

Student Reactions on the First Round of Co-Presidential Elections

TIANYI GU

At 9:04 p.m. on Valentine's Day, Kathryn Dolan, Assistant Dean of Students and Residential Life, sent an email to the Andover community containing the results of the first round of the 2023-24 Co-Presidential elections. Of the eight pairs of candidates that were in the running, a round of ranked-choice voting determined the final four that will be advancing onto the next round, a forum hosted on Sunday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m. in Kemper. A second round of voting will then take place to narrow the field down to a final two pairs the following Monday. After gathering signatures, creating platforms, and campaigning to the student body, the four pairs are: Ryan Chen '24 and Sakina Cotton '24, Nor DeHoog '24 and Ryan Lam '24, Allie Encarnacion '24 and Daniel Romero '24, and Jacob

Kaiser '24 and Emelia Yang '24.

Darla Moody '24 commented on how the results of the Co-Presidential elections oftentimes seem predetermined. To her, the Co-Presidential elections depend on much more than just the platform, the forum, or debate, but rather come from an accumulation of the entirety of the candidates' time at Andover.

"Year after year the Copres results seem almost like a self-fulfilling prophecy, there are a few pairs whom the average person thinks could be finalists, and then no one else gets any votes because people think they won't win anyways, and this year is no different. I think it proves that the real campaigning is about your previous three years and your partner's, not so much just the platforms or signatures," said Moody.

Dakota Chang '23, who serves as one of the Co-Presidents for the Pine Knoll Cluster, commended the number

of strong candidates that ran this year. She is especially excited for the further opportunities to get to know the candidates and their ideas.

"Regarding the results, I think this year a lot of the Co-[President] candidates had really strong platforms, so regardless of the final result, I think they'll do a really good job. I'm really excited to hear these four pairs of candidates present their platforms during the forum on Sunday in Kemper, I think the four had pretty similar ideas and standpoints, but obviously they each had their unique ideas. So I'm really just thrilled, and I think the rest of the school is, to really see how they'll navigate the whole process and appeal to the public opinion," said Chang.

Brandon Fu '25 noted the ideas that the Co-Presidential candidates listed on their plat-

Continued on A7, Column 1

Kennedy Herndon '23 Breaks Girls Basketball All-Time Scoring Record



COURTESY OF THE ACADEMY

Herndon reached 1,110 career points today, surpassing the former record holder, Becky Dowling Calder '94.



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Pictured above, Ryan Chen '24, Ryan Lam '24, Jacob Kaiser '24, Daniel Romero '24, Sakina Cotton '24, Nor DeHoog '24, Emelia Yang '24, and Allie Encarnacion '24.

Email Regarding College Counseling Course Sparks Confusion

CONNOR GLEASON

Numerous Andover students were surprised to receive an email on February 9 advertising the college counseling services from Ryan Xie, a self-proclaimed Yale University student and alumni of Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter).

"As an Exeter alum and a current Yale student, I wanted to share some college admissions secrets. After spending 10,000 [dollars] on former Ivy League admissions officers, I created a course breaking down the most effective method for getting into top colleges, which dozens of students from prep schools have used," wrote Xie in his email.

Four days later, the Office of Technology (OIT) sent out a schoolwide email explaining that they were investigating the situation. In the email, the OIT advised Andover stu-

dents to avoid clicking on external links from unfamiliar email addresses.

"We are aware of the following email being sent to the majority of the student body over the weekend and are looking into the situation. As a reminder, please do not reply to any emails or click any links from unknown senders that you weren't expecting to receive messages from," wrote the OIT in an email to the Andover community.

James Del Rio '25 received Xie's email and explained that Andover students are often ideal recipients for emails regarding college admissions services. Xie personalized every email with the addressed Andover student's name in the subject header and greeting.

Continued on A4, Column 1

ASM Speaker Mitchell S. Jackson Educates on the Lessons in Black Male Prominence

JACQUELINE GORDON

Mitchell S. Jackson, Pulitzer Prize winner and acclaimed author, visited Andover to speak on the lessons taught by Black males in positions of prominence at All-School Meeting (ASM) on February 10. Introduced by Black Student Union (BSU) board members Suhaila Cotton '24 and Emerson Kington '24, the speech detailed themes of philosophy, ego, nurture, ambition, and pride, connoted through quotes from prominent Black men Jackson has interviewed through the years.

Jackson began his speech reflecting back on the interviews he conducted with Chris Rock and Kendrick Lamar, who are succeeding individuals in their respective fields. From discussing the importance of a mother's empathy to "seeing yourself in the main character and glimpses in the villain," Jackson analyzed and explained interview quotes to describe the stories of Black men who have made their own way in the world and the takeaways he has learned from them.

"There might be a lesson in the works, in the lives of Clarence Thomas, of Chris Rock, and Colson Whitehead, and Michael B. Jordan, Kendrick Lamar — men whose lives testify to the impact of nurturing for better, whose perspectives about art compel consideration of our shared

humanity. Men whose ambitions challenge not only to dream big but to do the work of realizing those dreams, to do that work again and again. Men who remind [us] that a person of prominence is not simply a celebrity or someone famous, but a human who has earned their consequence in the world," said Jackson.

During the question and answer portion of the ASM, Jackson focused on the importance of home, and how to rely on the support of your home to only challenge and push yourself further. Jackson also touched on topics of

inequality in America, how to remedy it by looking at every aspect of daily life, dedicating yourself to work you're passionate about, and ended the ASM by describing how the words of his father which are written into his literacy legacy.

"For me, it seemed like the other men drew strength from where they were from and that there's something to be said about feeling that source of home as a place to

Continued on A7, Column 3



A.CHINN/THEPHILLIPIAN

Mitchell S. Jackson speaks to students regarding important Black, male figures.



SOPHIE STAI/THEPHILLIPIAN

Commentary, A2

Monterey Park Reflection

Addison Deng '26 reflects on the meaning of freely celebrating one's culture in light of the recent Monterey Park shooting.

Eighth Page, A8

Lonely, I Am So Lonely

Imagine being alone.

Sports, B1

Record in Girls Basketball

This past weekend, Girls Basketball Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 breaks a record for the highest number of points scored.

Arts, B6

Musical Theater Cabaret

Last Friday, the new Producers put on the Musical Theater Cabaret as their first ever show.

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Editorial

Co-President Elections: Being a Responsible Voter

Imagine this: your phone buzzes with an email notification from the Dean of Students, email heading: First Round Co-Presidents. Led by a “VOTE HERE” hyperlink, a list of Uppers pops up on your screen. Familiar names are dragged up, followed by ones heard in passing, and others are dragged to the bottom, submitting a vote only slightly better than random.

Within our more intimate, high school setting, the hypothetical scenario described above is likely to have just happened. Many voters are influenced by their personal relationships with candidates, and, by extension, overlook the actual important qualities needed in a Co-President. While its effects do not necessitate cutting personal relationships out of the process of voting for a candidate, personal relationships should only be one of many considerations made in order to be a responsible voter.

With some voters participating in this kind of favoritism, many of the other necessary qualities needed for successful Co-Presidents are neglected. While it is true that Co-Presidents differ in personality, leadership style, and objective during their term, the ability to represent the student body remains as the core purpose of the post. Sui Yu '23, one of the current Co-Presidents, described their role as a liaison between the administration and students, noting the importance of the job.

“One of the main responsibilities of a Co-President is going to be building that connection [between the] student body [and administration]. When you have one-on-one meetings with Dr. Kington, Dr. Esty, and the entire Dean’s team, they’re really looking to

you to advise and counsel: ‘This is how the student body is feeling right now. This is what the student body needs. And this is how we can move forward, this is how we can address this specific issue,’” said Yu.

Between limited time in the position and challenges during the process of realizing plans, the station of a Co-President can be an extremely taxing one, requiring passion and commitment to execute ambitious campaign promises. Ultimately, when it comes to voting, one should not be relying on what policy changes or what ideas – no matter how flashy or lofty – candidates bring to the table. Instead, it should be a conversation centering around the two following questions: “How do I want to be represented” and “Who should I pick to represent me?”

Rather than dictating your vote simply based upon the “word on the street” or a brief skim of candidate platforms, students across campus should, instead, take greater amounts of time into their consideration. As voters, students should realize the significance of their vote, knowing that a Co-President election goes beyond the perceived “popularity contest” that seemingly obscures the real importance of voting. When students receive the email from the Dean of Students to vote on the final four, consider what you want in addition to who the candidates are. A voter that votes for the best Co-President instead of their best friend is also voting for themselves and their own best interests.

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

The Grades Aren’t Lining Up

LEILANI GLACE



you have learned and improved. But the unfortunate truth is that here at Andover, your teacher matters most. Let’s take the history department as an example. I have had a total of three different teachers spanning from my Junior Fall to Lower Winter, and the difference in work required to get the same grades is astonishing. Some teachers care simply about the topic sentences being complete, while other teachers consider the syntax, thesis, diction, and so much more. I understand that teachers have a right to maintain individuality by teaching students what they believe are the most important parts of their subject matter. However, this individuality should not affect the grading standards so drastically.

Furthermore, teachers at Andover often fall under two different categories: the “Everyone will get a six as long as they do what I ask” category,

and its antithesis, the “I won’t be giving any sixes” category. This difference of the standards that a student is held to and the resulting variation in grade distribution are both absurd. It is unfair that with one teacher, a student has to spend many late nights laboring for a grade that another student is awarded solely by checking basic items off a list. Though a student might achieve the same overall grade as another peer in another class, their final grade will not necessarily reflect the amount of work each put in. Moreover, it is terribly unfair that some teachers have simply taken a six off of the table. If a grade is present on the scale, a student should be able to achieve it.

Andover admits that it is a school with a rigorous curriculum. Many teachers here are not shy to let you know that it is hard to get a six in their class, and they tell you

that in college, good grades won’t come easily. In order to set you up for success, these teachers push their students to exceed expectations. On the other hand, some teachers believe that, at the end of the day, a good grade on their transcript and less pressure is what students need. These two extremes also tremendously impact the quality of students’ learning. On one end of the spectrum, some people feel like their teacher’s expectations are unfairly high in the name of “preparing you for the real world,” while others barely even try because they know their grade will be satisfactory. When students aren’t pushed to develop healthy educational habits before they head off to college, they will most likely find themselves failing even harder later on. At the same time, it is hard to be motivated to study and retain the information needed to succeed in a class when

There needs to be a centralized list of requirements for each department, especially those in the humanities.

the opportunity for success is taken off the table entirely. At the end of the day, both ends of the spectrum are harmful for students.

Grades are important. Whether we like it or not, and whether it is healthy for students or not, grades are currently a pivotal indicator of success that will play a large role in getting many students where they need to go. There needs to be a centralized list of requirements for each department, especially those in the humanities, regarding what is expected of all students and teachers. The details of each teacher’s curriculum may reflect their personal priorities and expertise, but all teachers should have about the same standard for the amount of work required to attain each grade on the grading scale, and if a teacher wants to push their students a little more, they should be required to give an outline of what students can do to attain a higher grade. “I won’t be giving sixes” cannot be acceptable when other teachers have no problem passing them out virtually for free.

Grades are and will always be a major source of stress for most students. The least Andover, as a high-pressure institution, can do is uphold consistency in how students are evaluated so that we don’t have to agonize over how unfair our grading system is as well.



SOLAR LU / THE PHILLIPIAN

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CORRECTIONS:
Russell Robinson '25 was misspelled in the Sports article, “Boys Indoor Track and Field Qualifies for Nationals, Breaks Class Record at NEPSTA All-Comers”
In the Sports, “Boys Squash Sweeps Opponents for Third Match in a Row,” Andrew Chinn’s photo was misattributed. The Phillipian regrets these errors.

The Right to Be Me: A Response to the Monterey Park Shooting

ADDISON DENG



C. BARBIE / THE PHILLIPIAN

January 22: It was Lunar New Year, a night that was supposed to be of joy, festivity, and bickering children fighting with their siblings for the coin-stuffed tangyuan. Crackling fireworks should have echoed across neighborhoods, yet instead, the people of Monterey Park heard striking gunshots that killed 11. How could this have happened? How could people have lost their lives while celebrating their own culture? And if crimes like this kept taking place, how could I, as a Chinese American, even dare to express my foreign identity in this country? I am now scared of putting up lanterns during the Lantern Festival or eating zongzi for the Qingming Festival, and that is devastating, because it means I'm slowly losing a crucial part of my identity.

In modern days, it is beyond important for minority groups in America to have the right to express our cultures through festivals, music, food, and more. Through this, we are not only acquiring a better understanding of ourselves, but also uniting people of the same background together in this loud, chaotic country. Together, we become a great boulder of support for each other. However, this significance of culture can only exist if we have the freedom to celebrate it in the first place. For Chinese Americans, the fear created and amplified by the recent shooting of Monterey Park has robbed us of a fundamental opportunity.

This shooting took place at the Star Dance Studio in Monterey Park, which is highly populated by Chinese Americans and thus rich

with Chinese culture. It was also where I spent the majority of my summer this year. Although I have no memory of the studio itself, the street it is situated on, Garvey Avenue, is one that I would frequently pass on my way to and back from swim practice. I would lean my forehead on the car window while gazing hungrily at all the Chinese restaurants and their plastered menus highlighting signature food items. Now, that will never be the same again. Because even if I were to see the same billboards and shop signs written in Chinese characters today, I would simply be worried that they'd become the

next characters slathered across CNN's top stories.

The Star Dance Studio closed following the shooting, canceling all classes to honor the victims. They hosted a candlelight vigil on January 25th to mourn those who were lost and then proceeded to offer therapeutic assistance. One could only imagine the forever-imprinted scars on the survivors through this incident. Shally, an owner of a donut shop in Arcadia who had been dancing at Star Dance Studio on the night of the shooting, only survived because she was bravely shielded by her dance partner, Kao. Kao, unfortu-

nately, was one of the 11 dead, and she recounts that she asked him "to wake up, [but] he didn't respond at all." She watched a long-time friend die in front of her on a day that was supposed to be the most joyous of the year. Following this event, she refused to open her donut shop for days despite her husband's wishes, which reflected her poor mental state following the traumatic shooting.

Although survivors and witnesses of the Monterey Park shooting have received mental and physical support, it does not eradicate their fear to celebrate the next Chinese holiday. As I

mentioned earlier, culture is a way to understand and unite ourselves to form a collective support system. In order to alleviate the trauma and fear imprinted on Chinese Americans following this incident, I urge you to be loud, vocal, and present for others. This could mean anything from posting on your social media accounts, holding meaningful conversations with friends, or attending events hosted by spaces such as the Chinese Club or Asian Society. We cannot change what has happened, but we can make each other feel less alone and better supported through growing and maintaining a community.

Lunar New Year represents a night of reunion, joy, and love, but instead, it became a night of parting. What once were festive cheers turned into helpless cries as the Year of the Rabbit commenced with these 11 tragic losses, all Chinese, all while celebrating the new year, and all like me. As I sit writing these last few sentences, I remember the upcoming Qingming festival on April 5, and I fear what might happen then. A small part of me wants to prevent all forms of public celebrations, but then I realize that it is absurd to be scared to be myself, to be unapologetically Chinese American. So I ask you, no matter your race, gender, sexuality, or anything else that defines you but scares you, to help me make a stand. It could be an Instagram story, a WeChat moment, or just a nudge and a note to the friend sitting beside you. Although these acts may not promise our safety or happiness, knowing that other people want to see us honor our heritage may make us a little less afraid. Spread awareness of the unfortunate shooting of Monterey Park, and make sure to include your words of support. Because in a country of liberty and opportunity, the last thing its people should fear is being themselves in all the loudest and liveliest ways.

Addison Deng is a Junior from Shanghai, China. Contact the author at adeng26@andover.edu.



ANH VU / THE PHILLIPIAN

Pencil Cases, Pork Buns, and More Pencil Cases

GLORIA CHEN



T. ZENG / THE PHILLIPIAN

I'm a hoarder whose fulfillment grows with every new pencil case I receive. As a result of this obsession, I have gotten more criticism over the years than fascination. Hoarding is simply the collection of physical objects, just like the digital documentation of photos in a phone. Unlike the positivity associated with taking photos, though, hoarding is often resented. Some argue that the excessive collection of an ordinary object decreases its significance until it becomes meaningless to keep, but I disagree.

Objects hold no intrinsic value. Only when we attach meaning — a thought, an emotion, an experience — to them do they become ingrained in our hearts. Last week, I was happily munching on a pork bun in the car when, thanks to an unexpected stop, the bun rolled onto the floor. To my surprise, I found myself on the verge of crying and stomping, truly aggravated at the lifeless concoction of flour and meat. Six years earlier, when I would have had a pork bun every morning, such an event would have elicited no such response.

However, because this was the first bun I had eaten in three years, the nostalgic memory of my childhood became assigned to the food. The concept is quite straightforward: the same pork bun carries a different meaning at different points of time, food at first but ultimately abstracted into a sentiment.

Hoarding pencil cases also follows this process. At first, a new pencil case may only reflect an impulse, an inspiration, or a simple encounter with an attractive object. However, as life continues, each pencil case becomes a mark in time that represents my thoughts, preferences, and style, only specific to that time. Like the pork bun, a physical object becomes abstracted. Contrary to popular opinion that hoarded objects decrease in significance, the meaning I associate with pencil cases — both them as a whole and individual ones — only grows with my collection.

My drawer of pencil cases is like an encapsulation of my growth. When I was five, I loved cases that were shaped funnily: as a milk carton, a pencil, an animal, etc. At that time period in general, I loved everything with an unexpected shape. As I'm writing this, I remember a ballpoint pen I had that could be compressed into the shape of a Coca-Cola can. I also remember that last Monday, I was sitting in the Garver Room when I saw a Freshman with a milk carton pencil case just like my own. When I was eight, I decided to follow the trend of the time and bought a chic Smiggle hardcover case. Just thinking about that pencil case brings me to the lovely trip my mom and



EVERY LIN / THE PHILLIPIAN

I took to Singapore, the place where I decided that Smiggle was too expensive and bought a pair of scissors from Keyroad (a cheaper equivalent) that is still on my desk today. When I was 11, my parents bought me the standard three-ring pouches required for middle school, and I remember the nights when I would change my pencil case to a new color for the next day. Today, I don't quite have the time to change my pencil case or browse through Amazon anymore, and the ones I collect are

mostly cosmetic pouches that come with my mom's skincare.

I want to remember. Thinking of one pencil case brings me to a tangential memory, perhaps old, then another, perhaps more recent, until I traverse through a "memory web" symbolized through my stack of cases. The memory web keeps on growing. The attachment I feel toward an older case does not decrease, but rather, increases as time passes by and more memories stack onto the ones already there. This is motivating. I will

naturally continue to document my encounters with pencil cases, for I know that they will ultimately become more than just insignificant containers. As my pencil case collection grows with me, perhaps you'll agree that this bizarre trait of mine has its reasons.

Gloria Chen is an Upper from Germantown, MA. Contact the author at ychen24@andover.edu.

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

COLLECTED BY PRISHA SHIVANI

Natural Disasters: Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

An earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 struck Southern Turkey and Northern Syria, causing chaos and deaths across both countries. The earthquake struck on February 6, according to “The New York Times.” It left Turkey and Syria with a death toll of 35,000 as of February 13, along with many more injured, according to Syria’s Health Ministry and The White Helmets, Syria’s civil defense group. Additionally, thousands of buildings were destroyed, or considered unstable, causing many to lose their homes. The United Nations also reported that this catastrophe affected 10.9 million people and 5.3 million of these people potentially lost their homes.

War/Conflict: Military Shoots Down Three Unidentified Flying Objects After a Chinese Spy Balloon was Brought Down Earlier This Month

A Chinese spy balloon was spotted multiple times from January 28 to February 4, and was shot down on February 4 by a United States of America missile at around 65,000 feet. Shortly after, on February 10, a U.S. fighter jet took down an unidentified object over the waters surrounding Alaska. According to “The New York Times,” the

object was not a balloon, but was about the size of a small car. The day after, another UFO was detected flying over Alaska, which was brought down by an American F-22 fighter. This object was described as small and cylindrical by a Canadian official. Finally, on February 12, another octagonal object was shot flying at 20,000 feet over Lake Huron off of Michigan. Officials are still trying to identify these objects.

War/Conflict: The War Between Ukraine and Russia Continues

Ukraine was assaulted by Russia, with drones, rockets, and cruise missiles, firing down on the city of Kyiv, and further destroying their infrastructure. The attack included 71 cruise missiles and seven Iran-made drones. According to “The New York Times,” these attacks have occurred in multiple areas in Ukraine, and are targeted towards civilians and civilian infrastructure. Multiple regions were put on emergency shut-down.

Education: College Board Cuts Out AP Curriculum for African American Studies

After receiving backlash from some Republican leaders, the College Board altered the curriculum for a new AP course in African American Studies.

This meant cutting out many of the Black scholars associated with critical race theories, and topics such as Black feminism, queer experience, and Black Lives Matter. Governor Ron DeSantis (R-Fla) incited the amendments to the course when he announced that he would be banning the curriculum and that, according to the “Los Angeles Times,” it had “no educational value.” Two dozen states have taken a stand against the critical race theory.

Economic Policy: Elon Musk Asked to Aid With Biden Climate Goal

Earlier this year, Elon Musk was privately asked to allow Tesla’s charging network to be used by other electrical car companies. The goal of this request was to push forward with the clean energy revolution. Tesla officials were said to remain open to the idea, but have yet to accept the offer. According to “The Washington Post,” this idea has multiple complications due to the fact that Tesla uses a different charging system than other electric cars. Although Tesla does sell adapters, the administration would still be required to deal with difficulties regarding software complications.

Student Alumni Representatives Host Virtual Conversation with Alumni in Finance & Venture Capital

CATHY MA

On January 30, the Harvard Law Review published a press release announcing that Apsara Iyer ’12, a second year student at Harvard Law School, as the 137th President of the Harvard Law Review, one of the oldest independent student legal publications.

Iyer described the new work she had as the President, which ranged from board meetings, management of the editors, and innovating new initiatives. As President of the Law Review, Iyer will be working both editorially, looking at the review itself, and organizationally within the Review, by reporting to the Board of Trustees.

“I’m still learning about all the different responsibilities that come with it. As

President of the Law Review, I lead our editorial process, our editorial efforts, and our management-oriented initiatives. We have three staff members that assist in a lot of news and we also report to a Board of Trustees. Part of my duties include meeting with the Board of Trustees at our meetings, but also supervising and creating a community for the nearly 90 editors that are on the Law Review,” said Iyer.

Iyer noted how being elected was a pleasant surprise to her and her sister, who had made jokes about her applying beforehand. Although unexpected, she appreciated the opportunity and the support that she received along the way.

“The way the Law Review typically works is that you apply to join at the end of your first year of law school. Then generally, if you’re applying

at that point, you will serve on the Law Review for two years, I had been an editor for the past semester. I would say that [being elected President] wasn’t something that I expected at all, even my younger sister, she always gives me a lot of grief, but she sort of told me not to run at all. Then when I got elected, she said, ‘Well, I’m glad that you didn’t listen to my advice,’” said Iyer.

During her time at Andover, Iyer served as News Director of The Phillipian where she explored the field of journalism and learned how to collaborate within a large organization to achieve a common goal.

“I would say that The Phillipian is where I first fell in love with working with student writers, being in a newsroom, which was filled with really excited and passionate people who are all work-

ing together on this common project. So I feel like this has come to bear in the Law Review as well. You have incredibly talented writers and scholars who are coming together and you’re working on these really big projects together,” said Iyer.

Pricilla E. Coronado, the outgoing President of the Law Review, spoke fondly on the character and work of Iyer. According to Coronado, the Law Review is lucky for the leadership brought by Iyer.

“Apsara has changed the lives of many editors for the better, and I know she will continue to do so. From the start, she has impressed her fellow editors with her remarkable intelligence, thoughtfulness, warmth, and fierce advocacy,” wrote Coronado in a press release published by the Law Review.

Looking to the future,

Iyer aims to foster community well-being and creative collaboration within the review. As for now, however, Iyer is focusing on adjusting to the new role of President and hopes to keep up the high-quality publication of the Harvard Law Review.

“I am really learning all the different parts that go into just keeping things running on time, so right now, I’m just trying to keep up with everything. Something that I loved about the Law Review, and something that I hope to be able to contribute to over the next year, is our community. Just making sure that we are creating a space that’s inclusive and allows all the talented editors that we have to feel like they have a home within campus,” said Iyer.

Results From First Round of Co-President Elections Released

TIANYI GU

The results of the first round of the 2023-2024 Student Body Co-president elections were released on February 14 in an email from Kathryn Dolan, Assistant Dean of Students and Residential Life. One round of ranked-choice voting determined the four out of eight pairs that would advance to the next round of voting: Ryan Chen ’24 and Sakina Cotton ’24, Nor DeHoog ’24 and Ryan Lam ’24, Allie Encarnacion ’24 and Daniel Romero ’24, and Jacob Kaiser ’24 and Emelia Yang ’24.

Dakota Chang ’23, Co-President of Pine Knoll Cluster, commended the number of strong candidates that ran this year. She is especially excited for the further opportunities to get to know them and their ideas.

“Regarding the results, I think this year a lot of the Co-Pres[ident] candidates had really strong platforms, so regardless of the final re-

sult, I think they’ll do a really good job. I’m really excited to hear these four pairs of candidates present their platforms during the forum on Sunday in Kemper [Auditorium], I think the four had pretty similar ideas and standpoints, but obviously they each had their unique ideas. So I’m really just thrilled, and I think the rest of the school is, to really see how they’ll navigate the whole process and appeal to the public opinion,” said Chang.

Darla Moody ’24 commented that she was not surprised by the results. To her, the Co-Presidents elections depend on much more than just the platform, the forum, or debate, but rather come from an accumulation of the entirety of the candidates’ time at Andover.

“Year after year, the Co-pres[ident] results seem almost like a self-fulfilling prophecy. There are a few pairs whom the average person thinks could be finalists, and then no one else gets any votes because people think they won’t win anyways, and

this year is no different. I think it proves that the real campaigning is about your previous three years and your partner’s, not so much just the platforms or signatures,” said Moody.

Brandon Fu ’25 noted the ideas that the Co-Presidential candidates listed on their platforms, pointing out some of the proposals that he thought were particularly interesting or creative. He believes that an essential part of the voting process hinges on picking the pair whom the students think will serve the interests of the school the best.

“I think that each of the candidates provided a very unique set of ideas, and in the end the students picked the ones that had the best ideas for the school... I think that it’s really notable that all the pairs of candidates worked really hard, so congratulations to the four who moved on,” said Fu.

A second round of voting to narrow the field down to the final two pairs will take place on February 20.

Students Remain Suspicious Regarding Email about College Preparation Course

Continued from A1, Column 3

“I knew it was someone advertising their own course, and they were trying to get some people, and Andover was a good option for him because [Andover] students can relate with Exeter students. So, if someone thinks about ‘Oh look, an Exeter student got into Yale, that means, if an Andover student did the exact same steps that he did, then [they] would also get in, because Andover and Exeter are kind of similar.’ It felt kind of

uncomfortable seeing someone just send me a random email that I don’t know. And the way that he wrote it... trying to sell me something, made me feel uncomfortable,” said Del Rio.

Del Rio continued, pushing for alternate methods in addressing spam emails.

“[Andover] should be more aware about what emails students should receive, because... there’s nothing we can do about people who do stuff like this. If someone like this can do this, then anyone can just sell stuff, and any student might fall for it,” said Del Rio.

Sharing a similar sentiment to Del Rio, Zoey McCarthy ’24 did not trust the email sent by Xie.

“I wasn’t really sure [if the email was legitimate]. I thought that it could be, but I wasn’t going to look into it... It looked a little sketchy... so I didn’t watch the video or anything. I feel like Andover students, like Exeter students, are known for being pretty interested in college and Ivy League admissions, so he probably thought it was a good audience or demographic to target,” said McCarthy.

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The Reality of Student Body Co-President Elections

REPORTING BY CINDY YANG

With the 2023-2024 Student Body Co-President Elections currently taking place, students discussed the responsibilities of the Co-President role, reflecting on their experiences voting or participating in the election.

WILLIAM BUEHLER '24

"You have to be popular for your qualifications to be considered [in the election]. If people don't like you, they don't care how qualified you are, and I think that's a fair point. You don't want someone dislikeable as your Co-President... Simultaneously, I think as long as you have no issues with a person, you should be able to judge their campaign objectively... [Co-Presidents] rarely achieve much, and we all know that. At the end of the day, it's just, 'how likeable is this person, and are their ideas decent enough so that I would be willing to vote for them?'"

NADIA CHOOPHUNGART '24

"The Co-Presidents have brought about some or a good amount of their promises made during the campaign. I think part of the voting process ensures that... part of what people consider when they vote for a certain Co-President pair is whether or not what they're saying they're going to do is feasible or not. So I think that has helped people have more realistic expectations, but I think it's also interesting to consider how much change can the Co-President actually enact within this institution."

JACOB KAISER '24 (CANDIDATE)

"There's the forum and there's the All School Meeting [debate] (ASM), but up until those two events, a lot of gaining votes is just based off of networking. It has less to do with what your ideas are, and obviously those are a big part of the process, but I think there are ways of reshaping the election process that could make it less based on popularity and more based on qualification, what they're bringing to the table, what their ideas are, and how they think they can change the school."

SAKINA COTTON '24 (CANDIDATE)

"The election process sort of overlooks the fact that a lot of initiatives take a long time. At the end of the day, it's forcing pairs to try and forcefully make a platform where sometimes ideas can't be delivered on, but you see a lot of buzzwords being included just to see what students want. But, it doesn't give a lot of space to talk about the more important aspects of a Co-President pair, which is being able to reach different spaces on campus and being able to talk about specific topics and specific events that might happen on campus, which I think is the main part of being Student Body Co-President."

ALLIE CHUNG '23

"Upperclassmen, the majority of them, know the people who are running. For the Uppers, for example, all the friend groups of these people rally around their friends... But there's also this entire subset of this school, mostly underclassmen, that don't know the pairs well as people, and it's a big school, so it's not like every single person has a reputation attached to them... There's enough of a subset of students who don't really know the pairs running, so I don't think the whole thing functions as a popularity contest as much as it [otherwise] would, granted those [underclassmen] vote."

GRAHAM HARDIN '23

"[Co-Presidents] doing a lot more work than people realize. They have meetings with the Deans, they actually have more of a voice, and they're actually more valuable in that aspect. I think when someone's elected, they have more influence in the system than people give them credit for. The amenities and all that, that's not necessarily what we elect them for. We elect the Co-Presidents who have a strong voice, who are actually intelligent, so they can actually be the voice for the student body and talk to the Deans."

ALLIE ENCARNACION '24 (CANDIDATE)

"So much of being Co-President, from what the student body can see...is speeches, is ASM, is running the class rep elections and things like that, so being able to conduct yourself with grace and with poise and portray a clear understanding of what it is you're trying to say is so, so vital to the position. In the past, at least for me, I've based, not completely obviously, a large part [of my vote] on how they speak in front of a crowd. Are they able to get everyone excited, or are they able to discuss serious topics with a wide range of people?"

ELEANOR DEHOOG '24 (CANDIDATE)

"There's a lot of pressure surrounding the Co-President election going all the way into Lower Year, so I wish that before people run for the position that there was a better understanding among the student body of what the roles of being the President of the school entails and genuinely how much work they have to do, because I think that we both have an inside understanding of that through Student Council, but I would say the majority of students don't understand genuinely how much work it is."

Join Photo!

*Contact achinn24@andover.edu,
rnasserzadeh24@andover.edu, and
cbarbie24@andover.edu*

Students, Faculty & Staff Encouraged to Apply!



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Questions? Email Ms. Marcelle Doheny, AAF community liaison, at mdoheny@andover.edu, or Ms. Belinda Traub, AAF assistant, at btraub@andover.edu. All applicants should schedule an appointment with Ms. Doheny to explore their ideas—or plan to attend an AAF Grant Information Session. *Start dreaming today!*

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

Apsara A. Iyer, Andover Alumni and Former Phillipian News Director Elected as 137th President of the “Harvard Law Review”

JAC GORDON &
LUCAS BERNARDETE

On January 30, the “Harvard Law Review” published a press release announcing that Apsara Iyer ’12, a second year student at Harvard Law School, as the 137th President of the “Harvard Law Review,” one of the oldest independent student legal publications.

Iyer described the new work she had as the President, which ranged from attending board meetings, managing editors, and innovating new initiatives. As President of the “Law Review,” Iyer will be working both editorially, looking at the review itself, and organizationally within the Review, by reporting to the Board of Trustees.

“I’m still learning about all the different responsibilities that come with it. As President of the ‘Law Review,’ I lead our editorial process, our editorial efforts, and our management-oriented initiatives. We have three staff members that assist in a lot of news and we also report to a Board of Trustees. Part of my duties include meeting with the Board of Trustees at our meetings, also supervising and creating a community for the nearly 90 editors that are on the ‘Law

Review,” said Iyer.

Iyer noted how being elected was a pleasant surprise to her and her sister, who had made jokes about her applying beforehand. Although unexpected, she appreciated the opportunity and the support that she received along the way.

“The way the ‘Law Review’ typically works is that you apply to join at the end of your first year of law school. Then generally, if you’re applying at that point, you will serve on the ‘Law Review’ for two years, I had been an editor for the past semester. I would say that [being elected President] wasn’t something that I expected at all, even my younger sister, she always gives me a lot of grief, but she sort of told me not to run at all. Then when I got elected, she said, ‘Well, I’m glad that you didn’t listen to my advice,’” said Iyer.

During her time at Andover, Iyer served as a News Director for *The Phillipian* where she explored the field of journalism and learned how to collaborate within a large organization to achieve a common goal.

“I would say that *The Phillipian* is where I first fell in love with working with student writers, being in a newsroom, which was filled with

really excited and passionate people who are all working together on this common project. So, I feel like this has come to bear in the ‘Law Review’ as well. You have incredibly talented writers and scholars who are coming together and you’re working on these really big projects together,” said Iyer.

Pricilla Coronado, the outgoing President of the “Harvard Law Review,” spoke fondly on the character and work of Iyer. According to Coronado, the “Law Review” is lucky for the leadership brought by Iyer.

“Apsara has changed the lives of many editors for the better, and I know she will continue to do so. From the start, she has impressed her fellow editors with her remarkable intelligence, thoughtfulness, warmth, and fierce advocacy,” wrote Coronado in a press release published by the “Law Review.”

Looking to the future, Iyer aims to foster community well-being and creative collaboration within the review. As for now, however, Iyer is focusing on adjusting to the new role of President and hopes to keep up the high-quality publication of the “Harvard Law Review.”

“I am really learning all the



COURTESY OF THE HARVARD CRIMSON

The Phillipian introduced Iyer to the world of journalism, fueling her journey into “The Harvard Review.”

different parts that go into just keeping things running on time, so right now, I’m just trying to keep up with everything. Something that I loved about the ‘Law Review,’ and something that I hope to be able to contribute to over the

next year, is our community. Just making sure that we are creating a space that’s inclusive and allows all the talented editors that we have to feel like they have a home within campus,” said Iyer.

Less Media, More Mindfulness: The Happiness Project Begins



VERA ZHANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

BAILEY XU

Organized by Ben Forman ’23 and Kei Obata ’23, the Happiness Project is a social media cleanse running from February 13 to February 27. With over 40 participants, the project entails the deletion of all social media and holds daily meditation sessions throughout the two-week period.

The idea behind this year’s social media cleanse stemmed from a similar project Forman and Obata conducted last year. They hope to introduce and encourage mindfulness to the student body.

“Last year, we did a similar thing, which [it] was a study looking at the effects of social media. We had people delete their social media and we charted their moods throughout the two weeks. This year,

we’re not really making a study... It’s more about trying to get as many people as possible to [gain] mindfulness [and] a better routine,” said Forman.

During the two-week period, there will be a meditation session every weekday at 8:05 a.m. in the Freeman Room in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL) for 15 minutes. Inspired by his prior experience with meditation in the course Global Buddhism: Past, Present, and Future (Philosophy and Religion 511), Obata expressed his enthusiasm for regular meditation, which positively influenced his mood and concentration.

“As a musician, I do a brief five to ten minute meditation before auditions and even concerts and it really helps to set [my] focus and almost brings [me] to a place of hope and happiness. And for me, that’s back with my family in Japan. But I’m really excited because it’s going to be the first time that I’m also part of a daily, consistent schedule,” said Obata.

Obata continued, “Our greater goal is to spread happiness, and through meditation, I hope people can find a happy medium in themselves and almost discover their identity. Because at Andover, I feel like a lot of people are just always consistently busy. And there’s almost no time to just space out or think random things, right? Through

meditation, hopefully we can have a place where people can just let [their] thoughts wander and relax.”

Before the Happiness Project, Forman had already been meditating personally for three to four years, and had stopped using social media for several years. Through this project, Forman hoped participants would better deal with stress in an academically rigorous environment like Andover.

“The sad thing is, I think [dependence on social media] is a nationwide, worldwide situation. I’d say the difference with Andover is that it is just a high stress environment in general. So we get to see the effects because kids are stressed out because of work and stuff at a higher level... For my goals, obviously I wish people would join for two weeks and end up staying off. But overall, I just [hope] people can see what it’s like to have these healthy habits, and [that it] can really change your mood for the better,” said Forman.

Sophia Geng ’25, who signed up for the project, aimed to achieve a better balance between academics and her social life. The timing of the project, which falls in penultimate and ultimate week, also aligned with this goal.

“I saw the dates and it was nearing penultimate and ultimate [week], so I thought it

would be nice to see what two weeks without social media could do for my studies and social life... I want to emerge from this project with healthier habits and be able to know how much time I spend on social media. And I think taking time off really puts into perspective how much time you’re wasting on social media. So I hope to find a balance between the two extremes,” said Geng.

After participating in last year’s project, Anabelle Biggs ’23 is returning to the Happiness Project. Biggs outlined her personal goals as a participant this year, highlighting the importance of staying committed to the project.

“Especially at Andover, it’s really easy to get lost thinking about the future and not the present. Especially when thinking about upcoming assignments or a project that’s due soon, it’s easy to lose track of the present... I want to just be more grounded in the present moment. So I think my goal for myself is just to commit to [the project], do it every day. How committed I am will demonstrate how effective it will be for me. And I am excited to get back into meditating and also have a community of people who I know I can support and can support me, who are going through the same thing,” said Biggs.

Candidates Provide New and Unique Ideas for Student Body

Continued from A1, Column 3

the proposals that he thought were particularly interesting or creative. He believes that an essential part of the voting process hinges on picking the pair whom the students think will serve the interests of the school the best.

“I think that each of the candidates provided a very unique set of ideas, and in the end the students picked the ones that had the best ideas

for the school. Particularly, the two ideas that stood out to me the most were Ryan [Lam] and Eleanor’s idea to turn GW into a cafe, which I thought was a very unique and achievable idea, and also Jacob and Emilia’s fantastic plan to incorporate a budget of Blue Bucks for Den purchases, so that was very thoughtful of them as well. I think that it’s really notable that all the pairs of candidates worked really hard, so congratulations to the four who moved on,” said Fu.

Students Learn Dedication From Black Male Figures With Jackson

Continued from A1, Column 3

draw confidence and inspiration from. I think you need a source of pride, and if you come from a place that’s not affluent, if you come from a place like where I come from, where there was no wealth, it’s not a point of shame, it’s a thing to understand,” said Jackson.

Cio Hernandez ’23 shared how, while he found the message of the ASM important and moving, he felt that the organization of the presentation was not entirely developed properly. He also expressed that the presentation should have included both females and males, not just males, so the audience could better engage.

“He had a very good point, [but] I don’t think he executed it effectively, he used a lot of quotes and didn’t provide a lot of context. I actually really did like how he shared why these men are making great strides in their industries, I just thought

it was a little weird why he only focused on male prominence and not female prominence... There’s a place and time for everything and you can’t get through everything in one ASM, but you can still kind of mention it,” said Hernandez.

Similarly, Sonya Caro Del Castillo ’26 signified how they found the ASM very evidence-driven with little contextual information provided to link back to the main topic. Caro Del Castillo, however, did appreciate the messages of dedication and ambition that the speaker shared with the audience.

“[My main takeaway from the ASM] would be the importance of dedication. I thought [the ASM subject] was an important topic, [and that] there was good analysis of the quotes. [While] the details were important, I would’ve excluded some of them to go back to the main point. I felt like as soon as the point was stated, the speaker [only discussed]

evidence. There was a lot more evidence than analysis,” said Caro Del Castillo.

Cotton highlighted the idea of embracing life and moving forward as a main takeaway from the ASM. She also expressed the importance of representation in ASM speakers, noting the success of how Black students could see themselves in the speaker.

“I thought it was cool to hear the amount of work that he’s done in researching and interviewing Kendrick and Michael B. Jordan, how they were brought up. [I enjoyed how] he talked a lot about not asking for pity, really just acknowledging that it’s your life. If it’s rough, don’t see it as something that’s sad, see it as ‘this is what you’re at, what’s next?’ After ASM, a lot of the students who went up to ask questions were Black students, so I feel like it was successful in people seeing themselves represented in the speaker,” said Cotton.

WE WERE SICK WE PROMISE

The Diary of The Obsessed Girl

Luke Piasecki



Dear Diary,

I am in love with this boy (not going to put his name because I'm pretty sure my roommate reads this). My parents tell me I am too young, and that this is just a teenage delusion, but they are wrong. It all started one fateful Tuesday. He had just moved down to my Chemistry 250 class, and it must have really been chemical, because I now believe in love at first sight. Naturally, I found his mom's Facebook, and it was a real treasure trove, especially his fifth-grade graduation photos and father-son fishing trip. Even better was Zillow - his three bedroom home on the North Shore seems like the perfect place to start our family. Anyways, with some further digging, I found that in addition to being the Co-President of the Crypto Club (dreamy, I know) he is also an avid JV hockey player who has been kicked out of multiple games for fighting. I just know he will defend me no matter what. Later that day, I was thrilled when I realized he was in my EBI class, I knew we could really connect on a deeper level than seductive eye contact across the sterile Gelb classroom, and I was not disappointed. In our small group discussion about dismantling systems of oppression, he was so vulnerable to share that he doesn't support women's suffrage. Some may think this is a red flag, but I think it's the most patriotic thing I have ever heard. America needs more real men. For some reason, when I said that I would stay in the kitchen for him, he looked at me funny. At lunch, I realized *The Phillippian* Valentine's Day notes were a perfect, subtle way to confess my love. I made sure to keep it under 5,000 characters but used a lot of big words so that he knows I respect how much of an intellect he is. I know he will love it but I will fill you in soon!!

Xoxo

WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

- *Co-Pres Candidates Give Marx-Inspired Speech, Start Administrative Coup*
- *Student Signs Up Teacher for Blue Key Valentine's Day Lap Dance, Claims It's Legal So Long as It's Free*
- *8th Page to Put Giant Balloon in Sky in Hopes of Government-Funded Fireworks Show*
- *Insurrection in GW After First Round of Co-Pres Vote, PAPS Criticized for Late Response*
- *Student Goes Missing After Forgetting Initial Sign-In on Reach for Third Night in a Row, House Counselor Calls It Inevitable*
- *Escaped Gelb Bird Returns After Being Trailed by F-18*

The Diary of The Uninterested Guy

Lousia Carter

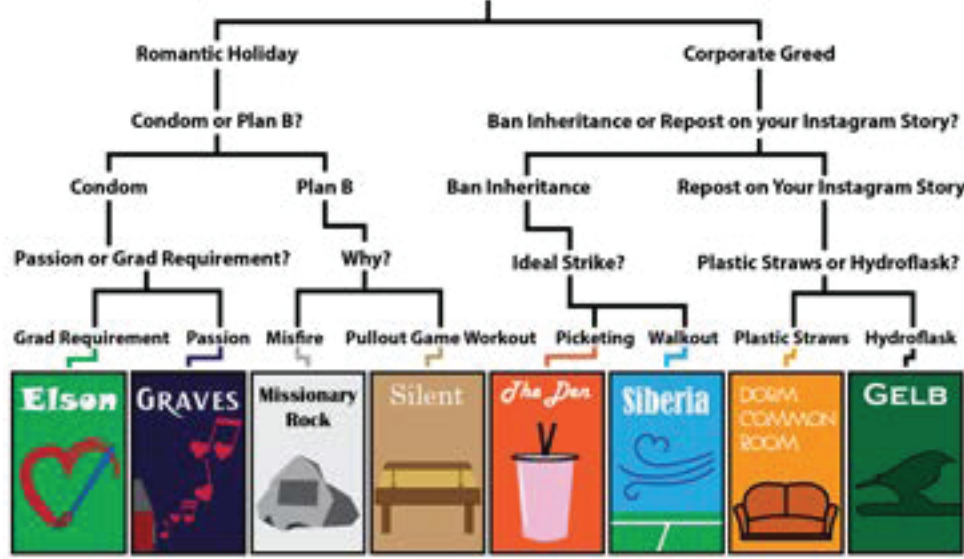
Dear Diary,

Today was pretty rad. I got up at 9:30, when the unexcused absence email from first period woke me up. Still pretty hungover from my unbeaten night in Chel last night. I sat up and checked my phone. I noticed a message from my mom saying some random girl liked one of her Facebook posts (@RealWomenVoteForTrump, if anyone's interested) of my fifth-grade graduation. I didn't really think much of it, and I had enough on my plate being the president of the Crypto club and all (we're trying to get an Abbot Grant to make some NFTs of RayK). The rest of the day went pretty well, until EBI. I usually just skip it, but my advisor told me that, as the EBI Senior, I should really go to at least half of the meetings. The whole lesson was all about women's suffrage, pretty standard EBI stuff. I just said what they wanted to hear, that women's suffrage was terrible, and we should do everything we could to get rid of it. I mean, who wants women to suffer? I guess all the kids at EBI are super sexist or something because they all gasped and looked at each other. Well, everyone except this one girl who was just staring at me. She must've been pretty baked because I don't think she even blinked. Right after EBI, the girl went up to me and said we had some chemistry together. I was like, "Yeah, no [expletive], Sherlock." She's in my chem class, which is weird because I'm a Senior, and she's a Lower. Actually, come to think of it, everyone else in that class is a Lower too. Weird. Anyways, after EBI, I heard from one of my buddies on the hockey team that the girl from EBI had written a whole Valentines note on *The Phillippian*. Apparently, it took up an entire page. Unfortunately, thanks to 13 concussions, an early weed addiction, and a bad second-grade teacher, I can't exactly read, so I had to take their word for it.

Signing off,
Brian Damage

Where do you spend "Quality Time" with your S/O?

Valentine's Day: Romantic Holiday or Corporate Greed?



Ned and I definitely were sick on Valentine's day. We are not alone we promise. We were fighting off a terrible stomach bug and totally not alone in our rooms.

Some Andover Themed Pick-Up Lines to Improve Your Rizz:

- "Do you go to Phillips because I can fill you up."
- "Are you in Rockwell because you rock my world."
- "Are you a birdwatcher? Because we should totally check out the sanctuary one time."
- "Hey baby, are you my bio teacher? Because I bet you're gonna screw me this week."
- "I hope your standards are as low as my GPA"
- "My love for you is like my Doordash spending habits. Uncontrollable."
- "Your eyes are like the Pan Center pool, I could swim in them all-day."
- "If you were a Commons meal, you definitely wouldn't be Salisbury steak."
- "If being sexy was a GAP, you would be a level three."
- "Are we in the Addison? Because you're a piece of art."
- "Are you a Den moshpit? Because I want to get sweaty with you."
- "Are you the zamboni? Because you're backing that thing up!"

"I ordered my Valentine some balloons from China, but I think their shipping process may have caused some misunderstanding."

"At least my mom sent me a Valentine."

"Almost mullet season boys."

"In lieu of candy, I'll be accepting adderall as a Valentine's day gift."

OVERHEARD FROM THE HEART

"Is it still cheating if I don't get caught?"

"If Casino Night is anything like Fliff I'll go"

"I only asked her to be my Valentine so I could meet her mom."

"Being alone and being lonely are two totally different things. Unfortunately I'm both."

We give you the good 8th Page word that we were not alone. We totally have significant others. Please believe us.



The Phillipian SPORTS

Volume CXLVI | Number 3

lactic fantastic

February 17, 2023

Girls Basketball Rebounds from Loss, Kennedy Herndon '23 Breaks All-Time Scoring Record

MEG STINEMAN

FRIDAY	
Andover	56
Dexter Southfield	78
SATURDAY	
Andover	60
Pingree	57
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	58
BB&N	37

After a 56-78 loss to Dexter Southfield on Friday, Andover Girls Basketball proceeded to win 60-57 over Pingree on Saturday and 58-37 over BB&N on Wednesday. Against BB&N, Co-Captain Kennedy Herndon '23 broke the team's all-time scoring record with 1,110 total career points, surpassing the previous record-holder Becky Dowling Calder '94.

Akari Imai '25 highlighted Herndon for their achievement, which was accomplished in only three seasons. Imai also emphasized the efforts of Valerie Ha '24 in the same game.

"A big shout out to Kennedy 'cause not only did [they] play well like always, [they] beat the school record. [They] also had good looks, especially to Kiley [Buckley '23], and



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Kennedy Herndon '23 has led Andover Girls Basketball as Co-Captain for two years, starting from their Upper season.

this really cool pass to hope for a perfect layup. I think Valerie played well as well because she had some really good drives and looks, but she also worked really hard on defense and her defense was really effective; she completely shut down their best player," wrote Imai in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Going into Saturday, the team understood that Pingree would likely pose a challenge. However, the team was able to bounce back after a slow start, according to Co-Captain Hope Nardone '23.

"So going into the Pingree game, we kind of knew that they were a good team and a lot of quick guards, and a lot of shooters. They're really well-coached. So we were expecting a close game, and it was a close game. Our first quarter we kind of came out slow and a little bit sloppy, but then we picked up in the second quarter after the rest of the game, but they did have some good players that were kind of hard shut down. But I think we all played really well together," said Nardone.

Imai described the team's

struggles early in its matchup against Pingree. Nonetheless, players gradually increased the energy and ball movement, which greatly benefited the outcome of the game.

"I think the weakness against Pingree was how we started off, because we were messing up the fundamentals and just didn't have much energy to start off. However, I think we really pulled through after half-time and our strengths were especially our good defense as well as ball movement. It was a really hype game and we won by

three points. It was actually so crazy," said Imai.

Nardone highlighted the team's ability to make small adjustments in the middle of play against Pingree. The team took full advantage of Pingree's weaknesses.

"We actually worked really well in transition, which is not something that we always do, but we ran well on this team and got rebounds and pushed the floor, which allowed us some easy points. We also just kind of recognized their weaknesses. They had a really hard time guarding Kiley in the paint, so we just kind of got a turn, and let her go to work. Once we kind of built up, I believe we moved the ball around really well," said Nardone.

According to Emerson Buckley '25, the team continued the momentum from Saturday's game with smooth transitions against BB&N, in great part due to effective organization.

"Despite the fact that we were doing really well on transition, I think we just loaded it down to work on our passing. I think we're just working on continuing to stay together. I think we're just going to work on communicating on both defense and offense," said Buckley.

Andover Girls Basketball will play at the New England Eight Tournament on Saturday and host Holderness on Wednesday.

Following Loss, Boys Basketball Gains Big Win Over St. Paul's

INEM ANAKO

FRIDAY	
Andover	58
Williston	62

Last Saturday, Captain Colby Duggan '23 threw down a dunk, tightening the gap between Andover Boys Basketball and Williston Northampton. The team ended up losing

the game 58-62, but managed a victory against St. Paul's on Wednesday. Andover's record now stands at 11-8.

According to Isaiah Harris '24, Duggan's dunk motivated the team and boosted their energy during an important stretch of the game.

"I think it was a simple play for him. We call it 'mizzou' where he just comes off the screen and then he slips. It's pretty much a play designed for him and then it led to the dunk. That was a big momen-

tum changer for us because I think we were down at that moment," said Harris.

Despite the energy in the building, Andover's downfall during the game was getting off to a slow start, according to Harris. While the team was much improved in the second half, it proved to be too little too late.

"I'd say for the most part it was pretty good up until the beginning of the second half. We came off pretty lethargic, it was pretty lackadaisical and I think that affected us a lot," said Harris.

In the win against St. Paul's, Andover had a much stronger start to the game and held a lead going into the last minutes of the game. Despite this, Dylan Bronner '23 said that the team performed at its best during the crucial moments of the game, the latter minutes of the game.

"I think finishing out the game [is important]. We were up and we kind of started to give it away, but we stayed solid and ended up winning. I think we did a great job maintaining our lead during the last couple minutes of the game," said Bronner.

According to Harris, there is still plenty of room for improvement on the offensive end of the floor. He feels that the key to success for the team is through movement both with and without the ball.



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Diego Velez '24 looks for an open teammate.

Harris said, "I'd say offensively for sure [we need to improve], just moving the ball and making the right cuts. [Head Coach Terrell Ivory '00] also implemented a few new plays that we executed very well. On the defensive end, I'd say we have to work a lot harder on forcing our man to the baseline and not letting them go middle and also not leaving shooters open."

Coming up on its final three games of the season, Bronner is confident that Andover will

close out the season in a positive way.

"It was really great. This was a big game against a school we needed to beat. Going through this long-end stretch of a season. We only got a couple games left and this is win number one," said Bronner.

Andover will play against Belmont Hill on Saturday and Deerfield on Wednesday.



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Dylan Bronner '23 and Diego Velez '24 go for the rebound.

Nordic Races at Lakes Region Championship, Looks Ahead to NEPSAC Championships

HENRY SNOW

Andover Nordic had its fourth meet on Wednesday at the Lakes Region Championship at Vermont Academy. Since both classic and skate skiing were included within the same race, there was a notable difference in the team's performance, according to James Snow '25.

"I think switching from classic to skate skis in a timed race was difficult because we did not practice it prior to the event. Since we have not had snow, it has been difficult to get the experience of both forms of skiing down," said Snow.

Similar to Snow, Co-Captain Remy de Saint Phalle '23 ac-

knowledgeed that the team's recent performance was less than satisfactory and attributed this to various factors.

De Saint Phalle said, "This race we had a duathlon, where we started with a classic, and then we had to switch skis and poles and end with skate. I think the team performed okay. I definitely think it was not our best race across the board. Sam [Gallaudet '23] was sick, and I got messed up at the end of the race by another skier."

For Snow, it was his first time ever skiing this event, which made it difficult to be able to understand the timing and rhythm of the course. Without the ability to develop a strategy for how to approach each section of the race, he was forced to rely on his

instincts and the limited knowledge he had gained from watching other skiers.

"We overall had a pretty good race today. I have never participated in a duathlon with both classic and skating. Today was a new experience for me. The timing of getting my boots on and off was an issue for me."

In regards to the team's performance, Rex Tuller '23 noted both positive aspects and areas for potential improvement. He specifically highlighted the female skiers as a strong point for the team.

Tuller said, "I think the girls were our strength today, although the boys put in a solid effort, Remy came across horrible luck after being taken out by another racer, and Nico [Von

Eckartsberg '23], James and I all have average showings. On top of this, we were missing our Senior talisman Sam Gallaudet who was out with a stomach bug."

Tuller thinks that conditioning and running will help prepare the team for the NEPSAC championships. Tuller believed the snow should not discourage the team.

"In general I think the team will continue to work on conditioning due to the lack of snow. We all want to be physically prepared for the NEPSAC championships next Saturday," said Tuller.

Looking ahead, de Saint Phalle highlighted the importance of preparing and practicing in order to get ready for future meets.

Even without snow, he thinks that the team will still be able to succeed as long as they remain dedicated and focused on their goals, de Saint Phalle noted.

"Leading up to the race we had some challenges with equipment and preparing. It was difficult not being able to train on snow, but we are looking forward to this weekend. On Friday, we are going to the western ski track nearby and to the NEPSAC champs afterward," said de Saint Phalle.

Andover Nordic will be racing at Weston Ski Track against Belmont Hill, Middlesex, and Rivers this Friday.

BOYSSQUASH

Co-Captain Aidan Lin '23 Serves as Mentor For Team

NABILAH NAZAR

Boys Squash Co-Captain Aidan Lin '23 found his passion for squash after watching a match on TV when he was seven years old.

Lin's calmness allows him to observe his competitors and play smart, according to Alexander Yang '26. Yang stated that during their matches, he is able to learn a lot from Lin, thanks to his extensive background in squash.

"He's our number-four [seeded] player. You'll learn a lot from him, because he has that experience in squash where he's been playing for such a long time. So, thinking of them really gives me a sense of how calm, especially during intense moments of the match, he is. And I think, for me, it's just something that is like a lesson that I learn by playing with him is to be calm during matches," said Yang.

Squash became an outlet for making connections for Lin. Coming to Andover, Lin prioritized maintaining strong relationships with older and younger teammates alike.

"I think over time, it was really the people. It was hard for me to [move] to a new city



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when I was nine years old. And so squash was a really good way for me to meet new people. And the same can be said about coming to Andover. When I first came, I met the whole squash team. And they were basically all mentors to me. So that's been a really great thing for me to continue doing. Just meeting the people, it's been really

amazing," said Lin.

Lin has become the mentor he looked up to Junior year, according to Head Coach John Roberts. Roberts praised Lin for sharing his extensive knowledge with the team.

"He's been great. Since he arrived on campus as a ninth grader, he's really grown both as a person but as a teammate, as a mentor for kids. He defi-

nately leads by example, and he knows that he has had to learn from his own little mistakes here and there over the years. He's been able to impart that knowledge on our younger guys, and he's someone I can always go to to ask for his advice on how he did things a certain way," said Roberts.

According to Yang, Lin competed at a high level for more than a decade. Yang commented on how he sees Lin as a stable player with his refined skills and fitness.

"His technique is pretty good. He's pretty balanced as a player. Because [the] main strategy is to play long rallies... And so I think that's something that not every player can do, because they have to have good fitness to keep maintaining their high levels [of] squash for a long period of time," said Yang.

In the current season, Andover's biggest competition has been Hotchkiss. Lin recalled winning against the team, although he had lost his individual match. He reinstated Andover's value that the team comes first.

"I think the most memorable moment for me this season was when we beat Hotchkiss... I had a really tight match. And I [had]

won the first two games. And somehow I lost the match, losing the next three games. But I remember coming out, and everybody was excited because we'd won. I realized that even though I had lost personally, our team had won. And I think that's the type of mindset everybody on the team has," said Lin.

As the team heads into the New England Interscholastic Squash Association (NEISA) championship and Nationals, Lin hopes Andover maintains its standings. With each individual playing 3 to 4 matches, the seeding at Nationals can shift depending on the team wins. Lin hopes that Andover can place higher than last year.

"This weekend is New England [NEISA] and the next weekend is Nationals. But... team goals-wise, I think we just want to do better than we did last year. I think we placed eleventh at Nationals. And we've got a couple of new guys this year. We're really strong. And essentially, we've really only lost to a couple teams this season. So we're looking pretty good here. We're locked [seventh] at Nationals. And so, if we play [at] that seeding, we'll play well above what we did last year," said Lin.

Andover Boys Squash Coach John Roberts Promotes Balance Between Squash, Academics, and Socialization

ANGIE LUCIA

What started as a casual game to play with his family in Northern Ireland has ultimately turned into a life-long passion for Andover Boys Squash Head Coach John Roberts. Roberts played squash around the world, then at Yale University for four years, and professionally in Boston for five years before coming to Andover.

Once Roberts began coaching, he realized that he felt most passionate about working with teenagers. Roberts believes that he can make an impact on young adults during such a pivotal time in their squash, academic, and social lives.

"As you get older, the ratio of coaching and playing starts going more and more in coaching's favor, as it's just harder and harder on the body... I enjoyed coaching people of all ages, but I really enjoyed coaching teenagers in that high school development stage. They're just a fun group to work with, and they're at a pretty critical

point in their life, both from a squash standpoint, an academic standpoint, [and] a social standpoint. So that's definitely where I prefer coaching," said Roberts.

Avery Lin '25 highlights how Roberts creates an even playing field between coaches and players to eliminate any feeling of coach superiority.

"He doesn't really act like a normal teacher or coach because squash is all that he does. He's kind of like our friend on the court, and he's always messing around with us. It never feels like there's a power dynamic, he's just having fun with us and helping us get better," said Lin.

Roberts also leads a connected team through an emphasis on having respect for your teammates. According to Christian Graziano '25, Roberts makes sure that the pressure of competing for a higher spot in the line-up doesn't affect the team's chemistry.

"Respect and integrity is especially important on a squash team because we compete with each other on a daily basis in order to create the line-up. Some other teams, they practice together, but

we play against each other to create the line-up, and it can sometimes get competitive on the team. At the end of the day, we all have to remember we're going for the same goal, and that's to win," said Graziano.

Roberts emphasizes how important the balance between work ethic and intensity are while also being flexible and understanding of the players' intense schedules. He mentions how important it is to be open to change in order to grow.

"I think [in terms of what I bring to the team is] just bringing the same level of intensity and work ethic to practice every day. There are many different ways to coach, and especially with the academic rigor here, some days can be more stressful than others. I think it's important to try to be flexible, when possible, but from the kids standpoint, work ethic, respect for their peers, but also being willing to make changes if they're uncomfortable. Being open minded to do those things because that's ultimately how you want to improve as well," said Roberts.

Lin notes how competitive squash can get while playing at such a high level and how stressful that can be sometimes. He mentioned that Roberts makes sure to check in on other aspects of players' lives outside of squash.

"Our squash team is one of the best in the country... but [Roberts] makes sure we have other things going on outside of squash. Especially when you talk to him, when you're going to away matches or just having a conversation with him after practice, he's always talking, making sure we're having fun outside of squash, we have good friends, and we're doing well in school," said Lin.

For the rest of the season, Roberts hopes for the team to continue improving and learning from one another. He discusses how important every team in the Andover Squash program is, and how he hopes to see that same kind of progress throughout both JV teams as well.

"This season, we have such a young team. They've had a great season so far, but I just want them for the last two major tournaments just to



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keep going, but learn from different areas they can improve... Just try to improve and learn where you can from older players and older competition. Going forward, I think I would like the team to become a regular top eight team. That comes from just having a deep program overall, which includes the JV and JV2 on both sides. I get just as much satisfaction as watching my kid who started here, and recreational squash working hard and making the JV team, as I do the varsity kids doing well," said Roberts.

ANDOVER BOYS SQUASH

<p>BRYCE FARR '23 </p> <p>RYE, NY</p>	<p>AIDEN CHIANG '26</p> <p>PRINCETON, NJ</p>	<p>ALEXANDER YANG '26</p> <p>SHANGHAI, CN</p>	<p>MANAGERS</p> <p>ISABEL CURRAN '24</p> <p>HOUSTON, TX</p> <p>MARY LORD '24</p> <p>NEW YORK, NY</p> <p>JASON KIM '23</p> <p>NEWTON, MA</p>
	<p>CODY COMYNS '23</p> <p>STAMFORD, CT</p>	<p>SEAN WINSTON-LUO '24</p> <p>RINGOES, NJ</p>	
<p>AIDAN LIN '23 </p> <p>ASPEN, CO</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN GRAZIANO '25</p> <p>GREENWICH, CT</p>	<p>JADEN CHYU '23</p> <p>SEOUL, KOR</p>	
	<p>AVERY LIN '25</p> <p>ASPEN, CO</p>	<p>ANDY WEISSMAN '23</p> <p>NORTH ANDOVER, MA</p>	
	<p>WILL WEISSMAN '25</p> <p>NORTH ANDOVER, MA</p>	<p>COREY SHEN '26</p> <p>HONG KONG, CN</p>	

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cshen24, hchoi25, jxiao25, ryang24

SPORTSOPINION

A Tale of Two Halves: Super Bowl LVII**MARIO CALVO**

Following a shaky first 30 minutes of offense, Patrick Mahomes re-aggravating an injured ankle, and going into the locker room at halftime being down by ten points, the Chiefs did exactly what it needed to do at exactly the right time. They dug deep, adjusted, and delivered a masterclass of a second half to defeat the Philadelphia Eagles 38-35 with Harrison Butker scoring a game-winning field goal as time expired, leading the Eagles to win its second Lombardi Trophy in the past four seasons.

When I thought of Super Bowl LVII before last Sunday, I expected the game to be close. The Eagles were coming into the game as the more “complete” team. This so-called juggernaut of a team, led by Landon Dickerson, Jalen Hurts, Lane Johnson, Jason Kelce, Haason Reddick, Miles Sanders, Darius Slay, and A.J. Brown, was a side that I saw as being more complete than its opponents. This is a team that is dangerous on both sides of the field, and the Chiefs would have to step up to this challenge if it expected to walk out of State Farm Stadium as Super Bowl Champions. However, the Chiefs have someone that the Eagles do not: Patrick Mahomes.

A player such as Mahomes is someone that you must never underestimate in any circumstance. With an outstanding command of his offense, both in his scrambling ability and passing, Mahomes is more than capable of creating a big play by himself or with his of-

fensive weapons that include Travis Kelce, Isaiah Pacheco, Jerick McKinnon, Marquez Valdez-Scantling, and Juju Smith-Schuster. What version we would see of the Chiefs was anyone's guess. This could either be a “showtime” Chiefs offense or a “stalling” Chiefs offense, and that could decide the game playing against a team such as the Eagles. I gave the Eagles the edge.

Let's look at the game:

The first quarter went about as I expected it to. Eagles score on its first drive of the game on a Jalen Hurts scramble, and the Chiefs immediately respond with Patrick Mahomes connecting with his favorite target, Travis Kelce, for an 18-yard touchdown pass.

What followed was what I believed to be the game's turning point for the Eagles, which then took control of the game. First, Chiefs kicker Harrison Butker missed a 42-yard field goal attempt, and Jalen Hurts proceeded to go deep to A.J. Brown for a 45-yard touchdown pass. If I was the Chiefs, this was where I would have been starting to sweat nervously. However, as my mother always tells me, the best way to bring momentum back to your favor is a big defensive play. A fumble recovery for a touchdown by Nick Bolton would definitely constitute as a big defensive play and put the Chiefs back into the game... for now. The Eagles would respond with a touchdown and a field goal to put the game at a nice 24-14 score going into halftime.

Third quarter, the Chiefs would have to get it together. Down ten in the Super Bowl, with two more quarters, and its

strong offense, I thought maybe I ought to have some more faith in the Chiefs. Well, the Chiefs definitely stepped up. The defense started to get some key stops, and held the Eagles to just one field goal all quarter. The offense got a rushing touchdown from rookie running back Isiah Pacheco to make a one possession game. The score was set 21-27 with Eagles in the lead.

The Chiefs would finally ascend into its elite status in the fourth quarter. First of all, wide receiver Kadarius Toney, long ridiculed by Giants fans as a bust, entered the game not only to throw a touchdown pass on a trick play, but also return a punt 65 yards to put the Chiefs up 35-27. For the first time all game, it looked as if the Chiefs were in full control of the game. Every single phase of the game clicked. However, a late Devonta Smith touchdown and successful two-point conversion tied up the game 35-35 with 5:15 left on the clock. What followed would soon become nearly universally praised as a masterclass of playcalling and clock management. Armed with two timeouts and a two-minute warning, Andy Reid and Patrick Mahomes went for all the cheeseburgers. A couple of Pacheco runs, Mahomes scrambles, and a Kelce catch helped the Chiefs both run down the clock and save just enough time to allow for Harrison Butker to kick the game winning 27-yard field goal with eight seconds left on the clock, leaving the Eagles to execute a desperation heave that ultimately failed. Chiefs Kingdom could finally celebrate its championship.

This was a well-deserved



AVERY LIN/THE PHILLIPIAN

win for the Chiefs. Despite some complaints about officiating, including a controversial holding penalty on the Chiefs final touchdown drive and a Devonta Smith catch that was ultimately ruled incomplete, the Chiefs were simply the better team when it mattered most. Mahomes, despite having an injured ankle, made the big plays both himself and with his receivers; proving that even without superstar receiver Tyreek

Hill and with a young defensive backfield, he can still bring the Chiefs to the promised land. On a different note, when the offense stalled, the defense kept Kansas City in the game by containing Philadelphia and taking advantage of its mistakes.

Now, maybe we could give the Jets a turn at championship glory? Let's see what will happen in the next Super Bowl championships.

Wrestling Dominates Class A's Team Abbot and Select Few from Team Prep Qualify for New Englands**SOPHIA CRATTY**

Andover All-Gender Wrestling traveled to St. Paul's on Saturday to compete in the Class A Interschols tournament. The tournament served as a showcase for Team Abbot, the name of the female and femme-aligning section of the team, as it has already qualified to wrestle at the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) tournament. However, for Team Prep, the name of the general all-gender team, it was crucial that members of the team performed well in order to qualify for New Englands. Only a select few succeeded.

Tasha Bohorad '26 said, “I think the team did so well. Individually I think people were happy with their performances. Some people were more happy than others, but overall the team placed really well in everything and speaking for Team Abbot, there weren't that many girls there so we were very dominant as a team. In the Prep division, I think everyone wrestled really well. There was some pretty good competition from [Northfield Mount Hermon] and other schools, but I think everyone was pretty happy with the results.”

According to Ophelia Lee '26, the atmosphere of the tournament was loud and chaotic, given the amount of



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Miles Palmer '23, pictured above in a prior meet against St. Paul's, is a Co-Captain for Andover Wrestling.

athletes that were competing.

“[It's] the first year that they had a girls division for Class A's and it was a lot louder than I thought it would be. It was quite busy, a bunch of teams were there. They had the team room, they had three mats open, and a lot of TV's on display and everyone was traveling between all the rooms, trying to figure out when they were going to compete, who on their team was competing, and what to watch. So it was pretty busy, everyone was walking around

and making noise,” said Lee.

Margaret Tsien '26 received a shout-out from Bohorad, who highlighted Tsien's determination as she went up against the same opponent from St. Paul's three times. Bohorad noted how impressive it was that Tsien was able to persevere despite losing her first match.

Bohorad said, “There were only two people in her bracket, so she just wrestled the same girl three times. The other girl is from St. Paul's, her name is Maddie, she was

super nice, but she was definitely a super tough wrestler, super strong. Margaret lost the first one, won the second one by points [it was] really close, and lost the third one. So I think it's just really tough to go against the same opponent three times, [and] I just think Margaret did an amazing job.”

Lee pointed out Ben Forman's '23 impressive performance in an incredibly intense match. It ultimately came down to a one point difference, meaning that every

moment in the match was crucial towards the win.

Lee said, “I liked Ben Forman's match. It was towards the last seconds of the third period... he was holding his opponent to the ground, and if his opponent stood up, he would've gotten one point for the stand up, they would've been tied, and he would have had to go into overtime. But he held his opponent down for the very last seconds, until the timer ran out, then he took the win. So that was really intense, and everyone was cheering.”

As the season nears its end, the NEPSAC tournament stands as one of the final opportunities for Andover to display its talent. Lee called attention to the fact that Team Abbot has qualified for the tournament, and after the match at St. Paul's, so has some of Team Prep.

“[I'm] excited for New Englands [NEPSAC]. Yeah Class A's is basically, at least for the Prep team, the qualifiers, you had to qualify to be able to participate in New Englands which is why it's such a big thing. But for Team Abbot, the girls team, you don't have to qualify because there's just not enough people to qualify,” said Lee.

Andover will compete in New Englands on Friday and Saturday at home.

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GIRLSSWIMMING&DIVING

Co-Captain Emma Cheung '23 Takes Pride in Doing the Little Things for the Team

MEG STINEMAN

Despite being afraid of water as a child, Andover Girls Swimming and Diving Co-Captain Emma Cheung '23 was convinced to participate in recreational swimming by one of her close friends. The decision to pursue swimming proved to be the right one, as she has now found immense passion for the sport.

"I started swimming when I was nine years old, and I actually had started swimming non-competitively before that. Funny story, I did not want to put my face in the water at all, so swimming was a bit of a challenge to get going, but my parents encouraged me to do so. I had a good friend that was swimming, so I kind of just decided to try it out. It was originally my instructor for non-competitive swimming, who told me I should try out for competitive

swimming. And so I did. And now I'm here," said Cheung.

Molly MacKinnon '24 came to Andover as a new Lower and met Cheung early in the year at open swim. MacKinnon greatly appreciated Cheung's contributions early in the season, and how she welcomed all of her new teammates.

"My first impression of her was that she was really kind and genuine and supportive to everyone there. Open swim in the fall can be a little bit rough and everyone feels pretty out of shape as we're getting ready for the season, but she was always a positive person to have to train with and practice with. Even if she was feeling bad about her own performance, or someone around who was [feeling] bad about their performance, she would always be lifting the team up and supporting her teammates," said MacKinnon.

According to Mia Wonacott

'24, Cheung leads through transparent communication and effective team organization. Even before she took her role as Co-Captain, she served as one of the leaders of the team.

"Last year before she was even a [Co-Captain], we were doing Senior posters, and trying to get gifts for all the Seniors when she was an Upper... She was really charging through and coordinating all of that. I think that's what really, that's how I saw her, she would make a really great captain. She definitely always talks and communicates with us through group chats and talks to our coach for us as well. Over break, sometimes, when I have a question for her, I can ask her and she'll talk to Coach Murphy. She gets back to me really fast," said Wonacott.

Cheung pushes herself to embrace the smallest of parts of the season that contribute to the biggest results. Wheth-

er she is cheering her teammates on during meets or setting up a team meal, she is constantly motivated to connect with the team.

"During practices, it's a little bit of a small thing, but just making sure to call out 'one last one,' 'halfway there,' stuff like that, just to remind ourselves that we're all in this together, and we're all doing the same set. We're all working towards the same goal in some ways. Then kind of outside [of the pool], planning team dinners, honestly, it's one of the highlights of my day. Just reminding ourselves that sometimes we're not only teammates, but we're also friends," said Cheung.

Wonacott shared similar sentiments to her Cheung, highlighting how Cheung is constantly a source of encouragement throughout meets.

"Her verbal encouragement is great. So she always cheers for our team. I always like to hear her. When people



M.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

are behind the blocks, she's yelling out their names saying, 'Go Katie, or 'Go Elissa,' or 'Go Mia.' That verbal encouragement is always really nice. It shows that she really cares," said Wonacott.

Co-Captain Katie Swan '23 Leads With 'A Smile on Her Face'

NABILAH NAZAR

Andover Girls Swimming and Diving Co-Captain Katie Swan '23 is ranked first in New Hampshire and third in Massachusetts. Through her swimming career, she has continued the legacy of her parents, as they both swam competitively.

"I have been swimming since I could walk (both of my parents were swimmers, that's actually how they met). Competitively, I have been swimming since I was



COURTESY OF PANET

six years old. I continue because of the people. Honestly. The people I have met through swimming are some of the best people I have ever known," wrote Swan in an email to *The Phillipian*.

According to teammate Caroline Romano '26, one of Swan's strongest assets is her optimism. Swan encourages her teammates to work hard throughout practices, regardless of how tiring it might be.

"She has positive energy... we sometimes just don't feel like being there and putting in actual effort. And she always just has positivity, even if she doesn't want to be there. She's like, 'Guys, five more rounds, like two rounds, or halfway.' And it makes me actually try... I feel like at least for me, I can really build off of that and feed off of that energy. It's like how one positive person in the room can make everyone's day better. That's kind of how she is in practice," said Romano.

Head Coach Paul Murphy '86 commended Swan on consistently improving upon her event times throughout her four years at Andover. Coach Murphy acknowledged the difficulty of cutting down time, which displays the hard

work that Swan has put into each season.

"Katie works hard every single day with a smile on her face... that is who she is. She loves swimming. She actually has gotten faster in her time here, which is... rare. But that has come from hard work. And she's put her time in. And she leads by example. Both as an athlete but as a person as well. She's very welcoming to everybody. She is thinking about the new kids. And she's thinking about the Seniors at the same time," said Coach Murphy.

Orla Naughton '25 credited Swan for dedicating time to each member of the team. Her expansive vision also translates to the events she partakes in and how she addresses the team.

"She really expands to the entire team. And she doesn't just talk to like one grade or one person. She's really invested in everyone's swimming and everyone's goals. And that's very apparent whether you're the fastest swimmer on the team or the slowest swimmer on the team. Katie will check in with you, and she'll cheer for you. And we all do that for her as well," said Naughton.

As the team heads into the Eastern Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Championship this weekend, Swan addressed her goals for the meet. Last year, Andover placed fifth in Easterns. Recognizing the talent on the team, she looks forward to improving at the competition this year.

"I think our team is the strongest that I've ever seen. I think that we are going to have a lot more new school records, as well as successes in our championship meets... Our championship season is definitely stressful in terms of schoolwork. However, I am so excited to finish off this amazing season with this awesome team. Even though it sounds cliché, I am just hoping to have fun and do our best," said Swan.

In addition to swimming at Andover, Swan also swims at the Crimson Aquatics Club. Molly MacKinnon '24 mentioned how Swan is constantly putting in the work to improve during the season at Andover and her club team.

"Katie is always working really hard during practice, and she swims for a club team as well, she's putting in the work outside of class. So her

work ethic is honestly just really inspiring. And you can see how her hard work pays off [on a] daily basis because she's like an incredibly fast swimmer. She's always scoring a lot of points for the team in the distance freestyle events, as well as playing a crucial role on a lot of the relay teams that got us a lot of places during meets," said MacKinnon.

With the new Pan Athletic Center being available to the team, Swan thinks of it as an incentive for each athlete to swim their hardest.

"Practicing in Pan is such a different experience than practicing in Borden [Memorial Gym]. It's so bright and big and really helps with our motivation during hard practices. Especially for us Seniors, having just one season in this amazing facility makes us so much more appreciative of the time that we do have in it," wrote Swan.

Swan will be continuing her academic and athletic career at Emory University.

Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 Motivates Team Through "Do it for Susie"

NABILAH NAZAR

Head Coach Paul Murphy '84 has been coaching for 33 years. He first swam competitively at Andover, then continued his journey at Bates College as a varsity swimmer. Coming in as a teaching fellow in 1988, Murphy has coached more than 25 All-American swimmers and has been named Coach of the Year three times by the Eagle Tribune.

After coaching for three decades, Murphy has improved the program and found effective ways to lead each individual. He emphasized having fun and allowing flexibility during practices so that the swimmers can work on themselves.

"Everyone's an individual, but it's also a team sport. So there's always [some] kind of techniques and things that each person can get better [at], as I try to give feedback to people when they ask for it... My first goal as a coach is always for everyone to have fun. And I know that sounds trite, and it's super simple and doesn't sound very highly technical. But it's a hard school. And so I want people to feel like when they come to practice to forget everything else, and just kind of focus on your body and focus on getting a little bit better," said Coach Murphy.

Caroline Romano '26 commended Murphy on his ability to hold swimmers accountable, while also encouraging them to have fun. Recently

facing an injury, Romano reflected on how supportive Coach Murphy had been.

"He's very supportive. I've recently had an injury, so I couldn't be swimming. And he was completely understanding about it. He's always smiling, he supports us and really wants us to just have fun and have a good time, which is something that I know a lot of my coaches have just not really been for me... And Murphy says, he wants us to do hard work, he wants us to be good. But he's also made sure that you have found [to] push yourselves, but also have fun with it. And that's been a key difference," said Romano.

Sharing similar sentiments, Molly MacKinnon '24 emphasized how optimistic Coach Murphy is during practices. He focuses on each individual while promoting an inclusive team environment.

"He's very focused on a team. And he's very devoted to the success of our team. And his practices, I enjoy how they are tailored to your specialty strokes... So if you have something that you want to focus on, or you have something that you need to improve, he'll be there to support you through that... [And] he provides a lot of positive reinforcement. Like focusing on what we've done really well and what we can continue to improve, rather than focusing on the negative aspects of our races or our needs," said Mackinnon.

One of Murphy's favorite traditions is calling the previous record holder when their record is broken. All the most recent school record holders have been Murphy's swimmers.

Murphy said, "I've been coaching this team so long that I actually know all the kids who have broken records in the past, they're all my kids. There's no records that are left from before I was coaching. And I often have them on my phone contacts from when they were here."

Murphy continued, recalling the most recent instance of a school record being broken.

"On Saturday, when Elissa [Kim '24] broke the 100-[Yard] Butterfly record, I texted the girl from 2011. She's in the middle of medical school and getting her MD PhD at Yale. And I texted her and I said, 'Your record was just broken by one of the kids here.' She got on the phone with me. And then she got on the phone [with] Elissa. She congratulated her on the new record basically during the meet. So I thought that was kind of fun," said Murphy.

"Do it for Susie" is the motto of the team. Orla Naughton '25 explained how the motto is a driving force during strenuous practices.

"Susie" is kind of just the name that we came up with. But Susie is your future self, or like the future team at our final meets of the season, which are Easterns, Exeter (Phillips Academy Exeter),

and New England. And [thinking] about your race, even when you're struggling. Think about your future self and how happy like she's going to be when you put in all this hard work. And now you're achieving your goals. So ['Do it for Susie'], it's really just like this motto to keep going and keep pushing to strive for that good end of the season," said Naughton.

Murphy shared his excitement for the end of the season, since Andover will be hosting the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council Swimming and Diving Championship (NEPSAC) for the first time since 1983.



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Girls Indoor Track and Field Ends Regular Season with National Qualifier and A/E Win

ANGIE LUCIA

Four athletes from Andover Girls Indoor Track and Field competed at the BU Valentine meet last Friday, amongst many other high school and college athletes, securing the opportunity to compete at Nationals. The whole team then competed at Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter) and won the rivalry.

Kendall Toth '24, Hayden Fischer '25, Lauren Herlihy '25, and Emma Hagstrom '25 were all a part of the qualifying Distance Medley Relay. According to Toth, racing at such a competitive meet against many collegiate athletes motivated and inspired the group to do so well.

"The atmosphere was insane. There were so many talented athletes of all levels, it was amazing to be in the presence

of such incredible people... The energy of the meet was electric and just witnessing it all was so inspiring, intimidating yes, but mostly inspiring. This was different because it was more of us against ourselves, rather than us against other schools in our league. We went into the meet looking to qualify for Nationals, and we got our job done. When you are racing with college athletes, it's more about how you can push yourself when you're surrounded by such intense competition," wrote Toth in an email to *The Phillipian*.

It was important to draw motivation from within the members of the relay group itself. Herlihy noted how important it was to cheer and support one another in order to achieve such a significant goal.

"It was really great because we could use each other throughout the race and cheer

everyone on. It was a good thing to accomplish as a group, especially because it was such a great group," said Herlihy.

In preparation for Nationals, the group plans to continue to consistently train, so that when the time comes to perform, they'll be ready. Toth mentioned the excitement of Nationals and competing against athletes from across the country.

"We will compete and work really hard so when we get to Nationals, we run even faster and perform even better. It's going to be super competitive, and we know that we have a great opportunity to show what we can do. We are super excited and also super focused," said Toth.

At Wednesday's meet against Exeter, Hillary Tufino '26 highlighted that despite the rivalry between the two schools, there

was still an immense amount of support from both Andover and Exeter, which allowed athletes the opportunity to perform at their best.

"This was actually our first dual meet of this season because usually we go against a ton of schools, but this is the first just two schools competing against each other. It was a lot smaller and a lot more intimate. It was a lot easier to see your competition because it's very competitive. We all went and we put in the energy and the effort to just make it a good last meet. No matter what number you got, no matter how bad you were trying to [personal record], if you were trying to qualify for Nationals, everybody wanted to be there and everybody was there to support one another. It never felt like anyone was being judged. Even as we left Exeter and we were

gathering our stuff, Exeter was huddled for a group picture and they shouted, "Thank you, Andover," said Tufino.

Herlihy mentioned how much the support of Co-Captain Patricia Tran '24 affected the whole team. Not only did she perform at an elite level, but her energy lifted up the whole team.

"I want to shout out our Captain, Patricia. She had so much spirit on the track, and it was one of her first races back. She [set a personal record] in the two mile, and she's just always there for everyone and always cheering everyone on. It's such a great inspiration," said Herlihy.

A select group of athletes will compete on Sunday at the USA Track and Field New England Championship.

Boys Indoor Track and Field Endures Tough A/E Loss with Spirit and School Record

EVIE WOOD

On Wednesday, Boys Indoor Track and Field traveled to Phillips Academy Exeter (Exeter) for the annual Andover/Exeter (A/E) meet. Although the team ultimately fell 75.33-33.66, among the highlights was Co-Captain Daniel Bae '23 breaking the 300-Meter school record with a time of 36.12 seconds.

However, prior to the A/E dual meet, Sami Gavenas '25 represented the team in the 3,000-Meter race at the Boston University Valentine Invitational. Setting a new personal record (PR) of 8:26.92, Gavenas described the supportive environ-

ment that he competed in, surrounded by coaches, teammates, and alumni.

"It just really felt good having all my coaches there supporting me, and Max supporting me, and just like getting on the track, just running my race. And Coach [Patrick] Reilly, in fact, brought an old Captain, or an old member of the team, Chris Ratcliffe [20], who gave me a pre-race hype, and so it was really fun," said Gavenas.

Though the team may not have collected a win, Sami Tokat '26 maintained a positive outlook on its performance.

"I think it was super positive. We had some really good competition from Exeter, they're one of the top teams, I would say, in

the region...and they went out and we battled hard. I think that a lot of the times fell and people PRed, and it was just overall sort of positive," Tokat said.

John Moran '24, a thrower, discussed both the mental and physical aspects that the team worked to improve on before their final meet. Moran spoke on the importance of respect at such an important meet as this one.

"[Spirit] is one of the main things we've been trying to maintain. Respect was also something emphasized, because Andover/Exeter is a pretty big matchup for our school. That's usually when people get spicy. So emphasizing the importance of being respectful to everyone

was important. In terms of improving on my event it was just a lot of strength training," said Moran.

Though track isn't often thought of as a team sport, Tokat highlighted the strengths of the team and its unconditional support of each other.

"I would say just the comradery that we've built in the sport, like the teamwork, being able to work off of each other in the races, and being able to support each other even though we're competing, we're competing together, and I think that's super strong," Tokat said.

Moran believes the meet stands as a worthy finish to the regular season for most of the team. In addition, Moran shared

his satisfaction with how the season carried out.

"I think it was a good conclusion to the season because as I said, tons of PRs, tons of records. Everyone I talked to said, 'You know, I did this at the start of the season, and I did this at the end of the season, and I'm really happy with how it all worked out.' So I would say it definitely was a strong conclusion to the season even though we didn't get the result we wanted in terms of points," said Moran.

Select members of the team will travel to Harvard University this Sunday for the USA Track & Field (USATF) New England Championships.



COURTESY OF KERI LAMBERT

The Boys and Girls Indoor Track and Field teams huddle to say its cheer: "Blue, Hard Body!"



COURTESY OF KERI LAMBERT

The Boys and Girls Indoor Track and Field teams celebrate the end of the A/E meet with a full team picture.

SCOREREPORT

GIRLS HOCKEY (20-2)

SATURDAY

Andover	0
Williston	1

WEDNESDAY

Andover	4
Nobles	0

BOYS HOCKEY (8-12-2)

FRIDAY

Andover	5
Governor's	5

GIRLS SQUASH (8-4)

FRIDAY

Andover	5
Deerfield	2

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Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

New Theater Producers Organize Musical Theater Cabaret as Their First Show

SOPHIE TUNG AND LANGAN GARRETT

On February 10, at the Musical Theater Cabaret, audience members gathered at the center of the George Washington Hall's theater classroom, joined hands, and started singing along to "You'll Be Back" from the musical, "Hamilton." Performers showcased acts from a variety of renowned musicals and movies such as "Wicked," "Heathers," and "Rapunzel." Audience member Denzel Dickson '26 expressed his amazement towards the performance.

"[The show] was so good... I was trying to attempt [the vocals], but I was getting voice cracks. [The performers did so well with] control... I would have been out of breath by the end. It looked so exhausting, and I [thought], 'woah,'" said Dickson.

The Musical Theater Cabaret was the first show entirely run by the new producers of the theater department. Producer Ivy Randall '25, who was in charge of stage-managing, mentioned that the performers' willingness and confidence in their acts allowed her to figure out how to put the show together.

"Our backstage preparation [was very memorable]... Every performer was so talented and to hear them run through their pieces before the show, how excited they were getting and how they were all working together and cheering each other on was very nice," said Randall.

In addition to the supportive backstage crew, the audience also served as a highlight for the performers. According to performer Amina Gorman '26, the audience members' excitement and encouragement helped the performers gain

confidence on stage.

"I liked the reactions I saw in the crowd... I saw a lot of people laugh, or they had shocked faces and eyes. And I think that made me act almost more crazy in my singing and stuff," said Gorman.

Performer Zora Warren '23 highlighted how over her time at Andover, the theater similarly highlighted her own enthusiasm for the musical elements of the show, and how, as a Senior, her experience with the theater program became more and more positive. She also highlighted how this performance was the first time she performed her own song.

"Dori and I were also signed up for Musical Theater Cabaret, with this song, and we practiced it, learned everything, and were ready to go. And then, it actually got canceled... So, this year, we were like, 'no, we actually have to do it.' So, we signed up and we

did it again... You know, as a Senior, every performance is a little more special each time. But also, I haven't done a Musical Theater Cabaret yet, so this was my first one, so that was extra exciting," said Warren.

According to audience member Sheila Argueta '26, in contrast to other cabarets where performances range from improvisation, dance, and singing, this performance particularly focused on musical theater. The wide variety of musical theater acts fostered interaction between the performers and audience members.

"This one was pretty special because it focused on musical theater itself, and musical theater is a very important part of theater itself, and I feel like having something specific for that is just really cool and fun to witness," said Argueta.

As the show included sev-

eral self-directed acts, organizing the show did not come without its challenges. Despite the challenges, producer Sebastian Cynn '24 explained that the performers' dedication allowed the show to come together successfully. He also encouraged other students who are interested in musical theater to try organizing their own act next year.

"What made it possible to get through the hardship of this being the first show we fully ran, was all of the performers coming in and doing such a wonderful job. Also, we would love for anyone who wants to come try out for an act next year. Because this is really a space where acts develop — we saw people come in a little scared, a little nervous, but by the end, they have a phenomenal act," said Cynn.

Playlist of the Week: Valentine's Day

REPORTING BY LANGAN GARRETT

Whether or not you had a special someone this past Valentine's Day, there are always love songs to blast on your speaker. Students shared their favorite love songs and lyrics this week, and their favorite lovely memories (pun intended). From retro classics by Whitney Houston, to new releases from favorite artists like Taylor Swift, this playlist offers the perfect accompaniment to any form of love.



SARAH BAE '26: "WHERE IS THE LOVE" – BLACK EYED PEAS:

"I like the lyric 'People killin', people dyin' or when it says 'Where is the love?' I think it's a good message of the song... It's trying to find love in the midst of pain and suffering, and I think it's a good unifying message. And my brother showed it to me, and I love my brother, so that's nice."

KAI ZIMSEN-CAMPE '26: "DEVASTATED" – JOEY BADA\$\$

"[My favorite lyrics are] 'At times I thought we'd never make it, yeah, but now we are on our way to greatness, yeah.' I feel like these lyrics get to the core of the song. It makes me think about how I'm getting better, how I'm improving. How I'm going to achieve greatness."

KAMEN KALEB '25: "STUCK ON YOU" – GIVEON:

I just like the way that the song is put together, I think it flows really well, and there are just a lot of good lines in the song that connect to one another. I also like the smooth-jazz vibe of it, it's really nice to listen to, very satisfying. I really just like everything he has made, I always listen to whatever he has released.

VANCE FABRIZIO '24: "LOVE STORY" – TAYLOR SWIFT:

"I really like the part where Taylor Swift sings about Romeo giving a ring to Juliet. It brings romance and happiness to an otherwise kind of sad storyline. I really just like Taylor Swift. I think that she emanates a lot of positivity in her music, and that's really nice."

HAYDEN FISCHER '25: "OUR SONG" – TAYLOR SWIFT

"I like how this song is super down to earth, and provides people with an everyday perception of love that is super accessible. It's just really happy and upbeat. I love how genuine Taylor is, and how she makes a lot of different kinds of music that are super positive and relatable for a wide range of listeners."

MATEO SCHNEIDER '24: "MAROON" – TAYLOR SWIFT:

"I really like the part: 'The burgundy on my T-shirt when you splashed your wine into me, And how the blood rushed into my cheeks, so scarlet, it was maroon'... She captures all types of love. She captures self-love, she captures love for other people, and in relationships. She captures love for the world around you."

DANIEL BAE '23: "10,000 HOURS" – DAN + SHAY:

"It really isn't about the beats and lyrics for me with this song, but it's because I watched the music video and it's all three artists with their wives, and then montages play with photos of them together, and then they are all hugging and kissing, and it's just very wholesome and cute... Dan + Shay are very underrated. I think they are just very wholesome people."

GRACIE AZIABOR '26: "I HAVE NOTHING" – WHITNEY HOUSTON:

"It's a very ballad-type song. I like it because it is really heartfelt. Whitney Houston has a really good voice, she belts a lot, which I like. There are a lot of good notes that she hits. It's really nice to listen to... My mom has always been a really big Whitney Houston fan, so she used to blast the music in the car... I connected with my mom over it, so it's great."



Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Black Arts Dance: A Non-Affinity Celebration of Black Culture and Music

PIPER LASATER AND
CLAIRE WANG

As red and blue lights flashed over the walls of Paresky Commons' Lower Right, students danced to both classics and new hits sung by prominent Black artists. In celebration of Black arts and the Black community, songs by musicians like Nicki Minaj, Cardi B, and Blueface were remixed and blasted through loudspeakers. Ajahla Jefferson '24, organizer of the Black Arts Dance and Co-President of Af-Lat-Am, described the non-affinity nature of this event.

"Almost all of the events on the Black History Month calendar have been affinity only, so I thought it was really important to have an event where everyone on campus was able to attend and enjoy Black History Month, and again we just wanted to really highlight Black joy," said Jefferson.

Andover's Black Student Union (BSU) and Af-Lat-Am hosted the Black Arts Dance last Saturday night. According to Mayumi Kawano '25, the dance not only allowed students to have fun listening to their favorite artists, but also promoted Black pride.

"Playing music by a Black artist highlights a lot of what Black growth has been throughout the years and how we have been able to really step into the genre of making music, of making performances, and having a voice," said Kawano.

Additionally, unlike the packed mosh pits of many other dances hosted in Paresky, the smaller turnout resulted in creative styles of dance. Marisol Tang '26 reflected on why the dance was important to her.

"I think the dance just reinforced how good music made by Black artists are, and this dance gave the opportunity to do dance styles (hip-hop and drill) we don't really see in normal PA dances... Events that support people of color all around bring everyone together for an enjoyable time. It also gives a reason to celebrate who you are," said Tang.

According to Jefferson, the preparation process for the dance went smoothly. BSU and Af-Lat-Am worked alongside faculty advisors such as Reverend Gina Finocchiaro and Yasmine Allen, and also collaborated with Director of Student Activities, Christopher Capano, to bring in a DJ.

"[Finocchiaro and Allen] were

really, really helpful in getting this in order. We also worked closely with Mr. Capano, he was able to make sure that the DJ was there on time, everything was paid for, everything was set up, and really made sure that the dance was an overall success. Also shout-out to CaMD for helping us promote the dance... I think we accomplished [this with] not that many challenges," said Jefferson.

An overarching goal of BSU and Af-Lat-Am was to celebrate Black art on a more personal level on campus, allowing Andover students from every background to celebrate the accomplishments of Black artists. Jefferson elaborated on how mainstream culture often overlooks Black art.

"It's important to recognize and celebrate Black artistic voices through events like these because oftentimes I feel like we're not celebrating [them] enough. These days Black art, and just Black culture, is getting more and more famous and mainstream, but when it comes to sitting down and appreciating [and] understanding Black artists, like where they're coming from and their stories, I don't think we are doing enough of that, which I think is really im-



COURTESY OF AJAHLA JEFFERSON
Bianca Morales '24, Tulah Jefferson '24, Nahila Hutchinson '24, Ajahla Jefferson '24, and Dominique Williams '24 pose for a photo at the dance.

portant," said Jefferson.

Looking ahead, Jefferson hopes to host an interscholastic dance with Af-Lat-Am. The affinity group wants to partner with Latine and Black affinity groups in nearby schools and host the event at Andover.

"No guarantees, but we are hoping to host another dance for Af-Lat-Am and we're not sure if it can be affinity or not, but [there] have been talks with

other BSU's and Af-Lat-Am's throughout other boarding schools in the area of having a dance in the spring... Also, this spring is the 55th anniversary of Af-Lat-Am, which is a really big accomplishment," said Jefferson.

Editor's Note: Ajahla Jefferson is a Business Manager for The Phillipian.

The Fusion of Poetry & Art: Women & Abstraction Exhibit Features Student's Poetic Perspectives

LANGAN GARRETT

On Sunday, Phillip Academy's Poetry Club and Addison Club hosted a collaborative event in the Addison Gallery of American Art: the Women and Abstraction Poetry Workshop. Poetry Club President Yasmine Tazi '24 and Addison Club Co-Head Alicia Zhang '24 led students through four different installations and subsequent writing activities in the "Women and Abstraction" exhibit.

One of the activities involved discussing a painting entitled "I am not the same person," where Zhang gave students a writing prompt to reflect on and interpret the piece. Sophie Staii '25 reflected on how discussing this painting with others helped her notice new aspects of the artwork.

"It was nice to hear what other people saw in the artwork, because when I looked at it the first time, there were a lot of things that I didn't notice that other people did see. Like themes, and the transition from childhood, and since it's abstract art, like it's a lot of splatters with paint, and it's very cool to see how people use that inspiration for metaphors and for the meaning of a piece," said Staii.

For another activity, Tazi offered insight into the connections between written and visual art this workshop explored. She highlighted one prompt in particular: writing a poem in black and white, inspired by a black-and-white room-wide



installation.

"Poetry is actually a form of art, but poets can inspire themselves from visual art as well, and we really wanted to have that opportunity to translate visual emotion, or emotion drawn from visual art, [onto] the paper... We had prompts like, in one of the rooms was all black and white, and we said, 'what would it be like to write a poem in black and white?' 'What would that sound like?' Because, you know, words on the paper are black and white, but we bring them a lot of color, but how would that be different if we wrote in black and white?" said Tazi.

COURTESY KASHVI RAMANI '24
Students view the new pieces in the Addison's "Women and Abstraction" exhibit.

According to Poetry Club Vice President Kashvi Ramani '24, this collaboration with the Addison Club was a good opportunity to provide a tangible space for poetic inspiration, as well as sharing and appreciating the new exhibit.

"[We] were talking to Alicia with the Addison Gallery, with the Addison Club, where they were working in the Addison Gallery, and we realized it was really useful to have a space for

poetry, and the Addison Gallery is the perfect place for that. So we kind of wanted to check out the new exhibit together, by merging our two clubs," said Ramani.

For the Addison Club, branching out to other campus communities like Poetry Club helped increase awareness and accessibility of the Addison. Zhang highlighted how anybody could find inspiration in the diverse artwork of our campus art museum.

"I feel like a lot of people don't consider themselves to be art museum people, or think art museums are boring, so I wanted to kind of do something that wasn't really something that was visual arts related to bring people into the Addison, and get them to connect with the museum... I guess, just, just that anyone can really connect with the Addison, or find inspiration from the Addison. Like, if you are a writer, you can find inspiration from the exhibitions for your pieces," said Zhang.

Overall, as Poetry Club board member Ava DeWolfe '24 explained, the Poetry Club aimed to encourage students to explore the intersectionality between art and poetry. Through the different writing prompts, they hoped to expand students' understanding of poetry and push their creative boundaries.

"I think a lot of people have these preconceptions of poetry, and so we wanted people to be really creative, and think of what other elements they could think of when it came to poetry, and one of the things that our club always thinks about is how we can involve art in other mediums when we are talking about poetry... We were trying to get people to realize that poetry... can be less about having words to say, and more about describing the piece of art, which I think a lot of people don't really think about. So, that's what our message was supposed to be," said DeWolfe.

Preparation for WQS "The Godfather" Themed Casino Night "Takes a Village"

SOPHIE TUNG

Before Andover students dive into finals week, they will have the annual West Quad South (WQS) Casino Night to look forward to, which will be taking place this Saturday evening at Paresky Commons. WQS Cluster Co-President Yanna Dorotan '23 described this year's Casino Night theme: "The Godfather."

"This year, we chose to go for 'The Godfather.' It's basically a black and gold event, and we're thinking 'mafia.' Obviously, we're not going to bring out fake cigars and guns, but maybe a headless horse, in the spirit of the movie," said Dorotan.

A WQS tradition, Casino Night embodies a different theme each year, with previous themes including James Bond, the Roaring 20s, and "The Great Gatsby." Activities include poker, blackjack, and spin-the-wheel, and students are encouraged to dress up in a formal black-tie style. WQS Cluster

Co-President Nick Donaldson '23 explained the rationale behind choosing "The Godfather" as this year's theme.

"We want to be as cool as possible, if I can say that. Something swaggy that's also classy to cover Casino Night and bring the most amount of fun for the rest of campus... And 'The Godfather' provides that kind of classy element while being mysterious," said Donaldson.

To incorporate the spirit of "The Godfather" into this year's Casino Night, the WQS Cluster Co-Presidents, Anny Candelario, Dean of West Quad North Cluster, and PSPA have worked together to film a promotional video to depict the "mafia" concept. Donaldson reflected on the experience of making the trailer, as well as explaining why students should attend Casino Night.

"[The trailer] was absolutely so much fun to film. Shout out to anybody who is a part of that making of the trailer... I'm gonna remember that for a while

just because I have it now on video of me being able to act as this 'Godfather' character in the trailer... You'll find that everybody else is going to be dressed up so that you'd be able to play into the role, playing to the character, and have lots of fun that way," said Donaldson.

In a collaboration with PSPA, the event will include mocktails, cannolis, and other refreshments, as well as decorations in the Mural Room and a photo booth. Planning took at least a month and a half, according to Dorotan.

"It's been at least a month and a half in planning because we have to coordinate with PSPA. We have to film the casino night trailer, edit it. We have to discuss what we are serving, what the decorations are going to be like, what's our budget, who is signing up for setting up or breaking down, who's going to man the chip distribution tables. It really takes a village, so we cannot thank the PSPA enough for helping us," said Dorotan.



SARAH HASSANEIN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Overall, Dorotan anticipates that Casino Night will be a much-needed break from schoolwork, as well as a fun opportunity to connect with people across campus.

"We hope that [students can] form new connections with people they don't get to talk to a

lot...whether [inside] or outside the game... This night will allow students to breathe, let some steam off, re-center themselves and get ready to work academically in the upcoming weeks," said Dorotan.

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