

## Andover Alumni Volunteer Summit Welcomes Alumni Back to Campus

CATHY MA &  
WILLIAM GE

The 2022 Andover Alumni Volunteer Summit welcomed alumni from a wide array of graduation classes for a week-end of events on campus, including Alumni Council Committee meetings and options for breakout sessions, such as a curator tour of the Addison Gallery of American Art and student-led campus tours.

Organized by the Office of Academy Resources and the Alumni Council, the Summit kicked off early Friday morning with a breakfast at the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archeology. The events then ended on Saturday afternoon with an outdoor Distinguished Service Awards luncheon.

Karleigh Antista, Associate Director of Affinity Based Engagement in the Office of Academy Resources, described the purpose of the programming as enabling alumni to interact across generations, as well as connect with the current community on campus.

“[The] volunteer summit is an opportunity for our alumni volunteers to come back to campus, so, that includes a variety of volunteer roles, including our alumni admission representatives, our class agents, our class secretaries, as well as Alumni Council members and some other groups that are invited as well... when we bring people back to campus, we try to really let them see Andover as it is today. Our Alumni obviously have some great memories of their time here, but it's nice for them to know how it is now, and how it's changed, and what is currently going on on campus,” said Antista.

Founded in 1946, the Alumni Council is the governing body of the Andover-Abbot Alumni Association and aims to preserve and strengthen the connections between alumni after graduation. The Council currently stands at around 140 members, each serving four-year terms, and consists of 12 committees—eight independent standing committees and four association committees—based around core activities such as activism, outreach, and remembrance.

Candace Douglas '00, one of three Vice Presidents of the Alumni Council, expressed her wishes for more student-alumni relationships. She hopes to provide alumni an opportunity to take a more active role within Andover's campus community.

“I think one of my dreams in general is for students to see [us] as a resource. I wish more students felt that they could come and approach us, because we want to talk to you, but you've also got six million things going on at any given time. I think the alumni body is very rich in terms of resources and knowledge. And I mean, to be quite frank, some of them are just plain money, I'm not gonna deny that. But I always wish that there were more ways for students to feel that they could organically reach out to alumni and start having those conversations early...and I don't want to just feel like we're just showing up for the council experience or as donors, but [also] that we're showing

Continued on A5, Column 1



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

In his speech, Craig Steven Wilder noted both the Committee on Challenging Histories and the Colloquium class at Andover, both of which highlight the research he discussed in his presentation.

## ASM Speaker Craig Steven Wilder Calls Community to Confront Campus History

EVELYN KUNG &  
CONNOR GLEASON

Craig Steven Wilder, author and history professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), addressed the Andover community during last Friday's All-School Meeting (ASM). Wilder spoke on the history of American educational institutions and their ties to enslavement and the displacement of Native Americans.

To illustrate these ideas, Wilder used Erasmus Hall High School as an example. Located in Brooklyn, New York, Erasmus Hall High School was a former public high school tied closely to the Atlantic slave trade.

“[Erasmus Hall High School] was also a school that wrapped itself in all sorts of myths. It created a myth of its Native American history, and it actively engaged, like much of New York, like much of the Northeast, in the process of erasure of its history with slavery. Those two things largely had to disappear, or, as you see here, they had to be caricatured in such a way as to render them meaningless, so that the myth of public education could supplant the reality of how we got to the public school, and how, in fact, limited access to education had been for most of

Continued on A5, Column 3



R.NASSERZADEH/THE PHILLIPIAN

Alumni Council President Jennifer Amstutz '86 appreciated the opportunities provided by the event for alumni to connect with and listen to current Andover students.

## Alianza Latina Speaker Lennon Michelle Wolcott-Hernandez Reflects on Art, Culture, and Mixed Identity

PENELOPE TONG &  
BAILEY XU

Sitting in an armchair, artist Lennon Michelle Wolcott-Hernandez presented one of her paintings to the audience, depicting a sign that read “I Got This” in bold script. Small vials of water lined the bottom of the piece, each blooming with wildflowers; she explained that each vial only held enough water to nourish the plants for one day, the daily ritual of refilling them a reminder of her control

over her life and identity.

In celebration of Latine Legacy Month, the board of Alianza Latina invited Wolcott-Hernandez to speak about her journey to represent and reclaim her culture through art on September 30. Recurring themes throughout her work include the loss and reclamation of culture, family, and community.

Born to an Indigenous Mexican mother and a white father, Wolcott-Hernandez spoke about her experience with biculturalism and the exploration of her identity in tandem with her artistic

journey. She described facing accusations of cultural appropriation, dealing with double consciousness, and having assumptions made about herself that ignore her Indigenous Mexican heritage.

“They said, well, you're white, you're [part of] this dominant, American, normative culture. And I said, well, yes, but hold up; my mom is Mexican and Indigenous. I'm not quite that.... When I made an [ofrenda with a cake and

Continued on A6, Column 1



R.NASSERZADEH/THE PHILLIPIAN

Lennon Michelle Wolcott-Hernandez presented on her own art in celebration of Latine culture.

## PASC Climate Cafe Series Offers Discussion-Based Space for Climate Education

TIANYI GU

The first Climate Cafe of the year focused on how the upcoming United States of America midterm elections will impact climate policy. A series of discussion-based events hosted by Phillips Academy Sustainability Coalition (PASC), Climate Cafes were founded in 2019 by former PASC coordinator Frank Zhou '22 and Derek Curtis, the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library's (OWHL) Programming and Digital Content Producer. The series aims to facilitate informative climate conversations on and off campus.

Dominique Williams '24, a member of PASC and current coordinator of the Climate Cafes, described the evolution of the event over the past few years and outlined what the series will look like this year. She explained that Zhou first started the series after realizing that many conversations about climate change among students and faculty were not grounded in scientific information.

“Climate Cafe [was] started to bring in experts about climate change and the intersectionality of climate issues onto campus to start these conversations about climate change in our school communities, in the way ASM has done in starting conversations on campus. Going forward, we are going to try to mix discussions with inviting speakers and see which ones are more effective in engaging students in dialogue and in conversations about climate change and climate activism on and off campus in a broad-

er scope,” said Williams.

Last Sunday, the event focused on the influence of climate change on candidate platforms and political polarization. Participants were given optional readings prior to the meeting, and then engaged in open-ended discussions about the relationship between climate change and politics. These types of discussion and thought-provoking meetings will continue as either bi-weekly or monthly gatherings throughout the rest of the year.

Williams elaborated on the variety of topics and speakers that the series will host throughout the year, with the aim of constantly bringing new conversations and ideas to the student body.

“The topic and the speaker always comes from the students. Last year we had a speaker who runs a composting business in North Andover... We've also had speakers who were Andover alum. Last spring, we had a speaker who was doing research on climate economics in UCLA. We've even had a student presentation on the topic of sustainable architecture that he covered in architecture class. It's really just, who do we think captures the essence of the learning that we're trying to achieve, and what can this person bring to the conversation that we're trying to establish about climate change on campus?” said Williams.

Gauri Kumar '25 has attended Climate Cafes since the Spring term of last year. She views the Climate Cafes as a comfortable

Continued on A6, Column 4

Commentary, A2

### Core Blue

Jaeho Lee '24 and Sebastian Cynn '24 discuss the lack of clarity Core Blue has and how best the administration should proceed to make change.

Eighth Page, A8

### Bird Watching Club

Shouting profanity in class? No, listing the Eighth Page's favorite birds.

Sports, B4

### Boys Soccer

Boys Soccer stays undefeated with shutouts against Taft and Bridgton Academy.

Arts, B5

### Wiffenpoofs Concert

Yale Accapella Group “The Whiffenpoofs” Performs at Andover.

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Editorial

Mistrust: An All-School Malady

When he took to the podium at All-School Meeting (ASM) yesterday morning, Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington was greeted by a bristling crowd. As he described the institution of weekly ASM as an additional opportunity for community-building, a steady undertow of chatter rolled through Cochran Chapel. Faced with a thousand restless students, Kington attempted to raise his voice. Still, the crowd did not quiet. One thing was clear: in Cochran Chapel yesterday, the dissatisfaction was palpable.

It isn't difficult to see why. Since the start of the school year, students have expressed frustration with the new changes to ASM. The installation of weekly meetings, instead of the previous years' biweekly schedule, has caused discontent. On Thursday mornings, students used to have an opportunity to catch up on work, grab a quick toast at Commons, or have an extra hour of their day, in the midst of their already busy schedules, to rest. Now, they are rushed from 3rd period classes to the Chapel to 4th period, stressed and with no bandwidth for focus.

Moreover, measures intended to prevent students from disengaging during ASM have been the cause of alarm and frustration. In the past two ASMs, faculty patrols have been surveilling the aisles, warning distracted students, and, as of yesterday's ASM, confiscating phones (with BlueCards still attached) for the remainder of the day. Access to balcony seating has been blocked, one stairwell that leads to basement bathrooms has been barricaded, while a faculty member is stationed outside the other, collecting BlueCards from students who need to use restrooms. Students who not only thrive under, but come to Andover for the independence our school affords them, are now returned to the world of middle-school hall passes and juvenile scolding.

While these measures may, superficially, appear to quell student disengagement, they in fact encourage distraction. Students who are committed to checking phones, completing homework, or quietly slipping out through a back door will do so regardless of aisle patrols and tightening measures. The majority of students, who aren't particularly excited but are keeping an open mind about the speaker, or who genuinely want to engage,

are inadvertently harmed by these measures. Aisle patrols are distracting, and having a faculty member lean over you to reprimand someone in your row is far more detrimental to engagement than a student sitting four seats over, quietly on their phone.

Moreover, student surveillance is not conducive to improved focus or information absorption. Any student at Dr. Craig Wilder's presentation last Friday would not have retained as their key memory Dr. Wilder's eloquent analysis, nor the relevance of his argument to our own school, but rather, the pall of confusion and anxiety that ran through the crowd as faculty patrols began scanning rows for misbehaviour.

And indeed, it's hard to focus when you're on edge. Top-down rule enforcement methods do not lead to improved engagement. Rather, they antagonize students—those who are disciplined will become more resistant to the rules in place, and those who want to engage will be less able to as a result of anxiety driven by patrols and surveillance.

We do not deny that there are students who engage in inappropriate behaviour during ASM, whether that be device-usage, heckling, or other forms of disrespect. These incidents are not uncommon, and they do indeed reflect badly on our community. However, enforcing no-device rules more strictly, aisle patrols, and bathroom monitors do not constitute an effective solution. ASMs are intended to foster community, but these efforts have been achieving the very opposite—they are sowing discontent, increasing disengagement, and fostering resentment.

We acknowledge that student behaviour at ASM is often lacking. But we critique any response that intends to enforce rather than address, that antagonizes rather than invites. Trust goes both ways. If administrators do not trust students to exercise good judgement and learn from their mistakes, students will respond similarly to administration. Andover seeks to educate the next generation of leaders—it cannot if its students, some already adults, are returned to archaic and elementary forms of rule-implementation. We hope that changes will be made in the coming ASMs to regain student trust and combat authoritarian methods of fostering student engagement.

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

HOT TAKES

C. SHEN / THE PHILLIPIAN

Ann Zhao '25

I am a firm believer that chairs where your feet touch the ground are better than chairs where your legs are dangling. When your legs touch the ground, the blood circulation throughout your feet is evenly distributed. But that numbing feeling I get when the blood rushes to my dangling feet after a long time of sitting in a high chair is simply uncomfortable. I shouldn't be feeling the blood in my feet. Just, no.

Darla Moody '24:

The Pine Knoll shirts from last year were by far the BEST cluster shirt. I'm not even kidding. The other color palettes all felt like failed opportunities because they were saturated weirdly and felt incongruous; whereas the Pine Knoll shirt is visually pleasing as the colors sit at roughly the same ballpark in terms of value and saturation. Plus, pink and green are cool colors.

Sarah Pan '24

Starbucks is catering to ten year-olds and it's trash. After waiting for an hour in the Starbucks line behind a group of middle schoolers who keep trying to airdrop you random images, you might as well schedule a dentist appointment. In their efforts to steal the money of children under the age of 12, Starbucks has basically created a menu that can only be described as sugar with a side of coffee. Their Frappuccinos are quite literally drenched in sugar syrup and the teas are colors that no tea could be without the help of a few radioactive glow sticks. It's gross.

Lilienne Zhang '25

Andover glorifies poor mental health. And although many teachers promote this idea of taking care of one's mental state, the student's are obviously not catching on. Honestly, it's not quirky anymore. At this point it's tiring. It's tiring to be around a community that strives to sleep three hours or less, a community in which if you get more sleep than you're branded as lazy or the person that simply doesn't do enough. I would even go as far as say that in the process of competing in the game I like to call "who takes care of themselves the least," students are starting to glorify having symptoms to a extreme that is on par with those associated with many mental illnesses, causing people with actual mental illnesses to feel like their symptoms are being minimized and dismissed.

Gauri Kumar '25

I can't be the only one that thinks Commons water tastes weird. But not like your normal weird. In all honesty, I wouldn't be surprised to find a piece of rotten ham, oozing oil, staring back at me at the bottom of the cup once I have finished my water.

Jaeden Glace '23:

Root-beer floats are irrelevant. The curdles that are made from the mixing of the milk from the ice cream and the acid from the beer is disgusting. It feels like grime on your tongue. Yuck.

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**CORRECTIONS:**  
*In the News article about the Andover Alumni Angels, certain information was incorrectly depicted. Andover Alumni Angels is not directly affiliated with Andover, funded by individual investors, and is not currently open for student involvement.*  
*In the spread about Latine Legacy Month, there was a lack of attribution to Avery Lin for the art, and translators Brian Chica-Herrera, David Porto, and Nick Kramer da Silva.*  
The Phillipian regrets these errors.



ON  
CORE BLUE

J. XIAO / THE PHILLIPIAN

# Ambiguity: The Administration’s New Weapon

LEILANI GLACE



Laws are inherently vague and, often, intentionally so. To many people, this is not surprising. In order to take into account the many forms in which a scenario can occur, when a law is written it is nearly impossible to determine how each expression should be used and what definitions should be applied in which cases. Core Blue, the abbreviated and “reformed” version of Phillip Academy’s Constitution — the Blue Book — perfectly models this ambiguity. Core Blue urges students to focus on growth and accountability, rather than the stress of expulsion or a permanent strike on their record, through the use of three levels of infractions instead of all infractions being major infractions. It is written on the fundamental basis that students will be given a fair opportunity to explain themselves when they make mistakes, the idea that they will be focusing on how to grow from the mistake, rather than the mistake itself. However, these standards that we are told to uphold are written in broad categories that give the dean or disciplinary committee full agency to interpret based on “impact, harm caused, and severity,” another set of obscure degrees.



EVERY LIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

The lack of information that students are receiving through these vague laws gives administrators undue power. As students, all we are left with is the promise of equality, the pledge of protection, and the word of Phillips Academy. But how do we trust something that we, ourselves, can never fully understand? The ambiguity of the Core Blue violations involves two main dangers: one, it intrinsically harms students by failing to warn them of an offense, and two, it encourages arbitrary enforcement due

to their call for immense interpretation. During the meeting that took place before the Core Blue All-School Meeting (ASM), my dorm discussed the new Core Blue violations. After we had gone through each level, the first thing that was said was not about how this new policy helps students feel safer and more protected, or how the system looks for growth instead of punishment, no. The first thing that was asked was: “what are we allowed to do?” The first emotion that was no-

ticed was not joy or contentment. It was anxiety. It was fear. In an attempt to decrease the burden that disciplinary actions have on the student body, I fear Andover has only increased such stress. There is no longer any room between what can be qualified as an offense or what is admissible, and while that may be easier to enforce, it is not easier for those it is being enforced upon. This fact can not simply be hidden within the appearance of more reasonable sentences. Furthermore, in a system

that lends itself so heavily to interpretation, it is hard to believe that everyone will be given—and I quote from Core Blue—“a fair and consistent response process.” Many of the violation categories in each level utilize the terms “misconduct,” “misuse,” or “harm,” which are all phrases that can be associated with multiple attributes that can not be measured simply off of common knowledge, attributes that, as I found out during last Thursday’s cluster meeting, the administration itself can not define. The administration seems to worry that specificity will give the students ways to find new loopholes, allowing students to argue that what they have done does not fall under a certain violation, but what about you, as the administration? How do we trust that you will wield this power with fairness, or better yet, how do we counter when we feel we have not been given a reasonable hearing? It is true that I have not seen this new system in action. It is true that this system does have the potential to reform rather than simply penalize. However, besides the new terms and levels that appear to make this disciplinary system more centered around restorative justice, it sounds no more realistic than a pipe dream, a promise that can not be backed up. The ambiguity of Core Blue turns these violations into a guillotine that the administration can dangle over the student body’s heads—a blade which they can manipulate whenever and however they wish. As a student, I can only hope that that doesn’t happen.

Leilani Glace is a Lower from Brooklyn, N.Y. Contact the author at [lglace25@andover.edu](mailto:lglace25@andover.edu).

## What Else is New?

JAEHO LEE & SEBASTIAN CYNN



The Blue Book is an over-complicated mess of rules and regulations, all centered around what our community isn’t. Meanwhile, from ASM to EBI, “non sibi,” “respect,” and “inclusion” are used so often that our values have become cluttered and confusing. To the both of us, Core Blue seemed like an incredibly exciting alternative. Since the school had set a tone of reforming the disciplinary system, we were looking forward to a refreshingly clear language and student body values. It had the potential to explicitly com-

mit to a just campus, clarify the archaic Blue Book, and make the gaping divide between students and the administration more transparent. Unfortunately, the final product failed to meet any of our expectations. For starters, it isn’t a renewed commitment to reform. Outlining a non-discrimination policy and mentioning a belief in fostering “students from diverse backgrounds”—while undoubtedly nice—is just the same platitudes as before. While a land acknowledgement was undoubtedly a powerful step for a school like Andover, it is not the final step towards broader systemic justice. When considering clarity, Core Blue, again, fails on a fundamental level. Even if it is only meant to be a change in language, that language is pointlessly vague. There is

When considering clarity, Core Blue again fails on a fundamental level.

no statement of intent, only a jumble of assorted statements abstracted from the very real issues they are supposed to address. Indeed, the vagueness and lack of nuance works against it. To “recognize that different viewpoints and experiences can co-exist” does as much to promote diversity as it does to protect intolerant beliefs, especially ones that target

marginalized communities. Most importantly, Core Blue fails to explain the school’s values in any real way. Any person can look at this document and read it as an endorsement of the values they already have, no matter what they are. This vagueness makes a personal embodiment of our school’s fundamental beliefs impossible. For instance, what could a student take away from Core Blue’s recommendation to “behave responsibly, respectfully, and honestly?” Everyone either believes they already are, or recognizes they already need to improve: both are situations Core Blue fails to address. In summary, though we are told that if you follow our values, you will follow the Blue Book, the overarching

A declaration of change requires follow through.

philosophy of Core Blue is so vague that it is useless to any student wishing to improve. On a very fundamental level, Core Blue sought to change the language surrounding Andover’s ideals. It was an opportunity to make our oft-repeated slogans and mottos into a real commitment for a better Big Blue. However, instead of taking this opportunity, it merely restates the same-old platitudes. It encourages students to live a “responsible,



ANH VU / THE PHILLIPIAN

fulfilling life” without defining what that means for our community. It mentions an “equitable and inclusive school” without setting any standards for the improvements we can—and must—still make. It centers the idea of “not for self” without defining what the student body should be for. At the end of the day, Core Blue is not all negative. The “Support Services” section is legitimately helpful, and we appreciate the space dedicated to the new response system. Moreover, the effort and care put into the final product is apparent. We understand the motivations behind the administration’s decisions. A renewed commitment to equity and equality can stir controversy, but a declaration of change re-

quires follow through. The reuse of Andover’s slogans is easier than actually clarifying our values. However, if it’s not doing any of these things, Core Blue resigns itself to being nothing more than another document students are forced to read. More concise and much better designed, but still a representation of the same old status quo. Jaeho Lee is an Upper from Albany, N.Y. Contact the author at [jlee24@andover.edu](mailto:jlee24@andover.edu). Sebastian Cynn is an Upper from New York City, N.Y. Contact the author at [scynn24@andover.edu](mailto:scynn24@andover.edu).



# Act Today or Lose Tomorrow

ANDREW MORGAN



Plastic pollution kills a million people a year, according to a recent report. These lives lost to pollution are not like the lives of people you find at Andover; they are the global poor who have always suffered the most. We know the enormous cost of climate change denial over the past 20 years. If the same denial occurs about plastic pollution, we'll kill millions more people, and practically drown in a sea of unusable plastic.

Andover students have ambitious plans to address this issue. For example, the Phillips Academy Sustainability Coalition (PASC) has started over a dozen climate initiatives to attack climate problems. A Greener Blue provides a roadmap for creating a more sustainable campus by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, water usage, and more.

The stakes are so high that we should regard every day as Earth Day.

Such initiatives are great, but they need to be part of an environmental ethic that rejects throw-away culture. As a collective, the student body

must act. As an institution, Andover approaches sustainability with the best intentions—water bottle fillers and solar panels on Snyder Center to name a couple of features—but practice doesn't always follow theory: plates and cups vanish from sight on the Paresky Commons conveyor belt, but we have no idea whether the food waste is composted; few people on campus know where the public compost bins are, or even what composting is. Sustainability, in short, has not been internalized by the student body because it has not been promoted as a daily priority. And until we recognize climate change's harsh impact on disadvantaged communities across the globe, we simply can't internalize sustainability.

As students, our job is to pressure our school to do everything it can—including better recycling signage, increased visibility of composting, and more coverage of environmental issues in alumni publications, to name just three—so we actually have a livable planet in 50 years. As the Andover community, we must foster a sustainable culture at our school by being more transparent, making the importance of recycling clear, and noting that the decision to reduce, reuse, and recycle is an ethical imperative. And it's imperative in part because our consumer, convenience-oriented culture is making the planet uninhabitable, and at a much faster rate for the impoverished, effectively com-

mitting suicide.

And, as it happens, the town of Andover is setting an example. Four years ago, Andover residents voted to restrict single-use plastic bags and polystyrene food containers. Now, plastics are legally prohibited at food establishments without a Board of Health waiver. The town's Department of Public Works (DPW) also arranges annual Earth Day Cleanups, providing waste bags and post-cleanup service since 2019. This past Earth Day, the PASC arranged a student-led cleanup of the usually-trashed seating area behind UBurger, a public event that demonstrated our commitment to an environmentally healthy community. We could do the same this fall by cleaning up the banks of the Merrimack River and local trails, where the rowing team practices and people hike year-round. Individual events are awesome, but they should not be treated like something to do on the weekend, like going to the movies. We need to pressure the school to treat environmental consciousness as more like eating or breathing than entertainment; you shouldn't be able to walk to class without seeing reminders, or evidence, that humans have to change their ways today.

After all, Earth Day has become like Thanksgiving and Christmas—do a good environmental deed, bow your head, and resume your old, wasteful ways the next day. That is not good enough. The stakes are so high that we should regard every day as Earth Day. As a prestigious, privileged, and wealthy institution, Andover should lead by example, practicing a sustainable environmental ethic on a daily basis. We as students must push them to do

As an institution, Andover approaches sustainability with the best intentions—water bottle fillers and solar panels on Snyder Center to name a couple of features—but practice doesn't always follow theory

so as the biggest environmental crisis of the era gets worse. Living and learning in the Andover bubble of wealth and privilege, at least this much is our obligation.

Over the last century, environmental hazards like pollution have killed people in Pakistan, the Philippines, and more. While we can't save the world simply by doing better at Andover, we still must do our part. It's thrilling when we beat Exeter in football or set new records in Ivy League admissions, but such achievements won't mean much in 25 years when millions of people are drowning, suffering, displaced, and dying because we didn't change our wasteful ethic today. Talk is cheap, of course, so I invite you to join me in putting these ideas into action. As students here, we not only can make a difference, we must. Today, we are part of the problem, but tomorrow, we can be part of the solution.

Andrew Morgan is an Upper from East Setauket, N.Y. Contact the author at [amorgan24@andover.edu](mailto:amorgan24@andover.edu).



EVERY LIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

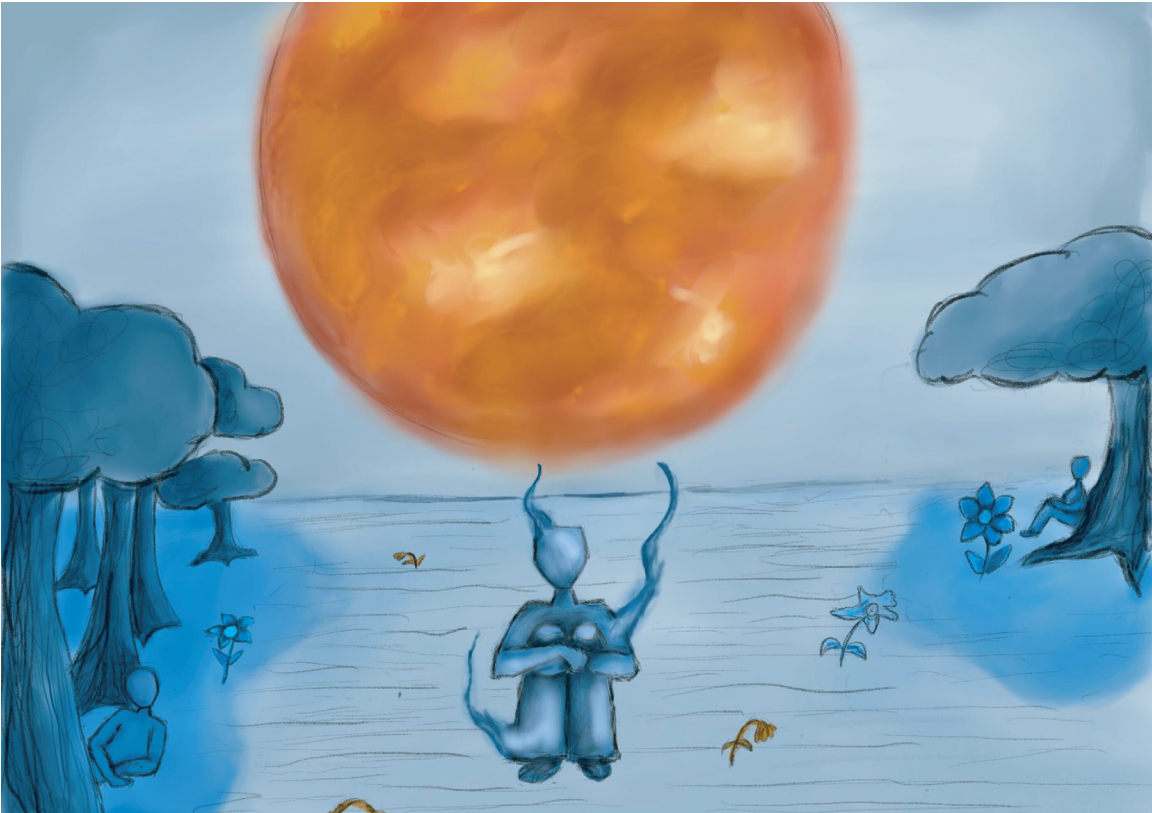
# Perfectionism is My Downfall

LANGAN GARRETT



At my core, I am a worrier. I catastrophize every situation under the sun until I can no longer tell my reality from my nightmare. In order to assuage some of my deepest concerns about the decisions that I make or the grades I receive, I often strive for perfectionism. However, this mentality is unsustainable and results in academic and emotional burnout. After this realization, I am working hard to organize and address my priorities, as I know that I will be much more successful if I work towards achievable goals instead of impossible expectations.

Midterms always exacerbate my stress and my desire for perfectionism. They do so because they are an intensification of my fears, and while I know that in the grand scheme of things my midterm comments from my teachers during one term of one year of high school do not actually matter that much, I cannot help but fear for the worst. This whole week, and the week before this, and likely after, I will be worrying about whether or not my midterm grades will



SOPHIE STAI / THE PHILLIPIAN

Endless perfectionism was making me numb to the things I enjoyed.

live up to my expectations. I will fret over the endless to-do lists and countless assignments that have yet to be completed. And for the first time, I cannot disregard my mistakes as lowerclassmen errors; now, they actually matter.

I always feel like I am not doing enough. One of the biggest problems with this line of thinking is that it is extremely unsustainable. I cannot be perfect forever; I cannot healthily maintain a mindset in which I lose all self-confidence if I don't perform well. I will fail, I will fall on my face, and I may not be able to get up for a while

because I won't be able to handle the stress I have put myself under. Frankly, it's destructive behavior: because my success feels existential, because my self-confidence and self-worth are so dependent on it, the defeats I face feel enormous and daunting.

Only recently did I realize the problem with my mindset. Endless perfectionism was making me numb to the things I enjoyed, and made me feel less satisfied with my life and accomplishments as a result. Instead of finding learning experiences within my mistakes, I was encountering more and more reasons to strive for this kind of unhealthy perfection. Last week, I finally realized that this perfection was impossible, when I found myself thinking, "Why are my notoriously difficult classes actually hard?" I was drowning in my work, and I felt myself losing passion and feeling for

learning. As a person who felt like perfectionism was the only source of success, this feeling of emotional numbness to failure was shocking. I felt myself getting more burnt out by the second. Essentially, coming into Upper Year expecting perfection was the patently wrong mentality. There is just no way that I can give 110 percent to every assignment.

All of this is to tell new and returning students alike who need a mental reboot: don't sell your soul for perfection. It isn't worth it. This is not meant to disillusion you from a bright future or lofty goals—but take yourself a little less seriously. I know it can be hard—it is Andover, after all—but it's worth it.

I wish that I had spent more time appreciating my accomplishments and learning from my mistakes. I wish that I had given myself room to fail instead of obsessing

over a typo in my English paper that I can almost guarantee my teacher didn't notice. To constrict myself to such an extent that I found school unenjoyable is a problem I have decided to address, and to change my behavior to make my Upper Year more positive. I want to spend more time on things that I enjoy, find lessons in my mistakes, and appreciate the experience that failure gives me. I want to be successful, but if I carry the weight of the world on my shoulders, I will be crushed by it all. I'm

Don't sell your soul for perfection. It isn't worth it.

trying to remind myself of that lesson, and you should, too.

Yes, midterms are my nightmare. But instead of trying to create a false sense of perfection, I will work harder to be honest with myself. That mindset is crucial so that I don't burn out or accidentally gear myself towards failure. My takeaway from the last two years at Andover is this: work hard, do what you want, but always remember to keep yourself and your worries in check. It's the only sustainable path forward.

Langan Garrett is an Upper from San Francisco, Calif. Contact the author at [lgarrett24@andover.edu](mailto:lgarrett24@andover.edu).



NEWS IN BRIEF

REPORTING BY MICHEAL KAWOOYA & ISHAAN PADMAWAR

This Week:

On October 1, The Club Fair was held at The Snyder Center, with dozens of student groups setting up stations for students to sign up and learn about different clubs on campus.

On Sunday, October 2, the first Climate Cafe of the year was hosted in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library’s Freeman Room. Students and faculty engaged in discussion topics such as the United States of America Midterm Elections’ effect on climate policy and climate change as a political platform.

Yale’s premier a capella group, the Whiffenpoofs made their first stop on their world tour at Kemper Auditorium on September 30. Students who are involved in campus a capella groups had the opportunity to have a Masterclass with the Whiffenpoofs.

On October 1, the Coffee House, a musical talent show, opened to all students in the Andover Community. It included acts ranging from original song composition to a capella. Some of the performers included Kashvi Ramani ’24, who performed slam poetry with piano accompaniment by Jacob Kaiser ’24, and Duncan Wong ’23, who performed Imagine Dragon’s “Demons” through singing and beatboxing. Apple cider donuts were provided and enjoyed by audience members.

In the Tang Institute, the second Pop-Up Relaxation Room was open for students on September 30, with its first event on September 15. This event allowed students to rest in the middle of the day with items such as bean bags and blankets.

On September 28, a construction vehicle caught on fire at the Pan Athletic Center construction site. It was a minor

incident that caused no harm to the workers and the building.

Looking Ahead:

Topsfield Fair, one of the oldest fairs in New England, will be held from September 30 to October 10. Bus trips will be offered on October 8 at George Washington Hall circle upon sign ups, for students to enjoy the local fair that offers rides, agriculture, food, animals, live music, and more.

Family Weekend will be from October 14 to 16. Families will be able to meet their students’ teachers and be provided with optional forums and presentations regarding the Andover experience. There will be no classes following the weekend on, on Monday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 18.

Andover Alumni Hear From Current Students at Volunteer Event

Continued from A1, Column 1

up for students,” said Douglas. Despite the seemingly selfless nature of community service at Andover, Sam Butler ’72, a recipient of the 2022 Andover Distinguished Service Award, explained that returning to Andover is more than pure kindness. For him, it is a reimmersion into the Andover community. “You know, we’re volunteers, and the school likes to talk about our selflessness. But it’s not selfless. It’s not even remotely selfless. It’s an opportunity, it’s very selfish. It’s an opportunity for us to come back and be a part of a school again, even for only a day that you guys are all enjoying right now, we enjoyed years and years ago, but which were not as much of a part of it. So just coming back to campus and seeing the campus and interacting with students, and seeing old friends and interacting with faculty members, that was always the draw,” said Butler. President of the Alumni

Council Jennifer Amstutz ’86 also believes that many alumni volunteers came to the summit and continue to take an active role in the community, not only because they want to give back, but also because alumni events serve as a way to connect with more people at Andover. She emphasized the valuable opportunity to build relationships within the community as the highlight of the Summit. “What I enjoyed most about the weekend was really the relationship building and the hearing. We heard from students at lunch on Friday. There were four students who spoke about their experience with the community engagement programs, and really who they were... that’s the thing we can’t get anywhere else, to really talk to students and hear the amazing things that they’re doing. Their perspective on what’s going on at Andover and their kind of vision for where they’re going with their future—that is always the best part of coming back,” said Amstutz.

Continued from A1, Column 4

American history,” said Wilder. In response to a student question, Wilder continued, “We need to actually bring Native people into the discussion with us about what compensatory justice, what social justice, actually looks like. We can’t do that unilaterally, and if we attempt to do it unilaterally, we’ll publically open that wound rather than heal it. The claim to be an elite institution actually carries with it the obligation to lead through troubles and difficult times and to address that troubled and difficult past. At MIT, one of the things we’ve been struggling with is, if we are what we say we are, the world’s leading engineering [and] science university, then we also have to lead when it’s unpleasant, and we have to lead when it’s difficult.” Wilder also claims the importance of thinking about how current actions impact future generations of students. By confronting the past face-on, institutions and members within will gain awareness of the consequences of their de-

Craig Steven Wilder Notes Ties Between Schools and Enslavement in ASM

cisions. “Once we think seriously and critically about the past, it almost forces us to be critical about the present and the future. All of our sins are not in the past, and in fact, the institutional structures that we’ve created, the institutional cultures that we’ve created from that past, actually tend to set us up to reproduce certain kinds of injustices over time rather than to solve them. So part of that, really self-reckoning, is thinking about the future. It’s thinking about what legacy are you leaving to the next generations of students who come through these institutions,” said Wilder. Shreya Bajaj ’23 agreed with Wilder that honesty and acknowledgment of the past are crucial. As a member of the Committee on Challenging Histories at Andover, Bajaj researches the history of Andover and works on potential ways to address its past. “During the Q&A, there was a question about what we, in the present, can do. And one of the things that he says is the first step is just to acknowledge it, we can’t, as these prestigious institutions, expect to be leaders in all the ways that

suit us, and then hush up and not really take charge of our past and be open about that. So obviously, just recognizing the past and making it clear is not a goal. There’s so much more beyond that. But I think it’s a really important first step, as an institution being honest about our role and our history. And we can go forward from there,” said Bajaj. Nafi Diagne ’26 finds Wilder’s responses to student questions helpful in personally relating to the topic. However, Diagne hoped that Wilder would relate more to Andover’s history during his speech. “I asked a question about what other things we can do to acknowledge history because the speech was informative, but we need a way to implement what it was talking about into our lives. The speaker was talking about important stuff, but he didn’t find a way to relate it back to us, which made it a bit less interesting. I think [the] steps that can be taken are what he suggested—asking people who identify as the oppressed groups what they think can be done. Give them a voice. Face history head on instead of trying to conceal it,” said Diagne.

Thomas Severo has taught at Andover for two years. When not teaching History or coaching Crew, he enjoys eating watermelon salads at Paresky Commons. Outside of Andover, he was a participant in “Beauty and the Geek,” a reality TV show that partners up “beauties” and “geeks,” competing together in challenges to avoid elimination. He and partner Amanda Corey won the competition, earning a collective \$250,000.

REPORTING BY LUCAS BERNADETE & PRISHA SHIVANI



COURTESY OF THOMAS SEVERO

1. What made you decide to pursue history?

My background is in teaching law. It didn’t transfer well to Physics or Calculus.

2. What’s your favorite thing about being an Andover teacher?

I’d have to say the Andover/Exeter faculty meeting. We’re hosting this year and I’ve got a score to settle for some unsportsmanlike filibustering after the All-Star break.

3. What is the most notable experience you’ve had at Andover?

I almost died on this campus back in 2019 when I ran into one of the stone archways at the entrance to the [Cochran] Bird Sanctuary. I blacked out and was rushed to the ER where I got 26 stitches across my precious hairline. Shoutout to Dr. Legaspi for calling the ambulance.

4. What’s your background with crew? Why did you want to be a crew coach? What’s your favorite thing about being a coach at PA?

I rowed five seat in college and coached at the Salisbury School in [Connecticut]. I took the job mostly so I could revive my Tom Crews hat. My favorite part of practice is the “blue on two” team cheer; not just because it’s at the end, but that helps.

5. What’s your favorite term at Andover, and why?

If we’re talking trimesters, I think fall because it’s got the best weather. If we’re talking phrases, I’d have to say “Penultimate Week.” Final and ultimate are synonyms, but you guys call the week before Finals Week “Ultimate Week,” which sets up a comical backlog resulting in a word that means “second to last” representing the third to last week of the term. I mean, I get it. It’s just funny.

6. What made you want to be in “Beauty and the Geek?” What was the process?

I was freezing/working my [redacted] off in Boston for law school. I had the chance to move to a Hollywood mansion (complete with catering and housekeeping staff) and be on television. It wasn’t a hard choice. The process involved a bunch of interviews in which they asked me about my dating background and personal interests. I was three meetings deep before I realized I wasn’t being cast as a Beauty.

7. What was your experience on the show? Would you do it again if you could? Are you still friends with anyone in the show?

I had an overwhelmingly positive experience. I’d do it again, but alas, I’m likely far too cool now to be considered. My teammate, Amanda, and I are still close. We made a pact that we’d invite one another to our respective weddings. She held up her end, but I found a loophole by just not getting married... yet.

8. What’s one thing you’ve learned about yourself through being an Andover teacher?

My students are fond of telling me which celebrities I apparently look like. Not all of them are flattering, but it’s given me some good Halloween costume ideas.

9. What would the students be surprised to find about you?

I was [going to] go with the reality TV thing, but apparently the cat’s out of the bag. I wish my students put as much effort into researching historical figures as they do into researching their instructors. No worries, I’ve got plenty. I’m left handed. I’m vegetarian. I’m colorblind. I have a brother who went here. I’ve been hit by a car while running a total of six times. Also, Taylor Swift’s “Wildest Dreams” is based on my brief encounter with her at a party in Watch Hill. I have proof.

10. How do you want students to remember you and your class?

I hope they remember that we discussed not just names and dates but trajectories and outcomes. Much of history is aftermath... but some of it may be before math, depending on your schedule.



# 2022-2023 CaMD Scholars and Brace Fellows

REPORTING BY MELINDA WU & ADDISON DENG

## CAMD Scholars

### JOHN SANCHEZ '23

**The Labor Rights Movement in Peru in the Context of Interconnected Struggles Against Colonialism and Environmental Exploitation**

“My project is a testimony to stories. I would always hear stories from my mom or my dad recounting stories of their uncles or grandparents working in the mines [in Peru] through lots of terrible working conditions. I wanted to see if there’s something that’s changed or if the workers advocated for changes. I’m a product, indirectly, of that, so it’s something I want to address.”

### KATE MCCOOL '23

**Economic and Racial Justice Issues in the Disability Rights Movement in the United States of America**

“The main message I want people to receive from my paper is that there is impartiality and subjectivity in our country’s legislative system. We need to be critical of the legislation that America is producing and we need to challenge it when, at times, it is oppressive. Especially now, we need to step away from complacency. Even if something in America’s history has been seemingly set in stone for decades, some things still deserve to be challenged and spoken out against. As Americans, it is one of our rights and duties to speak out against things that are not just.”

### NICK LIU '23

**Issues of Asian-Black Solidarity in the Context of Global Hip-Hop Movements**

“In my research, I talk about how rap, a fundamentally Black American art form, has been adopted by the generation of Chinese youth for their own purposes...The reason that I wanted to dedicate my whole project on this topic came down to my dual identity as a Chinese American. In the media, for “third cultured” children, we’re always looking for a representation of ourselves. There’s also controversy about what hip-hop is to Asians and Asian Americans. This includes backlash from people calling out Asian artists for misusing hip-hop, a Black American art form. It got me thinking about my connection to the media, music, and culture. Listening to a lot of hip-hop music, both American and Chinese, inspired my research.”

### KIANNA JEAN-FRANCOIS '23

**Se Pa “Voodoo” Se Vodou: Undoing the Western Demonization of Haitian Vodou**

“I was inspired to do this research topic because I personally wanted to leap or build my sense of connection to my Haitian culture because I grew up around my Asian family, but I also didn’t grow up as close to them as my Puerto Rican family, so it was something I had to take pieces of and learn from afar and a part of it is how I remained close and felt connected. Growing up was sort of through music and stories, and a lot of dance and a lot of that is incorporated into Haitian ‘voodoo’ and this instilled in that. So, I wanted to take that idea, and kind of reflect on how I grew up with a lot of these misconceptions about Haiti and Haitian “voodoo” myself, as an Asian American.”



The CaMD Scholars, pictured above, and the Brace Scholars will present their projects throughout the year.

## Brace Fellows

### NIKITA HARWICH '23

**Contextualizing Trans Biology: Why XX and XY Aren’t Enough**

“I wanted to go over assumptions and internalized biases that a lot of scientists have made, so that key components of sexology [haven’t] been studied, specifically for trans, intersex, and non-binary people. A lot of these assumptions or biases are within wider structures of trans and feminist theory, like cyborg theory or cyborg feminism, as well as the history of sex. I go more in depth and actually dissect how these papers enforce these biases around us, such as that amorphism doesn’t exist. I then broaden and talk more about how these biases that are being enforced by science can then reinforce the policy and societal bias against trans and non-binary people.”

### GRAHAM BURTLE '24

**I Have Met With Noblemen: Surveying Transmasculine Experiences Throughout the Wild West.**

“Ever since I was a kid, I really loved cowboy stories and was fascinated with the wild west as a concept. And I struggled with a lack of representation of trans-masculine people like me growing up. So I wanted to do some research into both a time period and the people that I’m interested in, and the people that are like me. It more so is an overview of how transmasculine people have the time to experience their lives and the constraints that are being put on them by a very unique society.”

### LEO PETERS '24

**Asian American Men and the Politics Of Sexual Discrimination and Desire.**

“I think that at Andover, and the world, generally, we have this very liberal sex positive attitude. It can feel like there’s a form of sex positivity that can sometimes, because our desires are shaped by oppression, serve as a way of perpetuating oppression. And so, I think it was motivated by the fact that no one is really talking about it, while we’re saying that everything’s fine, we could just be able to desire whatever you want. But I think that it’s more complicated than that, unless we acknowledge that, then we’re going to end up perpetuating a very serious form of oppression.”

### CAROLINA TIEPPO '24

**Les Muxes: How A “Third Gender” Practices Self-Love In A Latin American World Of Toxic Masculinity and Exclusive Linguistics**

“My paper is about non-binary clash and gender fluid identity that is related to an indigenous community. This is my twirld year studying Spanish at Andover. I know that Spanish is a very gendered language. I also come from Latin America, and I’m born and raised in Brazil. Seeing other people in Latin America, I decided I wanted to research more about the community. On top of that, Portuguese is very similar to Spanish, and Portuguese is also a gendered language, so I’ve been on practice of gendered languages my whole life. And then when I came to the U.S., I was introduced to the data pointer, which is something that isn’t really accessible for gendered languages. And so I thought to myself, what is there an alternative for data pointers in general languages?”

See full quotes online at [phillipian.net](http://phillipian.net).

Editor’s Note: Leo Peters ’24 is an Associate News Editor for The Phillipian.

## Lennon Michelle Wolcott-Hernandez Emphasizes Accessibility in Everyday Art

Continued from A1, Column 1

Jolly Rancher flowers], I was told that I was appropriating culture. I was told that this was not really Mexican... I had to take a step back and [go] to my family. My uncle said, ‘Lennon, Mexicans will use whatever the heck we need to get the job done,’ so I [began] questioning, who gets to tell me what culture is? Why can I be a Wolcott, but I can’t be a Hernandez?” said Wolcott-Hernandez.

Wolcott-Hernandez identified these questions as the driving force behind her motivation to delve deeper into her identity and heritage. Challenging traditional norms of art, her work broadly features various elements of her multicultural background.

“I said, if I transferred [cultural practices] to other mediums, how does it become art and not craft?... Everyone

thought [the cultural-inspired artworks were] ‘pretty.’ [People asked,] ‘Can I wear it, can I have it?’ I said, ‘this isn’t pretty, this is culture, this is important,’” said Wolcott-Hernandez.

Realizing the importance of accessibility in her goal to create spaces for conversations about culture and identity, Wolcott-Hernandez began to recognize the artistic potential of everyday materials such as office supplies, coffee filters, and flowers.

Wolcott-Hernandez said, “My kids at the Boys and Girls Club were [leaving] art classes left and right... [and] I wanted them to understand the materials. I wanted them to think about what they were seeing and say ‘I understand what that is’.... They understand paper flowers. We can all make paper flowers.”

Many students attended the event for various reasons. Star Nunez ’26 said she decided to go to the event because she was

intrigued by the Latine representation the event offered.

“[I attended this event] because I was interested to find a Hispanic artist being represented at Andover. She inspired me to realize that... society will always have standards, but you can’t allow them to [tell you who you are],” said Nunez.

Cris Ramnath ’23 sympathized with Wolcott-Hernandez’s experiences regarding double consciousness and having other people attempt to limit his identity. Her presentation also inspired him in terms of his own aspirations.

“Especially growing up wanting to pursue writing, or something that’s not exactly money-oriented. You have to deal with the fact that you will probably have to work other jobs or work harder to sustain yourself.... But I think she reaffirmed my belief that there are other ways to succeed in the arts and humanities,” said Ramnath.

## Climate Cafes Planned with Goals of Education and Inspiration

Continued from A1, Column 4

space to learn, listen, and discuss ideas regarding climate change.

“I actually really like Climate Cafes. It’s really comfortable and the idea that we could get all these really fantastic guest speakers at every Climate Cafe last year was just amazing for me to think about. This year, we’re actually gearing it more towards having more student oriented conversations, as well as having a few guest speakers. . . . You don’t need to know everything about climate change to be there and to learn because it is, fundamentally, a learning space and just a space for people to discuss what they think about climate change. Although you can just talk anywhere, I feel like having a specific space geared towards [these discussions] is just great for the student body,” said Kumar.

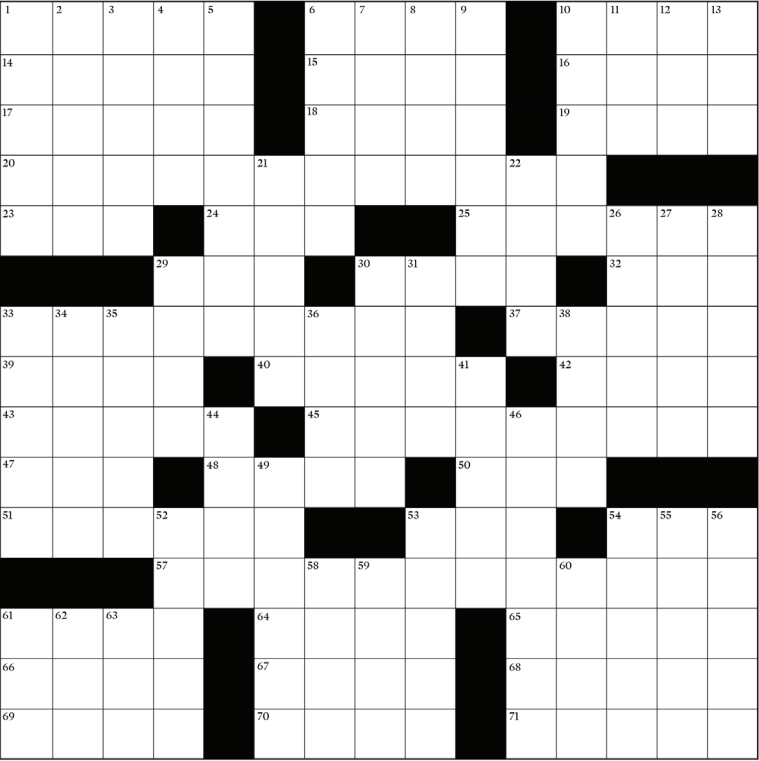
Sebastian Lemberger ’25, a board member of PASC who now plays a role in organizing Climate Cafe meetings, outlined some upcoming educational initiatives planned for the series in the upcoming year. Reflecting on the potential impact of the Cafes on the school community, he expressed hope that the Cafes would raise students’ climate awareness and motivate them to fight climate change.

“Information is the primary goal, but the other one is to convince people to care, because often people’s relationship to climate change and environmentalism is somewhat dispassionate in that they go ‘oh yeah, this is bad’, and then they don’t do anything. So, my hope is that with an in-depth discussion or exploration, it will cause people to realize how great these [issues] truly are,” said Lemberger.



COURSE OF STUDY

TINA ZENG



Across

- 1 MICHAEL OR TRAVIS, PERHAPS

6 TREBLE, FOR EXAMPLE

10 CHM610 OR CHM620

14 \_\_\_\_ LOT BEAR

15 A DORM IN THE KNOLL

16 "KISS" IN SPANISH

17 ACCLAIMED VIETNAMESE AUTHOR OF "NIGHT SKY WITH EXIT WOUNDS"

18 "NOT TAKEN" BY ROBERT FROST

19 PLEASED

20 HSS100A AND HSS100B

23 A COLLEGE BOARD TEST

24 A LIP BALM BRAND KNOWN FOR ITS ROUND SHAPE

25 VARIED

29 "I LOVE"

30 A UNIT OF MEASUREMENT FOR PAPER

32 WHAT WAS MADE TO BE BROKEN

33 ARIEL'S SMALL AND RED BEST FRIEND

37 PRESS SPACE
- 39 A MUNICIPALITY IN BELGIUM

40 DISHONEST OR DEROGATORY

42 SHORT-TERM EXPOSURE LIMIT

43 ALMOST BUT NOT QUITE FLAGSTAFF

45 PROTECTOR OF A PEARL

47 A SUFFIX THAT GENERALLY DENOTES OCCUPATION OR INTEREST

48 CONFUSED EXPRESSIONS

50 WHATEVER IS FINE

51 THE LARGEST ISLAND IN THE BAHAMAS

53 A GREAT WAY TO PLAY INDOOR TENNIS

54 CRIME AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE

57 MTH560 OR MTH570

61 WHERE YOU CAN AUCTION ANYTHING FOR MONEY

64 A NEON THUMBNAIL OR A WORM

65 THE CLUSTER OF BROKEN LIGHTS AND BROWN WATER

66 2.2 POUNDS
- 67 A TEST TO GO TO SCHOOL FOR 32-ACROSS

68 THE LEADER OF HAWKINS' HELLFIRE CLUB

69 TIGER WOODS' SPORT

70 "THOSE" IN SPANISH

71 SONG BY KELSEA BALLERINI AND THE CHAINSMOKERS

Down

- 1 WHEN F' IS NEGATIVE AND F'' IS POSITIVE

2 POWDER USED FOR HOT CHOCOLATE

3 UNCONCEALED

4 ALMOST TIFFANY BLUE

5 MOMENTS OF SIMULTANEITY

6 THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE IN THE MCU

7 THE ONLY LANDLOCKED SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRY

8 PORT CITY AT THE SOUTHERN EXTREMITY OF ISRAEL

9 A DETECTIVE MIGHT WEAR ONE
- 10 DOCTOR FOR PREGNANT PEOPLE

11 AND PHIL

12 ONE OF CAMD'S NON-AFFINITY CLUBS

13 THE SPECIES OF TELEPATHIC HUMANOIDS FROM "DOCTOR WHO"

21 CHEERS

22 AN ACCESSIBILITY NECESSITY

26 A LARGE MUSCLE TO WORK OUT WITH DEADLIFTS

27 WHERE ONE MIGHT PAINT

28 LINGER

29 A BOY FROZEN IN AN ICEBERG FOR A HUNDRED YEARS

30 THE PATHS OF TRAINS

31 A BRAND OF RUNNING SHOES MADE IN KENYA

33 DISNEY'S PRINCESS WITH BROWN HAIR AND A PURPLE DRESS

34 THE NAME OF MEREDITH GREY'S ACTRESS

35 A FORM OF FACIAL HAIR

36 DENOTED WITH A DOUBLE PRIME

38 YOUR SKIN WHEN YOU DON'T MOISTURIZE FOR A LONG TIME

41 @ANDOVER.EDU, FOR ONE

44 AN ANDOVER STUDENT PERFORMANCE

46 A SCORNFUL LAUGH

49 FUNCTIONAL

52 SUNSHINE, PERHAPS?

53 THE UNITS OF POWER

54 LUMPS OF CLAY

55 MARY POPPINS, LADY WHISTLEDOWN, ELIZA DOOLITTLE—ALL IN ONE

56 SMALL ISLANDS

58 A KIND OF 6-ACROSS

59 HELLO OR GOODBYE

60 COMMAND Z

61 USED TO CHECK YOUR HEART

62 WHAT YOU MIGHT TAKE IN JUNIOR YEAR

63 JOHN LEGEND LOVES THIS MUCH OF YOU

See correct answers online at [phillipian.net](http://phillipian.net).

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# THE EIGHTH PAGE

## SENIOR FAL-LA-LA-LA

### Playlist of the Week: Music as Sustenance

**“Stairway to Heaven” by Led Zeppelin**

This song has so much sentimental value to me and my family. My parents fell in love dancing to this song at their high school homecoming...their dances got pretty lit back in the day. It was also the song playing during my conception.



**“Frère Jacques” by Jean-Philippe Rameau**

This is my favorite ASM soundtrack. It fits the vibes perfectly. But I never make it to “ding dongs” because an ASM aisle patroller always snatches my phone away.



**“Be Happy” by Dixie D'amelio**

Sometimes after getting a low six on my Bio 580 test, I turn this up on my Bose headphones, take a walk alone in the sanctuary, and cry. This song is so existential.



**“Automatic x Levels” by Soundcloud User Brendan Hagg**

Whenever I'm on aux for JV2 football, I like to blast this to make sure me and the boys get hype before taking down the beasts on the Andover Middle School team.



**“Donda Chant” by Kanye West**

This is the perfect song to listen to while secretly masturbating in Silent.



**“Amazing Grace” by Generic Christian Pop Singer**

Listening to this song helps me start the day every morning through the power of Jesus Christ our lord and savior. I also find my roommate’s Adderall to be helpful.



### WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- *After Giving \$3 to Hurricane Relief Fundraiser, Senior Writes College Essay About the Importance of Community Service*
- *Proud Boys Mad That Kanye West Stole Their Thunder With “White Lives Matter” T-Shirt*
- *In Dr. Patel’s Weekly Report, Three Students Have Mono, Two of Them Have Questions*
- *ASM Speaker Admits He Accidentally Did Research On The Wrong School*
- *Sleepy Donald Trump Confuses Elaine Chao’s Name With His Favorite High Fiber Cereal “Coco Chow”*
- *Stephanie Cormier Accepts Position (and Bribes) From Local Fair*
- *Offices in GW Redone With Expensive Glass and Pine Knoll Bathrooms Get New Mold Infestation*
- *Weird Roomate Swears The Smell Is Rotting Pork Chops and Dead Tropical Fish*

### Proposal for NEW Building Names (no more honoring racist men)

- **Fuess:** Feces (to honor the smell)
- **Stimson:** Hastily Constructed Mausoleum
- **Stearns:** Stern (creative, huh?)
- **Sam Phil:** Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness
- **Oliver Wendell Holmes Library:** Oliver Twist Children’s Home
- **Pearson:** Cum Phallus (gotta love the classics)
- **Morse Hall:** Remorse Hall (it’s okay to be a failure)
- **Rockwell:** Deodorant Donation Drop Off
- **Gelb Science Center:** Sykes Counseling Stepping Stone
- **George Washington:** Where Dreams Go to Die
- **Bulfinch:** Group Therapy

### Since They’re Always There, The Question Is Inevitable: What Exactly Do The Deans Get From The Den?

- A smiling kid (At Andover, a clear sign of intoxication)
- Four red-eyed boys. It’s not allergy season yet.
- The student who says ‘hi’ without the proper honorifics (Dr., Majesty, Highness, General, etc.)
- Pickled carrots
- Anyone who plays music above 30 decibels
- The group headed to the boys bathroom
- Those who did not sign in on REACH



### Freshman Warns Prospective Students

MARY LORD

Dear Community,

This is my first year at Andover, and as I watch tours walk by, I must warn prospective students. Do not come to Andover.

Like me, I am sure you were at the top of your eighth grade class. Maybe, you were placed in the most advanced math class (Algebra II), played Varsity Soccer (with no cuts), and you also got a choir solo, showcasing your effortless falsetto. Trust me, this will not be your Andover experience. I am telling you this for your own good.

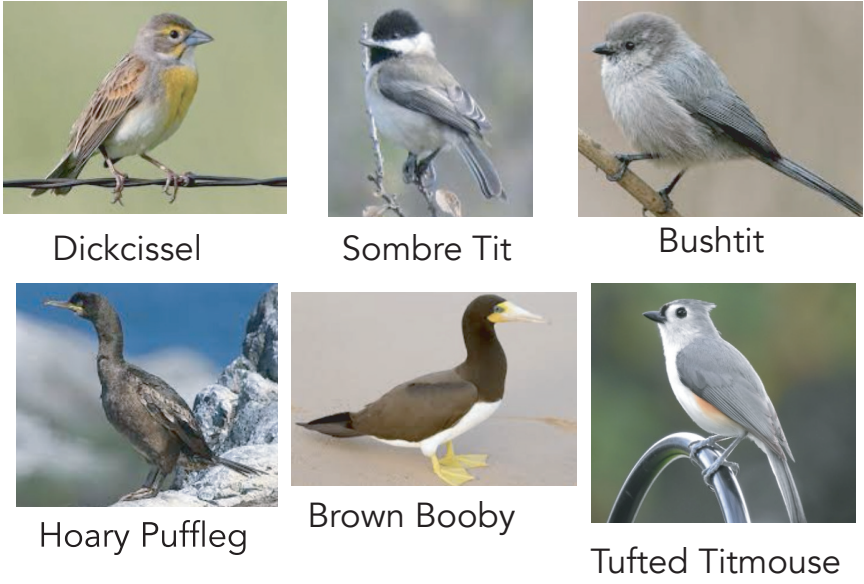
You will be placed in a math class where the only numbers you will understand are your failing grades. In fact, you will probably spend the most mental energy on calculating what grade you need to get a measly four overall. Don't even think about asking your teacher for help because they are big and scary, just like the monsters under your bed. If you weren't intimidated before, be intimidated now.

Don't be surprised when you get on JV3 Soccer, the special team for prepubescent kids with small limbs and big egos. Hey, at least on this team you have a chance at starting. Maybe this will be the one place where you can feel above average in your athletic capabilities.

You also won't make Yorkies like your father before you. Your vocal range has not developed enough, and your voice cracks are not great sound effects...they already have beatboxers. At least your grandparents will always want to hear your rendition of “Castle on a Cloud” from “Les Misérables” (don't be concerned when they turn their hearing aid off, at least you can sleep tight at night knowing that at Andover a three is a ten anywhere else (academically wise, opposite goes for looks)).

Trust me. Save your money and your mental health.

### JOIN NICKY'S AND EVALYN'S BIRD WATCHING GROUP FOR A CHANCE TO SEE:



“His haircut makes him look like a badly-drawn Mii avatar.”

“I draw the line at genocide.”

“Why can’t they just print more money?”

OVERHEARD  
ON THE  
PATHS

“Will you be the Rose to my Jack at senior cruise?”

“Wait, did you hit 100 milligrams or kilograms?”

“I don’t know what happened to him, his card declined at the den and no one has seen him since.”





# The Phillippian SPORTS

Volume CXLV | Number 19

come swim  
with the sharks

October 7, 2022

## Andover Girls Volleyball Sweeps Tabor Academy and Rivers with Momentum and Agility

EVA MURPHY

SATURDAY	
Andover	3
Tabor	0
MONDAY	
Andover	3
Rivers	0

Andover Girls Volleyball dominated against Tabor Academy and Rivers School this week, winning three consecutive sets in both games. The team's record now stands at 7-2-1.

According to Kate Rodgers '26, the win on Saturday against Tabor Academy fueled the team with enthusiasm. Rodgers attested the team's success to its co-captains, who brought strong gameplay and excitement to practice.

Rodgers said, "I think that the whole team had really good energy and I think I credit that to our captains because they really picked things up in practice this week, like our coaches. They just [have] good energy in the game and it [gave] us a positive outlook and I think we really played together as a team and as a whole, which helped us succeed."

Similarly, in the game against Rivers, Andover was able to maintain a similar energy.



Co-Captain Dagny Bingham '23 jumps for a hit against Rivers.

A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Saraya Angbazo '25 attributes recent victories to the team's ability to sustain its positive outlook.

"I think our energy level has definitely improved, the consistency or our energy level that is, in today's game and the previous game...but in the previous game, we made sure to keep the spirit alive and not to let it die down or take any low dips and doing that has helped us definitely," said Angbazo.

For Andover, the game against Rivers was a turning point. The team was able to get

into rhythm while playing, according to Yanna Dorotan '23, in which everyone contributed to team unity.

Dorotan said, "Definitely by this game, this is what I've heard from the coaches, it [has been] one of our first shows of strong chemistry because at first we were all kind of still finding our path and we have a lot of young girls, but I think this game really solidified our connection, and it was great. It was great flow and great chemistry today."

Angbazo added on the strong

chemistry on the court, which allowed them to make effective plays. She expressed that the team was vocal on the court, despite a late-game decline in energy during the team's game against Rivers.

"I think Saturday's game was definitely a big one. That one was amazing. We covered the ball so well, talking, knowing where to be, knowing whose ball was who's, and today we tried to bring that energy over, and while today we did take a lower dip of energy in the third set, we still tried to try and re-

peat the spirit we had on Saturday's game," said Angbazo.

Dorotan highlighted plays made by her teammates, specifically strong hits, that led to the team's ultimate success.

"The other team passed onto our side and there was this one ball where Dagny [Bingham '23] hit it right just past the ten foot line and that was really cool. We had a lot of big kills from our two, we had a big kill from our middle Mary [Lord '24] and Pauline [Huang '23] as well, a lot of big blocks. There was this huge swing from Jess [Ma '23]. I think we were down by two, and she just went out for the approach, big swing, and she was floating. She was levitating in the air so it was great to see," said Dorotan.

The team has shown a lot of improvement in the past weeks. Dorotan mentioned her excitement for upcoming games, She emphasized her hope for consistent energy and communication in the team's future game against Phillips Academy Exeter (Exeter).

Dorotan said, "We've just worked so well together and every practice I see everyone getting better and we're all putting our all into it. The captains are doing a great job of setting a tone... Just [wanting to] keep this fire going because we're going to need that for our next big game, especially against Exeter."

Andover Girls Volleyball will face Choate away on Saturday.

### GIRLSSOCCER

## Girls Soccer Struggles to Produce Offensively; Ties Pingree, Falls Short to Tabor Academy and Austin Preparatory School

ANDRE WU

SATURDAY	
Andover	1
Tabor	3
MONDAY	
Andover	3
Pingree	3
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	1
Austin Prep	3

Andover Girls Varsity Soccer lost to Tabor Academy 1-3 this past Saturday and tied Pingree 3-3 on Monday. Initially down 2-0 against Austin Preparatory School on Wednesday, Andover found the back of the net after halftime but ultimately fell short 1-3. The team's record now stands at 2-4-2.

According to Wylie Roossien '26, a highlight from the past three games was the positive energy supplied from those

both on the field and the sidelines. Despite not being able to take any wins, the team maintained its energy and composure throughout.

"I feel like we played as a team. We were able to support each other off and on the field, our bench did a really great job of pumping us up during some hard moments, and a lot of credit goes to them because they are responsible for making sure people that were starting the second half felt good going in, and just having a good time. I think that's what we all enjoy so much about the game, is being able to just have fun, and go out there and play hard. After all, we did end up achieving that goal, which was to have fun, and in the same breath, it was disappointing in the end, the results aren't exactly what we went out to achieve," said Roossien.

In its game against Austin Prep, the team conceded two early goals. According to Jazzy Cormier '24, despite the early challenges, the team was able to rebound with a stronger second half.

Cormier said, "The first half was a little bit tougher than the second. It just seemed like we were a little lost in the begin-

ning and we weren't really connecting passes well. We were a little bunched up in the middle, so it was a little bit of a struggle, but by halftime, [Head Coach Lisa Joel] talked to us, gave us a pep talk, and talked about how important it is that we calm the field down and how we play with a different mindset because from her perspective, it seemed like it was in fact our mindset that was off, that was making us a little bit congested in the middle of the field. So we went on with a different mindset, and we ended up losing 3-1, but the second half was a lot better than the first."

Maintaining camaraderie and support is imperative for a successful team. According to Co-Captain Kelly Bu '23, the team has improved upon its mindset over the course of the season thus far.

"Soccer's a really tricky game, there's eleven people on the field at one time, and it's like the butterfly effect, one mistake can lead to a whole separate thing, so five minutes later and people are like 'that was your fault' or 'this was your fault', but I think that we've been getting a lot better at pulling each other up, bringing each other up, rather than



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Sophie Dandawa '25 moves up left field towards the net, maintaining possession against Pingree's defense.

pulling each other down," said Bu.

Scoring four goals and allowing 17 in its last five games, the team has struggled in both ends of the field. According to Roossien, producing offensively will be critical for the team's success moving forward.

"I feel going forward, focusing [on] a very optimistic outlook, being able to convert in the attacking third is really crucial. We had a bunch of opportunities, and for a lot of rea-

sons haven't been able to put the ball in the net. A couple injuries have led to that, and you know, everyone makes mistakes. Especially as a striker and a forward, it's hard to put every single one on frame, but I think going forward, converting in the attacking third is going to be very pivotal for us later on in the season," Roossien said.

Andover Girls Soccer will face Choate away on Saturday.

### FOOTBALL

## Andover Football Suffers Devastating Loss to Cheshire Academy

MOUMITA DIGHOL

SATURDAY	
Andover	6
Cheshire	42

Cheshire Academy's (Cheshire) quarterback makes a long pass to its wide receiver 60 yards down the field, the wide receiver catching the ball and making a run to the end zone. With a touchdown just minutes into the game, Andover had a tough time getting back into the game. Despite putting up a strong fight, Andover lost [score here]. Its record now stands at 1-2.

Andrew DeBenedictis '23 notes the defensive struggles of the game, specifically proper

coverage and tackling.

"A lot of times when [a touchdown like that] happens on the first play of the game, it can be difficult to bounce back from. I think defensively we had them where we wanted them in terms of when the ball was delivered, where it's supposed to. It was just after the ball was caught we made some errors, whether that was, you know, open field tackling. Sometimes we weren't getting back in the proper coverage in the secondary... So it was just a lot of mental errors. I think that kind of drove us in the wrong direction throughout the game on defense," DeBenedictis said.

According to Logan Cove '24, the large size of the players on the Cheshire team caused the Andover team to feel slightly overpowered. However, Cove stated that the team was

successful in picking up the game towards the end.

"I think we played a very high power team, super athletic and strong kids. In some aspects of the game [because of that], we were out powered just by their size. I don't think that was any excuse for us. But I think one of their weaknesses was as the game progressed, they got, like, they got complacent with how they were playing. So we took advantage of that and ended up scoring towards the end of the game. It was great to see some guys getting in there, putting in the work, doing good."

According to Co-Captain Aidan Porter '23, the team made a great comeback in the second half of the game after falling short to many big plays by Cheshire earlier.

Porter said, "The frustrating moments were earlier in the

game, they had a lot of big plays where we kind of got behind pretty quickly. But later in the game, that whole second half, we showed a lot of grit and a lot of fight. We played our hearts out that whole second half, and actually won the second half."

According to Cove, the team displayed strong team chemistry throughout the game. Cove stated that players kept each other's heads up despite the scoreboard.

"Our captains did a great job keeping everyone's heads up. Specifically Joe, I think did a great job... One of our strengths was definitely, like I said, our camaraderie. I don't think anyone was getting down on one another and everyone was keeping each other's heads up. I think that team chemistry, that camaraderie, held us together and there was no real

arguments between players or anything like that, which is great to see," Cove said.

Though the team chemistry between players is strong, DeBenedictis notes the importance of team work. He states that it is crucial that everyone must play their part to the best of their abilities.

"The problem is that football is an eleven man sport, and you need all eleven guys doing their job... At certain times, you could see let's say nine guys doing their job, and the two other guys not doing theirs. So we just have to be more composed at these games, and this week's practice has to be really efficient, really high energy," said DeBenedictis.

Andover Football will be hosting Taft this Saturday.



## Football is a “Roller Coaster of Emotions” for Co-Captain Aidan Porter ’23

MEG STINEMAN

Andover Football Co-Captain Aidan Porter ’23 believes accountability and commitment are the keys to success for a team. After a disappointing string of losses in his last season, Porter aspires to bring new and returning teammates together for a more triumphant season under his leadership.

Porter strives to help the team stay grounded in strenuous game situations. According to Porter, it is important for the team to focus on the present rather than dwell on mistakes from the past. Thus, he pushes himself to spread positive feedback during games, creating an open and encouraging team environment.

“Football can just be a roller coaster at times, especially a roller coaster of emotions. One big play can really change the swing of the game, and

that can get guys emotionally kind of worn down. I think it’s definitely my job to try to keep everybody on this team going. I’m trying to convince them, ‘listen, it’s just one play, it’s out the window now, there’s nothing we can do about it. We just got to focus on right now’ and I just really try to preach to them, ‘it’s a marathon it’s not a sprint—we have to really take the game and one play at a time,’” said Porter.

On the field, Porter, a full-back and linebacker, never hesitates to share his extensive knowledge of the sport with the rest of the team, according to Nick Jones ’24. In addition to his approachability, Porter consistently displays fearlessness and persistence during gameplay.

“He knows exactly what he’s doing at all points in the game. He knows where he has to be [and] what [the] assignment is. Whenever someone has a question or is unsure, we can always go to him and

know what to do. He is very aggressive and a very good tackler, and he’s not afraid [of] contact, and he’s not afraid to go up against guys who are a lot bigger than him. So it’s very inspiring,” said Jones.

Logan Cove ’24 highlighted Porter’s commitment to the team off the field. After Cove suffered an injury, Porter stayed by his side throughout the recovery process.

Cove said, “I think a big one for him is commitment. I think he’s really committed to not only football, but the key things, keeping the team together, keeping our heads up, keeping everyone together. He’s a great leader. He doesn’t only worry about the football things, I recently was injured and he lives next door to me, and he’s checking on me multiple times a week, seeing how my recovery is going. For me, that’s huge in a captain. It’s not only about football, but caring about your players outside of sport, and he defi-

nately does that.”

Jones shared a similar sentiment to Cove, reiterating Porter’s devotion to the sport.

“He’s very hardworking, he never quits, and he always knows what to do. For practice, he shows up early — gets locked in. He’s a really great role model for the team, and that’s really something that the guys look up to,” said Jones.

According to Porter, ensuring that the team sustains the values he upholds is equally as important as him leading by example. Porter’s hope is for the team to find success performance-wise, and while doing so, form deeper connections with one another.

Porter said, “I definitely think accountability is one of the [core] values. I mean, not just the captain’s uphold, but it’s something that we expect from everybody on the team. You know, I mean, it’s just making sure that everybody’s doing the right thing when they’re supposed to do



COURTESY OF PANET  
it, how they’re supposed to do it. We’re always checking in on one another, we’re always making sure everybody’s doing the right thing. It moves the team forward in the direction that we want to get faster, so I definitely think accountability is one of the big things that we try to uphold as [captains] on the football team.”

## Co-Captain Andrew DeBenedictis ’23 Sets ‘Good Example’ and Brings ‘Good Mood’ to Team Dynamic

MEG STINEMAN

Co-Captain Andrew DeBenedictis ’23 leads the Football team by setting a good example to teammates, specifically underclassmen. As



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

he listens with an open mind to coaches and other players, DeBenedictis hopes the team will follow close behind him.

“I’m not the most vocal person so [I try to lead by] being a good guy who is leading by example in practice, whether that’s just kind of doing the right thing, being obedient when the coaches told me to do something. It’s just kind of being a good example, a good role model for the kids, especially the younger guys who are behind me,” said DeBenedictis.

Justin Hardy ’23 shares a similar statement regarding DeBenedictis’ ability to set a good example for other team members. According to Hardy, DeBenedictis has the power to lift the moods of teammates despite a hard practice or tough loss.

Hardy said, “I think one thing that we all look up to is how he’s always in good spirits. He’s always in a good

mood, no matter if we have a bad practice or a tough loss or something like that. He’s always in a good mood. He’ll always cheer. We want to make sure everyone’s you know, checking on each other, make sure moods stay good in the locker room. That’s definitely very important. And I think I mentioned again, him just being one of the nicest people I know. I think that’s something that the team looks up to be such a good example for being a good person.”

In addition to the previous statement, Logan Cove ’24 noted the positivity that radiates from DeBenedictis. DeBenedictis does not lose his energy when he exits the field, but continues it from the sidelines as well, according to Cove.

“He has such a positive mindset. I mean, he’s one of the nicest guys on campus. He’s hilarious, the kid’s a great person. And on top

of that, he’s a fantastic football player. All his catches and yards out, they contribute to our morale. And then he comes off the sideline and all he does is cheer not that he comes off much, but he definitely keeps everyone in a great mood. He’s one of the most positive guys I’ve ever played with,” Cove said.

According to Hardy, not only is DeBenedictis an outstanding leader, but also a friend whom his teammates admire. DeBenedictis’ amiable spirit has greatly benefited him as he stepped into a leadership role.

“I think [he is an] extremely personable person. Anyone who’s interacting with him knows that that really contributes to his ability to be a leader because everyone sees him as more than just a leader. They see him as a friend. He’s a funny person. He’s an extremely nice person. Probably one of the nicest peo-

ple I know and is a very outstanding person. So I think all those qualities combined to make him a great leader,” said Hardy

In terms of play on the field, effort is a core value that DeBenedictis prioritizes for the team. He models great effort in uneasy moments by keeping his head up and not letting obstacles get in his way.

DeBenedictis said, “I definitely think probably the biggest thing on the field is effort, because that kind of trickles down to the other members of your team. Say a freshman or a lower classmen sees you putting your head down if you’re down by a lot or not hustling out of play or something like that. I feel like that kind of sets a bad example and kind of goes back to being a good role model for the team.”

## Football Co-Captain Joe Carrara ’24 Motivates the Team Through His Spirit for the Game

BLAKE HERNDON & MADDIE REDMOND

Andover Football Co-Captain Joe Carrara ’24 never shies away from high-energy support for his team. Described by teammates as enthusiastic, responsible, and kind, Carrara acts as a role model both on and off the field.

These qualities have not gone unnoticed. According to teammate Diego Velez ’24, Carrara’s liveliness on the field keeps motivation high during games and creates a supportive environment for the team.

“He’s a very vocal leader. He’s loud on the fields. He likes to get everyone really loud on the sidelines.... His energy influences people to find more energy even if they’re quiet. Even if they don’t play, his energy is his

biggest factor on the field as a Captain,” said Velez.

According to Velez, Carrara’s ability to build community also composes a significant part of his leadership. Velez found one of Carrara’s recent half-time speeches particularly memorable, in large part due to Carrara’s efforts to boost morale during a frustrating game.

“Yesterday at the game, at halftime we were down, and he was saying, ‘Don’t give up because you’re not doing this just for yourself. You’re doing this for your brothers next to you that you’re playing with. You’re doing this for the coaches. You’re doing this for the school. You’re doing this for the managers.’ I thought that was a really good message he was trying to send,” said Velez.

Teammate Corey Cid ’25 raised another example of Carrara’s on-the-field leadership. According to Cid, Carr-

ara models optimism and resilience while playing.

“My favorite Joe moment is when things were getting heated at the scrimmage between Andover and Brooks, and he scored a touchdown. I think that was a really big moment because he helped our team stay strong, and helped us believe we can stick up for ourselves,” said Cid.

Cid also noted that off the field, Carrara’s efforts to connect with all members of the team ensures that everyone feels comfortable and welcome.

“Joe’s biggest influence is how kind he is and how responsible he is. He really helps keep the team together, helps everything function, and he makes sure everyone is having fun. And I think, for me personally, he’s someone I can look up to...[He’s] just what we look for and need in a captain,” said Cid.

While Carrara leads his

team with energy, he strives to be sociable off the field as well. According to Carrara, the social skills developed through football can be applied to life outside athletics.

“Outside of sports, I try to be as nice and personable as I can on campus and in the community. Going out of my way to say ‘thank you’ [or] talk to people.... Outside of football, I don’t really focus on sports. The biggest thing is who I am as a person outside of sports. I just try to work on that everyday. I try to talk to people, be personable, and help others,” said Carrara.

Carrara’s influence on the team has been shaped by his own leaders. Alongside the current team and coaching staff, he gives credit to recent graduates for his leadership style and performance on the field.

“All my success is because of the leaders and captains I’ve played under like Danny



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Ferris ’22 and Thomas McAndrews ’22, as well as my teammates and coaches that I play with. They all help me grow as a player and leader,” said Carrara.

## ANDOVER FOOTBALL

LOGAN M. COVE ’24 DERRY, NH	CO-CAPTAIN: ANDREW O. DEBENEDICTIS ’23 ANDOVER, MA	CO-CAPTAIN: AIDAN R. PORTER ’23 TICONDEROGA, NY	CO-CAPTAIN: JOSEPH A. CARRARA ’24 POCASSET, MA	BRYCE A. LUBIN ’23 SUMMIT, NJ
DAVIAN C. McDONALD ’25 HOLYOKE, MA	KENNETH M. EDWARDS ’23 ROCHESTER, NY	JUSTIN J. HARDY ’23 BOXFORD, MA	QUINN L. POLCARI ’24 MATTAPoisETT, MA	XAVIER A. ABREU ’25 LYNN, MA
ADRIAN A. MORRISON ’23 BROOKLYN, NY	COREY A. CID ’25 NEW YORK, NY	YEJOON SIM ’25 SEOUL, KOR	JACK C. ROGUS ’23 NORTH ANDOVER, MA	HENRY D. FERGUSON ’25 BRANFORD, CT
DIEGO L. VELEZ ’24 IRVINGTON, NY	ALEXANDER E. EWALD ’24 ANDOVER, MA	JAVEON D. TALBOT ’23 METARIE, LA	GRANT D. DEHOOG ’25 BOX ELDER, SD	CHRISTOPHER W. SAVINO ’24 ANDOVER, MA
JIHO KIM ’23 NEWTON, MA	SEBASTIAN VALASEK ’24 WESTMOUNT, QC CAN	JONATHAN N. JIN ’24 HUDSON, OH	CHUNZE LI ’23 MALDEN, MA	THOMAS W. O'BRIEN ’23 READING, MA
NICHOLAS B. JONES ’24 NORTH READING, MA	MASON A. SPAHN ’24 BALTIMORE, MD	HURIEL CALICE ’23 PEABODY, MA	HENRY R. SHELDON ’24 SUDBURY, MA	
MANAGER: LUCY BOOTH ’23 BERKELY, CA	MANAGER: SADIE R. BURKE ’23 DENVER, CO	MANAGER: ALEXANDRA S. CHUNG ’23 GREENWICH, CT	MANAGER: THOMAS R. MCCOOL ’25 RANCHO SANTA FE, CA	MANAGER: JULIA H. MONTGOMERY ’23 DALLAS, TX



# Limited by Inexperience and Injury, Girls Cross Country Places Fourth At NMH Invitational

SARAH KATIB

Emma Hagstrom '25 placed seventh individually in a field of five teams with a time of 21:17, leading Andover Girls Cross Country to a fourth place finish at the Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH) Invitational on Saturday.

With only a select few runners participating in the Manchester Invitational last week, the NMH Invitational provided the whole team a chance to race. According to Co-Captain Ashley Song '23, the team's primary goal was to get a feel for competing and persevere through NMH's difficult course.

"I think the overall atti-

tude is that this is a first meet and NMH is really hilly. It's a relatively tough course, so I think finishing was a big win for a lot of people, especially since this is our first full team meet, because our first one was Manchester last week-end.... So I think for a lot of the team, it was just finishing this course or this race... not checking off, but just finishing your first meet of the season, first 5k of the season.... [Running in packs] was a goal for this meet, but also a goal in general, to kind of find comfort while you're running through the people around you and knowing that you can do it because the people around you can," said Song.

Many runners were unable to compete due to injuries,

and others faced challenges overcoming the mental and physical battles of their first 5k race, according to Tasha Bohorad '26. Despite competing shorthanded, Bohorad applauded the team's efforts.

Bohorad said, "I think our team did really well in the invitational. A lot of girls were injured, so it was pretty tough not having everyone there that we could have had. But with the people we had, I think we raced pretty well.... Most of the team is underclassmen, so a lot of people haven't run a high school 5k, which made it difficult. But overall, I think everyone did really well."

Bohorad highlighted the effort and execution of Kendall Toth '24, specifically praising her tenacity and per-

severance. Toth has recently returned from a back injury and is readjusting to the demanding nature of the sport.

"Definitely Kendall [stood out to me]. It was her first race back from injury and she has been recovering and really pushing hard and practicing. She's my running buddy, so I run with her all the time. I'm really happy that she got to run. She had a great time," said Bohorad.

According to Song, the team needs to work on maintaining concentration moving forward. Song emphasized team focus and being mentally present during practice and prior to races as key areas for improvement.

Song said, "I think something Coach Lambert noted

was near the beginning of the race... where we got distracted a lot [on the course walk], and we just needed to focus more. Something Coach Richie said was, just being in the moment and trying to work towards the whole team being on the same wavelength in a sense, and not having everyone distracted doing their own thing. So I guess a big thing is mind-set, and just focusing more on that moment, and not getting carried away by other things."

Andover Girls Cross Country will face Choate away on Saturday.

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



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## Andover Boys Soccer Guard Undeclared Season After Sweeping Taft and Bridgton Academy

### NINA TORRENS

SATURDAY	
Andover	2
Taft	0
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	1
Bridgton Academy	0

Co-Captain Zane Matrasi '24 received the ball from a low cross by Co-Captain Ellis Denby '24 and put Andover on the scoreboard in the team's game against Taft. Later on in the game, Co-Captain Gio Pagiluca '23 secured the victory after dribbling through the Taft defense and scoring the second goal of the game. Andover Boys Soccer concluded the game with a 2-0 win against Taft, and then went on to defeat Bridgton Academy (Bridgton) 1-0. The team's record now stands at 4-0-2

The team played Bridgton on Wednesday in Andover's stadium, at 6 p.m., under the lights. Denby highlighted the energy of the crowd throughout the game and the feeling it brought to the team.

"[The atmosphere of the game] was great. We had a lot of support. I saw a lot of peo-

ple in the crowd that I knew which was very exciting for us. I liked how everyone was wearing pink and supporting an important cause which is breast cancer awareness. I just really loved the atmosphere when we scored. It was electric; everyone was going crazy and the second goal was the same thing. And then after the game, everyone started running to the field. It really got the boys going and you could see it in our play," said Denby.

According to Pagiluca, prior to the game, the team focused on training specifically to address the difficulties that Taft typically imposes upon its opponents. Thus, the team worked on dealing with pressure on the defensive end of the field.

Pagiluca said, "In practice, [we] worked on breaking the press. We knew that Taft is a team that likes to high press our defenders and kind of win the ball off of us. We practiced being able to pass it to defense and break through their pressure."

According to Pagiluca, one of the main factors in the team's victory was its constant effort throughout the game. While both teams were technically similar, Andover's hard work proved to be the difference.

"Our biggest strength, more than anything on Satur-



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Zane Matrasi '24 celebrates after scoring against Bridgton Academy.

day, was our work rate on and off the ball. I think, as a team, everyone on the field worked really hard and pressed hard, were just constantly running their hardest and always fighting for the ball and just everyone brought the energy. Overall, the team focus level was really high and I think that's what ultimately separated us from Taft," says Pagiluca.

In the game against Bridgton, the opposition successfully supplied pressure on Andover throughout the first half. However, in the second

half, the team began to control the ball more and command the tempo of the game, according to Alex Torrens '24.

"Our weakness was, overall, the first half. We came out a little slow. It was a little sloppy, we were lacking some intensity, we weren't really applying what we had worked [on], but then we had a spark in the second half. We started playing with more energy, we started possessing and imposing our style which then led to our victory," said Torrens.

Torrens also added that once Andover figured out its

opponents main plan of attack, the team was able to take that away and halt Bridgton's primary path towards goal.

"Their main attacking points were just through over the top long balls so we were able to just nullify that by sort of trying to anticipate them. They didn't possess too greatly so we eventually were able to break through that."

Andover's next game is on Saturday at Choate.

## Field Hockey Recovers After First Loss in Almost Two Years, Earns a Victory Over Governor's Academy

### ELISE MINOR

SATURDAY	
Andover	0
Taft	2
SATURDAY	
Andover	0
Governor's	1

Andover Field Hockey lost against Tabor Academy 0-2 on Saturday, but defeated Governor's Academy 1-0. The team's defeat against Tabor

was its first loss in almost two years. Despite this, the team rallied in a close game against Governor's and recovered for a win. The team's record now stands at 5-1.

According to Ava Murphy '24, in the game against Tabor, the team's lack of aggression led to a struggle in the offensive third of the field. The team began to show signs of scoring at the beginning of the second half, but ended up being shut out for the first time in the season.

"I think we played a little scared or more defensively than we needed to be and we let them have space, which resulted in them obviously working up the field more.

But in the second half I think we realized that and we came out right away. They had possession in the second half and so we immediately pounced right on them and we got the ball down the field and earned a corner in the first minute or two... We definitely didn't have our structure and I think we will definitely bounce back," said Murphy.

Co-Captain Shea Freda '24 felt similarly to Murphy, saying that the struggles in both games came from a lack of offensive threat. The team lacked its usual offensive identity, and was unable to take advantage of the majority of its chances.

Freda said, "I think the

game against Tabor was tough because we just couldn't score, which was our main problem. I think today was also tough because I feel like we weren't playing our own game as much as we could have and that caused us not to be able to score for a while but we ended up putting one in... but hopefully in the next few games we are able to capitalize more in our chances of like playing true to how we usually do."

Andover also looks to improve on its offball movement, hoping to supply teammates with different passing options on the field, according to Zori Warren '23.

Warren said, "Right now, we are really working on strategic positioning in the circle, in particular, but also maybe more importantly how we support our teammates with the ball and so even if you don't have the ball, how are you finding a way to be open for a pass or how are you backing up the person who's playing the ball right now. [Just to] really have those dynamic layers on the field."

The team looks to face every opportunity as if it's vital towards the result of the season, noted Murphy. Despite being previously undefeated, Murphy does not feel that the team's record is crucial to its mentality, as they always go into games focused on the task at hand.

"I just think of taking every shot like it's our last shot and putting our bodies really

on the line and just not being afraid to lose because I think there's this stigma around it. Our team's been undefeated for almost two years at this time, but we don't really see our team as that, we see one game at a time and go into every game where it's a 0-0 record," said Murphy.

According to Freda, one of the positive takeaways from the games against Tabor and Governor's was that the team passed the ball well and defended thoroughly when its opponents had chances. However, one area for improvement was transitioning from offense to defense, which led to the lack of goals.

"I think our offense did well, moving the ball quickly down the field and to the circle when we did have the ball. And defensively, we did a good job moving the ball outside and clearing it out when they did get chances, but I still think we could work more cohesively as a unit between our offense and defense. Because there were some times where the defense would get stuck in the back and not be able to move it up to the forwards. I think working together more between the forwards and defense would help us win the next couple games," said Freda.

Andover Field Hockey will face Choate away on Saturday.



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Belle Brown '23 moves in as Andover attempts to regain the ball from Governor's.

## Boys Cross Country Places Third At Northfield Mount Hermon Invitational

### ANGIE LUCIA

Andover Boys Cross Country raced at the Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH) Invitational against NMH, Loomis Chaffee, St. Paul's, and Keene High School on Saturday. The team's ten Varsity runners came in third out of five teams with 65 points. The remaining runners took first in the Junior Varsity race with 15 points, sweeping the top five individual places.

With a 90-minute drive, the team was able to use the long bus ride to its advantage. Max Huang '24 felt as though the relaxed nature of the bus ride allowed the team to visualize the run ahead and transition into a racing mindset, which led the team to be ready to run as soon as it arrived at NMH.

"I think the bus ride was actually good for us because we had time to calm down before the race, think about how we were going to race, and to also just spend time with each

other. It was a good environment on the bus," said Huang.

The course consisted of rolling hills and uneven, rocky footing. Despite the course's difficulty, Lundeen Cahilly '24 reflected that much of the team had a successful race, setting personal records. With about twenty team members racing for the first time on Saturday, Cahilly said the team is optimistic about its growth through the rest of the season.

"For all the guys who this was their first race of the season or their first race ever, it's definitely like being thrown into the deep end. It's one of our tougher courses, maybe the toughest we actually race, although Manchester was possibly harder, but not all of the guys raced that. It's a difficult course, but overall getting into that mindset early in the season of getting into it, grinding out the miles, and running fast is a good mindset to get in. We're just getting into the right place," said Cahilly.

Three-fifths of the course included trails that were surrounded by nothing but woods, creating an isolated environment. Cahilly noted the importance of team members leaning on each other for support when there was no one around to cheer them on.

"One thing we make sure to do as a team is to run in packs. At a time, we try to run at least a minimum of two guys together, and at the last mile, race apart because you're trying to get your time and see what you can do. We [do] really solid grouping up and sticking together. When you're being pushed by another guy who does a little more than you on those hills that are really testing you. When there's no one around, that pulls you along and helps you run faster. I think just teamwork [helps you keep the pace and stay tough]," said Cahilly.

Huang led the team's top ten with a sixth place individual finish. However, Robert Budzinski '26 also complimented Luke Williamson '25

for his 13th place individual finish and consistent dedication to the team.

"[Luke] had a great race, both time and respective to the rest of the team. He ran a lot better than he did at Manchester. It's probably one of the best races he's ever ran. And then after, during the girls race, he was super enthusiastically cheering for all of the girls, not just the girls at Andover, which I thought was really nice. It was definitely a really hard course, and by the end you were really struggling, so it was nice for him to just cheer for everyone. That definitely stood out to me," said Budzinski.

With some of the usual Varsity runners out due to injury and illness, other team members had to step up to fill in the roles. According to Huang, the Varsity race allowed many to experience deeper competition and higher pressure for the first time this season.

"This was just a big opportunity for both the people who didn't get to race the week be-

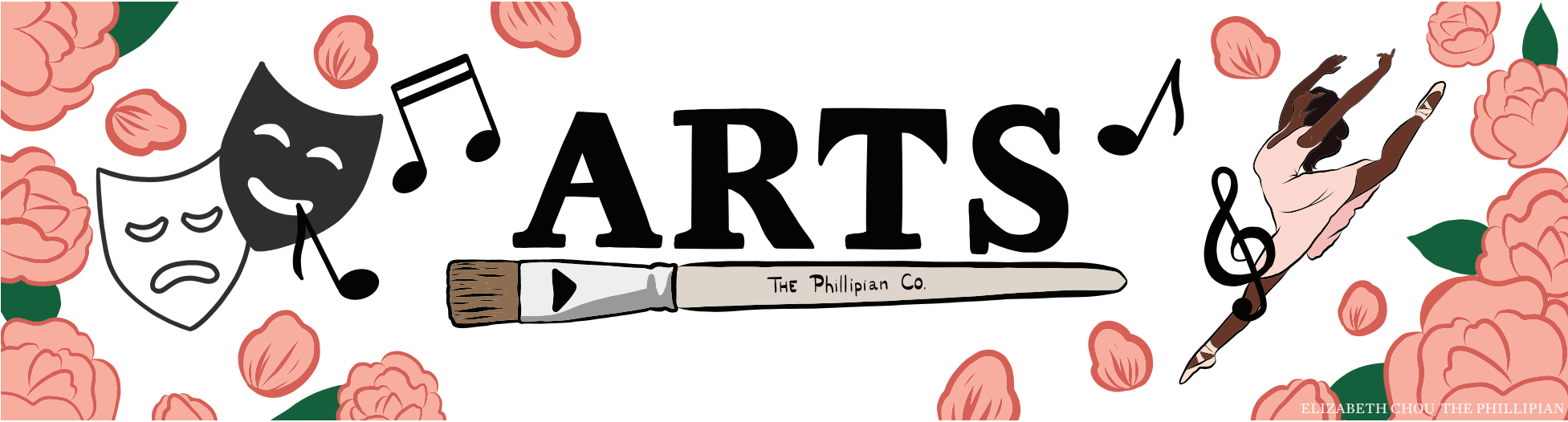
fore to come out and run, and also we were missing some key members of our varsity team, so it was a great opportunity for some of the JV runners to step up. I think they did a great job," said Huang.

Looking forward, the team hopes to dive deeper into the speed and strength portion of its training. Huang believes the early races allow the team to acclimate to the faster paces, setting a strong foundation to build upon for the rest of the season.

"I think we're just coming off of our base training phase, so we haven't done much strength and speed work yet. Once we start fine-tuning for faster races and doing similar speed work, I think we'll be even more prepared to run faster times," said Huang.

Andover Boys Cross Country will race at Choate in a dual meet this Saturday.





# World-Renowned A Cappella Group The Whiffenpoofs Comes to Andover For “Hometown Concert”

AVA CHEN

As bass singer Adrian Kyle Venzon sang the jazzy melody of “Nature Boy” by Nat King Cole, the 13 other members of the Whiffenpoofs accompanied him with rhythmic snaps and vocalized harmonies.

As a member of Keynotes, an a cappella group on campus, Jade Shi ’25 reflected on how seeing the Whiffenpoofs’ performance inspired her to continue pursuing her passion for singing.

“That was very inspiring, hearing them sing, that people [that] were around seven years older than us are able to do such things, being able to go on tours.... I was just very impressed by how much chemistry they had for each other and how well they blended their voices and just the passion they have for singing and for the a cappella group. It just kind of motivated me to continue my passion for singing and this year I’m in Keynotes, so to just have fun with that,” said Shi.

Last Friday night, Yale University’s Whiffenpoofs, the country’s oldest collegiate a cappella group, performed in Kemper Auditorium as part of their Boston tour. According to Will Salaverry, the Whiffenpoofs’ business manager and bass singer, the group calls



A.CHINN/ THE PHILLIPIAN

The Whiffenpoofs are touring domestically and internationally, performing at some of the members’ hometowns.

concerts like Friday’s “hometown concerts,” as they are performances at their members’ hometowns. Salaverry talked about how tenor II singer Evelyn Huilin Wu ’19, enjoyed returning to Andover and seeing her former music mentor, Abbey Siegfried, Chair in Music.

“We will be going to Beijing later in the year to celebrate [Wu] in her real hometown, but in her Andover hometown, it was really nice to just be there and see the way that she lit up entering the auditorium, seeing Siegfried again, and her sister being in the crowd,” said Salaverry.

In addition, a cappella groups

at Andover had the opportunity to perform for the Whiffenpoofs at a masterclass prior to the concert. According to Venzon, hearing the students sing inspired him as he felt they demonstrated notable talent and passion for singing even at the high-school age.

“I would say one of my favorite moments was having the chance to hear all of the Andover a cappella groups sing. I think just because it’s always nice to see that even at a young age... people are taking [singing] super seriously and are super passionate. And so seeing so much talent and just genuine love for music on stage

was really inspiring [for me],” said Venzon.

Overall, through these concerts, Salaverry hopes to positively affect the audience during the performance. He described how the Whiffenpoofs also recently performed at a memorial and helped a widow shift from grief to retrospection, as her late husband enjoyed listening to their music.

“For some people it’s, ‘I was stressed going in, coming out I’m whistling songs, and maybe things don’t feel so stressed.’ Sometimes, you know, we performed at a memorial recently where it brought a really solemn but sort of beautiful

feeling to the widow of this man who used to listen to the Whiffenpoofs all the time.... It wasn’t necessarily happiness, but it was remembrance,” said Salaverry.

Looking forward, the Whiffenpoofs will start their three-week fall tour on Monday. Their itinerary will pass through more members’ hometowns, including Chicago, Milwaukee, San Francisco, Las Vegas, and more. Later in the spring and summer, the Whiffenpoofs will tour in places like Sweden, Kenya, China, and Australia. While he initially joined the Whiffenpoofs for this unique opportunity to travel the world, Salaverry emphasized the value of the bonds he’s formed within this community.

“I have this dream of, after college, doing a travel book... I’m legally blind, and so the idea is that it’s a people-with-disabilities-can-travel-as-well book. And so when I found out about the Whiffenpoofs and how much they travel, it felt like a really nice stepping stone to something I’ve wanted to do for a long time. And then I also just love to sing and I knew Adrian before the group, I knew a few others before the group and have loved everyone I’ve gotten to meet, so I think it was at first to travel and then quickly became the people,” said Salaverry.

## Lights Up: Stand-Up Comedy Club Debuts Inaugural Performance

JORGE BRIONES SAUSA

Delivering jokes about everything from Ben and Jerry’s to bisexuality, Nick Liu ’23, Owen Cheng ’23, Dori Rosenstrauch ’23, and EV Heck ’25 premiered Stand-Up Comedy Club’s inaugural show. Audience member Victoria Ortiz ’23 commented on how the performers effectively connected with the audience through lines surrounding identity.

“The style really suits each of them, the jokes that they come up with, especially the identity based stuff, because I know it’s very truthful and that they can play around and use their experiences to make other people kind of feel seen in a way. I think everything that they’re doing is very, it’s well crafted. Especially with people



M.DOUCETTE/ THE PHILLIPIAN

With only previous experience with sketch comedy, Owen Cheng ’23 adapts to a new form of comedy.

like Nick, that have been doing this for a while, have really experimented with the types of jokes they make,” said Ortiz.

Unlike other comedy and improv groups on campus, Stand-Up Club focuses solely on stand-up acts and works closely with DramaLabs. As a DramaLabs producer and founder of Stand-Up Club, Rosenstrauch explained how over the past year, she has incorporated aspects of stand-up comedy into DramaLabs, gradually getting enough people interested to have their own stand-up showcase.

“Last year, I also started the stand-up comedy club, and I’ve been working towards getting enough comedians in order to make what is essentially a DramaLab with all comedy. So I was able to introduce the show as

something that I’ve worked to put together and then also perform in it as well,” said Rosenstrauch.

While preparing for Friday’s show, both newer and more experienced stand-up artists like Liu found feedback from the other performers vital in editing their scripts. Liu discussed feeling grateful for the support from both their fellow comedians and friends in the audience.

“When you’re writing it’s hard to figure out what you think is funny and what other people think is funny. Something I’m really grateful for is that Owen and Dori were really good at giving feedback and what material works and what material doesn’t work. I ran my material over with the other comedians, and I ran it through a few friends. One thing is realizing that people are supportive and people will always be there for you and [Ortiz] had a sign that said ‘Go Owen and Nick,’ too, so just knowing that people are there for you,” said Liu.

The stand-up show also offered valuable performance opportunities to newer comedians like Heck and Cheng. Cheng expressed that while he had experience as a sketch comedian, they didn’t have much experience with the stand-up format. They explained how they were able to quickly adjust their act to the audience’s interests and ultimately delivered a successful performance.



M.DOUCETTE/ THE PHILLIPIAN

Nick Liu ’23 performs stand-up comedy in New York City occasionally.

“I had done sketch comedy, but I wasn’t really familiar with the [stand-up] format and I didn’t know how people would respond. That’s why I improvised so much because I had found what I had written probably wasn’t the vibe that was what the audience was responding to. In the end, it went really well and I’m happy with that,” said Cheng.

Heck felt that the more experienced comedians made her feel welcome and gave helpful feedback, pushing her forward to overcome stage fright and ultimately found this opportunity to perform exciting and valuable. She emphasized the accessibility of stand-up comedy, in that anyone could try it out.

“I would say that stand-up isn’t as exclusive as you might think. Anyone can do it and perform it. Even though it sounds very intim-

idating by yourself, it’s really enjoyable and something that I think everyone should try at least once because it’s a great experience,” Heck said.

Looking forward, Rosenstrauch is thinking about collaborating with Sketchy for future performances with the Stand-Up Comedy club. Cheng and Liu are also planning to perform as a comedic duo in Grasshopper in the coming weeks. Cheng jokes about what he hopes the audience took away from the stand-up performance.

“I hope they really take away that I’m funny, charming, and hot. I want them to think that I’m better than everyone else. Stronger, faster, better looking, and can name more ‘Ben 10’ aliens. I can name every ‘Ben 10’ alien,” said Cheng.

## “Fiery” Dancer Kelly Yang ’24 Incorporates Expressive Detail in Dance Style

WENDI YING &  
SOPHIA TABIBIAN

Striding across the floor and leaping into the air in splits, Kelly Yang ’24 shone under bright lights as Blue Strut performed “Womanizer” by Britney Spears at last year’s Grasshopper show. As a Co-Head of Blue Strut and a member of Hypnotiq, Kelly Yang ’24 performs in various genres of dance at Andover, such as jazz and hip-hop. According to Yang, she found a supportive community in Blue Strut that helped her become more confident.

“I started dancing around five [or] six in ballet, but I think my passion for it was ignited when my mom put me in traditional Chinese dancing around seven [or] eight with my friends... it would be so fun... Personally, I enjoy traditional Chinese dancing a dancing, jazz, hip-hop, and modern... Those things are a little less technical. I really like the more energetic, the more emotional

types of dances,” said Yang.

Having danced in Blue Strut since Lower year, Yang is now Co-Head of the group, along with Miranda Lu ’23. Yang said that though there are challenges that come with the responsibility, she finds joy in being an inspiration for her teammates.

“It’s really difficult to be constantly creative and come up with choreography for a group when you can’t see it... often times the choreography can take hours for just one minute [of the performance], it’s just a lot to handle especially because I never choreographed before... [but] it’s fun being able to help people and see everything come together as you envisioned it,” said Yang.

Blue Strut Dancer Mia Pao ’24 expressed her admiration for Yang as a performer and a Co-Head. She explained how Yang brings energy and spirit to every rehearsal and as she choreographs dances with her own personal style.

“I would describe Kelly as a fiery, technical, and captivating performer. She has a personal

style to her movement that just screams, ‘look at me’. I love watching her dance, and she has the most gorgeous jumps!” said Pao.

Yang added that Blue Strut has provided her a close community on campus. She reflected on the many memories she made with her teammates last year and expresses her close attachment with each and every member.

“My favorite memory with [Strut] is probably Club Show in Spring term. It was our last performance as Strut that year and it was the best. The backstage energy was so entertaining and in between performances, we all went out to the den and got cookies,” said Yang.

According to Yang, her attention to the details, specifically facial expressions and hands, are critical aspects of dancing that contribute to her stage presence. She also added that her dance style reflects her personality.

“I focus a lot on the smaller things... especially in Chinese dancing, you express your

emotions through your hands, so I kind of implemented that in my other dances... which I think expresses who I am too... I know I’m not the most technical [dancer, but] I have a pretty good stage presence. Even with a mask [during the pandemic], I think I did a pretty good job with facials,” said Yang.

One reason Yang finds such joy in dance stems from the confidence she feels when interacting with her audience. Through her Blue Strut performances, Yang expressed that she hopes to convey the same feeling of confidence through her dance.

“I used to not be the most secure in myself, and as I got better with dance, hearing the audiences reactions during a performance gave me a big confidence boost... when it comes to performing f or Blue Strut... I am trying to convey confidence and sass. I really want [my audience] to feel like their time was used valuably watching me dance,” said Yang.

As Yang continues to lead, she hopes to continue foster-



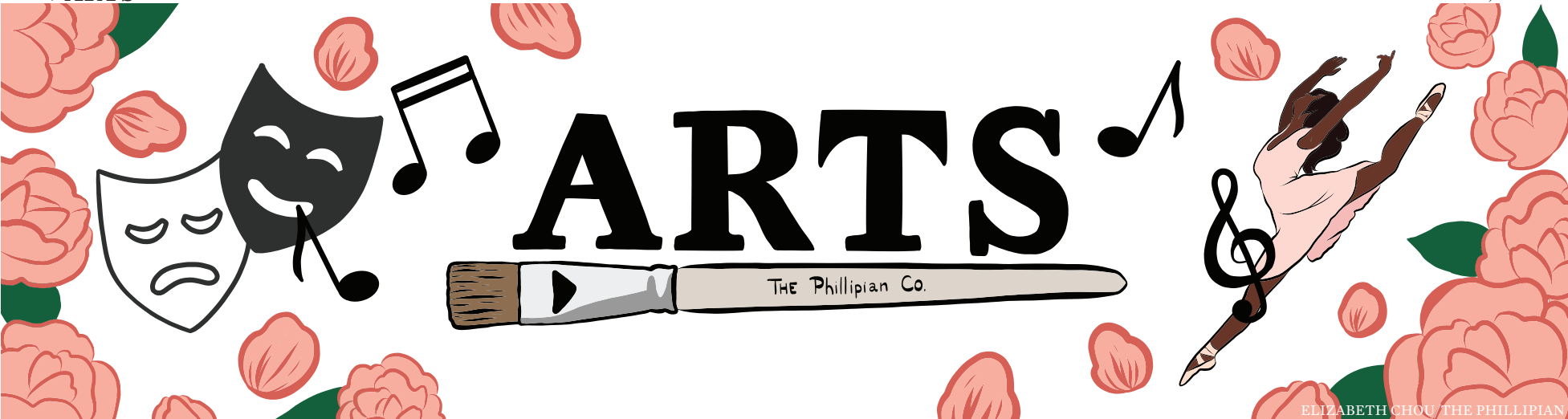
J.CARMONA/ THE PHILLIPIAN

ing a safe and comfortable environment for her team members.

“I think a good leader is someone who is able to take control but at the same time be a friend who is willing to support their members... I don’t want anyone to feel left out or feel they’re not welcome here,” said Yang.

Blue Strut and Hypnotiq will both perform at Grasshopper next week.





## Look of the Week: Arielsie Li '24 Implements Both Fashion and Function in Personalized Streetwear Style

AVA CHEN

Pairing a black and white, paint splatter patterned sweater with loose white sweatpants, Arielsie Li '24 diverges from the fashion standard with her aesthetically comfortable style of baggy silhouettes and soft, complementary hues. To finish the streetwear-inspired look, Li accentuates her simple yet sophisticated color palette with a purple beanie and striking violet eyeliner.

“I really like this outfit because I am someone who prioritizes comfort and weather appropriateness in my outfits a lot.... I think this is a very practical outfit for me, and I can just move a lot in it.... I’m also someone who prioritizes color and how [pieces] fit with each other [to] create a nice looking palette,” said



/COURTESY OF ARIELSIE LI/  
Li’s Nike sneakers include colorful, customizable patches.

Li. Throughout her experience with fashion over the past two years, Li has learned the importance of balancing aesthetics and functionality when building an outfit. While Li used to experiment with trendy tech wear aesthetics, she found the pockets, lace, and overall style to be unfitting and restrictive. Since then, Li has looked to explore styles that fit her body type. Having found her preferred aesthetics of runway and streetwear, Li has now moved on to developing the specifics of her fashion.

“Towards this year I started trying to make my style more complicated, so [adding] accessories like hats, belts, necklaces, rings and all that, and also I started doing make-up this year. So in general, I feel like I just evolved from no style to generally catching on trends and focusing on specific clothing, to right now trying to make it a form of self expression and because now I just wake up, decide on a vibe

One of Li’s favorite accessories is a necklace with a ghost charm and rainbow ring.



/COURTESY OF ARIELSIE LI/

and what I want to be that day and go with it,” said Li.

Li believes that her style is deeply personalized; it is dynamic in a way that suits her aesthetic values and body, with common threads of coherent color combinations and an emphasis on practicality. She also sports an eclectic mix of accessories, such as a ghost necklace and Nike shoes with customizable colorful patches. As a result, Li does not believe a single category can fully define her preferences in fashion.

“I feel like my style is very fluid, I change from, sometimes I dress more, I guess basic and more feminine, in that I tend to wear tighter clothes, and then more crop tops and all that. But also a lot of times I wear stuff that are more baggy and I would like to describe it as more, like vintage and a bit more androgynous.

In general, my style floats from day to day,” said Li.

Embracing more than one culture’s fashion influence, Li likes to draw most of her inspiration from the softer, more holistic, nature of streetwear fashion found on Asian social media platforms. In that sense, she also tends to focus more on the overall aesthetic of outfits, selecting each piece to create a cohesive whole rather than centering around a staple accessory.

“I started looking more into another app, called Xiaohongshu, where the styles are generally more complicated and people care about something other than making an individual piece of clothing stand out, instead making the entire outfit work with each other and how creating a scene as a whole, focusing on the big picture instead of a specific part, and I feel like I was more inspired by that kind of style,” said Li.



/COURTESY OF ARIELSIE LI/  
Li finds inspiration for her outfits on several Chinese social media platforms.

Based on the evolution of her style, Li feels that practicality and dressing casually do not have to detract from fashionability. Specifically, she discussed how a sweatpants and sweatshirt combination can be both comfortable and an aesthetically pleasing outfit.

“Although it’s kind of cliché to say you wear sweatshirts and sweatpants, it’s like the lazy outfit, I think honestly, I think sweatshirt and sweatpants, if you choose them well and you correspond the colors and you make the sizing appropriate, it can be a really good outfit that’s comfortable and practical and warm,” said Li.

## First Coffeehouse of the Year Overcomes Technical Difficulties with Supportive Audience

SARAH HASSANEIN

The first Coffeehouse this fall offered an array of acts, including stand-up poetry, singing, DJing, and more. Held in Lower Right of Paresky Commons, students packed into



M.DOUCETTE/ THE PHILLIPIAN  
Anabelle Biggs '23 and Ethan Weinstein '23 perform a duet.

the seats—donuts in hand—to support their peers on Friday. Performer Kashvi Ramani '24 commented on what was special about the audience at Coffeehouse.

“Something that was new and definitely beneficial to me was just performing in front of my peers. Back at [my

old] school, there were talent shows and that kind of thing, but not a lot of people watched them. Here, it felt like a really big deal because these are people that are going to act as both my friends and my peers, like my co-workers, and people that were going to actually benefit from seeing me perform,” said Ramani.

Coffeehouse serves as a space where Andover students can participate and showcase their talent. Many students attended to support their friends’ performances, including Whitney Kanter '24. Kanter highlighted the positive and uplifting atmosphere of the show.

“I really loved seeing my friends perform, because I didn’t know they had so much talent, but I loved even through some of the tough technical difficulties, everyone was really supportive of the performers. And I just loved that encouraging environment. It was so sweet... if something went wrong ev-

eryone was just kind of cheering louder, which I love,” said Kanter.

From the microphones screeching, lights turning off, or speakers dying, many acts were interrupted by technical difficulties. Additionally, due to the large spacial area of Commons, there were no distinct rows for the audience to sit in. Performer Ruthie Collett '24 recommended a change in location for the next Coffeehouse.

“I kind of wish they did it in a different place because the seating was very weird and awkward. People [were] banging around in the back,” said Collett.

Despite the difficulties, the audience was still supportive and even turned on their flashlights when the lights turned off. Ramani appreciated the support of the audience and shared advice for students who may be too scared to perform.

“For anyone that wants to get into writing or per-



M.DOUCETTE/ THE PHILLIPIAN  
Kashvi Ramani '24 finds Coffee House a perfect opportunity to share her slam poetry.

forming, I would say kind of just jump into it. This was my first time performing at all in Andover. And it was a nerve-wracking experience. But it was really rewarding,” said Ramani.

## Netflix’s “Blonde”: A Story of Glamor, Fame, and Trauma in the Wrong Hands

LANGAN GARRETT

Hollywood’s most iconic star never wanted fame. What then, did pop-culture revolutionaire Marilyn Monroe truly desire?

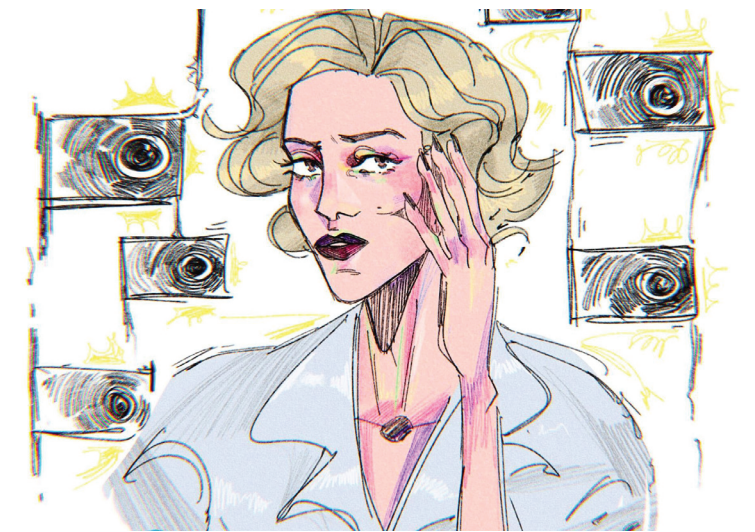
In a series of striking montages of film and photographs, Netflix’s “Blonde” seeks to answer that question, artistically portraying the tragic-yet-beautiful narrative of Marilyn Monroe’s (played by Ana de Armas) life-long struggle with loneliness, inadequacy, and parental neglect. Behind her glamorous stage name and personality, Norma Jean—Monroe’s given name—struggles with childhood trauma and her sense of self-worth: a heartbreaking journey dealing with the dark side of fame that the film takes us through in its 166 minute runtime. Released on September 28, the high anticipation for “Blonde” did not disappoint; the movie successfully provides a thought-provoking expansion of the story behind America’s beloved star that we missed six decades ago. Caution: spoilers ahead.

Aiming to portray the stark juxtaposition between Marilyn and Norma Jean’s lives, the producers of “Blonde” used different perspectives and color schemes to create two separate worlds that revolve around one woman. For example, much of Norma Jean’s trauma—her internal struggles and strained relationship with her parents—was portrayed in muted hues with slower pacing, complemented by more melancholy musical arrangements. In contrast, the parts of the film focusing on Marilyn’s rise to global fame were characterized with vibrant colors and camera flashes shot at a faster speed.

Ana de Armas successfully encapsulated the internal struggles within Marilyn and Norma Jean’s identities with emotional facial expressions and expressive body movements. Specifically, she embodied Norma Jean’s struggle with losing two children, as well as Jean’s resentment towards her Marilyn persona throughout the film. The frequent change of costumes, makeup, and sets

★★★★☆ additionally contributed to illustrating the contrast between Armas’s warring characters. Moreover, to emphasize the influence that her childhood had on her perspective of the people around her and her life trajectory, letters from her father mark important turning points in her mental health and her career. Armas showed this impact on her character by cherishing the moments that Norma Jean was able to experience her father’s love, and the voice overs emphasized the emotional importance of those moments.

A particularly intriguing aspect of the film that helped capture the audience’s attention was how personal and meaningful each relationship Norma Jean created was to her. Armas demonstrated how difficult it was for Norma Jean to create and maintain trust in her relationships, and when those relationships broke down and she had to reconcile with her past, her struggles were directly de-



livered to the audience.

With each scene that progressed through the respective lives of Marilyn and Norma Jean, the consequences of their actions, and the attention Marilyn received from the public compounded upon each other, revealing the struggles that came with fame. In the end, the realization that the letters were not written by her father but

K.STEPANOVA/ THE PHILLIPIAN one of her ex-lovers overwhelms Marilyn. The movie implies that this revelation resulted in her infamous death from drug overdose.

Overall, “Blonde” receives a 4.5/5 for its artistic portrayals of trauma and heartache. Its unique focus on Marilyn’s insecurities contrast with her glamorous public facade shows the hidden reality of mental health.