The Phillipian

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At the performance, students from Chinese 420 performed 偶像練習生 (Ŏuxiàng liànxí shēng).

Hopping into a New Year: Andover Celebrates the Year of the Rabbit

BAILEY XU

In celebration of the Lunar New Year, Asian Women Empowerment (AWE) and Asian Society hosted a screening of the award-winning film "Everything Everywhere All at Once" last Friday at 7 p.m. in the Office of Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD). Asian Society followed this event with a Lunar New Year Celebration at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday in the Underwood Room.

Ashley Song '23, a board member of AWE, initiated the idea of a movie screening and partnering with Asian Society. Song appreciated the wide outreach the collaboration between the two groups brought to the celebration.

"AWE wanted to do a collaboration with Asian Society and we thought a movie would be fun. Whether with

Asians or with non-Asians, 'Everything Everywhere All at Once' has just been a really popular movie... With the timing of things, it also lined up for us to make it part of Lunar New Year programming... We also utilized the energy and the attention on Lunar New Year to get the conversation started about Asian people's experiences... We recognize that AWE and Asian society reach different audiences at our school, and we wanted to bring everyone together," said

Pema Sherpa '23, another board member of AWE, attributed her enjoyment of "Everything Everywhere All at Once" to its relatability. She pointed out her personal connection to the mother-daughter relationship depicted in the movie.

"'Everything Everywhere All at Once' gave us a representation of mother-daughter relationships that I think is pretty common amongst me and my Asian friends. [In the movie,] the daughter just wanted her mother's approval and to have a strong connection with her mother, and the way they both expressed their love for each other was very different. I think that's a common theme in relationships between Asian mothers and daughters, whether or not they celebrate Lunar New Year," said Sherpa.

The celebration featured scallion pancakes, dumplings, and lantern making. Ethan Sun'23, Co-President of Asian Society, hoped that the celebration was a relaxing, fun gathering for students.

"I could tell people were having fun, that was really nice. It was just a good way for anybody who wants to

Continued on A6, Column 1

Andover Implements Second Growth and Accountability Plan

LEO PETERS

After first introducing the Growth and Accountability Plan (GAP) this fall, an email to the Andover community on January 25 announced a "second growth and accountability plan" (GAP2). According to the email — sent by Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington — the updated disciplinary system will limit suspensions and dismissals of students and offer a GAP2 to students with previous GAPs.

Under this year's initial new disciplinary system, students received a GAP, a ten week plan, from creation to review, that requires students to reflect on their disciplinary infractions. Student misconduct was categorized into Levels 1, 2, or 3. According to the Blue Book, when students commit their first Level 2 infraction, they may be given a GAP, through which they must work to grow as an individual with actions such as writing apologies to impacted individuals and keeping a journal. Students who commit their first Level 3 infraction may be suspended, dismissed, or given a GAP.

Per the new policy, spearheaded by Kington and the administration, if a student who has been given a GAP for a previous action commits another Level 2 or 3 infraction, they may be suspended, dismissed, or given a second, more rigorous GAP. According to the email sent to the Andover community, a GAP2 could include mandatory counseling, drug testing, or "dorm and campus restrictions" for students.

Previously, when students with GAPs committed a second infraction, they would face either suspension or dismissal, according to Student Body Co-President Nigel Savage '23. Savage explained that Kington motivated the administration to change the system after researching suspension and removal disciplinary practices.

"A lot of the research that Dr. Kington has looked at says that suspension doesn't really work, at least for public schools... This GAP2 would [include] a lot more rigorous enforcement. If it was drugsand alcohol-related, it would be weekly drug testing, random drug searches, stuff like that, to try to give students another chance and more opportunities to be able to stay in our community. But it's not an infinite free pass. It's more rigorous... to get you in the place that you need to be," said Savage.

Savage added that there has been a recent increase in substance abuse on campus. The administration hoped to address campus substance abuse with the new plan, according

"There's been an uptick, I think, this year in specifically

Continued on A5, Column 4

Property Theft on Campus Poses Inconvenience for Students

ADDISON DENG & WILL GE

Dozens of members of the Andover community own bikes, scooters, and other means of quick and convenient transportation. Recently, students and faculty members have reported missing properties and the lack of address or accountabilities being held for the thefe

ing held for the thefts.

Brandon Fu '25 has been using a scooter almost daily since his Junior year. He spoke about how stealing has become normalized among

many students.

"Over the course of last school year, [my scooter] was stolen 22 times, and I managed to recover it each of the 22 times... I think [scooter theft] is a part of the culture at Andover. [People] can use scooters to get to places faster if they're about to be late for a class: they can 'borrow'

a scooter and drop it off. The issue with that is that oftentimes when they come back outside, that scooter later gets stolen as well. So there are just scooters circulating around campus," said Fu.

Mia Burton '25 has also experienced similar thefts and shared her techniques for preventing such incidents. She emphasized the lack of address on scooter theft as a serious issue in the Andover community.

"I lost my scooter... twice. I have an air tag on mine... [which] works pretty well for a general area. I would also recommend a lock. I think [scooter theft] is not the most serious problem on campus, but it definitely should be accepted as a problem to have students taking property that belongs to others who may have paid for them. I think that it's definitely a prevailing issue in terms of just the fact that people are stealing from other people on campus."

Along with the address of her own issue, Kelly Yang '24 pointed out the limited attempts on campus to prevent property theft. Yang expressed that Andover executes minimal action toward change regarding stealing, and it remains a common occurrence around campus.

"My scooter has been stolen probably three times now. Each time I've managed to find it again, and I even bought an air tag for it, so I wouldn't lose it anymore. But every single time it's just shown up somewhere else. [Finding it] is mainly just luck... I feel like there's nothing the school can really do besides send out an email that says 'don't steal each other's stuff.' It'd be great if they could stop my scooter from being stolen 24/7, but I just

Continued on A5. Column 1



TOP 5 DEN FOODS SOLD IN 2022



"Dear Curious Stranger": Double Brick House Residents Find Letter from Former Student

LUCAS BENARDETE & KAI MAFUNGA

Underneath the floor-boards of Double Brick House this winter, the Office of the Physical Plant (OPP) discovered a letter dated 2005 from former Andover students, including Nkem Oghedo '08. Current Double Brick residents posted a photo of the letter on Instagram on January 12, later finding through the comments section of the post that the letter was written during Oghedo's Junior year.

"Dear curious stranger who decided to try to lift the floor boards, like I did in June 2005... Double Brick, the past three years have been some of the wildest years, and we write this to make sure they don't go forgotten. Just a few minutes ago we were thinking about time. It's been weird to think about all the stuff that has happened in the same spot you are in right now, in the same room. We were picturing this letter under here and now you are taking it out," wrote Oghedo in the letter.

Chloe Rhee '24, a prefect in Double Brick, explained that current residents of the dorm

immediately posted the letter online after reading it as a dorm, eager to find the letter's

writer.

"We were super surprised [when we found it]. The letter was rediscovered on the kitchen table after final signin, so it was read out to all the people that were in the common room at the time. It was really enjoyable to hear from students from years past about their own experiences, and as soon as we finished reading it the first thing we did was try

Continued on A5, Column 1

C.SHEN & R.YANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Gatorade Whey

Commentary, A3

Our Media Consumption

Ava Chen '24 suggests the reality of a post-truth world and urges readers to be cautious when consuming social media and news.

Eighth Page, A8 Sorry Suffragettes

Evalyn steps down from throne.

Sports, B4 **Girls Hockey**

In its recent games against St. Mark's School and Cushing Academy, Girls Hockey tallied 14 points to remain undefeated.

Arts, B6 Senior Soloist Concert

Last Friday at Cochran Chapel, three students performed their last solo performances with Andover Music Department.

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Editorial

Last Words

Reflections from the departing members of The Phillipian, vol. CXLV.

"The State of the Academy is probably one of the most painful but important projects of my Andover experience." - D. Chang

"The Phillipian has been a great space for me to question and challenge traditions that have been embedded in the history of The Phillipian. I really love multi and sharing my passion for languages and encouraging The Phillipian to reflect on linguistic diversity. I'm excited to see what my associates will do next year." - S. Checchi

"I love, despise, hate, appreciate you Aaron Chung, for introducing me and hooking me up with Plip. #Madeittiltheend" - J. Chyu

"The relation between what we see and what we know is never settled.' - John Berger" - M. Doucette "I love you all <3" - I. Guo

"To CXLVI and Digital, the most important section, good luck. It's all yours now." - D. Jeong

"all my skills for the paper lack dignity. but anything for the laughs." - E. Lee

"i don't think my experience with The Phillipian can be summed up in my own words. instead, i'll do what journalism does best and quote the collective andover consciousness: 'thank f*ck it's over."' - J. Li

"Alex, Jeffrey, Noemi, Natalie, Jackie, and Maggie -- thank you for making my time with Arts one to remember. I'll miss this place <3" - J. Ma

"Came for Maya Tang and stayed for Mia Xiao. She is the best boss and absolutely does not treat us like amazon employees! Sorry Jacob Kaiser, video loves you <3" A. Mark-Fong

"My time as a sports editor went a bit like Arsenal 4-4 Newcastle in 2011. As they say, it's a 'game of two halves."'- D. Moriwake

"Feeling lucky to have gotten to know you all. Some of the smartest, coolest ppl I know. Cannot wait to see what you all do. Shoutout News-best section <3" - H. Nardone

"Sometimes the most unexpected opportunities teach you the most. Thank you CXLV for introducing me to the collective genius (and idiocy) of the Newsroom, and the rush of last-minute editing. In the future, use less em-dashes." - S. Robinson

"I wasn't going to write at first, let alone apply for editor. All I can say is that I'm glad I took that step and pleased with where it got me." - J. Rogus

"from zoom to the Newsroom, The Phillipian family is forever. lots of love "- M. Satterthwaite

"I've learned about collaboration and creativity and really most importantly, creativity. Our school paper is a flexible platform for pursuing stories and representing peers and community members; so I only hope CXLVI may take advantage of The Phillipian's establishment to work between and across sections to always push for more creativity. I thank Jasmine for letting me try my hand at Arts' movie reviews, and seeing the work complemented by illustrators' artwork. Looking for more outlets of expression and exploration always, Ashley" - A. Song "Y'all need to find a way to expand the Newsroom I've been living in fear of the building catching fire. But as Senior year progressed and I slowly lost the will to live, I accepted the fact that my death may happen

"Words, words, words, they're all we have to go on...' until upload wasn't on Thursday <3" - C. Wang

"things could be a lot worse' - megamind" - J. Xu "Ideas for Multi's long-term sustainability: 1. write original articles 2. collaborate with the language dept. 3. translate into Simlish with 8p. All in all, DON'T LET US DIE OUT AGAIN OK!!" — M. Yao

"what can i say, we drowned in success #securedthebag(s)" — M. Yuan

"Rawr" - A. Zhang

in the Newsroom." – M. Tang

"How many Garfields are too many Garfields? There are never too many. It has been a wild, fun ride CXLV!!" - K. Wang

"Wow. That was one hell of a ride. Thank you for the past four years, Plip. To Newzzz - Hannah, Laura, Will, Aaron — CXLV, and UM, all my love. Thanks for being my second family. To CXLVI, welcome home. Take care of yourself and each other. Whatever happens, you'll have each other to get through it together each week." - E. Kim

"It was hard, it was glorious, it was painful, but it was ours. To Arts CXLIII, CXLIV, Semira, Alex, CXLV, and UM - thank you for everything. It's been an honour and a pleasure. To quote the immortal Bryan Ferry: 'your memory stays, it lingers ever...I hope it's forever.' Much love to you all. Here's to retirement." -D. Park Wang

"I'm writing at 1 a.m. at night, which feels very fitting considering my relationship to the paper as echoed by many others. The Phillipian has become so intertwined with my time at Andover without my ever coming to this recognition before. I hope as I struggle to find my vocation (pastime) post-retirement, the new generation of editors will find themselves in the paper as I did. Love, Mia" — M. Xiao

"It's hard saying goodbye, but I'll forever be grateful for all the laughs, memories, and hectic Wednesday nights we've shared together. Thank you Anushka, Laura, UM, Sports, CXLV, and everyone who's been a part of my time on The Phillipian for making these past three years so special. To CXLVI: Love this paper, and love it together. Cherish the fun, cherish the stress, and never be afraid to swim with the sharks. It's your turn now." - E. Qi

"Thank you. Thank you thank you thank you: to Jay and CXLIV for teaching us to carry this legacy, to News for making me learn to love this paper, to CXLV for making this paper what it is right now, and to UM for struggling with me. I love you all. And CXLVI, you've got this. Be The Phillipian." – E. Goncalves

It is Usually Too Early to Judge

ANDREW CHINN



believe in God. I believe that wooden crosses will walk me closer to a better life. I believe that going to church, and kneeling before a stranger and telling them my deepest darkest secrets will bring me, with certainty, towards salvation. But there are many things that I don't believe in. For example, I don't believe that I have the right to choose whether someone else can receive abortion care. I don't believe that people who identify differently than I do are any less human or should possess any less rights than I can enjoy. We've been taught that I'm simply an outlier in a much more vast populous of society. My identity has been thrown in the same mixing pot as anti maskers, pro-lifers and white-supremecists that hold up my religion as a token to justify bigotry.

The world is a complicated place and our mind likes to find shortcuts to navigate the large

swells that life can often throw at us. One philosophy that has been subconsciously embedded in the way we digest information is Essentialism. We label the "most essential" pieces of data to create simplifications and generalizations that turn seemingly nonsensical data into something tangible. This bad habit has transformed into a persistent problem, and often, the subconscious simplifications that we make have carried over into our everyday lives. Through our understanding of our new, small, and simple world, we often presumptively judge the mismatching pieces that don't conform to our perception of reality. This seemingly occasional occurrence often becomes unavoidable under a shroud of Essentialism.

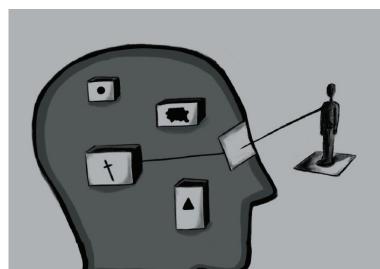
But Essentialism is not fundamentally problematic. We naturally gravitate towards more simple, and more manageable mental habits that help us compartmentalize and process information that seems nonsensical. In fact, we do this all the time. Essentialism seeps into many of our study habits, generalizing large pools of information, small enough to recall in effective ways, even if losing aspects of specificity. We enjoy identifying what is important and what is not. Whether that be associating an outfit to a person or a math symbol to a formula, generalizing requires less conscious work, takes less time and provides less of a challenge. But, sometimes, simple is not enough. The liberal bubble built around our community spaces has often

led to the preconception that my faith is associated with conservatism. Whilst that may be right for other people, this fatal assumption often makes me feel isolated in conversations where my prochoice peers only see me as an opposition instead of an ally.

Our world is being continu-

My faith is just one part of me, but it does not represent all of me.

ally transformed into something that's once simply unimaginable in pasts. The internet has fundamentally changed the availability of information and this sudden influx can be understandably overwhelming. Cultural norms, social expectations and pressure are critical points of who we are in society. We have been thrown into a world that expects us to keep up with a society predicated on constant change and information. Where summaries and excerpts were once sufficient, the complexity of the world requires explanations that are more robust to describe the sudden change our world has taken. Labels and signs can't encompass the complexity that runs across the different facets of life. So, when the mental constructs become our living reality, we often miss out on the important truth. At its worst, minute details become stereotypes and biases that are only rooted in figments of imagination



SOPHIE STAII / THE PHILLIPIAN

that often leave fertile soil for ste-

reotyping, xenophobia, and cul-

tural disconnectivity. Essentialism is not just some sociological phenomenon, but instead a pervasive habit that's become the epicenter of judgment and oppression. The symptoms of Essentialism are universal but often disproportionately impacts cultural and racial minorities. Our inclination to drive our own presumptions of reality has cultivated a social culture that is increasingly one dimensional. Essentialism contributes to the xenophobic stereotypes and unconscious biases that we are too frequently exposed to. Charged headlines like "big media spreads lies" or "communism succeeds," are removed from truth and, instead, incite emotional responses, loosely tied to fragments of objectivity. People have become quick to conclude before engaging with the much more sophisticat-

ed, comminuted personas. But, crossing the line between convenience and challenge helps us personify people and their lives. We don't live in a world of certainty or simplicity, instead life lies on a scatter plot of perpetual

My faith is just one part of me, but it does not represent all of me. I may not fit the mold of who you think I may be and other people will not either.

Editor's Note: Andrew Chinn is an Associate Photo Editor for The Phillipian.

Andrew Chinn is an Upper from Jakarta, Indonesia. Contact the author at achinn24@ andover.edu.

The Phillipian welcomes all letters to the Editor. We try to print all letters, but because of space limitations, we enforce a 500-word limit. We reserve the right to edit all submitted letters. Letters must be responses to articles already published by The Phillipian. We will not publish any anonymous letters. Please submit letters by the Monday of each week to phillipian@phillipian.net or to our newsroom in the basement of Morse Hall.

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CORRECTIONS: The News article "Harvard Fellow Trystan Goetze Explores Interdisciplinary Technology Ethics" was misattributed. The authors were Will

Ge and Tianyi Gu. Miles Palmer was misidentified in the caption used in the photo for the Sports article "Andover Wins Tri-Meet Against Exeter First Time in

Two Years.' Cristina Donovan's name was misspelled in the Arts spread "MOSAIC Hosts First Mixed Heritage Dance Featuring Mixed Heritage Artists." Photos were misattributed for the Sports articles "Following Collegiate Meet, Boys Track and Field Destroy Competition at Home" and "Girls

Indoor Track and Field Compete at UMass Flagship Invitational, Follows with Win at Home." Photos were courtesy of Keri Lambert. Valencia Zhang's name was misspelled in the Editor's Note for the Arts article "Lunar New Year Celebration Showcases Student Talents and Chinese Cuisine."

Bianca Morales' name was misspelled in the Commentary article "What Is History Without Words."

on the Media



C. SHEN / THE PHILLIPIAN

TikTok "Detectives" are Ruining People's Lives

MONISHA KATHIKA



he recent Idaho Murder Case has intrigued yet stumped most of the Internet. Four University of Idaho students were murdered within the safety of their own home, yet two of the roommates survived. People have been questioning each and every aspect of the case due to the lack of information made known to the public. How did the two survivors not hear a thing? Where is the murder weapon? Who could have committed such a brutal crime?

With so many questions left unanswered, many people on Tik-Tok have taken it upon themselves to solve this case. While it may be thrilling to solve a murder mystery, it is important for people to understand that their words affect people's lives, even if it not be their own. The Idaho Murder Case is not a Clue game where you can start accusing random people until you find the right one. Powerful accusations like these negatively affect the lives of the victims.

Internet sleuthing affects the lives of victims forever, whereas

the accuser is never held accountable for their actions. For example, in the Idaho Murder Case, Tik-Tokers formed rumors about the "hoodie guy," as TikTokers named him, who was seen in a security video at the corner of a street. The police shared this security video of Kaylee Gonclaves, Madison Mogen, and the hooded man at a food truck hours before their murders.

"Hoodie guy" is not some character in a show; he is a real person with a real life outside of people's Internet sleuthing. According to Meaww, an entertainment news source, his name is Jack Showalter, a college student that happened to be at the food truck at the same time as the young girls. People started to create rumors about Showalter, claiming that he fled the country and is hiding in Africa with his parents. His entire life took a turn as people on the Internet accused him of being the murderer. Their reasoning was that he looked "suspicious" in the security video.

TikTok detectives overanalyzed the video, stating that actions such as putting his hood up and glancing at the girls made him the killer. Showalter is now a murderer because he put his hood up? It is illogical claims like these that put people's lives at risk. TikTokers should not make these harmful claims just for a few more views or likes on their videos. This sort of defamation may affect someone's life forever, even after the case is solved. After all, acting suspiciously does not make someone a killer. Concrete evidence does.

TikTok detectives should



KARISHMA CASTILLO / THE PHILLIPIAN

leave the professional work to the professionals rather than harassing innocent people on the Internet. Detectives have much more knowledge, experience, and resources when it comes to high-profile cases such as this one. Detectives have formally studied criminology and have access to resources such as DNA analysis and government records. TikTokers do not have the same advantages or knowledge as detectives

do. Additionally, the police refrain from sharing valuable information about a case in order to purposefully misguide the killer. What the police reveal to the public does not encompass all the information they have regarding the case. Therefore, the police force is able to solve a case much more accurately than a TikTok "detective" ever would.

Though they may not realize it, TikTokers are not working with the police to solve the case. They do not hold any resources that the police force does not already have. TikTokers may believe they are assisting the police with new facts, but in reality, they are most likely not. The accusations they make on the Internet cause harm to many families and potentially danger the lives of victims. I believe that Tiktok entertainment is not worth putting lives at risk for.

TikTokers need to understand that the videos they make and the comments they leave have a major impact on someone's everyday life. The Internet does not just stop online. It is a part of our daily lives and has a tremendous influence on our opinions and viewpoints. Accusing another person of such a remorseless crime is not something that can be taken lightheartedly. The Internet needs to understand the seriousness of situations like these and act sensibly. It is never acceptable to put others' lives at risk for your own entertainment and satisfaction.

As for Showalter, there are still many people that do not believe he is innocent, despite the police catching the true killer. His sister has asked the Internet to apologize to him for spreading these horrible rumors about him, but it is yet to be determined what his fate will be.

Editor's Note: Monisha Kathika is an Associate Sports Editor for The Phillipian.

Monisha Kathika is an Upper from Tewksbury, Mass. Contact the author at mkathika24@andover.edu.

Pigeons and Post-Truth: Questioning Our Media Consumption

AVA CHEN



I'm scrolling through Instagram when I find a video of a pigeon bobbing to a guitar player on the street, tourists clapping along. The caption lauds the bird's dancing skills. Opening the comments, I find a smattering of people among the 'cute!' and 'aww [various emojis]' arguing that the pigeon is not actually feeling the music's rhythm, but has an injured leg and is trying to get to the street. There's even the occasional animal rights tangent.

Many media ambiguities are like this — benign. A small video is misinterpreted for comedic convenience. Yet, such trivial instances betray a larger, more sinister progression of media towards an alarming misinformation epidemic.

Misinformation is far from a new concept. From America's Red Scare anti-communist propaganda during the 1900s to the Pizzagate conspiracy theory, we all know the consequences of spreading misinformation on significant scales. Innocent people were unfairly convicted in the former case, and many were threatened, harassed, and even physically attacked by alt-right actors in the latter.

The concept of "post-truth" was recently introduced to me: an era where objective fact becomes less influential in shaping public opinion than emotion and biases. Considering our psychological instinct to believe whatever is pre-



sented to us and the prevalence of scroll-happy social media, the post-truth era starts to seem like less of a theory and more of a likely future. Misinformation is becoming an increasingly critical yet understated emergency. Now, more than ever, we need to be careful in how we consume information.

Humans err towards truth. This makes sense — if we were inherent skeptics, relationships could not be established, group work would be impossible, and society would stagnate in isolationism and paranoia. Our propensity for belief, however, can harm us in the modern media climate. Society is vastly unequipped to recognize fake news — according to "CNN," as many as three out of four Americans overestimate their ability to identify false headlines. This alarming lack of media lit-

eracy is only exacerbated by many other factors contributing to the rise in misinformation.

More than one billion TikTok videos are collectively watched every day, according to "Social Media Perth." We judge if we want to view these videos by the first several frames before swiping away. Content creators pander to appearances instead of accuracy. Polarization and ideological unity are viciously self-perpetuating — ten comments lead to hundreds. It becomes dangerously easy for misinformation to slip through and for narratives to spiral out of control.

Last year, I saw an Instagram post with a bold-faced headline talking about a woman who was criminally prosecuted for performing a late abortion. I instinctively sympathized with her, and the initial burst of angry comments condemning the country's government evidently did too. As I scrolled further, however, comments of a different perspective started appearing. They talked about how the woman had not actually performed an abortion, but brutally killed her baby soon after they were born. The post had grossly distorted the real story. Intrigued, I researched further, and found confirming evidence of this. While I personally and strongly believe in the fundamental right to an abortion, we should never condone journalistic fabrication to further any sort of opinionated narrative.

People also love to avoid cognitive dissonance. We seek information, consciously and unconsciously, that corroborate our beliefs, and often ignore those that do not. Social evidence in the form of popularity can become as influential as objective fact, especially on the Internet. Echo chambers form within radicalizing Internet communities due to algorithms, and any opposition is flamed without regard for possible legitimacy. In a post-truth era, these phenomena painfully exacerbate the spread of misinformation.

I admit I have fallen into this trap of letting my political views skew my perspective, specifically in the case of the Xinjiang Uyghur re-education camps. At first, I was indignant at the U.S. government for spreading what I construed to be fake news to justify a more aggressive approach against China. I eagerly watched YouTubers like Daniel Dumbrill that eloquently debunked 'genocide' allegations. Later, however, I realized that this fanaticism was equally as delusional as believing wholeheartedly in the Xinjiang story. Both sides had at least some merit; nothing was black and white, but my closed mindset was. While it's far from my place to make any claims about the truth of the camps, from

a purely journalistic perspective,

many of the 'genocide' articles did use heavily emotional language, a pattern of phrases akin to "impossible to verify," and sources whose credibility was impacted by conflicts of interest. I say this as a counterweight to the lopsided consensus towards believing these allegations. The media covering the Xinjiang story exemplify declining journalistic standards symptomatic of post-truth. To say the least, these provocative narratives warrant closer study before readily supporting or opposing

Taking all of these factors into consideration, along with the divisive political climate in the U.S. today, I believe we are hurtling towards a post-truth era, and not doing enough to combat this rise in misinformation. We need to approach inflammatory stories much more critically. We must take a step back for introspection in the face of extreme anger, frustration, or indignation. To do so, search for all sides of the narrative; not just the ones you agree with. Find the hot takes and the dissenting opinions, whether that be in Instagram comment sections, Reddit forums, or the dinner table. There's often gold there and character development.

Though we may never know for sure if a pigeon is limping or dancing, at the very least, we should discuss thoughtfully before mindlessly sharing and liking. The pigeon may get offended. Just kidding — but please, please do this for the topics that matter. Misinformation not only misinforms; with issues more weighty than pigeon injuries at stake, it can jeopardize, and even end lives.

Editor's Note: Ava Chen is an Associate Arts Editor for The Phillipian.

Ava Chen is an Upper from Wellesley, Mass. Contact the author at achen24@andover.edu.



ANDOVER ATHLETICS



J. XIAO / THE PHILLIPIAN

To Male Walkers, Runners, Bikers, and Drivers

PATRICIA TRAN



y high school cross country team consists of 30 girls who find joy and purpose in exploring new trails. 30 girls who find freedom and confidence in exercise. However, at a team meeting in the beginning of the season, we were faced with example scenarios regarding the sexual harassment of female runners in order to discuss proper safety precautions. Most of my teammates could relate with vivid personal experiences about being followed or catcalled, expressing their fears of exercising alone without extreme protective measures. We were advised by our female coaches on how to react if men commented on our bodies. However, the boys cross country team - both oppressors and bystanders in our example scenarios - did not have any similar conversations.

Exercise is a form of stressrelief and empowerment. After a long day of work or school, exercise is the perfect way to find some alone time, enjoy nature, listen to music, or daydream. Whether it is a casual walk, jaunty bike ride, or mindless solo run, the ability for women to make decisions for their own bodies when exercising gives them a sense of autonomy and se-

Experiencing a single instance of sexual harassment can completely change this perspective. Music is silenced, tight clothes that accentuate physical features are replaced with baggier clothing, and every second is spent on high alert, scanning the area for possible dangers. One of my teammates can't even go out for a walk without a phone in one hand and a can of pepper spray in the other. Oftentimes, the trauma from an instance of sexual harassment can completely destroy a woman's passion for exercise, resulting in depression and restlessness that can permeate work and family life. Unwanted focus on specific

body parts alters a woman's view on body image, which can eventually spiral into insecurities and disordered eating. Why is it that women must live in constant fear and alter their daily tendencies for something they can't control? What may, to men, appear as a careless joke, or even worse, an intentional "compliment," is detrimental to a woman's physical and mental health. Trust me, us women aren't laughing.

According to a survey conducted by Runner's World, 60 percent of women have been harassed while running. 90 percent of the harassment stems from men and 74 percent of the harassment is in the form of unwanted sexual attention. Men shouldn't be able to walk away, run away, bike away, or drive away without shame and punishment for their words and actions. Sexually objectifying women needs to stop. Hateful messages in the form of sarcasm and humor must be corrected.

Obviously, not all men actively harass women, but those who do are the source of the problem. To the men who find pleasure in expressing their sexual impulses to women, keep your thoughts to yourself. Women are not just moving archery targets unharmed by the arrows you shoot at them. Women are human. Rather than words of encouragement related to the body, general phrases like "You're doing great!" or "Keep going!" build a supportive environ-

ment and instill confidence. Just one word can change a woman's relationship with exercise, so staying quiet or smiling is just as effective. The goal is to make the local park, trails, gym, beaches, and other public spaces a place for everyone to freely explore their own

To our male allies, it is in your hands to combat and prevent any form of sexual harassment, sexism, or objectification. Of course, you should always call out the harasser and assist women in need of a male figure, but you should also ensure women are comfortable exercising in your presence. When walking, running, biking, or driving behind a woman, do not move at the same speed as her, or else it may seem like you are following her. Keep random interactions to a minimum, even those with good intentions, and respect her space and privacy. Offer to exercise or travel with your friends who are afraid to do it alone. Inform women of dangerous routes or suspicious activity around the area. Be helpful, not hateful. And again, don't comment on our bod-

A high school girls cross country team should not have to face both the challenges of their sport and the poor words of men. It should not be my friend's duty to send me worried texts every time I go on a walk or run alone. Pepper spray brands should not need to have products tailored for those who exercise in public spaces. You men need to step it up.

Editor's Note: Patricia Tran is an Associate Sports Editor for The Phillipian.

Patricia Tran is an Upper from Glenelg, Md. Contact the author at ptran24@andover.edu.

learn how to get outside with-

out such a great commitment,

not to mention the mandatory

physical education curriculum

which should already teach this.

lem is simple – make athletics

a two-term requirement. Our

The solution to this

problem is simple —

make athletics a two-

term requirement.

rival, Phillips Exeter Academy,

has adopted this model, and I

see no reason why we shouldn't

do the same. Such a model helps

students develop healthy habits

and integrate athletics into their

lives. At the same time, it would

allow us to further pursue our

true interests, an essential part

sports is a win for everyone, stu-

dents and teachers alike, while

parents can rest assured their

child is maintaining a healthy

lifestyle on campus. I, like many

other students, find myself

Ultimately, two terms of

of the high school experience.

The solution to this prob-



Don't Need It, Don't Want It: I Hate Sports

This hypothetical student is al-

most me — luckily, I have a sport

who are busy. Finding enough

coaches can be a struggle for

the athletic department. Facul-

ty should only coach sports they

are passionate and knowledge-

able about, rather than the yoga

class they were begged to teach.

Coaching needs to become a

more enjoyable experience for

coaches, athletes, and adminis-

But I can already hear the

trators alike.

Besides, it's not only students

that doesn't meet on Mondays.

MICHAEL MA



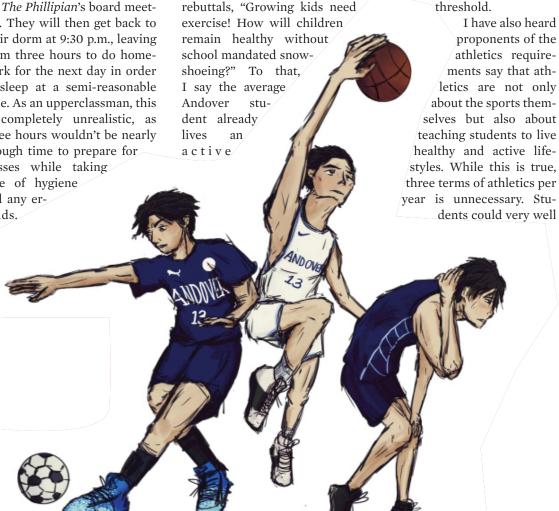
dislike athletics. However, I've played sports for most L of my life and follow various sports leagues. I even dare say I'm an athletic guy since I'm very active and frequent the gym. So I should specify: I dislike athletics at Andover. As an Andover student, three mandatory terms of sports are at best, unnecessary, and at worst, a heavy burden on my classes, extracurriculars, and social life.

Requiring a student to participate in sports year-round is highly restricting. At a school like Andover, the fact that students have a wide variety of interests is a unique facet of the community and people here. Due to the significant time commitment of required sports, students are limited in their abilities to pursue clubs and hobbies. Even low-commitment "life sports" meet three to four times per week for at least an hour, a large chunk out of valuable weekday time.

Take a student who is participating in a sport, Jazz Band, and The Phillipian. Sports will typically let out at 5:00 p.m. If we're being generous, this student might have 30 minutes to do homework, but they probably need a full hour to shower, change, and eat before band

Requiring a student to participate in sports vear-round is highly restricting.

practice at 6:20 p.m. Immediately after that, they will head to the basement of Morse Hall for The Phillipian's board meeting. They will then get back to their dorm at 9:30 p.m., leaving them three hours to do homework for the next day in order to sleep at a semi-reasonable time. As an upperclassman, this is completely unrealistic, as three hours wouldn't be nearly enough time to prepare for classes while taking care of hygiene and any errands.



about the sports themselves but also about

LUKE CHRISTODOULOU / THE PHILLIPIAN

teaching students to live healthy and active lifestyles. While this is true, three terms of athletics per year is unnecessary. Students could very well

and healthy lifestyle. Person-

ally, I average 11,000 steps per

day at school. 1,000 steps is es-

timated to take ten minutes to

walk, meaning I get far over the

recommended 60 minutes of

exercise per day for teens, not

counting the biking I do. Walk-

ing a lot is a requirement on this

campus as students travel be-

tween classes, dorms, activities,

and meals numerous times per

day. Even my more sedentary

friends average at least 6,000

steps per day on any given

week, meeting the 60-minute

crunched for time on a regular basis with the burden of athletics and hope for a change in athletics for my own and other students' well-being.

Editor's Note: Michael Ma is a Business Manager for The Phillip-

Michael Ma is an Upper from San Mateo, Calif. Contact the author at mma24@andover.edu.

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

Politics: Trump Organization Fined 1.6 Million Dollars for Tax

According to "CNBC," the Trump Organization was fined 1.6 million dollars in a tax fraud scheme last month. The sentence, issued by the Manhattan District Attorney's Offices, charged the highest fine allowed by the state. Both of the subsidiaries that were fined — the Trump Corporation and the Trump Payroll Corporation — denied any misconduct and plan to appeal their 17 counts of tax fraud, falsifying business records, and conspiracy. The Attorney General of New York, Letitia James, has filed a comprehensive civil lawsuit against them, seeking at least 250 million dollars in damages.

World: Protests in Peru Result in at Least 55 Deaths

Following the failed coup of Peru's president Pedro Castillo, violent protests between his supporters and law enforcement have resulted in at least 55 deaths. According to "The New York Times," after a year of struggling to manage the country, Castillo announced the dissolution of Congress, instead creating a government to rule by decree. This order was seen as an illegal power grab which promptly resulted in Castillo's detainment. Protests and blockades have taken over about 40 percent of Peru, with reports of gunshots, glass-throwing, and tire-burning.

Climate: Ozone Layer Now On Track To Full Recovery by 2066 A recent study by the United Nations found that the ozone layer is on track to recover within the next 40 years. According to "Vox." the Montreal Protocol of 1989, which banned 99 percent of chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, was thought of as the most effective environmental treaty ever implemented. If current restrictions remain in place, the ozone layer should return to its 1980s levels by 2040, the thinner Arctic ozone layer should recover by 2045, and the Antarctic ozone hole by 2066. Although the recovery is great news, World Meteorological Organization Secretary General Petteri Taalas emphasized the importance of continuing to transition away from fossil fuels and limit global temperature increases. Climate change is still progressing.

Covid-19: China Experiences New Waves After Lifting Restrictions

After unrest and mass-protest forced the Chinese government to end its nearly three year long zero-Covid policy, China experienced a large Covid-19 outbreak. According to "NBC," the Chinese government reported that recent Covid-19 deaths had risen to 60,000, with the figure only including deaths in hospitals. An estimate by "Trinity," an independent forecaster in London, placed the number more than ten times higher at 608,000. "NBC" reported on overcrowded

hospitals in Shanghai after a strict two-month lockdown of the city.

Crematoriums and funeral homes have had to allot ten-minute time

COLLECTED BY ISHAAN PADMAWAR

Economy: United States Hits National Debt Ceiling

slots to families due to the chaos.

According to "CNN," the United States of America hit the national debt ceiling last Thursday, forcing the Treasury Department to take measures to prevent the government from defaulting on its debt until at least June 5. With a cap of 31.4 trillion dollars, defaulting could result in crashes in the stock market, higher interest rates, and millions of jobs lost. As part of the debt insurance suspension period, the treasury will begin to sell existing investments and suspend reinvestments of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund and the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund.

Campus Community Members Irritated by Missing Bikes and Scooters

Continued from A1, Column 3

don't know what they would do," said Yang.

Mark Leonard, Director of Campus Safety, commented on the stolen bikes and scooters on campus regarding the collection of reported cases. Leonard expressed that there are one to two cases reported on average monthly.

"We had seven or eight lost or stolen bicycles reported to us... and one skateboard so far since the beginning of this school year in September. It's probably pretty close to average. We typically have one or two reports a month or so. After it is being reported, it's often helpful with the person reporting it can give us as much identifiable information as they can," said Leonard.

Leonard continued, "We've had a couple of reports in the past where, these reports, the last time they got their bike it was outside of the Snyder Center. And we do have cameras outside that area. So we'll

check that and we've been able to have some success in seeing what happened there... sometimes another student might bike and just use it to go across campus, and then leave it, and it turns up on the other side of campus a few days later."

Alexandra Booth, Instructor in History, reported a lost scooter owned by her daughter. She acknowledged frustration regarding missing scooters and bikes but also pointed out students' own responsibility for keeping personal items in a public space.

"I'm not sure how many students are aware of this, but you can and should register your bike or scooter with public safety so that they have a description of it. They give you a little campus safety PA sticker with a number on it so they can keep track of the different things that are on campus. That way, if anything is stolen, campus safety can look up the description of the object and keep an eye out for it," said Booth.

Booth continued, "I think [scooter theft] can also be a

personal accountability sue. I see tons of bikes all over campus without locks and bikes... with locks that are not locked to anything... going out into the world, you probably [shouldn't] necessarily expect the same level of safety that you would in your own home."

Fu spoke to scooter stealers, emphasizing the harm any form of theft inflicts upon the Andover community. He urged them to reconsider their actions and display empathy toward scooter and bike owners.

"Simply put, don't steal. It's not a good thing to do. It doesn't look good on your character, and it doesn't look good on your friends. It's a shortterm gain for a long-term moral loss... It would be really great if you could add to the Non-Sibi Big Blue spirit that we have here already on campus by just staying clean. Don't steal: put yourself in the position of the person who owns the scooter. Have some empathy," said Fu.

GAP2 Shifts Away From Suspensions **And Dismissals**

Continued from A1, Column 5

drug and alcohol related cases or infractions, and I think what [administrators] were seeing was that maybe the best way to approach that is [to] continue to do those kinds of random drug searches, random drug tests, those more rigorous enforcements to try and get people to get on the right path, instead of just suspending people," said Savage. Student Body and Cluster

Co-Presidents also met with the administration regarding the decision to implement GAP policy change, according to Rohan Kapoor '23, Cluster Co-President of West Quad North. Kapoor expressed support for the change, which he believes will lead to more positive and equitable outcomes for students.

"I think that, especially in cases such as substance abuse, if we have the structure to support students on campus, we should use it... It's definitely a way for us to help decrease the inequality that we see sometimes in the student body, where if you're sent home for suspension, some outcomes might be very different than if someone else was sent home for suspension... Keeping students here on campus in a community where they can be supported, where they can learn, and they can thrive, that's something that I'm al-

ways for," said Kapoor.

Students Hope to Create Tradition of Hiding Letters in Double Brick House

Continued from A1, Column 3

and find the people who had written it on social media. We also posted a photo of the letter on our dorm's social media account," said Rhee.

EV Heck '25, a resident of Double Brick, voiced her hopes for the letter to become a tradition in the dorm. She and her dormmates plan to write a similar letter for future students to

"We are definitely [going to] continue the tradition and will work together to write a letter for future [Double Brick residents]. I personally feel like this is the kinda thing you see in movies and this is definitely helping me romanticize the Andover experience," said Heck in an email to The Phil-

According to María Martínez, House Counselor of Double Brick and Instructor

platforms. The residents of the dorm saw outreach as an opportunity to forge a connection between former and current students.

"We have reached out to the writers of the letter, we did so right after finding it, so we were a bit enthusiastic. I believe we reached out to Nkem Oghedo on Linkedin and [sent] three separate Instagram mes-

in Spanish, Sonia Appen '24 sages. Nkem responded with- ries that had been experienced reached out to Oghedo, one of in a day or so, and tagged the in the same place I lived," said other writers in the post on our Instagram. It was really great to be able to reconnect with individuals that had lived in the Double Brick before. I think it made my experience there feel more special and also more legacied. It also made me reconsider these notions of time and place. I hadn't really comprehended how many people had lived in Double Brick before me, or the numerous memo-

Hopes for New Aviary in Progress to House Gelb Birds

JACQUELINE GORDON & CINDY YANG

The birds under the stairwell on the first floor of Gelb Science Center are a familiar sight to anyone who spends time in the building. The two Zebra finches and several cockatiels have been with the Biology Department and lived in Gelb for at least four years. Currently, the Science Department is discussing a potential aviary for the birds.

Andrea Bailey, Instructor in Biology and original caretaker of the birds, explained how they came to reside in Gelb. According to Bailey, the Zebra finches were rescued from the National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSP-CA) and the cockatiels were rehomed into the stairwell.

"We wanted to get more animals in Gelb that were easy to have around [and] that would add to the sense of having life in the Biology Department. It was only supposed to be the Zebra finches. It was these two males that we got from the NSPCA, so we adopted them. But there was someone who got in touch with us that had cockatiels and they were looking to rehome them, and [after] I went and visited with them, I said that we would be willing to take them in after talking with the Department Chair," said Bailey.

Penelope Tong '26, a volunteer caretaker of the birds, de-

scribed her affection for the birds. Having a bird at home, Tong began to visit whenever she could. She learned how to care for the Gelb birds from Melanie Poulin, a Biology Lab Assistant. Now, Tong cleans the cage weekly and feeds the birds daily, bringing them vegetables from Paresky Commons as a treat.

"The first week of school, I started visiting them, and one day, I saw Ms. Poulin taking care of them, and I asked her, because I was interested, 'Is there any chance I could help take care of them, because I have a bird at home?' And she said, 'Yeah, you can come this Friday and I'll teach you how to take care of them, or what I generally do.' So I started going in on Friday, and it sort of morphed into this, taking care of them every day," said Tong. However, Tong also ac-

knowledged that the birds can be a distraction for students. Nadia Choophungart '24 shared this sentiment, noting that while the birds brightened up the mood in Gelb, their chirps echo loudly through the building.

"I think sometimes they are quite loud, so if you are trying to study anywhere near the staircase, the sound travels. But they do add liveliness to the atmosphere. I feel like it would be better if they moved it to somewhere on the Biology floor or to somewhere where the noise doesn't spread as much," said Choophungart.

Instead of simply relocat-

ing the birds, Emily Wu '25 questioned the use of cages. Although she acknowledged that the birds are alive and well, she considered possible moral objections to caging the

"They're loud, they're there every morning, and they're chatty, which means they're lively and well. Even if it adds to the atmosphere, I kind of feel like locking an animal up is probably not really morally correct because birds belong in the wild, but also I'm not in the place to condemn or judge or criticize, because I don't know what it's used for and what is the context, but I just don't like seeing caged birds," said Wu.

Bailey explained that beyond their upbeat energy, the birds also have a more practical purpose in the Biology Department, since students can use them as case studies. However, Bailey also acknowledged that the Science Department could improve the birds' living situation. Discussing plans that have been in progress since 2019, Bailey hopes to expand the bird cage into an aviary after past plans were halted due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We would like to have them in an even better setup than we currently do. I think they really like having students coming around and interacting with them... The long-term plan was to actually put an aviary right there and I put in an Abbot grant for that. Then [Covid-19] happened

and all of those plans kind of went out the window. That's something I want to get back onto again, to potentially have

a cage that's there that all the birds can live in," said Bailey.



Gelb Science Center houses all of its birds under the main stairwell in four cages, three of which are pictured above.

Students and Faculty React to ChatGPT

REPORTING BY JAYDA LU

ISHAN PATEL'23

"I think [ChatGPT] is an incredibly powerful tool that we should be able to utilize in school eventually. [There's] a lot of debate [around if] it should be used to write essays and stuff, and I think that it should be, because there's no way to prevent students from utilizing the tool, and I think it gives an unfair advantage regardless of whether or not it's allowed... ChatGPT and the development of AI itself prompts us to ask ourselves the question: should we reconsider how education, in general, is done? I mean, 50 years ago, the calculator really blew up, and then we had an entirely different way we approached math... Eventually, I think we should move away from traditional grading systems, and use AI [in our classes]."

ANNA DU'24

"[In an academic setting], I think [its usage] very much depends on the subject. For example, in subjects like computer science and things that are more rigid, I would say probably not. But in cases like humanities subjects, like English or history, I think there are some interesting applications. [There's] this [English teacher] who has their students generate prompts using ChatGPT, and then, in class, they're deconstructing the argument that ChatGPT makes. Then they're analyzing some of the good parts of the argument compared to the flaws, and they're using that in order to generate a new essay. I think that that's a very interesting application, and I think that [others] would be very interesting in the classroom for English and history."

MADELINE WONG, INSTRUCTOR IN CHEMISTRY

"I'd love for [ChatGPT] to be a dialogue between students and teachers...[but I] just wanted to recognize that the quality of the answers that you get back is not going to be the same thing, necessarily, as thinking through it and getting feedback from a teacher and even talking about it with your peers... [As a teacher, I am interested in] coming up with good cases where ChatGPT can be helpful in terms of being a resource for students to learn and, hopefully, identifying cases where it's better not to use it because either it comes up with inaccurate answers or because it would actually be a detriment to learning it [yourself]."

MAX BERKENBLIT '24

"ChatGPT is a very nuanced tool. [It] can be really helpful in some areas of education, especially when you're trying to study for something. It's really great for making mnemonics, ways to memorize stuff, songs, et cetera. Its shortcoming is really when you start to look at academic integrity. So when you see math, computer science, and essays being done, that's where you really start to see that it's kind of a problem, especially at a school like Andover that depends really heavily on these types of assignments. I think that Andover needs to reconsider why we assign these, what we're looking for students to learn, and how we can either implement ChatGPT to reduce its harm or how we can show students the shortcomings of it so that students don't use it in the first place."

For hundreds of years, students at Andover have spent much of their time in classes learning how to write. However, the introduction of ChatGPT, an Artificial Intelligence (AI) language generator, has called into question how and why students traditionally cultivate this skill. Students and faculty share their views on ChatGPT and the role it could play at Andover.

NICHOLAS ZUFELT, INSTRUCTOR IN MATHEMATICS, STATISTICS, AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

"We, as teachers and students, have established a pretty clear relationship as it comes to calculator use. It's very clear when it's okay to use a calculator, when it's not okay to use a calculator. And if it's not clear, a student should be asking. I think the exact same thing should hold for ChatGPT... We just need clear conversation around what's okay and what's not okay. I think every teacher should be talking about this for a short amount of time with their class, and establish what's acceptable and what's not acceptable. I think, for better or worse, [ChatGPT is] here, and we have to have a conversation about it."

ISHAAN PADMAWAR '26

"I think [ChatGPT is] an interesting tool because, while it can be helpful [for finding simple things], [when] it comes to more deep topics like writing essays, I don't think it should be used because it's cheating... [I also don't think it should be used for] research [because] you should be able to do your own research. Being able to find stuff on the internet and in books is a skill that you should have, so just asking the chatbot to do it for you is kind of like cheating... [Something] I like about ChatGPT is that it's able to condense information and explain it very well. Maybe don't use it for a history research paper, but [it can be helpful] for personal use."

MICHAEL HUANG '23

"[ChatGPT] is like a calculator. Eventually, it will become so popularized that regulating it has no effect at all, like you cannot regulate using a calculator for anything that is take-home... I think writing, as an ability or a skill, will not have that much value to learn anymore, just like doing arithmetic is no longer a valuable skill. I mean, it's still important because writing helps you organize your thoughts and is probably necessary to learn other parts of literature... [but] I think assessments in [English and history] class will have to shift dramatically because of this new tool that we have, just like how math assessments changed when the calculator came about."

MALCOLM TOLBERT '26

"To be honest, I think that there should be limits on what academic questions you can ask [ChatGPT] because it can be used to cheat or other things like that, but, at the same time, it also can be used to study and further your academic goals... I think that it is in its early stages... At this current state, it's not as [well-designed], and it needs to be changed for it to be beneficial to students and teachers."



Major Academic Subjects and Test Preparations for SSAT, ACT &SAT

Three Dundee Park, Suite 203A Andover, MA 01810 978-475-5487

peter@beavenandassociates.com www.beavenandassociates.com

Andover Community Members Share Lunar New Year Experiences

Continued from A1, Column 1

celebrate the Lunar New Year to come together and have fun. There were people making lanterns and just sitting around with food, talking to each other, and playing cards... And then because it's traditional to ring in the New Year with dumplings, we ordered some dumpling catering, and we had scallion pancakes for vegetarians," said Sun.

Addison Deng '26, an attendee of the movie screening, was impressed by the collaboration between AWE and Asian Society. This year is Deng's first time celebrating Lunar New Year away from home, and the celebration at Andover built a sense of familiarity and community for her.

community for her.

"Honestly, I can't summarize the movie because it's just really confusing, but I loved it... I am actually pretty surprised and pleased with the way the clubs at Andover, at least, plan these events... They remind me that even though I'm not with my family, I still have another community as well as people who share similar experienc-

es," said Deng.
Other students, such as
Chloe Kasule-Wallace '26, celebrated Lunar New Year for
the first time at the event. Kasule-Wallace is grateful for the
cultural exposure and oppor-

the first time at the event. Kasule-Wallace is grateful for the cultural exposure and opportunity to try new types of food.

"This has been a very fun experience, to get to celebrate a new holiday... The food is

good, I like trying new flavors. I think it's really cool that people from all around

the world are all here to celebrate an Asian holiday," said Kasule-Wallace.

Tim Liu, the Assistant Director of Admissions and faculty advisor for Asian Society, enjoyed the Lunar New Year celebration and the preceding events including the Lion and Dragon Dance Parade and the annual talent show hosted by the Chinese Department on January 19. The series of events reminded him of the celebrations he experienced in China.

"This year was extra fun because we also celebrated with students at the Chinese Department talent show and the Asian Society Lunar New Year event. I really enjoyed participating in several Lunar New Year events over the course of several days because they more closely mirrored the multi-day Lunar New Year celebrations that I experienced in China... It's wonderful that students at Andover have opportunities to celebrate such a culturally significant holiday and that the school supports these celebrations, which are invaluable for building a community here at Andover," wrote Liu in an email to *The Phillipian*.

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

10 Questions with Amina Hurd

Amina Hurd '23 is a four-year Senior from Los Altos, California. Hurd has immersed herself in a variety of extracurriculars during her time at Andover; currently, she's serving as Co-President of Students in Medicine (SIM), pursuing Nordic Skiing, and proctoring in Adams House. With a dream of becoming an astronaut, Amina began learning Russian at Andover in order to gain proficiency in the language. As her class's Lorant Fellow, she continued this study while volunteering in Poland.

REPORTING BY BIANCA MORALES



COURTESY OF AMINA HURD

1. What was one of your most memorable experiences from traveling to Estonia?

There was this really fun game we played... it was definitely sanctioned by our teachers... it's basically like Russian truth or dare, but it's just dare, and you can't refuse, you have to do it. So there were some really interesting things that people had to do. A lot of running involved, jumping into rivers involved, that was really fun. Another really memorable experience that's a bit more tame was when we traveled to an Estonian national park called Lahemaa. And it was full of dogs, and it was beautiful. It was so, so beautiful. I loved it there. It was unlike anything, any sort of landscape or ecosystem, I've ever seen before. So definitely that as well, just for the sheer beauty. My background is in teaching law. It didn't transfer well to Physics or Calculus.

2. Why do you want to be an astronaut?

When I was younger, I feel like it was more elementary concepts that intrigued me. But now that I'm older, and I'm seeing what's actually done on the ISS (International Space Station), it really is ground-breaking science that they're never done before... The type of work that they're doing and why they're doing it is really interesting. Like, who would have thought that studying bones in space could potentially impact osteoporosis patients? You know, there's stuff like that, that's just so cool.

3. What or who is your biggest inspiration?

I'd say the unknown really pushes me, to know that there's so much more to find out about the world and there is so much to discover. Even if it [has been discovered], obviously there's several categories. There's the unknown to me and then there's the unknown to everybody else.

4. If you could broadcast a message, ten words or less, to all of campus what would you say?

I would say my message is "seek new opportunities and try new things..." I'd say the reasoning is now that I'm a Senior, I'm realizing the clock is ticking. It's my Senior Winter, past the midterm. So I've already made it through half the year. And I think at the beginning of the year, it really hit home that there are just some things that I've really wanted to try. So for example, I tried Nordic [Skiing] this winter, and I'm absolutely loving it. I'm planning to try [Outdoor Pursuits] in the spring, which I'm really looking forward to. And, you know, if you haven't been to the observatory, go to the observatory... If something catches your eye, even if you're like, "Oh, I don't know if I'll be good" or "Oh, I don't know if I will love this." Just try it. You never know until you try.

5. What has been your biggest flop year at Andover?

Upper year, 1,000 percent. I think we came back from Covid-19, and I was having to get used to things again. I feel like Upper year is hard for everybody, but then, especially coming out of Lower year classes, which were online and finally coming back to sports, clubs, and just other on-campus activities. [We now had a] normal schedule, normal homework load, it was just a lot for me at once, and I still hadn't built the requisite, study skill set, and I didn't know how to ask for help yet, I wasn't super comfortable with it. So I think Upper year was my biggest flop year.

6. What encouraged you to start learning Russian?

Ever since [I was] like five years old, I've wanted to be an astronaut. So since then, I've [thought], "okay, what courses can I take to help me on that journey?" So, I learned you have to focus on sciences, and I was like, "great, I'll focus on science and pick one that I like, [which was] biology." And then another [step] was that Russian proficiency is preferred. And that made sense [since] they worked a lot with Roscosmos, which is the Russian space agency. So when I was applying to schools, and I found out that Andover had Russian, it was like: Boom, instantly to the top of my list. So that's what inspired me to start taking Russian.

7. [Since] you want to be an astronaut, do you believe in aliens?

I definitely believe in life outside of what we know. I feel like somewhere else in the universe, there has to be life. I don't know if it's scary, if there's life, or if it's scarier if we're all alone.

8. Why do you like Students in Medicine?

It's been really fun to work with the members of our community who are also focused on health, so that's Dr. [Amy] Patel, [Dean of Health and Wellness and Chief Medical Officer], Dr. [Suzanne] Kemp, [Psychological Counselor and Wellness Educator]; that's other health clubs, such as Active Minds, YES+, [and] I think we did a collaboration with HOSA (Future Health Professionals) once. It's really fun to collaborate with like-minded people, to find guest speakers, and learn from them and [host] great meetings.

9. What's the best cluster, in your opinion?

If I had to choose a favorite, West Quad South has treated me pretty well. It's close enough to sports, close enough to [Paresky] Commons and classes, but it still feels removed [from the main campus]. I felt like when I was in [Flagstaff], everybody could see inside my dorm and I could always hear everybody. And then when I was in [Pine] Knoll, it was nice, but it was also a little bit of a hike up that hill, so I feel like West Quad South has been the best of both worlds.

10. What are you going to miss the most and the least about Andover?

I've made some really good friends here. I'm going to miss you guys, actually, next year I'm going to be so sad... I really liked my Russian class. We've been together all four years, or all three years because there were some Class of '24 [students]... I feel like high school is unlike college, you know, you don't have a major, you don't have to study any one thing. I feel really free to try whatever I want, without having to do a bunch of paperwork... What I'm going to miss the least is the [Paresky] Commons mint brownies. They're a flop.

Write for News!

Contact bmorales24, lpeters24, zwang24, zzhang24 for more information

THE EIGHTH PAGE

evalyn and nicky test out empathy...



Donate to Help Nicky Essaid Achieve His American Dream



\$420 raised of \$50,000 goal 795 donations Share Donate now

Please help Nicky overcome his learning disability. You can hear Nicky approach by the sound of his Adderall pills rattling in his backpack. It's almost like a bell on a cat collar, but at least the cat doesn't suffer from such an attention deficit. When Nicky attempts to write a joke, he stares endlessly into his blank computer screen. However, Nicky has no problem giving his full attention to the videos of rats he saves in his camera roll. "Doctors" have diagnosed him with ADHD, but his GPA has remained stagnant. Studies have discovered that Nicky is an exceptional case where Adderall doesn't work. Please donate to help scientists find a cure for his rare condition.

In addition to his disability, Nicky is also an oppressed minority in America. He is so multicultural, he really puts the M in CaMD. His Palestinian roots justify his support of Kanye West. Often racially profiled in airports, his bag is searched but all they can find are BOMBS (as in the ones for baths). When asked if he identifies as white, Nicky responded: "it depends on who's asking." Nicky resides in the culturally vibrant town of Greenwich, Connecticut. His cultural garb includes Patagonia vests, Barbour jackets, needlepoint belts, and salmon pink shorts. It's not easy being a part of a group that only makes up one percent of America. You cannot imagine the hardships Nicky has faced as an underrepresented individual. Please donate to help a minority achieve his American dream.

On top of his disability and ethnic discrimination, Nicky is also in deep financial trouble. After spending exorbitant amounts on Ubers to drive him to class (he can walk, just can't think), his mother has deprived him of his AmEX black card. How else can he cover his many expenses? How will he afford food (Door Dash at his doorstep) or rent (to pay off his roommate so he can use his Brazier's discount code)? Please donate so Nicky does not have to live under such meager conditions.

Donate to Help Evalyn Lee Experience Love For Once In Her Life



\$69 raised of \$50,000 goal 795 donations Share Donate now

Despite often being confused with her dear friends, the Makerspace kids, Evalyn is quite noticeable. Hailing from the "its actually pretty diverse" town of Vernon Hills in Illinois, she had a really rough life. I don't know if she was adopted, but it seems like it. She has always seemed cold and distant like she has never had someone believe in her. In our many hours shared in the Newsroom, I have never seen her receive a call or text from her parents. Earlier this year, in an effort to rekindle the love her parents once had for her, she dyed her hair blonde. She claims that she dyed her hair to connect with her ethnic roots. When she revealed her hair to her parents, they left. Please donate so she can fix the atrocity she calls her hair. In an attempt to overcome her lack of love, she picked up softball. She plays centerfield as it's the only position where she can maintain a safe distance, as requested by her teammates. Her favorite part of the game is running after those big balls (something she does not stop when the game is over).

Softball was the only thing Evalyn was ever good at, and she isn't going to college for it. LMAO. There are many more things Evalyn is terrible at, like making friends and finding a new man. At least, I think I have only ever seen her once outside the Newsroom. She was eating in Upper left alone; she looked very comfortable as this looked like a common occurrence. Maybe all those hours with the maker space kids didn't pay off. Please donate so Evalyn can afford new friends. Also with this money, Evalyn can attend anti-racism classes before opening her Korean barbeque. She first tried to acquire money by competing in Squid Games but was kicked off for not having an emergency contact. Evalyn's brother is much cooler than her. I've never met him and have not heard much about him, but he must be cooler than the girl who shoves glizzy-shaped pretzels covered in chocolate hummus down her throat. Evalyn really wants to achieve her goal of "keeping the Holy Land clean" despite being a horrible Evangelical.



After decades of progress, Evalyn is conceding the Eighth Page to an all male editorship...

Dear Nicky and Ned,

- Being Seniors on JV Lax is not a good look.
- Remember we are at a liberal institution.
- The word "clitoris" has and will continue to have a place in the Eighth Page.
- Don't stare too hard at the anime mousepad John and Loulou left.
- (If it comes down to it) secede before you get The Phillipian shut down.
- Punch up, not down (given your heights, shouldn't be too much of a challenge).
- Don't lose our edge.
- Use guerilla warfare tactics if UM calls for reinforcements.
- Communism has its merits.
- Don't outsource layout.

Best,

Evalyn.

and appreciated Andover special-

THE EIGHTH PAGE'S LONG OVERDUE APOLOGIES: As a trusted publication devoted to the pursuit of ethical journalism, the Eighth Page would like to apologize to

Commons pollock

Makerspace kids

Sir David Atten-

EBI (an effective

Native Ameri-

borough

cans?

Elyse (just kidding, it's her job to deal with us) the following parties:

Putin

ty)

- Andover's disciplinary systems,
- past and present
- The Deans (you
- guys rock!)
- Students who participate in class
- That guy who sends the email for HOS day

- 8P parents
- ASM speakers
- Communists Jewish people?
- MLK
- The Board of Trustees (we enjoy the funds)
- The rest of the Newsroom

Sincerely, The Eighth Page



The Phillipian SPORTS

Volume CXLV | Number 29

... but not something you'll always be

January 27, 2023

Andover Athletics Dedicates January to Cancer Research, Prepares for Relay for Life

PATRICIA TRAN

This month, Andover's athletics department has dedicated four home games to raise funds and awareness for cancer research through an effort called Andover Fights Cancer.

Andover's basketball and hockey teams have shown their support for Andover Fights Cancer by organizing raffles, coordinating bake sales, and wearing the color purple. Girls Basketball Co-Captain Hope Nardone '23 reflected on her team's engagement in the effort.

"Last weekend, we wore white and purple [during] warm ups for our home game against Milton... We have all taken the opportunity to appreciate how sports can help spread awareness for other important causes. And we can acknowledge sometimes sports are much larger than the game. We felt super grateful to be able to support Andover Fights Cancer and help spread awareness," said Nardone.

Andover's chapter of Relay for Life, a student-led initiative, has taken advantage of the awareness month to further promote its mission to fund cancer research, according to President Alvin Liu '24. On April 22, the club will hold Andover's fifth "Relay for Life", a three-hour fundraiser and walk-a-thon in the Snyder Center.

"This weekend at the hockey games that are specifically for Andover Fights Cancer, we'll be setting up tables. We'll be accepting donations for our event, as we're also an event that fights cancer, so we share the same values as Andover Fights Cancer. So we'll be at this game, accepting donations, helping people reg-



Pictured above is Andover Girls Varsity Basketball and below (left to right) are Coach Molina, Coach Jones, and Coach Monroe.

ister if they feel inclined to, and also just working towards building popularity. Getting the word out," said Liu.

Serving as the faculty advisor for Relay for Life since its kickstart in 2014, Lisa Joel, Director of Athletics, believes cancer awareness efforts can extend to the Andover community outside of athletics. For example, Parents of Students of Phillips Academy

(PSPA) has sold purple Andover hats in support of Andover Fights Cancer, proceeds from which go to the American Cancer Society (ACS).

"This is a true community event, whether you're a student, you're a faculty member, a staff member, a parent. So my hope is that the community can come together around the fight against can-cer, which I think every single one of us probably has some affiliation somewhere in our lives, and if not yet, unfortunately, probably at some point. So it seems to me really

worthwhile," said Joel.
Liu shared plans for the fundraising event in the spring. At its peak, Relay for Life raised nearly 70,000 dollars for the ACS.

"You can go there and walk laps and recognize that

cancer is a constant fight. So someone constantly walking a lap is there to signify that... We're hoping to get a speaker in. And afterwards, it'll just be a really great moment to be part of the community because there'll be luminaria bags lit up all around the tracks. Lights will go off, and it's just a really powerful moment and raises a lot of awareness for cancer itself,"

Joel explained the role of sports teams in awareness efforts like Andover Fights Cancer and Relay for Life. The competitive nature of sports often carries over to an eagerness to meet difficult fundraising goals, according

"We can achieve more as groups than we can as individuals. So to the extent that teams of people, athletic teams can rally around a cause. It seems like a pretty natural relationship," Joel.

Liu shared a similar sentiment to Joel, highlighting the impact sports teams can have on raising cancer awareness. Liu hopes to maintain a strong relationship with the athletic department, in hopes to continue the fundraising efforts from Andover Fights Cancer.

"Usually [Relay for Life is] done in teams. So for a sports team to just sign up as an entire team for Relay for Life is just like a huge message to the rest of the school that these guys are doing it. Because these sports teams are just so well known throughout campus," said Liu.

Girls Hockey and Boys Hockey will dedicate their games to Andover Fights Cancer on Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 2:15 p.m., respectively.

Girls Basketball Defeats Deerfield, Falls Short to St. Paul's

MEG STINEMAN

SATURDAY	
Andover	66
Deerfield	30
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	60

Despite struggling in the first half, Andover Girls Basketball left its game against Deerfield with a 66-30 win. Andover was unable to carry the momentum into its matchup against St. Paul's, where the team fell short 60-64. Its record now stands at 8-6.

According to Akari Imai'25, the start of the game against Deerfield was not productive for the team. Nonetheless, the game quickly picked up in the second half after the team regrouped during halftime.

"Our weakness was not starting out strong and applying what we did in practice to the game from the very beginning. But our strength is that we were able to come back from that, especially after halftime, as we reflected on what didn't go that well in the first half. And we were able to come back strong and win the game, do things that are big things that we weren't doing quite well in the first half," said Imai.

Ava Davey '25 described the strategies the team employed. Prior to the Deerfield game, the team focused on offensive moves to maximize shots, which helped Andover maneuver past Deerfield's defensive structure.

"At practice, we have been working on our zone offense and moving the ball as quick as we can to shift the defense to get an open shot or drive. This helped a lot in the [Deerfield] game since they played a zone defense, and we came out with a great team win," wrote Davey in an email to The Phillipian.

Despite beating Deerfield



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Andover Girls Basketball has won three of its past five games.

by 36 points, the team still identified areas for improvement in its game. According to Emerson Buckley '25, the team's focus against St. Paul's

out the entire game and not making simple mistakes. Buckley said, "After Deerfield, I think we're just trying to settle down a little bit because there were a lot of times that game where we had a lot of turnovers or like,

calm down a little bit. And, you know, just focus on the small things." Davey also noted how the team's effective communication has helped its play on the court. The energy on the sidelines has also contributed to this recent improvement, according to Davey. "We have many strengths as a team both mentally and physically. We played de-

fense with a high intensity and on offense we moved the ball quickly to get open shots and drives. We all worked together very well, and we communicated well both on and off the court. Our energy from the bench also kept everyone focused, and it helped the players on the court keep their energy up," wrote Davey.

could have gotten steals that

we didn't get. So I think it was

big press for St. Paul's to just

Buckley highlighted the performances of Sophie Dandawa '25 and Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23, despite Andover's defeat against St. Paul's.

Buckley said, "I think Sophie played really well. She had great defense against one of their ball handlers. She denied them, like the whole second half. So that was really good. [Also,] Kennedy did well offensively."

Falling down early against St. Paul's, the team is looking to come out strong and improve its play in the first half of the game, according to Buckley.

"I think [Coach] said that she wants us to just come out strong in the first quarter because that's really the quarter that hurt us because we were down on the first quarter and then close to the ending. What has been happening to us a lot, so I think we just need to come out strong on Saturday," said Buckley.

Girls Varsity Basketball will face Kimball Union Academy away this Saturday.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Valerie Ha'24 looks for a shot.

GIRLSBASKETBALL

Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon Approaches 1000-Point Mark, Leads with Hype and Humor

MADDIE REDMOND & INEM ANAKO

Taking on basketball in fifth grade, Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 now lies just nine points short of scoring 1,000 points for Andover Girls Basketball. In addition to this achievement, teammates report that Herndon brings a committed and cheerful attitude to their second year leading the team.

Despite the cancellation of their Lower season due to Covid-19, Herndon will be the first player in 30 years to surpass the 1,000 point mark, with the most recent 1,000 point-scorer being Becky Dowling Calder '94. Herndon looks forward to putting her name in the record books.

"I am very excited to score my one-thousandth point here at PA. It will almost feel like the ending of a chapter once I accomplish the goal because it has been a goal I've wanted to accomplish ever since the beginning of ninth grade," said Herndon.

Other than leading the team with points scored, Herndon is a two-time NEPSAC Class A All-Star, averaging seven rebounds and four assists per game last season. Outside of personal accomplishments, however, Herndon prioritizes creating a team where everyone feels supported.

"I think a positive and enthusiastic environment is the first thing I strive for as a captain because I feel like it helps motivate my teammates to do better," said Herndon.

Team members believe Herndon reflects their efforts to maintain positivity and kindness. As a vocal captain, Herndon lifts the team's spirits through their loud cheers, according to Brooke Hannan

"[They're] a very friendly person. I think [they bring] everyone joy naturally, like [they don't] have to try. All [they have] to do really is just be [themself]. Oftentimes, [they make] a lot of noises, and it just makes everybody happy," said Hannan.

Emerson Buckley shared a similar sentiment to Hannan, highlighting Herndon's naturally energetic and playful character.

"Kennedy gets super hype. After a good play, [they'll] high five you. [They're] always cheering you on. It's always great when Kennedy gives you a high-five. It's a great feeling since [they're] so good," said Emerson Buck-

ley.
Through their ball handling skills and strong technique, Herndon serves as a role model for their teammates on the court. Her actions and performance during practice drives the team to put forth its best effort, according to Sophie Dandawa

"At the start of every drill or warm up at practice, we usually look to the captains to see what [they're] doing. And when Kennedy's constantly giving one hundred percent, it pushes us all to be better," said Dandawa.

Providing guidance and feedback, Herndon creates a team environment conducive to growth. Leading alongside Herndon for the second season, Co-Captain Kiley Buckley '23 has noticed an increase in confidence on the court because of Herndon's presence.

'[They're] a leader on the court during games... After a possession [they'll] give you a high-five and just things like that. Encouraging on the court. If [they notice] something in a play, [they'll] point it out to you in a good way and just help you understand and learn the game," said Kiley Buckley.

Valerie Ha '24 appreciates Herndon's genuine and transparent nature. Ha reflected on one of Herndon's efforts to uplift and form stronger relationships with her team-



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

"Preseason, we would be in the gym together sometimes shooting, and [they'd] text me and ask me when I was going to the gym, and we'd put shots up together. And we play similar positions so I look up to [them] and the way [they play] and the energy [they bring] along with [their] skill," said Ha.

Herndon is unsure about the future of their basketball career. Although Herndon is a University of California, Berkeley lacrosse commit, they still hope to continue their engagement in basket-

"If I get physically stronger, a lot stronger than I am now, I may try out for the [University of California, Berkeley's] women's basketball team, but just to try out. I don't think I'll actually make it, but if I do, it's a very large time commitment playing two Division I sports at Berkeley. But I would just like to see where it goes. Outside of that, just playing pick up with friends and things like that are how I'll continue with basketball," said Herndon.

Co-Captain Kiley Buckley '23, "Older Sister" to Girls Basketball

MEG STINEMAN

first time NEPSGB-CA All-Star (New England Prep Schools Girls Basketball Coaches Association) in the 2021-2022 season, Kiley Buckley '23 is described as the "backbone" of Girls Basketball. She averaged 12 points per game, ten rebounds, and two assists the previous season. Teammates recognize Buckley for her ability to work the paint, bring the ball up the floor, and shoot effec-Buckley has played bas-

ketball for the past decade. She credits pushing herself through times of strife for her love of the sport. Buckley also cites team camaraderie and friendships as another motivation for pursuing basket-

"My favorite aspect of bas-ketball, I would say, is the



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

court with those teammates and friends and seeing success, as a team. Especially in close games and when you push it and then end up, being successful throughout the game and winning. But [I] like experiencing that with teammates," said Buckley.

Head Coach Elizabeth Monroe admired Buckley's physical strength and her ability to stabilize the team. Her nature of putting in maximum effort seems to inspire her teammates to strive for greatness, according to Mon-

Monroe said, "Kiley, in so many ways, is the backbone of this team, and I think what Kiley does is so impressive to all of us, aside from jumping two feet, she always goes out there 110 percent, and that's something that the other players can really look up to."

According to Leila Boesch-Powers '24, Buckley's upbeat persona always brings out the team's energy. Boesch-Powers finds her youthful energy and communication crucial to the team's

gametime preparations.
"I would say [that] Kiley is a very fun and humorous, energetic part of the team, both on and off the court. She always makes sure that everybody is included and is very vocal during practice,

always encouraging the team. She ensures that we keep energy high, which is always very well-received and very respected. Both on and off the court up off the court as well. She's very responsible, making sure that everybody is [on] the bus on time and all that," said Boesch-Powers.

Akari Imai '26 commend-ed Buckley's vocal leadership during practice. According to Imai, Buckley leads by example by providing a positive outlook during practices and encouraging her teammates.

"I think the biggest thing that, especially in practice, is how Kiley is really, really supportive of everyone. Whenever we're doing drills or scrimmages or something, she'll always be cheering you on and clapping for you and stuff, which I think is, it really is really positive as well," said Imai.

Buckley states that she values supporting her teammates, whether during drills or games. She hopes that her small gestures of encouragement help her teammates approach her, whether it be navigating basketball or school.

Buckley said, "Making sure that even if it's just a little bit of cheering, or even clapping or anything like that is making sure that they know that I support them and that they

feel my support throughout the practices and games, but also, on the bus or at school, or really anywhere that's making sure that they know that like I'm available for them and just know that I want them to succeed."

Co-Captain Hope Nardone '23 has been playing with Buckley for three years. Seeing Buckley's growth, Nardone describes Buckley as a hard worker and an "older sister" to many players.

Nardone said, "Kylie has great energy. I think she's close with a lot of the players. She knows how to support people and also have a little bit of fun, which is important in a competitive sport. She's such a great athlete that she adds so much to our team and our team play. We're definitely lucky to have her as a collective. I feel like with Lowers, [Kiley is an] older sister to a lot of our players, which is nice, but I think she just kind of has a young, youthful energy. She's very respectful, but she's also well spoken. I feel like everyone kind of respects her."

Co-Captain Hope Nardone '23 Uses High Basketball IQ to Dominate on the Court

MEG STINEMAN

Averaging 16 points per game last season, Hope Nardone '23 has been a consistent scoring threat for Andover Girls Basketball. She was named a first time NEPSAC Girls Basketball All-Star and an All NEPSAC Honorable Mention in the 2021-2022 season. After Andover, Nardone will continue her career in basketball next year at

Tufts University.

Throughout the season, Nardone values maintaining an enthusiastic outlook during practices. With small gestures of encouragement, she hopes to consistently heighten the team's energy.

"It's definitely hard during the winter season, which is a really long season. It's [also] cold and gloomy, so it can be hard to get our energy up. I think, as a captain, it's always important to go into every practice and game with as much energy as you can and

communication and highfives and supporting each other," said Nardone.

As a well-developed player, teammates can look up to Nardone as a role model, noted Co-Captain Kiley Buckley '23. She uses her understanding of basketball to vocalize areas of improvement to her teammates.

"I think Hope does a really good job of leading by example and also helping everyone else through her own knowledge of basketball, because...she does have a very high basketball IQ. She's also a very smart girl in general, so I think [she uses] her own knowledge to make us more aware of the game and just like helping everyone in general," said Buckley.

According to Head Coach Liz Monroe, Nardone is a consistent player on the court. Her poised nature allows her to stand out during challenging games. Coach Monroe values Hope's positive affirmations to help her teammates improve.

Coach Monroe said, "Hope is a very steady presence for us. She's very calm, very cool, very collected. Very little rattles her, and she's been really supportive of her teammates as they're growing and developing this year."

The success of a time, according to Nardone, is reliant on accountability. Nardone emphasized the importance of holding herself and her teammates accountable by balancing her roles as a strong leader and as a friend.

Nardone said, "I think accountability is a really big thing. A big value that's important to me, I think, [is] holding yourself accountable and also holding your teammates accountable, which is kind of hard to do, because you have to strike the balance of being a captain but also a friend and a supporter."

Buckley admires Nardone's considerate qualities as a team leader. After sharing the court for three years, she believes the captains have built a community on the team,



both as a whole and amongst themselves.

"Throughout the years, [I have seen] how thoughtful of a person she is... Last year, we were both captains here. [I saw how] she brings that thoughtfulness and care into the way she leads teams, and

I think that's really helpful

to have as a team captain too,

just knowing that you are like a team within a team, like the captains," said Buckley.

Editor's Note: Hope Nardone is a News Editor for The Phillipian.

Coach Elizabeth Monroe Enforces Togetherness, Grit, Discipline, and Respect

ANGIE LUCIA

After a two-year collegiate basketball career at Haverford College, Andover Girls Basketball Head Coach Elizabeth Monroe found herself teaching at Thomas Jefferson School in St. Louis, Missouri, where coaching was a requirement. Eager to get back to the game, Monroe stepped into her first basketball coaching position at the school and has been coaching ever since.

Now, in her ninth year at Andover, Monroe, with the help of her players, prioritizes four values to serve as the foundation for this year's team: togetherness, grit, discipline, and respect. In terms of togetherness, for Monroe, communication and energy are crucial to maintaining this core value.

"I think communication is absolutely key, and we've been doing a way better job at that this year. I think playing together...that sort of togetherness and supporting each other is also really key. And I think just bringing energy and bringing intensity from the start of the game to the end of it," said Monroe.

Monroe aims to help her players grow from an individual and collective standpoint. Ava Davey '25 reflected on Monroe's efforts to provide detailed feedback during practices, in addition to organizing one-on-one meetings to connect with players.

"Mostly in practice, it is

led by example, like boxing out and rebounding. More personalized feedback comes from when we're running certain offenses and when we break down our pressing strategies, which we use in games, which is super helpful," said Davey.

Rather than taking control

Rather than taking control on gameday, Monroe prefers to allow the team to make its own decisions. Thus, Monroe uses practices to build confidence and consistency in her players.

"I sort of feel like I'm a teacher first, so I try to lead by helping them feel like they can take control, and they can learn the game better and be able to go out there and execute. My high school coach always said that his ideal game is one where he could just sit there and say nothing and everyone would work because he'd done such a good job coaching them. And I think that would be my ideal game too," said Monroe.

Even after losses, Monroe stays positive and focuses on what can be improved upon for future games. Leila Boesch-Powers '24 appreciates Monroe's respect for her players, alongside the constant desire to help others succeed.

"It's really evident that she cares a lot about the team and how we do, not how we do in terms of the outcome, but how we play as a team, going back to togetherness. Even when we don't have a great game, or even when we lose, she's always very positive in terms of telling us what we did well, and encouraging us to continue the work and the grit that we put into the game," said Boesch-Powers.

Monroe brings the best out

of her players through setting high standards, according to Davey. Monroe strives to simulate game-like scenarios in practices, both physically and mentally.

"I've learned to never give up even when things get tough. A lot of our games this season have been really hard and close games, and by setting the tone in practice, we are able to continue to push even harder when we are down. She always says, 'Practice how you're going to play,' and by making that a team rule and value, we can make each other better. Since our bar is set high, it is important that we always rise to the occasion and try our best no matter the outcome," said

Looking ahead to the rest of the season, Monroe hopes to strengthen the team's 8-5 record before the NEPSAC Class A Championships in early March.

"I'd like to see us keep that momentum going. We need to get a little bit better at coming off the bus for away games. We play a little



COURTESY OF PANET

flat sometimes at our away games, and we have a lot of away games this season, so we have to make sure that we do that. Ultimately, I'd like to get back to the Class A Championship and hopefully get out of the first round for the first time in a couple of years," said Monroe.



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Girls Hockey Remains Undefeated after 14 Games

SOFIA CRATTY

SATURDAY	
Andover	7
St. Mark's	3
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	7
Cushing	1

With six college commits, Girls Hockey continues to dominate the season. On Saturday, Andover defeated St. Mark's 7-3, followed by a 7-1 win against Cushing on Wednesday. Andover is now 14 games unbeaten.

According to Co-Captain Anne Averill '23, the team primarily focused on transitional passes between the offensive and defensive zones leading up to its game against St. Mark's. A greater emphasis on the individualized skill improvement characterized the practice sessions after Andover's victory.

Averill said, "Leading up to the game, we focused a lot on utilizing the boards to make indirect passes and chips into the offensive zone or out of our defensive zone. After the game we had a practice that was focused on skill development and individualized instruction."

As the scoreline suggests,

Andover's visit to St. Mark's was marked by accurate passes in offensive zones. However, Andover's dominance on offense did not come without Wendi Ying '25's performance in goal, according to Ellie Parker'25

er '25.

"In the third period, our goalie, Wendi, made some really crucial saves, so I would definitely give her a shout-out. The teamwork was really great and the team moved the puck well and made some strong plays in the offensive zone. I feel like we also really supported each other on and off the ice," said Parker.

Despite its successes, the team is wary of falling into complacency. Kiera Harder '23 says the team always looks for margins for improvement in practice sessions, which is a quality she cherishes about her teammates.

Harder said, "I think pushing ourselves to really challenge each other in practice and making sure that we're not getting complacent sometimes is really important. Again, giving our all, I think we already do a great job of that but there are always improvements to make. I think that this team is something really incredible."

On Wednesday, the seven goals against Cushing were scored by six different players. Caroline Averill '26 led the team with two goals and an assist; Keira Bruen '26 scored one goal and assisted two.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Co-Captain Lulu Rourke '23 attacks the offensive zone.

Harder also credits Ying, who started for the first time and ended the game with 15 saves.

"I thought we played a really great team game, I mean we had six different goal-scorers and everybody's energy was super high. The bench's energy was unbelievable, the fan energy as well. Everyone played really well, a big shout-out to Wendi, our goal keeper. She did so well and made save after save," said Harder.

Harder continued, "We had a lot of variety in the way we

were scoring. Deanna Buenzow ['23] had a fantastic top shelf goal. Sarah Powers ['26] had a great one-timer. Keira Bruen had a beautiful rush where she made a great move on the goalie. Just overall, a really great team play."

Looking ahead, the team is determined to continue its success on the ice. Harder expressed admiration for the everyday work ethic of each member and the consistent efforts of her teammates.

"I think we have something

really special here on this team, I mean everyone is just always giving their full effort and it's just really great to see. It's such a team that is united and puts all their efforts into every game. We obviously hope to keep our winning streak going forward. But overall, this team is something that's really special and I think we can go far," said Harder.

Girls Hockey will face BB&N at home on Friday.

All-Gender Wrestling Falls to Belmont Hill and Roxbury Latin Despite Changes in Practice Routines

EVA MURPHY

SATURDAY	
Andover	30
Roxbury Latin	46
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	18
Belmont Hill	54

All-Gender Wrestling lost to Roxbury Latin 30-46 and Belmont Hill 18-54 in Saturday's doubleheader. The team's re-

cord now stands at 8-4.

Despite falling in both games,
Andover put up a commendable effort, according to Bodhi
Beroukhim '25. Beroukhim noted that there were many close
matches in the meet.

"It was rough. I think we lost to both Belmont Hill and Roxbury Latin, but they're both good teams... Belmont Hill is a really good school, so I'm not really sad that we lost there. When we fought against...Roxbury

Latin, there were a lot of close matches, counting mine, that we could have for sure won, but because of either our practices or our grit during the match, we were not able to pull through," said Beroukhim.

According to Eva Murphy '25, the team has been transitioning to a practice routine that incorporates more chain wrestling and live wrestling. This has helped the team adjust to specific scenarios during matches.

Murphy said, "In practice, we've been trying to drill more chain wrestling, and essentially what that is is going from move to move without pausing, which is one of the things that, especially new wrestlers, but really everyone, can strengthen... We've been doing live matches, which is pretty much like a replication of a normal match that you would have at a meet, and then we've been doing more intense drilling and things like that. We've been doing situational live wrestling, which is getting into a certain position, say you just got taken down and then start to go live from there. So, [we have been] working from difficult positions and then strengthening what we've been working on in preseason and the first part of the season."

Margaret Tsien '26 believes

that its members find strength in the support they give one another

"I think we're a really close team... I've made a lot of really good friendships through wrestling, everyone's very supportive of each other, which I think fosters a really nice environment just for wrestling. Even though it's like people are individually fighting, it's such a team sport in the sense that there's so much team support," said Tsien.

Likewise, Beroukhim noted the importance of commitment during practice. Although wrestling is an individual sport, Beroukhim feels that much of the culture of the sport at Andover is centered around supporting

each other during matches.

"I think we're close as a team. Many people think of wrestling as an individual sport, but in fact, it's really a team sport as... you're only as good as your partner in practice because if your partner's not good or they're not trying, then you're not going to get better. And also I think, as a team, even after your match is done...I think we do a good job of supporting the wrestler who's currently in a match," said Beroukhim.

In its upcoming match against Phillips Exeter Academy, the team is looking to close the gaps that resulted in its defeat last week. By continuing to practice chain wrestling and with an emphasis on sprawling, Andover hopes to increase its intensity in

Murphy said, "Coaches have emphasized sprawling, which is essentially a defense to a takedown, so working on our takedown defense, and then also our ability to [do] chain wrestling. So chain wrestling [is when] if you hit a move and it doesn't work

the first time, go again and again until you can escape or until you can score. So just pushing the intensity in matches, and really putting ourselves in good positions and knowing what those good positions are, so we're able to score and hopefully get our team points in the end."

All-Gender Wrestling will compete at the Seabrooke Duals on Saturday.



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

George Ryckman '24 takes the win.

Boys Hockey Loses to Noble and Greenough School Due to Penalties

NABILAH NAZAR

SATURDAY	
Andover	1
Nobles	7

After receiving a shot in front of the net from Drew Smith '24, Nolan Roche '23 scored swiftly on a tip-in, putting Andover on the scoreboard. This Saturday, Boys Hockey faced Noble and Greenough School (Nobles), suffering a 1-7 loss. Its record now stands at 7-8-1.

In the first period, Roche scored the only goal for Andover with the help of Smith. Daniel Rekoske '23 named the tip shot as the play of the match. Despite its best efforts, the team was unable to score again.

Rekoske said, "Nolan Roche had a tip in front of the net on a shot from Drew Smith, which was a good play. That was in the first period so it was actually three to one after the first but we just came out again in the second took a few too many penalties and they scored on so [there] just wasn't much we could do."

According to Rekoske, the loss was a result of suffering a few penalties during the game, which led to being down two players and a weak-



Captain Bobby Corkery '23 looks to break out of the zone.

ened defensive zone due to Captain Bobby Corkery '23's injury

"I think we got off to a great start. I think we set up a breakaway pretty early on that we didn't only give our goalie a chance, so they scored on that [and] we got down on one I think pretty early. But I think what killed us were the penalties we took a little bit later in that period. I think we took two penalties to give up a five on three and they scored two goals on

it. Our captain, Bobby Corky, actually got hurt on one of those penalty kills and so we were kind of a man down for the rest of the game," said Rekoske.

So far Nobles has led a 11-1-1 season, placing them at the top of the division. Ethan Skowronek '24 credited Andover in minimizing Nobles' scoring opportunities and adjusting to challenging circumstances.

Skowronek said, "I think some of the highlights are

that we played a really strong team. So I think they kind of caught us off guard especially since we had a really good game against St. Sebastian's tied them 3-3... But I think we did a good job of keeping their shots to the minimum. They had a lot of high opportunity scoring chances, which we probably could try to prevent. I think we had good pressure on them. Obviously there could have been a better

outcome." Going forward, Rekoske hopes the team will work the puck with confidence and maintain composure, despite facing obstacles. Avoiding penalties will also maximize the team's performance.

Rekoske said, "Certainly stay out of the box. The penalties killed us that game but then also I feel like we started to doubt that we could play with these guys. After we got down three [to] one, like we kind of thought 'alright, this is a really good team,' but we knew that from the start so we just had to play with them and keep playing with them [and] not get too much in our own heads."

Skowronek spoke on transitioning between defense and offense. Nobles worked the neutral zone and offensive zone well, so it is crucial for forwards to be able to get the ball into the opponents' defensive zone more fluently.

"I think we really can lock down defensively. I think our forwards and defense have been really good offensively. But I think especially on the forehand side of the puck, defense, they're doing a great job and I think forwards probably need to backtrack [and] pick up guys better. So probably just more defensive awareness from the forwards," said Skrownek.

Boys Hockey will host Loomis Chaffee on Saturday and play at Deerfield on Wednesday.

SPORTS B5

Boys Squash Sweeps Noble and Greenough, Takes Thrilling Win over Hotchkiss, Defeats St. Paul's

EVIE WOOD

FRIDAY	
Andover	7
Nobles	0
SATURDAY	
Andover	4
Hotchkiss	3
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	5
St. Paul's	2

Andover Boys Squash had a successful week, sweeping Noble and Greenough this past Friday 7-0 and defeating its rival, Hotchkiss, 4-3 the following day. Andover then went on to beat St. Paul's 5-2 on Wednesday. The team's record now stands at 10-2.

According to Jaden Chyu '23, the match against Hotchkiss was one of the most entertaining matches of the entire season, due to the intensity and competitiveness in the match.

"When we played Hotchkiss, it was definitely one of the highlight matches of the season. Just going in, they were one of the toughest schools we will face during the season and we're just really good rivals with them. Even before going into the game, we were really hyped to face them, but then we did have a missing player Christian Graziano '25. He's our number one. We were still able to pull off a clutch victory 4-3 over them which was really nice," said Chyu.

Sean-Winston Luo '24 agreed, stating that Hotchkiss was an important match, particularly because the teams do not get along. Additionally, Luo noted that the match against Nobles was more of a tune up for the big match of the weekend against Hotchkiss. Luo said, "The highlight was Hotchkiss, and we've been having

a rivalry with them for a while because we recruit a lot of the same kids. We have beef with a lot of the kids on the team there, so that was a really good win, 4-3. A lot of the boys pulled off really close matches. I went up two against some kid that was way better than me, so that was a huge win. Then our four had a really big win as well, Bryce Farr ['23]. Nobles was kind of just like a warm up match. I think we won 7-0 and we were away, so that was a really good win as well. But, overall Hotchkiss was a huge win that kind of helps our

seeding for New Englands which

ed up on top of its opponents.

With many players out due to injuries in the weeks prior, Andover was sure to bring the intensity and drive to Saturday's match, according to Avery Lin '25. Lin highlighted Chyu as a team member

that stood out during the meet.
Lin said, "We focused on our mentality. We knew it was going to be a hard match... I think one person that shone through was Jaden Chyu. He became a real leader on this team. Bringing in the crowd and just upping our general morale."

According to Luo, the team

is coming up." Chyu highlighted Luo as a player that fought impressively on the court against Hotchkiss. Chyu mentioned that without Luo's efforts, the team wouldn't have end-

'I want to give a shoutout to [Luo]. He stepped up against a completely tough matchup with a really strong player. Without his victory, we would've lost 4-3, so the tie of the game itself could've turned so quickly, so fast. We were up three-love in terms of the game at the start. In the end we beat them barely, 4-3, because they're a really tough competitor. I just want to commend [my] teammates for holding focus and just keeping focus throughout the game so just cheering for each other until the very end," Chyu

R.NASSERZADEH/THE PHILLIPIAN

Sean-Winston Luo '24 is Andover's third seed player and rated 5.48 on U.S.

has been working on maintaining stamina during practices, a key skill that is essential for any match, and particularly important in a match as competitive as the one against Hotchkiss.

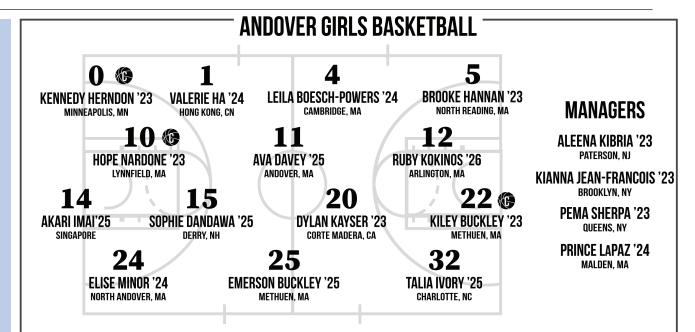
"I think we've been working a lot on endurance, especially because we've been playing a lot of matches. We can't really get tired

so we've been doing a lot of fitness, endurance type of stuff in practice," said Luo.

Andover will face Choate Rosemary Hall away this Satur-

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

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Arts & Leisure The Phillipian

Senior Soloist Concert Celebrates Musicianship of Audrey Sun '23, Zoe Yu '23, and Shawn Guo '23

SOPHIE TUNG & LANGAN GARRETT

Amidst loud applause from the audience, violinist Audrey Sun '23, pianist Zoe Yu '23, and marimbist Shawn Guo '23 took one final bow at the Senior Soloist Concert held in the Cochran Chapel. Emily Wu '25, an audience member, commended the performers' performances after the concert and highlighted their preparation.

"It's hard to imagine just how much effort and time was put into that duration at this point, and it's so heartwarming to see the final products of everything that they did... I just think it was really personal for the people that were performing, and so it felt like there was a story behind people, it was really touching and genuine, not like any other performance," said Wu.

According to Audrey Sun, who performed the first movement of 'Violin Concerto in D Minor" by Jean Sibelius, this concert was the first time she had the opportunity to perform it in front of an audience. After the show, Audrey Sun recalled her journey leading



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Yu, who has always performed as a singer throughout her time at Andover, making her pianist debut.

up to the concert and shared the emotional backstory of the piece.

"This piece has a lot of different emotions and ups and downs. I'm working on creating contrast and making the entire range of emotions come out. An interesting thing about this piece... Sibelius, the composer, was actually a violinist and he wanted to become a soloist. However, he didn't think he was good enough, so this piece was his 'goodbye' to the violin solo world. It's pretty angsty in some spots, so I was thinking about that," said Audrey

Sun also noted that the Senior Soloist Concert was the first time her family members had an op-

portunity to watch her perform on campus. Xuepeng Sun, Audrey Sun's father, noted that he was especially moved by the amount of dedication each performer devoted to the performance.

"The three pieces were different. It's great to have a glimpse of the instruments played. The Sibelius [concerto] was more



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Guo performing the third and fourth movements of "Concerto for Marimba," characterized by its lively tune.

dramatic, personal and intense, with the rhythm and harmonies. It creates a lot of deep thoughts. The Mozart [concerto] was light, beautiful and pure in a classical sense. The Rosauro [concerto] is just amazing and absolutely eye-opening. I have never heard of this kind of piece before," said Xuepeng Sun.

Yu, who performed on the piano for the first time at the concert, described her pride for all the Senior musicians who have prepared for this event. In regards to her performance, she explained that she paid attention to linking Mozart's classical concerto and jazz together.

"Throughout the entire concert, I was just in awe of how long of a way we've all come. All three of us and all the senior musicians. The senior soloist concert has been something that felt like such a long reach for me because I've known about it since [Junior] year. This made me realize how quickly time passes overall," said

Guo, who performed the third and fourth movements of "Concerto for Marimba" by Ney Rosauro, explained that the preparation process did not come without its challenges. Because his piece was accompanied by a piano, he struggled with coordinating rehearsals with the piano.

"Some of the instruments had trouble penetrating, so we had a little trouble hearing my compliment, and I think that was one thing that was pretty different from my rehearsal... it's best if you are together, not apart, because it isn't a solo," said Guo.

As a result of the performers' hard work, audience members erupted into applause after the successful concert. Ryan Chen '24, another audience member, commended the performers for their expressivity and dynamic range. Chen explained that the performers' engagement with the music was clearly conveyed to the audience.

"I like how the dynamics change, especially in Audrey's piece, when it became really quiet and delicate, then was pushed to forte. The other pieces were really captivating too... towards the end of the marimba concerto, the last few notes were really bold," said Chen.

Sun began learning "Violin Concerto in D Minor," the piece she played at the Senior Soloist Concert, last spring.

Uncovering the Untold: Poet and Actor Kashvi Ramani '24 Seeks to Increase South Asian-American Representation

CLAIRE WANG & PIPER LASATER

At the first Coffeehouse of the year, Kashvi Ramani '24 presented a stand-up poetry performance of her poem "My Dodda in a Day" in front of her peers. The audience, packed into Paresky Commons, erupted into cheers. Recognized as Arlington, Virginia's 2022 Youth poet laureate and winning a finalist award in the YoungArts competition, she explains that she aspires to diversify the stories being told in the entertainment industry through poetry and film.

"I would say the greatest poem that I wrote... is "My Dodda in a Day"... I'm proud of that piece because it amplified the voices of my grandmother in India, and women in India, as benign victims of domestic violence and falling into this stereotypical life of Indian women and what they are supposed to do in comparison to what they want to do and pursue in their life," said



Ramani's passion for poetry and film sparked during early childhood, after she watched a TED Talk by Sarah Kay and performed as a main character in the short film "No Strings Attached." Ever since, Ramani has found a means to explore her Indian-American identity with a wider audience.

A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

"I saw that there is more to poetry than just for yourself, you can speak about your feelings and your perspective and introduce that to a wider audience because they can relate to you and resonate with your poetry... I love the idea of amplifying the voice of my culture, being Indian-American. We don't get a lot of our voices seen in the performing arts industry, so I'd love to carry the culture that I have grown up with in any way I can," said Ramani.

According to Ramani, she delivers traditionally underrepresented stories through film. She describes acting as a way to take on another persona and uses both film and po-

etry to consider social issues. 'I like to tell stories that I don't already see being told, maybe they are, but they are not being told to the right people and the right audience... I did a film, where it was very much a white savior plot, and I was falling into this by being a character that was rescued by this white person. That's not a story that I want to convey because it's misleading. When I write my scripts, when I'm directing, when I'm writing my poetry... I'm able to convey what has not already been put

out there," said Ramani. Currently, Ramani is the Vice President of poetry club, head of Pariah, one of Phillips Academy's creative writing magazine, and will be a DramaLabs director in the spring. She has also showcased her theater skills in several performance venues, such as Coffee House, DramaLabs, and is planning to perform a spoken word poem at Abbot Cabaret with poetry club. Although she entered Andover as a new upper, Ramani expressed her appreciation for the opportunities Andover has given her to pursue her passions in poetry and film.

"[Andover has] just given me so many opportunities, I didn't think I was going to be... in these high leadership positions [and be] thrown into plays immediately... As a part of the moviemakers' club, I got to be one of the few that filmed the Abbot Grants as part of an outside company's documentary. It's just all these experiences that are always flowing my way, people are always recommending things to

me," said Ramani. Ramani's friend Ava De-Wolfe '24 expressed admiration for the vulnerability that Ramani demonstrates when she is on stage performing. DeWolfe also described Ramani's work as emotional and powerful, recounting how Ramani's work often "leaves her speechless."

"The first time I read one of her poems, I was quite literally blown away. She has this super creative way with words, and is able to make everything she



M.DOUCETTE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Ramani, who is the current Vice President of the poetry club, performing at the Coffeehouse this fall.

writes sound so professional and powerful. As a performer, Kashvi is incredibly talented at connecting with her audience. Regardless of whether you know her personally or not, she makes everyone feel like they're alone in the room with her. She's funny, but real, and it's impossible to not enjoy her performances," said DeWolfe.

Ramani explained that her passion in poetry and film will continue throughout her career. She acknowledged that South Asian-Americans are underrepresented in the entertainment industry and

hopes to continue presenting South Asian-Americans perspective in the future.

"In the future, I want to start a film company for South Asian Americans. Sophia Vergara did that for Latino Americans, but [South Asian Americans] don't really have the presence of that currently in our industry, and there are a lot of misconceptions surrounding Indian culture and because my culture is such a big part of my life, I would love to expose that to the world," said Ramani.

Arts & Leisure The Phillipian

Sextet of Adjunct Music Instructors Perform 20th Century Music with a "Gamut" of Emotions

SOPHIA TUNG

From bassoon to French horn, six of Andover's adjunct music instructors blended the sounds of six different instruments in "Sextet for Piano and Winds" by Francis Poulenc. Audience member Bob Baughman, an adjunct instructor in Music, described how the performers highlighted each instrument in the complex and multilayered sextet.

"The performance was so high-leveled and brought out all the emotions that the composers put into the music. The musicians were able to execute the pieces in a very beautiful way... Each individual instrument had its chance to be displayed," said Baughman.

Held on Sunday in the Timken Room of Graves, the annual Adjunct Instructors Recital featured flutist Lisa Hennessy, oboist Charlyn Bethell, clarinetist Margo McGowan, bassoonist Gregory Newton, pianist Stephen Porter, and guest French hornist Michael

Bellofatto. They played a variety of chamber music pieces from the 20th century, including "Suite for Winds No.1" by Charles Lefebvre and "Divertimento" by Jean Françaix. Hennessy discussed what she enjoyed about the pieces performed.

"They're all my favorites. That's always really hard. It's like choosing your favorite kid. ['Umoja: The First Day of Kwanzaa' for woodwind quintet by Valerie Coleman] was so joyful and happy. I feel like it was very evocative and you can hear animals and life all around you. The Lefebvre was so pretty and charming from start to finish. But the Poulenc might be my favorite just because the piano added to the texture, making it very thick and giving it a lot of variety," said Hennessy.

Audience member and student musician Morgan Hsu '26 talked about how she appreciated the diversity of the concert's repertoire. Invited by her oboe teacher, Hsu described what she enjoyed most about the different pieces.

audition, you are guaranteed into

the show, and it was kind of awk-

ward because I was so sure that I

was going to get the spring show,

but I didn't get the script until

the very last minute, which was

at least six days before the show

"I really liked the diversity of the pieces. Some of them were pretty classic, while others were very arbitrary but still made sense. I thought the selection of music was really good," said Hsu.

From "joy, gratitude, and excitement" to "sadness, sauciness, and briskness," Hennessy hoped to convey a variety of emotions to the audience through this performance. She discussed how intellectually stimulating she believes music is through a brain scan analogy, highlighting her emphasis on the mood of each piece.

You probably know about the [experiment] when [scientists] hook up monitors to people's brains while they're playing tennis or doing math. The thing that lights up the biggest area of our brains is playing music. We think about intonation, ensemble, our own technique, articulation, et cetera. I was probably thinking mostly about the mood, the music, and trying to make art," said

Porter agreed with Hennessy's



J.CARMONA/ THE PHILLIPIAN

From left to right, clarinetist Margo McGowan, oboist Charlyn Bethell, and bassoonist Gregory Newton playing together.

sentiment of expressing a wide range of emotions through playing these pieces. He hoped that the audience enjoyed the music, such as the French harmonies of the Poulenc.

"I hope [the audience] liked those gorgeous harmonies and

melodies from France [by Poulenc]. It's such a romantic piece, even though it's written in the '30s...[it has] all emotions. Everything is in there. Happiness, sadness, anger, joy, love...you name it," said Porter.

DramaLabs Returns and Introduces Producers-in-Training

LANGAN GARRETT & MELINDA WU

The first winter DramaLabs offered a low-stakes opportunity for students across campus to get involved with theater. Directed by Daisy Lopez Vargas '26 and Sebastian Lemberger '25, the cast performed two short plays, inviting both seasoned actors and new additions to join the show. First time performer Magdalena Mercado '26 recounted her surprise when she found out she was going to perform in DramaLabs.

itself. So, it was a fun experience, and something that I finally got to check off my Andover bucket list," said Mercado. DramaLabs are typically planned, rehearsed, and performed within one week. Due to the show's timeline, actors generally have minimal costuming. Lemberger directed the short "I didn't know that once you



N.NAZAR/THE PHILLIPIAN

The cast and crew of DramaLabs posing for a group photo.

"Doctors and Lawyers" and shared how he created the show's silver armor costumes with little time. "The play that I directed spe-

cifically, 'Doctors and Lawyers,' would really only work with decent costuming, so trying to figure out how I would make fake armor and that kind of thing was interesting... I bought a roll of tinfoil, and used a pile of boxes in the corner in my room to make most of the costumes," Lemberg-

Audience member Agnes Agosto '24 appreciated how the show was interactive, as the Producers incorporated a game of musical chairs. Agosto attended the DramaLab to support her friend, a Producer-in-Training (PiT), and described how the PiTS performed an original skit.

"They do this thing to introduce the Producers-in-Training, who will succeed the current producers, where they did this little skit, where they all tripped over one another and then they played a kind of movie trope thing, where they looked into each other's eyes, and there was love music and stuff in the background. I thought it was pretty funny, and did a good job of introducing the producers in training," said Agnosto.

The cast and crew garnered



N.NAZAR/ THE PHILLIPIAN

From left to right, Simi Ghandi '24, Sebastian Cynn '24, Alicia Zhang '24, Ivy Randall '25, and Matt Wasilewski '24 (unpictured) performing a skit to introduce themselves as Producers-in-Training.

rounds of laughter from the audience on Friday night. Performer Chrys Mouradi '25 commented on how the resounding energy in the room boosted both the engagement of the audience and

the confidence of the actors. "The audience was very fun. They laughed a lot, which was nice. It made us more confident when we were performing. There were more people than I expected to be there. It was really nice to see everyone there,"

Mouradi said. Looking forward, the Producers will put on Musical Theatre Cabaret and will resume with DramaLabs in the spring. As a new director, Lopez found the show an incredible opportunity to meet people, share in surprises, and laugh over improvisa-

"I would like to probably thank everyone in Drama Labs for being so open and welcoming. They were all so fun. It's going to be a core memory, I know that. Especially during the great shakeout," Lopez said.

"The White Lotus" Season 2 is Too Beautiful to Be True

LEO PETERS

In the second season of "The White Lotus," a group of VIP guests float across a sparkling ocean towards their lavish five-star luxury resort — a paradise far, far away from the ugliness of the real world. In a week's time, viewers quickly learn, at least one of the guests will be dead. While the resulting melodrama offers an entertaining visual spectacle, the show ultimately fails to justify why it revolves so closely around the opulent outer and insecure inner lives of its superrich white characters. Caution: spoilers ahead.

Directed by Mike White and released by HBO on October 30, 2022, Season 2 of "The White Lotus" features an ensemble cast of glamorous, yet unhappy white people, from Tanya (Jennifer Coolidge), a brittle, lonely, aging heiress, to Cameron (Theo James), a finance-bro, and his Pollyannaish wife Daphne (Megahnn Fahy), who are traveling with Cameron's friend Ethan (Will Sharpe), a nerdy startup founder, and his cynical wife

Harper (Aubrey Plaza). With almost a dozen guests in total, the show is focused more on the various relationship forms of wealthy people than on a single plot.

Meanwhile, the air-tight murder mystery – which does break not open until the final episode serves primarily tense background music for the often sexual ruptures between the characters.

Set in a Sicilian resort town, the show's portraiture of elite tourists is as richly detailed as their gorgeous setting. In particular, White has a talent for exposing the vulnerabilities of his characters to great comic or dramatic effect. Indeed, the central point made in the show may well be that, beneath their veneer of respectability, rich people can be simultaneously obsessed with the material, carnal world (for instance, by dysfunctionally trying to reproduce

the perfect Instagram

photo) and totally ignorant of reality. After Cameron and Daphne go partner-swapping with Ethan Harper, example, none of them actually confront the fact of their infidelity. Yet, the idea that rich people can often be shallow and deluded is

not exactly new. It is a point that can be seen in the perfect bodies and homes of any wealthy, young person's Instagram, and in the end, the show's obsession with the trappings and sexual foibles of the richest one percent makes it into yet another deceptive thirst-trap.

In contrast, the portrayal of non-straight and nonwealthy characters in "The White Lotus" is crude. As

a rule, poor people and gay people are denied the screen time and complexity granted to the straighter, wealthier guests at the show's center. Notably, they are also portrayed as predators. Valentina (Sabrina Impacciatore), the resort's concierge, doubles as a repressed lesbian woman who preys on one of her employees, much like the creepy concierge in the first season. A group of local gay men Tanya meets at the hotel initially seem nice enough, but are later revealed to be out to get her money. Finally, the only poor locals featured in the show, Lucia (Simona Tabasco) and Mia (Beatrice Granno), are literal hustlers who set up an elaborate scam to steal 50,000 euros from one of the guests. Notably, we never see where Lucia and Mia actually live or any part of their lives outside of their interactions with the hotel's guests; they exist only as plot devices for the rest of the cast. The insularity of the show, of course, may be meant to reflect the insularity of wealthy tourists. But the artistic value of producing yet another character study of straight rich white people has

steep limits when their perspective already saturates our visual culture. Instead, to explain the popularity of shows like "The White Lotus," we must admit that part of their appeal is that, no matter how much we dislike the characters, we also want to escape into their pretty reality.

"Well, you couldn't ask for a more beautiful world than this," Tanya declares half-way through "The White Lotus" while drinking wine in a sumptuous Sicilian villa. From where she sits, this is somehow a believable statement. Whatever happens to her, Tanya and the other rich characters in the show will always be surrounded by beauty. The rest of us, meanwhile, are left to stare into the images of their world beaming through our screens until this almost seems true for us, too.

Overall, "The White Lotus' Season 2 receives a 3.5/5 for its superficially attractive but ultimately deceptive narra-

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



Arts & Leisure

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POTW: Celebrating Lunar New Year with Chinese Songs

REPORTING BY LANGAN GARRETT

This Monday marked Lunar New Year, a traditional holiday observed by multiple Asian countries that celebrates the start of a year on the lunar calendar. From upbeat festive tunes to calming indie tracks, students shared their favorite Chinese songs in celebration of the new year for this week's edition of The Phillipian Playlist.

GLORIA CHEN '24: 可能否 BY 木小雅 (OLIVIA MU)

"It's a very melodic, calming, relaxing, and beautiful song with a great tone, great lyrics, and beautiful harmonies. And I love the singer, which is I think a big part of why I love the song, so I love all her songs but this song in particular I found it in like 2019, it's been my favorite song ever since. It's just that song you can listen to anywhere, you know; when you're sad, when you're happy, when you're doing your homework. It's just very relaxing, it's very beautiful...it's very soft, I love her voice, so that makes it a very harmonious song to listen to. I love it."

AMBER CHOU'24: 明天会更好 (A BETTER TOMORROW) BY 罗大佑 (LUO DA YOU)

"As the title suggests, [明天会更好] is a song about longing for the future and putting the sorrows of the past behind, I think that just suits really well for Chinese New Year, since it's like the start of a new year, kind of starting anew. I especially like this song because it includes all of the biggest Taiwanese pop stars of the 80s, and so it is kind of fun to listen to everyone sing together, and it's quite a long song as well, so it just seems like a very nice

ARIELSIE LI '24: 好运来 (GOOD LUCK) BY 祖海 (ZU HAI) "I would like to share 好运来. It's very Chinese, it's a really old song that's been here for a long time, and sometimes on Chinese New Year you just want to reconnect with tradition, also **the song is obviously very festive,** it has a very upbeat music, and also in Chinese culture we believe a lot about good luck... so I think playing these kinds of festive songs, it leads to good luck throughout the entire year."

PAULINE HUANG '23:

月球风格爱情 (MOON STYLE LOVE) BY LEO1BEE translated into English: "I picked [月球风格爱情] with hopes of promoting Chinese indie music. It has a light atmosphere with soft, slow vocals that make it the perfect song to listen to while sitting alone under the moon. Happy Lunar New Year everyone!"

HELIOS HONG '25: 孤勇者 (WARRIOR OF THE DARKNESS) BY 陈奕迅 (EASON CHAN)

"I have been listening to 孤勇者 by Eason Chan a lot. My dad first introduced me to this song last summer, and this song talks about the difficulties of being a loner and how we should respect those who work hard on their own without others knowing. Especially now in the Lunar New Year season, this song reminds me of how in times of struggle and when we feel alone, we must persevere and fight through quently, and it's how we react to those moments that make us special."



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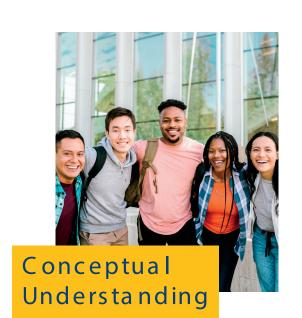
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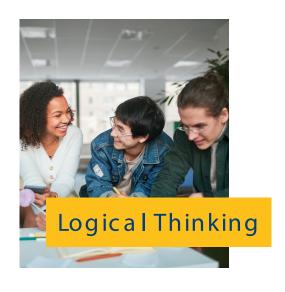
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