

A Celebration of Community : First All-School Meeting of the 2022-2023 School Year

CATHY MA

Heralded by the percussive fanfare of Andover Drumline and cheers of students, international student flag bearers, the Senior Class of 2023, and faculty entered Cochran Chapel for the 2022-2023 Opening of School All-School Meeting (ASM) last Friday, September 9.

Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, opened the first ASM of the year by acknowledging the Classes of 2026, 2025, and 2024, before welcoming in the procession of international students, the Class of 2023, and faculty. Following their arrival, Esty quoted the motto of Outward Bound, an experiential and outdoor learning program: "To serve, to strive, and not to yield." She shared how she came to believe in this motto as it connected to the school's newly released Core Blue community values.

"I can get behind serving, striving, and not yielding when it comes to honesty and integrity, respect for yourself,



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Student Body Co-Presidents Nigel Savage '23 and Sui Yu '23 lead Seniors in class cheer at the end of their speech.

respect for others, and building and maintaining a healthy and inclusive community. So thank you all of you for doing your best to be open to different viewpoints, to live in your integrity, and to hold others in their dignity," said Esty.

Nigel Savage '23 and Sui

Yu '23, the 2022-2023 Student Body Co-Presidents, then took the podium to offer helpful advice to each class for the upcoming school year. They emphasized the importance of cherishing community for the Class of 2023 as they navigate their last year at the

school.

"As we walk into our final year at Andover, let us think about the legacies we want to leave and the people we will undoubtedly inspire. Let us think about our leadership, our courage, and our compassion, and more importantly,

let's think about our friends, the people who have touched our lives and made our experiences what they are. Think about your community, one that you will always be a part of and one that will always be a part of you," said Yu.

Dakota Chang '23, Cluster Co-President of Pine Knoll, reminisced on her first ASM as a freshman. Reflecting on the influence of the Seniors during her Junior year, Chang emphasized the importance of community throughout her experience at Andover.

Chang said, "I entered as a freshman, so when I was sitting [at my first ASM], I was like 'Wow, Americans are so loud.' And then I [heard the Seniors] cheer, and I'm like 'You know what? Maybe they're not loud, they're just really spirited. They like this place and this is how much they feel for this place.' And being a Senior here, and being able to just shout '23,' being able to perform for the Class of '23, have everyone

Continued on 6, Column 1

Core Blue: Brief Primer of The Blue Book to Reinforce Community Values

JAC GORDON

Andover's newly written Core Blue, a text set to serve as a supplement to the original Blue Book, was announced by Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, following the All School Meeting (ASM) on September 9. Alongside a set of community values listed in Core Blue, the paper outlined the newly revised community standard violation protocol, set to replace the former Disciplinary Committee system.

The creation of the book began before the summer of 2022, when Jennifer Elliott '94, former Dean of Students and Residential Life, and Jessica Herbster, member of the General Counsel, brainstormed the idea for a new version of the Blue Book. Following Elliott's departure, Esty continued the project alongside Herbster.

Reflecting back to the origin of the Blue Book, Esty described the intention behind creating

the Core Blue. Through the Core Blue, the school hopes to further represent Andover's core values for students.

"The origin [of the book] was really how to educate, promote, and respond to behaviors of community members that come from a place of lifelong learning. We re-organized the Blue Book because there was a lot of 'do-not' [which] doesn't really inspire you to be your best self, whereas holding others in their dignity feels more like something to try to do," said Esty.

Esty continued, "We asked, 'What of the whole blue book do students need?' [The answer was] our school's values—Non-Sibi, knowledge and goodness, and youth from every quarter— core ethical values and community standards— how we want to treat each other— the essential elements of being a student here, and what would happen if [you act] outside of our community standards."

In Core Blue's section on re-

sponses to student conduct, it is outlined that offenses will be split into levels from one to three, another distinction from the Blue Book. Furthermore, in contrast to the lengthy version in the Blue Book, Core Blue offers an easier to understand, more concise version for students, according to Esty.

"[Core Blue] is a brief primer on that and then more importantly what happens if, in your experience on our campus, your own or someone else's behavior is not respecting self or others are not helping building a healthy and inclusive community. We tried to do a shorthand version so a student could pick it up and find the answers to a lot of questions," said Esty.

In lieu of the regulatory listings in the Blue Book, Core Blue suggests ways for students to foster a healthier community.

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Opening of School 2022-2023 Ushers in New Orientation Schedule

JAC GORDON

Following the last wave of registration on Saturday, September 3, the Andover community was greeted with a new orientation program. The program extended through the first two weeks of classes and was accompanied by a special schedule with 40-minute class periods.

According to Paul Murphy '84, Opening of School Coordinator and Instructor in Mathematics and Com-

puter Science, the administration hoped this schedule would provide more opening of school transition time and increased opportunities for community building. Murphy explained that the schedule aimed to make the opening of school feel less rushed and sudden.

"The idea was to create space for new student orientation and to build community faster. That first day of classes in any school year always feels like cold water in your face after summer. [We hope] it was good for some

kids to start [slowly], see their teachers and meet from the beginning. We also hope that [class activities] will pay dividends in terms of people getting to know each other a little earlier than that might've happened. We've now seen two big kinds of very different models and I think we have to figure if we like one or the other or maybe there's a middle one we like even better," said Murphy.

A supplementary orientation was hosted for new international students, organized by the New International Student Orientation (NISO) team. NISO member Wambui Nyiha '25 discussed the importance of the program's ability to help new international students adjust to an unfamiliar environment.

"NISO does help especially with a smooth transition to Andover. It is much harder coming to PA as an international kid and in the few days that NISO runs, it creates a safe environment for the new international students, [helping] them know that they're

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K.WANG/THEPHILLIPIAN

See page 12 for a more photos of Andover's Blue Key Welcome

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Covid-19 Reflection

Langan Garrett '24 reflects on how getting Covid-19 helped her practice explicit and day-to-day gratitude.

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The Eighth Page Has Come

Not any more sexual than usual

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Girls Volleyball

In Andover Girls Volleyball's season opener, the team dominated Dana Hall 3-0, followed by a close match against BB&N.

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Matriculation Performance

Pianist William Ge '25 plays Debussy at the 2022-2023 Matriculation Ceremony, conveying classical piano through musical storytelling.

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Data provided by
The Phillips Academy
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Andover by the Numbers

Newly Admitted Students Statistics

347

admitted applicants

9.5%

of 3663 applicants admitted

Schools of Matriculated Students

Public: 44.8%

Private: 36.7%

Foreign: 13.1%

Home 5.4%

All Students' Financial Aid Statistics

\$43K

Average grant for boarding students

\$22.7M

Scholarship Grants

+\$1.8M

Grants for fees and expenses

\$24.5M

Total financial assistance

Financial Aid
Percentage of students receiving financial aid.

■ Receiving

■ Not Receiving

55%

45%

GRAPHIC/THE PHILLIPIAN

Senior Class Event Kicks Off EBI Program For 2022-2023 School Year

JULIA FOX

The Class of 2023 gathered in advising groups on the steps of Phelps Stadium this past Sunday to attend Grit 'N Wit. Part of the Senior EBI Transitions program, Grit 'N Wit asked students to complete an obstacle course filled with mental puzzles and physical tasks. The program was intended to help students reconnect with old friends, meet new people, and spend time with each other during the first week of school.

Planning for the Senior EBI event began last winter, which included organizing food catering trucks, ordering the Transitions program's yearly T-shirts, and reaching out to the Office of the Physical Plant (OPP) staff. Other faculty and

campus staff members helped organize the event, including staff from Paresky Commons, the Athletics department, the Business Office, and the Dean of Students.

Senior Kiera Reidy '23 felt that the event helped her interact with different people. Reidy appreciated this opportunity especially given that she was a new Upper last year, claiming the event allowed her to both delve deeper into her friendships and foster new ones.

"[I enjoyed] learning how to connect and collaborate with different people [who] you wouldn't normally on a daily basis. I'm really happy that really early in our Senior year, we had an all-Senior event. I think it's really important because I

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Editorial

Andrew Tate and the Outrage Economy

Recently, right-wing internet personality Andrew Tate has made headlines for his near universal ban from social media. A former producer and kickboxer known for his social media presence and his 2013 appearance on British reality show “Big Brother,” Tate has gained notoriety for his extreme misogyny. Tate has made statements claiming that women “belong to the man” and that rape victims must “bear responsibility” for their attacks—an investigation in April 2022 regarding rape and human trafficking allegations also found two women captive in his Romanian home.

Removed from Facebook, Instagram (where he had 4.7 million followers), Tiktok (where his videos gathered over 11.6 billion views), and YouTube, Tate’s removal has sparked conversations around free speech, online radicalization, and the ethics of corporate censorship of controversial figures.

Indeed, Tate’s ban has incited controversy, with some, such as Jake Paul, claiming that while Tate’s views are unacceptable, his TikTok ban amounts to censorship. Others, such as Andrea Simon, director of the End Violence Against Women coalition, or National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) policy officer Hannah Ruschen, have raised concerns over Tate’s influence on young men, warning that his continued site presence may lead to the radicalization of young, primarily male, viewers—a hallmark of a process known as the “alt-right pipeline.”

While Tate may be the most recent example of an extremist figure stripped of their social media platforms, he is by no means a singular phenomenon. Tate’s removal is representative of a larger issue concerning online extremism and the role of social media sites in perpetuating similar ideologies. Tate is neither the first nor last internet misogynist to be barred from social media; yet, the size of his audience and social media sites’ former algorithmic promotion of his content have influenced uproar around his removal immensely.

It may be easy to praise social media companies for taking action and banning an individual who enacted large-scale harm. Yet, before social media platforms were faced with calls to remove Tate from their sites, many dramatically boosted his reach through their algorithms. TikTok’s algorithm, in particular, is notorious for promoting content on the basis of engagement—that is, the more likes, comments, and shares a video gets, the more it will be recommended through the app’s “For You Page.” This process effectively rewards controversial

content, where each angry comment boosts a clip’s engagement and reach. Prior to his removal, Tate’s account enjoyed the popularity this engagement provided him.

This outrage-based attention economy lends itself to polarization and the formation of insular, extremist, online echo chambers. In early August 2022 reporters at “The Guardian” conducted an experiment where they created a blank TikTok account for a teenage boy. After viewing just two of Tate’s videos, including clips where Tate espoused misogynistic beliefs, they were recommended a slew of similar content. This process occurred for the next four accounts the reporters tested. If sites like TikTok were truly concerned about keeping their platform “inclusive and supportive,” why did they not only neglect to address Tate’s account, but also aid his rise to fame until faced with public outcry?

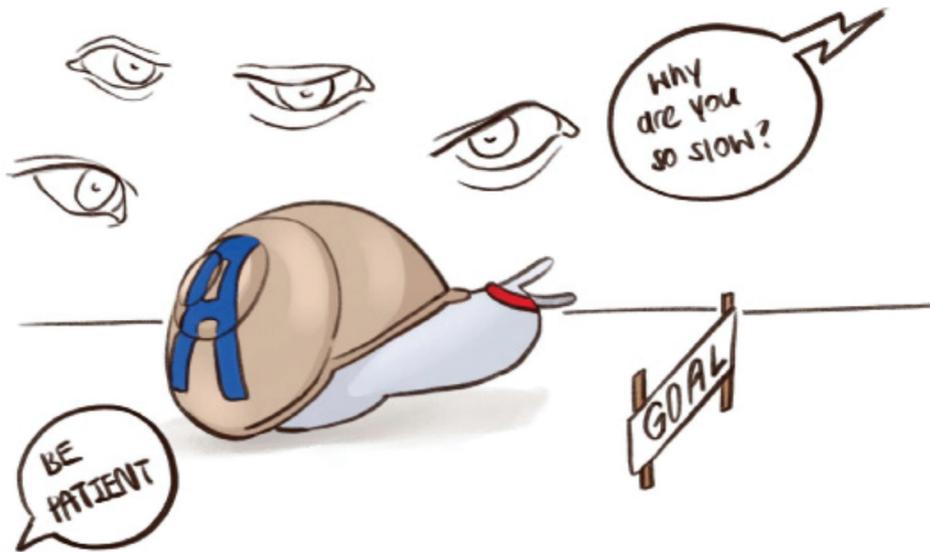
Tate’s case serves as a stark reminder of the overarching problems that plague our society today, whether that be political extremism, online radicalization, or the spread of misinformation. Divisive content is not only attention-grabbing, it is profitable—the longer we spend writing an angry comment or rewatching a video in shock, the longer we spend scrolling TikTok’s endless hallways or languishing in YouTube’s ad-covered walls. Andrew Tate’s virulent misogyny, rise to fame, and swift removal are symptomatic of the broader ways social media platforms foster extremism, promote dangerous ideologies, and decline to act until confronted with overwhelming public uproar.

As members of this increasingly digital age, we must keep a watchful eye on the landscape of our internet. Structural approaches towards implementing media literacy education are deeply needed, as are individual conversations around what role we want the internet to play in our efforts towards a more just and equitable society. At Andover, we may begin by incorporating media literacy into the EB1 curriculum and increasing campus-wide discussion of online radicalization and extremism, such as through ASMs or awareness campaigns. It is only by promoting critical thought and consumption that we may adequately prepare ourselves to address the nuances of our many-faced internet—this tangled World Wide Web.

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

The Misunderstood Virtue: Patience

LEILANI GLACE



Let me set the scene for you: you and a friend are playing a game of would you rather. Suppose you were given a choice between having one of two virtues: patience or courage. What would you choose?

I bet I can guess. You chose courage, and when presented with this choice, I believe most would respond by choosing the latter option. There is a reason for that. Overcoming one’s fears—whether it be mental, social, or physical—is a large part of succeeding in society, and that gives fear a large role in determining the value of these two virtues in our civilization. As we do not expect to depend on patience in any instance when one will have to face their fears, nor do we believe it to be a particularly useful defense in the face of subjugation, the virtue simply seems to silence. With it, one can only endure hardship, patiently awaiting the end to their injustice, while their counterpart eagerly—though also recklessly—fights back. In other words, our current perception of such virtues not only stigmatizes

patience and glorifies courage, but suggests that the two are at odds—when in fact, one cannot, and should not, function without the other.

Now, speaking on the fragmentation of society’s philosophy of values is quite broad, so I shall narrow it down to somewhere we all know pretty well: Andover. We are told to seize the moment, to “eagerly take academic risks,” to “thirst for mastery.”

Suppose you were given a choice between having one of two virtues: patience or courage. What would you choose?

While these are all noteworthy pieces of advice, it is generally true that this counsel operates under the assumption that all storms thrown in our paths can

be—must be—weathered CLARIS SHIN / THE PHILLIPIAN with strength, leaving little to no room to consider the long-term effects of such courageous actions. In the perpetuation of such values, we marginalize the virtue that is patience, equating it to complacency. I see this behavior ingrained into Andover as a whole.

Picture this: It is the week of Add-Drop. You are coming back—or to—Andover from summer vacation, and maybe you aren’t satisfied with your current courses, so you decide to test out of your class(es). But contrary to what you envisioned, you fail, and must now throw away the little plan that you had concocted for your upcoming years. You must finally ground yourself in your reality. Of course, there is still the potential that you succeed in your original class placement, surrounded by teachers and peers who are more

than happy to aid you on your journey. But you remain pessimistic, pained with a sadness that will not subside, and angry that you did not, or could not, meet your expectations. Why?

One possibility is that this student lacks the courage to face the fear of how their family, friends, and society will view them. They are too focused on how humiliated they feel in the face of their failure so they conceal their weakness by refusing to pursue this new way of life and once again failing. Though they are showered in reassurances and praise, they cannot seem to believe in their own capacity to succeed, which is less than what they wanted for themselves, and less than what they thought they deserved.

On the other hand, let’s say for the sake of argument that this person is indifferent

to the way others view them. In this version, it may not be their cowardice that prevents them from seizing the opportunities already on their plate, but instead, the lack of patience to accept their current options and thrive utilizing the good that is now available to them. Ascribing cowardice as the source of their grief suggests that their sadness originates from the way they deal with their grief when in truth, the hardship stems from why this person feels they need to grieve in the first place. With only courage, with only the core lessons that Andover instills within us, it is often hard to accept and work with that which is less than what we craved. It is hard to continue when you have no control or knowledge over where your path might lead you. But it is through patience that you learn to tackle and control these often unavoidable doubts, eventually opening yourself to that which you could have never imagined.

So long as we, students, seek to outrun the chain and ball that is disappointment, so long as we are distraught by the idea of being accused of laxity, we will forever view such an advantageous attribute in a negative light, falling prey to the incomplete framework that compels us to presume that courage and patience operate on two different sides of a spectrum, when, truly, both act in accordance to nurture healthy success.

Leilani Glace is a Lower from Brooklyn, N.Y. Contact the author at lglace25@andover.edu.

HOW WAS THE OPENING OF SCHOOL?

H. CHOI / THE PHILLIPIAN

Josh Lee '24:

I think the special schedule is meant to provide a sort of “practice round” for the school year and is, as such, a really good way to ensure a safe start for students. For many people who are unhappy with their class selection, the nature of the 40-minute classes as, usually, extended orientation periods, let students changing classes stay comfortable. While it is jarring, the lack of class on Wednesday, along with less time in class overall, gives ample time to complete assignments on top of possible stress over beginning-of-year tryouts for sports and music auditions. Having this time doesn't only help combat burnout early into the term, but I believe it also teaches good work habits that can be carried into the whole year.

Nick Donaldson '23:

The orientation this year was an interesting change, but a success in my eyes. I loved the energy on campus and seeing friends after a long period of time is always so much fun. This year I had added responsibilities as West Quad South Cluster Co-President along with the annual New International Student Orientation (NISO). I got to interact heavily with new students and their families and loved every second. Helping to facilitate their welcome to campus has been so fulfilling, whether that be hyping up an incoming freshman with sheer excitement in their eyes or reassuring another with a nervous glare that everything will be so fine. Senior season has also been a fantastic start, of course. Knowing that everything happening now will be my last of high school makes it even more memorable, like my water polo season. I'm glad this orientation has had me busy and provided me with some good things to look back on.

Henry Snow '25:

Coming back to Andover, I was very excited to see all my friends, classmates, and teammates. I felt that it was much easier this year to transition into the academic schedule and social activities because of the several shortened school days. I can't wait to meet new friends and start the school year on a good note.

Jenny Jin '24:

The 40-minute classes in the first week weren't really helpful in terms of transitioning to having school. Although the schedule gave us a lot of free time, we could barely cover anything in class. After a week of school, it still feels like school hasn't really started yet.

Micheal Kawooya '26:

Move-in was exciting, and perhaps the most exciting part was getting to meet new people. In the process of getting to know my fellow classmates, some expressed their distaste of the frequency of potatoes at our meals, but I don't echo their sentiments. Potatoes were a staple in my diet back home, and have helped make Andover feel like home as well. Furthermore, [Paresky] Commons serves a different iteration of the vegetable at every meal, which, in my opinion, is more exciting than repetitive. I think it's safe to say, potatoes were a highlight of my orientation experience.

Invincibility to Invisibility

LANGAN GARRETT



L. OBIORA / THE PHILLIPIAN

For a long time, I felt invincible. No one, nothing, including a worldwide pandemic, could defeat me. I went two years having never caught Covid-19, never seeing that extra red line on the testing stick, or getting that email that I had to move to Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center for two weeks. I was just built differently. And then, last Monday morning, I walked into Sykes with a sore throat and a runny nose. I took a test and sat anxiously in the waiting room, wringing my hands, trying to keep myself awake. When the nurse reentered the room and looked at me with a pitiful glance, I burst into tears. I knew then and there that I had tested positive, and I had to swallow the biggest emotional pill of the last two years.

It had gotten me. I would be staying in Sykes for five days, missing orientation, getting to meet my new classmates, and almost worst of all, I would be stuck on Zoom for the first few days of classes. That realization, when it hit me, was the most unique out of body experience I have ever had in my life. I could not believe it. The part of my brain that had been planning my matriculation outfit was now shut down. I was no longer concerned with who was in my classes, or who I would be eating lunch with that week. Everything that had seemed important was dwarfed in comparison to this new revelation.

Later, on Tuesday morning, as I was logging into my first Zoom meeting, I had this profound moment of déjà vu. I was immediately transported back to the Fall of 2020, when I was sitting in my single room, attending orientation online. This was not a unique experience, because everyone was



KIRA STEPANOVA / THE PHILLIPIAN

experiencing the school for the first time online. But this time, I had an immediate feeling of anxiety, and for lack of a better word, FOMO (fear of missing out).

For many, this may feel like a stale topic. Yes, it has been discussed before, but I think what our generation has neglected, or maybe merely forgotten, is just how important our peer relationships are. We are so focused on the future, on our goals, and our dreams. We forget to appreciate

Everything that had seemed important was dwarfed in comparison to this new revelation.

We are so focused on the future, on our goals, and our dreams. We forget to appreciate

the present, and how our relationships now set the foundation for the rest of our lives—I know that I hadn't considered either since freshman year. It is easy to forget how isolating it can be when you are by yourself, quite literally alone, and the only connection you have is your screen. You begin to feel invisible, physically, socially, and emotionally disconnected from your community in a matter of minutes.

What is so peculiar about this sense of isolation, though, is how rarely we discuss it. Maybe it feels uncomfortable, or we don't like to have difficult conversations because it means we have to actually acknowledge the roots of our problems.

I cannot imagine that I was the only person feeling lonely, or invisible in my classes because we have all had those feelings of loneliness and isolation at one point or another. Only recently I realized that those feelings of isolation and loneliness are just as important as feelings of joy and happiness. They teach us to appreciate the good in contrast with the difficult, and we can then be more grateful for our good times.

It is easy to take our relationships and the accessibility of our peers for granted. Only when you cannot foster those connections do you realize just how lonely it can truly be. I know I forgot that until that Monday morning, when

I was just built differently. And then, last Monday morning, I walked into Sykes with a sore throat and a runny nose.

my peers reached out to me, with small things like texts, and made me feel included and connected. I was no longer able to say hello to my classmates on the paths or have a casual meal with my friends. I had a profound and deep sense of loss that ached in my stomach. I wanted appreciation and connection, and in isolation, that is what I lacked. When people reached out to me, I again began to feel a sense of flexibility and freedom, even within my confined circumstances. The very messages that made me feel included were also the catalyst for my more explicit gratitude for my peers. What I wished I had begun to do earlier was express my gratitude for those around me. I wish I had appreciated my relationships more verbally and explicitly because that is what I appreciated in a moment of vulnerability.

This is not to say that every situation of isolation is the same, but I believe now, quite passionately, that explicit and profuse gratitude makes an unimaginable difference in those around. Those positive vibes, and that gratefulness for the people that support you, is so unbelievably helpful. Again, this is a message we have heard countless times before. But I will say that as you are going about your day, attending classes, doing work, or playing your sport, to think more intentionally about the effect and the energy you give to others. Be positive, be grateful, be supportive. It helps a lot, and in the process, you might feel better yourself.

Langan Garrett is an Upper from San Francisco, C.A. Contact the author at lgarrett24@andover.edu.

Uppers and Seniors Square Dance Class Bonding

REPORTING BY EVAN CURTIN

Before the start of classes, on the week of September 5, Andover hosted square dance instructors in Borden Memorial Gym. With their respective classes, Uppers and Seniors learned how to square dance with each other, accompanied by live music. Intended to be a class bonding activity, Andover organized the event as part of this year's orientation programming.

ANDREW DEBENEDICTIS '23

Square dancing is definitely not something I thought we would be doing for a class bonding meeting, but it was kind of fun to be honest, because you are square dancing with a lot of people—a lot of people you didn't even know, so that was pretty cool. It was sort of a weird but sort of fun break from daily orientation stuff. Next year I do not think they should do square dancing specifically, but something related to that type of activity that forces people to hang out and meet other people.

GEORGE STOODY '24

The square dance, I thought, was a fun way to meet new classmates, and I especially enjoyed seeing my friends again. Additionally, the musicians did a good job at teaching us the dance moves to the music. The one negative part of this bonding activity was that it was a little hot. With everyone dancing around, it created a lot of heat, so that wasn't great.

DAPHNE EDWARDS '23

The square dancing during our class bonding activity was a lot more fun than I initially anticipated. It's not something I was expecting or have ever done before, but I think since a lot of people were in the same situation it made it that much more thrilling. Trying something new with someone new and sharing laughs with my class is all I could have wanted, and the square dancing actively delivered.

NOUR RUSTUM '23

I think with the way square dancing is set up, you first can start off next to someone you know, and then you move on and rotate to a new person and start dancing with them. And I, personally, ended up meeting two new PG students, who are now some of my good friends, so I am glad I got to meet them and have that fun experience with them. Now I get lunch with these PG's, and it's a good way to meet new people. I think it was a really good experience, and it was a good way to make sure people are interacting with others they have not met before, because you keep rotating partners, so yeah it was definitely a lot of fun and PA should host it next year.

JACK SWALES '24

The square dance! It was actually really fun. I think everyone was a little reluctant on wanting to do it at first because it seemed a little stupid and childish, but once we got into the music, everyone was laughing and genuinely looked like they were having fun. However, it didn't really help anyone bond or help meet new people in my opinion, because everyone just ended up dancing with their friends. Still, it was pretty fun for an event that no one expected to be exciting, so I liked it!

Core Blue Introduces New Outlines for Community Standard Violation Protocol

Continued from 1, Column 1

According to Esty, the new edition will frame the ideals of the school's policy in a more positive light.

"Community and life is messy and beautiful. We're not perfect and we know that. This idea of framing it like, 'Let's build a healthy and inclusive community.' [That] feels really good to me instead of, 'Don't post mean things about people.' It's something I feel more energy toward and I hope more students will feel more energetic towards as well," said Esty.

The new edition of the book garnered mixed reactions from both students and faculty members. Miriam Villanueva, Instructor in History and Social Sciences, welcomed the change of the Blue Book and looks forward to seeing the impact in the institution and around campus, acknowledging the efforts of the administration team.

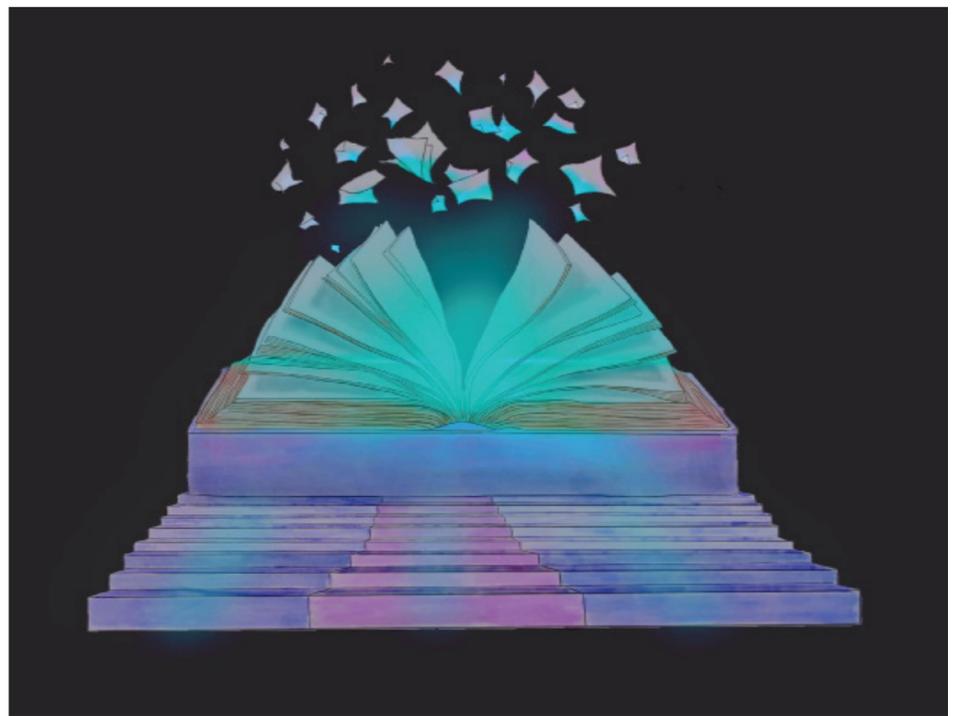
"I think it's exciting that they are thinking through alternative ways of building better relationships with students. It's difficult to innovate and enact change at a 200-year old institution, but they're making an effort. I'm sure the school is open to revising and fleshing out the details of it as time goes on," said Villanueva.

Saraya Angbazo '25 shared a similar view to Villanueva, noting that she has already learned more from Core Blue than the Blue Book. However, Angbazo highlighted concerns over the vagueness around changes to Andover's disciplinary system, as set forth by Core Blue.

"I think the new Core Blue book is a well-written, concise packet of information about our community's values. I like that it focuses on creating a healthy environment for Andover as a whole, while highlighting being good to oneself. It's super important that we respect self-care, especially at an institution as rigorous as [Andover. However,] when talking about Core Blue with house counselors, teachers, and other adults, we've never discussed the disciplinary system so far. Does this really affect the system? If so, what are the changes? I think it'd be beneficial for light to be shed on this topic," said Angbazo.

Though Ethan Oder '25 appreciated the abbreviated version of the Blue Book, as presented by Core Blue, he found faults in the paper's extensivity. Thus, Oder suggested a compromise for the length of Core Blue and the Blue Book.

"While it doesn't bring any large change, Core Blue recognizes that most students don't read the Blue Book, and presents a more



A.LIN/THEPHILLIPIAN

palatable option for [students]. [It shows] what's more important. However, the content itself feels

a little bit too barren to the extent that it's hard to find much value. I think a healthy medium between

this and the Blue Book should be what Andover should strive for," said Oder.

Seniors Compete in Grit 'N Wit Obstacle Course

Continued from 1, Column 4

was a new Upper last year, so I don't know many seniors, but it was nice just to get everyone there— and to recognize some faces," said Reidy.

Fellow Senior Pierre '23 echoed Reidy's sentiments. They thought it was fun to see people who would not typically work together collaborating throughout the obstacle course. Similarly, they appreciated the opportunity for the Senior class

to spend time with each other, separate from other grades.

"It was really fun seeing people in coordinated outfits from their advising [groups]. And it's like, 'wow, I didn't think these people would ever coordinate, because they're just random groups of people.' I also really enjoyed watching people really work towards their goal," said Pierre.

Alice Fan '23 explained that she liked completing the obstacle course more than once, both with her friends and advising group. Fan also expressed her

gratitude for Taylor Ware, the Associate Director of College Counseling and the coordinator of the event.

"I had a lot of fun at Grit 'n Wit and really enjoyed spending time with my friends as we begin our Senior year. I completed the obstacle course twice — the first time with my advising group and the second time with my friends. It was more physically taxing than the first round, but it was all in the name of genuine joy and team bonding. A huge shoutout to Ms. Ware and the EBI team for



A.CHINN/THEPHILLIPIAN

Students competed by advising group through a course of mental and physical challenges.

hosting such an amazing event," Fan wrote in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Despite their overall positive experience with the event, Pierre mentioned that the waiting times for various activities were longer than they would have liked. Regardless, they affirmed that they greatly enjoyed the activities.

"I know a lot of people had to wait a really long time to get into the event. So I think maybe trying to figure out a way to fix that... But that was really the only complaint, the food was really great. The people were great. The shirts are awesome.

Like, it [was] all so awesome," said Pierre.

According to Ware, although the program has changed since its origins, it still aims to be a space for class and advising-group bonding. Due to the new opening of school schedule implemented this academic year, more time has been allotted for community building than in years past.



A.CHINN/THEPHILLIPIAN

Bella Murray '23 leads her team in jumping over the wall obstacles.

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT

REPORTING BY SOPHIE STAH

Politics: Passing of Queen Elizabeth II

On September 8, Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's constitutional monarch, passed away in her summer residence at Balmoral Castle. Since 1952, the Queen served as a figure of stability for 70 years in the span of 15 prime ministers, ranging from Winston Churchill to the newly-appointed Liz Truss. Buckingham Palace announced the commencement of the Queen's funeral, Operation London Bridge, which will last ten days and conclude with the Queen's burial on September 19 in Westminster Abbey. The Queen's passing incited doubts about the relevance of constitutional monarchy in modern society; some refute the institution's outdated colonial fundamentals, while others argue its importance as a symbol of national unity and identity, according to "The New York Times."

Droughts: Devastation and Starvation Across the Globe

Since 2000, drought frequency and duration have increased by nearly a third worldwide, reported the United Nations (UN). This past summer was no exception. The Horn of Africa is experiencing its worst drought in 40 years, and "The New York Times" describes Somalia as "close to famine" for the first time since 2011. Data analysis by "EarthSky" indicates that record-breaking

heat waves are also drying up the Yangtze River in China and the Danube in Europe, attaining extremely low water levels that reveal sunken ships at the bottom of the water bed. The UN warned that drought could affect more than 75 percent of the world's population by 2050.

War: Reopening Of Schools in Ukraine

On September 10, after seven months of war between Russia and Ukraine, Ukraine reclaimed the city of Izium, a key city that Russia captured six months ago, reported "The New York Times." School in Ukraine also reopened on September 1, despite the ongoing pandemic and war. According to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), around two-thirds of Ukrainian children have fled their homes since the start of the war and an estimated ten percent of schools have been destroyed. Despite decreased capacity due to bomb shelters, which results in as little as 14 percent of the schools' full capacity for students, as many schools as possible are trying to reopen, both virtually and in person.

Economy: Global Chip Shortage

This past Friday, President Biden attended a groundbreaking ceremony for a \$20 billion Intel computer chip factory in Ohio. The Biden administration is building the

factory with the help of the "CHIPS and Science Act," granting a \$50 billion investment in the American semiconductor Industry, reported "The New York Times." Semiconductor chips control electrical flow and are used in everything from pacemakers to phones to automobiles. However, decreased production during Covid-19 and increasingly complicated global commerce due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine has caused a global chip shortage, explains "U.S. News," which the new factory in the U.S. hopes to help assuage.

Health: Covid-19 Updates

As of September 8, about more than 15 million people have died globally due to Covid-19, according to "The New York Times." Additionally, only 57 out of 195 countries have a vaccination rate of over 70 percent, the majority being high-income countries. However, the current global daily cases average is relatively low compared to its peak in mid-January. As a result, schools in the U.S. opened by eliminating many pandemic rules, like mask-wearing. Schools in other countries, such as the Philippines, reopened for the first time since the pandemic started in 2019, according to "The Times Of India." Many other countries still enforce stricter rules against Covid-19, such as China's "zero-Covid policy," with zero tolerance for the spread of Covid-19.

Student Leaders Enjoy Red Sox Game Before Start of School

MELISSA CHANG

As Andover's student leaders returned to campus earlier on September 1, many celebrated their first night back by going to the Red Sox game at Fenway Park. Student leaders included prefects, proctors, day student mentors, EBI seniors, cluster co-presidents, and the student body co-presidents. Sponsored by an anonymous donor, many student leaders appreciated the trip as a class bonding event.

Ishan Patel '23, an international student leader from Japan, was excited to watch an American baseball game for the first time. As an international student, he viewed the game as a gateway to learn more about American sports culture.

"My experience was pretty exciting because as an inter-

national student that came to America solely based on attending Phillips Academy, this is my first ever baseball game. And the Red Sox, I would say, is an internationally well-known team. I [found] that Americans are very passionate about baseball. I think because of the way this game is structured, nobody had to know anything about baseball to understand what was happening," said Patel.

Ysabella Vargas '23, a day student mentor, agreed with Patel, indicating that the trip brought a refreshing spirit to the group of students. Despite knowing little about baseball, Vargas found that herself and others could still enjoy the game.

"I don't really know much about baseball, [but] everything was great. I liked the energy of the game. Just being with my friends made this a memorable trip regardless of

whether we were paying attention to the game," wrote Vargas in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Upon the opening of school, many students find it difficult to connect with peers, especially new students. Nigel Savage '23, 2022-23 Student Body Co-President, appreciated the opportunity to make new friends and catch up with old ones.

"[My] major takeaway is that it was a great way for student leaders to bond and come together as a community. I went with my friends who are also student leaders and had a lot of fun.... The bus ride was really fun. It almost felt like summer camp, just having no stress and hanging with friends when school hasn't started yet," wrote Savage in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Similar to Savage, Patel enjoyed getting to know his classmates better through ex-

ploring Fenway Park. Patel appreciated the stress-free nature of the event without the hustle of schoolwork.

"I think [the Red Sox game] is a great bonding event, because more than the game itself, meeting everyone earlier and just having a relaxing time was honestly just relaxing. And I think, like me and my friends, we kind of visited around or walked around the park. We played a couple of the games that are available, went into the merch store that they have there, and just had a good time in general," said Patel.

However, some student leaders felt that the transportation, seating, and accommodations for international students could have been improved. Specifically, Patel expressed how due to the lack of rest from traveling, the bus trips were somewhat exhausting for many international stu-

dents.

Patel said, "I would say that the transportation was actually done quite poorly in my opinion. I think that the trip from school to Fenway Park, in general, was quite good. But the return journey was fairly rough. I think we were delayed by a very good margin, and on top of that, the bus [was], besides being late, very cold. I explicitly remember this because the majority of international students [in the] leadership training were jet-lagged, and I was on four hours of sleep the next day because the transportation was kind of messed up. I think if it was possibly handled better, I could have probably gone into the next day and experienced leadership training in a more invigorated and relaxed state."

Following his time at Andover as both a student and teaching fellow, Howard Kalter '07 rejoined the Andover community this year as an Instructor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, as well as as the Head Coach for Andover Boys Varsity Water Polo. Beyond the classroom, Kalter enjoys hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, and fly fishing.

REPORTING BY CONNOR GLEASON

10 Questions with Howard Kalter '07

1. Why did you decide to rejoin the Andover community?

There are many reasons. As a student and a teaching fellow, I had amazing experiences in this community, and worked with some amazing colleagues. I'm really excited to further my experiences as a teacher and a coach here. It's just a great place with so many happy memories.

2. How has Andover changed since you were a student here?

The schedule—that's a big change. [Before], you had three 45 [minute periods] a week and one 75 [minute period] with each class... I guess I haven't really taught a long class yet, because we've had just these short periods, but I do like the new schedule. The new facilities are amazing, too. I'm really excited to coach in the new pool soon and the Snyder Center is beautiful. Some teachers have phased out and retired, but there [are] still a lot of teachers that are here, so it's something that stayed the same that I'm really excited about.

3. How did you become interested in math?

It was probably the amazing teachers I had at [Andover]. I think I was always drawn to math because it made sense to me and I, as much as a high school student can enjoy it, enjoyed [it]. It was similar in college; I just gravitated toward math classes because it was interesting and wasn't as hard as some of my other classes I was taking. It just kind of made sense.

4. What advice would you give to Andover students?

Try to take advantage of as many parts of Andover's community, curriculum, residential offerings, and extracurricular offerings as you possibly can. It's a very unique place that offers things that you won't see in many other high schools and [even] some universities... Just take part in as many different things as you can.

5. What is your favorite field in math?

I am more interested in applied math than theoretical math, and so in the field of applied math, I think linear algebra is interesting. It is so useful in many industries and a lot of data science and things like that. It's a very powerful tool.

6. What is your favorite location on campus, and has that changed since you were a student here?

As a student, I would say my favorite area on campus was Pine Knoll because that [was] where I lived, and we had a lot of fun there. Now, I think my new favorite area will be the pool [in the Pan Athletic Center] when it's finished. I [also] like Paresky [Commons]. It's a nice area. That's another thing that's changed a lot since I was a student.

7. What is your favorite meal at Paresky Commons?

I haven't gotten to try that many yet. I've been gravitating towards pizza. The Hearth options have been pretty good. I've been trying those a lot.

8. Do you have any strategies that students could use to better understand difficult math concepts?

It's really just problem-solving strategies and skills, so trying to look at it from a different angle [and] trying to use what you've done in previous problems to apply that skill or those techniques to the new problem. Then, if all that fails, seeking help. It's okay to seek help from peers, tutors, or from math teachers.

9. What is the most important lesson you've learned from your students over the years?

The most important lesson I've learned from my students is that there [are] many different perspectives in mathematics, and the more you can become aware of and understand, the easier it is to communicate with each other.

10. What is your favorite memory as a student at Andover?

Andover-Exeter weekend was really fun, [but] spirit week beforehand was my favorite, because there used to be... Exeter Geek Day. That was one of my favorite events, because my friends and I would really dress up. We went all out for that event [since] we had a lot of fun dressing up and running around campus being silly.

Learning in the World Offers Myriad of International and US-Based Summer 2022 Programs

TIANYI GU & WILL GE

Over the summer, Andover hosted its Learning in the World (LITW) programs, which consisted of both in-person and virtual options. Some of the programs included “Civil Rights: The American Story,” “ACE 2’s College Road Trips,” “Confluence: Environment, Community, Culture,” and “INESLE Madrid.”

Mark Cutler, Director of LITW and Instructor in Spanish, elaborated on the program’s mission to ignite curiosity, inspire globally minded action anywhere in the world, and prepare students for engaged global citizenship. Cutler emphasized his goal for students to learn to be stewards of various other cultures, environments, and peoples. Regardless of the destination a student chooses, Cutler hopes they will become more globally conscious in their day-to-day life.

“Whatever the environment that they are in, whatever the context is, I want [students] to

engage with it in such a way that they become stewards of that [environment]. How can we, as outsiders, become stewards of that? How can we help to sustain their lifestyle in such a way that is fair and just to them, while acknowledging that we have our own traditions and lifestyle? Maybe you also become more aware of who you are through those interactions,” said Cutler.

Alice Fan ’23, a participant in LITW’s Curricular Connection program to Washington, D.C. for Citizens’ Climate Lobby, commented on how the program broadened her sense of the nation’s various views on climate policy.

“It’s really good to get a broader sense, nationally, of what is happening. To have people from places like Oregon, Wyoming, and across the country come together to talk about climate legislation.... It was really cool to see adults and youth come together and discuss the future of climate policy,” said Fan.

ACE 2’s College Road Trip participant Anthony Diaz ’25 believes that LITW provides

students with the opportunity to expand their worldview. In his opinion, the program offered him the chance to explore new environments and experiences.

“I believe the content of LITW was to show the world to students, whether it be in the United States or internationally. I think that’s what you’re learning in the world—whether it be colleges or being fully affiliated with cultures,” said Diaz.

Byron Johnson ’25 participated in LITW Civil Rights: The American Story. He expanded on the idea of building strong connections and emphasized the importance of being present in historical locations to deepen his understanding of history.

“Seeing everything and being in the places where historical things happened, and not just reading about it in a book, was definitely really helpful for me and made me care more about the history that I’ve been learning about for years. The enlightenment of being in those places made me think more about history,” said Johnson.

Darla Moody ’24 attend-

ed LITW’s joint program with INESLE Madrid — Institute of Spanish. She noted that the program changed her approach to learning Spanish, and helped her realize the importance of being immersed in Spanish culture and directly engaging with native speakers.

Moody said, “I had a lot of time to hang out with my family and get to know the culture via a normal and relaxed daily summer life. But then, we had days that were extremely populated with things like museum visits, and we had lots of classroom learning every week. I haven’t had a Spanish classroom experience that was that good at colloquialisms and very, very native things. Nowadays, to learn Spanish, I don’t rely on school as much as I try to surround myself with Spanish memes and talk to my Spanish relatives and my Spanish host family on our old group chat.”

Cutler advises prospective LITW students to take risks. He added that the experience of a LITW program is unique and requires students to jump out of

their comfort zone.

“Taking this risk, and giving up what you are comfortable with, giving up the idea of routine, giving up the idea of perfection so that you can go off and experience this completely imperfect, completely disorienting experience, you can go off and experience this whole thing. That, for me, is what it’s about. Go ahead and just take the risk—dive in, immerse yourself, don’t look back,” said Cutler.

Cutler captured the essence of LITW with a question he commonly poses to students: Where do you see yourself in the world? He hopes the question will make people reflect on their role as global citizens.

“The idea is that it’s not only geographically ‘where do you see yourself in the world?’ but also ‘how do you want to position yourself to be an engaged global citizen, now and in your future?’ I want kids to come in, I want adults to come in, and answer this question with me: ‘Where do you see yourself in the world?’” said Cutler.

First All School Meeting Starts Year With Speeches and Celebration

Continued from 1, Column 1

get hyped up, that meant a lot to me because I think the first ASM during my freshman year held significance where I realized Andover is a school of community.”

New international students Iwo Wicinski ’24 and Maya Rogers ’25 shared personal anecdotes on what they believed were qualities shared by all Andover students. Wicinski shared how he had at first considered turning down the opportunity to speak at the assembly before changing his mind after realizing that the possibility of such an opportunity was the very reason he had decided to attend Andover.

“At that exact moment, I realized that stepping out of your comfort zone is the very

beginning of creating your own better future. And what unites us all more than caring about our own futures? We all chose the best school in America, not to get comfortable, but to get better. So that we work, sweat, and at times even [shed] tears, every person could build a dream future, different for everyone, but one for us all,” said Wicinski.

To conclude the meeting, Dr. Raynard Kington, Head of School, shared some closing remarks, including advice to capture the small details, focus and lean on community, and treat yourself. He concluded by wishing students a wonderful year.

“As our returning students know, your Andover days will mark some of the best and some of the most challenging times, moments that will stick with you, experiences with friends who will stick by you

for the rest of your lives. So make this an extraordinary year, let’s seize this moment with purpose, with Big Blue heart, with great joy.”

Piper Lasater ’26 acknowledged that it would take time to internalize Dr. Kington’s advice. However, she noted that simply being a part of this moment has opened the door to community and opportunity.

“I think it’s hard for me to process because I think it’ll set in more when I’m older, like Senior year when I’m about to leave high school. But even just getting here, his words really did stick, because I have noticed there’s just so many great people to meet here and so many opportunities,” said Lasater.

Editor’s Note: Dakota Chang ’23 is a Digital Editor for The Phillipian.

2022 Orientation Marks Start of Andover Journey for New Students

Continued from 1, Column 1

not alone in the really hard transition and that every other international kid went through the same thing that they did,” said Nyiha.

Similarly, Ananya Madduri ’23, Co-President of International Club (I-Club), spoke to the positive effects of having a separate orientation for international students. However, Madduri also mentioned the challenges of organizing NISO around the new orientation schedule.

“NISO historically occurred before the regular orientation so it was really important to have that before new international students were to go into the Blue Key orientation. The struggle that we were having was there was really little time between the time of orientation and the time to register on campus because they were not bringing that many students back [on campus] that much earlier, so it was definitely impacted, but everything turned out quite positively. It was just really exciting to see this new group of students get familiar with the campus that two months later they’re going to know by heart, and to see students mark the beginning of their Andover journey,” said Madduri.

Many students found this year’s orientation successful in terms of the hopes Murphy highlighted. Theo Wei ’26, a Junior, expressed how the orientation events allowed him to create more connections during his first week on campus.

“I liked the activities and schedules as a whole because [they] allowed me to meet new people and friends. I [think] that the orientation events have provided me with a smooth transition to Andover

and I liked the half days in the middle of the week because it gave students free time to catch up on any homework or expand their social life more,” said Wei.

Adele Ciociola ’25, a new Lower, expressed that she enjoyed orientation as a whole, as it provided bonding opportunities. She noted, however, that she wished there was more free time to interact with dormmates and meet people outside of the structured activities.

“I think some of the activities were really fun and a really good way to bond and connect, but there [was] a little too much briefing and isolation sometimes. I feel like it was definitely very busy and there could’ve been more free time for new lowers to kind of interact with people in your dorm and form your own connections. I [still] think it was good to have this transition period into classes,” said Ciociola.

Another student, Adaora Mbanefo ’24, had a mixed response to the program. She felt that although the execution of the plan could have been improved, the orientation schedule offered a good opportunity to meet new people and settle into campus.

“I think class bonding-wise, the plan was very good, just the execution needed a little work. For me personally, no matter how long you’ve been here, you’re never going to know everybody and it’s always a good chance to meet new people. It’s a chance to meet everyone and see the faces of people in your grade. This year there was a lot more time to settle in, unpack, get ready, prepare for school, which I think is very important to start the school year off right,” said Mbanefo.



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Before the first All School Meeting, Seniors, led by Blue Key Heads, lined up to process into Cochran Chapel.

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THE REAL ORIENTATION IS HERE:

Future Harvard '27 Recaps Productive Summer to College Counselor

NED THORNTON



Hi College Counselor,

I hope you had a relaxing summer. I sure did. I spent it island-hopping on Flying Fox from Monaco to Ibiza and everywhere around and in between (except Mykonos, God forbid, I do have class). You know I really committed myself to fully experiencing the culture of the Mediterranean. Of course, I wouldn't be caught dead with the locals, but I did "pasar tiempo" with several foreigners from London, the Cotswolds, and the likes. Funnily enough, all of our parents actually went to school together, which to me is a coincidence which only further demonstrates the incredible life experience gained by these rich summer cultural experiences.

But don't get the wrong idea. My summer wasn't all pristine beaches, numerous women, or spectacular boats slicing through the emerald sea. I actually didn't even leave for Europe until June 21, more than two weeks after I finished school. How embarrassing! I was forced to turn off Snap Map and even deleted my socials in case, in my nightly lapse of judgment, I were to post a story with the humble glittering lights of the UES in the background. I was only home for so long because my mother required me to attend my great-grandfather's funeral. She just has no idea about the importance of my senior summer. She was visibly upset when I suggested that if Grandpappy's funeral were in St. Tropez, maybe people would actually want to go. I think this traumatic experience could be a good topic for a college essay, no?

When I finally made it "across the pond," it wasn't all smooth sailing either. Let's just say, inflation has really hit Loro Piana and Cannes. My expertise in economics really became applicable this summer. Thankfully, unlike the boat of my personal idol, Jordan Belfort in "The Wolf of Wall Street," I can handle a bit of chop. I'm actually more of a Madoff man, but Belfort is still pretty cool.

Anyway, I look forward to our next chat. Let me know what you think of the essay idea. I think I'm headed in the right direction.

Ciao,
Ned

WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- *Shocking News: A 96-Year-Old Woman Has Died*
- *Mispronounced Land Acknowledgement at Matriculation Invents New Tribes*
- *ASM Becomes Weekly so Administrators Can Finally Have a Job Description*
- *No Tests, No Problems—For Covid-19 and Academia*
- *Students Eat the Mushrooms Growing in Pine Knoll Bathrooms to Supplement Commons Diet*
- *The Lawns Are Yellow—PASC Seems to Be Doing Its Job*
- *Dilemma: A Hot Teacher in That Class You Need to Drop*

write for the eighth page if

- 1) you think you can make us funnier
 - 2) you want to be a part of the best section of the Phillipian
 - 3) you have a crush on evalyn or nicky
- email @elee23 and @nessaid24

Eighth Page Detective Uncovers Reason for Dr. Kington's Absence at Matriculation

As the entire student body gathered together in the chapel in order to start the 2022 school year, one familiar face seemed to be missing. HOS 2.0 Mundra, Dean Esty, and even the three new cluster deans welcomed us, but where was Dr. RayK? The elusive Head of School was nowhere to be found, and we decided we had to get to the bottom of it. The Eighth Page sent a detective to track down Dr. RayK's movements on the night of Matriculation.

- 6:40 p.m. - Dr. RayK spotted hunting for specific book in library. The title, "How to Connect With Teenagers For Dummies."
- 6:41 p.m. - The doctor is on the move. Caught strolling through the sanctuary to understand the attraction. Only thing he saw was raccoons fornicating. He takes out notepad, and writes, "this is great speech content."
- 6:50 p.m. - Dr. RayK creeps past the Chapel and hears thunderous applause. The doctor wonders if it makes physical sense for the applause to sound louder from the outside than from when he's behind the podium.
- 7:00 p.m. - The doctor reheats a fragrant Commons seafood stew. Fish is great for the brain.
- 7:17 p.m. - Hunched over his bathroom sink, Dr. RayK compares his reflection to a photo of Chris Hemsworth's glorious stubble.
- 7:20 p.m. - Dr. RayK settles into bed, reaching for the latest copy of a RAND Corporation report. Nothing like a misleading statistical report to put him to sleep.
- 7:30 p.m. - The doctor rises from bed to take his BeReal. This is what the book said to do.
- 8:00 p.m. - Dr. Kington does not return to bed because of the supposed bluelight from his phone that interrupted his REM sleep. Dr. RayK turns on his recording of "The Notebook" and cradles a box of tissues.
- 8:30 p.m. - Dr. RayK falls asleep after another busy day as Head of School.

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

"Dr. RayK reminds me of my father—we don't know where he is."

"I'm gonna get with soooo many girls because of how big...my speaker is."

"There are two types of freshman boys: the ones who have seen "The Wolf of Wall Street," and the ones who haven't."

"Senior Fall is such a cock block"

Reading CORE BLUE is Essential. So Eighth Page Published it.

LOUISA CARTER

Welcoming Statement: At Phillips Academy, we strive to foster a supportive and intentionally diverse environment, regardless of the homogenous cliques that form upon arrival. Educating "Youth from Every Quarter" is our ultimate objective, although in our quarter we seem to find more New England athletes with Bible verses in their Instagram bios. Inspirational stuff, by the way. All students are expected to live by "Non Sibi," whether this means helping a "friend" by reminding them of their loveable defects or leaving uneaten food on your Commons plate for the worms in the "compost."

Essential Elements to Living: In order to be a contributing member of the Andover community, students must abide by the guidelines. Some of our community expectations include:

- Respect food delivery hours. If ordering occurs past the allowed times, a fleet of Campus Safety Toyota Hybrids will swarm the DoorDash

driver and force them to give the name of the orderer. Of course, our main concern is the reason for hunger at such a late hour, but in order to train our students to be leaders of a strong future, they must learn to hunt for their own food.

- Students are required to maintain basic levels of hygiene at all times. "Accidentally" giving your entire dorm a foot fungus because you didn't wear your shower flip flops may slide the first few times, but it will eventually not be tolerated. Wear shower shoes, or Sykes will bring out the machete.

- Class attendance and timeliness is crucial for every student's learning (yes, this includes EBI). It doesn't matter how little sleep you got or how much Covid is terrorizing your immune system. You cannot miss an essential class discussion that is dominated by that kid who believes oppression is an "abstract" concept.

Need Help? The Andover community consists of a web of services

made to assist students:

- Feeling like you are trapped and have nowhere to go? Submit a day excuse with details such as destination, mode of transportation, and a five-paragraph justification with Chicago Style footnotes. It is completely up to your House Counselor's approval which may take up to 7-14 business days.

- Experiencing Inequity and Exclusion? We will take immediate action. Sure, that kid who said that slur will still be able to graduate, but if we ever, ever catch someone with an incorrect citation (plagiarism is an act of hate), you can kiss the steps of Sam Phil goodbye.

Core Blue will transform our community, establishing Restorative Justice (fancy words, right? We are so woke). Even though Core Blue seems like a sugarcoated version of the Blue Book, this will truly enact effective and lasting change at our core.

ANDOVER SLANG FOR NEW STUDENTS:

House Counselor = CIA interrogator

Pine Knoll = Undeveloped Minecraft Biome

Sanctuary Stroll = Where Celibacy Goes to Die (for the squirrels, of course)

Weekly ASM = Mass Indoctrination to Commu—Non Sibi Spirit

PA Football Game = An Acceptable Show of Men Touching Each Other in Tights

Den Bathroom = Hookah Bar

EBI Senior = Sheeple Disciple

Basement of the Library = iPad Kid Affinity Group Headquarters



The Phillipian SPORTS

Volume CXLV | Number 16

Focus. Speed.
I am speed.

September 16, 2022

GIRLSVOLLEYBALL

Girls Volleyball Sweeps Dana Hall, Falls Short to BB&N

MEG STINEMAN

SATURDAY	
Andover	3
Dana Hall	0
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	2
BB&N	3

Andover Girls Volleyball dominated offensively, sweeping Dana Hall School 3-0 on Saturday with consistently strong serves and hits. On Wednesday, despite the team's adjusted lineup due to Covid-19 protocol, its players stayed persistent in a tight game against BB&N. Although initially down 2-0, the team forced the game to five sets but fell just short in the final set, losing 14-16. The team's record now stands at 1-1.

According to Head Coach Clyfe Beckwith, Saturday's season opener against Dana Hall School initiated a sense of chemistry within the team. In addition to coordinated attacks, Beckwith highlighted the team's defense, which led the team to win by 12 points in two of the three sets.

"We learned to play together. It was our first match, we did have a scrimmage against Andover High, but it was the first match that we had, and I believe what we did is we started forming as a team.



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover defeated Dana Hall in sets of 25-13, 25-19, 25-13 but fell short against BB&N 20-25, 23-25, 25-18, 25-19, 14-16.

The unexpected benefits on Saturday were our back row attacks and our defense," said Beckwith.

In the first two sets of Wednesday's game against BB&N, the team's hitters could not connect with the ball to formulate effective attacks, mostly due to poor communication and a lack of confidence, according to Lena Ciganer-Albeniz '25. However, in the latter sets, the team quickly gained confidence in its offense, allowing for a comeback.

Ciganer-Albeniz said, "I think there [were] a lot of

good things we did really well... We were down two sets, and after that, there was a whole lot of communication and a lot of energy... All the hitters were swinging so well and they were going for it, and the other team was really persistent in [its] defense. In the third and fourth set, we were able to break that because we were patient, but also not afraid of making mistakes and just going for it."

Leading up to Wednesday's game, many of the team's starters could not play due to Covid-19. Thus, Beckwith's main focus for the game was

filling in the missing players while still maintaining a cohesive lineup.

"Well, what we are focusing on improving is filling the gaps of [Covid-19] absences. We will have some significant line-up changes because of missing starters, so the main focus quite frankly will be to function as a team without our starters," said Beckwith.

Though the team was initially tentative with its new lineup, Saraya Angbazo '25 noticed an increase in energy once its players became more comfortable with their positions. The high energy

allowed the team to show its true potential both offensively and defensively in the last three sets.

"I think we did well picking the energy up even after being two sets down in the beginning, but quickly we got the energy back up and the spirit high, and that pushed us to winning the next two sets. In practice, although we miss Mary [Lord '24] and Pauline [Huang '23] and wish we had all the players on the team playing together, I think we were able to quickly bounce back and move people around into different positions, and we could quickly pick it up," said Angbazo.

Although the comeback against BB&N was a full team effort, Ciganer-Albeniz specifically highlighted Angbazo and Karisa Bockley '23 for playing middle blocker and hitter, despite each not being their primary position. According to Ciganer-Albeniz, their efforts were crucial to the team's success.

"Volleyball is a sport where everyone has to contribute in order for the team to score a point. We have two middle hitters that are out right now because of Covid-19, so then Saraya and Karisa came in to play middle, and they did so incredibly well given that they don't always start or play that position," said Ciganer-Albeniz.

Andover will host Taft and Hotchkiss on Saturday and play at Brooks on Wednesday.

FOOTBALL

Football Holds Optimistic Mindset For Season after Joint Practice with Brooks

STAFF REPORT

Andover Football's quarterback, Davian McDonald '25, caught the Brooks defensive line off-guard by passing short to the man in motion, ending the day with a 60-yard touchdown play. With a variety of drills and scrimmages against Brooks, the team not only further developed its offensive and defensive strategies, but further cultivated its sense of unity.

Prior to the first official game, many teams in the New England Preparatory Athletic Council (Nepsac) league hold a joint practice where two teams come together to compete in technical drills and small-sided scrimmages. According to Co-Captain Andrew DeBenedictis '23, the joint practice mostly focused on one-on-one matchups, but also included a short, full contact scrimmage.

"For the first hour, it was one-on-one. Receivers were with the defensive backs, and vice versa, linemen were with the linemen, and the linebackers with the running backs. It was more just kind of guarding each other... Then after that, it was seven-on-seven. The linemen and the big guys got a break, and it was just skill guys on skill guys, so

receivers and running backs on linebackers and defensive backs, and we did that for about 20 minutes or so. Then we went to 11-on-11, so full team, full contact, like a normal game," said DeBenedictis.

With only four days of official preseason this year, the team faced challenges with fitting in enough practices prior to its first official game. Despite the tight schedule, the numerous two-a-day practices, team dinners, film reviews, and locker room talks have allowed the team to spend quality time together, according to Javeon Talbot PG'23.

"Coming in, we [didn't] have the most numbers... Our preseason [was] cutting it a lot closer to the actual season, [so in] preseason, you're pushing. We'd have practice three times a day, two times a day, two hours each, and so that's when the injuries and stuff come. But at the same time, spending all that time together brings you that much closer, so I'd say it was all worth it, even with the injuries. And no one is extreme. No one is out for the season or anything like that for week one, so we're looking good, and our chemistry is there," said Talbot.

According to Justin Hardy '23, the few players out for minor injury are mostly for



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Joe Carrara '24 is one of three co-captains, serving alongside Andrew DeBenedictis '23 and Aidan Porter '23.

precaution leading up to the season opener. He noted an important change to the team this season: its coaching staff and philosophy.

"We have a new offensive coordinator and new defensive coordinator. Our coaches last year were great, but this year, we have two new coaches coming in, which means we have a new offense and a new defense. We have a new starting quarterback. [McDonald] is a lower, so he's going to be

our starting quarterback this year. The quarterback and the receivers and the entire team in general just seem to have great chemistry. We're working well with the coaches. The coaches are putting forward great offense, great defense. The team really seems to be like a team unit this year, and we're playing all together," said Hardy.

In addition to adapting well to the new coaches, Hardy believes the team has adapted well to each other. All players, new or returning, have been working to create "a band of brothers."

"Our coaches always talk about being good people on and off the field. That's one thing that our coach, especially our head coach, constantly preaches. Everyone has adjusted flawlessly. Everyone treats each other with respect on and off the field. It's like a band of brothers is what some of the coaches have been saying... Everyone's working together really well. There have been no disputes or anything like that," said Hardy.

After scoring a few touchdowns during the full-sided scrimmage, the team is optimistic about its offense, something they struggled with last season. However, Talbot em-

phasized that the team realizes there is still much room for improvement.

"We were satisfied, but not content. We know we did [well], but we also know we had a lot farther to go. The next day coming to practice, everyone had that same ambition even though we were tired... But [it's] just us all having the same mindset towards the end, [and] knowing that we got a lot to accomplish," said Talbot.

Hardy believes the joint practice serves as momentum going into the season opener. He noted that the team will have most, if not all, of its players ready this coming Saturday, eager to show what they've been working on these past two weeks.

"Last year, obviously, we had some trouble, but we're confident going into our first game. Hopefully we can win that first game in front of our home crowd, build up a lot of momentum, and carry that into further weeks," said Hardy.

Andover will open its season against Kent at home this Saturday.



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Football is looking to rebound following its 1-7 record last season.

SPECIALFEATURE

Randy Castillo, Former Equipment Assistant For the New England Patriots, Joins Andover Athletics

STAFF REPORT

Beginning his career at Merrimack College as Lead Student Equipment Manager, Randy Castillo has since worked for the New England Patriots as their Equipment Assistant. This year, Castillo will join Corey Paolillo, Equipment Manager, in Andover's equipment room, bringing valuable managing skills and extensive knowledge acquired from his time in professional football.

According to Castillo, the intensity of a professional football program means its equipment managers face large amounts of work and pressure every day. For Castillo, working with the Patriots developed key organizational and time-management skills.

"[The Patriots] have a lot of equipment there, obviously. From gear to T-shirts to jerseys and so forth. So [it's] basically, being very good at being on top of your organizational skills, and top of that, being good with your time management, [and] not to focus on one duty for the entire day, like you can't be folding towels for the entire day. [It's] learning how to micromanage and basically when to do

something—what time's the right time and what time's the wrong time," said Castillo

Not only will Castillo come into the Andover Athletics with professional experience, but also, a set of pre-existing relationships with current members of the community. For example, Castillo and Paolillo have known each other for eight years – both former equipment managers at Merrimack College – and rely on each other's strengths in the equipment room.

"At Merrimack, we both helped each other back. He was doing football, I was doing hockey, so it was good to have him answer questions. Then when I first got the job here, I had little knowledge about football, so he definitely helped when I had football questions. Uniforms, helmets, shoulders, anything I needed, I texted him and he had a good answer for me," said Paolillo.

Castillo also met Andover's current Assistant Athletic Trainer, Devin O'Reilly, at Merrimack College. Though O'Reilly was a student-athlete at the time, he benefited from the relationship with Castillo for football equipment-related issues and as an athletic training student.

"There's this picture of us

giving each other a high five before one of our home games at Merrimack. It's one of my favorite pictures from Merrimack. We did have a close relationship, me being a player and him being an equipment manager. He would come out for practices and catch balls and stuff like that. He's always there to say what's up or give a helping hand, so there's that one picture that I have that's super cool, and I always think of it," said O'Reilly.

With prior experience mostly in football, Castillo is excited to be able to manage a wide variety of teams and sports, each of which have their own cultures and personalities. In addition, he wants to utilize his experience to add his "own spin" to the current equipment room.

Castillo said, "I'm looking forward to working with the student body. I'm looking forward to bringing what I learned at the Patriots here, and bringing a professional experience to [Andover]. Hopefully, I can give the student body, the student-athletes, a great experience athletically, especially coming from the equipment room and improving anything that needs to improve here. I'm happy to be here, and I'm glad this is my new home."



R.NASSERZADEH/THE PHILLIPIAN

Without skilled equipment managers, Andover's sports teams wouldn't have the materials or preparation necessary to play two to three times a week. According to O'Reilly, Castillo will be a crucial member of Andover Athletics in the future, alongside Paolillo in the equipment room.

"He's going to be an awesome asset for Andover to have, for his equipment

knowledge, and he and Corey, who is our present-day equipment manager, they actually know each other from Merrimack, so I think that team duo is going to help Andover Athletics be more prepared and have great stuff on campus for our sports teams to be ready to play Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Super excited to have him," said O'Reilly.

FIELDHOCKEY

Field Hockey Starts Season Strong With 7-1 Scrimmage Victory Over St. Mark's

STAFF REPORT

WEDNESDAY	
Andover	7
St. Mark's	1

Working with a team of twelve new players, Andover Girls Varsity Field Hockey exhibited strong ball handling and offensive production in its most recent scrimmage against St. Mark's. The team's 7-1 victory follows its undefeated New England Preparatory Athletic Council (Nep-sac) championship run last season.

According to Zori Warren '23, the team's chemistry is strong despite there being many new faces. She noted that the team bonding events, planned by the captains and coaches, have been instrumental in allowing the play-

ers to get to know one another as well.

"Our team this year has great team chemistry, and besides the fact that everyone on the team is just a genuinely nice person, I give a lot of credit to our captains and coaches for facilitating such a welcoming team environment. They have organized team dinners, brunches, and buddy pairs within the team that have brought us all closer together on and off the field," wrote Warren in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Annabel Curry '25 reflected on the scrimmage's high-points, which most notably included an efficient offense that was productive throughout the entire game.

"The scrimmages are really useful to see how we play as a team. We need to work [under] pressure, and I think it kind of shows that, okay, we can go out here and we can score a lot.... We have a ten-



L.BENARDETE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover is looking to continue its success on the field following the team's 18-0-1 record last season.

dency, I think, at least at this point, just taking it one game at a time... just continuing working on these scrimmag-

es is nice, because we want to see what we need to work on. And those get put into the practice plan. That's where everything's a little bit different, but similar to last year, just focusing, working hard and keep getting better," said Curry.

Co-Captain Keira Harder '23 gave her perspective on future adjustments, noting the importance of building the team's confidence in game-type situations.

Harder said, "I think a couple of things we could work on would probably be like spreading the field a little bit more. And trying to come up with more passing combinations. But even towards the end of today's scrimmage, I was seeing given goes, I was seeing kids trying new things. Like some of our newer kids, we have a couple of kids who are newer to the sport who have only been playing for a little bit and they were try-

ing new skills in the scrimmage, which was awesome to see. And I love that our team is taking risks, especially in a scrimmage, which is as it should be. And I love that we got everybody in today, which was fabulous as well."

Harder shared her enthusiasm in regards to this season. She believes that if Andover continues to play as a cohesive unit with full effort from everybody, the ceiling will be extremely high.

"It's awesome that everybody's so bought in and really giving 100 percent to the team. So, again, I'm so excited for this season. And I can't wait to see where we go. Because I know we had an unbelievable boost season last year... [and] I am beyond excited for this team to see how far we go," said Harder.

Andover will travel to Thayer for its season opener on Saturday.



L.BENARDETE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Keira Harder '23 serves as co-captain alongside Shea Freda '24.

GIRLSSOCCER

Girls Soccer Defeats Groton 3-1 in Season Opener

MEG STINEMAN

WEDNESDAY	
Andover	3
Groton	1

Emma Robinson '23, Co-Captain of Andover Girls Varsity Soccer, lobbed a corner ball straight to the center of the box. After the ball bounced off a Groton player, Wylie Roossien '26 ran towards the goal and, off a volley, scored her third goal of the game. Assisted by Robinson, Emily Mara '25, and Lily

Keim '25, Roossien's hat-trick propelled the team to a 3-1 win over Groton. Andover's record now stands at 1-0.

This year's team consists of nine Juniors and eight new members moving up from JV. With more than half its roster new to the team, Andover's main focus for the first games is rebuilding a strong team chemistry, according to Kate McCool '23.

"The team consists of a lot of new players this year. We had a lot of graduating Seniors last year. Our focus at the beginning of the season is just to try and create a cohesive team as possible but that doesn't seem to be a problem at all, so I think for the rest

of the season we are focused on scoring a lot, winning and lot," said McCool.

According to Lauren Herlihy '25, maintaining possession throughout the game allowed the team to create dangerous opportunities against Groton. In addition, she highlighted the high energy and high speed-of-play of the game.

"We played really well as a team today. We hustled really well and won most of the fifty-fifty balls. Our passes and crosses were really on point today. Our energy in the last five minutes [matched] how we started the game," said Herlihy.

Ava Davey '25 shared similar sentiment to Herlihy, em-

phasizing the team's accurate passes and dominant possession. However, she believes the team could still work on its stamina in order to preserve good communication in the latter half of the game.

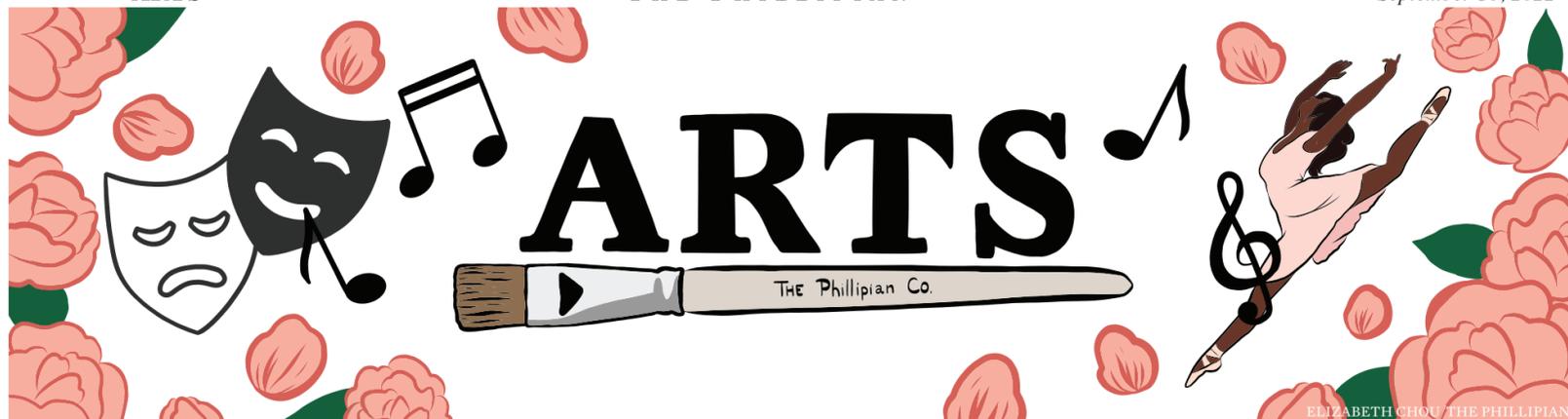
"I think we played very well as a team today, and I think something we can work on is communicating and finishing in the final third. We can also continue to pass to our outside backs and center backs to open up the fields, but our passes were mostly spot on, and we won a bunch of fifty-fifty balls today," said Davey.

In addition to Roossien, McCool gives credit to the rest of the team's offense.

Specifically, she emphasized that the team's attackers maintained consistent pressure on Groton's defense, forcing turnovers and breaking confidence.

"I thought the team was extremely strong in the attacking third of the field. We have Wiley and Emily Mara and of course Jazzy Cormier [24]. They are extremely strong up top and forced a high-pressure on the other team's defense and shook them up a bit, and that was really the reason we scored so many goals today," said McCool.

Andover will play at Rivers on Saturday and host Middlesex on Wednesday.



The Upcoming Music Building: Andover's New Cultural Corridor

ALICIA ZHANG

Scheduled to be completed in 18 to 24 months, the construction process for a new music building that will replace Graves Hall is currently underway. A spacious 30,000-square-foot facility with a 250-seat performance hall and ensemble rooms, the new music building will be located on Phillips Street alongside the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archeology, and will become Andover's new cultural corridor. Unlike Graves, originally a science building, the building will be constructed strictly for music, allowing an enhanced space for students to pursue their musical dreams.

"I think [the new building] will be so inspiring for students. One of the amazing things about Andover is that music class is a graduation requirement.... My hope is that even if someone is coming to Andover with very little music background, they would get into that [Music 225] class and be exposed to this amazing technology and these amazing spaces, and then they would want to somehow keep music going in their life at Andover," said Abbey Siegfried, Chair in Music.

The modern, technologically enhanced spaces offered in the building, including the



M.CHEN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

recording studio and percussion studio, will foster new opportunities for creativity and encourage more students to become involved in music. Moreover, the addition of acoustically improved practice rooms will be an immense improvement from the practice rooms in the basement of Graves and will allow more one-on-one music lessons for students.

"[The new building] is definitely going to provide us with a lot more opportunities because with new concert halls, we'll just have a stronger music department in general. People are going to be

more attracted to the school with the new music building, so it will just strengthen us.... It's just beneficial to us and the people in the music community as well," said violinist Patricia Tran '24.

Not only will the new building include new technologies, but it will also include larger community spaces. For example, the center of the building is a two story court that will allow students to socialize and study. Karen Wang '24, another musician, expressed optimism for these spaces, noting that they would be a step up from the small communal spaces in Graves.

an administrative building. Despite the several improvements that the new building will have to offer, the history and memories formed at Graves will remain unique to the building.

"Everybody says they don't like Graves, but if you walk into Graves on a Friday night, people are just hanging out in there, just playing music for fun for each other or just chilling in one of the practice rooms. So it is kind of old but it's still a good building. I'll definitely miss the nice, cozy environment," said Tran.

Siegfried echoed this nostalgia towards her years working in Graves. She expressed that though Graves will no longer serve as a musical facility, its presence will continue to resonate with the community.

"You see the wood carvings and just the sense that students have been here for hundreds of years. But when we shift to this new building, there will be students in there for hundreds of years too. I like the fact that this will still be here; it's not being knocked down or anything, it's just entering its new phase of existence at Andover," said Siegfried.

Editor's Note: Patricia Tran '24 is an Associate Sports Editor and Karen Wang '24 is an Associate Video Editor for The Phillipian.

Dorm Decor: Andover Students Create Crafty Decorations Reflective of their Personalities

REPORTING BY SERAFINA SHIN-VON NORDENFLYCHT & ASHLEY PARK

Andover students from all across the country and abroad returned to campus in anticipation for the new year two weeks ago—only to be welcomed by desolate, desaturated walls and stiff green mattresses. In an attempt to feel at home, boarders have come up with creative ways to personalize the crux of their Andover experience: their dorm rooms.

Molly MacKinnon '24

"I like to keep my room very comfy because when I come back from a long day of school, I want to know that my room is the safest space. I was trying to make a comfy-but-cute space with pictures of people I miss while I'm at school... I like the records with the pictures that are hanging above my bed because they were really fun to make and I really like the way they work."



Cummings shows off the "artsy" and "elegant" feel of her room.

COURTESY OF CATE CUMMINGS



COURTESY OF MOLLY MACKINNON

MacKinnon highlights her picture-filled records hung above her bed.

Cate Cummings '26

"I've always been in love with that kind of vintage, artsy, kind of elegant feel... so that kind of elegance just portrays my personality. I definitely put a lot of thought and a lot of searching into finding the perfect things for my room... I think having just that sense of self, especially during the transition period, and being in a whole new environment... and I think just being able to come home from a kind of stressful environment and especially since it's far away from home, having that sense of self reminds me of who I am."



COURTESY OF SUHAILA COTTON

Cotton prints out the Voltron-themed decor for the hallways.

Suhaila Cotton '24

"Apart from my room, I'm also a prefect, and so in my hall, I went with a Voltron theme, which if you don't know, [is] a sci-fi anime on Netflix, and we call ourselves the Paladins, so I cut out stars and colored them in to give it space theme, and then I printed out all the lions and that's on everyone's door, everyone's one of the lions, and everyone can decorate the signs how they wanted. But in my room, I put up some artwork from a local vendor that I passed by before getting to school, about the Earth, and also a world map from [Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls]."

Arim Lee '24

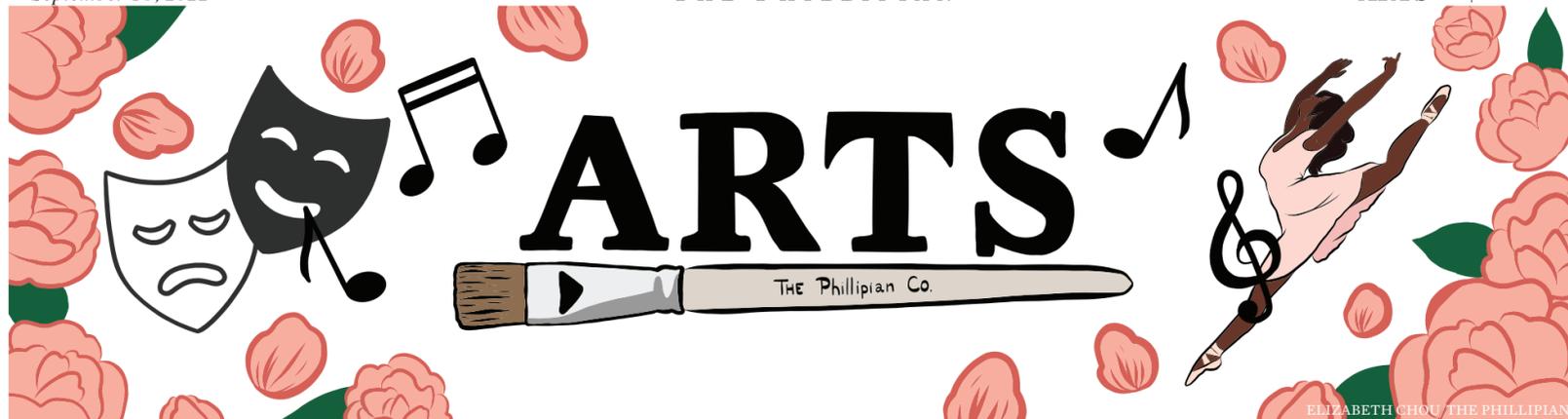
"I watched a lot of Gilmore Girls over the summer and was inspired mostly by that show. The main character Rory has nice and cozy choices for her room decor in her room and did a good job of reflecting her personality. So I tried following that style and decorated my room with things that have sentimental value or things that cheer me up, like posters from movies and books I watched and photos with my friends and family. My favorite corner of the room is my bed. I got new sheets and they remind me of tropical vacations and summer. A must-need for the dorm is command strips and hooks and a wall-length lamp because I feel a lot better and cheerful when my room is bright."

Editor's Note: Arim Lee is an Associate Commentary Editor for The Phillipian.



Lee emphasizes the coziness of her room.

COURTESY OF ARIM LEE



Playlist of the Week: Holding on to Summer

REPORTING BY WENDY YING
AND LANGAN GARRETT

Coming back to school may be bittersweet when we are left with vestiges of warm weather and carefree days. Music and playlists often accompany some of our most cherished memories of the summer season. From Harry Styles and Dire Straits to iconic movie soundtracks, compiled below are some of the sounds of summer from Andover students. Enjoy this playlist while reminiscing about the summer days.

Sui Yu '23

“See the World’ by Caamp... I think it makes life feel very light and it makes the summer feel very fun and carefree and I really like that, especially in the summer. I listen to it wherever I can, just like when I’m walking alone, or when I’m with my family, or in the car. Even if I’m just relaxing in my room. I didn’t do much over the summer, so I didn’t go to a lot of places. I like a lot of their songs, they are very similar to the Lumineers; I think they opened for them during their concert, so their vibe is good. I just feel like they sound like the Lumineers.”

Rohan Agrawal '26

“Feels Like Summer’ by Vince Staples. It feels like summer. I listen to the song all day, I don’t stop listening to music. I think the singer raps well, and has good beats.”

Gretchen Swartz '23

“The ‘Ratatouille’ theme song. I like to listen to it when I nap. I like that there are no lyrics, and I like the beat because it is nostalgic. The movie is wonderfully composed, and I love the movie. I think that it accompanies the movie really well.”

Daniel Bae '23

“I Want You Back,’ The Jackson 5. It makes me feel up-beat. I most often listen to the song in the shower. What I like most about the singer is how high the notes get.”

Iwo Wicinski '24

“Sultans of Swing’ by Dire Straits. It’s a chill song. I listen to it when I’m chilling, when I’m vibing. I don’t know what I like about the singer.... He’s got a nice voice. I just like the song.”

Margot Furman '25

“My favorite song was ‘Walls’ by the Lumineers. I liked how it was relaxing and fun, just like summer. I listen to the song most on the ocean. They are a really cool band. Follow me on Spotify! It’s @margotfurman.”

Sadie Pease '24

“Keep Driving’ by Harry Styles. I like that it’s by Harry Styles. I listen to it most when I’m driving. When I’m driving, I always put that song on.... I think Harry Styles has a great sense of self. He is able to make people feel more comfortable with themselves and better. I think, all around, he just radiates positivity, and it reflects through his music. Treat people with kindness!”

Mid-Autumn Festival Event Emphasizes Inclusivity in Celebration of Asian Culture

ALICIA ZHANG

Enjoying various flavored mooncakes and listening to C-pop classics under the glow of the full moon, students gathered on Gelb Lawn last Saturday for Asian Society’s celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival—a traditional harvest holiday celebrated across East and Southeast Asia every fall of the lunar calendar.

“[Mid-Autumn Festival] would always be a time when my family and I would reunite because a lot of people would send mooncakes. I learned from researching online that the moon represents unity and how we should come together as a community to kind of be in each other’s presence and be grateful for that. I think that’s what the Mid-Autumn Festival represents,” said Chloe Kindangen '23, Co-Head of Asian

Society.

To organize the event, Asian Society coordinated with faculty members, including Christopher Capano, Director of Student Activities, and Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, to secure funding for mooncakes and other materials. On top of the logistics of the event, Kindangen also aimed to emphasize inclusivity in the Mid-Autumn Festival celebration: anyone could come, not just those of Asian heritage or those taking an Asian language on campus.

“One thing that we had to talk about was where we wanted to host this event and also the funding necessary to buy all the mooncakes and also coordinate with a lot of the faculty on campus... because it is a schoolwide event. I also think that’s something that I wanted to talk about— making sure that this celebration is open to

anyone,” said Kindangen.

East and Southeast Asian students found solidarity in this culturally significant celebration. According to Ethan Sun '23, Co-Head of the Asian Society, the event helped him connect to his culture in a more intentional way, as he was able to enjoy the view of the moon and remember the classic Mid-Autumn Festival origin myth of the archer Hou Yi and his wife Chang’e, the moon goddess.

“When I’m at home, I eat Chinese food all the time... so I’m not necessarily thinking of my culture all the time, even though I’m surrounded by it. Zhong Qiu Jie, Chinese [for] Mid-Autumn Festival, is a nice time to remember, ‘Oh, I’m Chinese. The food that I eat and the culture that surrounds me is really comforting in this way,” said Sun.

In addition to serving as an



A.ZHOU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Logan Suryamega '23 and Michael Ma '24 sharing a mooncake.

occasion for students to celebrate their culture, the event also introduced attendees of different heritages to the traditions and history of the Mid-Autumn Festival. Many students, like Max Berkenblit '24, tried mooncakes for the first time.

“I really wanted to try a mooncake for a while because I’ve seen a lot of videos showing recipes and stuff like that, and I figured now was as good a time as any to try one and see what flavors they had... and [they] were, in fact, delicious,” said Berkenblit.

Taking place in the first few weeks of school, the Mid-Autumn Festival also helped foster connections within the campus community. Chloe Rhee '24, who attended the event as a returning student, said she enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people while learning about Chinese culture.

“I’m Korean, so I don’t know as much about Chinese culture as I would like to, so this is a really fun way to get exposed to different things and kind

of learn more about cultures I didn’t know that much about before.... It is kind of a fun way to learn about new cultures and also feel solidarity as an Asian person in celebrating other Asian traditions on campus,” said Rhee.

Without Covid-19-related restrictions, Asian Society focused on community healing in the revitalization of social bonds. Overall, the Mid-Autumn Festival celebration sought to establish a safe and welcoming space for all students, new and returning alike.

“This is kind of... an event geared towards bringing people together—especially new students, international students, returning students—and because it’s our first community event as the Asian Society, we’re really hoping that this event creates a space where people can introduce themselves, eat mooncakes together, and have fun to be a part of a nice community,” said Avin Ramratnam '24, a board member of Asian Society.



COURTESY OF CHLOE KINDAGEN

Members of Asian Society divided the mooncakes beforehand to ensure every person can have taste.

Pianist William Ge '25 Performs at Matriculation Ceremony

STAFF REPORT

Accompanied by excitement and applause at the 2022-2023 Matriculation Ceremony, an annual event welcoming all new students to Andover in the Cochran Chapel, William Ge '25 walked onto the stage. As he sat down before the grand piano, a wave of silence washed over the audience, giving way to his performance of “L’isle joyeuse, L.106” by Claude Debussy.

Having played the piano and violin since early childhood, Ge was already an experienced performer before entering Andover in 2021. Initially influenced by his cousin,

piano became a major part of Ge’s life as his curiosity for the instrument soon sparked into a greater passion.

“I have been playing piano since I was four years old, so almost eleven years.... There was a piano in the house, and I would occasionally go and mess around as most children do on the piano... after a bit of time, it became me doing music for myself because it’s fun to just be able to sit and improvise things,” said Ge.

Over the past few years, Ge has found meaning in sharing music with his community, such as performing in outreach concerts for senior retirement centers. He is especially passionate about discovering the historical contexts that shaped

the way composers wrote the pieces and sharing those views with others.

“There are a lot of stereotypes that playing classical music is just playing the notes on the page, and everybody plays it the same way, and there’s one perfect way to play it. [But] they’re more than notes on the page, [and] people who wrote these were three-dimensional beings. I think being able to share less conventional [interpretations], sharing that hidden story, and, of course, a personal touch, is what music means to me,” said Ge.

Assuming an upperclassman would be picked for this performance opportunity, Ge was surprised when he was

chosen for the spot. Despite Ge’s initial worries of playing for the largest audience he has ever sat in front of, his familiarity with the piece and story he created allowed him to navigate his performance with ease.

“I think the story I have for this piece is still in construction. I do have a distinct story for the first three minutes of this piece, but from the three and a half minute mark to the four minute mark, I don’t really have a story. But being able to tell my story in my head calmed me down a bit. Of course I was super excited, but I think it was really awesome to play in front of that many people, and especially I’d never imagined that I’d do

that in my Lower year. It was a huge honor,” said Ge.

Looking ahead, Ge not only wishes to grow technically but also emotionally. He also hopes to continue engaging with the community and discover more ways to incorporate the audience in his performances.

“I [hope] to interact with the community more [through music]. Piano in general, especially classical piano, it’s a very one-sided thing. Pianist plays a piece, everyone claps, pianist bows and gets off the stage. End of story. So interacting with my audience, maybe even incorporating the audience while playing, [is something I strive for],” said Ge.

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