

MOSAIC Hosts Andover's Tenth Annual Mixed Heritage Awareness Week

LUCAS BENARDETE

Kicking off the tenth annual Mixed Heritage Awareness Week, MOSAIC, Andover's mixed heritage affinity group, hosted an open-door viewing and discussion about the role an individual's mixed heritage can play in their lives. In addition to the open event, MOSAIC plans to host a variety of events geared toward showcasing mixed heritage to the Andover community throughout the week.

Aya Murata, Associate Director of College Counseling and Faculty Advisor to MOSAIC, helped coordinate the programming for the week. She explained some of the activities and events that would be hosted to help develop students' understanding of their heritage.

"This is the 10th annual [Mixed Heritage Awareness Week] so it feels really exciting in that way. We always have a photo essay, an opportunity for students to kind of just answer a broad prompt of 'what does it mean to be [of] mixed heritage' or to share something maybe more spe-

cific," said Murata.

According to Murata, MOSAIC expanded on past programs with new events and activities while also maintaining the "traditions" set by previous boards. She feels that these new events will help broaden community engagement and awareness.

"This year we started doing Instagram reels, little video clips, and then we also try to have a keynote speaker when possible, as well. We also extended an invitation to the community for those who want to come to the special dinner in [Paresky] as well as various other events that the [board] has had planned," said Murata.

In previous years, much of the Mixed Heritage Awareness Week programming and events were geared toward affinity group members. Camila McGinley '23, a board member of MOSAIC, talked about her goal for expanding programming to include more members of the Andover community.

"We want to first celebrate our identities and share our stories but also bring in the community too so it's not just something that we ourselves

are doing. We want to reach out and to bring more people into [MOSAIC] because sometimes people are multicultural or bi-ethnic and they may not automatically be on the email list," said McGinley.

William Boo '23, another board member of MOSAIC, spoke further on his vision for the week. He hopes that the week will help people of mixed heritage feel visible and heard among the broader Andover community.

"The goal is to sort of, as the name would suggest, raise awareness for students in our community, living between cultures, that are many times put into like the separate buckets of say, Asian, or white, or Black. It's about recognizing those people in between and making sure that the broader community recognizes them," said Boo.

Boo also expressed gratitude to the faculty and staff who collaborated and contributed to making the week possible. He explained how while most of the planning and coordination behind the

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Continue to page A6 for more photos of the snow on campus.

Behind the Scenes of Andover's Martin Luther King Junior 'Day-On'

WILL GE & TIANYI GU

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day (MLK Day), January 16, 1989, a recording of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech played out on repeat from the steps of Samuel Phillips Hall. Andover students went about their classes while senior Brian Gittens '89 spent the day playing the recording to protest Andover's lack of recognition of MLK Day. Dozens of students and faculty members eventually joined him in pushing for Andover to honor the day. The following year, Andover decided to take MLK Day 'on' instead of 'off' for the first time.

Now, 33 years later, Andover's 2023 MLK 'Day-On' will feature a variety of educational programming including invited speakers and student and faculty led workshops to honor Dr. King's legacy for social

justice.

Andover's annual MLK Day is organized primarily by the Community and Multicultural Development Office (CaMD). Hector Membreno-Canales, Instructor in Art and Director of CaMD, described the variety of topics relating to social issues and identity that students will have the opportunity to learn about this year.

"The workshops range in subject matter to include... many, many, many different subjects. As the years have gone on, more and more parts of the community have begun to engage with the celebration, with the planning. So every year, [MLK Day] actually ends up being just a little bit bigger than the year before," said Membreno-Canales.

Reflecting on his experiences with MLK Day at Andover, Jaeden Glace '23 noted the

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Above, Camila McGinley '23, Cris Ramnath '23, and Anthony Diaz '25 converse at MOSAIC's open-door event.

Two Setlists, Two Sides: Andover Hosts Battle of DJs

PRISHA SHIVANI & JAC GORDON

Music, colorful lights, and dancing filled the lower-level of Paresky Commons on Saturday night for the Battle of the DJs dance. On both sides of the ground floor of Paresky, two DJs from outside organizations competed to have the most students on their side. Students were able to move to and from the lower-level dining halls, enjoying the two different styles of music which ranged from the 1970s to 2022 hits.

Stephanie Cormier, the Student Activities Coordinator, mentioned how the benefit of Battle of the DJs is the actual 'battle' itself, giving the freedom for students to roam between and choose where to stay and dance at any given time.

"In short, I hired two DJs and put them in two different rooms. The magic of the 'Battle' happens when students just pick and choose which room to go to.... It seemed most people spent their time in Lower Right," wrote Cormier in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Christopher Capano, Head of Student Activities, spoke on the process of coming up with the event, noting their idea of incorporating different music styles that could appeal to different students. Following the decision, Capano described the logistics of setting up the event.

"We just thought it would be fun. Sometimes when we have dances kids like different types of music, so we thought it would be cool to have two

different choices. We called up a couple different DJs to see if they could come and do it. We had to find two DJs that were available that night and we found them, so that was it. After that, folks in [Paresky] cleared all the tables and cleared the space for us when we needed it," said Capano.

Furthermore, Capano highlighted how Battle of the DJs differed from other dances, with a less formal dress code and more relaxed atmosphere with the movement between rooms. In the future, Capano expressed how the Student Activity (STACT) team would like to continue this type of dance, with more DJs to give students more choices.

"We used to do a dance where we would do music on three different floors of [Paresky] so you had three choices, but it was really hard to get

three DJs on the same night, so two was more doable. I think it's a fun option, so we'll probably do it again. It's definitely the only theme [where there are] different DJs, like there's no dress code. [With] Abbot, usually people are formal, and Halloween was obviously Halloween costumes. This was kind of come as you are, and you can come back and forth a million times or you could switch every single song," said Capano.

However, some students felt disappointed with the event. Daniel Baek '26 felt disappointed by the event's execution but still appreciated the concept. Specifically, Baek also expressed his appreciation for Andover's effort to

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AVIVA CAI/THE PHILLIPIAN

Boosters Required, Covid-19 Protocols Remain Unchanged For Start of Winter Term

LUCAS BENARDETE & CINDY YANG

Andover students returned to campus from winter break during the recent spread of the XBB.1.5 variant of Covid-19, which according to CNN is considered the most contagious strain of Omicron yet. To return, students were required to get the bivalent Covid-19 booster vaccine, barring religious and medical exemptions, wrote Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington in an email to Andover students and families.

For students who did not previously get the booster, Andover held a clinic at the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center on January 4. According to an email to the campus community from Dr. Amy Patel, Chief Medical Director and Dean of Health and Wellness, 88.3 percent of Andover students have received the bivalent booster as of January 11. No other campus health protocols, including those for masking, were changed in the return to campus, wrote Patel on January 12 in an email to the Andover community.

The current wellness protocol does not require masking except for those within the ten-day period after testing positive for Covid-19, those who have had close contact with someone who tested positive for Covid-19, or those with symptoms of illness. Patel noted that the current masking protocol has been, and should continue to be, sufficient for preventative measures against the spread

of Covid-19, alongside the vaccination requirement.

"Our Covid-19 protocols have really been able to encapsulate the risk with any of the variants. At any given time, [the Covid-19] risk level is going to vary due to a number of different factors. At this point, there are specific levers that we could push and pull... I think masking is probably the biggest one. At this point, though, we have found that if individuals follow the masking guidelines set out that there should actually be a significant reduction," said Patel.

Many local private schools, including Governor's, Concord Academy, and Phillips Exeter Academy, have adopted similar making and vaccination guidelines to Andover's. Cecileah Wang '26, a freshman at Governor's, noted that the Covid-19 cases on her campus have decreased.

"I think [the Covid-19 protocol] is actually pretty effective because compared to the flu and the cold that's been going around, there were actually not that many Covid-19 cases," said Wang.

Patel hopes that the Andover community will move to a phase of managing Covid-19 less stressfully, despite the newly widespread virus. This new phase, she believes, stems from independent action in mitigating the spread of Covid-19.

"Rather than continuing to

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Commentary, A2

Midfulness and Selfishness

Leilani Glace '25 argues against the modern-day promotion of mindfulness in favor of true awareness and acceptance.

Eighth Page, A8

Happy New Tears!

Unsure what to do or wear this new year? Flip to the Eighth Page for resolution ideas and style inspiration.

Sports, B3

Girls Swimming and Diving

Girls Swimming and Diving, established in 1973, opened its 50th season with a dominant win over Choate on the road.

Arts, B7

MMEA Music Festival

Fourteen Andover students performed in the annual MMEA Music Festival last week, along with talented young musicians from around Massachusetts.

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Editorial

Hello! I’m ChatGPT.

When asked to introduce itself, Artificial Intelligence (AI) text generator ChatGPT had this to say: “I am ChatGPT, a large language model developed by OpenAI. I am trained to understand and respond to natural language inputs in a human-like manner. I can answer questions, have a conversation, generate text on a topic, and more. I am constantly learning and updating my knowledge base to provide accurate and helpful responses.” An AI chatbot that has garnered a reputation for “scarily accurate” output, ChatGPT raises questions regarding the future of our written world, be it in education, the workforce, or beyond.

Since its launch in November 2022, ChatGPT has cycled through the opinion columns of many newspapers. Indeed, the media frenzy around the chatbot is not difficult to understand. ChatGPT is known for the detail and quality of its answers, which worries some educators. For instance, feeding ChatGPT the prompt “write an essay analyzing themes of knowledge and fate in Moby Dick” produces a rough, but workable first draft of a typical English assignment. In educational settings, ChatGPT provokes questions over the future of educational goals and methods.

School districts have already begun grappling with ChatGPT. Most prominently, the New York City Public School District has banned the use of ChatGPT on school networks and for academic assignments, as of January 6. Citing concerns that the site would encourage plagiarism, districts claim that ChatGPT allows students to bypass developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills, which are essential to education.

While our board shares these same reservations over the use of ChatGPT in schools, we believe that banning the service is not only ineffective, but also obscures potentially productive uses of the software. Similar to over-reliance on calculators or Google Translate, depending on ChatGPT to do the “heavy lifting” of learning weakens education. Doing complicated math problems by hand or wrestling with a difficult grammatical construction strengthens our foundational understanding of these topics. Similarly, writing essays teach us how to structure our arguments, exercise our critical thinking, and express ourselves in writing. The value of these essential skills cannot be replaced by ChatGPT.

However, much like we use calculators to check our work or streamline computations, ChatGPT can simplify learning processes, making it easier for students to prioritize their understanding of topics. Rather than struggling through dense Chemistry textbook passages, ChatGPT can paraphrase text, giving students a clearer idea of a passage’s overall message before they return to grappling with a concept’s nuances. For math, ChatGPT offers step-by-step explanations to complicated problems, affording students more effective study ahead of a test and aiding conceptual understanding. Dismissing ChatGPT outright prevents us from accessing more expansive educational possibilities.

Moreover, the rise of ChatGPT offers us a chance to evaluate our educational practices. It prompts us to ask: When would a student feel tempted to use ChatGPT? Why? In what instances is this use dishonest, and where is it productive? How can we rethink classroom engagement in light of AI? These questions encourage us to reflect on innovation within education, technological ethics, and how AI will shape the classrooms of the future.

Additionally, it is important to remember: ChatGPT is not an entirely new technology. GPT-3, the language ChatGPT is built off, has been around since 2020, and more broadly, our society is not unfamiliar with AI innovations. Whether it’s ChatGPT or similar technology, the trajectory of AI seems to suggest that these systems are here to stay. Like the advent of the internet, we can’t predict where the future of AI will lead us. But, we know that AI may shape our society in undeniable ways. As such, we must begin considering these issues early. Whether it be addressing ChatGPT in schools, challenging racial bias in AI, or considering how tech innovations can affect the workplace, ChatGPT’s rise prompts us to consider the role of AI in the future of education.

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

Mindfulness Would Be a Good Resolution, If It Weren’t Selfish

LEILANI GLACE



With the increasing pressure of making up for all that we lost in quarantine, and the stark growth in the amount we relied on technology due to our confinement at home, it is not a surprise that we feel the need to race forward, do more, see more, and not waste a single second to stop and breathe. We want it all and we want it now. Many of us, worn out by this constant craze, turn to mindfulness, or rather, a warped version of it. In its true essence, mindfulness promotes the ability to admit to oneself that they are simply one part of a larger environment. In the race to become our best and most accomplished selves, however, our modern society has altered mindfulness so much so that it is unrecognizable. Now, to many, mindfulness is but a quick strategy that people turn

to to satisfy superficial and materialistic desires and ultimately market themselves as more perfect than others.

Mindfulness, as it should be practiced, is a mental state that is characterized by its focus on the present moment in its entirety, as well as full awareness and calm acceptance of one’s emotions. When one achieves mindfulness, they have reached a state of being conscious of every moment that passes by, without dwelling on the past or getting lost in stressful situations. This mindset emphasizes complete awareness, rather than clearing the mind or solely focusing on the positive. Accepting one’s thoughts is very different from cherishing them. In acceptance, there is the recognition that each thought is individually insignificant in the grander scheme of the world, and thus not worth getting overly excited or depressed about.

In the modern promotion of mindfulness, however, these aspects are wholly disregarded. This mindfulness that we see so often promoted is a fraud. In order to embrace and accept all of the present with a reflective and unattached mind, one needs humility. Life isn’t all rainbows,

butterflies, and unicorns. Moments that are pleasant and gratifying naturally co-exist with moments that bring about anxiety and grief. But no matter what emotion a moment may elicit, mindfulness is working towards a mindset in which one can take in those moments but gain distance, and thus, perspective. This only works if a person is humble enough to admit to themselves that many occurrences in life are simply inconsequential pieces of a much larger puzzle. But as it stands now, mindfulness markets promise to cleanse our spirit tenfold in order to keep up with social trends which are forever shifting. They have filtered out the bad and the ugly, erasing the need for humility, and left the unrealistic and the

perfect, directly appealing to our selfish, indulgent nature.

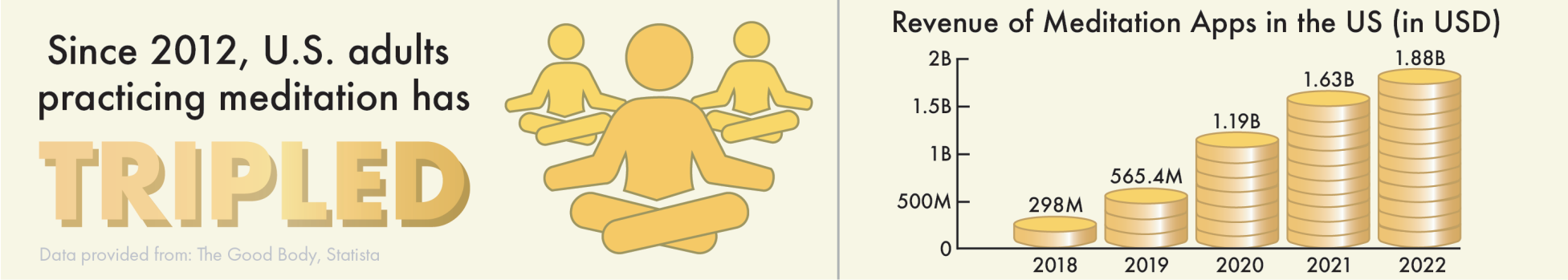
Let’s take an article from Mindful Magazine, for example. Within the first five sentences readers are promised that “with mindfulness, [they] can manage expectations, conflict, projects, communications, and relationships to get the result [they] want.” They are promised astounding results. This mindfulness focuses on how to benefit ourselves as individuals — how to stand out as a better employee than everyone else, how to live longer than everyone else, how to make the most money in the shortest amount of time. Yes, there is nothing wrong with wanting to improve our lives, get promoted, and stay healthy. The problem is that we muddle the idea of becoming more mindful with simply prioritizing our own individualistic wants. True mindfulness does not equal gaining an edge at work or growing stronger in under a minute. Those are simply desires that we claim are included in mindfulness be-

cause we are so focused on how we can mold ourselves into the most flawless humans possible, regardless of those around us. We should perceive mindful-

This mindfulness that we see so often promoted is a fraud.

ness as a mindset that does not stem from self-satisfying motives, but rather, from an absolutely selfless wish to consider our place among those around us and our larger environment. Of course, looking inwards and working hard on our character can be beneficial with self-restraint, especially in a time where it seems like there is always someplace to be, somewhere to go, and someone that seems to be beating you to it. But the influx of advertisements and social media hype around this false version of mindfulness has pushed many people to be consumed by their own self-interests, forgetting to turn their gaze back outwards. We must remember that genuine mindfulness does not contain self-centered ideas, but rather, encourages modesty about our position in the world.

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T. ZENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

Democracy: A New Form of Jenga

LANGAN GARRETT



I. OBIORA / THE PHILLIPIAN

Democracy is falling apart. The ground beneath our feet is shaking as members of Congress openly condemn their compatriots, defend usurpers of justice and democracy, and support the most insidious forms of hatred and supremacy. On the second anniversary of the Capitol insurrection, it is important to note just how much democracy has changed, and also how much of that power to change, lies in our generations' hands.

I turn 18 this year, and to think, in some small way, that my thoughts matter, and can influence and affect change in my government is truly powerful. For a long time, I have felt profoundly powerless. I know, logically, there are things I can do to make my voice heard, but sometimes, oftentimes, it feels like there is no effective outlet for me to express my opinions, my emotions and my convictions. I have felt powerless and without a voice, especially as democracy is shattered by its differences, and fissures in lib-

erty have been widened.

The past few weeks, maybe even years, have been marked by breaches on democracy, on constitutional rights being stripped from their constituency's grasp. Recently, the 118th House of Representatives was unable to start their procedure because Republicans could not elect a Speaker of the House. It took 15 different voting procedures and countless partisan concessions before the Republicans finally agreed on Kevin McCarthy. While many agree that this was a success where democracy and compromise finally prevailed, it only succeeded because McCarthy had to make concessions with the Freedom Caucus, a group of radical, far right Republicans including Jim Jordan, Matt Gaetz, and Marjorie Taylor Greene. These Republicans that support Trump, have endorsed the January 6 insurrectionists, and advocated for the reversal of Roe v. Wade. McCarthy had to concede positions of power to these elected officials who held up important government proceedings, because they were unwilling to agree on partisan partnership and to induct a relative moderate as the Speaker. He agreed to a rule allowing a single member of Congress to initiate a vote, and placed a member of the Freedom Caucus on the House Oversight Committee.

Just a few years ago, none of these politicians would have even been elected, let alone allowed to hold up congressional proceedings because they are unwilling to compromise, a core part of American govern-

ment. Conceding to the Freedom Caucus' claims and demands, a group standing in the face of democracy and liberty, is abominable.

These negotiations with the very people that supported the January 6 insurrection are inconceivable, but again, these people were elected by voters in their states. Nothing seems to carry as much weight, and what we thought were moral standards, lines not to be crossed are far in the distance. It's disheartening to see how easily our society can be distracted, how the public eye can shift so quickly from one scandal to the next in a matter of hours.

In spite of all these unending en-

croachments on civil liberty and justice, there is a way forward, a path to the future. Do we give up, throw up our hands, and declare our world unlivable, unchangeable? Is it forever and infinitely hurtling towards a point of no return? Or, and it's a bigger, more momentous effort to undertake, do we strive towards change that we ourselves can effect? Can we make our voices and convictions known through voting and electing officials that represent the voices of a new generation?

With my official induction into American democracy on the horizon, the end is in sight. I will see my California

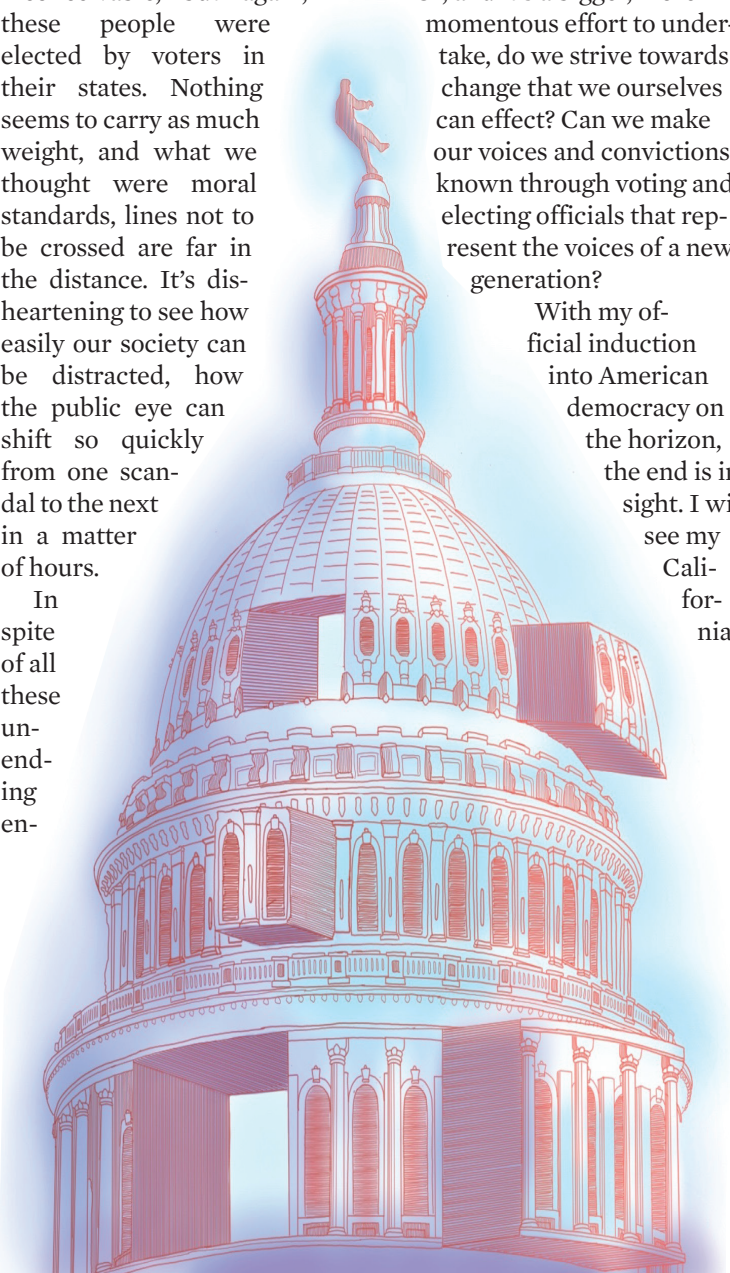
senators and representatives and know that I registered, I went to a polling center or sent in a ballot, and made my opinion known. When a piece of legislation is sponsored by one of my representatives, or my preferred candidate comes into office, I will be able to know

I turn 18 this year, and to think, in some small way, that my thoughts matter, and can influence and affect change in my government is truly powerful.

that I casted my vote into a sea of opinions, in a democratic nation. I can sign petitions as a registered voter, and attend election conferences and rallies and know that those politicians are vying for my vote. I feel empowered knowing that there is a reality where I can make a difference.

I'm not 18 yet, so I don't technically get a vote, but as soon as I do, I want to be active, to be informed, and opinionated. We should not gloss over the atrocities of the past, but instead learn from it, and use the tools we have at our disposal to effect change. That's my vote.

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AVERY LIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

The Role of Individuals in Ukrainian Aid

WILLIAM BUEHLER



M. MA / THE PHILLIPIAN

The international aid which Ukraine has received as of late has been imperative. The tens of billions of dollars flowing in act to preserve Ukrainian sovereignty and the institutions of democracy not just in Ukraine — but across Eurasia, the Baltics, and the Eastern Balkans. State actors have played their part in this war sufficiently, though certainly not ideally, but wars are not simply the interactions which occur between nations. Individuals and families, both those who have fled from their homes and those who remain in Ukraine, must be given relief. As individuals, we can and should do more, and it would be a mistake to relegate the task of international aid solely to state actors.

As of yet, it is Eastern and Central European nations which have taken on a disproportionate amount of refugees from the war. This is not to say that every nation necessarily must take on a propor-



VERA ZHANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

tional amount of refugees, as it can be logistically and culturally ignorant of the refugees' wishes, but it does mean that American funds, which primarily flow into Ukraine proper, are not sufficient in aiding the eight million refugees across Europe or the 6.5 million internally displaced people who remain within Ukraine. As of December 16, the U.S. had donated 10 billion dollars in humanitarian aid to Ukraine. The aid provided by other state actors is relatively small. Let's — extremely generously — say that 20 billion dollars have been donated in humanitarian aid. That's not even 1,400 dollars per person. Obviously, no state actor has an obligation to bear the burden of the welfare of 14.5 million people, and the amount the international community has sent is not modest — but every person deserves a minimum standard of living. For many refugees and the

internally displaced, that is currently not guaranteed. The aid of state actors may be able to ensure Ukraine can win the war. Yet if we as individuals have the ability to aid those who have been displaced — why not do more?

It is not a stretch to say that many here at Andover have distanced themselves from the war in Ukraine, largely seeing it in passing rather than being actively engaged — but let us not forget that it is likely the most important conflict of this moment. Conflicts like those in Syria and Libya may remain conflicts of note, but Ukraine is the focal point of Russian revanchism clashing with Western conceptions of the right to self-determination. It is not every individual's struggle to try and aid in this war where possible. But here at Andover, the resources many students and their families have are relatively boundless, and

It is not a stretch to say that many here at Andover have distanced themselves from the war in Ukraine.

if you have the means and the will to do more, the avenues are open.

Organizations like the International Rescue Committee (IRC) work in Ukraine, and anything from volunteering to donation will have real impact. It helps to ensure that displaced Ukrainian citizens receive adequate living conditions, particularly for things like shelter and blankets during what will be one of Europe's coldest winters in recent years. If you were to go a step further, the United States Department of Homeland Security has set up the Unit- ing for Ukraine program, through which US citizens can sponsor and provide for a Ukrainian family for two years while they maintain refugee status. I personally know that many Andover students have secondary or even tertiary residences that they do not utilize for the vast majority of the year, and could certainly engage in this program. Of course, inviting a family of strangers into any residence is a monumental step, and it is not my intention to say everyone with the means should do as much. But as a community, our means are substantial. We can affect real change.

One does not need to have a personal connection to this conflict to understand the imperative nature of working towards assisting Ukrainian civilians. This war

is an affront to the stability of the existing international system as well as one that spits in the face of human rights, the rules of national sovereignty, and the rules of warfare. Naturally, it would be hypocritical of me to speak so fervently in favor of aid if I were not planning to contribute myself. To this end, I plan to work with organizations similar to the ones listed above to provide humanitarian relief where possible, and, further, I've begun to work towards setting up fundraisers to support humanitarian organizations. Tangible impact is within reach.

The Russo-Ukrainian War has led to the largest humanitarian crisis of our time, and if you have the means to do so, your work will have a tangible impact on the lives of those who are affected by this conflict. A person's voice is all well and good in supporting a cause, but a totalitarian regime will not bend to the whims of an individual, or even millions of them, especially when the voices are foreigners. I urge you to at least consider donating to a humanitarian organization, and if you would be willing to volunteer and work towards assisting Ukrainian civilians, note that the methods are numerous and open. As individuals, it is impossible for us to deal with the root cause of the Russo-Ukrainian War, but we can certainly help to manage its effects.

William Buehler is an Upper from Greenwich, Conn. Contact the author at wbuehler24@andover.edu.

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

REPORTING BY MIKLOSH FRUSZTAJER

Politics: House of Representatives Elects New Representative and Speaker

After 15 rounds of voting, Kevin McCarthy reached the minimum number of votes required to become the speaker of the House of Representatives. According to the New York Times, McCarthy received backlash from other members of the Republican Party, but by the end of the voting process, many representatives supported him. Furthermore — despite lying about his employment history — George Santos of New York has officially been sworn in as a House Representative for the Republican Party.

Sports: Soccer Legend Pelé Dies at 82

Pelé, a former Brazilian soccer player who, over the course of his life, won three world cups with his national team, has passed away. According to the New York Times, Péle was 82 years old at the time of his death. He played, most notably, for Santos in Brazil but also played for the New York Cosmos. In 1967, he traveled to a warring Nigeria to showcase his soccer playing and temporarily brought a halt to the country’s political turmoil.

Sports: State of Damar Hamlin Improving

NFL player Damar Hamlin of the Buffalo Bills, who fell into cardiac arrest when catching the football in a game against the Cincinnati Bengals on January 2, is on his way to recovery and now can breathe without aid, reported CNN. Hamlin has been active on Twitter, especially recently after the Bills won over the New England Patriots.

Internet: Year in Search

As 2022 came to an end, Google released their annual Year in Search, showcasing some of the most searched words in a variety of categories. According to Google Trends, the most searched word in the world over the course of 2022 was ‘Wordle.’ The popular game, now owned by the New York Times, was created by Josh Wardle, who sold it to the popular newspaper for over a million dollars. Other popular phrases were: ‘Ukraine’ under the News category, ‘Johnny Depp’ in the People category, ‘Domestic short-haired cat’ in the Pets category, ‘Euphoria’ from the TV shows category, ‘Philodendron’ in the Plants category, and ‘Antonio Brown’ as the most searched athlete.

Politics: Violent Protests in Brazil End with Number of Arrests

On January 8, Brazilian protesters stormed three major government offices, which resulted in over 200 arrests. The Associated Press reported that the reason behind the protest was a presidential election, which protesters believed to be fabricated. The demonstration showed their support to former president Jair Bolsonaro. Many find the events of January 8 as reminiscent of the 2021 January 6 attacks on the United States Capitol. The number of arrests are likely to increase within the following weeks.

War: Ukraine Prepared to Fight Back Against Russian Forces

Updates from the New York Times say that Ukraine is now facing war head-on in an effort to reclaim territory seized by Russia. They report that Ukraine wants to defend and take back their land and end the war that has been raging for almost a year now. In another article, the New York Times mentioned that data from Russian cell usage has also been tactically exploited by the Ukrainian military, and in spite of their ban, it is continuing to be a problem for Russian forces.

Students and Faculty Voice Hopes for Martin Luther King Junior Day On

Continued from A1, Column 5

personal freedom upperclassmen are given to teach and attend workshops that interest them. He recalled how, in his time at Andover, MLK Day has continued to expand with a larger and more diverse offering of activities catering to a variety of student interests.

“I like that [Andover] gives students the opportunity to conduct their own courses; I like the variety in the courses that we’re able to take because different students have different passions, and they’re able to bring that to MLK Day. I remember in Freshman year for MLK Day, we did a big group workshop which I didn’t really like because I feel like I didn’t know the topic and you didn’t get to choose where you went. But I like how it evolved into students now [being able] to conduct their own MLK Day workshops,” said Glace.

Throughout the year, CaMD team members work with other Andover offices and committees, including the Office of the Physical Plant, Office of Information Technology, and previous faculty members of CaMD to plan the event. Membreno-Canales commented on the careful decision-making process that goes into selecting each year’s programming.

“In the summer months, we’ll sit around and we’ll say, ‘Okay, what kind of theme are we going for? What is very present in the moment right now? What do you think are some big issues that might be in the news this year?’ Well, Reproductive rights, the environment, the fragility of democracies, those are some of the issues that are happening that feel very timely. So then we’ll begin to look at who some thought leaders [are] that are engaging with these topics, and we’ll make a short list, a kind of dream list

of who we would really like to come visit us in community,” said Membreno-Canales.

Touching on what he hopes members of the Andover community can learn during the MLK Day programs this year, Julian Reed ’23, Co-Head of Afro Latine American Society (AfLatAm) and introducer for this year’s MLK Day keynote speaker, highlighted the topic of race. He also advised students to attend each workshop with an intent to participate and learn.

“I hope that everyone in the [Andover] community can take away an understanding of how race connects with elements of their own identity and life. Hopefully, stemming from this, people can develop a genuine interest in the subject and consider how race functions in their life and in the lives of those around them, particularly those of different ethnicities from themselves... In my opinion, members of the [Andover] community can get the most out of MLK Day Ons by being present...You really get [out] what you put [in],” wrote Reed in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Membreno-Canales also shared his hope that students will respond by engaging with programming. Acknowledging the diversity of identities and ideas at Andover, he emphasized that by honoring one another’s voices and perspectives, students could build a more connected community.

“There are people from many different backgrounds in our community. The best way to honor those constituencies of students as people is by... taking a sincere interest in who they are. If we can just be present during the day, and maybe set our devices aside or lean into discomfort or listen to someone with a story that’s remarkable, or hear a perspective that’s different from our own — I think that’s really how students can make the most of it,” said Membreno-Canales.

Students Disappointed With Battle of DJs Dance

Continued from A1, Column 5

create a balance between academic and social life.

“While the dance itself conceptually could’ve been a fun event, the follow through of the music was quite chaotic and honestly it wasn’t that fun of an experience for me. [I think] It’s good for Andover to have this social balance as well as its academic balance [and to have] this effort to reach a more balanced and healthy lifestyle here at [Andover], especially when people are burnt

out coming straight back from Winter break,” said Baek.

Similarly, Adaora Mbanefo ’24 conveyed how the type of music that the DJs played did not reflect what students wanted to hear and how they did not take suggestions. For future dances, Mbanefo was optimistic on the potential of the DJ-themed dance, but still wished that there would be more student input in regards to music to improve the overall experience.

“Honestly, the concept was great but the DJs could’ve been better because when there was no good music on either side,

you didn’t know what to do. We tried to give [the DJs] suggestions, but they didn’t listen. If we could kind of mold their setlist around [our suggestions], then it would be a lot better,” said Mbanefo.

Mbanefo continued, “[This dance] is very different, very unique. [I’ve] never had a dance like this because normally, we’re just in one area, so the movement was really cool. I think in [the] future, there’s definitely the chance that this will be a dance to rival the others.”

Community Members Voice Comfort in Campus Covid-19 Decisions

Continued from A1, Column 5

have universal requirements, we’re really hoping to be able to move into the more endemic phase of this and have people show individual responsibility,” said Patel.

Patrick Pothel, Instructor in French, explained that he feels safe going around and teaching on campus regardless of the spread of the new variant. He attributes the vaccine rollout and the declining number of Covid-19 cases to a safer campus.

“With the numbers declining... it increased my confidence in not getting severely sick. I can’t say that I live my life on a daily basis thinking about the variant and getting sick.... Although I’m aware that it’s still out there, it’s not something that is as prevalent in my mindset as it was in

2020 and 2021 and even part of 2022,” said Pothel.

Similarly, Gracie Aziabor ’26 added that the pandemic has drifted to the back of her mind. Aziabor explained that she hadn’t heard much media coverage on the XBB.1.5 Covid-19 variant in comparison to the other Covid-19 variants in the past.

“I think in the past, the news and media [were] more upfront when there [were] new variants, and I think it was easier to hear about it because more people are talking about it. But interestingly enough, I haven’t heard a lot about this new variant. I didn’t even really know that there was a new one until an email was sent out to the school before coming back from Winter Break,” said Aziabor.

Sebastian Cynn ’24 also noticed the limited attention paid to the XBB.1.5 variant in and outside Andover. He assumes this may be due to how long

the Covid-19 pandemic has been prevalent.

“To be honest, I haven’t heard as much about it, and I’m not sure if I’ve cared as much about it, because, at this point, it seems that Covid-19, unfortunately, is something that’s here to stay,” said Cynn.

The three-year mark since the first shutdown for Covid-19 approaches. Marcelle Doheny, Instructor in History and Social Science, noted that although Covid-19 will continue to evolve, protocols have been developed to withstand variants to come.

“I think the variants are changing. [The XBB.1.5 Covid-19 variant] doesn’t seem to me, from what I read, to be riskier than some other variants, and I think that this is going to be something we’re going to have to live with. There’s going to be variant after variant after variant,” said Doheny.

Students Explore Own Identities in MOSAIC Open-Door Meeting

Continued from A1, Column 3

events was left to the student board, faculty involvement still played a major role in the week’s planning.

Boo said, “The week’s events are mostly student-run but we’ve gotten a lot of really great support from the faculty. For example, we’ve asked for chap-

erones for the dance that we’re having this weekend. The adult members are the top members of our community and they responded really, really nicely. They were able to get chaperones relatively easily. While it’s student-run, we’ve thankfully gotten a lot of support from the adult community.”

Kai Mafunga ’26, an attendee of MOSAIC’s open-door meeting, said that it helped her

explore her mixed heritage in a way she hadn’t before. She hopes that the week’s programming can help other people experience and learn about their own mixed heritage just as she did.

“Before I came here and before I experienced mixed heritage week, my heritage wasn’t something that I thought about a lot in a conscientious way. I feel Mixed Heritage Week has

really let me explore sides of my culture that I didn’t necessarily know I had, and that I didn’t really interact with in the past,” said Mafunga.

Mafunga continued by explaining how the programming helped her explore multiple facets of her identity. In particular, she appreciates that she was able to dive into the various cultures that make up her ethnic background.

“I also like how it’s not just one type of mixed heritage, because I’m not just one type of mixed [either]. I have several different cultures, several different peoples, and several different identities mixed within me and I love how I’m able to explore them during mixed heritage week and in general [at Andover],” said Mafunga.



MOSAIC presenters (left to right): Sonia Appen ’24, Christina Donovan ’24, Saraya Angbazo ’25, Camila McGinley ’23, and Michael Hlavaty ’23.



Students gather in the Underwood Room and speak after MOSAIC presentation.

Student and Faculty Leaders of MLK Day Workshops

REPORTING BY JAYDA LU

While most high schools celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. with a day off, Andover commemorates Dr. King’s legacy with a “day-on” for social justice education. Underclassmen will participate in class-wide programming and Uppers and Seniors will take part in workshops led by peers and faculty, focusing on topics including race, gender, class, and sexuality.

NAHILA HUTCHINSON ’24

Workshop: The Evolution of the Afro: A Story of Unity, Liberation, and Empowerment

“[My group and I] found that, [during the Civil Rights era], some Black Americans used their hair, [which white supremacists called ugly], as a way to fight for their social justice. I thought it was really inspirational how African Americans were able to use their hair to beautify and represent themselves. As someone who is part of a minority, [it helped me realize] that I didn’t have to conform to society’s standards, but rather use my looks and my hair to represent myself. I found it really inspirational how we can use these ordinary, common things to represent ourselves and our identities.”

ALICE FAN ’23

Workshop: Not Just Climate Change: Civil Rights, Environmental Justice, and You

“Someone in the MLK Day facilitator training session said, ‘We’re teaching people not what to think, but how to think about civil rights and environmental justice.’ So I think one of the challenges this year is to shift the focus away from researching things that we’ve done, and think more about the perspective as a whole... [The workshop] definitely influenced my understanding of the environmental justice movement, because I didn’t know how rich of a history there was until we started the project last year... I think, in ten years, I’ll remember how many environmental justice MLK Day workshops there were... I think it just goes to show how much interest there is and how much power there is in terms of capacity, and people willing to devote time to an environmental justice perspective.”

SARAH PAN ’24

Workshop: Data Justice: Using Feminist Approaches to Dissect and Address Power Structures

“I actually found my inspiration for this topic through a book called Data Feminism [by Catherine D’Ignazio and Lauren Klein]. I really enjoyed reading the book, and [it had] many really good examples [of how feminists can use data science] that we found it hard to pick which ones to include... [I also learned] how data can also be biased and influenced by other factors, and it was something that I had never considered before. For me, I think that was my biggest takeaway.”

REENA KIJOWSKI ’23

Workshop: Beauty OR Brains: Examining the Role of Stereotypes and Implicit Bias in STEM Education

“I got the idea for this project through [the Brace Center for Gender Studies].... I’ve always been interested in STEM, but I was interested in how you could add a humanities focus or like a social justice focus to my stem interests.... For me, working on this project, and then taking a break, and then brainstorming again helps me see how I could have a small impact on other people, and see if I can take a topic that interests me and try to make it accessible and meaningful to other people, especially since there’s so many different types of Andover students.”

SUHAILA COTTON ’24

Workshop: Not Just Climate Change: Civil Rights, Environmental Justice, and You

“[Our group’s] all part of the [Phillips Academy Sustainability Coalition], so working on environmental justice was just kind of straightforward for us... [A major challenge] is making sure that we clearly portray to people how this connects to student life and how this connects to Andover and why it’s important for people to know this... I will always remember it with the bill discussions that we had at the end. For our activities, we had people think, ‘what environmental justice bills do you think there should be?’ Then we shared a list of what bills there actually are. So, just getting the thoughts of people like what they think there should be, what changes should be made and hearing their thoughts on that is something that I really enjoy.”

ANDY WALL, INSTRUCTOR IN CHEMISTRY

Workshop: Introduction to Environmental Inequality

“In college, I took an Environmental History course and one of the topics [covered] was Environmental Inequality/Racism. It opened my eyes to the disproportionate exposure of toxic chemicals and hazardous waste that BIPOC communities face. Oftentimes there are systemic reasons related to this inequality, such as real estate practices and politics. As a chemistry teacher interested in issues of sustainability, I believe that I have a responsibility to help educate my students about this topic and spend time uncovering the complexity of the problem. I hope that participants of the workshop will have the same eye-opening moment that I had as a student... [and] I want the students to come away from the workshop knowing that there are ways to work to improve things, to move towards Environmental Justice.”

PATRICK POTHEL, INSTRUCTOR IN FRENCH

Workshop: Jackie Robinson: How Did We Get There?

“I have always had a love for baseball — the game, the history, the rules, the personalities, the stats, and how it has influenced American society. As we celebrate MLK and shed light on Civil Rights, I wanted to highlight the injustices the many baseball players have suffered during the 20th century and the role they played in the inception of the Civil Rights Act of 1964... [I hope to] provide awareness of the events that preceded and led to Jackie Robinson having to break baseball’s color barrier. It is important to know that this momentous event paved the way for others like Willie O’Ree, Earl Llyod, Kenny Washington, and Woody Strode, to name a few.”

DR. NATALYA BALDYGA ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR IN HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Workshop: Beauty OR Brains: Examining the Role of Stereotypes and Implicit Bias in STEM Education

“I’ve always been really impressed by students who are doing social justice work, and just how good they are at calling people in and negotiating some of these challenging conversations.... For me, I’d always sort of [thought more simplistically] of the way that people gender disciplines. I think that the idea of math is hard, and ‘I’m a girl, so I can’t do math.’ But I hadn’t thought about the way that disciplines might be gendered... Thinking about perceptions... of fields and disciplines [was where] it got really interesting for me.”

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Let It Snow

PHOTOS BY HEYON CHOI & ANDREW CHINN



10 Questions with Keri Lambert

1. What interests you about African history?

I've been a historian of Africa since 2009, [which was] my first year of undergrad. [There], I fell in love with history and I began to like taking history classes for the first time in my life. I had never had the opportunity to take African history before, so that seemed like a new horizon for me to explore and learn from. I was also going to college in my hometown and wanting to see beyond the world I already knew really, really well, was important to me. From there, the reasons exploded and I found so many reasons to want to keep studying in the field.

2. What inspired you to write your book, “Elastic Allegiances: Producing Rubber and Belonging in Ghana, 1880-2017?”

When I was an undergraduate, I became really interested in the history of commodities. With that in mind, I decided in my senior year of college to apply for a Watson Fellowship, which basically kicks you out of the country, cuts [you] a check, and [lets you] pursue a project of your own design. My project was to experience firsthand the work that went into producing global commodities, like rubber, coffee, cotton, and palm oil, among others. So I spent four months in Ghana working on smallholder rubber plantations and there, I just realized that there were so many questions that I wanted to know about the history of that industry. To answer those questions, I pursued my PhD on that topic and I focused on that for the next many years.

3. What was your favorite place to visit during research?

The research itself was done over many months and many trips. I have traveled to the [United Kingdom] and I did a lot of research in Washington DC as well because the history that I had to tell and explore is transnational history. I loved writing my dissertation and getting to review my notes from all of the oral histories that I had conducted with people and search through all of the archival materials that I had photographed. My favorite place to visit was probably Ghana because of the connections I made with some close friends there that I cherish to this day.

4. What makes you passionate about teaching at Andover?

As I became interested in history from a scholarly angle, I was also very interested in pursuing a teaching career. I was a little bit torn when thinking about what career path to take, because on one hand, I really wanted to do research, but I also really loved the classroom experience and I knew that at the heart of my career, I wanted to be working firsthand with students, with people who are excited to learn and to grow. I always felt like this buzz was working with young people working with students, either in summer programs or in tutoring positions... I decided to apply to this job here at Andover and finally, I feel like I've found something that really makes me passionate and makes me tick.

5. How do you bring your own study and passion for African History into the classroom?

I think it comes into play in the classes I have taught at all levels. The skills of being a historian, knowing how to ask a good and compelling question about the past, [being] empathetic with people that lived either decades or centuries or millennia ago are invaluable. Then [in terms of my] content and knowledge, I have been able to contribute to incorporating the more anti-racist curriculum into the History 100 curriculum by developing new units on African history. Within History 300, I tend to draw on my background as a social historian to incorporate materials that let students study history from the ground up. Then when I'm teaching my bread and butter elective, [History 516 Storied Environments: African Environmental History Since 1800], I get to be a scholar and get to work with really curious, super bright, young minds. I think that's where I feel like my training as a historian is most applicable.

A scholar of African history, Lambert is currently working to publish her first book, “Elastic Allegiances: Producing Rubber and Belonging in Ghana, 1880-2017.” As a three-season varsity track & field athlete in college, Lambert also serves as Head Coach for Girls Cross Country and Director for the Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field program. Lambert is an Instructor in History and Social Sciences and a house counselor in Draper Cottage.

REPORTING BY CATHY MA



M.MA/THEPHILLIPIAN

6. What was the transition like from being a track & field athlete to coaching the sport?

I loved coaching and I really liked that student-facing role. I think when I was an athlete, I was pleasantly ignorant and intentionally, so I just wanted to run, to be given a workout, and then run fast. I wanted to be allowed to be competitive and have fun doing the sport. So when I became a coach, I started to take much more interest in the technical side and I realized that I actually do love that side as well. But in so many ways, the passion for the sport that I had as an athlete is translating directly to being a coach. I'm able to better empathize with athletes when they're injured because I know what that feels like. I'm better able to celebrate a success because I know what that feels like and how it's one of the best feelings in the world to get a new PR (personal record).

7. Who is your role model?

It's hard for me to say one particular person. In the Andover space, there are faculty members, especially people who have either been here for a lot longer or who have taught history for a lot longer than I have, that I really admire. I could give you their names, but I would feel a little embarrassed. Outside of that, there are some professional athletes that I look up to, because of their stories, their resilience, and their commitment to their goals, which is always astonishing.

8. What is an important piece of advice that you would like to share?

One would be to stay in the moment and not get ahead of yourself, something that my high school cross country coach was always encouraging us to do. That's really important, whether you're racing a 5k [or] a high school student when you're struggling in a class. Then, valuing relationships and friendships and making sure that's an integral part of every day [is also really important.] Especially in the place where the pace gets fast as it does here, it is so important to make time for the people who are important in your life because they're the ones who will make the highs worth it and carry you through your lows.

9. What's your favorite thing and least favorite thing about being a house counselor in Draper Cottage?

My favorite thing is I really like to get to know students outside of classroom walls and outside of the more serious space of athletics. My least favorite thing is that it makes it very hard to have work-life boundaries.

10. If you were to meet a historical figure, and argue with them, who would you choose?

I have so many names going through my mind. I think for the sake of my familiarity with how a man's thoughts changed over time, I'd want to talk to Kwame Nkrumah, who was the first Prime Minister and President of Ghana, who's a figure that's really important in my field and in my research, and I'd want to talk to him about why he switched so dramatically his development policies in the six years immediately following [Ghanaian] independence.

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THE EIGHTH PAGE

it's healthy girl winter...

Look of the Week: Daddy’s Bonus Came in Time for Christmas

Luke Piasecki



Painting a real ‘trust fund’ look, Richie Parents ‘26 sports bold statement pieces. Rocking the limited edition KFC X Crocs, he walks gingerly every morning from Rockwell to Commons, trying to avoid scuffing them. Their unique color scheme blends nicely with his bright red Supreme sweat-pants, giving him an eye-searing appearance. His luxury Italian puffer jacket also raises some eyebrows. It’s clear Richie was a very good boy this Christmas, as his astoundingly chic look is complemented by his airpod maxes.

“What did you... say? I can’t hear [you],” Richie said when asked how he chose his fashion style, which is an interesting mix between spoiled kid and detached charisma. As Richie put it, “I really can’t hear what you’re saying.” He walked away mumbling, “I just want to rock uh uh...”

Richie apparently drew his inspiration from the traffic cones he sees on his walks to Commons, which seem to share his attraction to bright colors and drawing attention. It’s clear his parents put a lot of effort into his look, probably in the hope that he’d finally be able to get some friends.

“Why are you still following me? I said I didn’t want to do the interview.” Richie says he’s excited to define this new fashion genre. “No you can’t quote me. Stop writing down everything I’m saying.”



Keep an eye out for Richie... to ensure he stays far away from those at-risk of epilepsy. Not only does he demonstrate boldness, but also, his parents' Christmas compensation for child negligence.

2023 New Years Resolutions: Growth and Accountability

- "Do not reclass for a third time."
- "Make one of the Deans my sugar daddy."
- "Stop feeding Pop Rocks to the fish in Gelb."
- "Restrain myself from giving seducing looks to my Physics teacher"
- "Get a boob job, then become a feminist."
- "Stop eating the books in silent."
- "Stop talking shit about people (excluding my math teacher, history teacher, house counselor, coach, psychiatrist, Alex, Keith, Sandra, Roberta, Elyse ...)"
- "Remember my students are also human."
- "Get *real* clothes, not more Harvard merch."
- "Finish removing my Trump 2020 bumper sticker."
- "Plan A: Get a girlfriend. Plan B: Transition to ethical porn."

“I’ve always thought of ‘do not eat’ labels as more of a suggestion than a rule”

“Is it a bad sign that my college counselor just laughed when he saw my transcript?”

“Hey, is that guy writing down our conversation?”

“Is he faking it?”

“I’m tryna lose my virginity like Prince Harry did”

“Pouring out a glass of sparkling water for the Top G”

“I have a squash injury...JV2...”

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

“I got the green AirPods Maxes for Christmas because they are so much more original.”

“My Comp-Sci teacher is wildin’. I can calculate a random number in my head.”

“Everyone here is such a bot.”

“She copied my 2022 photo dump on instagram.”

“The rockies are good but I like the vibe of the alps more”

WEEK’S TOP HEADLINES

- *Affinity Group on Campus Created by Students Who Did Not Go Skiing Over Break*
- *Pubic Health, Dr. Patel? Guess We Are the School of the Bushes*
- *Further Investigation Reveals Barbeque Sauce Prank Done by Extremely Confused DoorDash Driver*
- *To Foster Political Diversity, OWHL Aims to Hire One Non-Communist Librarian by 2030*
- *TCU Just Glad They Don’t Play Deerfield in Lacrosse*
- *George Santos to Speak at ASM for Mixed Heritage Awareness Month*
- *Trade School Interest Rises Among Uppers Following CCO Survey*

What The Academy Cut From the Land Acknowledgement:

“We are committed to profit off the native land and have no intentions of giving it back.”

“We honor the land by playing lacrosse and all the other Native American sports.”

“We acknowledge our presence on the traditional land of the Pen-nah-cook Confederacy, Wah-bah-nah-kee Confederacy, and Wahm-pah-noe-ag Peoples (if you mess up, just make it up as you go—no one will notice).”

“We strive to create a more inclusive community by raising our acceptance rate from 9.5 to 10 percent.”

“We will continuously be mindful of the land we are on by taking more aesthetic drone shots of campus for our instagram @phillipsacademy.”

THE JOBS THAT Dr. RayK TURNED DOWN FOR ANDOVER HEAD OF SCHOOL:



- Comedy critic
- A mortician (you don’t have to remember the names of dead people)
- A realtor
- The Exeter Head of School
- Mall Santa Claus
- Carhartt Model
- Head of Camouflage for "Finding Big-foot"
- A voice actor for “The Muppets”
- Child psychiatrist



The Phillipian SPORTS

Volume CXLV | Number 27

lost my wisdom

January 13, 2023

Andover Girls Hockey Refuses to Break Winning Streak After Successful Weekend

MEG STINEMAN

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Choate	0
MONDAY	
Andover	5
Brooks	3
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	8
KUA	1

Andover Girls Hockey had an outstanding week, winning all three of its games. On Saturday, the team shut out Choate in a 3-0 win, leading Andover into another 5-3 win against Brooks on Monday. After a break from games, the team came back this Wednesday with an incredible 8-1 win against Kimball Union Academy (KUA), thus remaining undefeated.

According to Coach Martha Fenton '83, the team struggled in some aspects after being away for two and a half weeks. After the team came together at the Taft tournament, it was known the level at which the team could play, but meshing together again was a challenge. Nonetheless, there were no penalties against Girls Hockey.

Fenton said, "It was a good game, but it definitely wasn't our best game. It was apparent that we had been away for a couple of weeks and it was a long bus ride and a little bit of a wait, so I think we were a little bit more disjointed than we had looked. We had that time together down at Taft



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover has outscored its opponents 33-7 so far this season.

and we were really starting to click. We had switched lines up and it always takes a little bit of time to adjust to that and we missed Emily Mara [25], but I think the bottom line is we did what we needed to to get the win. We played a clean game and we didn't get any penalties but we will need to play better hockey in the future."

Wendi Ying '25 mentioned the short amount of time the team had to prepare before the game against Choate. With only two practices before the game, the team needed to spend time together. Furthermore, the team spent

time doing workouts and stretches to get back in the swing of things.

"We came back on Wednesday, so we only really had three days to prepare and we really just did our normal practices and then we did a lot of team workouts and stretches after practice, which we don't normally do, but because the games on Saturday on Friday, we didn't really wanna go super hard and practice because you want to have fresh legs the day after. The big thing was not having too much work for Saturday and Martha always emphasizes sleep so that was a focus,"

Ying said.

In an email to *The Phillipian*, Shea Freda '23 noted that the offense created many opportunities in front of the net, resulting in its five goals against Brooks. After a penalty against its opponents, Girls Hockey took advantage of its power play by pushing the puck into the offensive zone. Despite these strengths, the game would have been even more of a success if the team had a more vigorous first period, according to Freda.

"I think our strengths against Brooks were our defense rushing the puck on offense and creating opportu-

nity in the offensive zone. We were able to transition really quickly and create shots especially in the second and third period. We also had a really strong power play which was able to produce lots of opportunities in front of the net. Our weakness was that we probably could have come out stronger in the first period," wrote Freda.

Similarly to Monday against Brooks, Girl's Hockey made many shots on goal, two of which led to goals from the team's defenders. Choate was unable to match Andover's efforts, since Andover's defense shut down many of Choate's opportunities, according to Ying.

Ying stated, "Well, two of our defense scored two goals, so we had a really good defense. I don't know how many shots the other team's goalie got compared to us, but I thought our defense was really strong. We have two of our captains on [defense] so that's very helpful."

Freda highlighted the importance of the team playing harder than it ever has because of what the team has to lose. Keeping effort at an all-time high is essential to the continued success of Girl's Hockey.

"We're definitely feeling great coming off of this win but I think we need to focus on keeping our intensity and not underestimating our opponents. We have a perfect record but if anything now we have to play with something to prove and something to lose, so we just have to continue to work hard and keep up our energy," wrote Freda.

Andover will face St. Paul's School this Saturday away.

All-Gender Wrestling Suffers First Loss of the Season but Racks Up Another Win

EVAN CURTIN

SATURDAY	
Andover	33
Choate	48
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	48
Nobles	29
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	11
Girls Open	9

Despite losing to Choate 33-48 on Saturday, marking the season's first loss, Andover All-Gender Wrestling managed to return strong with a 48-29 win against Nobles and a 11-9 win at the Girls Open on Wednesday. Its record now stands at 4-1.

Reese York '26 congratulates his teammate, Eva Murphy '25, on her excellent performance at Choate. York highlighted Murphy's diligence and ability to focus on her opponent in her match.

"The person that stuck out to me the most was Eva Murphy '25, she was down

in the first period, and then in the third period she was able to get a head lock on her opponent and pin them, and she was also wrestling up a weight class and so that was a really big for her overall. Murphy puts in the work everyday, and she deserved that win. Her win was inspiring to me and it showed me that how hard you work is how well you will perform, and that is an important lesson," said York.

Magnus Julin '25, a two-year wrestler, illustrated the difficulty of wrestling the same person back to back. Though Julin lost his match, he believes that he has improved his skills since the start of the season.

"Well, the person I wrestled actually was the last person I wrestled at our table tournament, which was right before winter break. So I think the opponent was a really good wrestler and I think I definitely saw some improvement from last time I wrestled him. I still think he was just in general a better wrestler than me at this point in time. [I have improved] mentally because we've been reviewing a lot more different moves during practices and just trying to reflect on what we could learn from the tournament and just how that im-



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Suhaila Cotton '24 pins opponent in match against Girls Open.

pacts the way we practice as a team," said Julin.

Furthermore, York noted Andover Wrestling's hard-working mentality and determination as the key for them to improve. Its positive outlook allows for them to improve for the future rather than dwell on the past.

York said, "Andover Wrestling is hardworking because the team puts in a lot of work through the practices, and everyone is always doing or pushing each other to do that one extra set and just do a little bit more just to get it down. To improve their skills to that next level. Just to summarize, in the end, we did lose to Choate, but that shows that we just have a lot of ways we still need to improve and we just need to keep doing what we do best, pushing through and working even harder than the last time."

Like York, Angelique Ceballos Cardona '25 credited her improved skills to the grit of the team. Although Cardona lost her match, the lessons taught at every practice expanded her knowledge for future matches.

"I think definitely in prac-

tice, we really value hard work and pushing ourselves and that's exactly what wrestling is on live. Um, it's about just getting in there, giving your best. It's a mental game as well. We talked about that in practice as well. How much mentality matters and you know, basically just like going in it to win it. You're gonna put the work in practice because you want to win, and then you're gonna put the work in as well when you're going live because you want to win," said Ceballos Cardona.

Tasha Bohorad '26 felt that the meet's performances showcased what each wrestler needs to work on individually. However, she highlighted how the team could improve their skills offensively, an aspect missed from their current gameplan.

"I think everyone is at different levels because they have different levels of experience. So speaking for people who just started this year or, or newer, um, definitely staying on a few more and being more offensive because we're pretty good at the defensive, but just going on the offensive

more, would be helpful. We are still good at offense, but we could definitely improve," said Bohorad.

Julian Rios '26 illustrated his quick and aggressive win during Wednesday's match against Nobles, where he pinned his opponent in thirty seconds. Yet, Rios credited his teammates' support and morale as what placed him in the right mindset for his match.

"I think definitely just the team overall, they support each other very well. Like everyone's always cheering for each other on the sidelines and I think that helps a lot because it really allows us to feel like we're part of something bigger and we're not only wrestling just for ourselves, wrestling for a team. So during those moments where we could just give up and lose and so we think about our team and push a little bit more," Rios said.

All-Gender Wrestling will have its next match away at Deerfield on Saturday.



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Tasha Bohorad '26 on the mat.

GIRLSHOCKEY

“Poised” Co-Captain Anne Averill ’23 Institutes Team Dinners and Buddy System for Bonding

ANGIE LUCIA

Girls Hockey Co-Captain Anne Averill ’23 started playing ice hockey at six years old. With two parents who had played hockey at the collegiate level, three younger sisters trying out hockey, and a rink in her backyard, Averill felt like she needed to give hockey a shot. She eventually fell in love with the sport after fostering emotional connections with her family and friends.

Averill strengthens her relationships with her teammates through having fun and leading the team by example. Teammate Ava Murphy ’24 commended Averill’s inclusive attitude, which Murphy indicated makes Averill an effective leader.

“Anne definitely connects with every single player. She has a personal connection with everybody and she also leads by really good example on the ice and off the ice for her behavior and just the way she plays. She’s a total team player,” said Murphy.

Averill encourages her teammates to sustain relationships with each other beyond the rink. She credits the program’s success to the camaraderie between the players. According to Averill, she cultivates team bonding by creating an enjoyable envi-

ronment.

“[Whether] we win or lose, what matters, and what I want people to remember most is really enjoying their time spent as a part of the hockey program, and really getting a lot out of the connections that they make during the season and even outside of the season... we do everything together, we like to have fun together, and everyone can be kind and we want to work hard for each other. Obviously, on the ice as well, we do want success, but I think that honestly, success usually follows a team that [has] the most [fun] together,” said Averill.

Co-Captain Olivia McManus ’23 values the calmness Averill brings on the ice, regardless of stressful situations. She notes how Averill can use her knowledge to guide her teammates.

“Anne and I are actually [defense] partners so we spend a lot of time together, and she’s just like very informed about the game, and has a lot of good knowledge to give to everybody, and especially me [as well]. Anne is very poised on the ice, and then she takes her opportunities when she gets the chance... She chooses her moments to go,” said McManus.

According to teammates, Averill is an intentional leader, who makes sure to demonstrate fluidity and poise. Keira

Harder ’23 appreciates Averill’s diligence and emphasizes her intentionality as an athlete.

“Anne is an incredible human being... She is just someone who leads by example. She’s so thoughtful, really trying to make sure everyone feels heard and seen. When I think of Anne, she has almost this quality of grace to her that her leadership reflects where she can be really poised, even though she tends to be on the quieter side, she’s really poised when she speaks, and again, is just such a hard worker and demonstrates that to all of us. She’s a very inspiring individual and just a wonderful captain,” said Harder.

Head Coach Martha Fenton observed how Averill’s approachability. She noted especially how Averill can easily connect with younger players, challenging on the ice while supporting them as individuals.

“Anne is somebody that kids are drawn to because she’s somebody that brings people together. As the older sibling of three other sisters, I think she’s always been someone younger players feel comfortable talking to and going to and at the same time she has a nurturing quality, but she also holds really high standards so kids really want to work hard,” said Fenton.

Outside of hockey, Aver-



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ill organizes various activities with her co-captains to establish connections. She acknowledges that practices are busy times to get to know each other, so Averill incorporates team dinners and the buddy system to get a chance to connect across the inter-sectional backgrounds.

Averill said, “On the ice, the pace of practice is pretty fast, so I feel like there’s not a lot of mingling or creating relationships in the middle of a practice. We do try to do a fair amount of team dinners and activities... Sometimes on the bus rides we’ll play games or listen to music. And then, we also have a buddy system that I feel like is pretty helpful in

the hockey season, where everyone gets a buddy assigned by our coach and they’re random... I think it helps you get to know a different person on the team that you might not spend as much time with since you’re not in the same grade as them or in the same friend group outside of hockey. I think that also helps foster our team dynamic a little bit.”

Averill will continue her athletic and academic career at Dartmouth College.

Co-Captain Olivia McManus ’23 Brings Voice and Transparency

ANGIE LUCIA

Andover Girls Hockey Co-Captain Olivia McManus ’23 picked up hockey alongside her twin brother at just four years old. Although her discovery of the sport was accidental, the relationships she’s formed through it have kept her passionate since.

From her numerous years playing hockey, McManus strives to integrate the lessons and values she has ac-

quired into her leadership. In order to create a strong team dynamic, McManus prioritizes communication and being vocal.

“Something that we’ve really struggled with this year, during practice, is being loud on the ice and communicating with each other, so I think that is a huge part of becoming comfortable with each other, just being able to verbalize where we are and where we want the puck. Being loud and positive is something that all the captains try to do, which

will help our team in the long run because that helps create a comfortable team dynamic,” said McManus.

McManus not only communicates well with her teammates, but also spreads positivity to the team during tough games, according to Keira Harder ’23. On top of individual performances, McManus wants the whole team to succeed.

“Liv is a little more vocal, which is good for the balance that we need on the team, and Liv always wants to get us up and going in between periods. You can always hear her cheering saying, ‘Great play! That was so awesome!’ or giving people little tidbits of encouragement, which is super sweet,” said Harder.

Wendi Ying ’25 shared a similar sentiment to Harder, noting McManus’ communication skills. Ying appreciates McManus’ transparency and approachability.

“I think she’s really good at giving directions... and she’s also just a very kind and funny person, which is something that’s really important to me when someone is my captain,” said Ying.

Ava Murphy ’24 emphasized how McManus’ passion for the game shines, even in stressful situations. McManus assesses live gameplay and translates personal ob-

servations into feedback for the team, according to Murphy.

“Liv talks strategy a lot, and she has a lot of passion for the game. She’s really consistent. And when we go into longer periods, she really helps us narrow down what we need to work on for the next periods, and how we can further improve,” said Murphy.

McManus aims to nurture a supportive and inclusive team environment. Team bonding is a staple for McManus in creating a culture that’s conducive to growth and success.

“On Friday night, we had a team dinner, which is always helpful. And then sometimes after practice we’ll do a team stretch or a team workout, which is kind of funky, so we just have music playing and everyone’s having a good time. And on the ice we try to have competitive games, where we see the different sides of some people because everyone’s screaming and wanting to score that final goal, so that always helps too,” said McManus.

Head Coach Martha Fenton ’83 highlighted McManus’ ability to lead by example on the ice. Her dedication to hockey and drastic individual improvement over the years have motivated her teammates, according to Fenton.

“I think anyone who’s

watched Liv over the years is going to respect her and the commitment she’s made to hockey and then to improving herself as a hockey player. She has put an incredible amount of time and effort into being the best that she can be, and I think the kids see that, and they see her commitment to the game and her love... for the team,” said Fenton.

Co-Captain Anne Averill ’23 appreciates the effort McManus puts into building community, while also being able to keep everyone focused with the task on hand. Through her voice, McManus brings a unique strength that compliments the team’s other two co-captains.

“Liv brings a lot of hard work and a lot of positivity. She has a pretty loud voice on the team. In the locker room, she enjoys talking to a variety of people, and then she’s not afraid to also be like, ‘Hey, guys. Listen up,’ which is something that I don’t feel like I do as much... She can take care of making sure everyone’s included or getting the team to listen up when we need to be serious,” said Averill.



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Lulu Rourke ’23 Boosts Morale through Positive Affirmations

MEG STINEMAN

Starting hockey at the age of five, Girls Hockey Co-Captain Lulu Rourke ’23 has committed countless hours to hockey. As one of three captains, Rourke focuses on radiating excitement and energy which makes her someone for the team to look up to on and off the ice, according to Rourke and her teammates.

“One value that is important to me is respect and I think the root of our success is respecting each other, our coaches, and the opportunity we have to play. I motivate the team by trying my best to be optimistic and bring positive energy,” wrote Rourke in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Teammate Kiera Harder ’23 has known Rourke for years and has watched her improve. Rourke has continuously been a player to fear on the ice and always plays unselfishly, further benefiting the team, commented Harder.

“I’ve played against Lulu for nine years at this point, and every time I play against Lulu, I’m just like, ‘Thank God we’re on the same team,’

because going up against Lulu is probably the most impossible task you will ever encounter. She’s so clever on and off the path, and she can just sneak by you, but she’s just one of those players who always stands out, and simultaneously, she also is so generous with the puck too. You notice her, but you also notice her generosity, which a lot of top tier players don’t always have.”

Co-Captain Olivia McManus ’23 highlighted how Rourke leads by example and showcases speed and overall energy on the ice. McManus enjoys watching and learning from Rourke’s techniques.

McManus said, “Lulu is very energetic. On the ice, you can pick her out because she’s just flying everywhere and giving her max effort at all times. It’s just fun to watch. Then I try to take some of that from her even though sometimes it doesn’t really work because it’s crazy to watch. And it’s just so inspiring, but I think everyone just feeds off of her energy.”

Head Coach Martha Fenton echoes McManus’ sentiments. According to Fenton, Rourke is never afraid to put

herself in uncomfortable positions for the team and brings everything she has to the ice each day.

“I think anybody who has watched Lulu play sports can see that her work ethic is unmatched. She is as athletic as anyone I’ve ever coached, and she has the work ethic to go with it. She’s willing to sacrifice her body and do anything it takes,” said Coach Fenton.

Sharing similar sentiment to Coach Fenton, McManus appreciated Rourke’s way of playing and leading. McManus mentioned the benefits of Rourke’s approach in comparison to herself and fellow Co-Captain Anne Averill ’23. The various strategies greatly affect the team’s success, especially because both players are extremely talented.

McManus said, “It’s beneficial to go as hard as you can all the time because you never know what type of bounce you’ll get or break up the play because she’s everywhere. I think if I were an underclassman looking at Anne and Lulu, you get the best of both worlds because they’re both bringing very different characteristics to the team. You learn from both of them in so



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many different ways. If everyone was the same, it wouldn’t be beneficial to the team, but since they’re so different in very good ways, it just helps everyone.”

Harder reiterated Rourke’s ability to motivate the team through words and actions. She is confident with Rourke in the front lines, describing her as a player at the center of motivating the team.

Harder said, “Again I played against her for a while

and I always thought ‘Oh my gosh,’ whenever we had to face off because it was always stressful, but now that we are on the same team. I can stay confident with her on the front lines, we are just fine... Obviously, with [her] captainship from soccer, she definitely brings some of that into hockey.”

Rourke will continue her athletic and academic career at Holy Cross.

“A Lot of Heart and a Lot of Kindness”: Coach Martha Fenton ’83

MEG STINEMAN

In her 28th year at Andover, Head Coach Martha Fenton ’83 leads Andover Girls Hockey with kindness, care, and a love for competition. The team recently won the Patsy K. Odden Tournament for the second year in a row and holds an undefeated record this season.

Despite her successful leadership, Fenton had no experience with competitive hockey until her final year as a student at Andover. After a year, Fenton proceeded to play hockey, alongside field hockey and lacrosse, at Bowdoin College, and started her coaching career shortly after.

“We played a lot of pond hockey when I was a kid, but I didn’t have an opportunity to play and there weren’t any other girls... I actually didn’t start playing organized hockey until I came to Andover. I tried to play my Upper year, but I asked my mom to get me equipment, and she had me try on my brother’s equipment. It didn’t fit, so she said maybe next year. So I started as a Senior here,” said Fenton.

Keira Harder ’23 highlighted Fenton’s positivity and selflessness. According to Harder, Fen-

ton continuously checks in on her players, ensuring that no one feels alone.

“For me, I always connect Martha with kindness. To me her kindness is so palpable. Essentially when you walk into a room with her smile, you can feel it. She’s so dedicated to letting everyone on the team know that they’re valued and let everyone know they have worth. She really focuses on making sure that we then in turn value our own teammates and demonstrate that... She is the kindest human being,” said Harder.

Sharing a similar sentiment to Harder, Co-Captain Anne Averill ’23 emphasized Fenton’s love for the team. Fenton brings leadership qualities that the team’s captains look to, according to Averill.

“She mostly leads with a lot of heart and a lot of kindness and a lot of care for the team, which has been something that’s great to see as like a captain who also wants to emphasize those values. I think it’s been great to learn from her and get to work with her and try to help the team as much as possible,” said Averill.

With experience from the collegiate level, Fenton serves as an influential and knowledgeable figure on the ice, according

to Co-Captain Olivia McManus ’23. McManus admires Fenton’s clear passion for the sport.

“She’s just very inspirational. She’s definitely someone I look up to because she’s just a strong woman figure [who’s] been around for a while and has changed many people’s lives, including my own. She’s powerful. I’d probably describe her as that, and she just knows tons about the game because she’s been around for so long,” said McManus.

Fenton views camaraderie as a key component to a successful team. While an advocate of cooperation and communication, Fenton also encourages her players to maintain high intensity and healthy competition during practices.

“I firmly believe that the team dynamic is always going to determine the success of the team. You can have an incredibly skilled team, but if you don’t work together, hockey is a sport where you really have to find that magic on the ice. The way you interact makes a huge difference. I try to lean into the team, motivating each other and competing on the ice every day and making practice competitive,” said Fenton.

Harder believes that Fenton reflects her efforts to motivate



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the team. Through healthy competition, the team maintains focus on its goals and the desire to improve, according to Harder.

“She really focuses on helping us find... self motivation, so just making sure there’s a competitive edge to practice, making sure that we’re focusing in on the systems that we’re trying to accomplish, making sure that we’re competing not only against each other but internally,” said Harder.

Harder continued, describing Fenton’s focus on setting concrete goals.

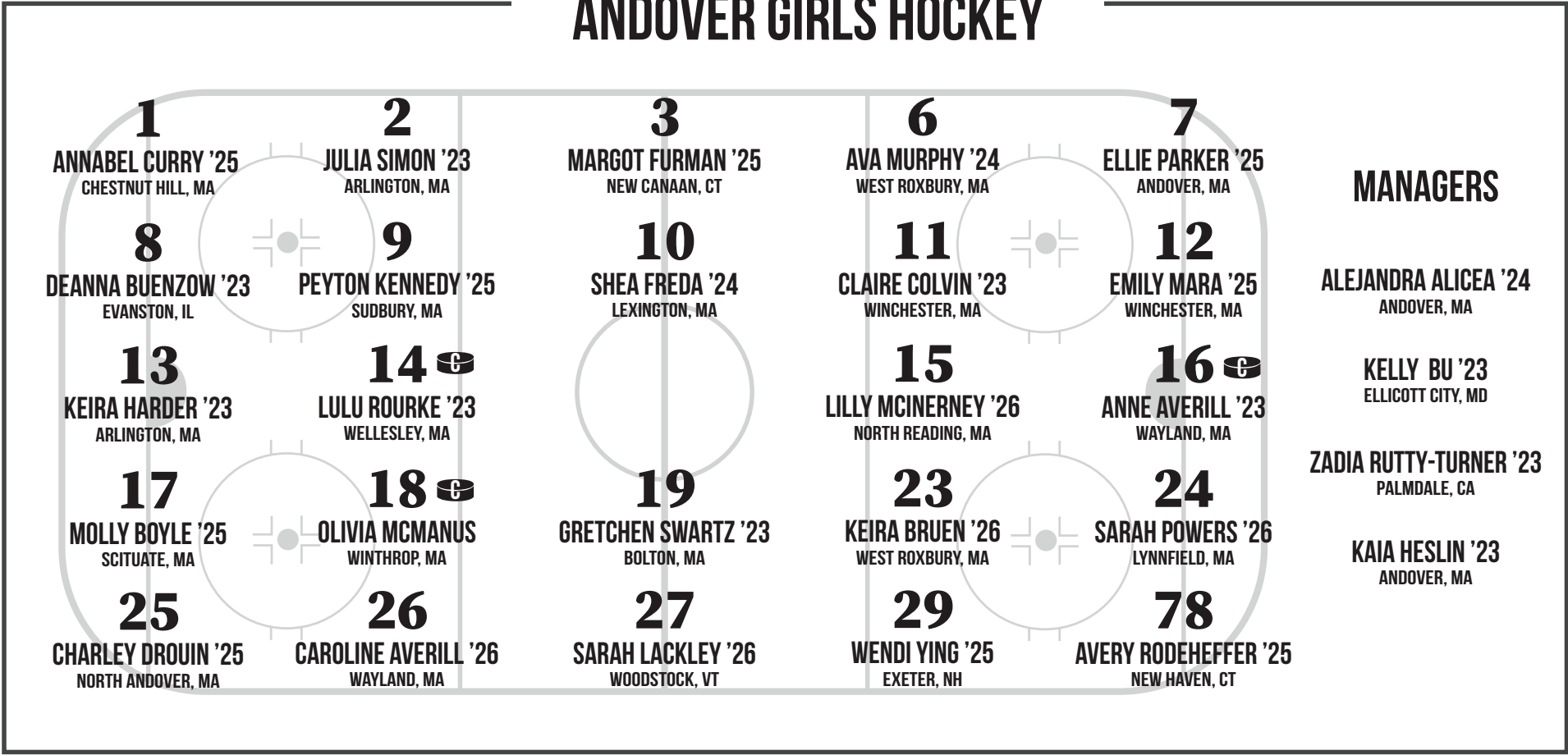
“One of the things that makes her such a good coach is that she

constantly expects us to push ourselves harder and to battle for every 50-50 puck. Not just go through the motion but really saying each practice, ‘Am I going to get better? What goals am I going to make for myself this practice?’” added Harder.

Looking ahead, Fenton hopes to improve upon the team’s sense of community and accountability. Through unselfish play, the team looks to continue its nine-game win streak.

“When people want to play as much for the people next to them as they do for themselves, that’s when you achieve greatness,” said Fenton.

ANDOVER GIRLS HOCKEY



P.TRAN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Girls Swimming and Diving Opens 50th Season with Win

SOPHIA CRATTY

SATURDAY	
Andover	97
Choate	81

Opening its 50th season, Andover Girls Swimming and Diving dominated Choate Rosemary Hall (Choate) on Saturday, sweeping the top three places in four of the seven scored swimming events. In its only dual meet away this season, the team ultimately won 97-81.

Despite the long and tiring drive, the trip to Choate gave the team an opportunity to bond, according to Elissa Kim ’24. Kim shared how teammate Mia Wonacott ’24 brought a camera for the team to record with, in hopes to look back on the videos at the end of the season.

“[As] it was our first meet, and the first away meet, there was

a lot of bonding on the bus and one thing that was super exciting is a teammate, Mia Wonacott, brought a video camera that we used to film different people answering questions after their races and just had a lot of fun with that,” said Kim.

Co-Captain Katie Swan ’23 shared her immense pride in her teammates for their high spirits and performance. Swan highlighted the team’s cheering.

“I am really happy with how the meet [went]. Everyone was really into it, everyone was cheering for each other. The environment was just really supportive which I think is a great gauge on how the team is performing. Because when our team is performing well, our spirits are high, and when our spirits are high, we perform well. So it’s a positive feedback loop,” said Swan.

Co-Captain Emma Cheung ’23 shared a similar sentiment to Swan, illustrating the atmosphere of Saturday’s meet. Cheung appreciated the close-knit bond that

her teammates shared.

“[My] favorite part of the swim season are meets because of the incredibly supportive atmosphere the team brings. We’ll always have someone cheering behind every Andover lane during meets. [Especially] when you’re done with your race and you’re climbing out, and you know there’s always teammates saying what a great job you did and patting you on the back. [It] really emphasizes that close-knit bond we have on the girls [team],” said Cheung.

Swan noted the team’s discipline and determination during the two-week Winter Break prior to the season opener. Despite being separated from one another, every team member worked to maintain their fitness, according to Swan.

“[Our] team was very productive over the break and you can kind of tell based on how people are doing. No one is complaining about having to go to practice... you don’t hear any of that. When we got to the meet, you could tell

everyone [was] ready to perform and people wanted to be there,” said Swan.

After returning from break, the team had less than a week to prepare for the matchup against Choate. However, due to persistent efforts to build community, the team went into Saturday eager to race for one another, according to Kim.

“We have a lot of team dinners after practices so that’s a good bonding experience to have outside of practice. Within the practice itself, the day before the meet, we did a lot of relay starts, so that was super nice to get into the mindset of racing and scoring points for the team,” said Kim.

Molly MacKinnon ’24 played a major role in Saturday’s meet, receiving shout-outs from multiple teammates. Swan emphasized MacKinnon’s performance in the 200-Meter IM (Individual Medley event), where MacKinnon placed third despite being unfamiliar with the event.

“Everyone did really amazing. I

was very, very proud of everyone, but I would like to shout out Molly MacKinnon because she swam the [200-Meter] IM for the first time. It’s not an event she normally does and [she] killed it,” said Swan.

Cheung highlighted MacKinnon’s constant efforts to support her teammates. On top of individual performance, MacKinnon’s words of encouragement stood out, according to Cheung.

“If [Molly] wasn’t cheering on the side of the pool, she was cheering behind the pool, behind the lanes. But it’s also beyond that. On the days leading up to the meet, she’s always that person that will call out ‘Last one! Halfway through!’ It really helps you push through and it helps remind you that you’re not the only one in the pool. You have all these other incredible swimmers that are there to push you, and you’re all doing it [together]” said Cheung.

Andover Girls Swimming and Diving will face Suffield Academy

“Raise your mentality”: Boys Swimming Defeats Choate by 38 Points

EVIE WOOD

SATURDAY	
Andover	108
Choate	70

Boys Swimming defeated Choate Rosemary Hall (Choate) in the season opener by nearly 40 points, with a score of 108-70. Andover was able to claim the top four spots in the 200-yard Individual Medley (IM) race.

Ashton Ma ’24 recounted the excitement of watching the 200-yard IM (Individual Medley event). Ma highlighted the performance of co-captain Christopher Xia ’23, who energetically finished the race followed by Pippin Kantakom ’25, Brian Lee ’25, and Daniel Seong ’25.

“I know the 200 IM we got top four; first, second, third, fourth. I think in that race, one of our new lowers came up surging, especially in the beginning of the race, but our captain, Chris, came back towards the end and won,” said Ma.

In terms of the overall meet, Ethan Zhu ’26 credited the strong performances to sportsmanship and emphasized the high energy present.

“Everything went out pretty smoothly, both the girls’ and boys’ teams were cheering for each other and everything. There was a lot of camaraderie and everything like that. But other than that, in terms of performance, I’d say we did really well as well,” said Zhu.

This was the first high-school meet for some swimmers, such as Woori Lee ’26. Lee expressed his excitement, in spite of some confusion due to the timing system. Andover adapted to the challenge and led the meet.

Lee said, “We were pretty

hyped. It was also kind of not very intense because it wasn’t that big of a meet... We expected to win, even though Choate gave us a good fight. And I feel like during the meet, some of the times were a bit off or very off because the timing system didn’t work too well, so we kind of had to adjust to that and realize that most of the times would be incorrect. And overall, as my first meet, I feel like it gave me a really good idea of how high school meets run.”

Lee discussed the sense of community each individual has developed in the practices leading up to the season opener, despite how short a period of time it was. He credits the captains who lead the team in fostering inclusivity across grades.

“I think one of our strengths is our captains are really doing their job to kind of incorporate everyone into the team, and now we have one big facility, so we can all practice together, and we always

like to see each other. I feel like as a bigger team, we have more of a sense of community, and we always talk to each other [and] laugh during practice. And I feel like that’s doing a great job lifting up the culture and the spirit of the team,” said Lee.

Looking ahead, Ma thinks that the team should look towards building their endurance for quicker transitions between races in meets. He hopes that the swimmers can adapt to the pace of high-school meets.

Ma said, “For our next meet, I think one of our biggest issues with this meet was because high school meets go so much faster than meets outside of school, it’s hard to recover and be ready for the next race, especially when it’s like ten minutes after. So that’s something we have to work on.”

Zhu commented on centering focus during meets. On Saturday, the warmups were disordered, influencing the level of preparation

each individual had going into their events.

Zhu said, “I remember Coach Fox talking about [warmups], it’s a little bit chaotic and everything, and everyone was a little bit disorganized and stuff. Just because, I guess for a few of the kids, it was their first meet of the season, and first meet in general for high school, so I guess they weren’t too used to it. I guess another thing is probably sometimes, [to] ‘raise your mentality’ or just being prepared to go into the meet or into a race. Maybe some of us on the team, some people mess around a little bit, they’re having fun before a race or something, but I guess for the big meets it’s better to stay focused.”

Andover looks ahead to its first home meet Friday against St. John’s Prep.

Girls Squash Edges Out Choate With Tie-Breaker, “Getting Back Into the Groove”

EVIE WOOD

SATURDAY		
Andover		4
Choate		3
WEDNESDAY		
Andover		1
Winsor		6

A 3-1 individual win by Liz Zhao '24 broke the tie between Andover Girls Squash and Choate Rosemary Hall (Choate) on Saturday. The 4-3 team win was followed by a 6-1 loss to Winsor four days later, bringing the team's record to 2-2.

Andover faced the team of former Head Coach Jennifer Elliott '94 on Saturday. Despite anticipating a greater margin of victory over Choate, the team utilized the matchup as a rust-buster, according to Christina Yen '24.

“We went in with a pretty positive attitude, and we were all really prepared... It was a little bit trying to get the dust off, but at the same time I think we all came in pretty confident about where we were going. [The game was] a little bit closer than what we were looking at, but I think overall we learned some pret-



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Migyu Kim '25 is Andover's second seed player.

ty important lessons from it,” said Wen.

On top of Zhao's tie-break victory, Co-Captain Migyu Kim '25 highlighted Yen's performance under pressure. Refereeing the game, Kim noticed Yen's ability to stay calm against Choate's first seed.

“Christina's opponent had all her friends there, cheering for her, screaming, everything. And usually the situations can be really stressful and overwhelming, but it was really really respectable to see Christina keep her cool and make sure that she was just staying focused on what

was going on inside the court, and I felt really proud of her and a lot of respect for her,” said Kim

Yen described the team's efforts to get back to routine after its return from winter break. The team focused on movement through ghosting and high-intensity partner sessions, according to Yen.

“Since we only had two days since we came back, what we were really working on is tactics more or less. What situation we want to hit, what certain type of shot... practicing more how we should hit under certain

situations. So we were creating conditions for those types of situations,” said Yen.

As one of two Juniors on the team, Prisha Shivani '26 appreciated the team's supportive and welcoming environment. Shivani believes the team's camaraderie was a defining factor in Saturday's success.

“I feel like we work together as a team really well, even though squash isn't a team sport. We're really able to cheer each other on and provide help for the people in matches,” said Shivani.

The team entered its

home-opener against Winsor on Wednesday with a willingness to learn. Despite the loss, the team's growth mindset allowed it to maintain focus and support one another, according to Kim.

“Overall I really appreciated the team's mindset going into it because it's really easy when faced with a tough opponent to just be like, ‘Oh, I don't care, there's no point.’ But I really appreciated how everyone went and changed their mindset and decided to focus on, ‘You know what, I'm going to make the best out of this experience, and play the best I can to learn something from it,” said Kim.

Kim acknowledged the team's need to focus on individual technique. Overall, however, the team looks to improve on stamina in order to maintain intensity and quality in longer matches.

“Each match is a different learning experience that the players can see what they want to work on. So we'll probably take that and think about the different tactical and technical things that each of us individually want to work on in the coming day... Probably just consistently work on fitness and quality of shots just overall on top of our individual improvements,” said Kim.

Andover Girls Squash will host Taft Academy, Phillips Exeter Academy, and Loomis Chaffee on Saturday, alongside hosting Tabor on Wednesday.

Boys Squash Defeats Choate and Sweeps Brooks

HENRY SNOW

SATURDAY		
Andover		5
Choate		2
WEDNESDAY		
Andover		7
Brooks		0

Despite missing four players, Andover Boys Squash defeated Choate Rosemary Hall (Choate) 5-2 on Saturday and swept Brooks 7-0 the next day. The team's record now stands at 3-2.

Due to sickness and injury, the team was forced to adjust its lineup. Avery Lin '25 highlighted the team's mental fortitude heading into the matches.

“I think it was mostly a mental preparation. Since we knew more than half of our team was not going to be playing, we had to step up to the challenge. Even though we were playing four positions higher than we normally would, our team was pumped and confident in our abilities. At this point, our team is at a level where we can step up, and we proved that against Choate yesterday even though we were down so many players,” said Lin.

During practices, the team focused on replicating in-game scenarios and getting back in to shape, according to Will Weissman '25.

Weissman said, “We only had two days before these matches, so we were mostly trying to get back our form from before the break. We worked on match play and tried to get prepared for what it would be like in a higher intensity game. We knew our fitness level would play an important role in sustaining our level of play throughout each game.”

Winning both matches even with a new lineup, the team saw formidable play across its whole roster. Jaden Chyu '23 highlighted the play of Lin, who won his number three seed game despite typically playing seventh.

“Overall our victory over Choate was mostly a team effort, but I think Avery Lin had a last game, helping us secure a 5-2 win. He was the only one to win a match in the top three which I was impressed with,” said Chyu.

The victory against Choate was a determinant for Andover's New England's seeding. Lin appreciated Weissman's strong performance, which was critical for the team's success.

“I think Will played the most important match. We were down four players and we were all very tired, but we needed to secure the Choate win to be able to have a good seeding for



M.KATHIKA/THE PHILLIPIAN

Avery Lin '25 is currently rated 4.99 on U.S Squash and ranked 113th in Boys Under-17.

New England's. Will had the deciding match for our team. After five games he clutched up in the end and his win pretty much set our team up for the rest of the matches,” said Lin.

Being down four players required the team to prioritize playing with confidence and showing support for each other. Lin believed that the external motivation was pivotal to the team's success.

“After we played, we immediately cheered on our teammates, and I think that is really important at away matches

when the entire crowd is against you. The only support we can get is from our own teammates in those scenarios. When I was playing, I felt like my teammates were there for me.”

Across both games, the team was able to identify various areas for improvement. Moving forward, the team is looking to increase its stamina and regain its form coming off of winter break, according to Chyu.

“I think it will be important to keep working on our fitness because of how crucial it is

for sustaining our rhythm in games. Getting back into our regular form and making sure nobody gets injured or sick will prevent future loss of players,” said Chyu.

Andover Boys Squash will face Groton at home this Friday.

Editor's Note: Jaden Chyu is a News Editor for The Phillipian.

After Defeat against Choate In Double-Overtime, Girls Basketball Dominates Brunswick

EVA MURPHY

SATURDAY		
Andover		62
Choate		66
WEDNESDAY		
Andover		61
Brunswick		39

After taking Choate Rosemary Hall (Choate) all the way to double-overtime this past Saturday, Girls Basketball fell short, ending 62-66. Andover then faced Brunswick on Wednesday, securing a 61-39 victory, respectively. Now its record stands at 5-4.

After a close game against Choate, the team hoped to defeat Brunswick. Akari Imai '25 commented on how the team

implemented skills, such as defending screens and moving intentionally on defense, that they had done in practice in the game.

Imai said, “We've worked a lot in practice on our defense and communication, so that really played a big part because we started out strong. We came with a lot of energy. We did everything we learned in practice and we applied it to our game, and we started off with a bang and especially because it was a home game [back from break], and we had all our fans. It was great and I think we improved a lot as a team and I think we were able to do things better than previous games.”

Attacking the basket and communicating on defense helped Andover comeback against Choate, according to Talia Ivory '25. Ivory valued everyone's effort and competitive nature.

“A definite highlight was coming back from a rather rough first half and getting to double overtime. Even if we didn't win, everybody worked really hard and driving to the basket and talking on defense really helped a lot,” said Ivory.

Sharing a similar sentiment to

Ivory, Emerson Buckley '25 complimented the team for making up for its lack of intensity in the first quarter of its game against Choate. After a thrilling second quarter, the team was able to take Choate all the way through double overtime. In comparison to Wednesday's game, Andover started with the momentum they lacked against Choate.

Buckley said, “I think we had a tough first quarter. Definitely going into the second half and going into the overtimes, we were definitely feeling a lot of adrenaline, very pumped up about the game. We had a really good comeback.”

Imai commented on the lack of intensity in the beginning of the Choate game compared to Brunswick. At Choate, Andover started with low energy, giving their opponent the early lead according to Imani.

“Mental toughness wise, in our Choate game we started out slow so we were down by a bit, but towards the end we played two overtimes so we got our energy back, but I feel like in this game [Brunswick] we were able to start off strong,” said Imai.

In an email to *The Phillip-*

ian, Head Coach Liz Monroe shared her expectations for the team. She hopes that the team can continue collaborating and showing their commitment and strength in games.

“[I look for] consistency and focus. We are a talented team and are competitive with any

other team out there, but we need to make sure that our heads are 100 [percent] in the game and with each other,” wrote Coach Monroe.

Andover will travel to Governor's Academy this Friday and host Milton on Saturday.



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 drives towards the hoop.

The Apple Has Risen: Why This Season For The Mets is a Beacon of Hope

MARIO CALVO

The New York Mets are a franchise competing in the National League (NL) of Major League Baseball (MLB). Ever since winning the World Series in 1986, the Mets have been a club of putrid baseball, mediocre baseball, post-season failure, unbelievable collapse, and incompetent management. However, that all changed in 2022; the Mets clinched a playoff spot, recorded 100 wins for only the fourth time in franchise history (and the first time since 1988), and clinched a post-season berth for the first time since 2016. From management overhauls to free agency splashes, this is why the Mets’ winning ways are here to stay. In October 2020, MLB

owners approved the sale of the New York Mets to hedge fund manager Steve Cohen for 2.4 billion dollars. After years of discontent from fans over the ownership of the Wilpon family, change was finally coming from the highest levels of the team. Coming off a late-season collapse in which the Mets choked away a division lead that the team held since August, morale was low amongst both the players and fans. From Javy Baez and Francisco Lindor giving fans “thumbs down” after big plays to Edwin Diaz blowing saves, the Mets were in disarray on the field. Furthermore, interim general manager Zack Scott was arrested and fired for drunk driving, the second general manager was fired by the Mets that season, following Jared Porter’s firing for sending explicit texts to reporters. This made things off

the field even worse for the Mets. However, this past offseason, Steve Cohen went all in. Firstly, he hired general manager Billy Eppler for the front office and manager Buck Showalter for the dugout — two steady hands to right the chaos of 2021 in the front office. Right away, Eppler added Starling Marte and Mark Canha from the Oakland Athletics to complete the outfield and reinforce the batting order. Then, the blockbuster of the offseason: signing Max Scherzer from the Dodgers to create arguably the best 1-2 pitching rotation in MLB with Jacob deGrom. During the days of Fred Wilpon, such spending would have been nearly impossible. For the regular season, Showalter, Cohen, and Eppler’s hard work surely paid off. The Mets led the NL with

1422 hits and came third in earned run average with 3.57. The team also came second in the league for total wins by pitchers with 101. Furthermore, the Mets had the least amount of strikeouts in the NL, cementing them as a much more efficient offensive team. On a more personal note, infielder Jeff McNeil batted 0.326 on the year to earn the highest batting average in MLB. Pete Alonso finished first and second in the NL in runs batted in and home Runs, respectively. Edwin Diaz came fourth in the NL in saves with 32. In other words, this is a team loaded with talent that finally blossomed into a winning corps. It does not end there. The Mets are no longer in the age of Fred “Coupon” Wilpon. Cohen spends. A lot. Edwin Diaz? Five-year, 102 million dollar contract. Star

outfielder Brandon Nimmo? Eight-year, 162 million dollar contract. DeGrom left? No problem. Cy Young winner Justin Verlander comes on a two-year, 86.7 million dollar contract. Also, why not add Kodai Senga from Japan on a five-year, 75 million dollar contract? If that seems like a lot of spent money, well, that’s because it is a lot of spent money. Cohen cares for his team. And he’s prepared to spend as much as he needs to win a championship. In short, the Mets are miles into the stratosphere ahead of where they were two years ago. Last year was just the beginning. So yes, cue the trumpets, and raise the apple, because as the song goes, “everybody’s coming down... to meet the M-E-T-S Mets of New York town!”

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Girls Basketball vs. Brewster

PHOTOS TAKEN BY CAROLYN BARBIE



Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Andover Edition: Striving to Promote Diversity and Sustainability in Fashion World

PIPER LASATER

Over the past few months, the Andover Edition, a Phillips Academy fashion publication, has made it its mission to inform the community on sustainable and creative everyday fashion. According to Gabby Edokpa '24, they have done so through club's unique photoshoots and pop-up campus stores, which have in turn boosted their popularity. "We had a very successful thrift event that happened in the fall I believe, that was really successful and really got our names around... campus... we found a lot of people that [were] interested in the photoshoot, so we've been planning this [as well]," said Edokpa. According to Carolyn Barbie '24, the club's Photo Head, many people have reported feeling more confident after signing up for a photoshoot. Customizing props and aesthetics for each individual, the board has made efforts to help more students feel

comfortable showcasing their personal styles. "A lot of people said that they were scared of going into [photoshoots] last year. A lot of people signed up and then backed out at the last moment because they were too scared, but I think having more people there who are playing music and helping them with posing... [and] a lot more people are signing up, and they feel a lot more comfortable [now]," said Barbie. Head of Andover Edition Allie Encarnacion '24, who has found a means to spread her passion in fashion through the club, stated that her favorite part of the club was gaining different perspectives of fashion from various people. "I feel like as the head, I get to work with so many different people... and I was thinking about the passion that I see them have and how that passion is contagious to different people and different boards and how you can really expand your personal community and create a new drive

for this campus just by sharing your passions and doing something to work towards it," said Encarnacion. Currently, the Andover Edition strives to make their events accessible to everyone on campus through collaborating with other clubs. So far, the club has collaborated with Andover Business Club, PA Thrift, and the Wings Initiative to host the first thrift store on campus — one of the many ways they hope to start conversations about fashion sustainability on campus. Looking forward, the Andover Edition plans to host a den dance on January 28 and publish a magazine in the spring. "We're doing a den dance [because] everyone will be there regardless of how interested you are in fashion, and we'll make a dress code so that it connects to our club, like come in all black, so that's connected to faction but we're still doing it in a way that will be applicable to a wide variety of people," said Edokpa.



C.BARBIE/ THE PHILLIPIAN

The Andover Edition recently featured Langston Reid '24 for his modern tonal streetwear style.



C.BARBIE/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Dubbing his style as "brunch meets streetwear," the Andover Edition spotlighted Matteo Horvat's '25 fashion.



COURTESY OF MATTEO HORVAT

Allie Encarnacion '24 (left), Gabby Edokpa '24 (middle), and Carolyn Barbie '24 (right) are the Head, the Head of Social Media, and the Photo Head of the Andover Edition, respectively.

SZA's "SOS" Effectively Melds R&B and Punk-Rock in Daring Second Album



BIANCA MORALES

SZA's newest album "SOS," released in December 2022, is a testament to the internal conflict and emotional contradiction that heartbreak introduces for many people. Integrating her previous R&B style with innovative punk-rock instrumentals, SZA's new release creates a diverse yet cohesive collection of powerful music for all to enjoy. Over the course of the album, SZA invites listeners to come on an engrossing and in-

trospective journey — she undergoes reflection, mourning, affirmation, appreciation, and loathing before ultimately finding love for herself. Each song individually represents a facet of these complex phases throughout her life. While some of the tracks hit the mark more than others, SZA's overarching emotional depth and daring musical innovation build up to a strong second studio album. Avid fan Justin Parker '24 explained how he feels SZA's independence and maturation made the five-year gap between the release of her first album and

"SOS" worth the wait. "[SZA] was taking time to perfect her art, and she was taking time to be human. I feel like we as consumers feel this obligation to receive things instantaneously, and that jeopardizes artists' visions because they have this pressure to fulfill the needs and wants of the consumers, which detracts from their artistic vision in the first place. So yes, I feel like it was worth the five-year wait, because we got to see her vocal range to its fullest extent and maturity, and we got music from her that she branched out into," said Parker. Arguably her most iconic song of the album, the second track, "Kill Bill," charted an impressive number three on Billboard's Hot 100. This song's upbeat instrumentals are a stark contrast to its darker lyrical themes. SZA sings of murdering her ex-lover and his new girlfriend in the song, drawing clever parallels to the plot of the namesake action movie, "Kill Bill." Its catchy and relatably vindictive lyrics also attracted attention and began to trend on TikTok, with well over 83,000 videos using the original sound — which does not even begin to account for the thousands of lip syncing videos to sped-up or reverbed fan-made alterations to the song. The strength of "Kill

Bill" lies in the interesting and nuanced juxtaposition of its sound and meaning as well as its musical dynamism. Later in the album, the 13th song, "F2F," opens with a catchy beat, reminiscent of the "revenge-pop" style that has infiltrated contemporary music, such as with pop phenomenon Olivia Rodrigo's "Sour." Picture a woman scorned, in her late teens or twenties, singing her heart out in a rebellious expression of anger and sadness — yet, also a fiery optimism for a new and revolutionary era. A song that is not quite rock, not quite pop, but a mix of both, vaguely reminiscent of early '00s Disney Channel original songs. A song that breaks conventional genre boundaries in an explosive fusion of styles. That is "F2F"— an exciting and standout track from "SOS." However, "F2F" also is controversial for this exact reason. While some fans love SZA's venture into a new genre, straying from her typical R&B, others, like Tulah Jefferson '24, feel that this change is too jarring and does not fit the overall aesthetic of her as an artist. "My favorite song was 'Snooze' and my least favorite was 'F2F.' While I appreciate artists branching out their comfort zone, ['F2F'] felt a little Disney Channel-esque.

I didn't like the drums. The rest of the album was very mature-sounding," said Jefferson. Yet although "F2F" may sometimes come across as slightly tacky, that is part of the song's charm. Rebranding is a part of any artist's career, and they shouldn't be confined to conforming each song of the album to a monolithic style. Especially SZA, who only has one other full album from five years ago — she's in a new era of her own life and it's natural for her to reflect that shift in her music. We don't scrutinize other popular artists like Taylor Swift for her transition from an innocent country vibe to one of edgy rebellion. Additionally, SZA does still retain components of contemporary R&B in many of her other songs. Now, her newer style sees her singing to a punk rock-pop fusion track, at times even combining the traditional and new, rapping to what feels like an R&B instrumental. SZA's deft fusion of multiple genres in one album is indicative of her musical expertise. Love it or hate it, the album demonstrated SZA's bold, experimental, and grand re-entrance into the music world. For that reason, ultimately, "SOS" earns 4.5/5 stars.



DOROTHY SWANSON BLAKER/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

In With The New: Andover Members on their New Year’s Resolutions and Hopeful Alternatives

REPORTING BY MELINDA WU

As Winter Break draws to a close and Winter Term resumes, members of the Andover community shared how they plan on tackling the New Year through their resolutions. This week, The Phillipian asked students and faculty members about their resolutions for 2023, receiving diverse responses and unique perspectives on this widely held tradition.

KASHVI RAMANI '24

“My New Year’s resolution is to allot more time for myself. I chose this resolution because last year I spent a lot more time doing things for other people and doing things for my schoolwork, and I didn’t really leave some time for myself. Especially being new to campus, I felt like I had to socialize all the time, but I think time to myself is definitely what I need this new year.”

JACEIL BRITTON '25

“My New Year’s resolution is to be more supportive of other people’s successes. If you put out that good energy and you’re happy for everyone and just overall grateful you’re gonna be a happier person in general... It’s a lot easier to be nice to people than go out of your way and be mean.”

REV. GINA FINOCCHIARO

“I’m not someone who makes New Year’s resolutions, but I do like to think about a guiding principle or word that’s going to guide me into the year... For me this year, it’s “dream,” so that’ll be the word that challenges me and encourages and motivates me to think about how I am and how I am in the world this year. It makes me think about all kinds of layers of my life and the work that I do. It makes me think about relationships in my life, it makes me think about places and communities that I live in like this one, and it makes me think about how to encourage others to dream and find the courage.”

MICHEAL KAWOOYA '25

“My New Year’s resolution is to manage my time better. I think it’s not that my time management was bad, it’s just that sometimes it could be better. There’s always room for improvement. I think that instead of doing all my work on Sunday I could spread it out over the weekend... I think that I write myself a lot of reminders and stuff like that to really structure my day and make lists and to-do lists and stuff like that.”

EMILY TURNBULL '24

“The less serious one is to drink more water because I’m chronically dehydrated, but the serious one is to be more intentional with my time, to waste less time on social media and endlessly scrolling. I have a free period this term so I wanna use that to train and get ahead on my work and work towards my goals.”

AVERY RODEHEFFER '25

“I don’t believe in New Year’s resolutions because they’re often not set up in a way where you can actually execute them. For example, they’ll be a very broad statement... I think setting intentions is a better idea. My coach for GVH (Girls Varsity Hockey) sent an article talking about using a word to ground you during the year. This woman talked about her word for 2022: ‘grow.’ In every situation that year she thought about how she could grow from it. Her word for 2023 is ‘now,’ so she’s going to try to live in the moment.”



AVERY LIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

Students Foster New Musical Connections At MMEA Northeastern District Music Festival

SOPHIE TUNG

At the wave of conductor Jason Noble’s baton, the Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) Northeastern District Concert Band began performing David Maslanka’s “Illumination” in New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall.

The MMEA Northeastern District Music Festival is an annual event held over the span of a week. Young musicians from Massachusetts went through a selective audition process that placed

them into an orchestra, concert band, jazz band, or chorus group. Clarinetist Ashley Park ’24 described her learning experience through the audition process.

“I was required to play an excerpt of a clarinet solo piece selected by the judges and a few scales, including chromatic scales. There was also a sight-reading section where I had to read ten bars of music on the spot. It was very spontaneous, a good learning experience and helped me improve my audition skills for the future,” said Park.

From Andover, 14 students

were nominated to perform for the final concert last weekend. Saxophonist in the jazz ensemble Brandon Fu ’25, who auditioned and performed both last year and this year, explained his thoughts on the success of the performance.

“My favorite piece was ‘Nutville’ by Horace Silver. It was really fun, up-beat and exciting. It was extremely hard to pull off and it was our stretch piece. We managed to get it done and it sounded fantastic in the concert... I am proud of all of my friends and fellow bandmates. This con-

cert was probably the best one I performed [in]... It was really cool to see a group of musicians push each other to a previously unattainable level,” Fu said.

Overall, performers stated that the MMEA Northeastern District Festival was an experience that not only improved their performing skills but also created an opportunity beyond campus to meet peers who shared similar interests. Fu encouraged Andover students to participate next year and mentioned his hopes for joining again in the future.

“I’d like to make it into

this program for the next two years... because it’s a really fun experience and tests my discipline and readiness... If you’re even a little bit passionate about music, signing up for this [will be] a game-changer because you will be surrounded by a lot of like-minded people... Everyone should try it. If you don’t make it, that’s fine, it will have no impact on you whatsoever. But if you do make it, it will have an impact on you – a very positive one,” said Fu.

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

“Emily in Paris” Season 3: America’s Parisian Guilty Pleasure

LANGAN GARRETT

“Emily in Paris” Season 3 is a perfect example of how a dramatic plot line can quickly grow outside the reins of its writers. “Emily in Paris” documents the life of Emily Cooper (played by Lily Collins), a marketing executive caught between her American roots and her newfound love for Parisian life. Besides her business escapades, Emily also indulges in love triangles and complicated friendship dynamics, all while navigating a country where she does not speak the native language. Released on December 21, Season 3 of “Emily in Paris” represents both a culmination and a continuation of Emily’s story as she begins to identify more with the life she has built in Paris. Caution: spoilers ahead.

Throughout the show, costume designers and producers have used Emily’s wardrobe and appearance to emphasize the drastic difference between her “American-ness” and the more laid-back, French way of life she desires. Unlike her Parisian counterparts, Emily is

rarely found in neutral palettes or simple clothes. She wears heavy makeup throughout the show, and has a perfectly polished look that contrasts with the show’s French characters. Both of these elements serve as a signal to her “other-ness” in the show, as well as a barometer of her internal turmoil as she navigates her love life and her business ventures. When she feels content socially and romantically, Emily is shown in much brighter colors and more bold prints, whereas when her life seems more volatile, she sticks to more traditional silhouettes and color palettes.

From a plot perspective, “Emily in Paris” Season 3 primarily focuses on Emily’s two main decisions that loom over her: her corporate success and complex love life. She must choose between her Chicago-based marketing firm, which represents safety and a clearer path up the corporate ladder, or to chance it with her French boss, Sylvie Grateau (played by Philippine Leroy-Beaulieu) at a new marketing company. Additionally, Emily faces choices in her romantic life, between Alfie, an English banker who first ap-

pears in Season 2, and Gabriel, the French chef who has been her primary love interest since the first season. However, Emily and Gabriel’s romance quickly becomes a love triangle as Gabriel reveals his girlfriend Camille to Emily, a storyline which continues into Season 3. Despite Gabriel’s unfaithfulness, Camille and Gabriel have worked through their differences and are still together. This serves as a “she wants what she cannot have” narrative for Emily, despite the fact that she seems to choose Alfie until the very last episode.

After a slow rise of suspense, the last episode feels rushed. The plotlines get convoluted and it feels like writers tried to throw bombshell after bombshell into the script that were not entirely believable. After being engaged for less than a week, Camille and Gabriel decide to get married at their engagement party. Then, Camille leaves Gabriel at the altar, claiming that he has always been in love with Emily. Emily and Alfie’s relationship falls apart, and then, with two minutes remaining in the episode, Gabriel announces that Camille is pregnant. The se-



DILNAWA KIZGHIN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

quence of events was unpredictable, and the multiplicity of the narratives is confusing, unsatisfying, and uncreative. The episode is jam-packed with unnecessarily dramatic moments, and pointed towards a fourth

season that will surely have to sew the loose ends of Season 3. Despite the juicy romance and extravagant fashion, Season 3 receives a 3/5 stars for its convoluted plot development and rushed finale.

Monochrome Streetwear to Brandy Melville: Experimenting with the Thrifted Style of Mia Pao ’24

STAFF REPORT

Layering a sleek white puffer jacket over a black sweater and pleated white skirt, Mia Pao ’24 fuses streetwear and schoolgirl styles with a striking monochrome aesthetic. A pair of dark tights, cozy leg warmers, and Nikes complete her sharp look. Pao talks about the diverse and experimental nature of her fashion.

“A lot of it is influenced by my mom and by streetwear I just see and the internet, a lot of it is Pinterest based, and my aesthetics are all over the place. Some days I’ll do streetwear, some days I like doing uniforms, Catholic school girl style stuff, and some days I like to do more basic, girly stuff. So

I would say it’s really all over the place,” said Pao.

With uniforms enforced throughout middle school, Pao did not have many chances to develop a personal fashion sense before high school. When she came to Andover, Pao was able to experiment with many styles, from a pink Brandy Melville aesthetic to graphic T-Shirts and casual clothing inspired by her friends.

“Here [my style] has grown from [Junior] year. It was really Brandy Melville girl, and a lot of pink. I think the colors that I wear have changed a lot. Also what my friends are wearing, I copy them, but I think they’ve really influenced me too... I wouldn’t say I’ve had an unnatural progression with fashion, I

think it’s just, for me, a part of growing up and expressing myself in a different way,” said Pao.

In addition to purchasing from brands like Urban Outfitters and Aritzia, Pao explained that many of her favorite pieces of clothing are from thrift stores. She first started thrifting when she found a race car jacket sweater while walking on the street in Tokyo and has enjoyed the unexpected surprises from thrift stores ever since.

“I love thrifting, because you never know what to expect... Most of it will be stuff you don’t like, old people stuff or kids stuff or guy stuff or just stuff you don’t vibe with. But when you find a piece that you really like, it’s really exciting. And the fact that you know it’s somewhat unique and not sold in mass pieces, it makes it more personal or more interesting or more of an

experience to me,” said Pao.

Other key components of Pao’s style are her signature necklace and bracelets that she wears everyday. In terms of color palettes, Pao usually focuses on dark and neutral shades such as black and gray. Recently, however, she has started to experiment with bright and pastel colors.

“I like dark monochrome colors a lot, but recently, I’ve been getting more into brighter colors as well. A new favorite of mine currently is brown, still pretty dark and earthy, but I’m trying to get into more neon pastel colors. But for me, my favorites will always be black, white, gray, and brown,” said Pao.

Additionally, Pao typically finds inspiration from her style by scrolling through social media like Pinterest and Instagram. She also looks up to media personality Emma Chamberlain as a fashion role

model. This helps her fashion to evolve and pushes her to try new pieces outside of her usual attire.

“[In] random photos that I see on Pinterest, based on my feed, I will love it and obviously it’s all different aesthetics but I think all types of fashion are so cool and something I definitely want to try out, but I think just the internet for me is mostly where I get my ideas and influence from. Also I’m from Hong Kong and I’m in Tokyo a lot and just walking around... and seeing what the other teenagers wear is kind of how I got more into it, too,” said Pao.

As opposed to having a cohesive style, Pao describes her style as spontaneous attempts. Even so, she makes sure that each piece contributes to the overall aesthetic of her outfit. Although she is not sure what her style will look like in the future, she is open to experimenting with a wide range of styles.

“I would say my fashion is based on my mood, in a phrase. Like I said earlier, it’s really random. It’s really not cohesive. I feel like a lot of people have a very cohesive sense of fashion where when you see their outfits, it’s like, oh, yeah, that makes sense for them. But for me, it’s literally polar opposites some days and it’s based on my mood... Random but organized,” said Pao.



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Pao discovered a passion for thrifting after a spontaneous visit to a thrift shop in Tokyo.



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Received from her grandmother, Pao’s jewelry pieces are constants to her outfits.

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