It was kinda ugly anyways.” And it’s funny to think that I once had rigid belief in personal space because magically, I evolved into anyone and everyone’s personal teddy bear. At a

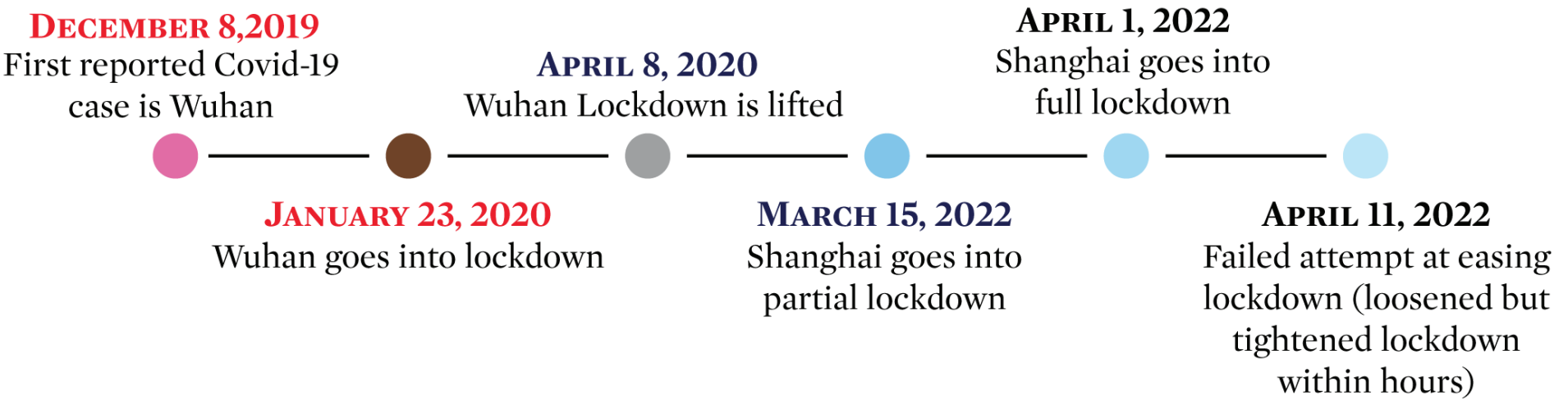
certain point, these lies that I told to remain chill became truths. I learned not to hold attachments to objects, activities, or ideas because passion was just about the least appealing thing ever. In turn, the life I lived was no longer mine but rather a false reality I created to please others.

Obviously, it’s okay to do good things for others—in fact, it’s great! But it’s also important to know that doing good to another person should never come at the expense of doing good for yourself. Know that it’s okay to say no, and if you’re a people-pleaser like me, say it more often. Know that life is inherently emotional and allow yourself to experience the

joys and pains that come with it. Learn to shamelessly kick people out of your room and spend time by yourself, away from others. Don’t let your friend from Junior year borrow your clothes because you know she’ll never return them. And for the inevitable moments when you fall into your old habit of “chillness,” have hope. Know that eventually you’ll start living for yourself and not someone else.

Sarah Pan is a Lower from Salinas, Calif. Contact the author at span24@andover.edu.





# Zero Covid Strategy: 2 Years Later

JONATHAN JI



T. ZENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Lockdown ticks towards the one month mark with no approaching end, my dad's stash of chocolate runs low, and my mom's store of coffee dwindles. Government distributed food ensures that citizens won't die, but avoiding starvation is a low bar to pass. Many communities and apartment complexes have formed groups with one objective: get food. Surgeons butchering a whole pig for neighbors with their scalpels, sprigs of homegrown green onions being traded for knobs of ginger—these are just some of the desperate measures people have taken during lockdown.

This is life in Shanghai under China's Zero Covid Strategy. Testing is frequent, and anyone found positive is sent to a centralized quarantine facility. Those in the area around the positive case are self-quarantined.

The strategy was enacted in late March when Shanghai began to experience partial lockdowns as a few cases popped up around the

city. As cases continue to spread, a partial lockdown became the total lockdown of the bustling city's 26.3 million residences. As the roads of my perpetually moving home city are left deserted, has China's Zero Covid Strategy been successful?

Answering this question with a simple "yes" or "no" would be a completely unfair assessment of such a complex problem. Western news outlets often do not give China credit for its successes, choosing instead to zoom in on shortcomings, presenting a skewed image of reality. However, China's strategy worked excellently to contain the initial wave of infection. It was effective, though not the perfect strategy (the perfect strategy would've been to stop the pandemic before it ever happened, but here we are). Since then, the coronavirus has mutated into several variants, each with subtly different characteristics. Even though Covid-19 has been a perpetually changing threat, China's strategy has not changed. Shanghai has locked down the same way Wuhan was locked down years ago. Now facing Omicron, new conditions aren't being faced with fittingly different responses.

China's government lends itself to extreme and decisive measures such as these. In 2020, during the initial outbreak of Covid, China's Zero Covid strategy worked. Made possible by the quick and widespread countermeasures, China returned to relative nor-

malcy after about half a year, save for new masking habits and other pandemic related changes in lifestyle. Further, China was able to dodge the high inflation rates and labor shortages that plagued the United States. As the nature of the pandemic shifts from the original situation used to formulate the Zero Covid Strategy, measures used to contain the initial outbreak remained passably effective until they weren't.

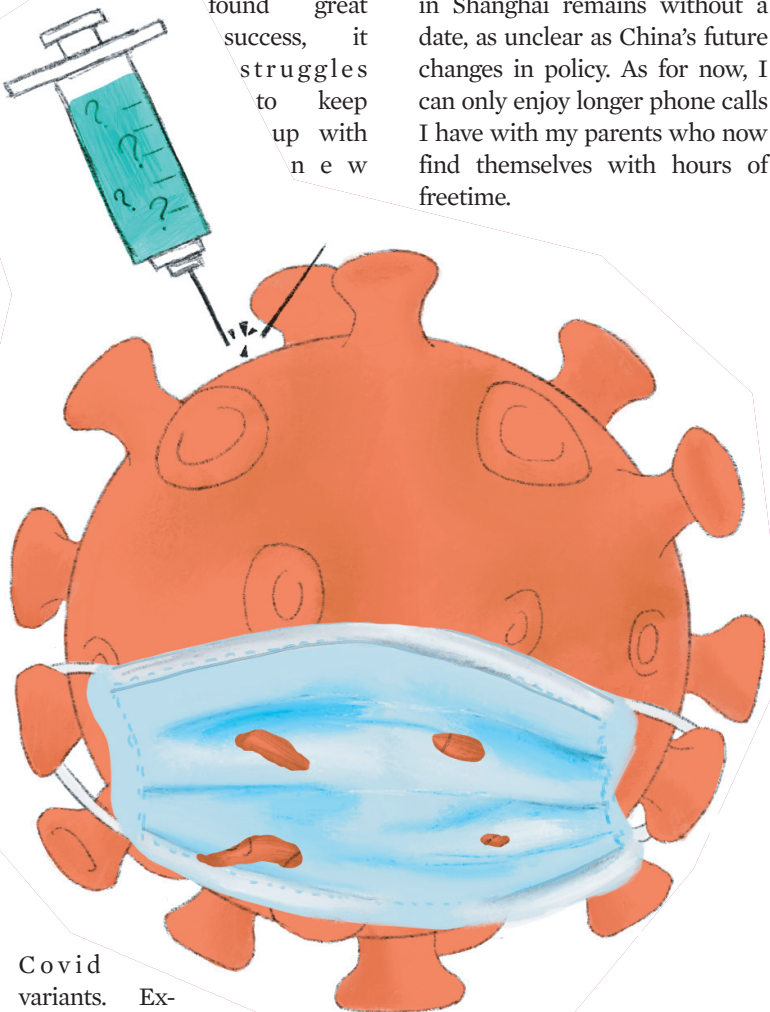
However, what China's government does not lend itself to is quick adaptation. They are struggling to pivot out of a once effective response into a more suitable one. Residents have enjoyed normal productivity and life for the past year or so with Covid-19 remaining largely contained until now. China now faces a more viral, less deadly virus than from two years ago that requires different cautionary measures.

The Zero Covid Strategy was a necessary stopgap while the government investigated the source of the pandemic and developed treatments and vaccines. The cost of these policies was a price worth paying if it bought time for virologists. Covid-19 was a monster hiding in the dark, prowling between coughs and sneezes. No matter how scary this monster seemed two years ago, Covid-19 is a virus that has been under the scrutiny of scientists around the world for a long while now. A monster is not as scary when it has been dragged into the light, unknown variables since be-

ing defined. The stopgap used as a reprieve for solution finding is no longer needed.

Whether or not China's Zero Covid Strategy has failed, I cannot say. While it has found great success, it struggles to keep up with new

proach higher vaccination rates and herd immunity, but what is China's plan? China simply cannot move into the post-Covid world with Zero Covid policies as is. The end of the lockdowns in Shanghai remains without a date, as unclear as China's future changes in policy. As for now, I can only enjoy longer phone calls I have with my parents who now find themselves with hours of freetime.



Covid variants. Extreme response to any and all signs of infection will be unsustainable heading into the future. There seems to be an outlook towards a post-Covid era as communities in America ap-

HEYON CHOI / THE PHILLIPIAN

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# Two Steps Back, One Step Forward



Back in 2018, when Brett Kavanaugh was sworn in to the Supreme Court of the United States, my mom started crying. It's the first nomination I remember. We were driving on California's characteristically sunny highways and listening to Dr. Blasy-Ford testify against the then Supreme Court nominee. With each word that came out of her mouth, a tear ran down my mother's face. My teachers stopped class for the day to project coverage onto the classroom TVs. They kept saying to us, "This is a momentous day for United States history." I was in seventh grade. I had some semblance of awareness for the world around me, but I didn't realize the ramifications that day would have on my life and hundreds of millions of others.

I also remember Amy Coney Barrett's induction. I remember that despite the fact that she was a woman, she had worked for much of her career to restrict abortion rights. It felt like in the course of her confirmation, the minds of so many Americans were clouded with the election and Covid-19 that no real attention was paid to her induction into the Supreme Court. Her process was rushed along with urgency to fill a spot that had once belonged to a pioneer and a role model for millions of



SOPHIE STAIL / THE PHILLIPIAN

women—includingmyself—Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Since their nominations, it has felt like the world has slid to chaos.

Take abortion, for example. There are countless laws in countless states restricting abortion clinics, the weeks in which you are able to get an abortion, and even efforts to prosecute those who seek out mail-in abortion pills. In some states you can sue someone, and anyone who aided them, for getting an abortion.

There's also the all out assault on transgender rights. Children are being barred from discuss-

ing their identity, learning about other sexualities and other identities. If they have non-heterosexual, non-heteroromantic, or non-cisgender parents or family members, they will not be able to discuss their family life in Florida. There is a war on what we had often considered to be human rights, constitutionally-backed rights.

And because so many of these issues are dictated by courts, or can work their way up to the Supreme Court, it is imperative that a reliable and just court sits on the highest bench in this land. It is of greatest importance that qualified and fair people inter-

pret these life and death laws. That they read and interpret the Constitution with dignity, with justice. They must read each stanza and amendment, paying careful attention to the nuances. These are foundational rights in a modernized society.

When Joe Biden nominated Ketanji Brown Jackson, it felt like the moral compass of this country came a little closer to home. With Jackson's qualifications and fairness, it feels like the Supreme Court might once again be something that stands for the people and the Constitution. After paying close attention to her confirmation coverage,


watching skeptics throw accusations in her face, watching her handle them with dignity, I felt refreshed. On Thursday, when I got the Apple News notification on my phone, I was expecting an article about something random. When I read it, however, I almost started crying at the notice of her Supreme Court induction.

I thought back to that day in the car, with my mom and my sister, on the way to school. That day for me, was when I really started to understand how democracy would affect my life. I started to be concerned about the hundreds of millions of people affected by a new Supreme court justice. But on Thursday, it was a different sort of realization. I know that the vote was close—too close—but for me, it felt like a moment when I could

I know that the vote was close—too close—but for me, it felt like a moment when I could exhale.

exhale. Our system has its flaws. It has many, many flaws. However, this qualified woman can still be nominated for and inducted into this position of the utmost honor and integrity. She handles herself with grace and embodies fairness. Thursday was a new perspective represented on the Supreme Court. Staring at my phone, I thought about that for a moment. I considered what my life would look like, now that another woman, the first Black woman in history, sat on the bench.

*Langan Garrett is a Lower from San Francisco, Calif. Contact the author at lgarrett24@andover.edu.*




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# 10 Question with Jazz Ronsario

REPORTING BY JADEN CHYU

*If you have ever rushed inside Susie’s to grab the restocked cookies, you are probably already on first name basis with Jazz. Jahzeel Rosario, often referred to as “Jazz” by students, first began working at Susie’s as a cashier this past Fall and was quick in fostering relationships with students from her warm smile and genuine engagements. Her connection with Andover runs back to when she was 11 years old and participated in a local theater program that took place at Andover. Currently, she is taking a term off from Salem State University, where she is a senior majoring in psychology.*



JCHYU/THE PHILLIPIAN

**1. What brought you here? How did you start working for this job?**

I started working here last September, so it’s been like seven months. My uncle works here actually, and he used to work with my sister in the kitchen. So they told me they needed a cashier, and I didn’t have a job then, busy attending college. So they were like, “why don’t you go on an interview and see if you could get a better opportunity?” So I took it.

**2. What is the environment like working in Susie’s and are there any moments that stand out for you?**

It’s so fun because of the students, literally because of the students. My favorite part, I think, is engaging to be honest, just having actual conversations. Definitely my favorite part is that I get to meet so many different people, not limited to international people, but all students. And I’m not so far away from your age, so I get to get along with a lot of you guys. I remember there are these specific four boys who always come by. They always come and they just have so much energy saying, “hello Jazz,” and they just stay there for a while and sometimes they’ll come and be like, “oh, you want to dance with us? Do you want to do TikTok with us?” They’re really funny.

**3. Do you have any Susie’s hacks? What is your favorite item at Susie’s?**

Alright, so there is this smoothie combination, I think the rarest one nobody really knows about, but it’s actually really good. It’s pina colada with raspberry. It’s pretty interesting and it’s good. Also, I always tell kids to warm up monkey breads and cookies a little bit before eating. That’s another little recipe, you just warm it up and it’s really good. My favorite snack is Brookside chocolate, the blueberry and acai one. That one’s really good. I’ve never seen that candy before, and I found it here, and I bought it once because all [the students] love that candy. So I tried the blueberry one and it was so delicious.

**4. Before working, did you have any ties with Andover?**

I used to go to this program when I was younger called the Youth Development Organization (YDO) for about two years, when I was in sixth and seventh grade. I was 11 when I first moved into the states, and YDO, as we call it in Lawrence, had a program here. And we would come, and I would do theater here. So I knew what Phillips Academy was, and even though I knew it was a high school, I thought it was a college at first. I was like, “wow it’s beautiful.”

**5. While still attending college how are you able to balance out your schedule with your academics and working?**

So right now I’m taking a semester off. But what I did last semester, I would go to class in the morning, like 9 a.m. So I would go at 9 a.m., stay around the college, do homework, and go to the library. I start work here at 2:30 p.m. so I’ll come back, change, and I’ll go to work. And then I was taking some online classes too. Most of my freetime, I have to do homework. A lot of it. College is not easy, definitely not.

**6. What activities do you usually do during your free time or on weekends?**

I usually hang out with all my friends from college. I either go visit them in their dorm, or I stay home and I’m with my siblings just hanging around. During weekends, [my family and I] would go out to restaurants. I used to do theater, and I used to teach younger students acting class at the program YDO. I used to do it every summer, and then in high school, I used to go after school and teach as a volunteer. I [used to] act all the time and hang out with kids. It was fun.

**7. When are some of the busiest hours working in Susie’s?**

Definitely when I have a long line like on Fridays and Saturdays. On Fridays, we usually get a bunch of snacks and smoothies, so it’s packed in the back with stock items, and I need to put it away. Also when there is either a party upstairs or [at Susie’s] for events or after sports games. You guys all come at the same time and then it feels packed. I don’t even mind the line, it’s when people start asking for smoothies because I’m running back and forth. So it seems like I’ve messed up. I’m like, “oh my God, I hope they don’t get a smoothie,” especially if it’s a long line. I’m like “oh no,” but I will make it, obviously, it’s whatever you guys want. Doesn’t bother me, it’s my job.

**8. What are your thoughts on the cookie price inflation? A lot of students feel the price should be down to \$1 instead of \$2.**

I actually think that it used to be higher than \$1.99 and a kid emailed our staff who prices the cookies and everything in the store. And I think she finally brought it down one more time but I don’t think she will do it again, like back to \$1. I tried. I’m like, “oh the kids are complaining,” and she just said that you have to pay what you got to pay. I tried a lot of stuff. And yeah I think [the price] should be \$1. It’s a cookie. And this school is already expensive enough for you to get a cookie for \$2, which is also gone in 30 seconds.

**9. As a student majoring in psychology, how would you evaluate Andover students’ mental states whom you talk to or see around?**

I can definitely tell when kids are down or not having a good day. Or sometimes I see the same person for a whole week being down, I try to say “hi” and make them smile—it works sometimes. The best advice I could tell people in terms of mental health is to not pay attention to what other people want you to bring. They’re trying to drag you into bad energy; do not take it, and stay positive. Ignore the negative.

**10. Is there any advice you want to give Andover students from a college student’s perspective?**

Life is gonna get harder after high school. A lot of the people, like my teachers when I was in high school, would say that and I was like, “what? Like, look, I’m fine.” But after high school, everything changed because you’re on your own, and it’s gonna hit you all at once. You’re gonna ask, “what is going on?” Maybe you’re gonna enjoy the summer finally. But it’s going to get harder. But you guys got this, you guys have this school. That’s all I say. Take advantage.

## Fewer Students Admitted for 2022-2023 School Year to Correct Student Population Size

Continued from A1, Column 5

“The admissions team typically takes more students than we actually have space for, because there’s typically some level of what we call melt in the summer where students and families make decisions for a whole host of reasons about changing status, whether that’s taking leave, whether that’s withdrawing, whether that’s shifting schools, or deciding not to come to Andover. And so we’re trying to anticipate and guess where that melt comes and help with the size of that melt,” said Elliott.

The pandemic has also influenced the total number of students admitted to the school over the last two years. Director of Admission Jill Thompson believes that more

students have been interested in Andover during the pandemic as shown by the decline in the school’s acceptance rate.

“Over the past three years, our admit rate has declined from 13 percent in 2020 to 10 percent in 2021 to 9 percent in 2022. Since the fall of 2019, we have seen increased interest in Andover education given the challenges families and schools have been facing in the course of the pandemic. The appeal of an Andover experience, educational program, and residential community has become more significant during the pandemic,” wrote Thompson in an email to *The Phillipian*.

According to Thompson, the Andover Admissions Office has also intentionally enrolled more students as the pandemic posed uncertainty for the decisions made by the newly-enrolled and current

student population.

“We have intentionally over-enrolled during the pandemic because of the widespread uncertainty and how that might impact the decisions of students and families to enroll at or continue attending Andover,” wrote Thompson.

Elliott explained that housing assignments were adjusted to accommodate the larger student body. Some rooms were reconfigured and new dorms were added, such as the Andover Inn.

“We’ve used triples in order to increase the size and spacing depending if we have a big enough room to be able to accommodate three guys, three dressers, three desks, three beds. Or if that’s not the case, then we get creative in other ways. We’ve had to create new doubles or triples, and reconfigure rooms. So we’re super lucky that our colleagues in the facilities

department are creative and really accommodating,” said Elliott.

The arrangement of housing assignments depends on a variety of factors, such as the number of students in each grade and the number of students interested in all-gender housing. Elliott noted that housing assignments are a puzzle in which each factor can have a domino effect on subsequent housing decisions.

“You need to understand how many nine or tenth graders we have so that we can decide which dorms to assign them. We need to know how many students are interested in all gender housing so that we can get spaces for all gender residences and then adjust other dorms accordingly. So a number of different dominoes, some of them fall at the same time, some of them fall in different orders. So it’s like one huge puzzle every year,” said Elliott.

Andover has come up with strategies to bring the student population down from the trend of over-enrollment. This year, the Admissions Office intentionally admitted fewer students to anticipate having a student body size of around 1,150 enrolled students for the next school year.

“In response to a few years of over-enrollment in our student population, this year (for fall 2022) we admitted fewer students than we did for fall 2020 and fall 2021. Our aim was to ‘right size’ our student population for the 2022-23 school year. We anticipate that our student body will be closer to our 1,150 enrolled student target for the 2022-23 school year. We are pleased by this outcome and will be glad to be able to return the Andover Inn to hotel status this coming fall,” wrote Thompson.



NEWS IN BRIEF

REPORTING BY LEO PETERS

This Week:

The first **DramaLab** of the Spring Term was held on the evening of April 8 in the Theater Classroom. The performance included skits and a comedy show.

In celebration of Andover surpassing this year's goal of having 2,022 donors donate on **PA Giving Day**, two ice cream trucks were brought to campus on April 8 for all students. Students were treated to **free ice cream**.

**Becky Dowling Calder '94** visited campus on April 11. After graduating from Andover as “one of the most decorated student-athletes,” she enrolled at the U.S. Naval Academy and later became the first woman to graduate from **TOPGUN** (the U.S. Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program), according to an email from Lisa Joel, Director of Athletics.

On April 9, the Deans Team sent out an email announcing that all members of the Andover community **must wear masks in indoor spaces**. The email also announced that the Den Dance would be canceled, and dorm visitations would be stopped. Two days later, in an email to Andover students and families, Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington outlined updated Covid-19 protocols including ramped up Covid-19 testing, due to a **significant increase in Covid-19 cases** over the past few days, including 34 students testing positive during the latest round of campus-wide testing.

**Looking Ahead:**

Beginning on April 15 and continuing throughout the following week, the Phillips Academy Sustainability Coalition (PASC) is hosting programming all week-long to celebrate **Earth Day**. Events include a showcase and celebration of student artwork, an Earth Festival, and a climate creative writing café with Karen Tei Yamashita—a fiction writer, playwright, and recipient of the National Book Foundation's Medal for Distinguished Contributions to American Letters.

There will be **no classes or athletic practices on April 18** in recognition of **Patriots' Day**, a holiday that commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord, two of the first battles of the American Revolution.



As of April 13, 37 students were isolating on campus, either in their dorms, in the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center, or in the Snyder Center.

# ‘We Will Act With Data’: Dr. Amy Patel Provides Insight on Covid-19 Decisions

Continued from A1, Column 3

positive and are feeling well enough to participate in classes, you will be able to access your classes remotely,” wrote Kington.

According to Jonas Giannoni ’25, a student who tested positive and stayed in Sykes for the five-day quarantine period, the Sykes team was very helpful and checked in on him periodically. Keeping up with schoolwork in a virtual environment was difficult, but Giannoni found that frequently updating teachers and coaches on how he would be attending class allowed him to more easily adjust to the situation.

“Staying in Sykes was great. All the staff there is really friendly and is happy to help you at any time. Attending classes is hard. Keeping your teachers and coaches updated as to when you are getting out or how you will attend their next class is really important,” said Giannoni.

Nate Liang ’25 tested positive only two days after receiving a negative Covid-19 test result. Liang was allowed to isolate in his own room for the beginning of his five-day

quarantine period since he did not have a roommate. He found that this made his adjustment to quarantine much easier because he already had everything he needed.

“I’m actually excited that I’m allowed to isolate in my dorm because I already have everything I need here. The house counselors did a great job organizing it so that I can be comfortable but not expose anyone, too. Even though I have symptoms, they’re mild and aren’t very cumbersome, but obviously it’ll be nice to get back to in-person classes soon,” said Liang.

Although the community is currently facing an increase in Covid-19 cases, as long as everyone abides by the proper masking protocols, Patel hopes that normalcy is maintained as much as possible.

“We will do what we need to do to maintain the mission of the school to have on-campus learning and keep it as close to a normal learning experience as possible... We have to remain cautious because this pandemic isn’t over, but we strive to maintain as much normalcy as possible,” said Patel.

# Climate Cafe: Dr. Joseph Ewoodzie Explores Food, Race, and Class Through Storytelling

BIANCA MORALES

Dr. Joseph Ewoodzie visited Andover to discuss the intersections between the climate crisis and marginalized populations. On April 6, students gathered in the library to listen to Ewoodzie, an ethnographer and author—his most recent book being *Getting Something to Eat in Jackson: Race, Class, and Food in the American South*.

Phillips Academy Sustainability Coalition (PASC) Chief Student Coordinator, Frank Zhou ’22, explained the Academy’s thought process in inviting Ewoodzie to speak. He felt that Ewoodzie’s work resembled the general trend of other speakers Climate Cafe has hosted in the past.

“The Climate Cafe Speaker Series is brought in alongside academics... If you look through the past slate of Climate Cafe speakers, we’re looking for speakers who can speak to their deeply academic work in a way that is accessible... Dr. Moomaw was one of them, as is Dr. Ewoodzie, for sure. That’s sort of a line that we’re going to, he’s an academic and a long string of academics in the climate cafes have hosted,” said Zhou.

PASC student coordinator Alice Fan ’23 recalled Ewoodzie’s findings about people’s relationship with food to vary by financial class. Fan connected the nature of Ewoodzie’s research to the polarization of climate change today.

“[Dr. Ewoodzie] compared how homeless people thought about food versus how upper middle class, Black folks thought about food... and how they perceive food. I think broadly on

climate change, I mean, there’s so much media and political polarization on climate change, so bridging that gap and really relying on research academia, and just statistics and science in general to create climate solutions is the best way and really not all the rhetoric that is out there,” said Fan.

Zhou added that Ewoodzie’s presentation of his research introduced a more personal side to the climate crisis. In his presentation, Ewoodzie examined how climate change impedes lower income communities’ access to food. Through storytelling, Zhou believes that Ewoodzie opened up the conversation to a culture and socio-economic class.

“Dr. Ewoodzie [is] an ethnographer, which means that he’s essentially telling stories and weaving those stories with academic theories to show how theories manifest in personal stories. And so, you know, culture wise, he looked at different sorts of folks up and down the socio economic spectrum, in the American South. And so you have some people for whom culture means being able to sit or sit and tell stories of your times in and out of the incarceration system. For others, it means being able to mix and match different dishes, upscale restaurants, you know, to be able to make a dish that appeals to you. There are different cultural manifestations that make for good storytelling fodder, and sort of inject the color and substance and body into experiences. So, you know, Dr. Ewoodzie, if anything in the way that he writes his book in a sort of deeply narrative voice he tries to get right,” said Zhou.

Similarly, attendee and Co-Head of Andover Climate Lob-

by Suhaila Cotton ’24 noted the honesty Ewoodzie employed throughout his presentation. She appreciated Ewoodzie’s storytelling ability in conveying his message.

“What stuck with me most from Dr. Ewoodzie’s talk was not just his [analysis] of food and blackness and class but his reasoning for the importance of telling the stories of the people he met. He did on the ground research and when exploring food and class, he ate with higher class people and lower class people and [told] the story of some of the homeless people he talked to. He was real with us, explaining how he did benefit so much more from telling their stories than they did but he also explained how much power there is in storytelling and having at least some bit of your life recorded for history,” said Cotton.

Echoing Cotton’s sentiments, Zhou also admired the personal delivery of Ewoodzie’s research. He felt it was more accessible and easy to digest for the audience.

“It was just a wonderful exercise in realizing how deeply intertwined storytelling can be with the climate crisis and how you can incorporate academia in a way that is accessible. He offers a sort of model to deconstruct a lot of the things that you assume about academia [when] it’s either technical, super hard to understand, not tethered enough to stories, like these are all sort of critiques of social science, academia in particular. And Dr. Ewoodzie sort of turned all that on his head, and it was a brilliant presentation, very story driven and very riveting,” said Zhou.



COURTESY OF DEREK CURTIS

In his research process, Ewoodzie ate with people of different socio-economic classes, which he said was beneficial to his process.

# Model United Nations Faces Difficulties of Zoom Conference

Continued from A1, Column 3

then again, we were scared that another stream would happen like it did...But I digress, it went pretty well. I was super excited to see us, even though it was smaller than usual,” said Rynearson.

Joseph Masterson ’23, a PAMUN Chair and member of the Associate Board, shared similar sentiments with Neal, adding that the virtual event caused some participants to drop out entirely. Despite the difficulties, the board was still able to put together a successful event for all participants.

“The school was still not really interested in bringing in other students from other schools for a non-athletic event where they can make sure vaccines and boosters were mandated. They denied our request to have an in-person conference. So we swapped to online, which was a little bit of a bummer for everyone... and I think it did affect our numbers. But we, the entire board, made it work. We all worked really hard, and I’m proud of what we accomplished,” said Materson.

Rynearson chose the two topics of debate. The General Assembly debated the topic of gender violence, while the United Nations Commission for Social Development (UNCSocD) fo-

cused on access to resources in reference to gender related topics.

“[The] specific topics we chose were domestic violence and also violence specifically against trans people... and also just to think about the amount of hate crimes that have occurred against trans women, specifically trans women of color, a lot in the United States, but also worldwide. I think that’s a topic that often goes unaddressed in Model U.N. spaces... and to think about that from an international diplomacy standpoint, in terms of creating safer spaces for trans people—that was really important. And [the other topic was] access to menstrual resources. In a lot of

places, the tax still exists on menstrual goods, which makes it a lot more difficult for women and other people who have periods to pay taxes and also just having access in the first place,” said Rynearson.

Though the delegates were of varying experience levels, Masterson believed that everyone did well regardless of expertise. Additionally, he believes the conference—albeit online—allowed people to gain social and academic insight.

“We had a couple of students with prior Model U.N. experience, not always here. Most of the students were at least novice, but they all performed really well for our first conference. And the

dynamic between the students was extremely friendly. We all got to know each other. Social media was exchanged, people made new friends; it was quite interesting. We had some fun afterwards once the voting was in. And overall, I think all the delegates improved from their various different experience levels,” said Masterson.

Rynearson shared similar sentiments as Masterson, expressing much gratitude for the flexibility of all those who put together the conference, despite obstacles. Rynearson hopes that the future of PAMUN will remain bright as he and the rest of the Senior Board depart.



# Karsten Rynearson '22 Brings Queer Identity to Quiz Bowl Competition

Continued from A1, Column 5

about the Presidents. So it was very much a fun way to apply all the things that I learned and read into something fun, exciting, and competitive. So it seemed like a natural fit, and we won that tournament, and I have been involved since,” said Rynearson.

As a friend and teammate, Nicholas Donnellan '23 expressed admiration and appreciation towards Karsten's victory and his abilities as a teammate.

Donnellan said, “Karsten is very talented at quiz bowl. He's just insane at the level he can recall information. You could be talking about some obscure French poet from the 1840s, and he knows within the first three lines of the question. It shows the dedication, with a lot of studying, and the amount of effort he has put in to get to that level of quiz bowl, and it's reflected in his status in the community. Many people look up to Karsten as a leader at this point. His hard work has definitely paid off. Karsten is also a very amiable person, he gets along with people, he is always happy about others, and he's done a good job leading the club over the past two years.”

Andover has also impacted Rynearson's quiz bowl game in positive ways. Rynearson expressed that finding and engaging with his queer community at Andover has helped him reshape his relationship to quiz bowl.

“Honestly, coming to Andover has also helped me realize I had a very unhealthy relationship with quiz bowl before I came to the school, where it was very much a core part of my self-worth and my

self-perception. My results in this behavior were very self-defining and critical. But then, being involved in and finding a community here, specifically a queer community, was honestly really important in the sense that I was able to go and play tournaments with the understanding that no matter what happened, there would be a group of people who would be there for me, and that's always been true,” said Rynearson.

Rynearson continued, “I won the national finals, and I did it in eyeliner and fake eyelashes, which seems like, okay, whatever. Why is this relevant? Because quiz bowl is intensely male-dominated and intensely straight-dominated. I actually spoke for a minute after I won for the crowd assembled about this, about why my win mattered so much to me. Throughout middle school and early years of

high school, before coming into my identity, I felt an intense need to hide myself, my queer identity, and the expressiveness that came with that from the quiz bowl community.”

As Rynearson's advisor and house counselor, Emma Staffaroni, English Instructor and Director of the Brace Center for Gender Studies, expressed her delight in Rynearson's achievements.

“I'm proud of Karsten's evolved relationship with Quiz Bowl; When he first arrived at Andover, it was the central pillar of his identity, but here at school, he has allowed himself to explore so many other facets of who he is. This national championship win represents even more of a triumph because it was achieved not at the expense of Karsten's spirit and humanity, but because of them,” said Staffaroni.



Rynearson felt as though the queer community at Andover has improved his self worth in regards to Quiz Bowl.

# Updates Regarding Brush Fire In Sanctuary



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

The Cochran Bird Sanctuary has been taped off since April 4.

VERA ZHANG

A brush fire broke out in Pine Knoll's Cochran Bird Sanctuary causing some damage to the area, though not within close enough proximity to affect any campus buildings. The fire, reported last Monday on April 4 was effectively taken care of and extinguished within a day. The Andover fire department has yet to identify the cause of the fire.

The same night of the fire, Nathan Hale, a dorm in Pine Knoll, reported having brown water that was thought to be caused by the efforts to stop the fire. Deputy Kyle Murphy from the Andover Fire Rescue, who was on duty at the time, described the situation in greater detail, providing the dispatches and time elapsed.

“We got a phone call for a possible brush fire in the bird sanctuary. We responded with an engine and our brush truck. The arriving unit found a brush fire approximately one to two acres in size, so they went and they started to extinguish it. They felt that they needed more help, so they called for another truck and another brush truck. So we had roughly, say about six or so guys up there putting the fire out. It was probably about an hour [to] hour and a half before they were sure everything was extinguished,” said Murphy.

Resident students in Hale were informed at around dinner time of the situation and felt alarmed. Angie Ceballos Cardona '25 recounted when she first found out about the situation.

“I was walking back to my dorm and I saw fire trucks outside. I talked to my house counselor [and] she assured me that everything was fine. Then I went back into my dorm and a few moments later, I got an email saying not to use the water because it was brown. I even went to the bathroom myself to see how bad it was and it [really] was very brown,” said Ceballos Cardona.

According to Murphy, it is common for neighboring residents to experience brown water if a fire hydrant in close proximity is used. The easiest solution to this problem is running the water until no brown water is present, a technique that also eliminated the contaminated water from Hale.

Many students felt displeased with how the situation was being handled. Some were

unsatisfied with the communication regarding the water, and others felt that the issues were not prioritized enough. Mayumi Kawano '25, another student living in Hale, and Ceballos Cardona explained the cause of some students' frustrations.

“I know a lot of people were angry because we got the email pretty late, I think it was around like 6 or 7 p.m.. And that's around the time where you are going back to the dorm to freshen up or you're probably at the library, and then you're expecting to come back to the dorm to take a shower and then go to bed,” said Kawano.

Ceballos Cardona added, “A lot of people were a little impatient. Water is such a necessity and without it, you see how much it impacts your life, like brushing your teeth, washing your [hair and] face in the shower. So the dorm was a little upset. I think [it was] the fact that we had a dorm with 42 kids, and we weren't able to use the water for about two days.”

To cope with the lack of clean water in the dorm, students were forced to go to athletic facilities such as the Snyder Center or Borden Memorial Gym to take care of their hygiene while still adhering to after hour policies and class schedules.

“Instead of getting to come back to the dorm, shower and go to sleep, they had to walk all the way to Snyder and be back before final sign in, which interrupted their study hours in order to even take a shower and brush their teeth,” said Ceballos Cardona.

Kawano added, “That same day, I had to walk back all the way to Hale and then back to Snyder, and then back to Hale, just to shower and get ready for bed. And the next morning, I had to wake up pretty early to do the same to get ready for classes.”

Murphy emphasized that all fires are dangerous, regardless of the fact that the Sanctuary fire did not reach any buildings. To prevent situations like this from happening in the future, Murphy urges the community to take more precautions regarding fire hazards.

“It comes down to people being cautious during the dry weather [and] to extinguish smoking materials properly; human error may have been the cause [of] the [fire]. So everyone has to be vigilant, especially during the drier conditions, and especially when it's windy,” said Murphy.

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# THE EIGHTH PAGE

## HOW TO CARE FOR A LOVED ONE WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19:

If one of your loved ones comes down with the ‘vid, you may feel worried, sick, or ashamed that you know someone whose immune system is susceptible to such folly. Fear not, here’s what you should do, according to the CDC (Community Disciplinary Committee).

NED THORNTON



Notify the elderly in your area [4190 is the English department’s fax number] since they’re the most at risk—it’s the non sibi thing to do. They’ll add your friend to their “dangerous young people watchlist,” not that they were already on it for various reasons.



Make your friend put on a mask and lie down. To motivate them, tell them it’s good practice for their casket. If this fails, show them a picture of something fun. Softly, tell them, “You’ll never see/do/have this again.” If they’re not either Covid-free or crying by now, you’re doing something wrong.



Alcohol can kill 60-90 percent of germs. A very notable presidential president also recommended ingesting bleach as a method to fight the virus.  
\*Note: check with your friend to see if they have a predisposition to alcohol abuse.



Tell your friend they will recover soon, a simple thumbs up can do the trick. Re-assure your friend that they are vaccinated and young, and the symptoms will only be mild to spicy. Like this man looks like he is managing his manageable symptoms well...but where has his left arm gone?




By this point, you may have gotten used to your friend’s absence, even enjoyed it. When they tell you they finally tested negative, don’t try to convince them they’re still positive. Just keep their bedroom door locked.



A little taunting goes a long way. Seen here is your math teacher scolding you for not wearing your mask in Commons after you ask her if she’s been to any faculty dinner parties lately.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WIKIHOW



### other campus positivity rates to look out for

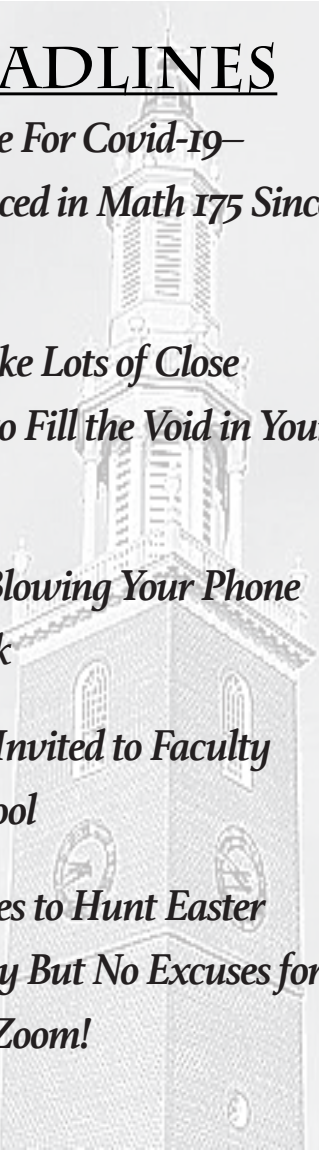
so viral, why doesn't the admin care about this??

- 98% for East Coast Elitism
- 100% for Big Blue Spirit
- 11% for ADHD
- 70% for ADHD diagnosis
- 69% for Spring Fling Fever
- 25% for Freshmen College Merch Wearers
- 10% for Grade Curve Ruiners
- 88% for Kissing-Up-to-Your-Teacher Disease



### WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- Only Four Faculty Tested Positive For Covid-19—Whoever Counted Should Be Placed in Math 175 Since There is Nothing Lower
- Den Closed So Now You Can Make Lots of Close Contact with Your DoorDasher to Fill the Void in Your Life
- Dr. RayK’s “Covid-19 Updates” Blowing Your Phone Up More Than Your Sneaky Link
- Uncool Faculty Who Didn’t Get Invited to Faculty Superspreader Party Are Now Cool
- You Can Get Excused from Classes to Hunt Easter Eggs with Your Incestuous Family But No Excuses for Covid-19 Diagnosis—Thank You Zoom!



EMILY TURNBULL

### the weekender [in sykes]

Student Activities Board

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 <p>Shop at PSPA.com for custom Andover Masks! Covid-19 is “temporary,” swag is forever</p>	 <h4>Sykes garden DANCE</h4> <p>Now we finally have enough people for mosh pits!</p>	 <h4>TESTING!!!</h4> <p>See how deep those nasal canals go!</p>
 <h4>Under the Cot:</h4> <p>premier Zoom improv group</p> <p>Type: “lol” in the chat if you laugh out loud</p>	 <h4>Flavored Condom Munch</h4> <p>Tropical punch! Tootie Frootie! Mint chocolate chip!</p>	 <h4>Grey’s Anatomy Screening</h4> <p>It’s a ploy for the nurses to have their alone time *wink*</p>
 <h4>Looking Ahead:</h4> <p>the end of covid-19 (date tbd)!</p>	 <h4>SPORTS!</h4> <p>LETS GO BIG BLUE!!!</p> <p>V Trashketball tournament (9 a.m) Tissue Ball Freethrow Competition</p> <p>JV LaCough (11 p.m.) Even more lung damage than the Lacrosse team!</p> <p>400-meter Hurdles (7 p.m.) Leap over the weak and tired sleeping on cots (location change: Under)</p>	 <h4>Loop Trip (6-8 p.m.)</h4> <p>A loop around your 2x4 ft cot!</p>

### OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

“Is 'ultimate frisbee' a good look for my Tinder bio? Andover is top ranked.”

“Getting Covid-19 isn’t special anymore... guess I’ll have to lick more high-touch surfaces to get more attention.”

“I hope that faculty party was worth it.”

“Will you... will you be my close contact?”

“Established in 1778. I remember that because it includes both my lowest and highest scores in math this year.”





# The Phillippian SPORTS

Volume CXLV | Number 8

April 15, 2022

SPECIALFEATURE

greasy ipad kid

## Becky Dowling Calder '94: First-Ever Female Pilot to Graduate from TOPGUN

PATRICIA TRAN

A part of the Class of 1994, Becky Dowling Calder was most respected for her athletic contributions at Andover. As a twelve-season varsity letter winner, Calder captained in all three seasons of her senior year and led the Andover Girls Basketball to four consecutive New England titles. Her efforts earned her a spot in the Andover Athletic Hall of Honor alongside George H.W. Bush '42 and Fred Harrison '38.

Following Andover, Calder continued her successful basketball career at the rigorous Naval Academy, where she then became the first female pilot to graduate from the US Navy's Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor Program, more commonly known as TOP-

GUN.

According to Calder, her participation in high school sports developed a work ethic that allowed for a smooth transition to a Division I collegiate basketball program at the Naval Academy. At the Academy, Calder was named Patriot League Rookie of the Year, two-time captain, and two-time MVP. She was inducted into the New England Basketball Hall of Honor in 2014, and became the first female Navy basketball player to have a jersey retired.

"Everything that I learned here at Andover—both on the soccer field, on the basketball court—it directly translated into what I did at the [Naval] Academy, and even what I did after. I think that the idea of teamwork, the idea of dedication, the idea of working hard for something that isn't just for yourself, that is what you need, really to succeed any-

where, but especially when you go to a service academy or follow on serving in the military," said Calder.

Initially, Calder enrolled in the Naval Academy solely to play basketball at the collegiate level. However, in her freshman year at the Academy, the rule banning women from flying in combat had just been rescinded. Without any prior intention to pursue a piloting career, Calder took full advantage of the opportunity with help from an encouraging mentor.

"I didn't know I wanted to become a pilot when I started. Women weren't allowed to fly in combat when I started at the Academy, so that was not something that sort of on my radar at the time. I had a mentor who loved women's basketball, and he was a pilot, and he was also an astronaut, and I remember the day that he told me that I would be a

great...pilot. And I think that speaks to the importance of mentorship and finding opportunities to encourage people to go after their dreams because I didn't even know that was an option for me," said Calder.

Breaking barriers in both the athletic and the military worlds, Calder hopes to inspire girls and young women to chase after their dreams, even if it means being the first to do so. As of now, her work has paved the way for 21 more women to graduate from TOPGUN.

"There weren't people who looked like me that went through TOPGUN. But I knew what I wanted to do, and I knew what that meant, and I knew what I had to go through to get there, and that meant going to TOPGUN. I just happened to be the first... but I say, when you find what you're passionate about, you

just have to go for it, and if that means being the first, that's what that means. For me, that wasn't part of the equation, but it's part of my story, and I'm really proud, and I just hope I can inspire people to do the same," said Calder.

Since her graduation, Calder has devoted her entire life to the military. In 14 years of active duty piloting, Calder amassed 2,500 flight hours and made 421 arrested landings, 185 of which occurred at night. She has served in the reserves for the last 23 years.

"When you set your heart on something or you start doing something, you give it your all, and that's hard. It's hard because as we all know, life is hard, and when you find what you love, it makes all the hard work worth it. And I feel really lucky that I found what I love and was able to make that a career," said Calder.

## GIRLSSOFTBALL

### Girls Softball Plays with Perseverance in First Game

NABILAH NAZAR

Wednesday	
Andover	1
Noble & Greenough	8

Fallon O'Connor '23 blasted a ball over the fence in the seventh inning of Andover's opening game of the season against Nobles & Greenough. Despite the team's efforts, the game ended in a loss for Andover.

According to Angie Ceballos Cardona '25, She enjoyed the excitement both teams brought to the game, which motivated Andover to step up in terms of the plays. Still, Cardona believes there is much to do in conveying where the players should be for each play.

"I think today what we did well was have energy in the dugout. I think in any sport, when you have energy, you play better. And I think once our team saw the other team's energy, and you know, just what it was gonna take to win, we all just kind of chipped in, even if we weren't playing, we were all cheering and communicating with those on the field. [And] I think there were moments in the game, where maybe we weren't sure of what the plays were [and where] the ball was supposed to go. So I think as a team moving forward, we're going to really work on communicating with each other, mak-

ing sure everybody knows what they need to do on the field," said Cardona.

Additionally, Dani Sarno '23 highlighted O'Connor's home run. According to Sarno, O'Connor kept the same attitude throughout the game that allowed her to make impressive plays and get a lot of the opponent players out.

Sarno said, "I would say Fallon's our pitcher [did well]. I think today [was] really tough. When you're down 8-1. It's really, really tough to keep going. And I think Fallon was a really, really good example. Because she kept pitching, she kept throwing strikes, and she didn't let anything get in their head. She did hit a home run today... And I think that just her perseverance in pitching and on the field for all seven innings was super impressive."

While talking about the leadership on the team, Cardona credited Buckley, Kiley Frank '22, and Evalyn Lee '23 in regards to their openness to grow with the team and lead by example. Cardona also believes that O'Connor has a great presence on the field and possesses many great traits that are admirable.

Cardona said, "Fallon, she's our pitcher. So she has a ball in her hands, almost all the time, during a game, and she's really in control of the game. And I think her composure in the circle is really what keeps us together, and what pitchers are supposed to do to keep us together. And I think

playing behind her has been really inspiring, she [is] just so mature, so ready in the circle, and no matter what the score is, no matter how well she's doing. Again, she always has that same face. And that's the mentality I would like to achieve one day."

Other than Buckley and Lee, Frank is also a captain who is injured for the season. But according to Buckley, her leadership is shown through her continuous dedication to the team; whether that is talking with the coaches, giving the new captains advice, or bringing the energy into the game.

"I think during practices, like me and Evalyn will talk if we want to do a certain drill or something like that, just communicating there and just making sure that we're on the same page and on the same pages Coach Phinny and the other coaches as well. But then I also think Frank also plays an important role, even though she's not on the field, but just she knows the game really well. So just being there. Like if I have a question, or if I want to check something with her, run it by her, she's always there to do that. And she was also a really big help today, like during the game, just being in the dugout, and talking to Coach Phinny and talking to all the players as well."

Andover will face Governor's away on Friday.

## ULTIMATEFRISBEE

### Ultimate Frisbee Adapts to New Strategies Despite Inexperience

LENA CIGANER

Wednesday	
Andover	12
Williston	6

Saturday	
Andover	9
NMH	5

Wednesday	
Andover	9
Concord-Carlisle	15

Despite the temporary suspension of one of its games, Andover Ultimate Frisbee managed to clinch two wins over the weekend with a 9-5 win over NMH followed by a 12-6 win over Williston Northampton. However, the team faced their first loss of the season on Wednesday against Concorde Carlisle with a score of 15-9, bringing their record down 4-1.

According to Carlos Cepeda-Diaz '23, the team was able to adapt to new strategies during their game that it had not seen before. As one of the new players on the team, he noted that Ultimate involves more strategy than he expected when he started playing the sport.

"[NMH and Williston Northampton] were the second and third games we played all season, and our team is relatively new to Ultimate because it's still, I guess, a sport that's growing and it's a program that's still growing at Andover... I thought that for a sport that has a lot more strategy than I think most new players like myself anticipated, it went really well, and it was about, I guess, adapting and learning a lot of new strategy on the fly since there's a big aspect to Ultimate that's just about play calling and responding to what the other team throws at you," said Cepeda-Diaz.

Camaraderie off the field has allowed for stronger bonds and trust between players on the field, according to Serafina Shin-von Nordenflycht '25. Shin-von Nordenflycht added that team hikes and bonding on bus rides have allowed team members to feel connected.

"One of the largest parts of Ultimate Frisbee is the spirit of the game, which is all about sportsmanship and knowing the rules, but also being a

good teammate. I think definitely the coaches and also our captains have cultivated a space where we can just all be friends. We've gone on hikes and had Dunkin and we sing in the bus and stuff like that," said Shin-von Nordenflycht.

Kei Obata '23 concurred; he believes bonding off the field has been a key part of improved communication on the field and connections between players.

"It's definitely much easier to communicate and be on the same page with your teammates when you have a pre-established bond with one another. Whether it is the relationships we build through our tough practices, or the excitement that we have on our bus to the games, camaraderie has been an essential element of our success," said Obata.

Despite its improvements on teamwork and trust, the team faced an unexpected challenge when playing NMH: a trap zone defense. Obata praised the team for being able to adjust to the challenge, which heavily affected the outcome of the game.

"We stood out on our zone defense, and the opponents went cold after being pretty even around halftime, but our strategy set up by Coach [Scott] Hoenig and the commitment we put to our defensive alignment brought up the energy within the entire team. One aspect where we continue to strive to improve is our offensive alignment in the opponent's end zone. Executing plays such as 'Easy-O' are harder to perfect without the balance provided by the more experienced players," said Obata.

Alongside new challenges posed by a trap zone defense in their opponents, Shin-von Nordenflycht was pleasantly surprised to see the team bounce back after an unexpected lightning disruption. Though she was unable to play due to an injury, she commended the team's hard work and skill against NMH.

"On resilience, the game stopped halfway through or one of the games ended because of lightning... so [the team] really bounced back from that. And I think also they did a really good job of being on their toes, so they had to do different plays that they'd never learned before but also respond to defense," said Shin-von Nordenflycht.

Andover Ultimate Frisbee hopes to come back after its recent loss in its game on Wednesday against St. John's Prep.



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Fallon O'Connor '23 looks to throw the opposing player out.



GOLF

Captain Lauren Lee '22 Values the Social Side of Golf, Strives to Create a “Comfortable” Environment

PATRICIA TRAN

Inspired by her dad to pick up the sport, Andover Golf Captain Lauren Lee '22 has been on the team since her Junior year. As one of just two Seniors on this year's team, her age and experience make her a natural leader. Rather than focusing on standings and results, Lee hopes to ensure that everyone on the team is enjoying their time.

According to Lee, golf itself is a highly individual sport, but outside of hitting balls and swinging clubs are close friendships to be made. With the team spending a majority of its practice time talking to one another, every member must feel comfortable with the entire team.

“Everyone on the team gets to know everyone pretty well just because we spend two hours a day playing with each other and basically talking the

entire time. Everyone just sort of becomes friends. I guess I just hope that everyone gets along and is comfortable playing with anyone,” said Lee.

As a new member of the team, Heyon Choi '25 believes Lee has played a crucial role in her transition to the new team environment. Lee's Non Sibi qualities give the team a sense of reassurance, especially during times of confusion or disorder.

“I would say, for starters, she's very understanding, especially when I'm new to the team, and I don't know maybe how things work or if I'm not doing so well. She's always there to reassure me and the other team members, especially the [Juniors], and let them know that everything's okay, and that this is just the beginning. She's also very supportive, and she makes sure to put everyone else first, and I think she's a really good captain for that. She makes sure everyone gets what they need for prac-

tice, and then she goes to help herself,” said Choi.

Also new to the team, Sean Niu '25 respects Lee's constant optimism. She is never the one to be discouraging or diminishing towards younger teammates.

Niu said, “Lauren is a good captain because she always brings good vibes with her. Lauren is the kind of leader that can bring everyone up with her.”

According to Lee, the team feels more like a casual group of friends rather than a strict group of competitors. Therefore, she doesn't feel pressured to always be perfect or assert herself as a leader of the team.

“The team is organic in that there's not a strict sense of hierarchy or sense of leadership...It's pretty natural. I'm not necessarily really that prevalent of a leader,” said Lee.

The previous two seasons were challenging in terms of finding opportunities to practice or to play against other



T.JEFFERSON/THE PHILLIPIAN

opponents. Lee's goal for this season is to ensure that everyone, including herself, is making the most out of every hole.

“I'm just really glad that we're all back in person and that we get to play together, so I just hope we have a good time,” said Lee.

GIRLSLACROSSE

Girls Lacrosse Alters Playing Styles To Defeat Liverpool and Deerfield

MONISHA KATHIKA

Shifting from a close, aggressive playing style against Liverpool to a dominant one against Deerfield came naturally for Andover Girls Lacrosse. The team won both games 15-14 and 15-6. Its record now stands at 4-2.

After falling behind in the first half due to a slow start, the team provided an impressive comeback, stealing a late winner in the dying moments of the game.

“Against Liverpool, we had

to come from behind. We were down 3-8 at the half!... [Liverpool] tied it up, then we went ahead by 1, then they tied it again at 14-14 with 1.26 to go in the game. We came up with the draw control and scored the game-winner with 51 seconds to go in the game! So, that was a very exciting come from behind win,” wrote Head Coach Heidi Wall in an email to The Phillipian.

After a tight game against Liverpool, Andover provided a comfortable victory over Deerfield. Led by its strong defensive performance, An-

dover was able to created many opportunities going forward due to causing many turnovers in the defensive third.

Against Deerfield today, we took control of the game from the start going up 3-0 in the first 16 minutes. We exchanged a few, but handily went into the half up 8-2. Deerfield played a very athletic game- coming up with several interceptions against us. But we were tough on defense and were able to defend well to cause turnovers ourselves. Our focus in this game was playing as a team and we did a nice job of stepping up and supporting each other on the field- 8 of our goals were assisted and we had goals from 7 different players,” wrote Head Coach Wall.

According to Audrey Powers '24 and Emily Smith '22, the team was propelled by the energy from the sidelines. Everyone contributed to the win; it was not just one individual dominating the field.

Powers said, “I think we really play well together as a team, especially [when] we're picking and coming off of each other. There weren't any individual players on the field. We all played off of each other.”



A.ZHOU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Tori Rider '22 protects the ball from a Liverpool defender.

Smith added, “It wasn't one person scoring, we had a lot of different people scoring during the game. So it was just more of a burst of energy kind of thing. There was a spark and it kind of went from there. There's just a lot of energy on the sidelines.”

According to Smith and Wall, the team needs to work on staying focused and limiting unforced errors.

Smith said, “I think our biggest thing is usually just sometimes bouncing back from certain things, or usually, we'll be close and then it'll

be four fouls in a row. Sometimes we have trouble keeping the ball for long periods of time or forcing passes. So [we have to] be a lot more controlled on the offensive side.”

Head Coach Wall wrote, “Going into Dexter Southfield we'd like to work on cutting down on our unforced errors. In addition, we want to continue to practice our settled attack and continue to work as a unit on defense.”

Andover Girls Lacrosse's next game will be at home on Friday against Dexter Southfield.



A.ZHOU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Girls Lacrosse has scored 35 goals in its past four games.

CREW

Top Two Boats Secure Wins For Boys Crew In First Race of Season

MONISHA KATHIKA

Despite rainy weather which canceled the remainder of races, Boys Crew boats B1 and B2 raced against Salisbury, Boston Latin, and Boston College High School (BC High). Andover won both races in its first competition of the season.

According to Sia Gandhi '24, the races were tight in competition. Andover was able to surmount its competition despite falling to Salisbury last season.

Gandhi said, “It was a little bit close, I'd say for B1 it was four seats, but B2 was one or two seats. But, last year I think Salisbury beat us, but we beat them in all boats except for the girls side. So it was a great turnout.”

According to Wynant Hubbard '23, who rows in boat B1, there was much anticipation heading into the first race of the season. Looking ahead, the team hopes to build off last year's success.

“I was a little nervous because it was my first race of the year. But we had a really strong season last year. So I was looking forward to building off the success of last year. So as I was a little nervous, I was mostly excited,” said Hubbard.

According to Gandhi and Hubbard, the team's intense practice routine payed off on the water. Its current schedule consists of various strength and conditioning aimed to improve both speed and endurance.

Gandhi said, “Every Monday, we do a six-minute row test just to see where the rowers are and how much they're pulling. Based on that we get the boat arrangements. So that's usually Mondays, and the other days we usually do short pieces. We had a couple of hard practices, and I think that's what really pushed us forward and helped us win.”

Hubbard added, “We've done like five by two minutes, which is a good way to just get juice. Just get your body ready for like the short race. So doing some of that. We've also been doing some longer eight-minute pieces. But that's mostly what we've been doing, a bunch of technique.”

According to Hubbard, the team still needs to focus on working together and building team chemistry. With more cohesion on the boats, the team will be able to race faster.

“It seems like we need to get a lot more together. Everyone has a lot of different strokes and people need is to focus more on like staying

loose and staying long. And then just being more unified and together especially when you're in a race and emotions are getting higher. People kind of let that go. They let the technique and the togetherness go which is like not how you go fast,” Hubbard said.

According to Trevor Moss '23, who also rows in boat B1,

the team must work on its stroke timing as the season progresses.

“In B1, we have to work on our timing together and shifting our rate down after the starting strokes. I needed to make a more drastic change for the shift but with all the tension and excitement, I kept us running a little too high. It came back to bite us

as we certainly felt the cost of keeping the higher rate about 3/4ths through the course, but we kept pushing and worked that high rating,” wrote Moss in an email to The Phillipian.

Boys Crew will race against Hingham and Kent on Saturday.



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Boys Crew competes off-campus on the Merrimack River for home races.



BOYSTENNIS

Boys Tennis Surmounts Taft and Remains Undefeated After Close Matches Against Brunswick

KATERINA KOKKOTOS

Friday	
Andover	4
Brunswick	3
Saturday	
Andover	6
Taft	1

Playing through exhaustion, Boys Tennis pulled through its matches with a 6-1 victory over Taft. Adding a win to its record, the team now remains undefeated through its first three games of the season.

Kevin Niu '25 reflected on the atmosphere of the match. He believes the positive spirit and motivation from team-

mates and coaches helped the team play through mental and physical exhaustion after a tiring game the day before against a strong competitor, Brunswick.

Niu said, "I think yesterday's game was actually worse than the other games because we were so tired because the game before we played against Brunswick was four or five hours and everyone lost their energy cheering and stuff. So this game was like our tired game in a way, a lot of us were exhausted, and we still won. I think [it's] our spirit. Cheering. We cheer for each other really well. You know if we see someone win a point on another court, we like say let's go and their name or you know some other sayings that we have. Our captains are pretty good at giving us motivation."

Jeremy Liao '24 shared a similar sentiment to Niu regarding the importance of positive energy amongst the players. Supporting one an-

other is the key to defeating opponents, especially when the team is worn out from back-to-back games, according to Liao.

"Honestly, we were a little tired. We played Brunswick on Friday and that was one of the hardest games we played yet, and everyone was really tired. But I think despite that, our energy was still really high, and still supporting each other and staying in it," said Liao.

Co-Captain Kian Burt '24 believes that even a little motivation on the court in the heat of the moment can go a long way. Burt recalled a simple moment of support and camaraderie among his teammates prior to their successful play.

Burt said, "Kevin and Avery, two [Juniors] on the team, and it was right before the momentum shifted towards their favor. They were really just high-fiving each other, trying to get their energy up, and it was very nice for me to

see. Great attitude."

Due to inclement weather, the Taft match was moved indoor to the Snyder Center. Niu believes the dreary weather led to a lower morale as compared to the Brunswick matches.

"Outside is a lot better, but it was raining, so we had to move inside. But I mean it's always a good, its never a bad spirit. There are always some cheers at least today. There was not a real reason to cheer that hard. I think there was a good spirit, but not as good as the Brunswick one because that one was way closer. Whenever the game is closer, the spirit is better," said Niu.

Avery Zheng '25 believes that the rainy conditions and continuation of the matches indoors may have been a fortunate occurrence for the team.

"We had an advantage because the Snyder courts are different because I think Taft practices outside on a hard court and inside Snyder it's a

track, so the ball moves really slow," said Zheng.

Co-Captain Ethan Wong '23 and Burt are looking ahead to the season's upcoming matches. Both believe that despite the team's hot start, it needs to continue developing its chemistry.

Wong said, "We still have a lack of chemistry between our team. We don't have uniform communication. We are still lacking that, but overall, we have good chemistry and support one another."

Burt added, "I think as a team we still need some [chemistry], at least for doubles. We are still trying to figure out which pairs work best, and I think during practice, we could structure it a bit differently to fit everyone's needs as a player. And I think as the season goes on, we will get other people's thoughts and improve practice."

Boys Tennis will take on Milton on Friday in hopes of extending its undefeated record.

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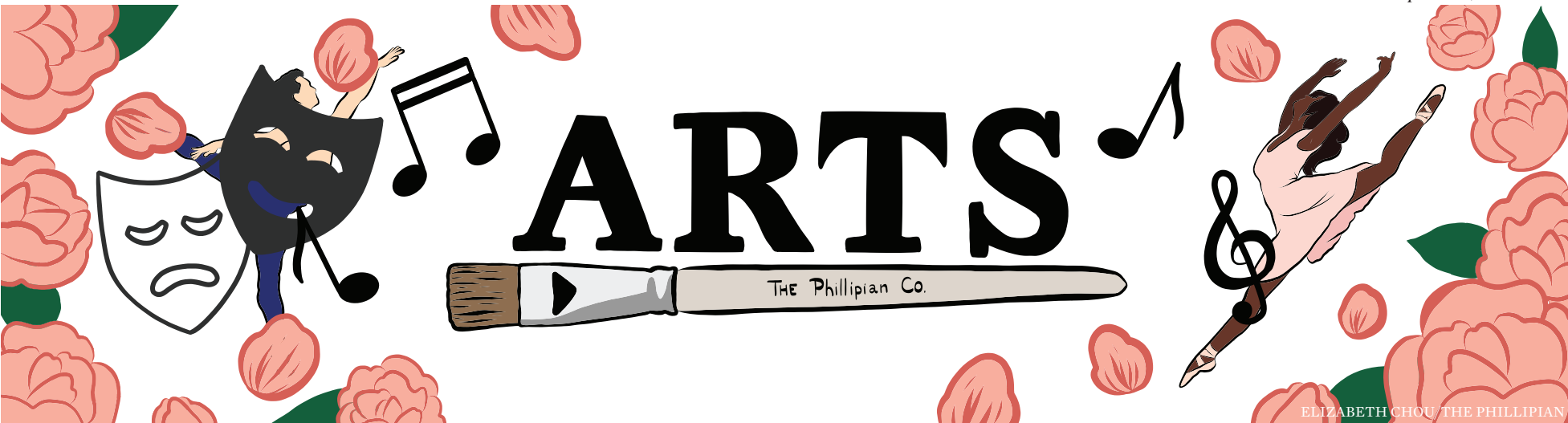
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## LOTW - Victor Mvemba '22 Uses Stitching and Crocheting Skills to Make His Style Unique

**SARAH HASSANEIN**

Sporting black and white suede Nike Blazers, Victor Mvemba '22 pairs his shoes with black jeans and a polo for a Sunday morning look. Mvemba completes the outfit with silver accessories, including a compass earring and a black cross ring.

Previously wearing an abundance of blue and Andover pieces, Mvemba's style has evolved since his Junior year. During the pandemic, he began exploring his fashion and shifted to a skater aesthetic by often wearing baggy jeans and Jordans.

"I think just having so much time to myself to figure out what I want to wear, what styles I like—being able to try out new things

just from the comfort of my own home without being at Andover where there's always people watching... And I think that quarantine sort of gave us the freedom to express ourselves and experiment so that I really was able to push my style to a new level," said Mvemba.

When planning an outfit, Mvemba always starts from the bottom up. He builds the outfit around the shoes he picks, which he considers the centerpiece of the look. To make his style unique, Mvemba enjoys spending time in the makerspace stitching and creating new patterns and designs to put on his pants.

"I really enjoy customizing stuff, and especially with skating too, a lot of times my pants will

get holes in them and instead of drawing it out and buying a new one, I would go into the makerspace and try to mend it, stitch it, [or] sew it back together, maybe add in a little design or take the pattern of the rip and turn it into a little smiley face or something," said Mvemba.

Describing his overall style as "eclectic," Mvemba is never afraid to have statement pieces. Whether that be loud painted jeans or nail art, he is constantly experimenting with new ways to make his outfits unique. Phoebe Adams '22, a friend of Mvemba, commented on his confidence to be creative with his clothing.

"He's never afraid to try something new and be very experimental, and he's super confident, which I always admire. He can put on any outfit and just be super confident in what he's wearing," said Adams.

Mvemba looks up to A\$AP Rocky as a fashion inspiration because of the way he can combine streetwear and high fashion. Mvemba admires the way A\$AP sports Jordans but also dons pearl necklaces. Gaining inspiration from A\$AP's "babushka phase," Mvemba has started crocheting his own babushkas.

"I've tried to emulate some of his stuff. One thing that I actually really like about A\$AP Rocky was his whole sort of babushka phase,

babushka, it's orange, white, and like, has hints of red, let me know, and I might crochet your own," said Mvemba.



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Mvemba divides his shoes into two categories: there are shoes that he enjoys skating in while certain others he cherishes too much to skate in.



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Victor Mvemba '22 categorizes his general style as "eclectic," which in turn draws inspiration from a variety of influences.

## Producing a Producer: Meet the New Drama Lab Producers

CHLOE RHEE AND ALICIA ZHANG

### Semira Robinson '23



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

For me, Drama Labs means a lot about creative freedom, in the sense that it is a learning process. Running Drama Labs and taking them on is also about figuring out what you want as a director, actor, and who you're going to become, whether you're involved in theater or elsewhere, the skills you learn in Drama Labs are very applicable to other aspects of everyday life, whether that be public speaking or exercising your creative mind. And so to me, Drama Labs is about growing, not only as people and as actors and directors, but also about students, and harnessing that opportunities that are available to us at Andover and in different spheres of life.

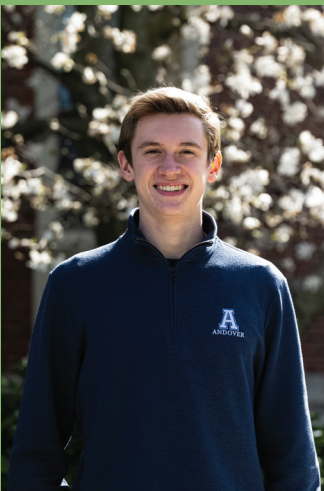
### Raina Yang '24



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

For me, I only actually got into theater this past winter, and a lot of my entry into the theater department at Andover was because of the current producers. In the productions I've participated in at Andover so far, I've been really warmly welcomed by the Class of '22 producers. They made me really love the community because of how much love and support I received, along with their willingness to accept into the community. Because I was inspired by the Class of '22 producers, what I wanted to do in this position when I was applying and now is to really stress that Drama Labs and even term-contained productions are a really good entryway into theater here regardless of previous experience, because the theater community at Andover truly will welcome you with open arms, and I want to emanate that for the current students, because I know theater is something that a lot of people want to try because they think it's cool, but they're apprehensive to because it can be a little intimidating. I mean, you have to memorize lines, and perform in front of people. I guess I really want to bring Drama Labs and theater to the people who are interested but are initially scared to try, and I want to show them how welcoming and fun and enjoyable it can be.

### Theo Randall '23



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

The first time is by far the hardest time, signing up for any sort of show or audition, the very first time, that's the real struggle. Once you've gotten past that point it gets so much easier so quickly and I feel like we just have to, when I say we, I mean the theater community, we have to encourage people to just try it out, give it a shot, put your name down and if you don't like it, you don't like it. It's just really an amazing experience to be a part of theater and it takes a lot of courage to make that first step and then from there on it's a lot smoother sailing, so my advice is just try it out, see if you like it, and if you do, great! Welcome to the theater community.

### Dori Rosenstrauch '23



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

I think Andover provides you with a lot of opportunities to engage in theater in a range of commitments. Especially in Drama Labs, I've had a couple of people tell me, 'Oh, I was never really into theater, I just wanted to audition for a skit, and now I love performing and want to do more.' And that was honestly similar to me. I thought I would do it once or twice and now, I'm a producer. I think engage as much as you want. That's the wonderful thing about Andover, you have so many opportunities to explore things that you're interested in. Drama Labs definitely offers you a space to dip your toe into the theater world. Auditioning for 901s is also a great way to do it. Just basically, if you think it would be fine, go for it! Throw your hat in the ring. See what happens. It probably will end up being better than you could have ever imagined.

### Jessica Li '24



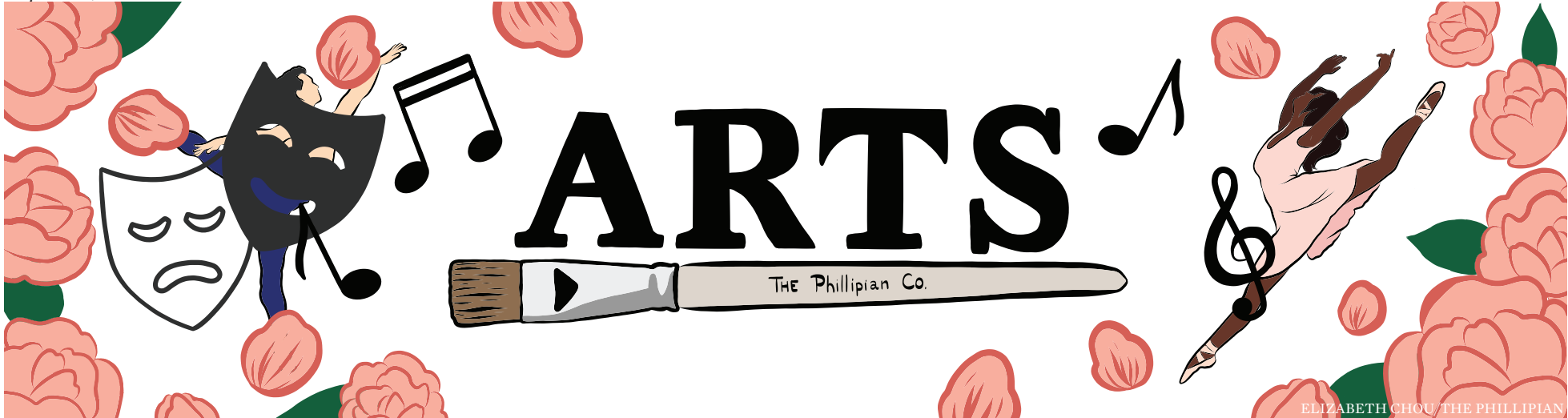
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It's an amazing opportunity to involve myself more with Drama Labs and other things that the Theater Department does. And also more opportunities to work with both the staff and the students. I do Tech, which also means that I get to make Drama Labs a better platform in terms of technical theater, because that's something the past producers hadn't touched on as much. I want to improve that in the future.

There's a lot of opportunities and the Theater Department encourages you to try new things. I moved from front stage to backstage, so I would encourage everyone to try all aspects of theater, not just acting, but also the backstage things too.

Editor's Note: Semira Robinson '23 is a Copy Editor for The Phillipian. Raina Yang '24 is a Graphic Editor for The Phillipian. Theo Randall '23 is a Video Editor for The Phillipian.





# The Phillipian Playlist: Lawning Edition

ATHENA RHEE



## Anushka Bhat '22

“My favorite song to listen to while lawning is **‘We Don’t Care’** by Kanye West. I began listening to it about a year ago, during my Upper Spring. It was the first term where things were starting to feel normal again after the pandemic, so my friends and I spent an absurd amount of time on the lawn. We would play spikeball, read, have picnics, frolic, etc. So, this song is really nostalgic for me.”

## Ashley Song '23

“A song I found recently is called **‘You Were Bored’** by Loyal Lobos. I just really like the slow-paced rhythm, and it just feels like spring...I think the voice of the singer is very melancholic, in a good way, and it has this dreamy feel to it that speaks to me like spring. It’s very melodic, in the best way background music can be, and in whatever you may be doing, lawning, walking, chatting, it’s got a very attractive and catchy loop of notes that sets the mood, and just maintains this very calm energy. Maybe it’s also the plotline of the song that draws me in; this sad ‘summer romance’ is a staple of American summer, and as we head into the warm days ahead, a summer escape is all I can think about. I’m reminded of the temporary nature of summer, and as an upper, heading into my last summer before senior year and the onslaught of essays and late nights, I want to embrace

## Arim Lee '24

“A song I love to lawn to is **‘I Like You’** by Weather Forecast, a Korean band from the ‘90s. I love listening to Korean songs that were popular around then because they have this strange, fuzzy feeling that takes me back to a time when I technically wasn’t even born. The song is classified as a folk song, a genre that I don’t typically listen to, but I think there’s something about its over-the-top sweetness that made me add it to my playlist right away. The lyrics are pretty repetitive, not to mention very, very cheesy, but the way the singers own up to them attracted me to the song. This song became a huge hit when it came out in 1996, and since then, it was remade by many contemporary artists—the most famous example would be the cover by Cho Jung-Seok, a Korean actor, and it was through his cover that I discovered this song. My mom once caught me playing this song on repeat, and she was surprised, since it had been one of her favorites when she was in college. I think that just goes on to emphasize that music truly shouldn’t be constrained by time, and that revelation

## Joe Murphy '23

“One of my favorite songs to lawn to is **‘Ghost Town’** by Kanye West...[because] ‘Ghost Town’ does everything a song should do perfectly. It’s both meaningful and catchy, [and] has great features and iconic verses from Kanye...Ghost Town is a hip-hop song which samples two soul songs: Take Me For A Little While by the Royal Jesters and Someday by Shirley Ann Lee. This mixture of genre makes for a song that makes you feel like you’re floating. What makes Ghost Town special to me is the song’s message. I have always interpreted Kanye’s verse on Ghost Town as him acknowledging his past mistakes, specifically his egotism. Kanye repeats the words ‘someday’ throughout his verse which I always felt is meant to show that someday he will change. In 070 Shake’s outro she sings about how she ‘feels kind of free,’ which I feel represents Kanye finally reaching the point of leaving his fears behind. I feel that this message of self-love and acceptance is something that everyone should hear, as almost anyone should be able to resonate with them, including myself.”

## Karen Wang '24

“One of my favorite songs to lawn to is **‘Dear Luca’** by Ayokay because of the catchy yet laidback rhythm. It’s the perfect song between an upbeat and a chill song, and even though this song carried me through the winter term, I just recently realized how fitting this song is for a fun lawning session. I think this song is a balanced mix of dance, electronic, and pop music, which is my favorite type of music because it’s lively enough to keep up the energy in the moment, but at the same time it’s calm enough to relax to, which is great music for lawning. The lyrics have a hopeful tone that makes the listener feel good while listening, and they match the sound of the song very well too.”

*Editor’s Note: Ashley Song ’23 is an Illustration Editor for The Phillipian.*

# Review: “Our Flag Means Death” Pt. 3—Fade to Black: Our Hearts Ripped Out, We’re Hanging Off that Cliff

JORGE BRIONES SAUSA

As a season of pirate she-nanigans nears its conclusion, “Our Flag Means Death” leaves us with 10 episodes of rich relationships, characters who grew, and a heartbreaker of a finale.

With the climax of the narrative in sight, previously established relationships expand and hit their stride. Having laid the foundations, the show is finally letting these characters come into their own with a bittersweet balance of comedy and drama. This is what the show does so well: as the plot begins to toy more with the characters’ (and the audience’s) emotions, we get many memorable moments that make the viewing experience that much more enjoyable.

A quick recap: “Our Flag Means Death,” following protagonist “Gentleman Pirate” Stede Bonnet (Rhys Darby), is an HBO Max original series released on March 4, 2022 about pirate hijinks, found families, and romance on the high seas. In the previous batch of episodes, we saw the introduction of new relationship developments and touching moments, and these last few episodes don’t disappoint. Now, let’s set sail for our last—but certainly not least—segment of this review, and as always, pirates ye be warned: spoilers ahead.

Last week’s article saw the early development of Stede Bonnet and Blackbeard’s (Taika Waititi) relationship. In these episodes leading up to the season’s end, “Our Flag Means Death” has deepened its exploration and under-



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standing of their relationship. We see this most notably in the seventh episode, “This is Happening,” which depicts Blackbeard, Stede, and Lucius Spriggs (Nathan Foad) on their treasure hunt, an event Stede planned so Blackbeard could have some fun. What stands out about this episode is how it acts as a turning point for Blackbeard and Stede’s connection. During a scene when Blackbeard gets a wake-up call from Lucius for not understanding how much Stede loves him, we finally see them both not only realize, but understand that they are in love with each other. Especially since Blackbeard leans on the emotionally repressed

side, it’s a really sweet moment that demonstrates how much Blackbeard loves Stede, which is particularly gratifying as we begin to see all of Stede’s affections being reciprocated.

Their relationship also finds a sense of closure during their first kiss in episode nine—“Act of Grace”—after both Blackbeard and Stede legally relinquish their life of being pirates. This beautiful scene succeeds because of not only the well-paced romantic build up between the two leads, but also how it lulls audiences into a false sense of security, making the disaster that strikes soon after all the harder to bear. Additionally,

both actors deliver incredible performances that make the relationship between the two characters feel so real and organic.

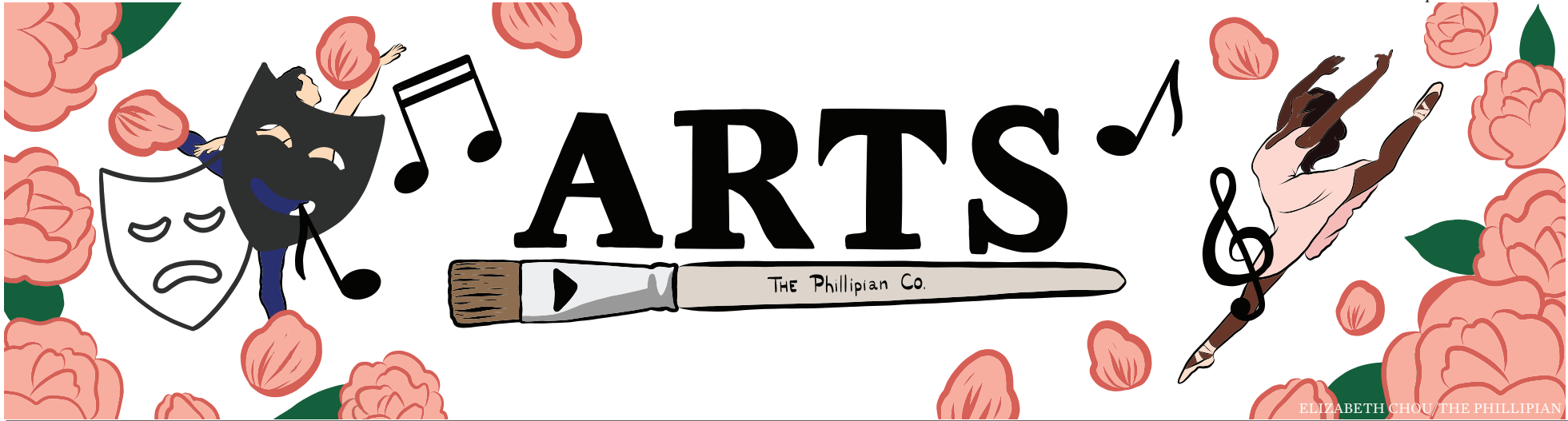
However, storm clouds had been gathering on the horizon, and a drastic change was about to come. We finished up episode nine with a touching promise between Stede and Blackbeard to escape and find a life together; episode ten shatters that promise of closure with a heart wrenching twist. Stede and Blackbeard had agreed to meet at the dock and begin their new life together, but Stede falls through on his promise to Blackbeard and returns home to his family. This heartbreak

causes Blackbeard to return to his malicious ways, and rips the happy ending we were expecting right out from under our feet.

While Blackbeard is healing from a broken heart, Stede makes an attempt to reenter his past life and fails tremendously. Throughout the episode, Stede realizes that his wife was happier when she could be a widow and enjoy a life with her children and paintings, and that he enjoyed his life at sea with Blackbeard so much more as well. This prompts him to slowly regret the decision he made—in order to try and grasp his true happiness before it’s too late, Stede rushes on a boat and desperately searches for his ship and the man that he loves. The show closes with Stede on the boat and Blackbeard sobbing in Stede’s old room, which he has emptied—it hurt too much to be reminded of Stede. A haunting, fitting, and beautifully deliberate ending to the show.

Now that I have finished the show in its entirety, I can confidently say that it is a show that will forever be special to me. It made me laugh, it made me cry, and it made me overly emotional many, many times. I encourage everyone to watch the show, not just because of how great, unique, and bold it is, but also so that it can be officially renewed for a second season and finally bring closure to its audience. This show is such a refreshing take on comedy and has quickly become one of my favorites of all time. For its incredible plot, acting, and hilarity, I—once and for all—give “Our Flag Means Death” a 5/5.



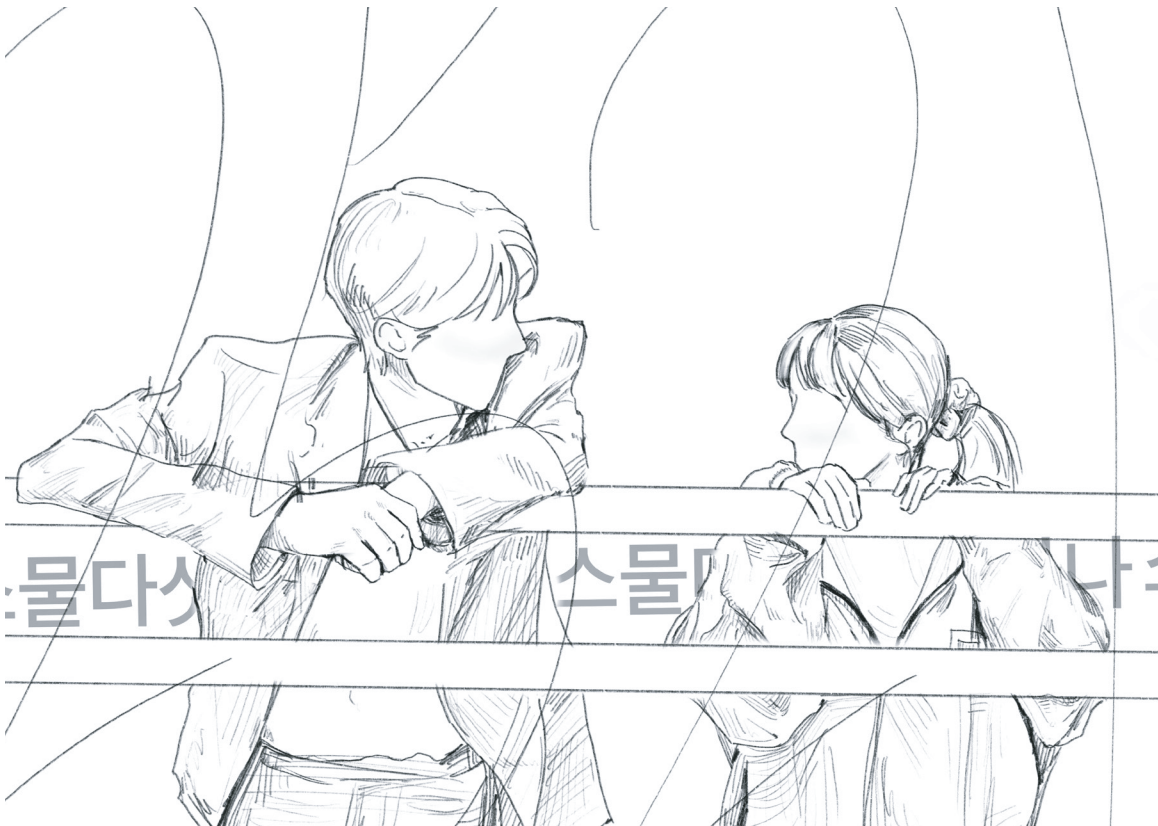


# Review: “Twenty-Five Twenty-One” Captures the Bittersweet Brilliance of Youthful Romance in the 2000s

ASHLEY PARK

In the midst of fledgling dreams and fleeting hope, the fates of an aspiring fencer and hard working young man converge during a memorable chance encounter. When they meet again years later at ages 21 and 25, the world has changed—and so have they—but love blooms between them nonetheless. Airing from February 12 to April 3, the K-Drama “Twenty-Five Twenty-One” has stolen many hearts of watchers, as the drama had its unique twists and turns throughout its 16 episodes. As a highschooler, protagonist Na Hee Do (Kim Tae Ri) is a dedicated fencer; only, when her dreams of going professional are dashed by the shutdown of her school fencing club, she must find an alternative way to claim her place on South Korea’s National Fencing Team. Meanwhile, Back Yi Jin (Nam Joo Hyuk) is searching to rebuild his life after his family went bankrupt in the 1997 IMF crisis; as Yi Jin struggles to find stability while balancing several part time jobs and swimming in debt, he begins to find solace in the company of the lively Hee Do. Caution: spoilers ahead.

With the plot of “Twenty-Five Twenty-One” hinging on the key coming-of-age themes the characterization of both Hee Do, Yi Jin, and the other people involved in their lives stay authentic to the hardships of reality. This



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approach to storytelling is very specifically different from many other K-dramas that conjure up happy fantasies in order to satisfy their audiences. For instance, the majority of romance K-dramas depict the main characters somehow getting together regardless of how toxic or unrealistic the relationship is, as it is how the drama gets more viewers. While “Twenty-Five Twenty-One” does give the audience the relationship that they wanted, it still subverts the romance trope by depicting a reasonable progression of events and

sending the Hee Do and Yi Jin on their separate ways in the season finale. It was certainly heartbreaking to watch the couple call it quits, especially with both actors’ touching portrayal of their characters, but the show’s display of an ephemeral connection made their relationship feel all the more valuable.

In addition to the accurate depiction of Hee Do and Yi Jin’s romance, the drama also does a great job on creating a believable timeline and allowing the audience to further immerse themselves in the story. They achieve this

effect by staying as true to the timely aesthetics, events, and circumstances as possible, featuring many occurrences that audiences could see a representation of their struggles in. For one, the IMF crisis in 1997 that caused many companies in South Korea to go bankrupt heavily affected both of the main characters in a relatable way. Hee Do lost the opportunity to enhance her extracurriculars when her school started to limit its budget. On the other hand, Yi Jin’s entire family found themselves in dire need of money, leading him to take on

heavy monetary responsibilities and provide for more than just himself as a young adult. Additionally, the drama also makes the unique incorporation of Covid-19 in its portrayal of 2021, where everyone is masked and living the life in a pandemic. Instead acting as a medium of escapism, the show directly confronts common problems of our society and creates a tangible connection between its world and ours. As a result, many of the characters are easier for viewers to empathize with and project onto, and thus increases the audience’s emotional investment in the plot—a clever craft move that made the narrative feel more nuanced as a result.

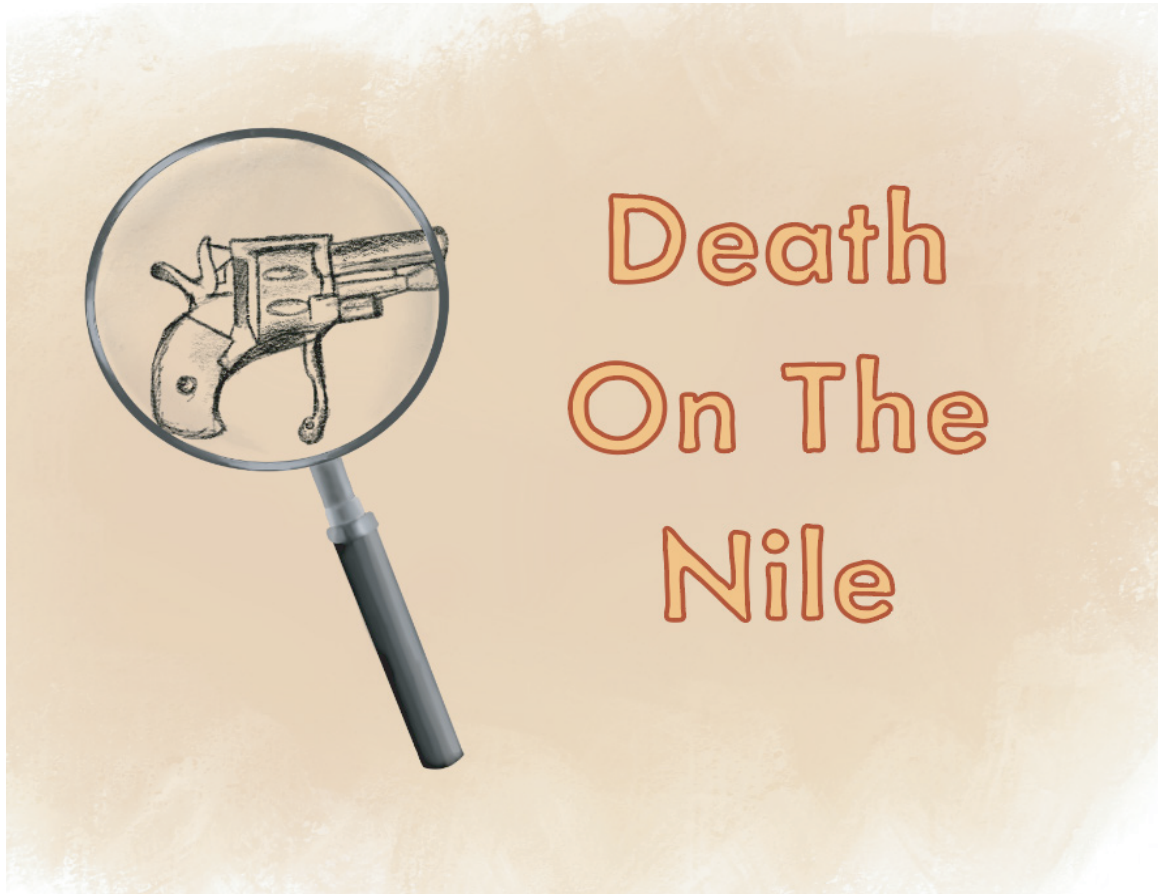
With a reasonable and relatable plot progression, “Twenty-Five Twenty-One” deserves a score of 5/5; it skillfully captures the timeless essence of youth, falling in love, and learning to grow up with a beautifully nostalgic and longing atmosphere. But what made this show unique was its emphasis on the audience experience: even down to the minute details, this drama was dedicated to creating a space where audiences could see themselves in the characters’ happiness, sadness, love, anger, growing pains, and more. Despite the occasional confusing interaction here and there, this show not only wonderfully immersed the audience in its world, but also brought its characters to life and to our reality.

# Review: “Death on the Nile” Floats Above Adequacy, But Falls Short of Original’s Elegance

GLORIA CHEN

In 1937, Agatha Christie added yet another book into her “Hercule Poirot Mysteries” collection. Put on the same pedestal as “And Then There Were None” and “Murder on the Orient Express”, “Death on the Nile” instantly won global acclaim as one of the early 20th century’s most gripping murder mysteries. The story stems from the murder of wealthy heiress Linnet Ridgeway (Gal Gadot) during a honeymoon trip to the Nile. All suspects are coincidentally also on this trip, and detective Hercule Poirot (Kenneth Branagh) is put to the challenge to solve the case. Last summer, I had the great joy of holding the book in hand, but what drew my attention were the bright, bold letters dramatically announcing the movie’s major motion movie release in February. The idea enticed me, yet my expectations for the film were dashed—somewhat unsurprisingly—as soon as I stepped foot in the movie theater. While the film had its merits in capturing the story in unprecedented ways, it was, yet again, subordinate to its source material.

Ironically, fundamental elements such as setting depiction and clarity of speech fell second to the book on screen. One would expect the film, a visual medium, to depict the setting—namely, the Nile—in a more thorough and precise manner. Yet, the production’s choice to entirely develop the Egyptian environment from a green screen somehow makes the movie less immersive than Christie’s writing. Artificial colors fill the screen; the oversaturated color of the river and poorly rendered trees sitting nearby clash violently, and a 5000-year old Pyramid of Giza is suddenly painted with a tacky shade of gold. More importantly, the clarity of the spoken words in the movie cannot compare to the written words in the book, an



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issue noticed throughout the movie. Tom Bateman’s character Bouc suffers particularly from this problem; when introducing the characters, he speaks too fast, leaving the audience in confusion. Especially since he is responsible for presenting the movie’s ten key characters who each have complex relationships and motives, Bouc’s fast speech fails to establish the solid context needed to understand the rest of the film. With its plot relying on a clear exposition which it cannot properly convey, the movie thus fails to keep its audience engaged in the main narrative.

However, it is important to applaud the movie for surpassing the book in one particular aspect; no matter how easily accessible character introductions are in the book, Agatha Christie simply creates too many. Director Kenneth Branagh, on the other hand, approaches this issue by merging some roles to establish ten main characters

instead of the original fifteen. For example, Branagh’s interpretation chooses to draw from both trustee Andrew Pennington with lawyer James Fanthorp to create Andrew Katchadourian (Ali Fazel), a lawyer relative of Linnet Ridgeway whose potential motive is jealousy and inheritance. In contrast to the book, the average moviegoer is much more aware of each character—now more well-developed, multi-faceted, and better characterized—and their role in the movie.

But even with its merits, the movie’s drawbacks still stand out like a sore thumb—the movie’s adaptation of Hercule Poirot feels less elegant and more haphazardly put together. As a French-speaking German detective, Hercule Poirot naturally mentions a few French idioms and speaks with a heavy yet elegant French accent. On the page, this elegance is highlighted with his words in

French italicized. They are highly distinguishable and up to the reader’s own interest to understand their meaning. However, on screen, though Branagh eloquently executes his role as Poirot, his French idioms are often arbitrarily interspersed with his excessively fast general speech. As a result, there is little for the viewer to differentiate between the two different languages, decipher the English, and try to use context clues to piece together the French. This problem shows the production’s further lack of care when you realize that it could be easily ameliorated with the use of subtitles, a technique implemented by other bilingual films. Finally, Branagh arguably forces a French accent that is no longer elegant but in fact, offsetting. As Poirot, Branagh has the most lines in the movie, yet unfortunately, most of his speech is left misunderstood, entirely undecipherable, or a complete misrepresentation of his

refined character in the book.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the film was its exclusion of the heart of the story: the actual process of Poirot’s deduction. Out of an attempt to compile a 400-page-book into a two-hour film, the movie kept most of the storyline yet excluded one of its most climactic moments. There may have been some difficulties in trying to capture Poirot’s entire inner monologue, which lasts a total of twelve pages, but the movie’s execution of the scene fails to craft the adequate build-up to the conclusion that Poirot comes to. Out of the need to quickly explain what happened, the movie’s Poirot only gives the viewer a conclusion. He leaves the viewer with an accusation, but completely chooses to leave behind the brainstorming and development process of his idea. This is the most exciting part of the entire story—the chance to truly highlight Poirot’s genius—yet Branagh’s two minute long segment of deduction captures none of those qualities and fails to create the satisfying climax and resolution that the story deserves.

If we were to evaluate “Death on the Nile” as an original movie, it by no means is unwatchable. But as an adaptation, it severely falls short of and does not represent Christie’s original creation. In my eyes, several scenes and lines were misunderstood, causing a perpetual confusion that lasts throughout the film. The depiction of the Nile and broader Egypt could have been thought out more carefully. The ending and “detective reveal” is simply too hastened, failing to provide a sense of satisfaction and resolution to audiences. Overall, I would give this movie a 2.7/5. As an avid murder mystery reader myself, this was the first on-screen adaptation I watched; with this experience in mind, I’m thinking of sticking with my books.