The Phillipian

curious george

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After 29 Issues, CXLV Bids Farewell to Newsroom

JAC GORDON & LUCAS BENARDETE

This paper marks the first issue of The Phillipian, vol. CXLVI. As of Friday 27, all former Upper Management, Editors, and Managers have officially departed the Newsroom.

As the first board to consistently meet in person since the pandemic, Upper Management of CXLV focused on strengthening the newsroom environment and restoring the quality of the paper's editorial and digital content.

Dorian Park Wang '23, former Managing Editor, commented on CXLV's work on bringing The Phillipian out of its previous virtual state to being re-established as a weekly physical paper. Park Wang also mentioned feeling rewarded to be part of such an important presence on campus.

"What our board did the best was taking The Phillipian from it's "Covid-19" state to being more of a presence back on campus. Through [my] time [at The Phillipian there was] a lot of hard work that takes so much out of you but, what it's taking out of you, you're putting it into something that's bigger than yourself," said Park Wang.

Ethan Qi '23, who was the Executive Editor of CXLV, reflected on the community that the newsroom and The Phillipian brought for him. He hopes that CXLVI can grow to appreciate the newsroom's environment as he did.

"The newsroom culture is really a community that you really can't find anywhere else on campus. I think even when the work gets stressful and [board members go through] Upper year and [through] all these different initiatives that they want to pursue, they remember why they started doing [The Phillipian] in the first place, and just try to keep [having] fun with it," said Qi.

ACHINN/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Senior Editors and Upper Management of CXLV stand in front of Samuel Phillips Hall.

Aside from the editorial section of the paper, both Former Managing Digital Editor Karen Wang '23 and Former Executive Digital Editor Mia Xiao '23 described their goals of expanding The Phillipian's digital presence, as well as their hopes for the paper's digital end.

"One thing I really wanted to do was to revitalize our Instagram, and I really worked hard to try to create more Instagram posts, and more initiatives, and I was really happy that we were able to pass 2,000 followers, which has always been one of our goals," said Wang '23.

Xiao continued, "One of things that I had on my mind was to have digital and paper be more combined, or to serve each other better. We were able to do that with a few of the breaking news reports, [but] I'm just hoping that the new board are able to do that more often.

Former Video Associate and current Executive Digital Editor Karen Wang '24 shared similar sentiments as the previous Upper Management board. Wang '24 described how one of her primary goals is to further the digital section and presence of the paper.

"[A goal I have is to] increase the digital presence of The Phillipian because there are some sections that are notorious for being "irrelevant" because they are digital sections, but I think that [they] provide a really good asset to the paper," said Wang '24.

Erin Kim '23, former Managing Editor, reminisced about the special projects and activities she had planned while on The Phillipian's board. Kim mentioend some of the most notable ideas that came to fruition, as well as other collaborative efforts.

"I really wanted to do something for heritage and history months like Black History Month, AAPI Heritage Month, and Latine Legacy Month, and those were achieved. We were able to do investigative articles digging into the archives, commentary article translations, campus event coverage, and features on various affinity groups. Another idea I had was doing crosswords for special events, which [Tina Zeng '24] was actually able to make and lay out," said Kim.

Outgoing Chief Financial Officer Isabella Alvarez '23 also reflected on the progress she has made in diversifying the sources of income for The Phillipian and has begun giving business opportunities to smaller, people of color (POC) owned businesses.

"Instead of [revenue coming from] large, white-owned, more male-dominated companies, I wanted to [look towards] more small businesses [and] people of color-owned businesses. So I think that was my main goal, and I can definitely say that it was accomplished. I'm so proud of all the work we did," said Alvarez.

Patricia Tran '24, Executive Editor and former Sports Associate, spoke on her goal to implement collaboration between different sections of The Phillipian for articles, especially sections who normally work in conjunction together.

"Definitely one of my goals is to encourage more cross-section collaboration, just because on The Phillipian some sections work together very often, so like Sports and Photo, commentary, illustration, and news and graphics," said Tran.

Former Commentary Associate, now Managing Editor, Jonathan Ji '24 also expressed his excitement to begin writing editorials and organizing the different sections of The Phillipian on a week to week basis.

"What I'm most excited about [as a] Managing Editor is facilitating and writing editorials each week. I applied for the position particularly because I was interested in working on the editorial, and I think that's probably what I'm most excited about, besides that, the general management of the paper," said Ji.

Accordingly, Vera Zhang '24, one of the two new Managing Editors, spoke on her goals for the visual sections– graphics, illustration, and video–to start to produce more standalone content. Zhang feels like this would broaden the scope of content and opportunities in The Phillipian.

"Overall, my goal is just for the visual sections to be more consistent and more independent in the way where they're not always supplementary to articles. For example, Illustration can make their own comics that are quick blurbs of what actual articles are and video can

Continued on A6, Column 4

Andover's FIRST Tech Challenge Team Qualifies for Semi-Finals

ISHAAN PADMAWAR & JAYDA LU

On January 21, PARC Acadia, Andover's FIRST Tech Challenge team (FTC), participated in their first robotics qualifying match at Andover High School. Though a rookie team, PARC Acadia managed to achieve their goals for greater outreach within Andover and a place in the semi-finals.

In preparation for the competition, PARC Acadia split into two teams, hardware and software, with the former creating the robot and the latter programming it to complete the tasks at hand. Jeremy Liao '24, founding member and co-president of PARC Acadia, helped with the hardware aspects. For him, the qualifier was both a learning moment and a cause for celebration.

"I think the qualifier went really well. There were a couple of aspects of our robot that were not manufactured with the quality that they could have been, and we were very pressed for time leading up to the qualifier. So there were definitely some mistakes, but I think at the qualifier, everybody did the best they could, and we made pretty good placing with what we had," said Liao.

Abby Andam '23, board member and the leader of the software section, shared similar sentiments about feeling pressed for time in the qualifier. However, though she was happy with the way the recent qualifier panned out, after this FTC season ends, she hoped to create a more inclusive way for newer members to learn about robotics as a whole.

"From a software perspective, we definitely could have had a bit more time, but I think that's the Andover way of things, where you never have time for anything until the last minute. But, overall, I was really happy that we were able to create something and actually get our robot to function.

Andam continued, "I think this is a really good start for us. We have a lot of participants this term, [so] we really want to go into having two teams, [novice and advanced], so that we can be all learning and not feeling like [we're] not good enough to be working with someone more experienced," said Andam.

One of the groups' biggest goals is to expand their relationship with the robotics community, both on and off campus. Sarah Barton '24, who is in charge of this initiative, noted that their team has already found success in introducing the team to the public and described one of her ideas.

"So the point of outreach is to get people interested and get people to know that robotics and FIRST is the thing that exists so that they'll be inclined to join it and continue, and add to the en-

Continued on A6, Column 1

New Deputy Head Of School Merilee Mardon Announced

JULIA FOX

Andover Admissions announced Merilee Mardon to be the new Deputy Head of School this past

Wednesday through social media. Mardon will join the Andover community at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, succeeding Raj Mundra in his current role as Interim Deputy Head of School.

Mardon reflected upon her decision to join the Andover community. She expressed admiration for Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington.

"I chose to join Andover because I love the Academy's mission and the ideal of non sibi. Dr. Kington is an inspiring leader who I look forward to supporting and from whom I am excited to learn. I see in Andover a community that is doing a lot to live its mission and to ensure that it is a place where all feel welcome and a sense of belonging. The Academy's commitment to need-blind admissions is impressive, as is the Academy's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion," said Mardon.

Mardon currently holds the position of Associate Head of School and Dean of Faculty at Hotchkiss. Her responsibilities at Hotchkiss include leading the process of evaluating faculty work around academic, residential, and athletic priorities.

"I've loved my time at my current school and to be honest, I wasn't necessarily looking for a new position. However, as soon as I began learning about the Deputy Head position, I became excited about the prospect of joining such a vibrant school. I love what I have learned about the Andover community and its commitment to supporting students, to public purpose, and to being a place where all community members can thrive," said Mardon.

Jack McCarthy '26, a student at Hotchkiss, noted Mardon's connections with the faculty department. McCarthy expressed his apprecia-

Thirty-Second Head of School Day Announced To Andover Community

LUCAS BENARDETE

On Sunday, Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington walked into Paresky Commons announcing the annual Head of School Day (HOSD) for the following Monday. Students and faculty were also informed of HOSD by an email sent by Kington to the Andover community.

Head of School Day, an annual tradition, is a surprise day off for the Andover community each Winter Term. Kington's style of announcement on Sunday was a nod to the traditions celebrated by previous Heads of School, but a new phenomenon for most students — the announcements for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years were disrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

During the 2021-2022 school year, HOSD was announced a week in advance via email instead of in person, which received mixed responses from the community. Kington described how his announcement marked a return to the surprise notification the night before the planned off day.

"We went back to the original tradition, which is the day before, as it [has] always been the day before. Because of the pandemic, we sort of changed that practice, but we decided to go back to the original practice of the day before for it to be more fun for the community," said Kington in an interview with The Phillipian.

Donning a blue top hat embroidered with the Andover "A," Kington also hoped to continue the tradition of including a symbolic prop in the HOSD announcement.

"Historically, the Heads have used something that they were associated with in a sport. So field hockey for Barbara Chase and a squash racket for John Palfrey... I didn't really have a sport like [those] that had an instrument, so we decided to go with a top hat, purely to give it a try," said Kington.

Interim Deputy Head of School Rajesh Mundra spoke on the origins of the day-off, which was created under the tenure of Barbara Chase, former Head of School from 1994 to 2012. Mundra continued by discussing why the day was created.

"I think it was right around [1996] when [former Head of School Barbara Chase] started

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L.BENARDETE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington poses with group of students for a photo.

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A Letter to Administration
Student leaders for the Free Laundry for All Campaign address the administration to explain why they push for free laundry on campus.

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Bye-bye, Elseyes.

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Girl Squash
Girls Squash wins five out of its six matches.

Arts, B6
Abbot Cabaret
Students perform music, poetry, and comedy at Abbot Cabare.

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Editorial

The Phillipian Charter

The Phillipian operates on the following principles:

1. Staff members have the right to report on and editorialize about all topics, events or issues, including those unpopular or controversial.

3. *The Phillipian* will not publish anything obscene, libelous, or detrimental to the immediate material and physical stability of the school.

4. The paper shall not be subjected to prior restraint, review or censorship.

5. Staff members have the obligation to learn and observe the legal and ethical responsibilities expected of them as practicing journalists.

6. The President assumes total responsibility for their publication.

YouTube: A Demonstration of Human Myopia

GLORIA CHEN

T. ZENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

I have a secret that, ironically, I am about to share: I have a YouTube channel.

Once in a while, I check my analytics. With views ranging from 544 to 14,000, my channel's definitely not famous, but I wouldn't call it unknown, either. Since analyzing my own channel's progress, I have come to the conclusion that my channel — namely, the videos that receive more attention than others — highlights our natural tendency to think myopically. When making a decision, humans are brashly obsessed with fulfilling their short term needs. Here's why.

Since making my first video in the summer after Andover accepted me, three videos have gotten the most views: "Boarding School Applications: What You Need to Know," "The Essay that Got Me into Andover" (although maybe that's not the most accurate title), and "My Stats." On the other hand, my vlogs about Andover — videos with answers to most commonly-asked questions, and videos where I give advice — have gotten one-fourth of the attention (measured per month). Personally, I enjoy the videos that have gotten fewer views more. While reading an essay and revealing my test scores have appealed to the wider audience, the videos that illustrate the person behind the camera are made with more sincerity and heart. If I'm being honest, I wish the views were reversed; that my videos about my application got less attention than my reflections, regrets, and achievements of my Andover life.

Evidently, the videos that were immediately fulfilling, extremely specific, and only applicable during a certain window of time appealed to my audience more. This tendency paralleled my own. When I was applying for Andover, my heart was set on getting in. I thought that if I could just get accepted first, I would have the choice of whether or not I would go. I would always have time to hunt for what Andover is really like. Having no connection to the school, I often went to College Confidential, a website designed to help kids with their college and prep school applications, to search for the statistics of past applicants. While I still learned about the "Andover experience," I spent more time inundating my life with numbers and lists; test scores, activities, essays, and rankings. From my own channel's statistics, I saw that this idea of "first getting in" was a common, natural, approach. And, from the questions in the comments, I realized that people truly only wanted to know how to improve their test scores, impress the admission officer, and have a successful interview. The short term need.

Let me point out that there is an inherent gap in this logic. Assuming that a student gets accepted and is about to say "yes" or "no," I doubt that the joy of acceptance won't creep into their decision-making process, no matter how objective they're trying to be. After intensively searching for ways to curate a stellar profile, what information will naturally be fed to you: reviews from past students, or more videos about tests and essays? Breaking my own promise, I never even bothered to search for others' honest experiences. If I did, however, I know that I would have invalidated the negatives, choosing to believe only in the positives. Indeed, I romanticized Andover, believing in a mysterious force that would repel all potential difficulties. Ultimately, that was an illogical belief.

At Andover, both positivity and negativity, ease and hardship, righteousness and unfairness, welcomed me. At an institution so filled with people, I ironically felt alone, hoping that loneliness would in turn grant me courage. In retrospect, if I had bothered to find (and believe) the opinions that were always there during my application — some encouraging, others discouraging — I do believe that I would have hesitated before saying "yes" so quickly. Perhaps I would have still come, but with less certainty. I now realize that my desire to fulfill my temporary need of getting in tainted my ability to fairly measure the school and how well I would fit in. I knew more about getting into Andover than about Andover itself, and I now fear that my subscribers are falling into the same hole.

So... what now? The realization that our instinctive desires can be spontaneous and brash is the first step to thinking more holistically. I'm in my Upper Year, and college has been on my mind. I have no doubts that while statistical information does exist, information similar to my own video reflections exists too. This application season, I will put more thought into the school itself and less into painting the perfect profile. After all, my four years will be spent at a school, not in an admissions office. Similarly, to this year's high school applicants, I encourage you to find the place to thrive not simply by the acceptance letters you are sent, but also by the experiences you want to witness and replicate.

For my YouTube channel, my dilemma still persists: how do I promote the "deeper" videos, my personal favorites, to appear more on the "Recommended" page? The only solution right now seems to be making more videos that appeal to the audience to increase my account's general popularity. When the time comes and an answer floats into my brain, maybe I'll write another article. For now though, I still don't know.

CLARIS SHIN / *THE PHILLIPIAN*

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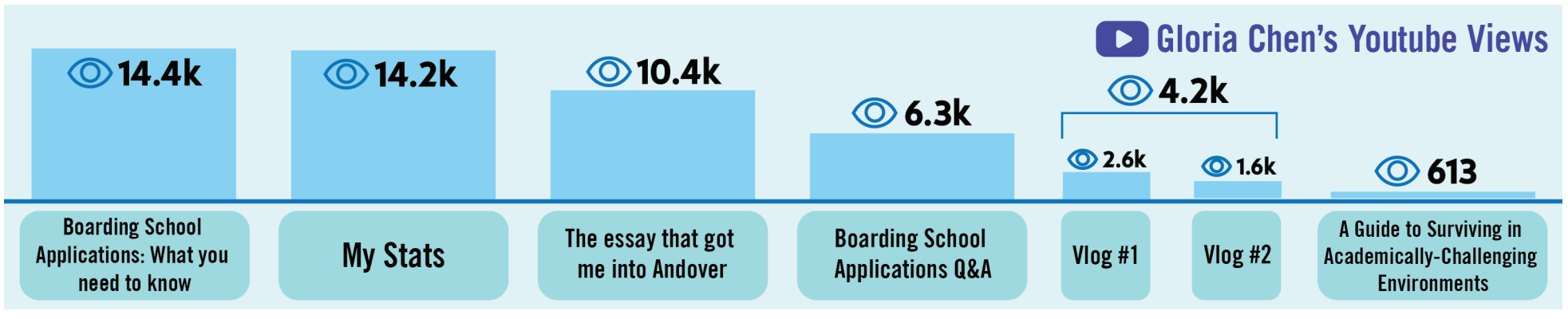

J. XIAO/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

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CORRECTIONS:

Akari Imai '25's class year was incorrect in the Sports article "Co-Captain Kiley Buckley '23, 'Older Sister' to Girls Basketball."

Bobby Corkery's name was misspelled in the Sports article "Boys Hockey Loses to Noble and Greenough School Due to Penalties."

Sophie Tung's name was misspelled in the Arts article "Sextet of Adjunct Instructors Perform 20th Century Music with a 'Gamut' of Emotions."

In the News article "Property Theft on Campus Poses Inconvenience for Students" Alexandra Booth's colleague's daughter's scooter was lost, not her daughter's.

The Phillipian regrets these errors.

FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION IN SCHOOLS

C. SHEN/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Acknowledging the Racial Divide

LEILANI GLACE

Y. MANZANO-MALDONADO / THE PHILLIPIAN

On December 1, 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 3, restricting teachers from discussing "controversial" social affairs, which led to the banning of critical race theory (CRT) from classrooms. CRT is a cross-disciplinary framework that analyzes the role of race and racism in social, political, and economic institutions. Though the law itself doesn't explicitly ban certain topics, I could easily assume what the Texas Legislature was trying to prevent: acknowledgement of the deep systemic racism in the United States of America.

Unfortunately, Texas isn't the only state scrambling to outlaw CRT. Five states have already banned CRT, and more than a dozen others have bills of the same effect currently moving through their legislature. However, CRT is an essential tool in education if we want to equip young Americans with the tools necessary to confront the intersectionality and omnipresence of racism that is our reality.

In essence, CRT aims to understand and interrogate the influence of race-based structures in American establishments. CRT recognizes the importance of looking at racism not as a relic of the past that we can simply leave behind, but as a set of deeply embedded principles that we continue to uphold every day through law and other fields of study. CRT does not aim to chastise certain individuals who benefit from the systems in place, but rather, to contextualize our power structures themselves.

To begin with, CRT actively disrupts the racism in our society. Racism has become so normalized that most people either unintentionally promote bigotry and harm through their actions or stop short of combating biases. This neutral attitude allows white supremacy in American institutions to go undetected and unquestioned — but CRT steps up and challenges it.

CRT highlights the effect of racial hierarchies on people of color in all aspects of life: social, institutional, political, and economical.

Critics may argue that by exposing children to racism in all of its forms, kids will grow up hyperfocused on finding any hint of racism in their everyday interactions and firmly believing that any disparity favoring the dominant class is racism. Sure, this is somewhat true. Through CRT, children will come to realize how deeply ingrained racism is in our society, from the individual level to more overarching practices. But that is exactly the point. America was founded on slavery, and we do not live in a racism-free world. Often, in our society, people don't realize that what they might perceive as normal behavior might be derogatory to minorities. We can ignore it and continue the cycle, or point it out — even the small details and habits — and confront it. Through the identification of the harmful nature of these mundane practices, Americans will be able to interrupt and uproot such internalized habits.

Americans need to know the history of their country because it has created the country they live in today. Racism is not diminished when race is not focused on all of the time. We cannot simply tell students that they can eradicate racism by ignoring the skin color of their classmates. It is in acknowledging the inequality and inequity of America through teaching CRT early on that we can work to dismantle such practices.

Opponents of CRT also reason that its premise makes young white children feel like they should feel guilty for simply being born white, and that CRT teaches the American youth to hate their country.

But one cannot talk about systems that are based on race-based discrimination without bringing up racism itself. CRT is not meant to guilt-trip white students, leaving them ashamed of their own identities. That is simply a narrative that is often forwarded to make schools avoid conversations surrounding race at all. In practice, in their encounters with the abhorrent history of systemic oppression, white students will likely express denial, anger, and shame. These are all natural feelings when you see someone of your complexion and privilege oppressing another group of people. It is precisely those initial reactions that give teachers the room to address concepts of privilege in a healthy manner. CRT creates an imperative opportunity to talk about the racism still running through all aspects of our community.

To challenge the last point of CRT critics, CRT is not anti-American or anti-white. Detractors claim that CRT accuses the U.S. of being a racist country. But that is true. The problem lies in relating that to CRT being anti-American and anti-white. That portrayal is a politicized misrepresentation of CRT designed to discourage discussions about systemic racism. CRT simply highlights the truth. There is racism in this country resulting from the reverberations of slavery. This is true. This is our history, undistorted.

AVERY LIN / *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Moreover, the Declaration of Independence and Amendments of the Constitution push states to extend the same rights and liberties to all of America's citizens. However, minorities' interests are often subservient to the current white-run system's self-interest, so when enforced in the real world, these principles are often disregarded. CRT actually questions the lack of justice within conventional legal institutions, and successfully emphasizes the ideologies of equality and liberty that the Founding Fathers swore to uphold.

It is about time our society stops tiptoeing away from implementing CRT in schools because they are afraid of acknowledging their privilege or acknowledging that said privilege is built off of the oppression of others. We should not be promoting censorship in classrooms. Rather, we should point out and object to the systemic oppression that will bear weight on everyone's lives in one form or another. CRT and its tenets, not color blindness, are an irreplaceable way through which our society can progress to a truly diverse and inclusive community.

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

Letter to the Administration: Free Laundry for All

JOYCE LI, MAX BERKENBLIT, AJ RODRIGUEZ

A. LEE / THE PHILLIPIAN

Dear Phillips Academy Andover Deans and Administrators,

We are part of a student campaign on campus advocating towards free laundry for all. We believe that Andover's current laundry system is inequitable and in dire need of reform. Our main request is that laundry machines in dorms become free to use for all students. As it stands, the cost of laundry on campus presents a major barrier to accessing a basic necessity, disproportionately impacting lower- and middle-income students. As a school that not only prides itself on equity and inclusion but also promotes non sibi, we must work to remove the financial burden the current laundry system places on students.

In April 2022, a survey was released to students through Instagram (@pa.ydsa) asking how they felt about Andover's current laundry policy. 177 students responded; most described spending 15 to 20 dollars on laundry each month, with 37.2 percent of respondents spending over 20 dollars on laundry every month; one load of laundry is around four dollars. Included below are just a fraction of the responses we received expressing how laundry impacted them:

"I rarely do laundry because I'm so stressed about the cost."

"[Laundry] is very expensive and takes away from being able to buy school supplies like calculators."

"I receive 25 dollars from the school each week and at least 6 six dollars of that goes to laundry, because if I don't want to ruin my clothes, I need to do more than one load of laundry. I end up having so little for myself."

"I hate having to choose between buying things I need (soap, tissues, etc) and paying for laundry. The money I get from the school doesn't feel like it's mine because it's going right back into the school."

"For students in the lower-income range, I think that it disproportionately affects us."

Less affluent students may have fewer clothes, which would necessitate spending more money to wash clothes more frequently. Due to the cost of laundry, many students are forced to rewear stained clothes or are unable to wash their whites separately. They end up overloading dryers, thus making their clothes not dry properly. Overloading the machines causes them to need frequent repair, both inconveniencing the whole dorm, and requiring extra maintenance and repair.

Further, many other comparable schools and universities have free washers and dryers in the dorms. Phillips Exeter Academy, for example, began offering students free washers and dryers in their dorms during the 2021-22 school year. Stanford University, the University of Connecticut, Davidson College, and the University of Cincinnati, among many other institutions, also offer free laundry. Andover must provide free access to washers and dryers to join them and reduce the financial burdens its students face every day. Asking students to cover the cost of such a basic necessity sends the wrong message about who does and doesn't belong at this institution.

There are multiple solutions that Andover can adopt to either make laundry free or reduce the cost of laundry. These include:

I. Paying for each boarding student to have access to pre-paid laundry cards, totaling one load per week per boarding student (~100,000 dollars per academic year, accounting for 872 boarding students).

II. Replacing the current laundry service with laundry machines owned by the Academy, allowing for laundry to be free and used without laundry cards (cost dependent on machines purchased and maintenance per year).

III. Subsidizing the cost of laundry by covering part of what students spend on laundry. Ideally, one of the other options would be taken.

We are more than open to having conversations about our solutions and any others suggested. We understand that these solutions may be costly, though we believe that the cost is more than justified by providing students with financial freedom and creating a more equitable community. We also know that it may take a few years to achieve the best solution, but we would like to talk about steps towards that solution as a beginning. Additionally, we believe that the solution must be universal; we reject any level of means-testing as it renders programs far more vulnerable to cuts. A universal solution would unite the student body and be more effective while creating a future where the notion of paying for something so essential as laundry becomes inconceivable at Andover. Indeed, we believe that this school needs to make a statement: that at an institution like Andover, nobody should have to worry about paying for basic necessities.

Sincerely,
Joyce Li, Max Berkenblit, AJ Rodriguez
Free Laundry for All Campaign Student Leaders

KIRA STEPANOVA / *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Editor's Note: The Free Laundry for All Campaign Student Leaders are affiliated with the PA chapter of the Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA); additionally, a petition in support of the cause was signed by 336 members of the student body. This letter was edited for clarity, but The Phillipian *did not alter any of the original content.*

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H. CHOI/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

ON THE ANDOVER LIFE

The Ultimate Bench Player: Arts

LANGAN GARRETT

I. OBIORA / THE PHILLIPIAN

The world is not made up of just one type of person. In theory, there is no "correct" extracurricular, and preference is entirely personal. If you are not interested in the arts like painting or music, you can always play volleyball, and if you are not a sports person, there are more academic hobbies like debate. The choices and possibilities are endless.

My parents always told me that they would support whatever I wanted to do, but one thing that was non-negotiable was that I always had to participate in a team sport. This carried into my Andover career. I am not the best athlete, but every season, I don a uniform and get ready to compete for a team. My parents always said that team sports taught invaluable skills of communication, collaboration, and cooperation, and oftentimes they do.

But what is often neglected is the fact that there are so many other non-athletic endeavors that teach those same skills. These kinds of activities are often forgotten because of the emphasis on athletics, as both the Andover community and the culture unfairly favor sports.

When I was touring Andover, I timidly asked my tour guide what her favorite Andover tradition was (my go-to high school admissions question), and she quickly responded: "Andover/Exeter." She excitedly explained how everyone cheered on their school, flushed from the yelling and decked out in blue apparel. It seemed fun, exciting, and cheerful. I could imagine a vibrant sports scene at this school.

I remember in the car though, my mother pointed out that my tour guide had not talked much about the dance or art programs. It was almost like they were so irrelevant that they were not even worth including on the tour. They were an after-thought, something that tickled people's minds but didn't really stand at the forefront of their experience. I am not an artistic person, so maybe I wasn't as focused on this, but nonetheless, it felt weird to me that I would hear little to nothing about the art program in general.

I took dance classes for most of middle school, but I planned on quitting before coming to Andover. Even still, I found it curious how difficult it was to find information regarding the program's try-outs, or even structure. Conversely, I found information on sports flooding my inbox. I had never even heard of squash, and here I was, sitting in my freshman dorm reading emails from the girls squash coach. It struck me as odd that a school with so many diverse interests and talents would neglect to publicize and promote activities with such a large swath of interests.

ABBIE CHENG/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

As a society, we tend to value sports more than we do artistic pursuits. This makes sense. We want action. We want our attention to be captivated. All of this can be fulfilled by watching a sports game, so I understand why people feel more connected to sports than creative pursuits. But we are all doing ourselves a disservice by disregarding some of the most talented and creative members of our community.

We would all be enriched by acknowledging these kinds of achievements equally, and it would allow us to build deeper and more meaningful connections with one another. It would make our lives and our community more rich, and colorful, instead of purely paying attention to athletic endeavors. I want us all to appreciate more deeply one another's accomplishments, outside of sports. So, I recommend going to that choral concert, taking 15 minutes to experience someone's Art 600 project, or electing to attend that dance show. These moments in which we are able to experience one another's artistic skills are overlooked — so let's bring them into the field of play.

Langan Garrett is an Upper from San Fransisco, Calif. Contact the author at lgarrett24@andover.edu.

Why Black Site Prisons Need to Go

WILLIAM BUEHLER

M. MA / THE PHILLIPIAN

Black site prisons are secretive prisons in which the detained have not been charged with a crime by their holders. Over the last 20 years, they have become the subject of a great deal of debate in the United States of America. The mention of them often dredges up images of abuse and mistreatment. The very name "Guantanamo Bay" has become inseparable from the ideas of unjustified imprisonment, moral inconsistency, and imperialist tendencies. Perhaps in the earliest days of the War on Terror, this sort of illegal detention could be framed as a necessity, but we are not the same country we were 20 years ago. To me, it's clear that black sites do more to harm U.S. interests than they ever could do to support them, and it is obvious that black sites are ineffective marks which tarnish our national image and must be phased out.

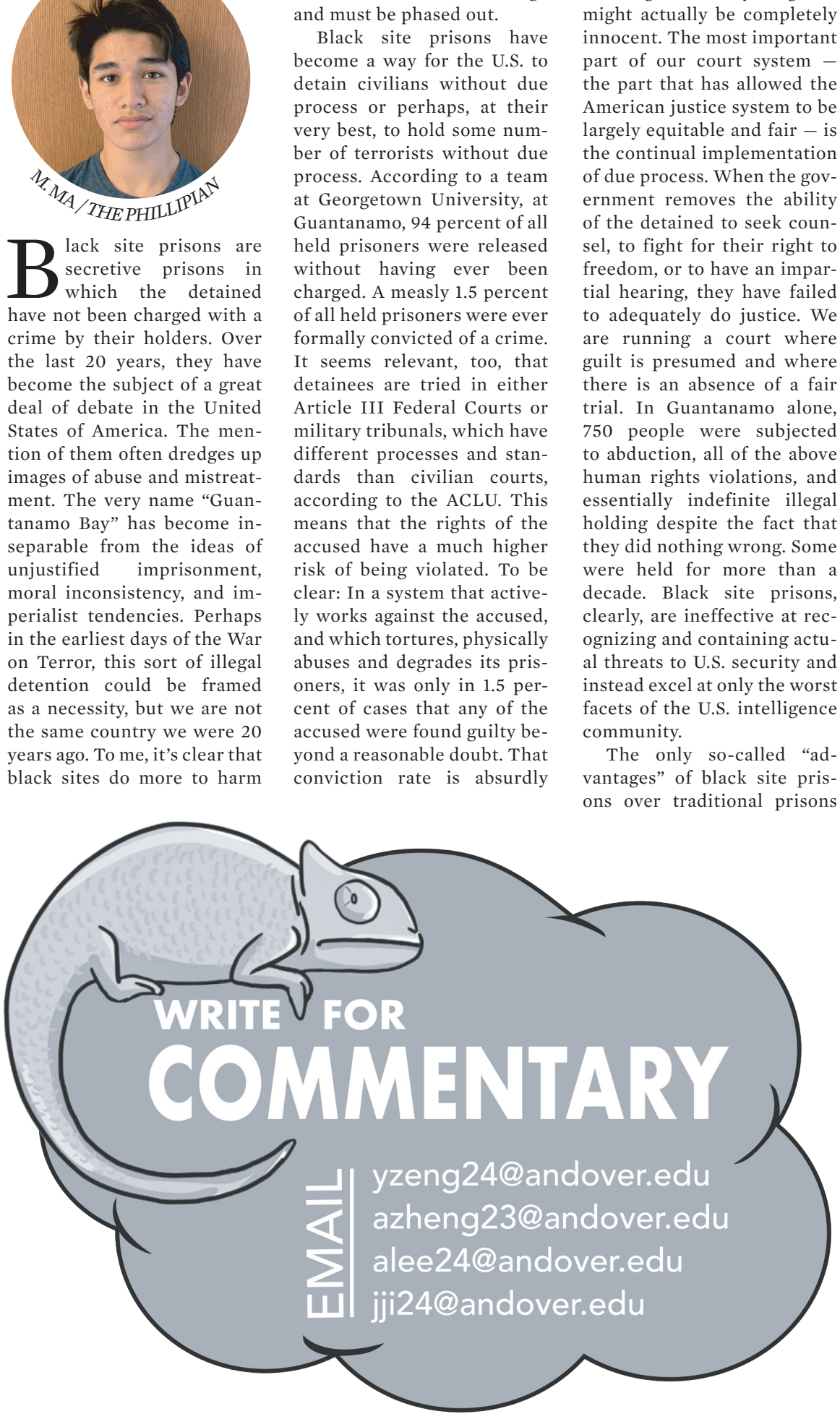
Black site prisons have become a way for the U.S. to detain civilians without due process or perhaps, at their very best, to hold some number of terrorists without due process. According to a team at Georgetown University, at Guantanamo, 94 percent of all held prisoners were released without having ever been charged. A measly 1.5 percent of all held prisoners were ever formally convicted of a crime. It seems relevant, too, that detainees are tried in either Article III Federal Courts or military tribunals, which have different processes and standards than civilian courts, according to the ACLU. This means that the rights of the accused have a much higher risk of being violated. To be clear: In a system that actively works against the accused, and which tortures, physically abuses and degrades its prisoners, it was only in 1.5 percent of cases that any of the accused were found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. That conviction rate is absurdly low, and it's beyond unreasonable to detain people for ten or more years when 98.5 percent of them are unable to be charged with anything, and might actually be completely innocent. The most important part of our court system — the part that has allowed the American justice system to be largely equitable and fair — is the continual implementation of due process. When the government removes the ability of the detained to seek counsel, to fight for their right to freedom, or to have an impartial hearing, they have failed to adequately do justice. We are running a court where guilt is presumed and where there is an absence of a fair trial. In Guantanamo alone, 750 people were subjected to abduction, all of the above human rights violations, and essentially indefinite illegal holding despite the fact that they did nothing wrong. Some were held for more than a decade. Black site prisons, clearly, are ineffective at recognizing and containing actual threats to U.S. security and instead excel at only the worst facets of the U.S. intelligence community.

The only so-called "advantages" of black site prisons over traditional prisons are their ability to illegally hold its detainees indefinitely and the lack of governmental oversight which exists there. Even if a person were to remove their morality from this situation and view black site prisons without the outrage which they have rightfully earned, it is impossible to not question why they're even necessary in the modern day. Maybe at the start of the War on Terror, one could have said that we were in such extraordinary conditions that extrajudicial measures had to be taken, so the U.S. could safely get a good grasp on who were and were not involved with the groups of interest. But it has been 20 years. We can see how ineffective the prisons are. Of the two "advantages" listed above, there have been no recorded cases where the detention at a black site prison was a crucial facet in assisting national security. The lack of government oversight has simply allowed for torture to be used — torture which has been continually proven to not only be reprehensible for its moral implications but for its lack of getting any reliable information out of the tortured. Even from an objective lens where considerations of morality are removed, there is no logical reason to maintain black site prisons.

Beyond their clear inefficacy, the optics of black site prisons are horrendous. They are a stain on the U.S.' image and prestige. They are one of the clearest symbols of the United States acting as a selfish global policeman, and they are one of the first things people will point to to demonstrate how the global hegemony of the U.S. has been oppressive. International appearances matter, and the more quickly we fix ours, the more effectively and amiably the U.S. can pursue its joint interests with our nations. Further, it appears deeply hypocritical when we complain of the illegal detention of our citizens in other countries when we have very little issue detaining their citizens in a similar manner. How can we judge other nations for injustices we commit ourselves? Of course, U.S. criticisms of others are still valid despite the nation's hypocrisy, but our application of morals should be consistent. If we find something worthy of criticism externally, then that should extend internally as well.

Black site prisons are ineffective, immoral, and useless messes that harm our international image. If the U.S. aims to be a moral leader on the world stage, it is imperative that we take a major step back towards offering proper legal recourse to all, even (or perhaps especially) to those who we suspect of being terrorists. So often those "terrorists" who we have put behind bars have been innocent people who have done nothing at all. International relations are not what they once were. It is no longer just the power of a state that matters, nor solely its interests that guide its movements. Now, the actions of a state and the morality therein play a role in how a nation is perceived by the international community. Black site prisons are completely inconsistent with every value the U.S. espouses, and if the United States is to move forward, it cannot continue practices which so starkly alienate it from others.

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



10 Questions with Ryan Ravanpak

REPORTING BY BIANCA MORALES

Philosophy teacher Ryan Ravanpak is a Tatelbaum Visiting Scholar from California, who currently resides in Cambridge, MA. He teaches Existentialism, Ethics and Technology, and Views of Human Nature. In his time as a Vis iting Scholar at Andover, he has started a variety of initiatives both at Andover and independently.

1. What interested you in Existentialism?
I was really into the Existentialist stuff back [in high school], and I think a lot of the kids in Andover relate to that. The people that were really big during that time period, you know, they sort of wore their philosophy on their sleeve, and had thivvs whole aesthetic to them. I thought it was always alluring when I was younger.

2. How did you get interested in Ethics in Technology?
Ethics of Tech is an emerging field, it's really more relevant than it ever was, and it will just be more relevant as time goes on. A lot of times, we create stuff before we really figure out what the implications of that stuff is going to be like. And sometimes that gets us into trouble. So it's fun to see how to stop us from getting in trouble and what to do.

3. Why did you decide to teach Views of Human Nature?
For Views of Human Nature, my dissertation was on personal identity, like, "What makes you, you?" and "How do you persist through time?" It's about your human nature, your essential nature. So I feel like that's an area of expertise for me.

4. How has been adjusting to the New England weather?
Well, this is the sixth year that I've been in New England, so I've gotten used to it, to the extent that you really ever can get used to it. I still miss the sunshine at times. [Until a couple days ago], I didn't see the sun for two weeks... I really thought it was awful.

5. What has your experience been as a Tatelbaum Visitng Scholar?
So half of my work is in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, and the other half is in the Tang Institute, working with all of the Tang [affiliated] people...on various initiatives. I also work on the ethiCS project and run some workshops to [help] teachers teach ethics in computer science settings and such. I also do independent research [about] the intersection between bioethics ethics and technology and ethics or philosophy generally.

6. What's your answer to the tram philosophy question?
Most people think that in fact, at least they think it's permissible to turn the lever. But there's this whole distinction in philosophy, between acts of killing and letting die. There are variations where you could push someone in front of the tram or something, then that feels a little bit more like killing. It's sort of a little bit more finicky about what you want to do. But yeah, I would turn it to the one man unless it was my loved one.

7. What are your thoughts on Sigmund Freud?
I think that guy was crazy, man. It's quite a hoot to read that stuff. I don't know how seriously it's taken in psychology anymore. I know that there are still psychoanalysts and such [who consider it], but I think he had some interesting ideas. Maybe [there was] some truth to it, but I think he also got a lot of things wrong.

8. What's your favorite place in downtown Andover?
My favorite place downtown...there was a bar that got burned down. I live in Cambridge, so I'm not in the town of Andover very often. But the one time that I did go there, I went to this restaurant-bar that did really good cocktails. Maybe not so relevant for the high school audience, but that's the only thing I got.

9. What made you decide to come to Andover in particular to teach?
I applied and then came here on a visit, and was pretty blown away by the students. You guys are really smart [and] ask really good questions. You're good writers, you're engaged. That really appealed to me. It was nice to have a change of pace regarding the audience that you're teaching. You guys are at different points in your life than undergrads at MIT are and it shows in a good way.

10. West Coast or East Coast?
West Coast, Best Coast. The people are warmer, the climate is warmer. I feel like people are a lot more chill and relaxed. You've got all the stuff you could want out there. You got beautiful nature. Man, let me tell you about the mountains. Over here, there are no mountains, there are hills, but over there, you get the big ones. That's good if you like nature.

CaMD Scholar John Sanchez '23 Analyzes Spanish Colonialism and Capitalism Through Lens of Peruvian Miners

CATHY MA

John Sanchez '23 delivered his Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD) Scholar presentation, titled "Peruvian Miners and the Fight Against Colonial and Capitalist Exploration," on January 27 in Kemper Auditorium. In his talk, Sanchez detailed the struggles of Peruvian miners initially under Spanish colonialism and later, in the early 20th century, under the dominance of foreign companies

During his presentation, before exploring the unions built across the Peruvian working class, Sanchez called on audience members to turn and talk about different hierarchies that came to mind. Later, he highlighted the importance of visualizing hierarchies in the context of colonization, where power was taken away from people and redistributed over time.

"Notice with a hierarchy there's more space towards the bottom and there's less space the higher up you go. The masses are located at the bottom, while the higher you go, there are less people. Power does not originate from [the bottom]. Power is kept [at the bottom], but power is mainly concentrated towards the top. Power is piercing through people [to the top] and portraying an ideology," said Sanchez.

Dr. Patricia Har, Director of Brace Center, appreciated how Sanchez introduced the central concepts of his presentation to the audience before engaging with the content in more detail. As Sanchez's CaMD Scholar Faculty Advisor, Har noted Sanchez's dedication to his research over the summer.

"One of the things I really thought was cool about John's presentation was the way he talked about and explained structures to ground the audience in his own thinking, and use that as a through line throughout his presentation... There was so much information in [the presentation] and it really showcased how much research John had done over the summer. [But] as thorough as the presentation was, that only scratched the surface of his actual research," said Har.

Sanchez concluded his presentation by describing how Peruvian miners were able to overcome their stratified society by unionizing. In light of the Peruvian miners, Sanchez challenged audience members to defy hierarchies, emphasizing the revolutionary power of togetherness.

"If there's anything the miners showed us today, it's that unionization can happen anywhere, at any time, under any circumstance, and it happens to begin with people. We can come together. We can make this world a better place. [These hierarchies] try to divide us and separate our power, but instead, we can choose to come together. We can choose to bring our powers together to collectively craft a new world," said Sanchez.

Chloe Rhee '24, an attendee of the presentation, described how she was inspired by Sanchez's message about the importance of taking collective action. Rhee also highlighted the interactive nature of Sanchez's talk.

"I think it was really fun that John got everyone up on stage, to listen to the song, which I know was about revolution, and to vibe with it. I think that's something that hasn't been done in any of the recent CaMD presentations that I've gone to. It was just something unexpected. I also really liked the fact that John had us discuss the concepts of social class and hierarchy," said Rhee.

With family sharing a similar experience to the Peruvian miners described in Sanchez's presentation, Inti Stephenson-Castro '25 was eager to attend the event. Though his family is from Bolivia, Stephenson-Castro felt connected with Sanchez's story on the coalition and revolution formed by the Peruvian working class.

"What really resonated with me was probably when [the miners] finally gathered together to fight the company, because as we can see, from multiple examples in the world, many of these multi-millionaire capitalist companies try to put divisions within the working class. But when these people [are] able to band together after realizing there were zero differences among them, they [are] finally able to stop this harassment within their own country and get some justice," said Stepheson-Castro.

Raj Mundra Set to Leave Andover After End of 2022-2023 School Year

Continued from A1, Column 4

tion for Mardon's active communication with the student body.

"I actually remember my advisor saying something early in the year, about how Ms. Mardon was one of the people behind the scenes running Hotchkiss. I know she helps a lot of teachers as a support system and balancing work. Also, for the faculty, she was basically their first point of contact whenever they had an issue. She's very communicative like that, even with students," said McCarthy.

Mardon will continue to work closely with the student body and faculty at Andover. She envisions herself actively engaging with the Andover community as the Deputy Head of School.

"My primary goal in the coming school year is to learn about Andover and to find the ways I can best serve the school community. I am certain anything that I predict now will change once I am able to meet more members of the community. That said, engaging with the community is an important part of the Deputy Head role and so I'm already thinking about this aspect of my new position. My family and I plan on being at performances, presentations, and games, of course, and I'm looking forward to finding ways to connect with students, faculty, and staff beyond these typical avenues. I'd love to observe classes and host lunches, for example, or visit club meetings," said Mardon.

Raj Mundra, current Interim Deputy Head of School, will be leaving Andover at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Mundra will assume the position of Head of School at Lick-Wilmerding High School in San Francisco, California starting in the fall of 2023.

NEWS IN BRIEF

REPORTING BY PRISHA SHIVANI

Past Events:

Abbot Cabaret, a collection of student performances such as spoken word poetry and jazz bands, was held in Kemper Auditorium, on January 28 at 6:30 p.m. and 8:15 p.m.

The Bassment, a dance organized by the student-run Andover Edition club, was held on January 28 from 9:15 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. in Lower Right of Paresky Commons. The dress code was all-black casual. The event included music, dancing, a photo booth, snacks, and beverages.

Looking Ahead:

Dance Open will take place in the Cristina A. Rubio Dance Studio in the Pan Athletic Center. There will be an open dress rehearsal for faculty and Seniors on February 2 at 8:00 p.m. The showtimes are February 3 and 4 at 7:30 p.m. It will feature work choreographed and performed entirely by students, and will be directed by Minh-Khue DoBa '24, Jacob Kaiser '24, Mia Pao '24, and Ashley Park '24.

A conversation and reading with Estela Gonzalez, author of the novel "Arribada," will be held on February 3 at 7:00 p.m. in Kemper Auditorium.

The Music Department will be hosting multiple recitals and performances. The second student recital of the term will be held on February 8 from 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Timken Room in Graves Hall. Additionally, the Chamber Music Society will be performing on February 11 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and on February 12 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Addison Gallery of American Art, will be hosting a reception for the new winter exhibitions on February 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The reception provides an opportunity to meet artists Allison Elizabeth Taylor and Lavaughan Jenkins, explore the new exhibitions and artwork, and enjoy refreshments.

FTC Aims to Expand Relationships Within Robotics Community

Continued from A1, Column 3

gineering community. We want to create a group STEM club fair [and] are going to do programs with elementary schoolers and Lego robotics. So we're trying to fundraise for other STEM groups in local communities," Barton noted.

Liao added, "[We also] want to reach out to the greater robotics community, [such as] experts in the field who might be willing to give us their knowledge, other kids who are interested in STEM but don't know where to start, and community members who might not have heard about STEM or specifically robotics and might benefit from STEM education."

Overall, the team was incredibly satisfied and proud of what they had accomplished, a sentiment that was also echoed by Nicholas Sadnytzky, a mentor for PARC Acadia. The qualifier spoke to how far the team had come since they had started, and how much they would be able to achieve going forward.

"The game this past Saturday was fun, engaging, and [PARC Acadia], a team that would be considered a rookie team, exceeded my expectations and their expectations, and it was encouraging to see. When parts of the robot failed, they came together to repair it, modify it, and continued playing, and they got fifth place. That's super impressive and all those team members should be proud of themselves," said Sadnytzky.

COURTESY OF ISHAAN PADMAWAR '26

The FTC team has already connected with the robotics programs of other middle schools

Annual Head of School Day Gives Students Time to Relax

Continued from A1, Column 4

the tradition [of HOSD day]. I think [it was created in the spirit of] community joy in the middle of a term that is a little bit colder and a little bit darker. The unexpected joy and the whole community celebrating [allows for the community to take] a deep breath in the middle of the term," said Mundra.

According to Kington's email, titled "Hats off to you! HOS Day Tomorrow!," all classes and interscholastic activities scheduled for Monday were canceled. In addition, instructors were asked to adjust their syllabi to avoid "doubling-up" on assignments for the missed time.

However, the email also outlined expectations for commitments that could not be changed or canceled. Medical appointments, music lessons, music rehearsals, and community engagement still took place as normal.

Melissa Chang '23, a four-year Senior, compared this year's HOSD announcement to previous ones she has experienced. She felt that both the timing and notification of HOSD this year were significantly better than that of recent years.

"I feel like this year's [HOSD is] really good because [of] its great timing. While [some were] expecting it, I'm hearing some of the other [newer students] saying, 'What's happening on Monday?' So this is actually quite a surprise." said Chang.

Having experienced HOSD for the first time, Michael Williamson '25 enjoyed the excited atmosphere of the student population after hearing the news. In particular, Williamson found that the surprise of the announcement only exemplified the relief and joy of students.

"This is my first Head of School Day. I am a new Lower. I [was] very hyped as soon as [Dr. Kington] came in with his top hat. I bet that most students know this, but HOSD creates a different environment," said Williamson.

CXLVI Shares Excitement as New Upper Management

Continued from A1, Column 4

post more BuzzFeed-esque videos, which they used to do in the past," said Zhang.

Michael Ma '24, former Business Manager and new Chief Financial Officer, outlined his long-term goals for The Phillipian to expand the impact of the newspaper, business-wise. Ma specifically noted upcoming projects for the distribution of the paper and the possibility of having newspaper stands on campus.

"I hope to bring The Phillipian back to prior levels of engagement [to being] a super big deal on campus. First off, I plan on making distribution more smooth and streamlined, we've started distributing in the mornings. I also want to get distribution rocks and maybe even extend distribution beyond Andover," said Ma.

CXLVI Editor in Chief Sarah Hassanein '24, who previously presumed the role of Arts associate, described her upcoming excitement for the role she has been elected to. In the tenure of this year's board, Hassanein hopes to commence initiatives surrounding long-term articles and encourage cross-section collaboration.

"My biggest goal for The Phillipian is just to elevate the paper in any way I can... I would love each section to do a long-term article and maybe collaborate with another section. I just want to give a big thank you to Elyse because she's left an incredible paper, the environment, and the precedent she's set in the newsroom are incredible... Obviously, EIC is very dunting, I know it's going to be a lot of work, but I feel like I'm ready for it," said Hassanein.

Outgoing Editor in Chief Elyse Goncalves '23 reflected on the legacy and expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of what The Phillipian is today as a result of her leadership.

"A love for this paper is what drives productive journalism and every [new UM member] has the ability to affect change, take on initiatives. My name is just kind of in a list of 146 other names of Editors in Chief in the past and I think that the legacy that I want to leave is to be one of those names. To have had some, just a small part, of making The Phillipian what it is today," said Goncalves.

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Alumnus Buzz Bissinger's Latest Book Spotlights Lives of Athletes Who Served in World War II

BAILEY XU & ADDISON DENG

In his newest book "The Mosquito Bowl: A Game of Life and Death in World War II," Pulitzer-prize winning journalist and author Buzz Bissinger '72 follows two Marine regiments, from a football game on Guadalcanal to the Battle of Okinawa in 1945.

During his time at Andover, Bissinger served as the Sports Editor for The Phillipian. Upon graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1976, Bissinger became a professional journalist, writing for the "Ledger-Star," "The St. Paul Pioneer Press," and eventually "The Philadelphia Inquirer." In 1987, he received the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting for a series on the Philadelphia court system. One year later, he left the "Inquirer" to write his highly acclaimed first book, "Friday Night Lights." Since then, Bissinger has contributed to various publications, including "The New York Times" and "Wall Street Journal."

"My uncle went to Andover and he had been on The Phillipian. He gave me a bound copy of The Phillipian in the 1940s and that was mesmerizing to me, that a school would have a weekly paper, [and] they would make a bound volume... I knew I wanted to be a reporter before I got to Andover, but my first journalistic experience was at Andover in The Phillipian and I actually think that without it, I'm not sure I would have become a journalist... The Phillipian gave me a niche. It gave me a place to go, a place where I could be recognized for something, and that's very, very important," said Bissinger.

In addition to his journalistic work, Bissinger penned six more nonfiction books, including the New York Times Bestseller "The Mosquito Bowl," published by HarperCollins on September 13, 2022. Bissinger encourages readers to recognize his anti-war stance as he described the raw brutality of combat in "The Mosquito Bowl." He hoped readers would establish an emotional connection with the book.

"It's really an anti-war book. The combat is very vivid. [It's] very visceral, nothing is held back. I know some people said it was too hard to read, but you know, war is death. War is about death. War isn't about heroism, war isn't about life, war isn't about saving people. I want readers to understand just how brutal and insane and horrifying it is. If they can't stomach it, I get that, but you'll never really understand just how awful war is. And I hope and pray we never have another one, though I think in our society it's simply too ingrained," said Bissinger.

Bissinger continued, "I also want people to realize just how brave these men were. They were ordinary men. They weren't special forces. As I say in the book, they were ordinary men who rose to extraordinary circumstances and I think that's the best thing you can say about anyone in life. And I want you to feel their sense of duty, a sense of duty that no longer exists. This would not happen today. If there was a draft, I don't know how many would even obey it. It's [also] about humanity. I want you to love these men. I want you to see what they go through. I want you to feel their lives. And at the end, I want you to see just what they went through and how brave and willing they were to sacrifice because some of them knew when they were given a certain assignment on a battlefield, they weren't going to make it. But they went through with it anyway."

While writing The Mosquito Bowl, Bissinger emphasized the national unitedness that Americans displayed through the war. The notion of empathy plays an important role throughout the book.

"[The soldiers] did remind me of how great this country can be when there's unity. There was unity across the board. Women served by taking over industry in the country. African Americans served despite withering racism... In combat, there were people from every social, geographical, and economic stripe, and that's how you learned to get along with people because you had to. At a certain point, you're saving each other's lives, and you don't have time for red-state and blue-state arguments. You end up loving each other. And that's something we really have lost in this country," said Bissinger.

Brace Fellow Nikita Harwich '23 Presents on the Scientific Community's Erasure of Sexual Polymorphism

PRISHA SHIVANI & CONNOR GLEASON

In her Brace Fellow presentation "Contextualizing Trans Biology: Why XX and XY Aren't Enough", Nikita Harwich '23 analyzed the intersection of gender and sex in science and how it has changed throughout history. Harwich emphasized the lack of scientific research exploring the relation between gender and sex and examined the scientific community's suppression of sexual polymorphism in favor of a dimorphic perspective.

Harwich started by comparing the two conflicting terms in her presentation: sexual dimorphism and sexual polymorphism. According to Harwich, sexual polymorphism is a more accurate term which views sex as a spectrum instead of as a binary, but many biologists continue to view sex dimorphically.

"Sexual dimorphism is... the way biologists have used to describe unperceived binary differences in primary and secondary sex characteristics. Sexual polymorphism is a rebuttal to that, which is that sexes exist along a spectrum and that those binary differences really are just perceived. In actuality, they aren't as binary as biologists would really like to believe," said Harwich.

Harwich also highlighted the importance of examining the sex binary in her presentation. By doing so, we can begin to understand sexual dimorphism's basis as a societal view on sex and sexual dimorphism's lack of scientific foundation.

"The two-sex system of the present is based on these highly subjective constructions of sex, meaning that to further our understanding of the biology, the concept of the sex binary must be deconstructed," said Harwich.

Afterwards, Harwich went on to explore the role scientific research has played in the public's perspective on gender and sex. Harwich noted that the lack of research was based on societal preconceptions on transexual people and continues to promote the perspective of sexual dimorphism.

"Scientific documents inform views on trans people because the general consensus of the public moves these societal assumptions. These assumptions can influence the next generation of scientists, [which] creates a positive feedback loop of societal ignorance as the scientists conducting the studies are unaware [that] their preconceived notions on gender and sex came from a society that tells them there only must be two sexes or two genders, so they're really unable to even imagine anything beyond that," said Harwich during her presentation.

The inspiration for this presentation came from an essay Harwich wrote for the Biology 580 course. However, after noticing patterns in how scientific research regarding gender studies was conducted, Harwich ultimately decided to create her presentation around this topic.

"Originally, I didn't enjoy the way science papers were written about transgender people, and I wanted to share my discomfort with it. As I dived more into it I just got more fascinated with the mechanisms and physiology of it... This creates a dangerous gap in scientific knowledge because not only has [the] gender and sex spectrum not been studied scientifically at all, but the scientific community is really under the impression that there is nothing to study and that all the relevant knowledge has been found and proven," said Harwich.

Charlotte Esty, Administrative Assistant in CaMD, expressed her admiration for Brace Fellow presentations and highlighted the importance they hold in the Andover community. Esty elaborated on the ability of Brace and CaMD studies to provide students with an opportunity to learn about topics which are not commonly discussed.

"I do have this attraction to gender studies and [the Brace Center], they both hold a special place in my heart. I feel like it's so important that Andover has this resource especially since it's so rare. A lot of this is information and research that a lot of people won't encounter until later in their lives or ever, so it's really special that I'm able to watch my colleagues and students show their work," said Esty.

Attendee and former Brace Fellow Dorian Park Wang '23, expressed that more research is required to gain a better perspective of trans biology.

ACHINN/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Brace Fellow Nikita Harwich '23 speaks in the School Room of the Brace Center for Gender Studies.

Park Wang also mentioned that Harwich's presentation brought awareness to this issue and expressed hope that this presentation can inspire further conversation.

"I think biology as a field is one that has caused a lot of hurt to queer and trans communities historically, therefore, it's not a topic that a lot of gender studies scholars or queer and trans people like to approach... I think this presentation really exemplified why that research and why the lens of gender studies and biological science is necessary and how one can inform the other, and hopefully challenge preconceived notions of biology and create more productive discourse going forward," said Park Wang.

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PATRIARCHY RE-ESTABLISHES DOMININCE OVER EIGHTH PAGE

The Phillipian

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Vol. CXLVI
Phillips Academy

Nepo Baby
Elyse's Dad Knows Her Mom

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Just Keeps Coming Back

She's Back
Karen Wang 2.0

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The Real One

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WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- *Breaking News: Man Takes Off Hat, Solves World Hunger*
- *Administration Confident that GAP2 Will Put an End to All Nefarious Activity on Campus*
- *Eighth Page has All-Male Editorship, Suddenly Funny Again*
- *Sykes Declares Public Health Emergency After Bassment Dance Starts Mono Outbreak*
- *Dr. RayK to Add Extra Day of School After Learning HOSD Does Not Honor Him*
- *"GAP3: Return Of The Jedi" Set to Release Next Fall*
- *Breaking News: Commons Pollock Found to be Original Source of Covid*
- *Local Head of School Shocked to Realize Students Prefer Free Time to 55 Minutes of Indoctrination*

OVERHEARD ON THE PATH

"Maybe college just isn't in the cards for you."

"I asked ChatGPT to write her a poem confessing my love. W rizz?"

"You laugh now, but that Nigerian Prince owes me big time!"

"GAP2 is no fun. I prefer to drink under the constant threat of probation."

"How was I the only one to bring a fishing rod to Bassment?"

"There's no way people actually say this stuff on the paths…"

"I wish my granddad was alive to see how hard I just moshed."

WHAT RAYK WANTED TO DO INSTEAD OF A HAT

-Create a new tradition called Deputy Head of School Day and send the Hotchkiss lady

-Release white doves into upper right

-Send an email (written by someone else)

-Wear a powdered wig

-Shave his beard

-Send a secretary to do it

-A two-hour speech on the "andover community"

-Wear a lab coat

-Release a medical study about the emotional benefits of free time

-A human-sized pocket watch –– to make sure kids are back by 8 p.m.

TEXTS FROM THE POPULAR TEACING FELLOWS GROUP CHAT:

Hey y'all! Just checking in. Are we still on for bingo tonight?

Just got a sick new bumper sticker for the Prius, so I might be too busy getting action

Hashtag, relatable!

Happy friyay, gang! Sometimes you just have to accuse four students of cheating during a quiz, am I right?

Noob moment! Some kid in my class just made a joke about underage drinking. I'm about to ruin his life, LOL!

🤣🤣🤣

Remember when I gave that Freshman a 3?

Lmao

That was too funny

I'd give anything to be able to teach Greta Thunberg

She's like the Bernie of climate change

Great point! In that case, I'm down for bingo tonight.

The Phillipian
SPORTS
life is a highway
Volume CXLVI | Number 1
Feburary 3, 2023

Andover Rejoices After Three Wins In a Row Through a Perilous Week

EVAN CURTIN

In a meet-filled week, Andover Wrestling competed four times in five days from Saturday to Wednesday. The team's dual meet record now stands at 12-5.

Andover Boys Wrestling went 2-1 in the Seabrook Duals on Saturday, winning against Avon Old Farms and Brooks, but falling to last year's New England Champions, Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH). The team continued the momentum on Wednesday, defeating Thayer 78-6 and Governor's 51-26.

According to Charles Vest '25, the team has displayed dramatic improvement throughout the season, in great part due to the suggestions provided by experienced wrestlers to newer wrestlers.

"A lot ofthe time [the captains] will pull me or someone else aside after a match when you lose and say, 'Hey, I noticed that you were doing this or this, you're keeping your head down, you should have kept your head up.'... So I think that everyone's really supportive and then the most experienced wrestlers and the captains are really good about actively watching your matches and paying attention and then giving you pointers and what you can do better," said Vest.

Despite the one loss to NMH, the team was able to learn from the challenge, according to first-year wrestler Julian Rios '26. Rios dominated with a 10-0 major decision over his NMH opponent.

"I think the team overall wrestled pretty well, but I guess we wrestled a really good team and it definitely showed that we needed to work on a lot of things. I think overall it was a good experience for everyone on the team to be able to see good wrestlers," Rios said.

On the girls side, the team hosted the Ninth Annual Female Wrestling Tournament on Sunday, with 103 wrestlers from 30 different schools in attendance. Tasha Bohorad '26 reflected on the positive atmosphere of the tournament.

"The coaches were running everything and supporting everyone. And some wrestlers didn't have coaches there, so they were being really supportive of everyone and saying, 'Good job,' when we stepped off the mat. And after our matches, the coaches would go over moves, or just give really good feedback. I think a lot of us went against each other and it was like a really positive experience because, you know, we're all friends, I just think that was really cool," said Bohorad.

The team ultimately took the team title for the second year in a row, edging out Silver Lake Regional High School by 16 points. In addition to a workshop led by seven-time USA National Wrestling Team member Katherine Shai, Bohorad appreciated the opportunity to compete in several matches on Sunday.

"I love that you [could] wrestle two or three times [on Sunday] ... I want to get as much out of it as I can and wrestle different people. Especially the clinic beforehand with Katherine Shai. It was just so fun to meet other people. I get more [out of it] than other meets," Bohorad said.

On Wednesday, Andover Girls Wrestling returned to compete against wrestlers from Middlesex and Noble and Greenough, but fell short 3-8.

Andover Wrestling will compete at the Northern New England Wrestling Invitational on Saturday, in addition to hosting St. Sebastian's School on Wednesday.

A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN
Tayla Tildsley PG'23 takes the win.

A.CHINN/*THE PHILLIPIAN*
Sakina Cotton '24 pins her opponent onto the mat.

Girls Swimming and Diving Sweeps Deerfield and Wins Against Westford Academy

SOPHIA CRATTY

SATURDAY	
Andover	112.5
Deerfield	54.5
TUESDAY	
Andover	96
Westford	74

Andover Girls Swimming and Diving dominated Deerfield on Saturday at home, winning 112.5-54.5. On Tuesday, the team took on Westford Academy and maintained its undefeated record, winning 96-74. Andover's record now stands at 4-0.

Coming up against a strong Deerfield side, the team was a bit surprised that it dominated by such a significant margin. Molly MacKinnon '24 noted that the team's high energy throughout the match propelled it to victory.

"[We] were all very excited but also a little bit nervous because we were expecting Deerfield to be our biggest competition. But everyone was really excited because we were doing really well throughout the meet. In a bunch of events we were taking first, second, and third place. Which is pretty exciting because there's typically only three people from each team who do each event. [When] diving started, which is about halfway through the meet, we were ahead 47-15. [We] had great energy when cheering for the divers. And then we carried that energy through to the relays. Which are always an exciting part of our meet," said MacKinnon.

Elissa Kim '24, came 0.03 seconds short of the school record in the 100-Meter Fly on Saturday. Addison Deng '26 highlighted the superb performance by Kim and described her as competing on an extremely high level.

"It was really exciting to see one of our Uppers, Elissa Kim, swim in the 100-Meter Fly today. She usually doesn't swim in the 100-Meter Fly but she was 0.03 [seconds] off our school record, which was very very close and a little unfortunate but that was a great swim and she was just at a different level. She was ahead of the entire field and it was great to see her swim," said Deng.

In Tuesday's meet against Westford Academy, Andover dominated the pool once again. Orla Naughton '25 noted how being in the new Pan Athletic Center allowed for a bigger crowd, motivating swimmers and divers to perform at their best.

"The atmosphere of our meets is always a lot of fun, as we always support each other and make sure to cheer when our teammates are swimming. We also have our team customs like our cheer we do at the beginning of the meet to get us ready to start. Being in Pan also elevates our meet experience because we are able to host an efficiently-run event and get to do some fast racing with various other teams and more spectators," said Naughton.

Captain of the Girls Diving, Madeleine Shaffer '23, mentioned that there was success for each member of the diving team. She put an emphasis on Andover's overall high performance, and was impressed with the way the team rose to the challenge.

"I'm really proud of how everyone competed in this meet. It was really solid. Everyone hit their dives. You know our goal is to get in clean and I think we had success most of the time and I couldn't have asked for anything better. The other team was wonderful, they had good sportsmanship and it made for a really fun meet. Low pressure, but the stakes were still high and I feel like everyone really rose to the challenge. We came out on top for most of our events. Most of our diving events, the girls placed second but that's okay. We did the best we could," said Shaffer.

Addison Deng '26 looks forward to some of the bigger competitions at the end of the season, including Andover/Exeter (A/E), Eastern Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Championships (Eastern's), and New England Prep School Athletic Conference Division 1 Championships (NEPSAC). She hopes that the team will be able to maintain its ten year undefeated streak over Exeter this year as it is anticipating a tough match up.

Deng said, "[I'm] really excited for [A/E] because Exeter (Phillips Exeter Academy) has a really strong team this year. They're probably one of our biggest competitors at NEPSAC and at Eastern's. They're just really fast and have got some great recruits for Freshman Year. They've been performing pretty well as well. But I do feel like we have a good chance at defeating them because we do have a record of going ten years undefeated at [A/E]."

Andover Girls Swimming and Diving will be hosting Loomis Chaffee on Saturday.

A.CHINN/*THE PHILLIPIAN*
Girls Swimming is led by Co-Captains Emma Cheung '23 and Katie Swan '23.

Boys Swimming and Diving Continue Undefeated Season With Win Against Deerfield

NABILAH NAZAR

SATURDAY	
Andover	107
Deerfield	58

Andover Boys Swimming & Diving dominated Deerfield 107-58 on Saturday. With first-place finishes in diving and in 12 out of the 14 swimming events, the meet served as a major confidence boost for the team, which will head to the Eastern Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Championships (Eastern's) in two weeks.

With less than half the season left, Sam Lee '24 commended the team for its growth thus far. With a 5-1 record prior to Saturday's meet, Deerfield proved to be an adequate challenge Andover needed to prepare for the team's upcoming competitions.

"At the end of the day, we love racing... [We are] doing the best we can and encouraging others to do the best that they can, too. We were looking forward to the Deerfield meet because we saw it as another opportunity to get faster and prove how far we've come. And I think the results really show that we've come a long way from the beginning of the season and that we've improved a lot," said Lee.

Participating in the 200-Medley Relay, 200 IM Relay, 400-Free Relay, and diving events, Marek Deveau '23 credited the victory to the team's hard work during practices. Deveau hopes the diving team will continue working on new skills in preparation for the upcoming meet against Loomis Chaffee (Loomis).

"This week, our main focus was our back dives. So every person on the dive team had to perform at least two dives that were in the backwards direction. And, I mean, we practiced all week. We were getting our practice in, and we all did pretty well in the meet as well. So we're looking forward to the meet in two weeks against Loomis," said Deveau.

Deveau is the only person on the team who both swims and dives. With just one season of diving experience, Deveau was supported by Head Coach David Fox and Diving Coach Belinda Canavan to officially compete in both events at this meet.

"It's just a great environment. I'm happy to be able to help the team out, earn some points in diving and swimming. It's pretty cool because there's not too many people who have done that in the past. So I'm happy that I'm able to do that. And [I] thank Coach Fox and Coach Belinda [for letting] me do that [and] practice with both teams," said Deveau.

Lee acknowledged the efforts of Pippin Kantakom '25. Despite being new to Andover's team, Kantakom's recent successes has reflected his commitment and determination throughout this season, according to Lee.

"Pippin has been doing really well this year, especially. He's coming into this [as a] new Lower, and it's amazing to see him doing so well. And in all of these events, I think last meet he won the 200 IM. And this week he won the 200-yard Freestyle and the 100-yard Backstroke. And I'm really proud of him," said Lee.

In the upcoming weeks, the team will compete in the Andover/Exeter meet, Eastern's, and the New England Preparatory School Swimming Association Championships (NEPSSAC). Co-Captain Trey Wolfe '23 shared his excitement for the New Englands, which will take place at the Pan Athletic Center for the first time.

"I feel really good. I know we have three big championship meets. Exeter, Eastern's, and then we have [NEPSSAC], which will be hosted here actually, which is really cool because that's the first time that's happened in my time here. I think we're just going to continue working hard and stay on the right track. I think we're doing a good job so far, and if we keep doing what we're doing, we should be able to confirm," said Wolfe.

Andover Boys Swimming and Diving will compete against Loomis next Saturday.

A.CHINN/*THE PHILLIPIAN*
Above, Co-Captain Chris Xia '23 swims breaststroke against Deerfield.

GIRLSSQUASH

Girls Squash Co-Captain Migyu Kim '25 Creates Inclusive Environment Where Teammates Can Grow

ANGIE LUCIA

From her first time picking up a racket, to matches with the athletic center's elderly members, to becoming Co-Captain of her current team, Migyu Kim '25 has managed to not only improve her skills as a squash player, but hone her ability to lead and foster a supportive team environment.

Growing up in an area without many opportunities to pursue squash, Kim had to learn self-discipline at a young age. Kim would often have inconsistent training partners and coaches, leading her to be adaptable and self-motivated on and off the court.

"Every single time that I get a coach they all have different styles and different techniques that I have to adapt to. Also, it helped with my self motivation because there weren't other kids around me to really make me feel competitive or motivated. It definitely helped me think about and be committed to my own goal and continue to work towards it," said Kim.

Kim now takes her internal motivation and uses it to inspire her teammates. Shreya Bajaj '23 noted how Kim's pre-match talks, along with how she leads by example, help each individual on the team grow.

"I think it's very much setting a good example and then motivating us all as a group. She works really hard on the court, and is always very present in practice [which] gets us to also do the same. She also gives lots of words of encouragement and motivational talks before games," said Bajaj.

According to teammate Christina Yen '24, Kim practices how she plays. Kim shows up present and focused while also bringing positive energy to every practice.

"After our coach mentions a drill, she might add a few more details about what we could focus on and she's very good at giving advice to people. She's also really positive, always an upbeat kind of person. Whenever she's on the court, you can definitely see that she's focused, that she has a purpose. It's very easy in practice to just go through the motions of things, but I think that whenever she's at practice, she's always very attentive, and there's a plan about how she's going about doing things," said Yen.

The transition from a mostly solo career to a team at Andover allowed Kim the opportunity to develop her collaboration skills and bond with others about squash. Kim hopes to continue fostering an environment for a connected team that is built on a foundation of trust.

"For me, when I came here Freshman Year, I had never been in that environment where it felt so supportive, and trusting in such a small group of people. Because we're a team of eight, it really allows for a lot of closeness to be built among the teammates. I just want to continue making sure that everyone's positive, and looking after each other, and showing up for one another," said Kim.

Despite only being a Lower, Kim has already made an impact on the team. Bajaj recalls how Kim's genuine care for her teammates' well-being creates an inclusive environment where everyone feels accepted and heard.

COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

"Before practice, she'll talk to all of us and ask us how our day is going, so that just creates a sense of community and like belonging on the team. During warmups and stuff, she'll talk to us, we'll do circles while we're stretching, and she'll ask us to go around and say one thing either that we're going to work on in the upcoming match or something fun that we did over the weekend. That just makes it so that we all feel like we belong on the team," said Bajaj.

Co-Captain Karen Wang '23 Embraces "Cult Ritual" as Way to Create Companionship

NABILAH NAZAR

As a 2021-2022 U.S. Squash Scholar Athlete, Co-Captain Karen Wang '23 has been described as both a "stabilizing force" and an aggressive player by her teammates. Beginning her athletic career as a competitive fencer, Wang's transition to squash was unexpected, yet her passion for the sport grew profoundly.

When she began playing at Andover, the unexpected camaraderie among the team helped Wang see the group aspect of an individualized sport.

"Coming to Andover, I had the amazing opportunity to be part of a squash team for the first time. I never had that experience before because squash is a very individual sport, since you are [competing against] another person by yourself. Even though we did compete against each other, we still formed a really tight bond, like cheering each other on while we played against other schools or just hanging out after practice," said Wang.

After playing alongside Wang at Princeton University's Junior Club in fourth grade, Liz Zhao '24 was motivated to continue playing squash at a competitive level. The two have formed a mentor-mentee relationship at a young age, and it has continued on to Andover.

COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

"She's actually the person who inspired me to start playing squash... She's a great coach. She's very observant when watching matches and she gives me very good advice on how best to play and how to plan my strategy when playing each opponent based on their strengths and weaknesses... She always makes it her goal to try to run for every ball and not give up on any shots, which is admirable," said Zhao.

Similarly, Christina Yen '24 also felt Wang excelled in balancing the competitive nature of squash with showing companionship towards her teammates. She admired Wang's open mindedness to constructive criticism and her ability to provide balance to the team.

"Karen [has] more subtle leadership. She'll often be there if you just want someone to talk to. If you watch her matches you'll see that she's a very good example of how to be competitive on the court and be sportsmanlike about it. I guess a stabilizing force throughout our entire team... She's also very receptive to feedback. So that humble attitude on the court and off the court, that's been something that at least in my experience, I've learned from," said Yen.

In terms of technical skills, Wang excels at drop shots, according to Shreya Bajaj '23, which requires balance and finesse in the wrist. Wang's unique playstyle is one thing that her teammates strive to learn from her.

"She plays very aggressively, which is something that I aspire to do. And she's not afraid to hit the ball hard and make her opponent really work. Her squash drop shot is really good. A lot of us feel we have a kind of different game, but she has a very specific [style]. I know that if I give her a bad shot, she's literally just going to take it [and] smash it, [and] I'm not going to be able to get it," saud Bajaj.

According to Co-Captain Migyu Kim '25, an aspect of Wang's strong leadership is her poised attitude, as well as her willingness to share her knowledge with others.

"I feel like a lot of times, she's someone who's very consistently calm and kind and friendly, and you feel like you can always turn to her and talk to her. I mean because she's a Senior, she has a lot of experience and wisdom collected over the years, having been on the team for four years," said Kim.

Furthermore, to emphasize teamwork and collaboration, the two Co-Captains created a pre-game ritual to release tension. Wang believes this ritual has helped the team open up to one other, and strengthened their team's spirit.

Wang continued, "We initiated something called our 'cult ritual,' which is before every single game. Our team would circle around a tee or circle around some object, and then we would do jumping jacks, counting down from ten and getting progressively louder. And then finally, when we hit one, we would all scream super loud to get our energy going and feel super pumped to play. I feel like those little moments really helped our team bond together more because we're able to be more vulnerable and just have a lot of fun while playing and also performing well," said Wang.

Girls Squash Head Coach Deborah Chase Prioritizes Sportsmanship, Support, and Synergy

MEG STINEMAN

Andover Girls Squash Head Coach Deborah Chase leads the team with contagious energy and a willingness to learn. Though tennis is her primary sport, Chase brings over 20 years of experience coaching JV squash teams at various boarding schools.

In her first year leading the Varsity team, Chase has prioritized building stronger relationships with her players. Chase also looks to help her players locate and address areas of their game that can be improved upon.

"[My main coaching strategy] was really building team camaraderie. Kind of a healthy, driven, culture, getting them to know me. And what we focus a lot on is our strength as a team and helping each other recognize our strengths, recognize our weaknesses, [and] work on our weaknesses. And every single day, try to get each other better and try to learn and think of what we do. We talk a lot about, 'How am I going to learn from each match?'" said Chase.

Co-Captain Migyu Kim '25 believes Chase is reflective of her efforts to increase her involvement with the team. Chase is always available to fulfill the needs of the team and its individual players, according to Kim.

"She's always communicating, supporting, and lifting the team up. She's just so involved with everything. She'll lead us with warm-ups, with the drills and everything. Even when she has other commitments, she'll always make time for the team and her attention is solely on us. I really appreciate and respect that. Anytime I have something on my mind, whether it's about squash or outside of it, she's such a trusting person and a great listener with amazing advice I can turn to," said Kim

With prior experience under Chase's leadership on Andover's JV1 team, Shreya Bajaj '23 continues to appreciate Chase's cheerfulness and enthusiasm. Though her expectations have changed in the transition to the Varsity level, Chase remains considerate of athlete health, both physically and mentally.

"I feel like her general style has remained the same in the sense that she's very enthusiastic. She brings a ton of energy. She's very chill and easygoing and very bubbly. That makes practices really fun... She'll always begin practice with a little talk in a circle where we go around and say how we're all doing, but she also expects us to work hard," said Bajaj.

Christina Yen '24 appreciates Chase's open mind and willingness to learn more about squash, despite tennis being her main sport. Through her modest attitude as a coach, Chase has allowed herself to become a very approachable leader, according to Yen.

"She was actually very quick to recognize that there are some areas that she may need to receive a little bit more support on. In that way, she's very humble and very accepting. Sometimes one of our teammates may be explaining certain things to her, and she's okay with that, which is very much a shock. Because sometimes, with coaches...they think they know everything, but she was actually very quickly adapting to new information," said Yen.

Chase pushes the team to play and act in a way that it can be proud of when reflecting back. Since the team has only lost three times this season, Chase looks to maintain the team's sense of confidence in preparation for high-stakes games in the postseason.

"Our goal is to achieve the highest standard of squash while conducting ourselves to the highest standard of sportsmanship, each day of practice and each match that we have. And whether we win, whether we lose. I want them to be proud of themselves as they walk off the court. We've done incredibly well. We haven't lost to a team that is just below us. We're coming up to our big tournaments. And so really looking forward to testing ourselves against some teams that are as competitive as us or tougher," said Chase.

COURTESY OF PANET

ANDOVER GIRLS SQUASH

KAREN WANG '23 (C)
PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ

MIGYU KIM '25 (C)
BERWYN, CT

DEVIKA HAJARNAVIS '26
DUBAI, UAE

ELLIE ISRAELOV '25
NEW CANAAN, CT

SHREYA BAJAJ '23
CHESTNUT HILL, MA

PRISHA SHIVANI '26
HOUSTON, TX

LIZ ZHAO '24
PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ

CHRISTINA YEN '24
ANDOVER, MA

MANAGERS

CRIS RAMNATH '23
RIDGEWOOD, NY

ELLIE CHO '23
SEOUL, KOR

R.YANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

After Strong Wins Against Choate, Westminster, and Belmont Hill, Boys Squash Sweeps Exeter 7-0

HENRY SNOW

SATURDAY	
Andover	6
Choate	1
SATURDAY	
Andover	7
Westminister	0
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	7
Exeter	0

Andover Boys Squash beat Choate 6-1, Westminster 7-0, and maintained its momentum to beat Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter) 7-0 on Wednesday. Andover's record now stands at 12-2.

Going into the event, Will Weissman '25 noted how quiet the environment surrounding the matches was. Although it is usually more lively, Weissman respected the team's efforts to support each other throughout the event, helping maintain their confidence and energy.

"There was high energy going into the day from the team. However, the environment of the event was quieter as there weren't many spectators. We were able to feed off each other to fire ourselves up," Weissman said.

During the practices leading up to the event, the coaches made sure players prioritized rest in the wake of a long week of work, according to Corey Shen '26. This ensured that the players would be in their best headspace before the matches.

Shen said, "Before going to Choate, we all made sure we were well-rested and in good spirits for the match. Having gone through a tough week of school full of tests, Coach Roberts told us to get some rest."

Additionally, the team worked on consistency, according to Sean Winston Luo '24. He emphasized the significance of keeping up the team's effort and energy levels despite having played numerous games over the past several weeks.

Luo said, "We worked mostly on staying consistent. Over the past few weeks, we have had many matches which have tired us out, so we are trying to stay healthy and keep up our intensity despite feeling a bit dragged from the past few games."

Although there are many strengths of the team, Shen highlighted the team's uplifting spirit as a crucial factor for success. He believed that the strong sense of unity and positive energy between teammates has been an important factor in their success.

"During our match, many of the player's parents came to cheer us on and bring us food in between our matches. Our morale was significantly boosted because of this and we all cheered each other on," said Shen.

Additionally, Weissman highlighted Chase Burke '25's performances over the weekend. Despite the pressure that was placed on him, Burke ended up winning both of his games.

"One of the first people who comes to mind is Chase Burke, who helped out the team on our longest away match of the year. He was called up to play a few days ago and really stepped up, winning both of his matches," Weissman said.

Across all three games, the team was able to identify several areas for improvement. Moving forward, the team looks to better their movement, energy, and shot-making, according to Weissman.

Weissman said, "Since we had two matches in one day, many of us were low on energy and not very fired up. Although we can't change the format so we don't have back-to-back matches, we could have used the time in between to better prepare. Another weakness was our shot length throughout the matches. Since the courts are different than we are used to, the quality of our length shots was not at the level it needed to be at."

Andover Boys Squash will face St. George's at home this Wednesday.

A.CHINN/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Aiden Chiang '26 prepares to hit a forehand.

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Girls Basketball Wins One, Loses One; Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 Surpasses 1,000 Career Points

SOPHIA CRATTY

SATURDAY	
Andover	70
KUA	41

Andover Girls Basketball defeated Kimball Union Academy (KUA) 70-41 on Saturday, but followed up their win with a loss against Brooks on Wednesday. Its record now stands at 9-7.

On Saturday, Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 surpassed 1,000 points in their Andover career, the second person to do so in Andover Girls Basketball history. Leila Boesch-Powers '24 applauded Herndon's constant determination and congratulated them for the milestone.

"I think one of the most exciting moments of this game was when one of our three captains, Kennedy Herndon, got a thousand points. It was in the second quarter, and we were all hopeful that [they] would get it, but it was still a special moment when [they] did get it because [they were] the first person [since] 1990 on the girls varsity basketball team to achieve this. So it was very cool. [They are] very hardworking and it was great to see [them] finally get there," said Boesch-Powers.

COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Girls Basketball has won four of its last five games.

Immediately after the one-1000th point, team members awarded Herdon with a customized ball and posters on the court. Herdon described their initial reaction to the achievement.

"Scoring my one-thousandth point was a dream come true. I felt relieved once I hit the one thousand mark because it has been something I have wanted since the beginning of my basketball career," said Herndon.

Herndon went on to explain what the team did well and what it could have improved on in Saturday's game against KUA. The team succeeded in having a strong defense, according to Herndon.

"As a team, we were able to find the open player on offense, knock down open shots...steal the ball on defense. [On the other hand, in] the first quarter, rebounding was something that we could have done better," said Herndon.

Boesch-Powers highlighted Ava Davey '25 as a key player in Saturday's game. Davey's high energy throughout the game motivated other teammates, according to Boesch Powers.

"I'm going to give a shoutout to Ava Davey. Not only do I think she played super well, because she did get a bunch of clutch baskets and played really good defense, but she kept the energy up throughout the whole game. She was a really good teammate and kept everybody else hype and excited and contributed a lot to the final score, not only because she scored but because she kept everyone else engaged, excited, and having a good time," said Boesch-Powers.

Ruby Kokinos '26 described the atmosphere of Wednesday's game as full of excitement. After Herndon's 1000th point on Saturday, the team was excited to return to its home court to maintain that spirit.

"I'd say the atmosphere of the game was really exciting, especially among the team. Our captain Kennedy scored her 1,000 point on Saturday, and this was our first home game since then, so there was a lot of energy surrounding that. I think we also all knew that Brooks would be a good matchup, and so that also contributed to the energy," said Kokinos.

Though the team fell to Brooks, Kokinos believed her teammates performed well. Towards the end of the game, the quality of play declined, but everyone put forth their best efforts, according to Kokinos.

"Brooks is a good shooting team and I think that we were really holding out on defense against them, and even though towards the end things started to get a little bit messier from both teams, everyone put in a lot of effort and worked really hard," said Kokinos.

Andover Girls Basketball will be playing Middlesex on Saturday and Austin Preparatory School on Wednesday.

Boys Basketball Wins Against Tilton and Nobles, Loses Thriller Against Loomis

INEM ANAKO

FRIDAY	
Andover	62
Loomis	65
SATURDAY	
Andover	64
Nobles	48
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	62
Tilton	48

After falling behind early against Tilton Academy, Andover Boys Basketball came back and ultimately earned a comfortable 62-48 victory on Wednesday. This was Andover's second win of the week, after defeating Noble & Greenough (Nobles), 64-48, on Saturday, and barely falling short against Loomis Chaffee (Loomis), 62-65, on Friday. The team's record now stands at 8-6.

Following a hot start from Tilton, Andover managed to cool down its opponents and took a small lead into half time. The team dominated the second half, securing the win in the end, according to Dylan Bronner '23.

"Towards the beginning, they went up early. They were hitting a lot of shots and we were down by ten or 15, really early, in the first four to five minutes. Pretty much, we've been talking about, in the face of adversity and kind of battling through that. Coach called a timeout and talked about that and we got back in the game, in the following two to three minutes and then by half time I think we were up by one or two. We fought back in the game and without that I don't think we would've had a chance at half time," said Bronner.

Once the momentum of the game picked up, the environment of the gym went with it. According to Co-Captain Colby Duggan '23, the energy from the crowd was part of the reason that the team went on a roll following its slow start.

"I'd say that when we were down, it was pretty quiet. We didn't have a ton of energy, but once we picked it up the atmosphere rose with the team and we were able to propel past." said Duggan

Bronner mentioned that feedback coming from the bench was equally as effective. Players on the sideline helped out those on the court throughout the game, sharing their advice on how to approach Tilton.

"It was fun, a lot of students came out, it was nice having that atmosphere on our side. Then also the energy from our bench was really nice. We had a couple players out sick today, but they still were supportive from the bench as we came out of the game and talked to us on the bench about what's going on and what they saw," said Bronner.

According to Whyett Benn '24, the team now focuses their practices to deal with Thayer Academy and St. Sebastian's in upcoming matches.

"We did again, go over a couple different plays and also watched film. Our next games coming [up] are going to be tough though, there are a lot of good teams coming up," said Benn.

Looking ahead, Bronner hopes that the team will be able to utilize some plays it has gone over in practice. While unable to utilize them against Tilton, Bronner thinks that these plays could prove to be the difference in some of the upcoming games.

COURTESY OF KELLY GRABER

Keenan Sparks '24 dribbles past an opposing defender.

"Running our stuff. [Tilton] played a lot of zone [defense] today, so we didn't get a chance to run a lot of plays we worked on...some of the plays we had run in the past week after the Loomis loss, but just running our stuff and getting in man-to-man as opposed to playing in zone like we did today. And the teams we played Friday and Saturday were both doing a lot of man-to-man, so just kind of working on the place you're set up," said Bronner.

Andover plays away at Thayer on Friday, and at home against St. Sebastian's on Saturday.

Girls Indoor Track and Field Sends Juniors and Lowers to Record-Breaking Meet

ANGIE LUCIA

Juniors and Lowers on Andover Girls Track and Field traveled to Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter) on Wednesday to race against Exeter, Governor's, Wilbraham & Monson, and Marianapolis. The team won by a margin of 93 points, with Gracie Aziabor '26 breaking the Junior class record in the 55-Meter Dash. Wylie Roossien '26 also broke the Junior class record and meet record in both the 300-Meter and 600-Meter events.

In preparation for the lowerclassmen meet, the team stuck to its usual training plan but incorporated some skills that were unfamiliar to younger athletes, such as baton passing. Annabel Tu '25 described how the atmosphere of the meet was different without upperclassmen in attendance.

"The preparation was similar. We train every day to get faster and stronger. I also think there are people who did events that they don't usually do that often. Especially some relays because sometimes it's mostly an upperclassman running them. So we had to practice, like some people who typically don't do relays, they had to practice baton hand-offs... There weren't as many upperclassmen there, so we had to figure out more stuff on our own," said Tu.

Aziabor highlighted the supportiveness of the team when breaking the Junior class record. Aziabor also appreciated how every team member displayed enthusiasm, and everyone got their own moment of encouragement and congratulations.

"[I] like the fact how you get your moment to celebrate, and then, it's straight back to cheering on your teammates and embodying the PATF spirit. I think it's really great, because the 55 [meter] was one of my earlier events. I still had the [4x200-Meter Relay], and I still had to finish shot put, so I loved how everyone was there to congratulate me, and everyone was like, 'Oh, we're so proud of you.' That was great," said Aziabor.

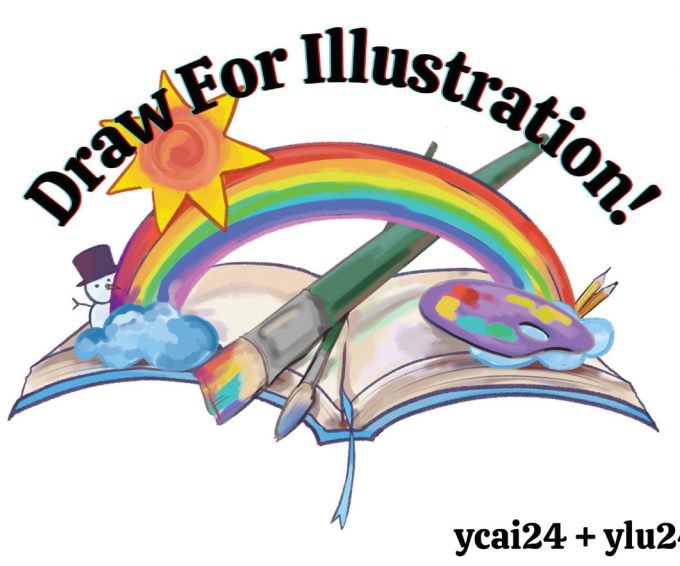
According to Hayden Fischer '25, an only lowerclassmen meet is very different from what the team is used to. Fischer noted that the experience allowed lowerclassmen to compete at their best without the stress of competing against athletes two or even three years older.

"I think it is definitely fun being the only ninth and tenth graders there because it can be quite intimidating racing against people that are a lot older. So just having people that are closer in age is almost comforting in a sense," said Fischer.

With just two full-team meets until the end of the season, the team hopes to continue improving and staying consistent. Aziabor also emphasized the importance of making connections within the whole Andover Track and Field program, which consists of both the boys and girls teams.

"As the season is coming to an end, we're trying to stay motivated, stay focused. For a lot of people, me included, sometimes when I near towards the end of things, I lose motivation. I'm like, 'Okay, it's practically over.' We're just working to keep the motivation up, and also still get to know each other better, because there's a hundred and thirty-something people on the track team, which is a lot of people, and we train in split-up groups," said Aziabor.

Andover Girls Track and Field will host the NEPSTA All-Comers Meet on Saturday.



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Boys Indoor Track and Field Places Second in Lowerclassmen Meet at Exeter

EVIE WOOD

In a lively and energetic all-lowerclassmen meet, Andover Boys Indoor Track and Field emerged with dominant performances in several events. With 109 points, Andover defeated Austin Preparatory School (Austin Prep), Landmark, and Governor's, but fell short to Phillips Academy Exeter (Exeter) by 12 points.

Despite not competing in the meet, Co-Captain Daniel Bae '23 traveled to Exeter to support the team. Bae commended younger teammates for their determination and numerous personal records (PRs)

"I mean, you could look at the score and see we got second place, but really I think that is really representative of performance because we had big PRs from a lot of people. And I think they all handled the first time going to an away meet for most of them really well," said Bae.

Will Ware '26 highlighted the performances of teammates in the Two-Mile race. With a time of 9:32.02, Tam Gavenas '25 broke the meet and Lower class record.

"Tam's Two-Mile was really impressive... And so was David Song ['26]'s Two-Mile... The Two-Mile is a very challenging event, so I thought that was cool how they were able to do it very fast and just kind of muscle through it, and they did very well in that," said Ware.

Tianyi Gu '25 believed the meet was a good opportunity for the lowerclassmen to compete against others of similar age, allowing some events to be highly competitive. Arun Kapoor '25 edged out an Austin Prep runner by just 1.31 seconds to take the win in the 1000-Meter race.

"Whereas previously it was harder to be quite as competitive, now that you're racing against people that are generally closer to age and your level, it ends up having a lot of tight races. It's also cool to get to know the lowerclassmen athletes from other schools," said Gu.

Similarly, Ware was grateful for the chance to compete with others more similar to his skill level, which led to a PR in the One-Mile. Ware noted that the competition allowed him to push himself harder.

"Racing people who are a little bit more your level is just a lot more fun and challenges you even a little bit more, so I think there were a lot of PRs just because of that reason. There are people around you who have similar times as yours, and kind of pushing up against those kinds of people was a lot of fun, and it was a good challenge," said Ware.

Though changes in the practice schedule made it harder to ensure adequate meet preparation, Gu emphasized that team members worked to take advantage of whatever time they had. Gu also appreciated the advice from coaches in the days leading up to the meet.

"It was tough because Monday was Head of School Day, so in terms of preparing for the meet there was still optional practice, but that was slightly difficult because it was less like structured preparation time. But other than that, the coaches did a really good job of preparing us for the events that we'd be running and giving tips on technique and form and also training our speed and endurance based on what we've had to improve on," said Gu.

Looking to Saturday's meet against various NEPSAC schools, the team looks to compete in new relays, such as the Distance Medley Relay and Sprint Medley Relay. According to Bae, the team will be focused on preparing for the relays, in addition to ensuring adequate recovery from Wednesday's meet.

"Aside from just the normal technical stuff, we're going to work really, really hard on relay exchanges, running curves. The events we're running on Saturday are slightly different, so we have to talk a little bit about pacing. But other than that we're going to take the next few days kind of light," said Bae.

Andover Boys Indoor Track and Field will be hosting the NEPSTA All-Comers meet on Saturday.

Girls Squash Cruises Past Groton, Loses Tight Match Against Nobles

MEG STINEMAN

FRIDAY	
Andover	7
Groton	0

WEDNESDAY	
Andover	3
Nobles	4

Opening the week with a sweep against Groton, Andover Girls Squash were unable to carry the momentum into its match against Noble & Greenough (Nobles). Despite a valiant effort, the team lost in a nail-biter against Nobles, 4-3 on Wednesday. Andover's record now stands at 7-4.

According to Co-Captain Migyu Kim '25, Andover constantly provides effort and energy, no matter the skill of its opponents. While high in confidence heading into the match against Groton, Andover remained humble, and maintained a high level of play through each match.

"I think that in general, the team is really strong when they are playing opponents who they are better than, just staying strong themselves and fighting. They're not really dipping their level at all and just playing good squash and playing good shots. So just keeping your own level and dominating the court," Kim said.

Co-Captain Karen Wang '23 commended the team's support on Friday in its matches against Groton. With several matches coming down to the wire, it was critical for teammates to provide encouragement to further push Andover towards victory.

Wang said, "I think for Groton, we did a really good job cheering each other on and supporting each other. There were a lot of close matches and close calls. Throughout the matches, everyone was very supportive. It was like we were able to pull through."

Kim noted that despite the many promising signs from the match against Groton, one area the team still needs to improve upon is dealing with high pressure situations. Against stronger opponents, Andover will face many more critical points in its matches, making it an incredibly important area to improve upon.

Kim said, "I think that in terms of weaknesses or areas to improve on, we started talking about the mental aspect of the game and how to deal with situations under pressure a little bit better, how to improve our work through moments where you're stressed or uncertain about how the match is going to go. We started working on that for the rest of the season."

According to Christina Yen '24, the team looked to address this problem in practice by doing "pressure sessions." These helped players improve their play during intense moments in a match, but they also improved endurance and tactics.

"We did what we call pressure sessions. That means, that one person can hit anywhere they want and a person has to return to a certain circle or a return to a certain place. So basically, we're just really focusing on improving our endurance, which pressure sessions made happen. I think in some ways it also was good and about improving our focus," said Yen.

When playing Nobles, the team was focused on testing out different strategies during matches. Specifically, the team tried to incorporate a variety of shots into its matches, forcing its opponents to stay on their toes.

"For today's match, we were focusing on hitting. We played condition games that focused on certain things. You should be paying attention to all hits. For example, only hitting the ball short once. And that helps us think about different strategies with some play while competing against other players. You might suffer from deep shots," said Wang.

Andover will face Middlesex away next Wednesday.

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Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

A Capella, Slam Poetry, Rock, and More: Abbot Cabaret 2023 Arouses Audience Engagement Through Variety of Student Performances

SOPHIE TUNG AND LANGAN GARRETT

Singing a cover of "Take On Me" by a-ha, Indigo's lead vocalist Jason Zhang '23 flew a paper airplane into the crowd while the audience cheered and clapped along to the beat of the song. Featuring Indigo and other bands, stand-up comedy, and slam poetry, the annual Abbot Cabaret talent show was held in Kemper Auditorium last weekend.

For many performers, the Abbot Cabaret performance was an opportunity to bond with friends and make memories on the stage. Indigo guitarist, Dylan Oh '23, reflected on his experience of interacting with his band on stage.

"I think the real performance was making friends along the way. My favorite part was just being up on stage, playing music with the people I love and my friends, having a great time. I think that is what's so meaningful about being on stage with everyone," said Oh.

Saumik Sharma '25, a member of the audience, explained how he was impressed by the various performances.

COURTESY OF MICHELLE CHEN '24

Michelle Chen '24sings alongside guitarists Sinan Muratoglu '24 and Constantine Krenteras '24.

"I think it was a perfect [imitation] of Grasshopper, which was amazing... This was a little bit shorter, and [I] didn't feel like I was losing interest at any point... And of course, it's Andover, so the people are very talented," said Sharma.

Lauren Mahoney '23, lead vocalist of band Rough Draft and a capella group Keynotes, stated that she was especially proud of Rough Draft's animated stage presence, especially with their instrumentalists.

"So in Rough Draft's [performance of] 'Separate Ways (Worlds Apart)' by Journey, there is a longer instrumental where our guitarist, John Latham ['23], just gets to absolutely shred his solo... He got off the stage and he got down on one knee and was banging his head back and forth and just really feeling the music. And right after that, I came in with this big belt note, and the crowd just stood up, and started roaring, just because of the climax of the song, and just the adrenaline rush after that was absolutely amazing," said Mahoney.

Another performer in Keynotes, Jeremy Yeh '23, expressed his excitement about performing a solo part in the performance. However, he stated that there were several challenges during the preparation process, such as the limited rehearsal time.

"We started preparing this arrangement back in December, but we didn't actually know we were officially in Abbot Cabaret until about a week and half ago, which made the process a bit rushed. Most of the preparation was done in these last couple of weeks... [but] it was really fun preparing for [the solo] because as a bass, I don't usually get a solo," said Yeh.

Several audience members stated that the Abbot Cabaret provided an opportunity for them to see their peers in action. Audience member Wooba Song '26 emphasized the wide variety of performances at the AbbotCabaret.

"I think the performance was wonderful. You could tell how much work everybody put into it. All the acts were amazing in their own way," said Song.

Andover Edition Organizes "The Bassment" Dance at Paresky Commons

WENDI YING

Donning all-black attire, dancing to the DJ's music, and taking pictures at photo booths, students packed the Paresky Commons dance floor last weekend at "The Bassment" dance. Organized by Andover Edition, Phillips Academy's student-run fashion publication, the dance fulfilled the club's goals to engage with Andover students through fashion and music. The club combined the words "bass" and "basement" for the name, a nod to the bass-heavy music that students danced to throughout the night. Langston Reid '24, board member of the Andover Edition, explained that the club tried to provide students with a party different from the annual dances on campus.

"Andover Edition [is] very up-to-date...we thought our club would [organize the dance] perfectly because we have a diverse board, we have a DJ, we have people who are good at marketing, we have an established Instagram...we could raise that height necessary for a very good party," said Reid.

Attendee Lydia Mechegia '24 commented on the DJ's mix and the club's advertisement of the event.

"I just had a lot of fun dancing and hanging out with my friends, and listening to some good music. And the lighting was really cool too... the marketing was really good. I saw a lot of posters about it," said Mechegia.

Several attendees personalized the all-black dress code by experimenting with various silhouettes, textures, and layers. Attendee Mayumi Kawano '25 explained the thinking behind her pairing of a satin corset top and parachute cargo pants.

COURTESY OF LANGSTON REID '24

Andover Edition board wore matching black T-shirts to the dance.

"So I wanted something kind of more streetwear, but also true to myself. So I picked out the top, just because that's something that I really like, it makes me so confident every time I wear it, and it makes me feel really pretty. I chose the pants because those are very staple, and they're easy to move around in, and they're super comfortable, and they also tie in that streetwear look," said Kawano.

Reid explained that the success of the dance followed a long preparation process and several challenges. According to Reid, the dance was originally planned to be held in Susie's, but it was moved to Lower Right of Paresky Commons on the day of the dance.

"We had to move everything around, move our plan around, market it differently, tell people, 'Don't go down there, come up here.' And that was probably our biggest challenge, we were stressing all this morning...but we made it work, you know? When you have a board of 12 people, all dedicated, all very committed to making this campus a great place, especially making this event possible, we can do anything," said Reid.

Through organizing "The Bassment," Reid hopes that attendees took away special memories with their friends and enjoyed dancing to the music. In the future, he envisions the Andover Edition hosting more dances that incorporate the students' ideas.

"If you were to go with your friends, and your friends were like, 'Oh, this party is lame,' you'd see people be like, 'No, this party is incredible, I wanna stay, this is an incredible environment.' It's that energy. I'm looking to see people smile, dance, mosh, sing to the lyrics, and leave with some incredible photos to go on Instagram [and] share with their friends," said Reid.

COURTESY OF LANGSTON REID '24

Andover Edition provided a student DJ and took song requests.

Addison Club Leads Perusal of New Exhibit: "*Women in Abstraction*"

SOPHIE TUNG

Staring up at Liz Whitney Quisgard's wall art made from yarn, "Scrambles," students joined the Addison Club to explore the Addison Gallery of American Art's new exhibit "Women in Abstraction: 1741 - Now." The Addison Club celebrated the launch of this new exhibit on January 28 with a series of activities. Highlights included finding camouflaged objects in artworks and a paper-cutting challenge. Attendee Anthony Woo '24 discussed what he found memorable.

"I attended because I thought it was a fun thing to do and today is the first day [of] the 'Woman in Abstraction' show... The activities were very thoughtfully planned out and I also learnt about the multiple intelligences. That's an interesting perspective to me," said Woo.

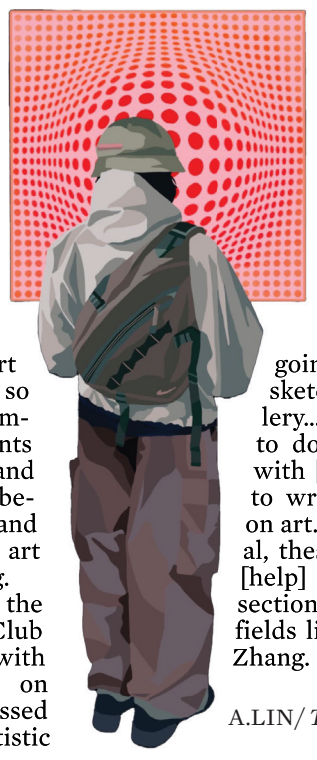
According to the Addison, "Women in Abstraction" explores how women have utilized visual language and universal aspects of abstraction — including color, line, form, shape, contrast, pattern, and texture — to create art across a wide range of media. Underpinned by Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences, or the different ways people process information, the exhibit features a diverse selection of artists spanning from the 18th century to the present day, such as Beverly Hallam, Alma Thomas, and Deborah Remington.

In addition to making abstract art less intimidating for students, this opening event also offered attendees opportunities for self-reflection. Many activities were based on Gardner's eight types of intelligence. For example, the paper-cutting challenge revolved around spatial intelligence. Addison Ambassador and Addison Club co-head Alicia Zhang '24 explained the purpose of integrating Gardner's theory into art.

"I feel like a lot of people don't consider themselves art people, so they avoid art museums... I guess the purpose was just to show that you don't need to be an art person to enjoy art... You could be a really mathematical person or someone who thinks about things very logically and still be able to [find connections]," said Zhang.

One of the primary goals of the Addison Club is to provide accessible spaces for art discussion, functioning as a low-commitment version of the Addison Community Ambassadors, who are involved in planning events with the Addison. Zhang hopes to spread awareness and appreciation of the Addison to more students on campus.

"I think art is really important. I think it's what society rests upon and it's what can change society. Andover is [one of] the only high schools in America with an art museum on campus, so I think it's really important that students use this resource and come to the Addison because it's really fun and it's not just a boring art museum," said Zhang.



A.LIN/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Looking towards the future, the Addison Club is planning to work with other artistic clubs on campus. Zhang discussed the intersectional artistic opportunities such collaborations offer, such as visual art with poetry.

"We're planning to [work] with another art club — Art for Expression — next week. We're just going to do some sketching in the gallery...We're also going to do a collaboration with [PA Poetry Club] to write poetry based on art. I think in general, these collaborations [help] find more intersections in art and other fields like writing," said Zhang.

Arts & Leisure
The Phillipian

Dueling Pianos: Musicians Take Student Song Requests in Susie's Performance

LANGAN GARRETT

From classic beats like "Bennie And The Jets" by Elton John to more modern songs like "Get Lucky" by Daft Punk, two professional pianists turned audience song requests into lively tunes on their keyboards. Dueling Pianos, a comedy sing-along show, was held in Susie's last Friday night. Carlos Cepeda-Diaz '23, who requested "Get Lucky," highlighted how he appreciated the musicians' interaction with the audience.

"I thought it looked really fun, and so this time, I wanted to stop by again and hear the music they were playing... I really liked that they took song requests from the audience, because that was a fun addition," said Cepeda-Diaz.

Attendee Mayumi Kawano '25 echoed this sentiment, and felt that the diverse range of song choices contributed to a fun and high-energy atmosphere. She reflected on a highlight of the night: singing Bruno Mars songs with her friends.

"I was just with my friends, and we decided to meet at Susie's, because we thought it would be pretty eventful, and honestly the vibe there was pretty nice, and I really enjoyed singing to some of the songs that they played...They started to play a lot of songs by Bruno Mars, and my entire friend group just started screaming it at the top of our lungs because we just felt the music in our soul," said Kawano.

Other students appreciated how this casual musical performance helped create a low-stress environment, offering a needed break from schoolwork and classes. Elliot Chung '24 described the relaxing and accessible nature of Dueling Pianos, as well as a particular song he liked.

"One song I really liked was when they played 'Message In A Bottle' by The Police. I have always liked that song, so it was pretty fire. It was very chill, and I think everyone was just enjoying a calmer environment in the Susie's where they could listen to music after a hard week of work and class," said Chung.

However, Chung also felt Dueling Pianos could have been improved through expanding beyond just live music. He discussed possibilities for further exploring the interactive nature of the performance through incorporating student voices, like letting students come up on stage in an open-mic style environment.

"I think it would have been more fun if there were different and more unique elements to the event as a whole. I would rather have an open-mic night... or karaoke, or something like that," said Chung.

Overall, Dueling Pianos allowed students to enjoy favorite tunes in the comfort of a popular hang-out spot on campus. Looking towards the future, Cepeda-Diaz hopes for similar events to be added to The Weekender, as well as for such events to be publicized more to maximize audience turnout.

"I think things like this only get more fun when there are more people actually at the event. But, I think instead of the individual events that need to be improved, we just need to improve The Weekender as a whole by adding more events like this to [it]," said Cepeda-Diaz.

KARISHMA CASTILLO/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Exploring Chloe Rhee '24's Capsule Wardrobe: Clothing as a Medium for Self-Expression

SERAFINA SHIN-VON NORDENFLYCHT

Chloe Rhee '24 builds her outfit with sleek, interchangeable pieces from a capsule wardrobe — a collection of clothing composed of solely interchangeable items. She layers a black leather jacket over a white tank top and black mini skirt, and tights and black-and-white Dr. Martens complete her striking look. Rhee explained how she's been experimenting with a new type of wardrobe this year.

"This year, I've been trying out a capsule wardrobe type of thing where... you buy the basics that all sort of work together, and then mix and match as you go. So I think almost all the things I have in my closet go with pretty much everything [else], because I've styled it that way deliberately. It makes choosing colors a lot easier," said Rhee.

Before coming to Andover, Rhee didn't have much experience exploring her own style. She discussed how her mother often dressed her and her sister in identical clothing, as well how she largely conformed to fashion trends around her. Yet coming to the East Coast from California and attending a different school from her sister, Rhee found newfound opportunities to explore a more individualistic style at Andover.

"When I came here... I started thinking more about [how] my sister doesn't go to school with me here, she's across the country, how can I individually express my own style?... Over the years, as I've come here, especially being in the East Coast, as compared to the West Coast, or even in Andover, where it's just this microcosm of people all around the world, it's just so much more diverse compared to back home and what people wore [there, and] I started to think about it a lot more consciously," said Rhee.

Rhee builds her wardrobe from brands like Aritzia and Abercrombie and Fitch, and wants to try thrifting more in the future as well. Instead of focusing on the clothes themselves, Rhee emphasized projecting a cohesive image through her fashion.

"A lot of people that I've talked to say that... I give off put-together energy... As my concept of fashion evolved, I sort of started thinking [of my clothing as] not just stuff I was [putting] on every day, but stuff that could contribute to an image. And I think I decided that looking put together and giving off that sort of energy was something that I wanted to do," said Rhee.

Additionally, Rhee finds outfit inspiration from a variety of places, from famous figures like Hailey Bieber to friends at Andover. She described how she's inspired more by her friends' characters in their fashion than by their specific styles.

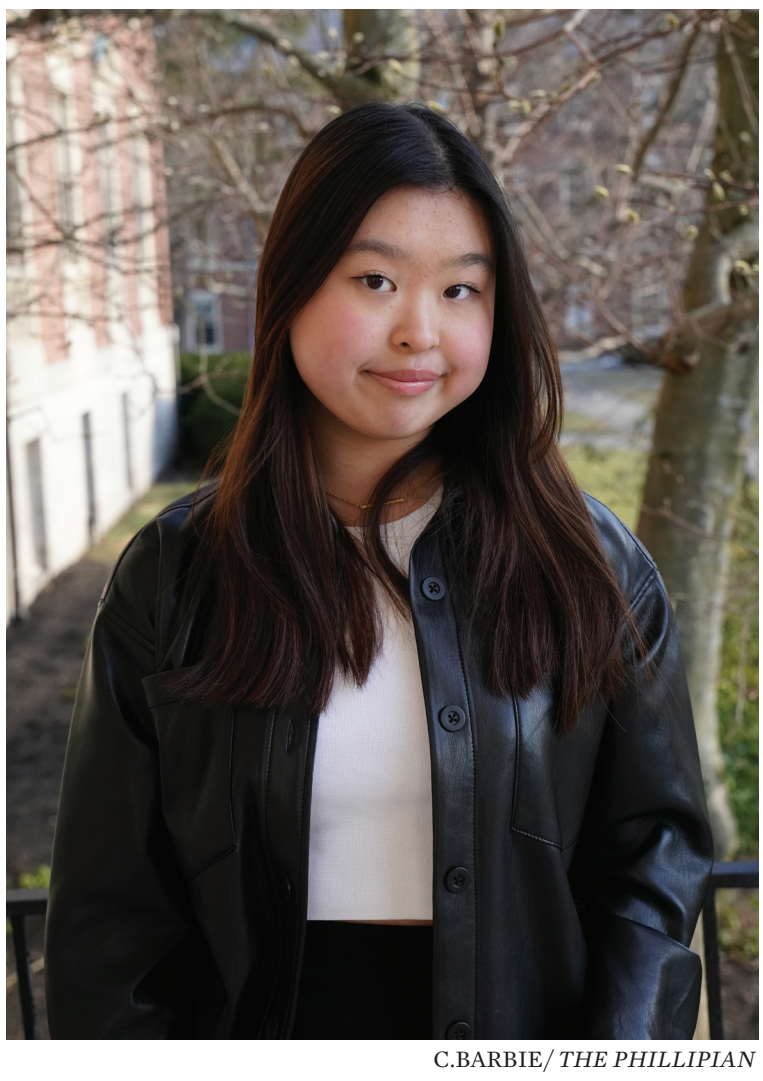
"It's not necessarily what [my friends] wear, that [makes me go], 'Oh, I want to go for that style,' because I think they all have very individual styles.... Mia [Pao '24] is very thrifty. Kelly [Yang '24]'s super subversive, trendy. And then Emelia [Yang '24] is really preppy, put together. But I think I was definitely inspired by the way that they use clothes to give off an energy or how interested they are in fashion. I think that's very interesting, that's something that has inspired me to develop a fashion style of my own," said Rhee.

Looking towards the future, Rhee discussed how her style may change and evolve in different environments. She will continue to use clothes as a medium for self-expression throughout these shifting priorities and values.

"Right now, just because Andover is such a busy, overwhelming place, I think, for example, looking to [be] put together is something that I really value and the style that I have right now sort of reflects that. But maybe it's like I evolve later on in life, [and] there may be other things that I prioritize... and I think clothes are a really great medium to do that," said Rhee.

C.BARBIE/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Rhee wears white Dr. Martens to compliment her white top.



C.BARBIE/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Rhee finds inspiration from fashion figures like Hailey Bieber.

C.BARBIE/ *THE PHILLIPIAN*

Rhee creates her closet out of staple items to compose an interchangeable wardrobe.

Arts & Leisure

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AAF GRANT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wednesday, February 8
5:30–7 p.m.
Paresky Commons, Foyer

Wednesday, February 15
5:30–7 p.m.
Paresky Commons, Foyer

GRANT WRITING SESSION

Thursday, March 23
6:30–8 p.m.
Paresky Commons, Mural Room

Scan for AAF grant application and examples of past projects and initiatives