The PHILLIPIAN

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Frolicking in the Snow photo / D Sahadevan

Faculty Votes to Implement New Academic Advising System Schoolwide

by James Mok

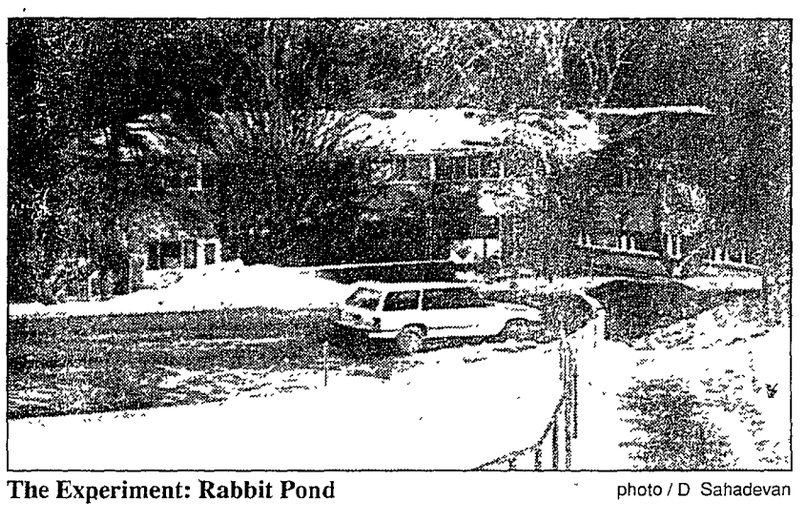
Last Tuesday, the Andover faculty voted to adopt a new schoolwide system of academic advising. The new program, which began as an experimental program in Rabbit Pond, will assign complementary house counselors with the role of academic advisor for the students in the dorm. Despite possible transition problems from the old system of class-based advising, many faculty involved feel the new program will provide a closer relationship between students and house counselors, and eliminate many problems with the old system.

The idea to combine the jobs of complementary house counselor and academic advisor was first proposed three years ago by an Ad Hoc committee that dealt with residential issues. The committee also proposed that day student counselors assume the responsibilities of academic advisors.

Under the old system of class-based academic advisors, many students complained of the difficulty in setting up appointments with academic advisors and criticized the lack of interaction between students and complementary house counselors. The Ad Hoc committee came up with the new system in an effort to remedy these problems and give students a chance to discuss academic or social issues with a faculty member they know personally.

In order to test the idea, the program was first implemented in Rabbit Pond on a trial basis, mainly because the size of the dorms and distribution of house counselors in RPD easily lend itself to the system. Currently in its second year, the method has been a great success in Rabbit Pond, and the RPD faculty would have voted to continue their program, with or without the rest of the school.

According to Bill Scott, Cluster Dean of Rabbit Pond, the new program has drastically reduced the number of complaints from boarders and day students concerning the academic advising process. "Every single faculty member that I've questioned who's involved in the program finds it far preferable to the previous model," said Scott.



The Experiment: Rabbit Pond photo / D Sahadevan

Flexibility was also a factor in Rabbit Pond's success. Small dormitories with more than one counselor, such as Double Brick House, were not assigned complementary house counselor, but instead one of the live-in counselors received the job. In the case of Double Brick House, which is shared by Yuan Han, an Instructor in Chinise, and Cheng-yu Huang, an Instructor in Math, Han was given academic advising duties. Another variation from the old academic advising system deals with day students and their advisors. Under the old system, day students were assigned a complementary counselor and an academic advisor, and seldom met with, or got to know, either of the two. As part of the new system, each faculty member that serves as both counselor and academic advisor is charged with five day students, and remain with the same students throughout their time at PA.

"It's a great opportunity to involve more adults and their spouses and students on campus and I think that the quality of advising and counseling only stands to be bettered under this system," stated Scott.

Although the program met with relatively easy success in Rabbit Pond, other clusters may experience difficulties during the transition from the previous advising system. Flagstaff will face major changes in order meet the requirements of the future system.

Because three to four house counselors already live in Day Hall, Foxcroft, Paul Revere, and Bartlet, many new complementary house counselors will be needed to advise the students in the four largest Flagstaff dorms. At present, Flagstaff has only eight complementary counselors, not enough for the boarders and day students who need advisors.

Flagstaff Cluster Dean Loring Kinder questioned whether the new system is worth all of the extra paperwork and training involved in the transition. Kinder pointed out that under the new system, "the rationale that says academic advisors just meet with their students once or twice a term and that's the only connection won't be changed." Kinder also mentioned that in Rabbit Pond, almost every dorm already had an assigned complement.

Other concerns with the new system include the complaint that the job of academic advising will become more complicated because advisors will be responsible for several classes, instead of remaining with the same class throughout its lower, upper, and senior years. To offset these difficulties, each cluster will appoint two program advisors to supervise the course requirements for each student.

However, inexperienced academic advisors may concentrate more on fulfilling requirements than the student's overall academic interests. "Somebody other than the students needs to think responsibly of their future," said Nicholas Kip, WQS academic advisor.

A tough transition is most likely to accompany the implementation of the new academic advising program, but there many benefits to the revised system. Concluded Kip, "the program in any cases provides real contact with one person rather thatn many contacts with lots of persons."

Steroids Discovered in America House: Raises Questions of Health

by Sarah Klipfel & Ann Bisland

Over Christmas break, two auxiliary maintenance men from O.P.P. found several syringes and vials containing anabolic steroids in the attic of America House. However, according to Dr. Richard Keller, the head physician at Isham Infirmary, the anabolic steroids are from one to five years old and cannot have been used recently.

In conducting a maintenance survey of the attic area of the dorm, the two O.P.P. workers saw what appeared to be flags concealed by insulation. After pulling back the insulation, the workers discovered a red designer Gucci bag containing three vials and four syringes. Upon inspection the workers decided to turn the bag and it's contents over to Chris Ferris, the director of Public Safety, who in turn submitted the paraphernalia to Keller for inspection, evaluation, and disposal.

The steroids contained synthetic hormones which act as testosterone - building and strengthening muscle tissue. Keller concluded that "the medication was so old that it could have been used one year ago or five years ago. This year is unlikely."

Upon learning of the find, Athletic Director Leon Modeste claimed he was shocked and surprised at the fact that the athletic department was not notified sooner. He claims that, like others, he learned of the incident from Keller's article in the latest Andover Gazette.

In the past, the athletic department has had to test students under suspicion of using steroids, but Modeste added that no student has ever tested positive. "Most of the usage in general does not occur within the athletic community, but rather among students who wish to improve his physical appereance."

The athletic department must first contact the parents of a student suspected of using steroids and ask permission to test for drug use. If the test results come out positive, the department would recommend counseling to try and help the student stop using the health-detrimental drugs. Signs in the training room also try to dissuade athletes from thinking about drug use in order to accelerate their athletic performance.

Modeste believes that steroid use is in the same category as anorexia and bulimia - a dissatisfaction with the state in which one's body naturally resides. "[Using steroids] is playing with fire," Modeste stated.

Keller also described an incident at PA in December of 1990, in which an Exeter student nearly died from a combination of alcohol and steroid use. At the Max Creek Dance (an interscholastic dance held on the PA campus) an Exeter student lost consciousness and was "a hairs breadth away from death". He was rushed to Lawrence General Hospital in a coma, where the doctors concluded that the cause of the comatose state was partly due to his use of steroids.

Chris Ferris stated that "this instance brought the issue of steroid use into the public arena." Although the Exeter student survived, he "came very close to being a D.O.A." Because of this and other dangerous consequences of steroids, such as liver damage and/or failure, stunted growth, cardiovascular disorders-heart attacks, breast development, and the shrinking of the testes in addition to the absence of testosterone, Keller stresses the need "for students to become more aware of what drugs are out there and what their uses and abuses are."

Keller also believes that with proper training, one can become just as physically fit without taking steroids. Keller would like students, if they have any questions about steroids or other drugs, to come and talk to him. Confidentiality is an option.

Students React on Opening of Military to Homosexuals

by Joshua Rosenfield

Last week, President Bill Clinton affirmed that he would not back down from his campaign promise to end the military's ban on homosexuals. The proposal is controversial among politicians, the public, and enlisted officers alike, as some people feel that lifting the ban would make a statement on the acceptability of homosexuality in America.

Clinton's affirmation has provoked a far greater public outcry in the past few days than his promise during the campaign, when the issue of the ban was only addressed periodically. Republicans continued to rail against the plan. Their efforts have been bolstered by the public objection to the proposal. Clinton also lost the support of Senator Sam Nunn, a Democrat from Georgia, who is considered the most important Congressman on military issues. Nunn repeated his support of the Pentagon ban last week, though he suggested that he did not want to preserve the ban with legislation.

Clinton's proposal comes in opposition to a policy banning gays from the military that has developed gradually since World War II. In 1982, a directive prohibited those in uniform from engaging in sex acts with partners of the same sex. Violation of this directive is punishable by dishonorable discharge. The Uniform Code of Military Justice forbids oral and anal sex between both homosexuals and heterosexuals, though it is rarel used. Homosexuals are usually expelled based on the directive.

Clinton could end the ban by ordering a reversal of the directive. By turning the directive into law, Congress could intervene. Clinton would then have to veto the law, and uphold his veto in Congress.

Members of the armed forces are divided on the issue. Some feel that because those enlisted live in close quarters, gays might make some uncomfortable. Fears of giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to gays, of sexual harassment by gay officers, and blood supplies tainted by the AIDS virus were also expressed.

Others feel that a soldier's sexual orientation has no effect on his or her ability to perform military duties. Many scoffed at the idea that soldiers in combat or other high-stress situations would be worried about a soldier's sexual behavior.

Most of those enlisted agree that homosexuals in the military should be "discreet" about their sexual preferences. Many felt, though, that Clinton's lifting the ban would have little effect on gays presently in the military, who would probably continue to keep their preferences quiet.

The center of the controversy photo / D. Sahadevan

Students at PA voiced both opposition to and support of Clinton's proposal. Mark Sabath '94 said, "Advocates of the ban claim that gays undermine troop morale. But there are already gay troops in the military, and morale hasn't been seriously affected. How could Clinton's lifting the ban hurt anyone?"

"I think that the proposal to lift the ban is past due. Sexual preference has no bearing on how someone can perform a job. Anyone that gets has a job to do should be allowed to do it," said Alice Cathcart '93.

Nick Olney '94 said, "Both sides have sound arguments, but I think the ban should be lifted after a complete study has been done."

"The ban should be lifted. Gays in the military should have the same obligations as heterosexuals. They should both fight on the front line, and fly planes, and do everything that those enlisted in the military would ordinarily do," commented Brooks Ross '93.

(Information from this article was taken from the New York Times.)

Scholar Jiben Cheng Speaks on Chinese Calligraphy, Women

by Leslie Dise

Last Friday night, Jiben Cheng, a visiting scholar from China addressed a small audience in Cooley House. After an introduction about the unique art forms in his hometown, Cheng focused on the issues and obsactles facing women in the modern Chinese society.

Cheng works as an english teacher in his hometown called "Yellow mountain city" which is located near the city of Shanghai in southeast China. This traditional example of Asian culture and history is a popular tourist attraction not for its relics of the past but for the unique art forms which the city's large population of artists generates each year.

Cheng brought with him a few samples of work which displayed the wide array of local art. A scroll mounted painting created the traditional Chinese style using trees, mountains, animals, water, and flowers. The characters that accompany the painting are a poem with a personal message by the artist. He also showed a calligraphy piece which supposedly brought happiness and good-luck. according to Chinese legend

The city also produces art utensils used for calligraphy ad painting such as ink slabs, ink sticks, brushes, and paper. The ink slab is a heavy, smooth type of stone, that the artist uses for printing. The black stone has an engraved design on the outside, and a shallow well where the excess ink runs off. The square ink sticks are fashioned from pine soot, bark, and leaves . The brushes are made from bamboo, a plant native to the area.

Following Cheng's presentation of the paintings and calligraphy, Cheng discussed the role of modern woman in the Chinese society. "Generally speaking, women's lives have improved considerablely." In

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EDITORIAL

Non Sibi

When Phillips Academy was founded, amid the fighting of the American Revolution, Samuel Phillips made a rather interesting choice of motto. No call to truth or glory, but a call to others. At the time, we made no claim to being the best; our modest goal was to educate young men in the tradition of the British public schools.

Much has changed in the past two hundred and fifteen years. Now, men and women come to a school which is second to none. Today, more than ever, there is a pressing need to serve the community. Over half the student body is involved in some service; this fact alone should indicate that a stronger emphasis on the program is needed.

The Community Service Program has thus far been admirably orchestrated by Mary Minard. Next year, however, she embarks on sabbatical. With her absence, and the recent departure of Father Richard Gross, the Community Service Program faces a serious lack of leadership. The school must hire someone to accept the enormous responsibilities of these absent administrators and expand its support for the program.

In addition to her involvement with this highly demanding program, Ms. Minard also teaches a full slate of classes. In order to secure the size and success of the Community Service Program we propose the institution of a full-time director. The influence and importance of this program on the myriad of volunteers and projects deserves no less.

In the spirit of *Non Sibi,* OAR must significantly increase fundraising efforts for the program. With a strengthened endowment, Community Service can further make use of the willingness of the student body. Phillips Academy strives to nurture the total well-being of its students. The school has made many budgetary allocations in order to serve both the academic and physical components of the school. We see it equally important to extend this financial and spiritual generosity towards the growing size and importance of the Community Service Program. ✍

Wood '94 for student choice in Life Issues courses

To the Editor:

Just last year, the school administration required all juniors to take six courses and two terms of art or music the following year. This year, our school is attempting to require students to take a life issues course. Many students currently strugle to fit into to their Andover experience the required terms of physical education, art, music, and religion - philosophical studies. Requiring a course changes people's attitudes; the student is no longer taking the course by choice, but by diploma obligations. Andover cannot afford to loose its reputation as a school with a flexible curriculum.

In public school, I took seven courses per semester. Each one of these courses had a very light work load. I took health, or life skills, from sixth to eighth grade. If a student comes here, will he/she have to listen to a rehash of all that his/her old school taught her? Here at Andover, the average student takes five courses a term and each teacher is supposed to assign one hour and fifeteen minutes on the average night (believe me, during upper year it's more). With our school's plan, students struggle to fit in the requirements now by taking this number of courses. Andover makes it difficult for students to take six classes a term because of the amount of work each class assigns. I had less than half of the work I had here at my public school, and there I took seven classes. If this school does require more classes, students will have to take more classes per trimester and the work load will become more overwhelming. For the past two years, I've taken five year-long classes. I have no room for more requirements. Furthermore, many students pride themselves in studying abroad and working in Washington. Many pupils already find it difficult to get done with all their requirements before graduating, not to mention going on off campus programs.

Phillips Academy is a school with a rigorous course load, and people come here to challenge themselves. A life skills course takes away from the opportunities of students to get ahead and study difficult subjects. If our school requires life skills, it is taking away a course that a student might want to study. If a person is forced to take a course that he or she does not want to, then the attitude that that student brings into the class is not a positive one in the interest of learning.

Henry Wilmer, at the Flagstaff cluster meeting last Friday, said that the life skills courses would teach decision making. How can a person learn to make decisions? These values are taught at an early age and cannot be taught to a high school student. Values cannot be taught in a classroom; they are learned from parents, peers, and the media. Is it appropriate for a school to teach morals, values, and impose ideology? Andover must remember that it does not have the power to tell students what is right and what is wrong. If Andover does require Life Issues, will there be opportunities for those conservative students who disagree to voice their minds? Or will they be chastised for thought crime? A life skills course cannot cater to everyone's needs.

Students should have freedom to choose.

John D. Wood '94

The StudentAdvocate

A Call for *Confidentiality*

by Julia Kahr

If I continue talking about the need for student evaluation of courses, you will eventually find me terribly boring. Please don't hold that against me, because this is a calculated strategy. What's boring can't also be scary. If we dissipate some of the fear now being expressed, maybe progress can continue towards rendering a needed service to this community. In that case, you will have much better information when you next choose your courses, and teachers will have much more reliable feedback on their work.

What I'm hearing now from the administration is, "I'm afraid of the ripple effect" and "Wait! This is a very sensitive subject." It's as if student evaluation were some kind of dangerous, crack-pot scheme, to be shot dead or talked to death. Why? Is it "fairer" to let departments do their own very occasional evaluations, often with no basis whatsoever for direct contemporaneous comparison between many instructors? Should student evaluations be classified "Top Secret" until they are selectively and opportunistically disclosed to *The Phillipian* when the Academy is litigating against a teacher?

If you read this newspaper, you saw that happen recently. I, for one, found it objectionable. Why should PA or its representatives broadcast this demeaning propaganda? Lawsuits can't be won in the newspapers.

I get plenty of complaints about teachers and lots of evaluations of them. I don't give this material to the newspaper because I feel it would be unethical to do so without the teacher's consent. It seems worse for PA to do it, since the school has a contractual agreement with teachers which it doesn't have with students.

In a twisted and very unfortunate way, this recent episode does show that the administration finds student evaluations highly worthy of credence. Why can't students have access to them as a matter of course? Harvard students do have such access.

At Harvard, it took 340 years to grapple successfully with the problem of course evaluation. PA isn't quite that old, and I don't propose that we wait until it is. Let's learn from what Harvard did. After all, Harvard is geographically near us, it has buildings that look like ours, and like us, it has a very proud and very strong faculty. It affords an example worth studying.

Every year, Harvard publishes a volume of close to 1000 pages and delivers it free to its students. This volume is a compilation of student course evaluations. It includes evaluations of 80% of the courses with large enrollment, and 90% of the required or core courses. Less than all of the courses are evaluated because evaluation occurs only if the individual teacher consents. Evidently, Harvard teachers are interested enough and confident enough to consent in very large numbers. I am optimistic that a great many PA teachers will voluntarily agree when given the opportunity to do so. The vast majority of our students and faculty are honest and constructive.

The evaluation process has been going on at Harvard for 20 years or so. Obviously, it works and is relied upon. However, if you're thinking of applying to Harvard, don't bother asking for an official copy of the evaluation book. You'll have to go to Widener Library to look at it. The University, despite anything you may have heard to the contrary, isn't going to do anything that might discourage applicants—such as letting them know that it has some unpopular courses. PA can also be discrete. I'm not proposing that PA applicants and their parents get this data.

Before the official publication began, Harvard had something else: the *Confidential Guide*. This is a purely student publication, based on smaller numbers of questionnaires. It has never had the cooperation of the faculty, but it cannot be suppressed. Harvard students, like PA students, are entitled to freedom of expression. The *Confidential Guide* is frequently snide and biased, because that's what sells school newspapers. The official guide has not put the *Confidential Guide* entirely out of business because good money cannot drive out bad.

It seems to me that the right way to begin is to do what Harvard does: to ask individual faculty members, one by one, for their participation and cooperation. We will do that starting next Tuesday, in a spirit of partnership. If the response is positive, we will be able to produce something like Harvard's official guide. If teachers are afraid to participate or are dissuaded from participating by department chairs administrators, we will end up with something much closer to Harvard's *Confidential Guide*. That would be an easier job to do, and perhaps a more amusing one. Student Advocates already has accumulated much of the necessary data for such a limited publication. This result would be sub-optimal, but better than nothing.

Perhaps, as at Harvard, there must first be a *Confidential Guide*, in order to trigger recognition of the need for a more objective, complete, and fairer source of information. We will soon see.

Beyond the Wall

The Future of Racial Diversity

by Mark Jaklovsky

In ending my brief hiatus from my column, I write to predict that all issues of race will become irrelevant by, at most, the year 3000. At that time, all races will have intermarried to such an extent that the races will become indistinguishable. All individuals will share certain common characteristics including skin color, hair texture, facial structures.

Of course, there will continue to be differences between individuals as some will have more African genes, some more Asian genes, and some more European genes. Of course, there may also be a few who remain of singular racial descent. However, despite subtle variations in skin shade, hair color, or facial features, everyone for the most part will be quite similar.

In comparatively diverse nations like the United States, this will happen sooner than in other parts of the world. There is a greater chance of intermarriage when members of different races live next door or down the block from one another than when they live across the border. However, as more third world nations develop and as middle classes arise globally, more and more people will travel, learn, and blend into cultures and nations foreign to them.

Why, one may ask, do I consider such a bizarre and abstract topic - one that may never happen? Well, I give the reader two reasons: we are not prepared for such an event should it happen sooner and this event will most certainly happen.

Consider our own country. We have here an "intermarriage rate," which is essentially a quantification of the number of interracial marriages per 1000 or 100 marriages. It so happens that this rate has doubled since the 70s, quadrupled since the 60s, and continues to increase at a steady clip, according to a Boston Globe article last year.

The reasons are many and too lengthy to cover in a brief column, however the basic truth is that this rate of marriage will continue to increase. For if we analyze the issue in purely Draconian logic, we can deduce the following: Two individuals of two different races who are descended directly from one racial stock (that is, without intermarriage in their genealogy) may be less likely to fall in love and marry each other than two people who are of mixed descent. While love may or may not transcend all, basic prejudices remain in all of us, Black or White, progressive or not. Thus, as the number of inter-racial births increase, so will the rate of intermarriage since individuals of mixed birth can, by sole virtue of their background and origin, go either way without the psychological barriers that others may have.

The implications of this are staggering. While a racially homogeneous country would probably shed racial divisiveness and hate, h could also lose the cultural diversity that makes it strong and vibrant. If it is safe to assume that culture is defined according to national and possibly racial identity, a loss of such national and racial differences might lead to a homogeneous culture.

With somewhat common backgrounds, the demands on government and society would also be colossal. A "multi-cultural" education would become even more called for in a nation of such broad ancestry. Civil law and commercial and industrial traditions could change in the face of such melting in our national pot.

For the most part, it would be a positive thing. Allow me to be whimsical for a moment.~r, God split the human species because it had achieved something that threatened him; it built a tower that nearly touched his very doorstep. Perhaps God was punishing what he saw as impetuousness, impudence, or perhaps he feared us united. Imagine the towers of Babel that we might erect without the wasteful divisiveness and hate between the races.

But the most important thing about this trend is that it is not anticipated and seriously ignored by many. The beancounters at the census office try to peg the ratio of the population that will be Black, White, and Asian. This is old thinking, assuming that birth follows racial lines. It also pegs each of the races against each other in its implied struggle to maintain or expand their "share" of the pie.

The truth is that all this old logic will be shattered in the face of a demographic evolution more cataclysmic, more revolutionary than any other population trend yet experienced. We must accept and prepare for this genetic unity within the next millennium - a unity that will be like no other ever forged.

As Seen Through Blue Lens

Game Over

by S. D. X. Hennessey

O.k., game over.

Stop.

Time to quit. We've played along this far, but it's over now. Turn in your masks at the door and collect your complimentary toaster. You all did a fine job. Couldn't once tell you were acting. But Charlie, I did see your lips move. Better luck next time. Yeah, next time. You didn't know? Sure, you do! You get to play it all over again. Bigger board. Higher stakes. What? No, it's a four-slice.

It's really gratifying to watch them ride into the sunset like that. Kinda brings a tear to my eye. Well, it would if... Do you think they'll remember us? Each other? Yeah, you're probably right. Strawberry jam, please. I don't know. I still think they look just like the ones from last time. So. Guess it doesn't matter, who needs to tell 'em apart? Look at them ride. They really haven't got the faintest idea where they're going, do they? Oh, thanks. I mean, you head for the sunset, right? That's what we've always told them and that's what they've always been told.

It's getting cold, pass the wool. How's Marge? Pam, Marge, what's the difference? Really? Wow, a free ticket. Me? No, just a little money on football, basketball, hockey, and professional wrestling. Hey, look up there. What are . . . vultures? How odd. Oh well, they must be there for a reason. Pass the chalk. How's the jungle? The desert, the jungle, what's the difference? At least it's not the snow, heh heh . . . Have you seen my yellow ribbon? Oh, um, we had more tissues under the sink. No biggie. It's getting early. Ready to wake up? Sure, few more minutes. It's always real peaceful right near the end. Just you and your thoughts. Just you and you thoughts and the vultures and the sheep and the sunset and the toaster and the ticket and the meaning and the meaning and the meaning. Should we bother? Neah, you're right. Pass the comics page. Look at 'em ride. And that sunset never lets you down.

The Fall of Liberalism

One Student's Perspective

by John Udell

Andover has always prided itself as the most liberal of the boarding schools. It is apparent from the very first day of orientation,when quivering bodies of potential are ushered in by long-haired pseudo-hippies sporting Blue Key T-shirts, waving canvas flags of "Welcome to Andover!" But after the sheer excitement of the new setting has faded and the mundane aspects of Andover creep into the souls of those who remain stuck in the groove of monotony, the question sets in like thick fog on a rainy San Francisco afternoon: is Andover slowly seeping into the conservative mold of our compatriots? Before Andover-Exeter weekend, a day is set aside to dress as students from a certain stuffy school up north. But aside from the blazers and red ties, exactly how different are we?

Back in the days before VCRs and Reese's Pieces, Andover and Exeter were both established to provide top secondary education to students from "every quarter." Throughout the years, Exeter remained tied to the rules, convinced that upholding tradition and style would be beneficial in the long run. Andover had a unique style all of its own, that encouraged the personal development of oneself — a belief that true education is developed within the individual. Instead of hard-line administrative stronghold, Andover boasted a system which instilled a sense of trust and responsibility in its students.

Since this initial establishment of ethos — emphasizing individualism — waves of conservatism have manifested their molding feces on the stony-white structure of this establishment. Often far-left liberals within our esteemed school have managed to scrape this black-tie dung off of Andover. Now the Phillips tradition has reached the nineties, and one can't help but question whether yet another wave, in the form of new restrictions and policies is slowly usurping the trust from our hands. I see the discontent at all-school meetings as students express their sheer frustration that the system is rotting; they question the authenticity of Trustees' motives.

Some believe that Trustees and administrators look at Andover as a business rather than an educational ecosystem. Many students and faculty would argue that they make budgetary decisions only to save or gain money, rather than improve classes, lifestyle, or even those leather pancakes. Faculty and students are not consulted in many decisions which could have a profound effect upon their lives. Many policies are executed without our prior knowledge.

Censorship is another one of these tsunamis (Japanese for tidal-waves). We pride ourselves on a student-run paper that far surpasses the "All the news they let us print" policy of the Exonian. But on Andover-Exeter weekend, our own parody of their paper was confiscated. I recall Dana Delaney's yearbook which featured her graduating class completely nude, lying on the great lawn. Even Todd Fletcher, who graduated at the end of the 80s, reminisced about a "just do it" attitude that has been lost somewhere back there in the dust.

Within the last three years, a gradual decrease in school spirit has ushered in a time-bomb of student morale. It is plummeting, as Doug Kern once did from the Bell Tower. Perhaps the decline in liberalism is not only the evil schemes of the administration, but also the apathy and declining creativity of our students. The pep-rallies, which used to resound its deafening roar all the way to New Hampshire, are now just mandatory all-school meetings. Students are content with taking the easy way for a good time with chemical highs rather than giving the extra effort and attitude it takes to make social functions successful. Where did the excitement go? The nudity go? The Reese's Pieces go?

We laud Dean Wilmer on his recent attempts at the deans' meetings, to bring back the role of student involvement in future decisions. The open mic, which is making an unprecedented comeback at meetings, has given students the opportunity to communicate the ideal multicultural community. The new Student Activity Center should light the fuse for newly found faith in our school's ability to spawn good times for all. For God's sake, there's a pink, puffy pig on campus! We can't let our beloved utopia become the conformist institution which is so often associated with the words "boarding school." If we let the times pass us by, we might shoot a glance downward to find crisp, blue ties tightening around our necks. Before we have to leave the door open for parietals, or lose Convocation forever, or the privileges of saying "_____" in the school paper swirl down the toilet, remember what Andover is all about.

QuoteBox: Conservatism

Compiled by Joe Daniszewski and Kenley Smith

"I definitely think the school is becoming more conservative. This is not the school that four-year Seniors applied to... I, for one, am really not sure I would have come here now as opposed to four years ago."- Ted Sterling '93

"The faculty and administration are definitely liberal and always have been...and always will be. I think the pendulum is swinging back towards conservatism as far as the student body goes."
- Sonja Czarnecki '94

"In a pig's eye this school is conservative! The best hope I have is to make my friends conservative, so I can at least make it through this place without going nuts."
- Katherine Wrobel '94

"It's becoming more fashionable for students to rail against racism and gender issues, because it's politically correct. I think it's just a fad." - Hailey Tytel '93

"Compared to other high schools, this is probably the most liberal. It's becoming more conservative...we should be setting the standards as the number one or two school in the country. When we start making changes, the other schools will as well." - Rejji Hayes '93

"It is [cōnservative]...because of so many things [the administration] has been cutting down on lately. We used to have a lot more of the cupcake bars at Commons, and I really like those."- Wooduk So '96

"We need to discuss some issues...because we've had so many experiences with date rape and alcoholism. [The administration] is getting scared for fear of saying the wrong thing."- Mischa Edwards '94

"We're not getting more conservative. We're just bein' the way we are."
- Eric Gottesman '94

"A lot of people confuse slow, pragmatic, careful thinking of major issues with conservatism." - Aaron Russo '94

"This school is kind of two-faced in that it speaks liberally but acts conservatively."
- Randy Lane '94

"There are a lot of conservatives on campus but I think that this school is becoming more liberal in its policies and atmosphere and attitudes."- Lopa Shah '94

"It is getting more liberal...if you look at the way things were twenty years ago to now, it's a lot more liberal now."
- Wudbav Sankar '94

"Yes...if you look at the tone of the trustees during the Upper meeting, it was obvious that as time goes on we're going to become less and less liberal."
- Donna Kaminski '94

"The parietal policies are changing, so I guess in that way it's getting more conservative." - Cate Williamson '94

"[The administration is] becoming more aware of what they should do about the rules." - Meredith Smith '96

"I haven't been here long enough to say anything about how conservative it's getting...but from what I've heard, it seems to be the same." - Candice Koo '95

"[The administration is] trying to straighten out this school, [especially] with the parietal policy."-DeMarcoWilliams '96

"The parietal policy is definitely more conservative than it used to be for Juniors. And six courses isn't very fair."
- Ben Barnett '96

"As far as boarding schools go, I don't think it's very conservative."
- Sarah Klipfel '95

The Grading System:

Quotas, Averages, and Inflation?

by Josh Rosenfeild

Andover is a bastion of "uniqueness" among prep schools. What other schools of our kind sport a bell-tower, frozen yogurt machines, and a six-point grading system? Though our grading system is intentionally different, striving to exemplify myriad levels of accomplishment and work, it has several flaws; it risks being incoherent to those unfamiliar with it, contains a certain degree of vagueness and unclear discrepancies about converting from percent scales to the six point system. These characteristics, along with increased student expectations, have made average grades increase, or "inflate," in recent years.

Andover's six-point grading scale is indeed a Prep school anomaly. The 1992-1993 Blue Book describes the six grades as follows: 6 - Outstanding; 5 - Superior; 4 - Good; 3 - Satisfactory; 2 - Minimum Pass; 1 - Failure; 0 - Low Failure. According to the Faculty Handbook, the system was "purposely designed to be different from that of other institutions to avoid false comparisons....We do not choose to rank students in quartiles of percentages, as some schools do." This unique nature of the system, however, may be one of its problems. To people outside Andover, such as college admissions officers, the system is confusing. That Andover is the only school to use such a system may also make it seem elitist.

Assigning a single adjective to each grade affords teachers a good deal of latitude in grading students' work. One proposed way to make the grading system more particular is to allow "plus" and "minus" grades at the end of each trimester. While this system would reduce the vagueness of grades, it might also lead students to focus increasingly more on their term grades rather than teacher comments, which are arguably the most precise measure of a student's work, and are more "personal" than just a single digit. Comments allow teachers to better distinguish among students than a plus/minus system would. However, by shifting students' focus, such a system might also cause students to lose sight of the ultimate goal of learning.

Another question of vagueness arises in the conversion of percentage grades to the six-point scale. Currently, standards exist within each department for conversions, but their usefulness may be limited to quantitative courses like math and science. Humanities courses, being generally subjective, are less apt to rely on such scales. While neither system is any more stringent, some speculate, including Music Department Chair Peter Warsaw, that "in humanities there are more fours and fives, and many fewer sixes and twos" as the result of the differing natures of the disciplines.

Course Expected Averages and Percentages

Type of Course	Expected Average	% Lower than 4	% 4	% Higher than 4
Required Courses/ Lower Level Electives	4.0	20-40%	30-60%	20-40%
Upper Level Electives	4.2	15-35%	30-60%	25-45%
Selective UpperLevel Classes	4.8	0-20%	10-25%	60-80%

Usually expected class averages for courses are laid out by departments, though such standards are fairly rough around the edges. Some teachers feel the need for clearer definitions of each grade, depending upon the department. The Faculty Handbook lists general grading guidelines for new teachers who do not have departmental guidelines. (See Chart) These guidelines seem to assume that students taking high-level classes would do better in lower-level classes, and therefore does not penalize them for taking the more challenging course.

Department heads emphasize that such guidelines should not be treated as rigid. Biology Department Chair Thomas Hamilton said, "There is no need for courses to have a certain distribution of grades for each assignment." In response to required course averages or quotients, head of the Language Department Natalie Schorr believes, "Teachers have to give all students hope, and they can't do this if some students must be doomed in advance to the failure end of a curve." Other teachers feel that loose guidelines are indeed valuable. History Department Chair Ed Quattlebaum said, "If there are wide variations from the usual norms, departments should try to find the reasons why."

Finally, some teachers feel that grading is, by its nature, a difficult process; to reduce students' entire term's work to a single digit is to oversimplify their efforts. As Schorr affirms, "The most important point to be made...is that grading should be handled as fairly as possible so that then it can be de-emphasized." Gary Hendrickson, an Instructor in English who is known for his lengthy and thoughtful comments, said, "If I could write six-page evaluations of each student's work for the term, rather than have assign a single grade, I'd do it."

Curent Events

by Michael Campbell and Kim Figueroa

President Fights Anti-Gay Ban

President Clinton announced on January 29 a two-part compromise affecting the military's ban on homosexuals. The compromise, presented shortly after a federal judge in California had ruled the ban unconstitutional, changed several elements of the military's policy on homosexuals: people applying to the armed services would longer be asked about their sexual orientation, and soldiers would not be discharged solely because of their sexual orientation, instead they would be moved to unpaid standby reserve status until the issue was resolved.

The compromise also called for a study concerning the nullification of the ban, in which issues of privacy would be considered. President Clinton plans to have a draft of an executive order nullifying the ban ready by July 15.

Peru Delegates fear for their lives

In Peru, the terrorist group Shining Path attempted to disrupt municipal elections. Despite the fact that several of their leaders were in jail, the terrorists managed to pull off quite a scare among political leaders. On Wednesday, January 27, the terrorists bombed a school and planted a car bomb outside of IBM headquarters in Lima. They also assassinated two mayoral candidates along with other city council candidates. According to some sources, at least 100 candidates have resigned for fear for their lives. Still, elections were held, which Peruvian President Alberot Fujimori hailed as "a defeat for terrorism."

Sears Follows Downward Trend

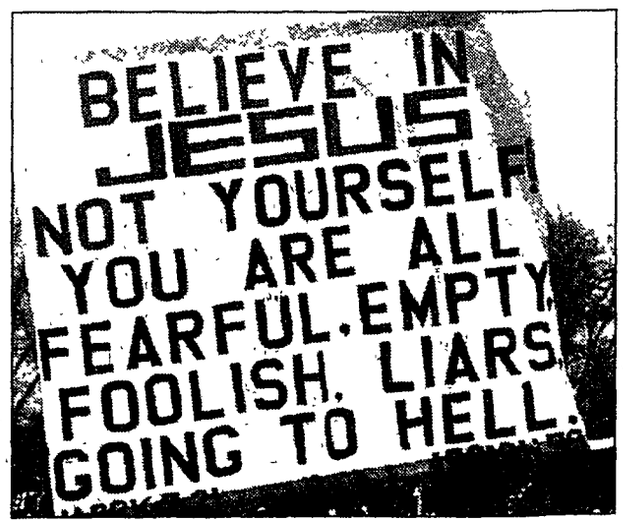
As an indication of changing times in the business world, Sears, Roebuck & Co., commonly referred to as the American institution, recently announced that it will close 113 stores nationwide. Sears joins many other large scale corporations, including IBM, Eastman Kodak, and Xerox, who have been forced to trim down their work forces as of late. In the New England area alone, 50,000 people will lose their jobs as the result of the stores shutting down in Natick, Greenfield, and Providence. The century corporation still holds nostalgia for many including grand old party member Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, who said, "In the old days, it was Sears and Roebuck and God almighty." But he concluded that "the world has changed and Sears has not changed."

Senator Challenges Accusers

Senator Bob Packwood of Oregon, who the Senate Ethics Committee is presently investigating for indictments of sexual misconduct, has changed his plea. In December, Packwood apologized for his conduct, admitting that his actions were "just plain wrong." But now he says that he will challenge his ten accusers that nothing inappropriate ensued during his interaction with them. Packwood also eluded to the possibility of using his accusers' private lives and sexual histories for his defense.

His Generation ....by Dan Marks

On January 20, this country not only welcomed a new president, but also a new generation. This new generation, which dodged the draft during Vietnam, smoked dope, and had sex with anything that was warm, will finally take charge. So what better way to usher in the new chief than to throw one of the biggest parties ever?



It was called the "Reunion on the Mall," and for two days, the area between the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial was twisting with music, art, and culture. People came from the far edges of the globe just to experience what some referred to as the "greatest cultural gathering since Woodstock." Tents were propped up to house the stages and vendors. The food tent was sopped with yummies ranging from polish sausage to curry chicken — nothing over five dollars to appease the hungry crowds. The festive arts tent was filled to the brim with Native American weavers and southwestern leather products. But without a doubt, the steal of the weekend was the music. Do the names of Peter, Paul, and Mary or Los Lobos ring a bell?

Hitting the stage were the musical talents of the Texas Tornadoes, Toad the Wet Sprocket, Bill Monroe and the Bluegrass Band, Little Feat, Blues Traveler, Taj Mahal, Public School 109 from New York, and Salt 'n' Peppa. But the most anticipated event of the weekend was when the Bob Wasserman/Bill Weir combination rocketed through some vintage Dead tunes, as the audience simultaneously lit up a few "J's" for ol' times sake. Following this dream set was Woody Harrelson

of "Cheers" fame, who sang an acoustic original. At one climactic refrain, Woody Harrelson effectuated, "and I believe all politicians should inhale," and the crowd erupted in a loud roar. He was literally the hit of the day.

But more important than the festivities was the excitement and hope that filled the town. A week later, the country received a breath of fresh air with the inauguration of President Bill Clinton. This is his generation.

GIRLS SWIMMING

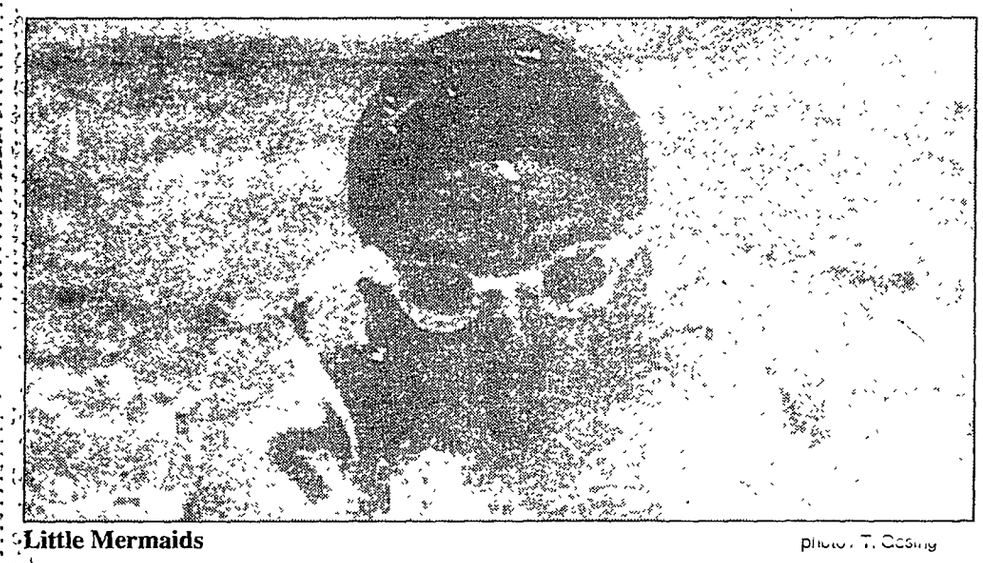
Close But No Cigar

by John Lyndon

Think of the great events of sport. Tunney-Dempsey, the fabled long count. US-USSR basketball, 1972, the game that didn't end. Mets-Red Sox World Series, Bill Buckner's legs and the grounder that wouldn't be fielded. Bills-Giants Super Bowl, Scott Norwood's field goal fluttering so close and yet so far wide. Add to that list PA-Haverhill girls' swimming, the great comeback that nearly was.

The matchup almost never got off the ground. Last Saturday the girls endured a crushing defeat at the hands of Deerfield, 136-50. A lesser team might have given up for the season. A lesser team might have lost heart watching Deerfield's Jackie Schwenker wipe the only Phillips Academy pool record held by a PA student off the books, might have quit when they plainly could not win.

Not PA. No, the swimmin' women kept fighting until the end, battling until ten girls set personal bests, making good on their vow never to bow down to Deerfield.



Little Mermaids photo / T. Cushing

And they bounced back. When Haverhill came to town scarcely four days after Deerfield left, the PA girls were ready.

The first race seemed promising. Powerful relay legs by Margaret Welles '96 and Courtney Watson '95, both of whom were swimming injured, propelled PA into the lead, and Amanda Moger '94 and Laura Hinds '94 brought the team home to victory. Things were looking up, and when Tish Ganier '96 snuck in ahead of Haverhill's second team to grab a third, PA got an early 10-4 lead.

Unfortunately, the lead could not be held. Despite valiant efforts by seniors Alice Cathcart and Jen Dowling and strong swimming from Watson, the 200 freestyle, 200 IM, and 50 freestyle were all claimed by Haverhill. As the diving began, Haverhill had a commanding lead of 38-24.

Haverhill, however, did not contest the diving competition, letting Tania Condon '93, Erin Long '93, and Karen Kirley '96 pull PA back into contention, down only 38-37 as swimming resumed.

Kealy O'Connor '96 tried to capitalize on this chance to seize the lead in the next event, the 100 butterfly, but neither she nor Laurie Galaburda '94 nor Brigid Donahue '96 was able to beat the Haverhill swimmers. Dowling, Moger and Hinds attempted to recoup their losses in the 100 freestyle, but a similar fate befell them. O'Connor, Stacey Sanders '94, and Emily Kwan '94 also saw their valiant efforts at victory thwarted by the powerful Haverhill team.

The 200 free relay saw different combinations of swimmers from the Deerfield meet, but they unfortunately fared no better. With three events left, down 80-57 and hemorrhaging rapidly, PA knew it had to make drastic changes to pull into contention.

The girls changed. First Moger sped to victory in the 100 backstroke with a 1:07.16, stemming the Haverhill tide. Then Watson plowed through the water to conquer the 100 breaststroke in 1:15.84, and all of a sudden PA was on its way.

One race left. If PA went one-two, it won; if not, Haverhill walked away ruler of the pool. The buzzer went off, and O'Connor, swimming against her sister, leapt into the water. She sped away from the field, and when she finished Dowling took over, followed in by Moger. By the time Welles flew home for victory, however, it became apparent that the race would be decided between Haverhill and PA's second team. Alas, swim though they might, Meaghan Watt '96, Donahue, Kwan and Cathcart were unable to beat the best Haverhill team, and lost narrowly. Ever so close, the final score read Haverhill 96, PA 87.

PA's aquatic warriors will be back in action February 13 at NMH. After fighting so hard, and swimming so well, they can expect nothing but victory celebrations to accompany their road trip.

BOYS HOCKEY

Three In A Row

Philpott Scores in Last Minute to Beat Dartmouth

by Ben Rymzo

This week, the rebounding Andover Hockey team defeated a weak Fennelon Fall High school team from Canada 4-0, and then came from behind to pull off a 7-6 victory over the Dartmouth JV team. Reasserting itself as an offensively dangerous team, Andover improved its record to 7-6.

Fenelon Falls

Continuing the scoring onslaught of last weeks demolition of Bridgton Academy, the Blue dominated the inferior Canadian team. Henry Higdon '94 led things off, flinging the puck past Fennel's goalie after receiving the assist from captain Jon Coleman '93. Less than two minutes later, John Hallisey '93 and Ethan Philpott '93 combined efforts to assist Michel Henry '94 for Andover's second goal. An infallible Andover defense kept opposers at bay, allowing scarcely a shot on goalie Judd Brackett '95.

Andover scorers lay dormant through the end of the first period and into the second until a Fenelon penalty left Andover with a one man advantage. Fennolen defenders left a waiting Michel Henry in front to accept assists from the selfless Philpott and Coleman. The final goal of the game came with one minute remaining in the second period. After saving one of the few shots that Fenelon put on net, Bracket earned his first assist after sliding the puck to Coleman, who went end to end, beating the goalie shortside with a high snapshot.

Unable to score in the final period, the penalty plagued Andover squad still kept the number of shots on Brackett to an impressively low 16. Unfortunately, the fourteen total penalties including one ejection left the Andover defense killing penalties for much of the game, hindering their offensive efforts.

Dartmouth JV

Playing in two 25 minute periods rather than three shorter periods, Andover persevered for their seventh win of the season. Two quick Dartmouth goals left Andover trailing early in the first half. Higdon would be the first to put Andover on the board though, as he beat Dartmouth's goalie on the short side with an unassisted goal. Dartmouth was quick to answer however, extending their lead to 3-1. Parker Sides '95 would cut that lead once again with Andover's second goal off a Adam Gurry '94 deflection. Unable to maintain the momentum, the blue defense faltered momentarily, allowing Dartmouth's fourth goal. Michel Henry swayed the momentum back in Andover's direction as the half ended by assisting Philpott, who blasted in Andover's third goal.

The defensive highlight of the first half, came midway through when Bracket was left prone on the ice after saving a Dartmouth shot. As a Dartmouth skater collected the rebound and fired a shot on net, defenseman John Hallisey dove and saved the shot with his glove, denying what could have been a tying goal. As the two teams skated to their respective team rooms, the score stood at 4-3 in Dartmouth's favor.

The second half would see the Andover offense ignite for four goals to clinch the win. Leading off the half was Parker sides who accepted assists from Trevor Bayliss '94 and Dave Wilhelm and stuffed in his second goal of the night. Jon Coleman would then set up Hallisey, who smoked a blistering slapshot into the upper right corner of the net, giving Andover its first lead of the game.

Unfazed, Dartmouth then scored two successive goals to regain both the lead and the momentum. The Blue offense, determined not to let this one slip away, would then mount a scoring attack. Leading this attack was Ethan Philpott, who fired a slapshot through the back of the net. An oblivious referee, however, missed the goal. The Dartmouth goalie later admitted that the shot went in, but the score remained 6-5 Dartmouth's favor nonetheless. Still determined Philpott found Henry Higdon behind the net who fed a waiting Berk Nelson '94, who beat Dartmouth's goalie to tie the game at 6-6. The game tied, both teams pressed relentlessly. The clock winding down close to the one minute mark, captain Jon Coleman fired a slapshot on net. Controlling the ensuing rebound, Philpott would fire the winning goal past a devastated Dartmouth Goalie.

Dispelling previous doubts about their scoring ability by scoring 22 goals in their last three games, Andover Hockey has asserted itself once again as a dominant team in the New England League. If they can continue scoring and curtail excessive penalties, Andover Hockey looks ready to defeat Bowdoin JV next week.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Girls Drop Tabor and Cushing

by Ryan Spring

In the words of Coach Karen Kennedy, "The Big Blue took two more steps in the right direction," this past week with two decisive victories. They both came somewhat easily, a 48-36 defeat of Tabor, and a 71-49 win over Cushing.

Tabor

Saturday, the Big Blue dominated an over matched Tabor squad 48-36, keeping their undefeated record in tact. Andover went after Tabor right from the start, playing with a tremendous amount of intensity while working their full court press to perfection. Their active defense allowed PA to establish an 18-5 lead at the end of the first quarter. At that point, the win looked to be decided, so the substitutes entered the game to gain some important experience and give the starters some rest. The subs played well, sustaining the Andover lead with some fine playing against Tabor's first team. At the half, PA held a solid, if not insurmountable, lead, 27-11.

In the second half, some of the substitutes, not used to the rigors of a full game, apparently got tired and Tabor came charging back. At one point late in the second half, the starters came back in off the bench to regain control when the Sea Wolves cut the lead to 36-32. PA regained control, however, and when the final buzzer rang, the Andover victory had been secured, 48-36.

The leading scorers for this contest were Sheila Danker '93, 11 points, 4 rebounds, 4 steals, Becky Dowling '94, 9 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals, and Annabelle Schierman '96, 5 points, 2 rebounds. However, in this game everyone contributed to the win, especially the substitutes.

Cushing

Wednesday, the Big Blue traveled to Cushing, 12-1, a very strong team in their own right. Cushing's players looked big and talented, and PA expected a close contest But, as usual, the girls came out from the locker room fired up and ready to play, after all they have an undefeated record and are intimidated by no team. Both teams start off strong, with Andover taking an early advantage, it remained close, however. The game went back and fourth through-out the first half until Andover leapt ahead at the end of the half, taking a 15 point lead and a 38-23 lead into the locker room. The reason for the lead at the half was simply described by Coach Julie McCleery who commented, "We just took them out of their game, they were not able to do what they wanted to do mostly because of our press."

The Big Blue pulled away in the second half. PA's defense was impenetrable, and created many easy baskets. But even when forced to pull up and run the offense, PA was still able to work the ball around to get a good shot. Most of those good shots were taken by Dowling and Danker who led the team with 24 points respectively. Carter Marsh '93 (8 points, 6 rebounds, 4 steals) also had a great game running the show from the point. Kira Pittman '95 and Jill Imbriano '95 both came off the bench to give the starters some minutes. Pittman scored 6 points, and also controlled the offense at the point. Imbriano played down low, and grabbed 8 tough rebounds to help the cause. The combined efforts of these five girls, along with the rest of the girls' squad, was enough to easily defeat Cushing 71-49. Coach Kennedy felt that her team played "well, and are getting better," and they certainly showed that against Cushing.

There have been two notable absences from the limelight for the girls' program recently. Alex Calderon '93, a perennial member of the starting five, has missed the last few games with a broken toe. There has been no word as to when she will return to help the Big Blue with her sweet outside shot. The other absence has been from in front of the bench. Coach Kennedy has been very sick recently, and was forced to take a back seat to Coach McCleery, who did a great job with the team on Wednesday. Lets hope that both victims are able to return to their respective roles soon.

The Girls Basketball team has most of the weekend off, but they do have a game Monday at home with Brooks. So come back a little early, relax and check out the 6-0 Big Blue as they look to crush another team, and bring themselves one step closer to the Championship.

Becky Dowling Drives the Lane photo / L. Dormsjo

JV Roundup

Boys JV Basketball

The JV Boys basketball team kept its undefeated record as it blew by N.M.H on Saturday, 72-31. Eric Arias dominated the court and every aspect of it scoring about 20 points. Even "Huge" Quattlebaum saw some playing time against the rowdy Tilton team, as the squad ran up the score, 87-35. The entire team came together with poise and composure as it controlled the game offensively and defensively. "Huge" commented after the game, "Maybe one of these days I'll be as good as my big brother."

Boys JV 2 Basketball

The boys JV 2 basketball team suffered a close loss Wednesday to Chelmsfud, 35-30. The players gave it all they had, but it wasn't enough. If "Tiny" Tim Cannon doesn't pick up his game he'll never be as good as his brother Jeffrey. Words of wisdom, like pearls from an oyster, flowed from Cannon the Younger's mouth, "The problem was concentration. The rest of the team and I have to transcend our physical selves and play on the ethereal plane."

Boys JV Hockey

The boys JV hockey studs skated to victory twice this week as they decimated St. Mark's on Saturday, 10-2, and Wellesly High on Wednesday, 6-0. Brandon "The Pure" Schvatz ruled the ice in both games by toying with his opponents as if he were playing the Girls JV2 hockey team (incidentally, the Girls could probably outskate our faithful reporters, but who's counting). Dave Dorn, who has been out the last couple of games because of a shaving accident, cheered from the stands, "Hey, does anyone know the number to Dominoes?"[Ed's note: Free ad placement-sorry our Ed-in-Chief chintzed on the tip.]

Boys JV Squash

The boys JV squid team, I mean squash team, lost 5-3 on Wednesday to Exeter. The team played half-heartedly, a fatal mistake when competing against our arch rivals, and let this all-important match slip away. Omar Farah played a stupendous game but fell short of a win.

Girls JV2 Basketball

The girls sustained a heart-breaking loss on Wednesday to Chelmsford, 27-12. Caroline Kane, Tim Cannon's Little Girlie Friend, was strong asset to the team, scoring over half of the team's points and showing her boyfriend "who the real athlete in this relationship is."

Girls JV Squash

The girls came out strong once again as they destroyed their unworthy opponent Noble and Greenough, 7-0. The team played good (that should be well, read Elements of Style, bros), except for Sarah Ogilvie, who lost a game. Maybe next time, Sarah.

GIRLS TRACK

Tracksters Roll Over Competition

by Woody Sankar, Peter Caperonis, Darren Hopkins

Entering the third week of competition, our ladies were prepared to take on whatever obstacle lay in their path. Lynnfield returned after two straight defeats at Andover's hands, putting in another futile effort against Andover's power. Ipswich and Tewskbury joined Lynnfield in falling to the agile PA athletes, their hopes smashed into the cage floor.

Andover dominated the meet from start to finish, capturing first place in every event. The highlight of the action came in the mile run, as Jen Long '95 shattered the school mile record. Long dashed to victory in 5:23.9, good enough to secure her place in the record books as the fastest ever. Two other athletes turned in near-record-setting performances—Leslie Dise '94 and Cynthia Miller '94 each grabbed first place while barely missing setting marks in the high jump and the 1000.

Ramona Gittens '93 also deserves recognition as she won the shot put competition for the third week in a row. Gittens

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Nick Thompson

by Michael Shin

"He's a terrific captain, a terrific competitor, and a terrific leader," commented Varsity indoor track Coach Jack Richards in reference to runner Nick Thompson. This week, Nick ran a spectacular record-smashing two mile race, and for his accomplishments as a contributing team member, as well as a fine team captain, he is handed the distinction of Athlete of the Week.

Nick's running career sparked into existence by mere chance. Winter term his sophomore year at Andover, Nick tried out for the various levels of basketball teams but failed to make any of the teams, so he, due to lack of better choices, decided to run indoor track. Nick enjoyed the excitement of running and the "buzz" it provided him with, so he stuck with it, quickly climbing his way up onto the pedestal of excellence. After somewhat of a mediocre beginning in his first season of track, Nick raised his level of running at the end of the season, shaving 45 seconds from his previous best time and placing a commendable 5th at Interscholastics. However, last season, Nick experienced somewhat of a disappointment due to an injury. After the first three meets of the season, Nick, running extremely well, with a time of 10:01 in the third meet, tore an abdomen muscle, ending his season.

This season, as captain of the team, Nick has performed spectacularly, placing first in the 2 mile and fourth in the 1000m in his first meet and he won both the one and two mile races in his second meet. On Wednesday, Nick broke the two mile record of 9:54, set when the indoor track was built. He ran a speedy time of 9:48.1, six seconds faster than the record and twelve seconds faster than his personal best.

"Nick is a superb distance runner when he is free of injuries. He's a classic runner with average speed but marvelous endurance and ability to pace himself,"complimented Coach Richards. Nick claims that the secret to his unbelievable athleticism is his training on the Nordic track that he stashed in his room at Adams. In addition to his tremendous skill as a runner, Nick possess a quality just as important, leadership. As captain, Nick exemplifies the dedicated, determined runner as he is always willing to running in extra events to help out his team.

Nick has fully committed his sports time to running, competing in cross country in the fall and outdoor track in the Spring. In the Fall, Nick completed a fine season, culminating with a outstanding 4th place finish at Interschols. Nick, captain of the cross country team also, received the Hallwell Award for outstanding performance and leadership. Last Spring, Nick struggled through a difficult season, plagued with injuries, but aspires to thrive this year.

Though often view by his peers as a "jock", Nick also participates in numerous non-athletic related activities. He is currently head of the Earth Friends Society, a member of the Cum Laude Society, and a part of the cast to the play, "Heddagabbler".

Nick is still unsure where he will attend college, but wherever he goes, he plans to continue his running career. Coach Richards stated, " [Nick] has great potential to be a fine collegiate long distance runner."

This season, Nick looks to lead his team to a commendable season and in the process hopes to break the all-time school record of 9:30. If he runs at his current pace, he should be able to accomplish this and go even further.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Icers Win Two Straight

by Mark Sabath

As the rest of New England plunges into a bitter cold spell, an unheralded Andover team is heating up the hockey scene. Skating over two more foes in convincing fashion, the Girls' Varsity Hockey team bounced back from a heart-breaking loss at St. Mark's to improve its record to an impressive 8-2. The Blue fought off a strong Deerfield squad in a 5-3 road win on Saturday, returning home on Wednesday to smother an inspired but punchless Exeter team en route to a 7-1 victory.

Deerfield

In preparation for the heavily anticipated matchup with talented Deerfield, the team skated long and hard in practice, resulting in a team primed for battle against its long-time rival. Ileana Lee '93 set the tone just three minutes into the game when she beat three defenders and snapped a wrist shot into the net for an early 1-0 lead. Andover controlled the puck from then on, scoring twice more in the first period on goals by Alison Wheeler '93 and Amanda Adams '93. Skating three lines to Deerfield's two, Andover outhustled its opponents throughout the game. A Laurel Durham '95 goal boosted the lead to 4-0, and, after Deerfield bounced back to score its first goal of the afternoon, Charlotte Kendrick '95 fed Wheeler perfectly for Wheeler's second goal and a 5-1 advantage. The final 5-3 margin was misleading, as Andover virtually neutralized Deerfield for two and a half periods, finally allowing a pair of goals late in the third.

The story of the game was the outstanding defensive play of the entire team, which came together to beat Deerfield for the first time in three years. Kendrick stepped up and, along with the always impressive Andrea Paradis '93, led a constantly improving defensive squad that repeatedly turned back the Deerfield attack. Junior sensation Megan Marfione '96 started in net and did not allow a single goal before being relieved halfway through the second period by Rachel Jamison '93. The key to the sensational defensive effort, however, hinged on the play of the forwards, who backchecked effectively, frustrating the Deerfield offense. Ali Coughlin '95 performed exceptionally as she stopped a bigger and more experienced Deerfield forward with a determined defensive stand. This all-around solid play impressed Coach Jon Stableford, who commended his players: "Our defense dominated the game—we outplayed them every step of the way."

Exeter

The team played less impressively in its matchup with archrival Exeter, as the Andover squad started slowly and never really reached its potential. Fortunately, Exeter, simply outclassed in this contest, skated its weakest team in recent memory. The Big Red scored early in the first period, but then watched helplessly as Andover scored seven unanswered goals to post an easy 7-1 victory. Wheeler led off the Andover scoring by sending a Coughlin pass over the shoulder of the Exeter goalie to knot up the score at 1-1. Just minutes later, she skated up the right side of the rink and hooked up with the streaking Adams for the score. The sluggish play of both teams continued into the second period until Coughlin rifled a screen shot off the far post and in. The Blue offense finally came to life in the final period, as Wheeler riddled the Exeter goalie for three more scores, compiling her sixth hat trick in ten games. Claire Antoszewski '93 scored the most remarkable goal of the afternoon, catching the Exeter defense during a line change. She led a breakaway, forced the defense back, and fired a shot on net, reeling in the rebound and driving it home.

Despite flashes of brilliance—offensive sparkplugs Wheeler and Coughlin combined for five goals and six assists—and the stellar goaltending of Amy Carr '93, Marfione, and Jamison, the team played with uncharacteristic inconsistency. In order to defeat their most imposing foe of the season, Tabor, in the coming week, the girls will have to rediscover the intensity that has driven them to one of their most successful starts in recent history.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hoops On a Roll

by Ben Haddon

Andover's Boys' Varsity Basketball team overpowered its opponents this week, beating Northfield-Mount Hermon, 86-75, and slaughtering Tilton, 108-77. The opposition provided little competition as Andover extended its win streak to four games.

Northfield-Mount Hermon

The team traveled to far-off N. M. H. on Saturday, aware that its opponent is a perennial basketball powerhouse. Apparently the long bus trip took its toll, as Andover's lackadaisical performance early in the first half allowed N. M. H. to leap out to an 18-2 opening lead. However, Andover refused to go down so easily. Scrapping and clawing its way back into it, Andover caught up and, in the second half, jumped out to a sixteen point lead. N. M. H. managed to piece together a comeback of its own, cutting the lead to only a few points. Its effort was hardly enough, though, as Andover ran away with the victory in the final minutes.

The Blue once again received a stellar performance from its leading scorer, Jimmy Kissane '93, who dominated with twenty-nine points. Despite the power of Northfield-Mount Hermon's low-post players, Andover's big man, Mike Koster, '93, poured in eighteen. Evereese Hamilton '93 (17 points) also played a strong game, and Chris White '93 and Chris George '93 turned in solid performances as well.

Tilton

In a rather comical match-up, Andover took on the much smaller and less talented Tilton squad. Andover, troubled in the very beginning, with sluggish play on both offense and defense, struggled to break away from its opponents. However, by the end of the first, the true force of the home team shone through like daybreak, as Andover closed the half leading 51-37. The second half—garbage time—provided a show for the fans, as Todd Harris '95, went to work from long range and Chris George and Mike Koster hooked up for a high-flying air attack. Andover hounded its unworthy opponents on defense, causing turnover after turnover. However, Tilton continually converted off the fast break for the majority of its points.

Hamilton provided a spectacular show while running the offense, as he dished out seven assists and scored ten points for the victors. Kissane (23 points) once again led all scorers. Harris finished with ten and Koster fifteen.

Andover faces a tough opponent this Friday, as Wayne Turner, a highly touted sophomore, Shannon Bowman, an equally prized college recruit, and the rest of the Beaver Country Day team travel to Memorial Gym. They will be a true test as Andover needs to establish itself as a true powerhouse.

BOYS WRESTLING

Body Slammed

by Kevin Moran

Once again the Andover wrestling squad finds itself striving for the .500 plateau, falling to 3-7 by dropping a painfully close meet with Tabor, 42-30. The entire team finds itself bewildered at their lack of success of late, but are managing to maintain their composure and sanity in their highly competitive league.

Plagued by injuries and poor officiating, the Boys In Singlets appeared to be wrestling with one arm tied behind their back. The absence of team captain Andrew Wilder '94, Carter Smith '93, J.B. Lockhart '95, and Randy Perry '94 left a formerly intimidating lineup without many of their established starters. In addition, Anthony Crawford '94 and Ben Caven '94 wrestled with nagging injuries, and 140 pounder Jon DiOrio just returned from a severe case of pneumonia after missing a week of practice. Despite these setbacks, Coaches Gannon and Gorham vowed to make a winner of the '93 wrestling squad, working their troops to the bone in practice. The players responded to their coaches' efforts, giving everything they got in their ninety minute daily sessions, and refusing to give in to the temptation of throwing in the towel.

Despite making the two hour journey to the marshlands of Marion, Mass., the meet began strongly for the Big Blue. Tyler Currie '95, one of the best finds of the the '93 season, won his match in dramatic fashion as he pinned the outclassed Taborian at the onset of the third period. However his victory was followed by a series of losses by the next four weight classes, in which the 130lb match was highly disputable. Gee Sue '93, the victim of poor officiating in a tightly fought match, dominated his opponent throughout the event. On the verge of making a clean pin, Gee Sue was called for a "screening penalty," in which he was penalized two points and forced to take the neutral position with his opponent. Screening penalty, you ask in bewilderment? I, too, was unable to gather what this rule was, as was the entire team. Needless to say, this erroneous call by the referee ultimately cost Phillips a victory, and killed the fighting spirit of the team.

Captain Mike Sze '93, Chris Bateson '94, Brian Stark '95, and Anthony Crawford '94 all proceeded to defeat their adversaries, yet to no avail. The Phillips Academy wrestling team lost by a highly disputed twelve points.

The wrestling squad will compete next Saturday in a quad-meet against NMH, Tabor, and Roxbury after a weekend off for a little R&R. If everything proceeds as expected, the Blue will return from their hiatus well rested and with determination beaming from their eyes - in preparation for a run at the league title.

BOYS TRACK

Thrash Weston, Surprised by Tewksbury

by Woody Sankar

After thrashing Weston High last week, the powerful Boy's Track team was surprisingly upset Wednesday by our unfriendly neighbors from the south: Tewksbury High School. Although Andover led comfortably early on in the meet, Tewksbury mounted an amazing comeback, erasing a 13 point deficit to edge out PA by a score of 48 to 47.

Captain Nick Thompson '93, in an absolutely stunning performance, ran the fastest time since 1974, and the best ever on the indoor track. His time of 9:48.1 (that's two 4:54 miles) was good enough to lap the second place runner. Jeremy Nichols '93 also shined, placing first in the long jump, shot put, and the 300 yard dash to complete the hat trick. Tewksbury surged back from a large deficit, so the entire meet hinged on the 4X440 relay. Despite our team's herculean effort, Tewksbury prevailed, winning the meet for the first time in recent memory.

On a brighter note, although the pole vault was a non-scoring event, Colin Asquith '96 leaped 9'6" to shatter the existing Junior record.

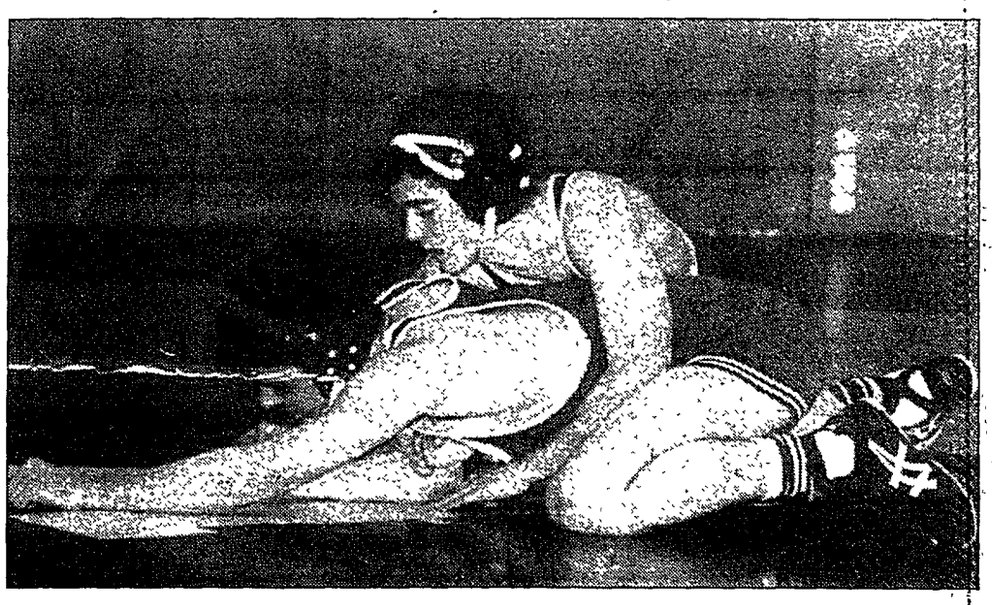
Despite the team's disappointing loss, there is no time to regret: a formidable Navy Prep team awaits next week, and Andover must be prepared.

Event	Performance	Name	Place
Long Jump	19' 7"	Nichols	1
	19' 1/2"	Tiro	2
	8'5"	Chen	3
Mile Run	4:47.6	Dederer	2
	4:59.9	Penncick	3
Shot Put	39'7"	Nichols	1
	38'8.1/2"	Blair	3
50-Yd Dash	5.8	Chen	1
	6.0	Callum	3
600-Yd Run	1:19.8	Sterling	1
Two Mile Run	9:48.1	Thompson	1
High Jump	5'10"	Feldkhun	2
300-Yd Dash	35.4	Nichols	1
1000-Yd Dash	2:33.5	Gallagher	3
Pole Vault	11'6"	Eckels	1
	9'6"	Asquith	2
	9'6"	Song	3

has played a major role in Andover's domination this year, contributing five points to Andover's total score in each meet. Spectator Kevin Moran '94 said of Ramona, "She's a force on the team that has inspired other team members to strive for their best."

In the future, the Andover girls will face a challenge in the form of a mighty Deerfield squad. Says Moran, "This will be a tough match-up, and hopefully we shall overcome."

Event	Performance	Name	Place
Shot Put	30'1"	Gittens	1
Mile Run	5:23.9	Long	1
50-Yd Hurdles	7.7	Crowe	1
High Jump	5'2"	Dise	1
50-Yd Dash	6.5	Bedeau	1
Long Jump	15'3 1/2"	Dise	1
600-Yd Run	1:36.5	Chute	1
Two Mile Run	12:31.3	Bergren	1
300-Yd Dash	40.6	O'Connor	1
1000-Yd Run	2:53.1	Miller	1
Mile Relay		PA	1



Hulkamania photo / D. Sahadevan

AROUND CAMPUS

Roll 'R' Way Trip to Lawrence

"Clams on the half shell and roller skates and roller skates..." - Chic

This Saturday Social Functions will sponsor a trip to the Roll 'R' Way rollerskating rink in Lawrence. The trip is part of a new series of events sanctioned by the recently created Andover Eighties Preservation Society (see Udell and MacNeil) which focus on activities related to the golden years of music and popular culture: the late seventies and early eighties. Sign up with Dickie and pay .$3.75 for admission plus $2.00 for the bus. And for those who don't already own a pair of roller skates, rentals cost one dollar more. Members of the Eighties Society receive a nickel discount.

Today's All School Meeting

Today's All-School meeting will feature two distinguished alumni Fellows: Louise Kennedy '76, Adam Lerner M.D. '74. After graduating from Andover where she became the first female editor of The Phillipian, Kennedy continued her study at Yale University where she served as the Editor-in-Cheif of Yale Daily News. Pursuing her interest in journalism beyond college, Kennedy works as the copy editor of the Living/Arts section of The Boston Globe. Dr. Adam Lerner earned a BA at Amherst College and then completed his medical degree at the Yale Medical School. Lerner is currently practicing oncology at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Open Sesame

As of Monday, Febuary 1, the Central services staff has closed the offices and access to the student mailboxes for all those not working in the Central Services area. Students or faculty hoping to sneak in the office to stuff a mailbox will face a locked door. Faculty and students have tried to use the reliable passwords like "open sesame" but are continualy denied access. They are now asked to use the mail window at the mail room for picking up packages or for delivering mail to student boxes. If a faculty member has an urgent need to reach students via their mailboxes, he or she should indicate this to the person working at the mail room window.

Don't forget your Brussel Sprouts

The mystery of the wandering Commons employees is finally solved. Three ARA employees, Millie, Jack, and Ylonda, took up positions several months ago in Commons dining halls to observe student meal selections, and up to now the purpose for observing student meals was the subject of many fantasies. The Phillipian now has the facts.

The three employees, whose unusual job caused fear and resentment among frequenters of Commons, monitor the nutritional value of student's meal selections to see if the meal includes all of the basic food groups. According to Phillipian sources, the U.S. government reimburses the school for each individual who is clicked in as having four of the five major food groups. For breakfast, a well balanced meal must include a fruit, a dairy product, and a bread.

In addition to monetary reimbursement, participating in this program allows the school to buy food from federally run warehouses at lower rates. Some other schools participating in this program include Exeter, Milton, and many public schools.

While Phillips Academy began participating in this program approximately one year ago, ARA did not have any people explicitly designated to count the number of well balanced meals. The state felt that through hiring its three new employees, a more accurate count could be made.

Two nutritious munchers photo / D Sahadevan

Andover and Exeter Science teachers meet to Share Ideas

by Cyrus Massoumi

Last Thursday night, January 29, faculty from the Andover and Exeter Science Departments met in Ropes Dining Hall to share ideas and compare the science curriculum of the two schools.

The two science departments take turns organizing the conferences, which occur every two or three years. According to Thomas Hamilton, Chair of the Biology Department and organizer of this year's meeting, the conference is "a chance for us to get together with the Exeter faculty to share ideas and notes on the science departments."

This yeaff, Lydia Goetze, Instructor in Chemistry and Biology at Andover, enlightened the collective science faculty with a lecture on her work with concept writing, a topic she studied while on sabbatical. "Ms. Geotze talked about concept mapping and ways in which you can get kids to express scientific concepts in writing, which for some students is a good way to learn," explained Hamilton. However, at Exeter in the compulsory physics course for ninth graders, the emphasis is on the more concrete aspects of the course rather than on the concepts.

The congregation of faculty also discussed the use of analogies in science lectures to aid student learning. One teacher mentioned an assignment in which he tried to compare Phillips Academy to the life of a cell. As part of his presentation, the faculty member discussed how the physical, governing, and energizing aspects of both bodies were in many ways similar. At Exeter ninth graders take a compulsory physics course

The two science departmets also discussed differeces in their curriculum and teaching styles. One major difference at Exeter is in year long courses where students get a different teacher each term in order to maximize exposure to differet teaching styles and experiences. While some Andover teachers embraced this approach, Biology and Chemistry instructor Steve Anderson felt that "I don't think a term is long enough to adjust to a new teachig style, especially if it is a difficult one for a particular student. Also, in my opinion, the consistency gained from having one teacher throughout the year outweighs the potential benefit of additional exposure."

In the past, members of the science departments talked about their specific fields and featured a new facility. In the last meeting at Exeter, the Exeter science department gave a demonstration of its new Astronomy equipment. Other past conferences have included a demonstration of the applications of video discs in class lectures and other inovative pedagogic tools.

Commented Hamilton, "I'd love to do a conference like this with some other schools...It would be great to do it with a school like St. Paul's."

"In retrospect," Steve Anderson concluded " a good time was had by all."

Summer Opps offers a new selection

by Sarah Klipfel

As spring slowly approaches, many students begin to face the dilemna of making plans for the summer. Although some people already have their sumer mapped out, there is help for those who haven't a clue. The Summer Opportunities Office on the third floor of G.W. offers information on a wide variety of programs and educational opportunities available to interested students. Internships, ranch jobs, international workstudy programs and national park service jobs are just a few of the opportunities up for grabs.

The office, open from nine to three every day during the school year, provides a large assortment of pamphlets and brochures designed "to help our PA community research and plan for a productive and rewarding summer."

The office was started twenty years ago by Frank DiClemente, at the time an associate director of the Athletics Department. Although during its early years, summer opps could only offer a modest collection of opportunities, DiClemente wanted to help the students find productive and fun summer activities. In 1984, Abbot Academy Grant awarded Britta McNemar with a grant that allowed the Summer Opportunities Office to move it's present location in the basement of Sam Phil. and to expands it's collection of applications.

One of the latest developments in the office is the new PA Job-Bank, which involves both students and parents. The parents network and supply the opportunities for the students while they in return send in their resumes and get matched up to the appropriate job.

Mrs. Barry urges student that are interested to watch the Blue Bulletin for special announcements and come to the Summer Opportunities Fair on February 28 from 1-4 PM at Commons. There will feature 50 vendors who will have information on their particular organization, that will, as Mrs. Barry says, "range from campus experiences to camps to outdoor wilderness adventures—international travel and language study, as well as volunteer community service." The office encourages both students and faculty to check out their resources soon because some programs' deadlines are expected as early as February.

Cheng...

☞ Continued From Page 1

today's society, women have equal educational oppoortunities as men whereas in "Old China" women could not go to school or have a job. Women also have the right to divorce their husbands or remarry if their husband dies: a right denied to women in old china. In 1950, a law designating the legal marrying age at twenty three prevented parents from forcing their daughters to marry as early as age twelve.

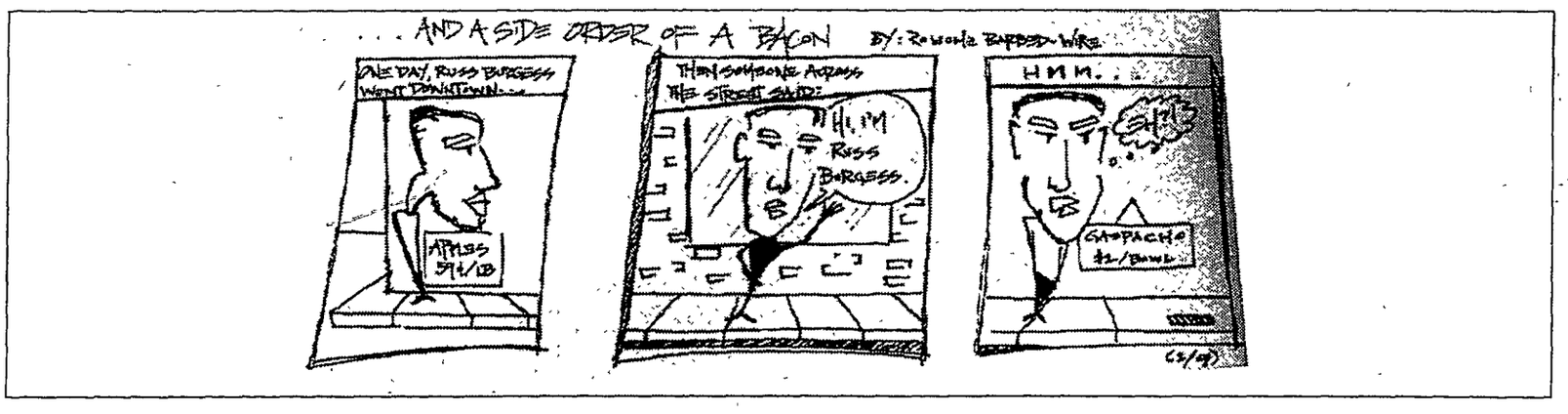
Although China has made some progress in women's rights, the change is limited largely to the urban areas, while the countryside remains primitive. Most mountain villages are lagging behind in their reform measures. "Women's discrimination still exists in China especially in the countryside and among less educated people."

Women who cannot produce male children are also subjected to discriminated by the adult male community. Since only one child is allowed in each family, it is important for parents to have a son in order to extend the family. "We have a saying in China, 'the son is the sun'," related Cheng. During her pregnancy, a woman is treated like a queen, she is given everything to make her comfortable. If she bears a daughter, however, the whole family will be angry and iflict a veritable tirade upon the mother.

It is common in many mountain village households for the husband to be the dominant member of the house. Many men do not aid their wives with cooking, cleaning or washing. The wife is given no freedom to work, or even make the basic family decisions. Many parents still arrange marriages for their children, not caring whether the two pateners love each other. "Women have no freedom to decide their own marriage, they have to marry husbands their parents chose for them," Cheng stated sadly.

The talk ended on a hopeful note, however. In his ending statement Cheng expressed his approval of the positive changes that city women have enjoyed, and his disappointmet that mountain village women are still discriminated against. Said Cheng, "I think that complete emancipation for women will take a long time in China, but generally speaking, women's lives have improved a lot."

... And A Side Order of A Bacon **By: Rowche Barded-Wire**



Student Council hosts Battersby, ARA Rep

by Bill Wood

Last week in G.W. Hall the 1993 Student Council hosted a representative from ARA, the campus catering company, and Henry Wilmer, Dean of Students and Residential Life. In addition to hosting the two guests, the Council also discussed the progress of the new Student Center and the possibilities for a spring concert on campus.

The ARA representative, Tom Battersby, began by pledging to improve Commons to the satisfaction of the school, and asked the Council for comments and suggestions on the quality and efficiency of the food service. The complaints and suggestions included critcism of unfresh produce and stale bread, as well as suggestions for the use of paper cups in Commons for hot chocolate. Members of the Council also criticized the hours that Commons is open after standardized tests on Saturdays. Battersby promised to carefully consider each of the issues raised, and encouraged all students and faculty who frequent Commons to write in suggestions with their opinions regarding the current food service.

With Battersby's departure, School President Ore Owodunni brought up the subject of the planned Student Center in Morse, and mentioned his trips to Lawrence with Wilmer to look at possible furniture items for the center. Owodunni presented pictures of possible purchases, followed by a report from Senior Rep Tushaar Agrawal on video game prices, which were estimated at $80 per week per game. A pool table was reported to bring in $50 a week, and several representatives made comments about possible cuts to the activities in the activity center. However, the Council maitained that large cuts are out of the question, since the activity should contain activities, unlike the Ryley Room.

Wilmer's entrance to the room shifted the discussion from the student activity center to the recent all-school meetings. After stating that the trustee meetings did not go as smoothly as expected, Wilmer directed the Council's attention to possible ways in which to make students more involved in important school decisions. Stating that he wants kids to feel consulted about the direction in which the school is heading, Wilmer expressed the need for student input in all areas, including Social Functions, for example. Council members voiced their opinions about the current all-school meetings, which ranged from discontent about the "open mike" policy, to the way in which the trustees answered student questions.

Introducing the topic of Social Functions, Hilary Koob-Sassen mentioned that he had discussed the spring concert with Jen Johnston, and had received word that the concert would occur only if small bands participated. Koob-Sassen reminded the Council that there is not much Social Functions money left for spring term, and invited suggestions for small bands the school could invite to perform at the spring concert.

One of the last issues raised was the possibility of an all-school meeting on the issue of gay and lesbian house-counselors as house counselors. Senior Rep Leif Dormsjo proposed that such a meeting might be organized in the town-meeting format. The Council agreed, but added that a meeting on such a controversial subject would have to be moderated in such a way that avoids personal attacks, and encourages all viewpoints.

The student coucil meeting came to a close with Owodunni suggesting the Council do something for the campus, and continue to get involved. The members left the meeting with the task of coming up with ideas for campus involvement.

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Oh Dad, Poor Dad, My Dad, You're Dead

by Tina Ver

Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mama's Hung You In The Closet And I'm Feeling So Sad, was the winter's first drama lab production. To unfurl the scroll of credits: directed by Jay Barmann, stage managed by Amy Squires, technically directed by Peter Radocchia, and starring Eve Bradford, Miles Lasater, S.Kristina Hult, and Hilary Koob-Sassen. This "Pseudoclassical Tragifarce in a Bastard French Tradition" kept the audience on the edge of its seat, wondering what twist the play was going to take next.

The setting of the three scene production is a luxury hotel on the Caribbean island of Port Royale, where Madame Rosepettle (Bradford), her son Jonathan (Lasater), two vicious venus fly-traps and Rosalinda, the siamese kitten-eating, talking piranha (Squires and a little rubber fishy) have settled in for a few weeks of their vacation in paradise.

In the first scene, after the coffin containing her stuffed husband is delivered with the other luggage, Madame Rosepettle puts the bell boys (John Shin, Mary Michel Olivar, Amelia Schulz, and Wonbo Woo) through servant hell and bullies her son as if he were a non-entity. Two weeks later, again in Rosepettle's hotel room, Jonathan is brought into contact with the sweet Rosalie (Hult), a babysitter who tries to seduce him, but is eventually put out of contention by her potential mother-in-law In the final scene, Commodore Roseabove (Koob-Sassen) passionately courts Madame Rosepettle until she tells him the story of how she brought about her husband's death - a story that paints women as beauties and men as beasts. After this extensive monologue, Rosepettle explains that she has made it her goal in life to protect her son, a task she accomplishes by confining him to the numerous hotel rooms which they consider home. Later on, however, Rosalie returns to Jonathan and tries to convince him to escape from his virtual prison and run away with her. She undergoes a metamorphosis, changing from an innocent girl next door into the siren who cares only for herself and the satisfaction of her personal, sexual desires. Rosalie takes on the domineering attitude of Madame Rosepettle, exclaiming to Jonathan, " I want you ...all for myself. Not to share with your mother, but for me alone ...to love, to live with, to have children by." These sacreligious exclamations push Jonathan over the line. Chaos breaks out as his stuffed father falls out of the closet and Rosalie's sexual agression increase. Jonathan has no choice but to suffocate the flirt because she represented a positive anima, the antithesis of his mother.

The Cast of *Oh Dad...*

At end the play, Madame Rosepettle reenters the suite after having kicked sand in the faces of twenty-four couples making love, and asks the rhetorical question, "What is the meaning of this?"

Eve Bradford was a wonderfully wicked, loud and bitter widow/mother/overlord. S. Kristina Hult made a fluid and convincing change from little miss rosy to insensitive whore, and Hilary Koob-Sassen was, as I heard a few viewers say, "himself, just on stage." The technical production of *Oh Dad, Poor Dad...* was praiseworthy. The rapid, flourescent, flashing lighting, the puppet Venus flytraps, the talking fish and hidden bedroom added to the absurdist overtones of the action. But Miles Lasater stole the show. His stuttering, body language, intentionally non-present, and yet everpresent stage presence gave true testimony to his talent. Director Jay Barmann pulled together a thought-provoking show in the short three weeks since the end of Christmas break. Though there was some criticism as to the ambiguity of the end of the play, I believe that it had little to do with the director's failure to illuminate "the meaning". Arthur Kopit's intention in writing the play was to raise a question in the mind of the audience or the reader, and certainly succeeded.

Above and beyond the Jungan and Oedipal overtones, the absurdist techniques and the emerging psychological realism, *Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mama's Hung You In The Closet And I'm Feeling So Sad* - the Phillips Academy, 1993 rendition - combined true acting talent, creative directing and technical producing. I'll be looking forward to the next "Barmann -Squires - Radocchia" (and everybody else) production.

Harley Dreams

by Colm Gallagher

Saturday I returned home from a little R&R in the superstructures aptly named Sam Phil and Pearson. I was exhausted, and the virus incubating in my cardio-respiratory system was launching a series of surface to air attacks against the upper stratosphere of my body. I joined Roberts in the nudist colony on the second floor of Bartlet where, after concluding our woeful sermons concerning life, we hit the lights, pulled down the shades, and jumped into the sack. Slumber set in and images soon began to crack the periphery of my subconsciousness.

My escape was a land of ineffable topography where everything was incorrigible and bearings were realigned to meet the intergalactic standards set forth by a meager peasant named Ralph. Suddenly I saw a bright light on the horizon and gathering my belongings together, I directed my wanderings into that vicinity.

I sauntered closer to the iridescence and heard what I thought to be the kick start of a 16 cylinder bi-valve all-American engine, a sound which was only too familiar. A smile crept onto my lips and I couldn't help reminiscing about the old days. Beat me if I'm wrong, but I would recognize the roar of an '87 Harley Davidson - the "Ghost Collection" - if I had only one nostril and half an ear.

I couldn't help but relive, in those closing steps, the days when life was measured in terms of drag racing, escaping from the police, and raising hell. When leather was leather, a man was a man, and the bike was God. On any given day the ultimate ride was valued far above life. We were reckless and along the way we lost some companions, but that was all part of the experience. I used to drag race with the best on my Harley: Rock, Jimmy the Meat, Rancid Randy, and other legends. I recall an experience back in the mid seventies - The air was dry and hot yet my bike was running smooth like the spread of an oily suntan lotion over the apex of one's navel. There were two us and in less than four hours after our exodus from Tucson we were riding down the Hollywood Boulevard of LA. We were two rebels riding side by side into the City of Angels. I remember thinking, "Step out on the Highway,"... no wait...sorry, that was "Easy Rider".

I had reached my goal and the light was emitting luminous rays in my direction. My head arched back and for a moment I was blinded. As my pupils dilated and became accustomed to the glare I knew my instincts had not deceived me. I stood at the crest of a mammoth valley where all around were parked Harleys of every genre. Ah, paradise. At the basin of the reservoir a neon sign belted out "Harley Davidson Inc.-Bikes and Accessories."

"We mutually pledge our lives, fortunes, and sacred honor." It pains my heart to think that our founding fathers plagiarized the Harley Davidson motto in an attempt to decide on a clincher for the Declaration of the Independence. I strolled up to the front desk and, realizing it was the Yuletide season, asked Ed the cashier what paraphernalia had raked in the most dough recently. Without enunciating a word, he pointed to a rack of merchandise containing big sellers. I picked out a few little something's for the family. A T-shirt for John, belt buckle for Sue, and my personal favorite, HD perfume for the wife.

This is the point where things became weird. Some guy motioned for me to come over and help him with some maintenance. We got to talking and began trading old Harley stories. He told me, "In the early eighties Harley Davidson's were considered pieces of junk. The bikes were poorly assembled and repairs were expensive. Foreign companies aggressively tapped into the American market and soon Harley was no longer the paramount force in the motorcycle industry. After a shake up in the front office Mr. Davidson went on to resurrect his company from the still smoldering coals. He was going to make motorcycles the American way for the American people. That's why Harley stock is coveted on the modern market: it's a real American product." He then asked me if I was partial to the act of poaching newts and that he and the boys had organized a newt fest weekend up in the Berkshires for tomorrow and I was welcome to join the festivities. Regrettably I was busy and had to decline.

Christmas presents in hand, I headed for the rim of the valley realizing that my youth had indeed passed. I was depressed. To allay my feelings a hearty home cooked meal was in order. I trusted my fortune to a maitre d' named Del at Jim Oliver's Smoke House Family Restaurant. The joint's slogan happened to be, I kid you not, "You've barbecued with the rest, now barbecue with the best." I ordered coffee and the jumbo rib, alias, "We dare you." I sat reading an issue of *Biker's Weekly* when the same engine roar that had drawn me to the valley again penetrated my inner ear. A scream pierced the tranquil atmosphere and I jerked my head around only to see a squadron of Harley bikes bearing down on the restaurant. Chaos erupted as people desperately cantered away from the inevitable calamity. I vaulted up onto the table as a Country Western band ripped into its rendition of Duran Duran's "Rio." I screamed out into the abyss of anarchy, "Hey, Tub-o's on me. Tub-o's on me. Tub-o's on....

I arose to the frenzied prodding of Roberts. "Wake up! It's only a dream!" he yelled. With my conscience regained, I chanced a swift survey of the premises that bound my freedom. I was still slightly queasy and my psyche had no room for obstructions. I guess it was only a dream. Then again, I've never understood my obsession with bikes, leather, and speed.

[Writer's note- I would just like to clear up any ambiguities concerning the term tubo. I refer to the tubs of popcorn on sale in the Ryley room for what some might call a steal. But I must warn you, they're highly addictive. And remember, wretches of the world, I fight for you.]

The Abridged Weekend Scoop

by Hilary Koob-Sassen

Hilabigfatnose presents the long weekend scoop

Well its Looooooooooooooooooong weekend, and here I am scoopin' it up for you like the turds of those dogs with little fluffy fur balls for elbows, knees, and tail tips. Meanwhile I am lazin' around in the burning Brazilian sun, sipping frothing cherry-red semi-solids with little umbrellas to keep them that way.....to protect them from the burning Brazilian sun. Who needs the burning Brazilian sun, body heat sufficient to burn the house down. I, the Brazilian king setting out to reveal the joys of vaseline to the crazy ladies of the Brazilian Rain Forest. Not so. I am sitting in my room, all alone. The vaseline has congealed in a freezing draft from my leaky room. I realize I am all, all, all alone. Then this huge Flufffy puppy oozing with symbolism runs up to my window and playfully laps the glass.....twelve hours later the poor beast had gotten all his tastebuds back off the window (It took me that long to heat the window up with my breath). Any way, the young pup was very glad to be detangled from this affection induced predicament so we chilled allittl, ate some fiber-rich chili, lived large, it was cool. Any way.

Saturday Roller Rink Trip.....sign up at Dickies desk soon.

6:30: Hulk Hogan does Houston: Ladies only.

and, uh something like dat

Sun6:30 more fliks...get to know yourself.

Tower, Newbury, and HMV

The layman's guide to Boston Music Stores

by Serge L'Arrand

A compendium of music stores for the discriminating consumer:

Tower Records - If quantity pops your cork, then Tower Records is the wine you're looking for. Towers are located on the far end of Newbury Street and in Harvard Square.

The selection is rather grand, but much of it consists of the classical and jazz genres. If that tingles your buds, then I heartily suggest Tower. I, however, have found that for music more akin to my liking (rock, alternative, eighties), Tower has the bands' names on the plastic tabs, but the slots are usually empty.

Another little quip. The ambiance is lacking. Tower feels more like a factory outlet than a relaxing music store. The ceiling is too high. The dirty linoleum floors aggravate feet as well as ears. Nothing is more unpleasant than leaping over small puddles on route to your favorite selections. The background music is loud enough to be in the foreground. Simply put, Tower Records's atmosphere will rob from you the desire to purchase music that gripped you so strongly back in your dorm.

I once decided to buy a CD at Tower, and after waiting in line for an eternity I stepped up to the counter. I was greeted by a scruffy young rapscallion who obviously found in his job description the responsibility to yuck it up with fellow employees. Apparently this duty was more important than selling the goods, and a timid me stood in silence, quietly placing and replacing my CD on the counter. I then took out my check, filled out its recipient's name as well as the date and placed my driver's license on top. The clerk's friend then departed to the bathroom and with a sigh, the "sales associate" turned to me.

"What'll it be?"

"Um, just this one...you take checks, right?"

"We need three forms of ID, but yeah."

I pulled out my Andover ID card and a movie card. The scruffy man closely examined my Vermont Junior Operator's License, wondering if I would try to fake the fact that I am seventeen years old. He then snickered at my Andover ID and glanced at my movie card. He tossed them back at me and announced the price. "Comes to sixteen fifty. And this is a great band," he said, as if to make more confident my decision to part with sixteen and a half dollars "Thanks," I said, and seized the iridescent yellow bag which announced to all those thieves in the outside world that I had a new CD and maybe they would like to take it.

After the Tower Records fiasco, I decided to buy a few more selections at nearby Newbury Comics. Newbury has a little more pizzazz, and its low ceilings and carpeted floors broadcast a homey atmosphere. It's collection of music is far out-matched by Tower, but Newbury offers more albums from the obscure bands many of us prefer.

One of the many Newbury advantages is that it offers more sales per week than any other store: new releases are heavily marked down, and some older stuff often has two or three precious dollars slashed from its tag. Always check Newbury to see if your favorite bands are going for half-price.

Newbury also has a movie and music poster selection. Many posters are quite large, but sell at small prices. There is a section of the store dedicated to comics, as promised by the store's name. You can always catch little perverts looking at the pornographic books, and if you are looking for a few jollies then pick up the book on the piercing of new and different body parts. There are plenty of pictures and you'll be more than satisfied.

My one complaint about Newbury is that, quite frankly, it's a little scary. Sure, there are clean-shaven boys and girls, but the more prominent crowd resembles the aforementioned Tower scalawag. These are the people who have used the book about the piercing of new and different body parts. Combat boots and green colored scalps abound, accompanied by studs, spikes and a wonderful assortment of weapons. Before you crack a witty joke about the deficiencies of Husker Du or Black Flagg, check over your shoulder for brass knuckles or thick biceps. I once pulled up King Missile's first album from the vertical mass of CD's and loudly scoffed as I jammed it back in place. I was promptly shoved out of the way by a leather-clad teen who hissed a quiet "Yes!" as he yanked it from its place and strutted to the counter, exalting in his find. Thank God I suppressed an obscene expression of disgust for my fractious comrade's favorite band.

Driven out of Newbury Comics by foul smells and unsightly tattoos, I hopped on the T to test my luck at Harvard Square. I followed a glowing light past Au Bon Pain and Inca Sun. I walked past a scaled down Tower and a familiar Newbury. I hopped a trash can, dodged a bum, and turned the corner. I shielded my eyes from the polished marble walls and marched forward, head down. I pulled open the door and was greeted by a list of new releases. Footprint stickers offered a helpful trail up the stairs. Six TV screens shouted forth the same picture. Two mammoth photos of a collapsed singer capture music in its essence, and we know then that this is a true store of sound.

HMV is pristine. The carpets always retain those post-vacuumed streaks. A touch-sensitive computer offers names, dates, and reviews of every album ever created (at least those in its memory banks). The racks of music are arranged in a handy alphabetical system, and HMV almost always has what the discriminating buyer wants. There is an entire wall reserved for alternative, which seems out of place in the store's classy atmosphere. There is a bin full of cheap CD's for us poorer folk to sift through. A helpful rack of the top fifty albums provide the trendier type with a slightly less overwhelming selection to choose from.

HMV certainly is the classiest store around. The kids in us feel at home in the rock/pop section while our mature sides fit right in through the soundproof doors into the classical/jazz section. HMV caters to everyone's needs. One time I asked for Beethoven's Fifth and Vast Deferans' Tea Time With Jenkins all in the same breath. The sales assistant smiled comfortably and sauntered off to retrieve the goods. I was impressed by his clean lapels and shimmering hair. This man knew his musical stuff. I will admit that he lacked the emotional verve of Tower's slimy ragamuffin, but he made me feel much more comfortable. I purchased my selections and waved good-bye to a pair of burly guards who reminded me that stealing music could be fatal.

And so, it was a good day. Three plastic bags swayed with my arms as I boarded the bus home. I hadn't had time to visit used CD stores, but such is life. I spent the ride home trying to remove those newly implemented silver tabs sealing each of my CD's. Darn, what fun!

INTERVIEW

"Just An English Teacher"

In an interview he described as "good, clean, wholesome fun" David Cobb, Chair of the English Department, discusses Elvis, Motorcycles, Black Leather, Darth Vader, and Kathmandu.

by Akash Kapur
& Nick Wadhams

Akash and Nick:Is it true that you're omnipresent on campus?

David Cobb: I used to be when I was the Dean of Residence, but I'm not anymore.

Because we heard a story about cruisers walking around a field at night when suddenly the lights of a motorcycle illuminated their paths.

I'm sure that happened when I was Dean of Residence, but I don't do that anymore. It's not my job anymore. But hold on— I did that because I knew we were having a big problem, not only with kids cruising at all hours of the night, but also with outsiders beating people up and making nuisances of themselves. I was simply trying to show some leadership by staying up and setting a good example for the faculty. Anyway, I did that not out of passion, but because I saw it as part of the job.

"I have a large collection of wigs and other disguises— beards and mustaches. I don't always wear a male outfit, though. No one has ever recognized me."

We wanted to know what your fetish was for black leather.

What makes you think I have one? Well, we see you around wearing black leather, and anytime you ask who Mr. Cobb is you are told he is the teacher in black leather.
You never see me in black leather on school days. When you do see me in leather, it's directly related to motorcycle riding. If I intend to go motorcycle riding, that's when you see me in black leather. Otherwise, I wear suits all the time.

Actually, we have a question about motorcycle riding. If you were driving your motorcycle on the roads at midnight, whom would you most like to see hitchhiking on the side of the road?

Elvis. And, actually, I've seen him about three times, but I've never seen him hitchhiking.

Could you tell us about the times you saw Elvis?

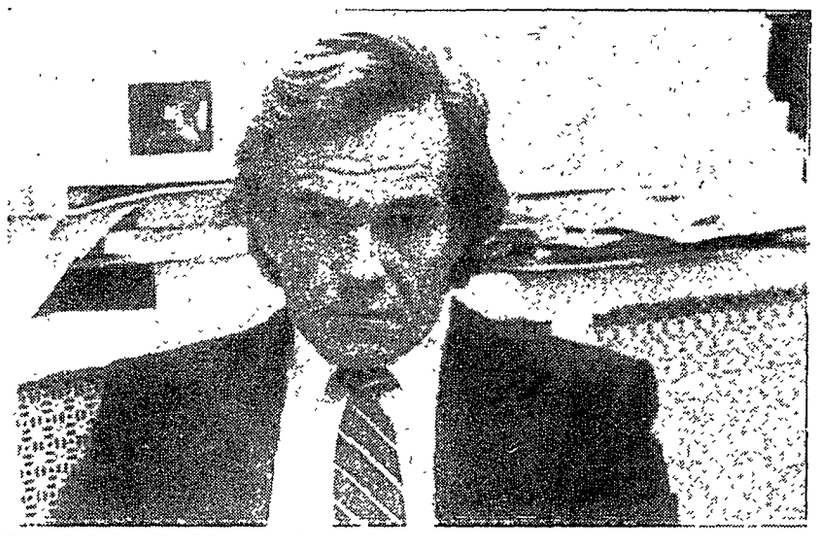
One time I saw him up ahead on the highway and I followed him, but I regret that I could only catch a glimpse of him that time. And then, two years ago, I was up for a ride in New Hampshire; it was raining and I spotted him taking shelter under an overpass. I tried not to stare at him, and he tried not to stare at me. Actually, it's a curious code among motorcyclists who do stuff under overpasses when it's miserable riding in the rain not to communicate very much. It's just a kind of code. You don't do anything; we [Elvis and Cobb] would just make eye contact.

Was he [Elvis] dressed in white leather?

No, he was in black leather.

What about your Darth Vader mug; is there a story behind that?

Yeah, it was presented to me by the Cluster Deans when I retired. There was a kind of joke going around that when I was on my motorcycle with my helmet on, I kind of looked like Darth Vader. And beyond mere appearance, it [the helmet] does have a black face screen, so you can't see through it. I can see out, but no one can see in. That's Darth Vader. There is also the sinister overtone.



David Cobb: Is this man sinister?

photo / File

People gave it to you because they thought you were sinister?

Uh-huh.

Do you think you're sinister?

Uh-huh.

What's the lowest grade you have ever received on an English paper? *(Silence)*

A C-plus once. Other than that one time, it was straight As.

What happened that one time?

It was in graduate school, actually. I was partying for a straight week before it was due. I pulled it up with subsequent papers. It was a sobering encounter with reality, though.

Are you ever present at the parties here?

Sometimes, but almost always unseen. You would have no way of knowing this, but I have a large collection of wigs and other disguises— beards and mustaches. I don't always wear a male outfit, though. No one has ever recognized me. In fact, once I went to an even in GW— it was before it was remodeled and I sat next to one of my students and she had no idea who I was.
I used to do that type of thing more than I do now.

What, according to you, is the most overdone theme in English papers at PA?

Well, the one I'm most sick of is parietals. I've seen a lot of essays and arguments for greater flexibility for parietals. In creative writing, I really hate to get science fiction stories because they're so badly done. It's hard to do science fiction well anyway, but I hate to get all that Star Wars stuff.

So if someone were in your class, you wouldn't recommend, as far as grades go, that they write on parietals or Science Fiction?

No, I wouldn't make any stipulation like that. Just because I'm sick of them doesn't mean students aren't interested in writing about them. I want people to write about what they're interested in. If you're interested in parietals, fine, I'll hold my nose.

How would you describe your occupation?

Wonderful fun. I'm just an English teacher. That's all and that's all I ever want to be, but I do want to be a good motorcycle rider and a good sailor and a good husband and a good father.

You don't consider yourself a writer?

No.

Just an English teacher?

Yup. I don't consider myself a writer, and don't want to be. I probably could be one if I wanted to, and I get requests from publishers to write once in a while. But I'm just not in the least bit interested. I want to be a teacher and a motorcyclist.

What is the meanest thing you've ever done?

Allowing you in for an interview *(Laughter)*. I think it's cruel, brutal, and inexcusable to manipulate people.

"Whenever I get the opportunity, I manipulate the press; you can just ask anybody what I've done to **The Phillipian** *over the years."*

Are you manipulating us now?

Of course I am. Whenever I get the opportunity, I manipulate the press; you can just ask anybody what I've done to *The Phillipian* over the years.

What do you think of *The Phillipian*?

I think it's the finest newspaper on the entire campus; almost as well written as Backtracks, which I don't consider a newspaper.

If you could live your life over, would you be a green beret again, or would you prefer to be a French Legionnaire?

Actually, I would prefer to be a gurkha. Do you know what terrific soldiers they are? I love their intensity. I don't think there's any place around here by the name of Kathmandu [the capital of Nepal], but if you know of one, I would love to go there.

It's supposed to be really peaceful in Kathmandu.

I'm into peacefulness and serenity.

Do you have that here on campus?

Oh, sure. But it's internal, anyway.