

Co-Education at Andover: '74 Alumni Panelists on Historic Abbot and Andover Merger



A. CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

The three panelists spoke about their experiences during the merger.

SAKETH LINGISETTY & LUCAS BENARDETE

Three members of the Class of 1974 reflected on the 50th anniversary of the merger of Phillips Academy and Abbot Academy during the All-School Meeting (ASM) this past Friday. The panel recounted their experiences with the merger, sharing stories from 50 years ago, and described their hopes for Andover moving forward.

Serving as the moderator of the panel, Jack Gray '75 expressed his sentiments on the merger and its place within the school's history and legacy. Gray commented on how while 1973 marked the official period of co-education, various forms of partnership between Andover and Abbot — referred to as "co-coordination" — took place in the years leading up to the official merger.

"There was what was called co-coordination... I

can tell you from my personal experiences. I, for example, took French at Abbot in the Fall of the 1971 to 1972 school year as a Lower, so they were already in the Fall of '71 synchronizing their schedules, at least in some, but certainly not all academic departments of Phillips Academy and Abbot Academy," said Gray.

Gray continued by adding how some programs were co-educational from the beginning, such as Outdoor Pursuits, then referred to as "Search and Rescue."

"I remember [Outdoor Pursuits] being co-ed before the merger, but in my Senior year, we did winter Search and Rescue which was outdoor camping, which in New England is not something to be taken lightly. I feel that doing so with girls and young women showed that these young women had the same

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Moroccan Earthquake Relief Fundraiser Run by Yasmine Tazi '24 Was a Success



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Pictured above are the Blue Key Heads, Co-Presidents, and Yasmine Tazi '24.

JEANNE KOSCIUS-KO-MORIZET & CADE RUTKOSKE

Students and faculty came together to support and raise relief funds for Morocco, in response to the 6.8 magnitude earthquake experienced in the province of Al-Haouz, roughly 50 miles southwest of Marrakesh. The community fundraiser gathered donations for two weeks, ending on October 6 and then celebrated by pieing the Blue Key Heads and Student Body Co-Presidents in the face.

Yasmine Tazi '24, a Senior from Casablanca, Morocco, led the two-week fundraising event, standing outside Paretsky Commons daily to raise donations. She explained that the funds would be donated to a program called "Education for All," an organization which promotes education for girls in rural Morocco.

"There's this program called 'Education for All' and they basically fight against gender injustice and provide boarding

schools for girls in the mountains. It's a very rural region, and the problem is that they don't really have schools or access to education. [The program] provides them with education because parents refuse to send their girls to the city, so this enabled them to get a high-school diploma," said Tazi.

Tazi continued, "They had six boarding schools in the mountains, and five out of six had to be demolished because they were destroyed by the earthquake, so now they don't even have schools to study. I've been working with them, and trying to raise money. All of the funds that we've collected throughout the two weeks are going to help them rebuild the schools, [and] provide medical care and housing."

Adaora Mbanefo '24, a Blue Key Head, spoke about her experience of how being pied was worth it, as it was for a good cause. She also described how the fundraiser aligned with her own values and beliefs of supporting women in education.

"The [Blue Key Heads] all understood that it was for a

great cause so we [agreed that] we're all doing it. As someone who values education and sees it as a path towards the future, especially for women and [the] youth in general, the thought of doing anything I could, little or big, to support [Yasmine's] mission was something that I really wanted to do," said Mbanefo.

On top of pieing, the original event was also supposed to include a faculty arm-wrestling challenge. Mika Latva-Kokko, Instructor in Physics, narrated why he originally volunteered to arm-wrestle and how he wanted to do anything he could to help.

"When I heard that there was an earthquake in Morocco, I reached out to Yasmine. Fortunately her family was fine, but when she wanted to do a fundraiser for the victims of the earthquake, I said that I would do anything to be helpful. There would have been arm-wrestling, but I believe that the ma-

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Room Visitation Policies Spark Frustration Among Students on Campus

JONATHON OH & ANNA TSVETKOV

Dorms have begun to implement room visitations as an option for boarders to have other students in their rooms. Students must fill in a sign-in sheet, check in with an on-duty House Counselor, and make sure details within the room visit regulations is cleared before having a friend over in their room.

Scott Hoenig, a House Counselor in Fuess House, described the room visitation process in detail, explaining all the procedures that have to be taken into account when a student visits a room or hosts a room visit.

"If you want to host somebody that doesn't live in your dorm, then you can do that in particular times of the week. Specifically from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Sundays. Any room visits that happen there's a sign-in, sign-out process, and there has to be a HC [(House Counselor)] who is present to do that sign-in, sign-out process. The [room] doors have to be open all the way and lights have to be on," said Hoenig.

Georgie Harpole '25 explained how the room visitation process had prevented her from making as many visits as she wanted to. Harpole suggested ways to make room visits more appealing to the student body.

"The process is very complicated and I usually just avoid it... Personally, the risk that might come with visiting

other people's rooms kinda just gets taken up [to] another [level]. I don't think that allowing people to visit other people's rooms really accommodates that risk much more than it already exists... The best compromise would be that we would still check in with our House Counselors and our House Counselors could still check in with us but we were allowed to close the door. That is the point of visiting someone's room. Privacy," said Harpole.

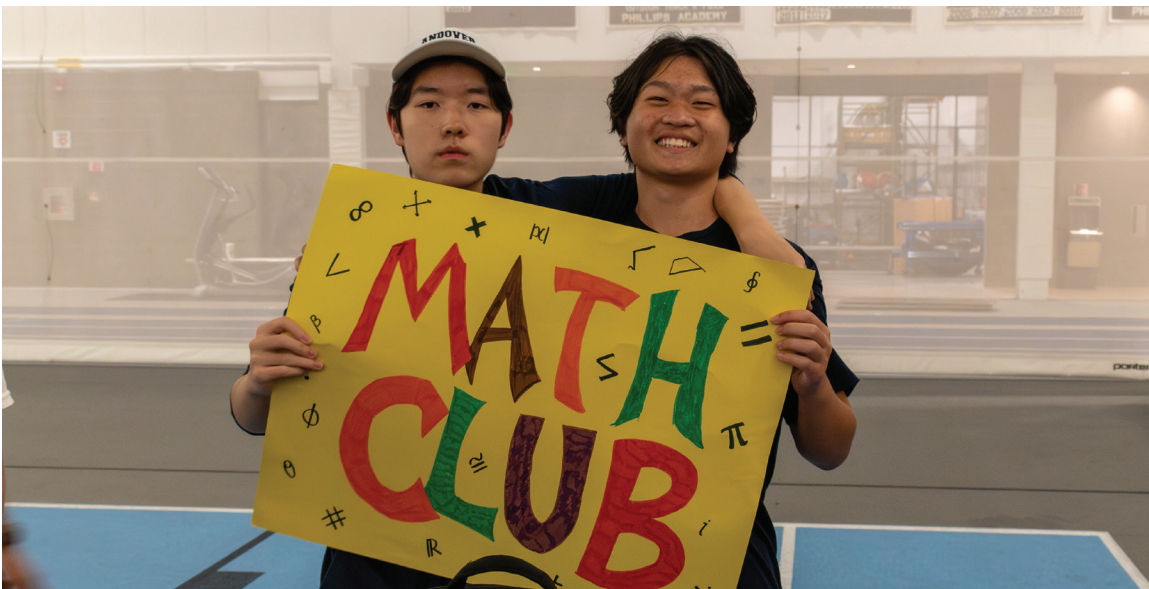
Harpole elaborated further, emphasizing the excessiveness of the policies. Harpole opposed the negative stigma surrounding room visitations, especially in their associations with sexual relationships.

"Visiting a friend's room is a really safe space. I think the times that [room visits] come up, it's usually in a talk about healthier relationships or some sort of clandestine but not really clandestine form of [sexual education]. So I wish it was separated from that because again, I just want to see my friend's decorations, I want to borrow their books... I understand the intent of the policy but I think it's a little overkill," said Harpole.

Lundeen Cahilly '24 spoke on how room visitation policies are tedious steps that get in the way of being with friends. Cahilly pointed out how friends often live in different dorms, making dorm visitations a necessary process to undergo in order to go to a friend's room.

Continued on A5, Column 1

Cheer, Holler, Shout: The Spirited Strategies of the Fall 2023 Club Fair



A. LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Pictured above is Andy Xu '24 and Anthony Yang '25, who advertised their Math Club.

CHRISTIAN ESTRADA & PRISHA SHIVANI

Music blared as students made their way through the crowded maze of club tables in the Snyder Center (Snyder) on Saturday. At the Club Fair, several student-led clubs were present, like those focused on STEM, humanities, social justice issues, hobbies, and much more.

The Club Fair is held during Fall Term each year. Christopher Capano, Director of Student Activities, explained the event's general purpose and history.

"The club rally has existed before I started working here, so at least 12 years. There are a lot of clubs on campus because a lot of kids want to get more involved with student life and make clubs with kids with similar interests. The Club Fair is just a way to advertise your club and get more people to come and join," said Capano.

Clubs used unique tactics to attract prospective students. Ella Kowal '25, Co-Coordinator of the Phillips Academy Sus-

tainability Coalition (PASC), explained how PASC representatives promoted the club and its distinct initiatives.

"We have 12 initiatives that are a part of the PASC, and we set up a whiteboard behind [us] so we could display the posters of those different initiatives. We had a general PASC poster as well. We had posters on the front and the back of the whiteboard, and a few on the table. We had people holding up signs and yelling at people to come sign up, and a QR code where people could register... What we did was describe what we did as a whole club. We're the sustainability club on campus, and we have all these clubs that are a part of us as well," said Kowal.

The Philomathean Society (Philo), a debate club, aimed to show students the liveliness of its meetings and events. Andrew Morgan '24, Co-President of Philo, emphasized that attracting students at Club Fair was different from gathering new members from other events.

"Our approach going into it was to be loud and atten-

tion-grabbing, because people are attracted to positive energy. So, Laerdon, my fellow Co-President, and I were working on attracting as much attention as possible and showing people that Philo is a fun community and a community that you want to be a part of. The strategy was just to yell at people. We didn't really go into the nitty gritty like we did [at] the Public Speaking Panel. The [goal at] Club Fair was to let loose and show people what the Philo energy was rather than what our objectives are this year," said Morgan.

Sami Tokat '26, an attendee of the fair, expressed how being a returning student changed his viewpoint on many of the clubs present. Tokat added that he was sometimes attracted to clubs because of their visual presentation, but he was also influenced by friends into joining certain clubs.

"This year's Club Fair was a

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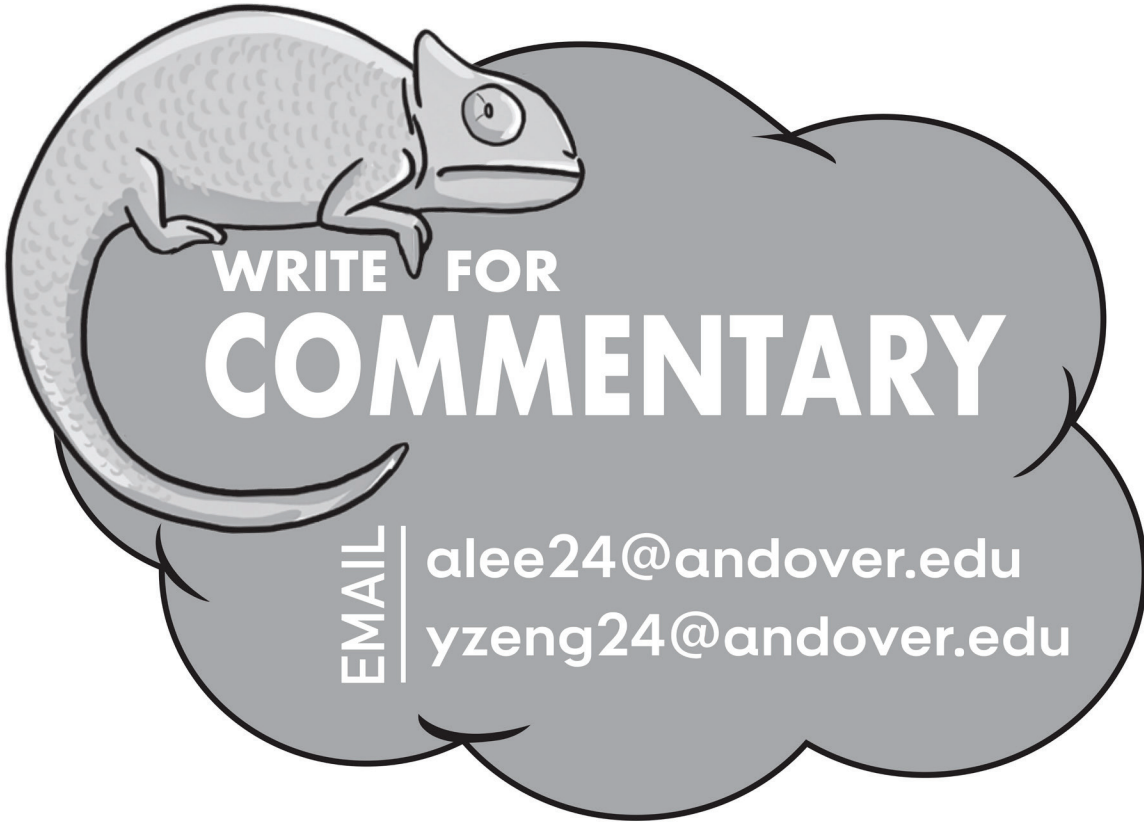
Editorial

On Recent Events

This past weekend, the terrorist group Hamas attacked and murdered Israeli citizens. As a school that advocates for “youth from every quarter,” we acknowledge that many people in our community have been deeply affected. More innocent lives in Israel and Gaza will be lost as this event continues to unfold, and the human suffering will be immeasurable.

We call on the adult community at Andover to provide more education about important current events and world issues. The 2023 State of the Academy revealed that 77.6 percent of students get their news from social media such as Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook – all of which have a history of being unreliable and perpetuating misinformation. We need to do better. Andover

should provide more spaces where students can learn about complex topics in a mediated and open environment. As the next generation and supposed “leaders of tomorrow,” we hope that we can create a better, more peaceful world where all human life is valued, respected, and understood. Education is necessary for this.



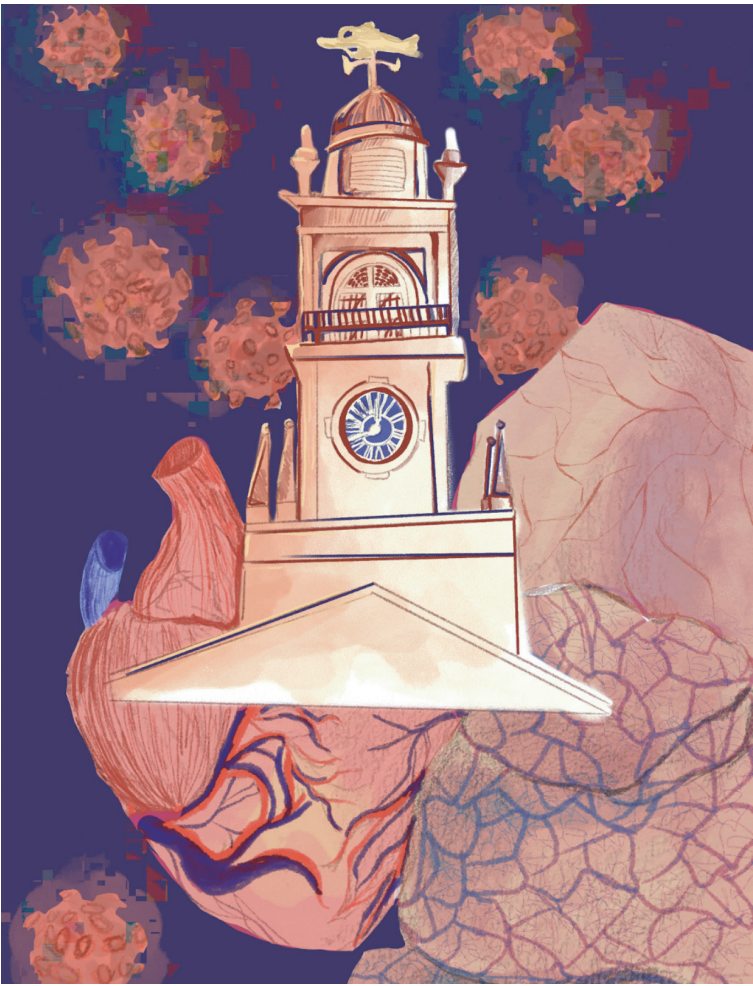
From Caution to Complacency:

The Shift in Our Campus Culture Amongst COVID



As I write this article, my chest feels heavy, each breath a labor that wears me out, and my heart races — especially when I’m standing. This has been my constant reality for the past week and a half. After three years of diligently avoiding Covid-19 on campus, I suddenly caught it, seemingly out of nowhere.

I’d like to consider myself extremely cautious when it comes to preventing the transmission of illnesses, whether it’s the flu, Covid-19, or even just the “common cold.” However, it turns out that my efforts weren’t enough. But it’s not about what happens when you have Covid-19; it’s the before and the after that matter to me. Despite my best efforts, it became increasingly apparent that not everyone around me was putting in the same level of care and responsibility, making it incredibly challenging to maintain the level of safety I had hoped for.



In an ideal world, anyone who’s feeling unwell would promptly get tested for Covid-19. They would put aside their plans and aspirations for the week ahead to do the right thing for the community — visit the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center for a mere 15 minutes of their time. But when students avoid Sykes and walk around campus, potentially spreading the virus to others, do they understand the ripple effect their actions

living with chronic illnesses, I understand the significance of monitoring one’s physical health and being aware of how it affects others. If someone can’t do this simple task, one has to wonder why they are part of this community. People should not have to be

We must continue to prioritize the health and safety of our community members, even as the pandemic seems to wane.

reminded to follow common courtesies. It’s infuriating that this is even a problem to begin with.

Even though I’m not in a high-risk group for Covid-19, I’m still sitting here feeling the weight of its aftermath. Just because some students have already caught Covid-19 and been completely fine doesn’t mean that other students won’t be severely affected. You could unknowingly spread the virus to someone with comorbidities or other underlying conditions, adding another burden to their lives. On the surface, it might not be evident how our actions affect others, but there’s a lot happening in our community that we shouldn’t ignore just because it’s invisible at first glance.

I won’t inundate you with more figures and facts be-

cause we’ve been bombarded by statistics for three years now. Instead, I implore you to think of others — not only when it comes to testing and masking but in everything we do within our community. This is a shared space, and we must uphold our value of Non sibi. It’s what makes us better; it’s what sets us apart from other communities. Taking responsibility for our actions is a mark of true character, and it’s a responsibility we should all take seriously.

Covid-19 has taught us many things, but one of the most important lessons is that our actions have consequences, whether seen or unseen. We must continue to prioritize the health and safety of our community members, even as the pandemic seems to wane. So, the next time you feel unwell, remember that a simple test can make a world of difference to someone else. I am sure you would want the same respect reflected back to you; it’s a two way street. Let’s be vigilant, responsible, and caring members of this community because, ultimately, we’re all in this together.

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The Continued Hypothetical Wall and What It Means

KEREN SONG



L. MECHEGIA / THE PHILLIPIAN

The Biden Administration announced on Thursday that they waived 26 federal laws in Southern Texas to continue constructing a border wall that will serve to deter illegal immigrants. This waiver is the first instance in which the Biden Administration exerted its executive power in a sweeping move, a tactic that was favored by the Trump Administration.

President Biden argued that he attempted to convince Congress to redirect the money, but failed. “The money was appropriated for the border wall,” he explained. “I can’t stop that.” When asked if he thinks the border wall is going to stop illegal immigration from Mexico, he gave a clear answer: “No.” However, regardless of intention, this plan to continue the wall construction in Texas is a tragedy that serves no purpose but a detrimental one for the Indigenous communities and a hypocritical one in a historical context.

The wall is useless. The immigration crisis in Southern Texas is caused by an unfortunate amalgamation of complex factors such as political instability, frequent violence, and climate change. A physical barrier is ineffective against these intangible problems — it is incapable of addressing the root causes of the immigrant influx. People will find other ways to leave their home country, away from these issues that plague

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their daily lives to find security.

So, President Biden was correct in saying “no” to whether or not the wall was going to stop illegal immigration. Let’s further examine his answer. In his presidential campaign, Biden vowed that he would not allow “another foot” of the wall to be built and acknowledged the futility of President Trump’s wall. The day he took office, Biden issued a proclamation that ended the national emergency declared in Southern Texas by the Trump Administration, pausing both the construction of border walls and, “to the extent permitted by law,” the border wall funds. The proclamation ordered agencies to “develop a plan for the redirection of funds concerning the southern border wall.” During his term, Biden has taken a more aggressive stance than even Obama to end the confiscation of land near the borders for the purpose of building the wall — which is why this announcement feels like being backstabbed to many people, even though Biden has clarified that he had no choice but to continue the construction.

As of Thursday, President Biden, though unintentionally, broke his promises to the Indigenous groups of Southern Texas, especially because the wall does nothing to remedy the immigration crisis.

Costica Bradatan, a professor in the Honors College at Texas Tech University, wrote about the power of walls back in 2011. “While walls and fences are certainly

physical things — imposing ones at that — a good deal of their power comes from elsewhere... Walls, then, are built not for security, but for a sense of security.” The symbolism of the U.S. - Mexico border wall does nothing to promote the “security” of the U.S. towns in Southern Texas. As Bradatan later adds, “Walls protect people not from barbarians, but from anxieties and fears... what is built is not a wall, but a state of mind.”

The wall is threatening the First Amendment rights of the Indigenous population: religious freedom. The application of the First Amendment for Indigenous religions has been inconsistent for a long time in history, at least until the signing of the 1978 American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) under President Carter. The AIRFA, one of the 26 laws waived on Thursday, recognized the practice of Indigenous religions, including access to sacred sites. If the construction of the border wall continues, Indigenous burial sites are in danger of being desecrated by the new additions to the wall.

The physical presence of the wall will be detrimental

to the Indigenous population around the border, and that in itself should be reason enough to criticize the border wall. However, to make things worse, the construction of the wall incites a hypocritical idea as well.

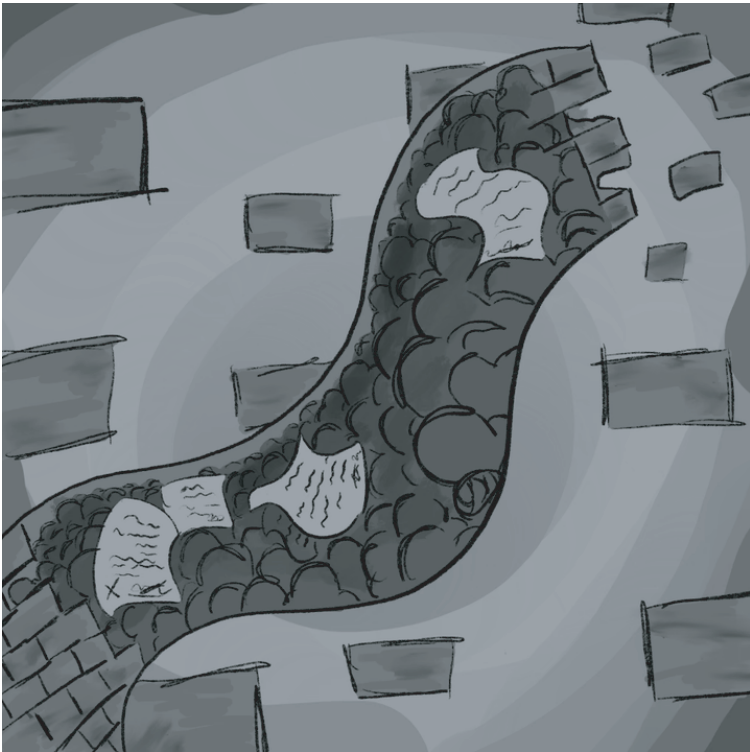
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It has been widely acknowledged in the modern days that most of the land we stand on in the United States of America was stolen from Indigenous populations. Now the government is building a wall that invades the religious rights of the Indigenous people and is also constructing a border wall that fosters a culture that marks people as illegal. A popular slogan that was used against President Trump’s enthusiastic push for the wall was “No One is Illegal on Stolen Land.” This catchphrase highlights the hypocrisy of a nation founded

on unsanctioned settlements that were captured through land theft now enforcing apathetic deportation policies against vulnerable groups — we thought we moved on, but the bigoted wall construction resumes.

Biden had no choice. Perhaps we should think about that point a bit more. A lot of the political discourse that can be heard on campus involves black-and-white ideals. Biden had bad intentions, therefore the consequences are just as terrible. Biden had no bad intentions, therefore the horrible effects are nullified. Evil intention and evil impact are often seen as mutually exclusive. It’s time to take a more nuanced approach — in the end, does it matter if he had a choice or not if the impacts of the wall are so severe? Biden had no choice, and the vile repercussions will happen, regardless. The hypocrisy of its symbolism and the blatant dismissal of Indigenous culture are appalling, no matter the intent or whose choice it was to escalate the situation. Instead of addressing complex international issues like the immigration crisis in a simplistic, harmful manner, the U.S. government should strive to undo the wrongs done by its predecessors and acknowledge the root problems that force people to flee from their home countries.

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MARIKA SAITO / THE PHILLIPIAN

Latinos at Andover: The Overlooked Story

JOHN FERNANDEZ-SUAREZ



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One of the stories in the history of Andover I personally find interesting is the story of Latino students at Andover. Not only due to my personal connection to the topic, but also because of the rise of admission for Latino students in recent years.

In honor of Hispanic heritage month, I found it fitting to reflect on the school’s history with Latino students, a group often forgotten in conversations surrounding the school. Unfortunately, not much is known about the school’s early efforts to recruit students from South America, Central America, and the Caribbean. According to the Greener Report commissioned in 1999, the administration began counting the number of Latinos in the late ’80s. However, the earliest mention of Latino students I could find, thanks to Academy Archivist Dr. Paige Roberts, was in a directory of alumni between the years 1942 to 1989. In the class of 1942, there were several students marked with an ‘H’ next to their names, a possible reference to the word Hispanic. However, Andover’s



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history with the Latino community began in the late ’60s in the wake of the Civil Rights movement. At this time, Black students at Andover formed the African American Student Association, which by 1974, expanded its mission to include the growing number of Latino students. This led to the formation of Afro Latine American Society (AfLatAm), the oldest standing cultural club on campus. Despite all these efforts made to diversify and make an accepting space

within the institution, diversity was still lacking. According to the Greener Study, a report commissioned by the school to look into diversity issues, there was “no Latino cultural club and no Latino advisor in the CaMd office.” There was also the feeling that AfLatAm was oriented around Black students rather than Latinos. Moreover the club L’Alianza, which existed between 1997-1998, was officially disbanded after the appointment of a Latina faculty mem-

ber ended. This lack of Latino faculty was highlighted by a student interviewed by the Greener Report, “There’s no Latino faculty member that I can go to and just talk about stuff that no one else understands... with all the faculty members and all the workers that we have here, none of them are Latino except for the (food workers) in [Paresky] Commons.” Thanks to the report things began to change. More Latino Faculty and students began to be admitted and notably

in 2017 Alianza Latina became an affinity space for Latino students on campus.

When looking back at the Latino experience at Andover it is very easy to see the gaps in knowledge and understanding. The fact that we don’t even know when the first Latinos students arrived to Andover is a telling reminder of how in the past, this group was often lumped in with other minorities, or just forgotten entirely. While this fact hasn’t been exactly conducive to accurate historiography, what makes it worse is that there has been little to no interest in learning more. This has become a harder pill to swallow in a time when the country has become around 20 percent Latino and the school has begun to reflect on the legacies of its Black and Asian students. I believe that Andover would now more than ever benefit from drawing attention to the history of Latinos at the school, so that we can gain a deeper understanding of the school’s history with this group. Along with this, it would also allow us as a community to more easily learn and applaud these students and faculty’s contributions to the institution itself and the world at large, which have been forgotten or obscured by time.

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The Secret Source of Confidence and Respect: Dress Codes

MIGYU KIM



One of my teachers once asked my class, “How would you feel if I showed up one day in my pajamas or sweatpants?” My peers and I all laughed at the unfathomable thought. To us, it was common knowledge that in a classroom setting, our teachers should dress in a way that exudes professionalism. So why is it that us students feel as though we can wear the most casual of clothing to class, while we hold our instructors to expectations of formal attire? This small question sparked a larger reflection within me about the casual attitude towards our dress code

I am not asking the administration to institute an unreasonably strict dress code where everyone to wear a three-piece suit and floor length skirt to class everyday.

at PA and made me realize that a stricter dress code might not be so horrendous after all. The truth is, the idea of a dress code simply does not exist in Andover’s regulations. When I tried to find the official dress code on the Blue Book, I couldn’t find anything. Now, I admit that I appreciate the school’s efforts to move



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away from restricting the way that students choose to express themselves. There’s nothing more satisfying than attend-

ing class on a cold winter day in your fluffiest sweatshirt and sweatpants (I’ve even seen some of those The Comfy hoodie blankets around campus). At the same time, though, I believe that to an extent, dress codes are a manifestation of the values that a school community abides by. When my younger sister was

in the process of touring boarding schools, she recalled how her Andover tour guide showed her around campus in his slip-

pers and plaid pajama pants, while the one at Deerfield Academy was dressed in formal clothing that exuded professionalism. Additionally, when I come across pictures of PA students from the past dressed in formal suits and sweaters, the images exude an air of tradition and prestige that seem to automatically attract respect from the viewers. It’s not so much the idea of regulating the students’

A more conscious effort on our fashion choices would contribute to a greater atmosphere of campus respect that upholds Andover’s “legacy of excellency.”

clothing or deeming certain attire better than others. Instead, what I mean to highlight is the way a more formal attitude towards our dress code would influence the professionalism in classroom environments, and specifically show our teachers that we care and respect them. A more conscious effort on our fashion choices would generally contribute to a greater atmosphere of campus respect that upholds Andover’s “legacy of excellence.”

In fact, on top of contributing to the overall campus environment, dressing up in more formal attire would positively impact students’ own outlook and motivation in their stud-

ies. From my own experience, I’ve found that making myself feel put together is worth the extra twenty minutes of my morning. I head to breakfast and begin my day feeling like a presentation of the best version of myself. Even if I feel crusty, I might not look it! This small act of getting ready for the day helps break apart the days a bit so it’s not just get out of bed, go to school, get back into bed, repeat. I mean, why does everyone have so much fun getting ready for parties and dances? I truly think the answer boils down to one word: confidence. Can’t that same approach be applied to daily life too?

I am not asking the administration to institute an unreasonably strict dress code where everyone has to wear a three-piece suit or a floor length skirt to class everyday. Instead, I simply urge students to consider the benefit of putting more attention into their outfits: taking control of the image of themselves that is reflected to others. Not only might that additional effort be recognized and respected by others, but it is also an investment on one’s self, their confidence, and their preparation to take on the demands of the day.

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America Needs High-Speed Rail. Now.

SHLOAK SHAW



Just imagine it — San Francisco to Los Angeles in two hours and 40 minutes. Dallas to Houston in 90 minutes. Las Vegas to Southern California in just over two hours. No miles-long traffic jams or hours of congestion. No long lines for check-in and security. No money wasted on tolls or egregiously overpriced tickets. And perhaps best of all, running on local, renewable energy.

This is not a highway, and it’s certainly not an airliner. It can’t fly, but it’s the most convenient way to travel. It’s not as flashy as a car, but it’s more state of the art. It brings economic development wherever it goes. This is the transportation of the 21st century. This is high-speed rail. High-speed trains have

come to dominate domestic travel all over the world, from Spain to China. In the United States of America, however, high-speed rail has yet to make a proper debut. Only recently have projects begun to revitalize America’s once-world-class passenger railroads, and they’re facing staunch opposition across the country. High upfront construction costs, cries of “socialism,” and fossil fuel lobbying groups have given these revolutionary transportation technologies a rough, slow start in America.

Regardless, high-speed rail is a necessity in today’s day and age. The speed, convenience, efficiency, environmental benefits, and development opportunities are all more than enough to justify high upfront costs — especially at a time in our history when roads are falling apart and fossil fuel-reliant technologies can’t be relied on. America is behind the curve for developed nations where high-speed rail is considered — but that needs to change sooner rather than later

First of all, high-speed trains are fast. There is only one high-speed rail line currently operating in the U.S.: the Acela Express, running between Boston and Washington D.C. — and, even then, those speeds can only be reached for a small section of its route, because most of the line was constructed

before today’s speeds were a concern. Projects that plan to construct new railroads, such as California High-Speed Rail, linking San Francisco to Los Angeles (and, eventually, San Diego to Sacramento), anticipate cruising speeds around 220 miles an hour — faster than any highway, but slower than an airplane.

But raw speed isn’t the whole story. A quick Google search reveals that flight times from San Francisco to Los Angeles hover around 90 minutes spent in the air. Add to that the distance between San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) from their respective cities, and you’ve got yourself nearly a full hour of time driving — and that’s on a good day. Most airlines recommend you arrive at the airport at least 90 minutes before a domestic flight. Soon enough, this 90-minute flight is looking more and more like a four-hour commute. Driving that distance would take at least six hours. And you can forget about taking today’s trains, which would take nine hours. Compared to any of that, two hours and 40 minutes in a quieter, more comfortable, and more sustainable train sounds pretty tempting.

I was born and raised in San Francisco, and even I can count the number of times I’ve been

to LA on one hand; it’s just not a convenient commute. But when the high-speed rail line currently under construction is completed, I could conceivably have lunch at home, take the high-speed train to LA for a meeting — a distance nearly as far as traveling from Boston to Washington D.C. — and be home in time for dinner.

Since we’re rolling with the example of California High-Speed Rail, here’s something else to consider: trains running on the route are planned to run on 100 percent solar power. Consequently, they won’t emit any greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere, and they won’t contribute to climate change. In fact, the project is expected to lower carbon emissions significantly, by reducing reliance on polluting cars and aircraft for longer-distance trips. It’s also important to remember that, even when trains do run on fossil fuels, they burn them more efficiently than other modes of transport, causing them to pollute less per passenger than automobiles and airplanes.

High-speed rail, much like highways and airports, cannot be left to develop as a purely private project.

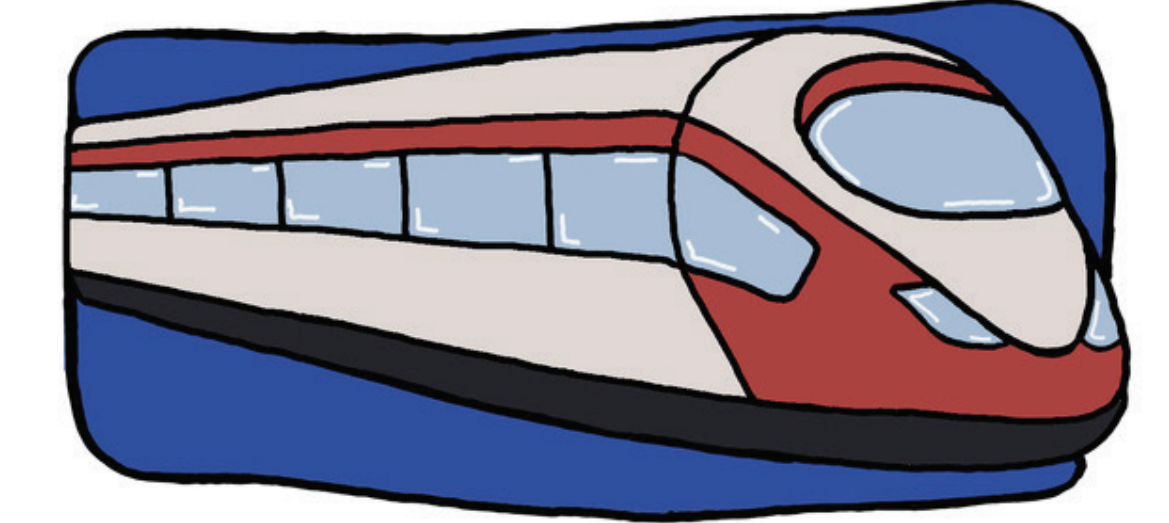
California’s ventures into high-speed rail have also focused on charting a route through historically underdeveloped areas. The project has faced criticism for building a lengthy track through less important regions, perceived as unnecessary detours en route to important areas — but it’s expected that the construction and operation of the high-speed rail network will bring economic development. High-speed rail construction currently employs over 11,000 Californians — and that’s just one project. In China and Europe, high-speed rail has proven its

benefits to regional gross domestic product (GDP) figures.

High-speed rail, much like highways and airports, cannot be left to develop as a purely private project. The Biden Administration has been supportive of rail development in America — relatively speaking. The Administration’s laudable infrastructure investments have spent billions on rail, but most of that funding has gone to improving Amtrak’s services in the Northeast. Unfortunately, the possibility of high-speed rail around the United States has gone under the radar for both the Administration and some of the people it would benefit the most. Wealthy fossil fuel lobby groups have a vested interest in staving off the rise of sustainable high-speed rail projects, and they have used their influence in the federal and state governments to prevent investment in trains.

Even so, high-speed rail remains the transportation of the future. We can’t continue to rely on infrastructure as old as our grandparents to get around the country. Our roadways are falling apart. Aviation, while admittedly cooler than rail, is less convenient and almost as bad for the environment as cars are. Our climate can’t suffer the cost of more road trips and flights. And electric cars, more sustainable fuels, and lackluster maintenance aren’t going to solve those problems alone. It’s time for the United States to give trains another chance — because no matter how high upfront costs seem today, the costs of refusing to adapt to the climate crisis will be higher tomorrow.

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ADDY ZORRILLA / THE PHILLIPIAN

Stories and Voices: Class of 1974 Reflects on Merger and Experiences

Continued from A1, Column 2

kind of endurance and ability to confront difficult challenges,” said Gray in a call with *The Phillipian*.

The panel also featured former Abbot students such as Laura Richards ’74, who experienced first-hand the merging between Andover and Abbot. Echoing the sentiments of Gray, Richard explained that while students were quick to adapt socially to the merger, certain faculty were slower to adapt to the change and usher in the new co-educational learning environment.

“The thing that was interesting was that the students really came together very, very quickly, and there were still faculty who were not in favor of co-education, and we felt that. So it was sort of chaotic between students and faculty members [before] we figured it out,” said Richards.

Another panelist, Gary Lee ’74, was heavily involved in campus clubs including *The Phillipian* and WPAA, Phillips Academy’s broadcasting station. Lee spoke on the involvement of female students

in clubs and student activities at Andover following the merger.

“We were very conscientious of trying to create some experience in which the new female students can be a part of it, and I think that we were lucky that the women, the girls were quite good at what they did. It was all really based on merit. It’s not like we had some kind of affirmative action thing to make some special program to involve girls, they were really quite talented in what they did,” said Lee.

McKenzie Williams ’24 described how the panel was an interesting exploration into the history of the Academy. Williams commented on the transparency of the panelists when discussing their student lives during the merger.

“I thought it was one of the most engaging All-School Meetings that I have seen at the Academy. I didn’t know the history, and I was glad to have seen people who actually lived through it talk about it and engage the student body. They did not shy away from the fact that Andover had gone wrong at many points, that there was hazing, that there was bullying, and that there was a lot of misogyny present in Andover, and I think it’s

good that they addressed that [in] the ASM,” said Williams.

Sebastian Lemberger ’25, who asked a question to the panel regarding power dynamics between students and administration during the merger, explained how this ASM was different from others of a similar format. Lemberger described how the panelists focused on a significant part of Andover’s history rather than solely detailing the Academy’s impact on their lives.

“When I heard that we were doing an alumni ASM, I really thought it would be just Andover tooting its own horn for one hour. I was pleasantly surprised and thought that it was an interesting bit of school history. One thing [from the panel] that I felt was very interesting was that one of the alumni said that the reason why there wasn’t more resistance for the merger was because it was socially required for that time period, and I think that’s an interesting thing to consider in that the only way to get a government body to accept change is to make it so that the status quo forces them to do so,” said Lemberger.

Excitement Runs Through Snyder During Annual Club Fair

Continued from A1, Column 5

bit more busy. There were a lot more people and more stations. My personal perspective from last year changed because I was more familiar with the clubs... I joined [South Asian Society], which I had not previously thought I would join... I joined due to the cool poster and a bit of peer pressure,” said Tokat.

Jaylen Daley ’25, President of Cubing Club, described how he made his club table more interactive for students by setting up Rubik’s Cube-related items and accessories. He mentioned how being able to physically feel the cubes could bolster interest, resulting in more sign-ups.

“I had my laptop, and with it I had two stackmats, which are used for competitions as timers to record how fast you solved a cube. I brought pretty much all of my Rubik’s Cubes that I brought to Andover, which was less than 20 or so. They were a

variety of different cubes. I just hope that people found that tactile nice, and were inspired by the experience of the Rubik’s Cube, equipment, and technology. I think that churned more interest,” said Daley.

The Club Fair was two hours long. Mario Calvo ’24, board member of Spanish Club, proposed changes to that Club Fair that could increase its efficiency and effectiveness.

“Having been on the board of a club for two years, I like the Club Fair because everyone is out and about and there are clubs everywhere. People can go from place to place without any worries. I think the school could give a complete list of the clubs that are going to be present, [so] you could plan out what clubs you would want to go to. It would save you from having to email a board member [of a club] or getting random emails from a club you aren’t interested in,” said Calvo.

Students Show Support for Efforts of Earthquake Relief in Morocco

Continued from A1, Column 5

majority of people wanted to do pieing of the Blue Key Head faces [instead]. For me it was just supporting my student, and supporting someone who’s been close to a natural disaster,” said Latva-Kokko.

Even for those who hadn’t entered in the raffle, the event remained appealing. Phia Cutler ’26 noted that even though she hadn’t donated, Cutler appreciated the idea of the fundraiser and decided to attend the pieing event.

“It’s really cool how they do fundraisers...to get the whole campus involved. [I didn’t buy tickets], I just wanted to watch it [because] I thought it would be fun to see our student leaders get pied in the face. I thought it was really funny [especially] when Josie [O’Rourke ’24] and Nor [DeHoog ’24] pied each other,” said Cutler.

For the organization of the event, Tazi expressed gratitude for all of the people who helped her. Tazi also noted that the donations and fundraiser, while extremely helpful, are just the first step to providing relief to the people of Morocco.

“I’m really grateful that so many people were willing to help. People that I didn’t know signed up to volunteer to help me at the tables, and even Ms. [Claudia] Scofield [, Manager of Information Services for Dean of Students Office,] and Mr. [Christopher] Capano [, Director of Student Activities,] were really helpful. [The support] was really amazing because it was a little overwhelming to be organizing it alone. Even though our contribution is great, it’s not what’s going to rebuild the houses. The earthquake happened in a couple seconds, but the consequences of the earthquake are going to last for years, so we still need a lot of support,” said Tazi.

Students Share Reactions to Room Visitation Policies

Continued from A1, Column 2

“If you want to hang out with your friends in your room, and they’re outside of your dorm, which is the case with most of my friends, you have to go through House Counselors and it’s a big process...it’s not an insane amount of work but [if] it’s just if you want to hang out with friends it seems excessive,” said Cahilly.

Hoenig shared similar sentiments, noting the current system’s inconvenience. He

spoke about his desire for students to be able to bring their friends into their rooms through a more lenient process, specifically in underclassmen dorms.

“I would like to see it be easier for students to just have their friends come over and hang out in their rooms. Currently...the only times that are going to work for kids are 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. Because although we do have Sundays, House Counselors are usually not available and not able to have room visits because we’re eating dinner with our families or doing other things.

So one thing I would like to do is to extend that time on Saturday nights. It shouldn’t end at 9:30. Why can’t it go on until 11:15? I feel like we can probably consider at least lengthening that amount of time. But right now, it seems like it’s a little restrictive,” said Hoenig.

6th Annual Math Open at Andover Brings Together Middle School Mathematicians

NIKI TAVAKOLI & JAY JUNG

Over 500 middle schoolers hailing from six countries and over 20 states came together to compete in the 6th Annual Math Open at Andover (MOAA). Organized entirely by Andover students, MOAA is a day-long middle school math competition that was hosted both online and in-person on October, 14.

Anika Mittal ’25, Associate Director of Outreach for this year’s MOAA, highlighted the many facets and logistical challenges of organizing the competition. She described the different roles that the Director Board created to delegate the many tasks associated with such a competition.

“There’s the director of registration, the problem writers, the outreach directors, and the web masters. [The web masters] created the website and took care of making sure that everything was updated on the website, and [kept] track of registration. I emailed people so we’d get sponsors so we’d

have prizes and T-shirts. The problem writers wrote all of the competitions, all of the exams. They spent a lot of time writing that to make sure the problems were correct. Then the directors of registration took care of registration, like how many teams can be online, virtual, and how we’re gonna handle that with the zoom breakout rooms,” said Mittal.

Khiem DoBa, Instructor in Mathematics, Head Coach of the Andover Math Team, and Faculty Advisor to the MOAA Board, highlighted the extreme behind-the-scenes work MOAA’s student organizers put in to run the competition successfully, from contacting sponsors in the summer to coding registration and grading forms. DoBa discussed not only how the students managed the moving parts of setting up the competition, but also noted his own role in the process of preparing and facilitating smooth transitions during and in between events.

“This event is run entirely by Phillips Academy students, with a majority of the students from the Math Club. So everything from the very beginning



T. GU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Middle school students gathered in Kemper Auditorium for the Annual Math Open at Andover.

to the end, every piece of this event here is run by students and organized by students, including writing problems, running registrations, looking for sponsors. As an advisor, I gave them a lot of advice along the way when they needed assistance in, for example, how to respond to certain questions, certain kinds of [formats], how to reach out to the sponsors, and how do we organize with the school to have Kemper Auditorium as well as Morse Hall, and use technologies in live streaming the entire day in Kemper, and other small logistics behind the scenes work,” said DoBa.

Following its philosophy of being entirely student run, the organizers and board members of MOAA also drew from the Andover student body to find proctors for the competition. Shixun Song ’26, a former competitor in the MOAA in middle school and a proctor for this year’s competition, noted the highlights and chal-

lenges of the day supervising competitors, as well as their impressions and takeaways from the event.

“I think the most notable part was during the Gunga Bowl, which was the last part of the competition. It was really hectic at first. The entire point of the competition is to have kids running up and grabbing problems to solve each set. It was a really difficult job for the proctors, but we did really well and we managed to organize the entire thing and make sure it went smoothly,” said Song.

Edward Zhang ’27, a new junior to Andover this year, shared the sentiment that the day’s events were frantic but exciting.

“Okay, so yesterday was interesting. Fun, but chaotic just. I think it was lots of fun just to see everybody compete, everybody having a great time, and the math problems were quite interesting,” said Zhang.

Although this is only the

competition’s sixth year, the MOAA has undergone many changes since its inception. DoBa noted, in particular, the Covid-19 pandemic’s impact on the style and format of the competition. However, DoBa reflected that the changes made have helped the MOAA serve its mission even better than before.

“This is the sixth year that MOAA has been running and certainly we have faced a lot of different kinds of challenges throughout the years, especially with the years during Covid[19]. But we are in agreement that we want to do something that is really reaching out to the community, the greater beyond and over, and we are driven by that, and so, we want to continue with these missions and the ideas so that we can continue to inspire more generations of students to learn mathematics, and also to be able to have the space and the time for them to meet each other,” said DoBa.



T. GU/THE PHILLIPIAN

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

COLLECTED BY EMMA GREENHUT & STELLA SEONG

Climate: September 2023 Becomes the Hottest September Ever

New data from the Japan Meteorological Agency found that this past September was the hottest on record. The average temperature was 0.9 degrees higher than the most recent hottest September in 2020. This record-temperature September reached almost directly followed this year’s month of July, which set the record for hottest month ever. According to “Scientific American,” the increase in temperature can be attributed to two main factors: fossil fuels and the weather phenomenon El Niño, the latter which is a natural weather phenomenon that causes the surface level of the sea to become warmer in the Pacific Ocean. As the El Niño pattern is set to stick around and become stronger, “CNN” predicts that while 2023 has a chance of being the hottest year ever, 2024 will definitely be warmer and reach new record temperatures.

Politics: Dianne Feinstein, United States of America Senator for More Than Three Decades, Passes Away

On September 29, 2023, senator Dianne Feinstein passed away at age 90. She was the oldest senator in the Senate, with more than 30 years of experience. After graduating from Stanford University in 1955, Feinstein began a long career in politics. She broke multiple glass ceilings throughout her career by becoming the first female mayor of San Francisco, getting elected in 1979, and then again in 1983. After running for governor and losing, Feinstein persevered and won a seat in Senate in 1992. According to the “New York Times,” when Feinstein was first elected to the Senate, there were only two women out of the 100 members. During her last year in the Senate, the number increased to 25. Throughout her career as senator, Feinstein championed LGBTQIA+ rights, civil rights, abortion rights, gun control, and environmental protections. She also made history by becoming the longest serving female senator ever.

War: Death Toll Rises Following Hamas Attack on Israel

This past weekend, Hamas launched a terrorist attack on Israel. According to “BBC News,” Hamas breached the Israel border and invaded communities. Hamas fired thousands of rockets into the area and over 1,200 Israeli citizens have been killed or held hostage as of October 11. This prompted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to declare war on Hamas. Israel has launched retaliatory airstrikes into the Gaza strip, killing 1,354 Palestinians, reported “CNN” on October 12.

Global: Nobel Peace Prize Awarded to Narges Mohammadi

On October 6, the Nobel Peace prize was awarded to Narges Mohammadi, an Iranian human rights activist. According to “CNN,” Mohammadi is currently serving a ten-year and nine-month long prison sentence in Iran. She was accused of spreading propaganda against the state and committing other anti-state actions. Mohammadi’s work included but was not limited to expanding civil society organizations, advocating for the rights of minorities and women, and defending prisoners on death row. Iran is known for its strict laws regarding many aspects of life but most notably strict on women’s rights. Women in Iran are required to wear the hijab, a head covering veil, and when women don’t comply they are arrested and often brutally attacked. This is one of the many laws that Mohammadi has been fighting for decades. Last year, when widespread protests erupted after the death of Mahsa Amini, who was jailed for not properly wearing her hijab, Mohammadi continued her activism by condemning the government and advocating for civil disobedience from her prison cell. Mohammadi stated that “When prison drags on for many years, you have to give your life meaning within confinement and keep love alive. I have to keep my eyes on the horizon and the future even though the prison walls are tall and near and blocking my view.”

Sports: Simone Biles Earns the Title “Most Decorated Gymnast of All Time”

At the 2023 World Artistic Gymnastic Championships this past week, American gymnast Simone Biles earned her 34th medal in an international competition, certifying her as the “most decorated gymnast of all time,” according to “CBS Sports.” The 26-year-old became the oldest U.S. woman gymnast to win a world championship medal, and the first woman to land a Yurchenko double pike on the vault which will be named “Biles II” in her honor, according to “NBC News.” Skills are named after gymnasts when they are the first to debut them in select international competitions. This is the fifth skill named after Biles, and the second skill named after her on the vault - the other three skills named after her consist of two on the floor and one on the beam. This achievement marked the return of the four-time Olympic gold medalist to competitive gymnastics after pulling out of several events in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. The world championships were hosted in Antwerp, Belgium, the same location where a 16-year-old Biles won her first championship medal a decade ago, according to “CNN.” Biles plans to continue her gymnastics career and compete in the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, reported “Today.”

Natural Disaster: Over 2,000 People Killed in Earthquake in Western Afghanistan

On October 7, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck Western Afghanistan, displacing thousands and killing around 2,053 people, according to “CNN.” This marks yet another disaster for the country which has been grappling with an economic crisis, a lack of food, and threats of natural disasters in the past months. Following the Taliban’s seizure of power in 2021, Afghanistan has been cut off from international funding and foreign reserves, meaning that the long term recovery process for displaced Afghans will be significantly difficult. “CNN” reported that Zabihullah Mojahid, the Taliban’s spokesperson, stated that rescue teams have been sent out to provide aid to the injured and displaced.

Amina Hurd ’23 Continues to Explore Russophone World During Gap Year in Kazakhstan

BAILEY XU

Recent alumna Amina Hurd ’23 decided to participate in an exchange program in Almaty, Kazakhstan, as part of her gap year curriculum. Having arrived in Almaty on August 30th, Hurd will spend the next ten months living with a host family and attending tenth grade at a local high school.

Hurd previously learned Russian for four years at Andover and participated in numerous programs related to the Russian language, including a six-week trip to Estonia with the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program. Hurd continues to pursue her passion for the language with the Future Leaders Exchange Abroad (FLEX Abroad) program in Kazakhstan.

“The overall aim is to initiate cultural exchange between teenagers here and in the U.S. Now, we can say that it is true cultural exchange because we’ve got teenagers, around 100 I believe, from different places in Kazakhstan in America, and now we’ve got five Americans in Kazakhstan. Not only do we get the cultural exchange, but also

the language component. I’m here to talk with people and then [learn at] school,” said Hurd.

Sharing observations from her host school, Hurd commented on the universality of high school student life, noting the similarities between Kazakh teenagers and American teenagers. However, she noticed one major cultural difference in student treatment of teachers.

“There’s a lot more respect shown towards teachers. When teachers come into the classroom, everybody stands up, and they can’t sit down until the teacher says you can sit. If you’re late, you have to stand in the doorway and say, ‘I’m sorry for being late, may I please come in?’ We also have International Teachers Day where the kids swap places with the teachers. Teachers got presents, there was music, there were balloons [and] flowers. That was a big cultural difference that I’ve noticed straight away,” said Hurd.

Hurd has particularly enjoyed spending time with her host family and people in her local community, as living in Kazakhstan has exposed Hurd to new culinary experiences. Hurd described her first time trying “beshbarmak,” the national dish of Kazakhstan,



Hurd aims to educate herself and those around her on Kazakhstan.

made of wide wheat noodles called “lapsha” topped with horse meat, onions, and potatoes.

“At first, I was a little hesitant to try the horse meat because I rode horses before Andover and I’m looking to get back into it in college. I was thinking [that] horses are friends, not food. But then, I learned more about the nomadic culture in Kazakhstan, how there were separate

horses for riding, eating...and I felt a lot more comfortable after that. All in all, it’s delicious. We have it at several family gatherings,” said Hurd.

Linguistic and cultural exchange is not Hurd’s only objective for the program. Pointing out the lack of geographical awareness Americans often demonstrate, she hopes to better inform people in the U.S. about Kazakhstan.

“Kazakhstan is the ninth

largest country by landmass, but you could ask any random American on the street, ‘Where’s Kazakhstan?’ And they’ll [be like], ‘Kazakhstan? What’s that?’ What I really hope to do is to familiarize my American friends and family with Almaty and Kazakhstan, whether that’s through social media, talking to them, or other ways I can share my experience,” said Hurd.

COURTESY OF AMINA HURD

Tang Institute’s Workshop 12 Program Merges Andover Curriculum Into One Class

PHILIP JEONG & LUCAS BENARDETE

Traditionally, Andover students follow a set path of five to six courses per term — a standard curriculum that guides them through core curriculum classes and select arts and elections. But in 2020, the introduction of Workshop 12 by the Tang Institute challenged this norm by condensing a student’s entire course load into a single course spanning the entire academic day.

Around 20 Seniors enroll for this term-contained class, which takes place exclusively in the spring term, enabling them to dedicate their attention to independent work and off-campus learning. Colleen Martin, Instructor in English and a faculty member for Workshop 12, expressed her appreciation for the program and its unique learning approach. Martin highlighted how Workshop 12 does not employ the traditional grading system, relying solely on instructor-student feedback.

“We don’t come to Workshop 12 representing our disciplines. We come more with the mindset of being great mentors and learning partners with our students. While we have expertise in our particu-

lar fields, our goal as teachers is not to teach our discipline, but to teach and learn with our students. I normally focus on reading, writing, analytical thinking, argumentation, evidence, use of evidence, but in The Workshop, I get to talk about public health and social justice... We talk about learning and education in a holistic way, and we get to talk about all kinds of interdisciplinary approaches and themes and work with our colleagues from other departments in a really non-traditional way,” said Martin.

Workshop 12 and its progressive approach to a broader education continues to captivate the attention and interests of students and faculty alike. Word about the program circulates through various settings each year and its reputation as an outlet for independent research and interdisciplinary engagement has become well-known throughout the Andover community.

Ashley Park ’24 was among the Seniors who felt the pull of Workshop 12. Park described how she initially heard of this opportunity and how the course aligned with her interactive learning style and passions.

“I learned about Workshop

12 during my Lower Spring when I saw a lot of photos on Instagram and social media. It was then that I learned that there was a thing called ‘The Workshop’ for Seniors. I was very interested in what that was, so about a year later, [when] a lot of my friends, who were seniors, were taking the course or the program... I found myself asking them what it was and what they [did]. From what I heard, I realized that they do a lot of the things that I am interested in doing, which is a lot of interdisciplinary work outside of the classroom. That’s one of the biggest reasons why I was interested in signing up for it. I think by just doing more research on what it was in preparation for the application, I was more motivated to be part of this program,” said Park.

She continued, “My interest comes mainly from humanities but also a lot from human behavior and how we interact with people. I think The Workshop stuck out to me because we do a lot of things off-campus, a lot of things through projects, and not just things that we have to follow through a certain curriculum. I think that these kinds of opportunities made me very curious on how I can

bring my interest to the table.”

Ellen Greenberg, Instructor in Mathematics, discussed the difficulties of planning the class’ curriculum, while also highlighting the benefit of Workshop 12 to the student body. Greenburg compared Workshop 12 to other student programs such as the Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD) Scholarship, describing how the program provided opportunities for student collaboration and coordination.

“As a group of faculty, I think we’re all trying to say; are we providing the time to take a field trip or to work in the habit learning garden or to have blocks of time to really be more in-depth and engaging with the material as far as long term plans or goals or changes? I think it’s one of many amazing experiences that students can seek out. The CaMD Scholars Program Face Scholars program allows students to do research and present to their peers. I think The Workshop offers that for 20 students which I think is a wonderful chance for them to really work on bonding as a group and then pursue their own interests as well,” said Greenberg.

Tulah Jefferson ’24 shared how Workshop 12 would in-

fluence the grand scheme of her life. Jefferson also described how she felt drawn to the opportunity to learn more about the broad outreach of the program, allowing students to connect with those who are outside of the Andover community.

“I think as I transition into college, I’ll have a lot more independence and less influence from adults, so I think this will really help me figure out how I kind of want to manage my time and what purposes I personally want to pursue instead of just following the curriculum and standards that I need to graduate. Other than that, I think it’s really important that while we have these connections at Andover, a lot of the time, we get really stuck inside of this ‘Andover Bubble’ and our mindset can become small. Although we have really diverse thoughts and ideas here, we’re definitely not the only people in the world, so just being able to access other people outside of Andover with different life experiences and life paths will also help me be a more understanding and holistic person in general,” said Jefferson.

10 Questions With Jamal English

REPORTING BY ALLEGRA LEE & LILY LIU

Jamal English is a new English instructor from Chicago, Illinois, and serves as a House Counselor in America House. Aside from planning out his lessons, English enjoys nature walks, going to the gym, and dancing along to jazz and hip-hop music.

Why do you teach English?

“Books saved my life. I found words for what I was experiencing as a teenager trying to be who I was, find who I was. I [did not find] books much in school, but [instead] outside of school, that gave words to what it was like being a young Black man in the ’90s. It changed everything for me, so that was the way that the universe told me I was meant to [teach English].”

How have past experiences defined the way you teach?

“I wrote my first poem right around the time I found the books that gave words to what I was experiencing. I would say writers make sense of experience and the world on the page, [by] writing. It’s an act of expression, discovery, and I think learning and teaching [is] a lot like that too. I think what books and words have done for me are what books and words can do for all learners and teachers who are trying to make sense of life. It makes sense that some of that finds its way into any classroom that I’m a part of.”

Do you have a favorite book? What do you like about it?

“The book that saved my life was ‘Invisible Man’ by Ralph Ellison because I saw in words [for] what I was feeling for the first time. The book that I think is pure genius, that I never get tired of teaching or writing about is ‘Their Eyes Were Watching God’ by Zora Hurston... She wrote that in seven weeks. She’s a genius, everything is in there.”

What have you noticed about the students at Andover?

“[They’re] bright kids. I think that’s what drew me [to Andover]... You earned your spot, and I think...being able to ask great questions and wonder and be wrong and experiment...[that’s] the highest order. So I feel a deep responsibility to challenge you all in that way, and at least initially, it’s appropriate for you to be like, ‘Dude. I’m used to getting all As. Don’t come here with all that. Don’t mess up my transcript.’ [But], over time, I hope we grow to trust each other that you’re going to be smarter than a six plus, if you challenge yourself with questions that aren’t easy to answer because that’s what we need. I know colleagues and students right now are looking at me sideways, but it’s tried and true. What I think about the students is that you all are brilliant and my job is to have you teach yourself to be brilliant-er.”

What is one thing that you appreciate about Andover?

“The freedom to do you. The other three schools I was at



E. LIU/THE PHILLIPIAN

were smaller, two out of three were boarding. They were a lot smaller. For example, weekend duty. Weekend duty, a lot of things are programmed, there are a lot of opportunities for kids to do... but they’re like school vans where you’re driven everywhere. The way Andover is set up, even when you’re not in class, you can go walk in town, do your thing on the weekend. You kind of aren’t necessarily around until check-in time, cause you’re doing your thing. But there’s a lot of independence, and I think because of the size and that culture, you don’t have to explain just kind of being who you are and doing your thing. So for a strange bird like me, I really respect and appreciate that a lot. I describe Andover as a liberal arts college high school, and it’s perfect for me.”

What is one thing that you think Andover needs?

“Somebody like me...because what I’ve heard is [that] Andover needs [us]... I think Andover recognizes, and I admire this, that it’s enriched by all the perspectives that it brings. I was told by somebody that I chose to be here, and that we all choose to be here, and that’s a privilege... I also believe the other side, that we were chosen and it is a privilege to have us. I think Andover...seems to commit resources to bringing rich perspectives and trying to have us get along in ways that the world struggles to. It’s not always good at making us get along, no place is. But Andover seems to try in ways that I know other schools don’t always have the courage to try. [For example], maintaining a commitment to be stretched by those who come here, as much as it means to stretch people. A lot of times schools are like, ‘Oh! We’re going to push you out of your comfort zone,’ but I think Andover needs to be pulled out of its

comfort zone too, and I think it recognizes that, [which is] good.”

How has your experience been so far as a house counselor?

“It’s been fine... They haven’t had fourth meal yet because we got yelled at for not having a clean dorm. I hear that’s not special, [since] other dorms are dealing with that [too]. That just means we have to do a little extra work. Largely around food and cleaning up after yourself. I said, ‘I’m not bringing in more food until y’all handle your food mess.’ I get the sense that that’s not what most people would do, but... I’m kind of a strange bird. I would say I’m adjusting to them, they’re adjusting to me, they’re new to Andover, I’m new to Andover for the most part. But the Prefects are great, because they’re saying, ‘Hey Mr. E, maybe you could do this a little differently,’

and I’m like, ‘Oh, alright...’ Lately I’ve been a little more relaxed, which is important... It’s a learning curve, though. Being on duty a lot, that’s tough. But I love the space [and] I’m happy to be here.”

What areas of civil rights are you interested in?

“I would say that my experience suggests that everything is about empathy. If you know what it’s like to have your civil or human rights ignored, then I think it’s important when you can to not just be an ally but a co-advocate. [I’m interested in] religious intolerance, xenophobia... All of them I’m interested in because they’re the same thing in different manifestations... [For example], the ugly side of the pandemic...how some fools tried to blame some people and some places around the world for [Covid-19]... When the Lunar New Year came, people decided to say some pretty ugly stuff, and luckily, there were people from all walks who knew what that felt like, and they co-advocated with students from that part of the world to say, ‘no.’ I’m interested in all of them because I feel like they’re all connected.”

What are some of your hobbies?

“I’m trying to translate and transfer [my interests]. I used to run a lot, but as I get older, my joints can’t take that, so for a few years, I’ve been cycling. Chicago is flat, so you can do 20 miles cycling a day a few times a week there easier than you can here. Plus, Massachusetts drivers seem a little insane and I don’t wanna get run over. But I have found a couple of loops that I do around here, it’s really hilly, so it’s a neat challenge. You’ll see me walk around the campus with my headphones singing and dancing like a fool, but apparently somatic movement [is a thing] and some kind of therapy.”

What is your gym routine?

“My gym routine is for people thirty plus years old, it’s real simple. Monday is chest and arms, Wednesday is back and shoulders, and Friday is supposed to be leg day, but y’all don’t have no leg equipment, so I’m complaining. I do four sets of 25 repetitions, and every set I go up five or ten pounds. The whole point is that muscular endurance is more important than muscular strength, so high-rep-low-weight is the way to go. That’s how you get swole and how you stay swole... I would say the other part of my routine is almost as important, it’s therapeutic. In between sets, you’re supposed to dance and sing and scream to the music that you’re listening to. That’s my gym routine: mind and body.”

Students React to Special Wednesday Programming for All Grades

BAILEY XU & JENNA LI-ANG

With classes canceled due to the PSAT on October 11, the Junior class traveled to local bowling alley Bowlero on a mandatory trip from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Other grades each had their own programming: Seniors had optional college counseling meetings and the Senior Cruise, and Lovers had a scavenger hunt. This special programming began after Andover moved the PSAT testing date to Wednesdays a few years ago. At the time, Juniors were the only grade with no scheduled activities on that

day, as most Uppers and Lovers would be taking the PSAT. Christopher Capano, Director of Student Activities, saw this as an opportunity for a Junior class bonding trip. “Students are so busy and have so much to do, and there was nothing for ninth graders that morning. We didn’t want you to just sleep all day or do homework all day and have no fun, so I was trying to think of ways to keep you all engaged that [wasn’t stressful]. We [also] didn’t want to do something passive...[like] a mall trip or going to the movie theater,” said Capano. Comfort Halsey, Instructor in Spanish, is a faculty advisor for the Class of 2027. She voiced her

hopes that students would have time to make new friends and memories during the outing, fostering a closer community in the Junior class. “I think [the trip] is thought of as an extension of orientation and a chance to get the class together to just continue to get to know people and develop class identity... I think it’s always helpful to get off campus, out of the day-to-day routines, to remember that there’s a big world out there, and just to do something different. I hope that students have fun, and I hope they do talk to a couple people that they haven’t talked to yet,” said Halsey. Students taking the PSAT were met with technical diffi-

culties. Before the starting time, the website administering the exam crashed, resulting in a two-hour delay. David Xie ’25 reflected on the unexpected problem and shared his opinions on the PSAT’s new digital format. “[The PSAT] was delayed by two hours because the application that we used crashed. Apparently, it crashed since there were too many people logging in at the same time. Other than that, it was kind of just a standard test. A lot of people just hung out with their friends [during the delay], which I think they would’ve done anyway after the exam or they just did homework. Overall, it was definitely inconvenient, but it didn’t really affect the test,” said

Xie. As for the Junior programming, though initially apprehensive of the mandatory bowling trip, Mercy Okoronkwo ’27 enjoyed the event overall. She hopes future events will feature a wider array of activities and experiences that could cater to a larger portion of the Class of 2027. “I didn’t think we would have a lot of fun [on the trip], but it’s been pretty fun. I thought it was pretty strange that it was mandatory, but then [again], what else was going on? I would just want more interactive [activities], things that everyone likes to do, like going to an arcade instead of just bowling,” said Okoronkwo.

STILL PHIRST IN OUR HEARTS

Biggest ASM Takeaways

NADIA VARGAS

1. It’s no surprise that Abbot was more expensive. So typical of women, they probably spent all that money on the water bill after showering for an hour every day. Studies show that you can be just as clean with one five minute shower a week.
2. Andover should continue the practice of pairing up students for the Abbot Dance, but rather than discriminating by height, discriminate by net worth.
3. Resilience proves to be key to getting play! Boo-Yah! Pro tip: If you get rejected, sneak under your crush’s bed at 1 a.m. to show your commitment. Bet they can’t say no then!
4. We should go back to gender-categorized classes! Imagine English without some chick yapping in your ear about some crap about metaphors, females be trifling (keep that in mind before you get in a relationship).
5. You still wouldn’t have gotten any girl in the '70s.

WEEK’S TOP HEADLINES

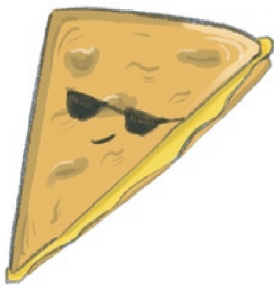
- 8th Page Editors Go to Tanning Salon for More Diversity
- Boys’ Sports Victorious, Ms. Joel Furious
- Boat Captain Recognizes Senior From Last Saturday’s Booze Cruise
- Physics Department Calculates the Velocity of Car That Tragically Struck Student Who Didn’t Press the Crossing Button
- Bullying at All-Time Low, Population of Annoying People at All-Time High
- “Heavenly Goo” Also Name for Sykes Sex-Ed Unit
- Phillips Academy Facing Lawsuit Following Hit Piece Detailing Why Asking Children to Keep Door Open While Having Sex is Creepy
- Virgin Teacher Shocked That Babies Aren’t Brought by Storks During Parietal Sex-Ed Talk
- Campus Alcoholics Spend Senior Cruise Reflecting on Drinking Problem
- Instagram Infographic Becomes First Non-Person to Win Nobel Peace Prize

WHAT YOUR FAVORITE COMMONS FOOD SAYS ABOUT YOU

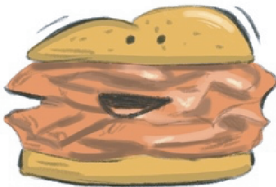
THEO SFIKAS



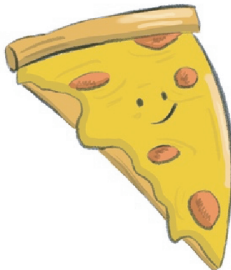
SALISBURY STEAK: You pretty much enjoy eating clumps of **FECEs**. The only reason you are not serving consecutive life sentences in solitary confinement is because your stomach is somehow capable of digesting a mound of literal **DIRT**. You most likely dissect small animals in your free time, still **WET** the bed, and get into fights with people on Truth Social. If Salisbury Steak is your favorite meal, you are utterly **DISGUSTING**. The good news is you probably don’t exist. If you do, you shouldn’t, and the 8th page promises to make sure you no longer will.



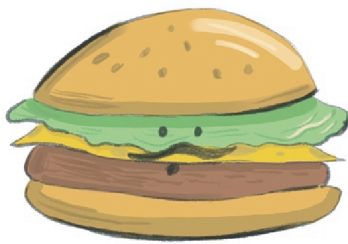
QUESADILLAS: You are a good kid with decent intentions but you could definitely do better. Just ask anyone sitting next to the bathroom on the JV2 soccer bus after you’ve used it. You probably live by the saying “nice guys always finish **LAST**.”



ROAST BEEF: You have decent taste but don’t shower enough. In your free time, you spend your parents’ money on mozzarella sticks from the Den, Ubers to Chick-Fil-A, and a subscription to Badlands Chugs’ Patreon. Your favorite part of this meal is the **ONION RINGS**, which says a great deal about your personality.



PIZZA: Pizza is by far the most **INCONSISTENT** meal at Commons, and you live for the rush whether the pizza is good or bad, it’s a gamble. Your future will consist of **FIGHTS** with your significant other, long nights stressing over Dillon Brook’s point total for the Shanghai Sharks, and months spent in **HIDING** as your bookie pounds on your door.



BURGERS: Burgers are objectively the best meal at commons. If burgers are your favorite meal you are the best of us. Congratulations, you are **NORMAL** (as long as you don’t add pickles). If you add pickles, you and your loved ones deserve to spend eternity listening to **IMAGINE DRAGONS** on repeat.

“Nah, I’m busy. JV3 is playing today! Gotta make sure I get a good seat!”

“I hope no one throws up on me again at the Halloween dance.”

“The only girl I’m talking to is my mother.”

“The Lawn is what you make of it.”

“I feel like Lewis and Clark navigating the pizza line.”

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

“I’m not horny, just lonely. And horny.”

“Wait your dad can’t just give you a job.”

“How am I supposed to get affirmative consent if she’s drunk?”

“I think I’m the first Math 650 student to ever lose their virginity.”

“How does this sound for the first lines of my personal statement? ‘It’s been three years, seven months and 23 days since the world lost the Woo. With every passing hour, my depression gets worse.’”

“I don’t remember signing up for the Students Against Xenophobia club.”





The Phillipian SPORTS

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scoobadoobadoo

October 13, 2023

Boys Football Takes First Victory of the Season

LILY WILLIAMSON

SATURDAY	
Andover	36
Kent	0

After two straight losses against Williston and Salisbury, Andover Football took down Kent on Saturday, bringing home its first win of the season. Byron Johnson '25 acknowledged the team's change in preparation against Kent in comparison to its previous games. He highlighted Andover's ability to work together cohesively throughout the game.

"It was the first time as a team that every single part of the ball, offense, defense, and special teams, worked together. The offense would score and the defense would quickly get us the ball back. I think it was just a combined very good

effort by the entire team," said Johnson.

Johnson also noted that the team also dedicated themselves to elevating their practice sessions after facing off against Williston and Salisbury. These intense practices replicated in-game scenarios that would mimic the difficulty and pressure of facing opponents.

Johnson said, "Part of the reason we won was because of our intensity in practice this week. Taking our first two losses we kind of realized that we needed to step it up. We have the talent to win, we have the coaching, we have the good players that we need to win. We really stepped it up, and had much more intense practices this week."

Alexandro Armour '24 also emphasized the importance of high-intensity practices in preparation for games. Getting used to a more difficult level of play in practice allowed the team to identify and address their weaknesses for the upcoming

Armour said, "We just have to try to make practice harder



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Quarterback Adam Landry '24 rushes the ball.

than the game. That's the biggest difference between the first two games and the past game. We practiced way harder than Kent played against us, so when we got out there, it was easy. We have to do our best to replicate that kind of intensity for Cheshire."

Andover started off strong against Kent on Saturday, to which John Moran '24 credited Elan Shetty '26. Shetty's kick return at the start of the game set the tone for the rest of play.

"[Elan] took it for 60 yards and almost scored a touchdown during the first play of the game. That really kicked off the night for everybody," said Moran.

According to Josh Espinoza '25, the coaches reiterated the importance of staying in the present in the game against Kent. Espinoza recalled the locker room talk from the coaches telling the team to finish the game at full capacity, despite its lead at halftime.

Espinoza said, "We were reminded that although we were performing very strongly, we still have the rest of the game to finish. So it's about doing well the entire game and putting in your full effort throughout. I think that mentality contributed to our win."

As the team celebrated its first victory of the season, teammates also forged stronger bonds in the aftermath of their triumph. According to Armour, the challenging practice sessions during the week and the game against Kent provided the team with opportunities to connect with one another.

"We have a lot of new guys this year, and we all met at different times. Some people met in the spring...and there's been glimpses of us being a team and family, but I feel like it really

came together this past week, at practice, and against Kent," said Armour.

The team plans to maintain its quality in games and practice. Espinoza noted that Andover will look past its recent victory and onto how the team can maintain a high level of play for its next games.

"Going into it, I felt like we were prepared as a team. Coming off a 0-2 record we had a lot to prove to ourselves and to the school. We all knew that we had put in the work to win the game, so it was just going out there and executing it. We got the results we wanted, but now it's looking to the future and preparing for the next game," said Espinoza.

Andover Football will host Cheshire Academy on Saturday.



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Hank Ferguson '25 is the kicker for Andover Football.

Boys Cross Country Sweeps First Home Race of the Season Against Choate

ANYA BUDZINSKI

SATURDAY	
Andover	15
Choate	50

In its first home race of the season on Saturday, Andover Boys Cross Country swept Choate, taking the top fourteen individual spots.

Going into the race, the team was confident about its home course, having practiced on it a lot in the week leading up to the meet. Jakob Kuelps '25 talked about how the home course advantage helped the team succeed.

Kuelps said "It was great to be back racing on home turf and to have parents, teachers and our friends out there supporting us. It was great energy. Being on the home course definitely made us more confident going into the race knowing what was ahead. In our last meet, the Black Bear Invitational, we didn't really know the course and we were a bit more nervous going in. We



D.SWANSON BLAKER/THE PHILLIPIAN

Josh Lee '24 and David Song '26 were the 19th and 20th runners for Andover Boys Cross Country on Saturday.

had run on the [home] course a lot the week leading up to it so we were really well prepared and excited."

Kuelps continued, emphasizing how the team pushed one another to run faster and worked together throughout the race.

"The aim of the meet was to compete with each other, internal competition. It ended up

that our first 14 runners came in before the first Choate runner. We anticipated that we would mostly be competing against our own teammates, and we all pushed each other really well which was great for the team, and we all ended up having good races. It was a really good prep for Andover vs. [Phillips] Exeter [Academy] which will be another home race on November 4th,"

said Kuelps.

Kuelps won the race and set a major personal record of 16:35 for five kilometers. Arun Kapoor '25 talked about Kuelps' breakthrough performance over the weekend.

Kapoor said, "Jakob Kuelps had an excellent race and a bounceback race. It was really awesome to see him go out there and get after it the way he did.

He went out hard with the big group which was me, Luke Williamson '25] and Robert Budzinski '26]. Jakob and Luke both had great races. They worked really well together and pushed each other to big personal best times. He has been super consistent with his training leading up to this and it really came together for him this weekend."

Time running on the home course was essential to the team's success; however, there were new surfaces being put down on Andover's home course just a week before the race, according to Max Huang '24.

Huang said, "The days leading up to the race we were able to get out on the course a lot which was definitely nice. The course had been recently redone so it was good to get a feel for the surfaces and scout out the tangents. There wasn't going to be a ton of competition just because it was a dual meet. I think our strategy was really just to work well with our teammates and go for a good time."

Andover Boys Cross Country will face St. Paul's and Austin Preparatory School at St. Paul's on Saturday.



D.SWANSON BLAKER/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andover Cross Country's home course begins on the Great Lawn.



D.SWANSON BLAKER/THE PHILLIPIAN

Michael Williamson '25 and Anthony Diaz '25 sprint to the finish line, which lies on the Great Lawn.

BOYSSOCCER

Co-Captain Alex Torrens '24 Leads Healthy Team Dynamic With Trust and Inclusion

AARON HUANG

Co-Captain Alex Torrens '24 fosters an inclusive atmosphere by making himself accessible and consistently demonstrating respect for his fellow teammates. Kai Myles '27 believes that Torrens has indeed created a welcoming atmosphere. He feels that Torrens' attitude has allowed the team to form a deep personal connection.

"A.T. [Alex Torrens] has been really helpful in introducing me to players and making sure that players spoke to me about anything. I was so new, I was actually the last recruit to come in. He made sure that everyone made me feel welcome, everyone integrated me into the activities and team bonding activities. A.T. has helped me so much and I think we have created such a bond together from a Captain to a Freshman. He is always making sure that he is talking to me and making jokes to me, and I feel extremely comfortable around him," said Myles.

According to Torrens, one of his most cherished parts of soccer is the camaraderie.

"My favorite aspect of soc-



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

cer has to be the team culture. Especially compared to other individual sports, I see culture created on a soccer team, the community on the team that you create, and being connected with people from all over the world through soccer. So I love the sense of community and the amount of new people in different cultures that you can learn from and make

bonds with," said Torrens.

Torrens believes that effective leadership entails establishing personal connections with each teammate and cultivating a sense of trust that enables anyone to approach him with confidence, whether seeking advice or assistance.

"As a leader I try to make it personable and one-on-one, in the sense where I really try

to develop a relationship with each member on the team and form that bond and that trust. As a leader, if I have those bonds and those connections, my teammates can feel comfortable with me talking and bringing up any problems and they can have confidence that I can amplify their voice," said Torrens.

Jack Alexander '25 appreciates Torrens' work ethic and dependability when playing in a game. He says Torrens has a determined and friendly personality which leaves a powerful impact on the team.

Alexander said, "For me, being a goalie, and with him being a six [center defensive midfielder], he's extremely reliable and you can rely on him to take things seriously. I have a lot of trust in him as a player and can trust that he is constantly working hard and tracking back as well as not losing the ball easily, which means a lot to me as a goalie. Off the field, compared to the other Captains he doesn't talk as much, but he still has a strong presence. You always see him working hard, which really makes us want to work hard ourselves. He's all around a great guy, really easygoing and makes everyone laugh. He

is not someone who blames others and just takes the game seriously and has a strong passion for it."

Torrens emphasizes that this year, all the Co-Captains have collaborated to instill confidence in their teammates and elevate team morale. By collectively stressing the objective of maintaining a positive and self-assured attitude on the soccer field, the Co-Captains are actively working to cultivate a stronger sense of unity amongst them.

Torrens said, "I think morale and cohesion [are] super important for performance, and I think it is something that we have improved a lot on this year. When the atmosphere is really tense and everyone is just yelling at each other and people are not getting along, it [can get] chippy, that can reflect on the field. I think me, Zane [Matraji '24], Ellis [Denby '24], and Garrett [Holman '24], this year, are doing a much better job of creating more unity amongst the team and better relationships among everyone and that is reflected on the pitch. We see more trust among the players, and they are less likely to get mad or frustrated at each other."

Co-Captain Garrett Holman '24: A Game that Speaks for Him

MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

Boys Soccer Co-Captain Garrett Holman '24 has been a force on the field since he was four, now committed to play Division I soccer at Syracuse University. Holman's work ethic and commitment has earned him the Richard J. Phelps's Scholar for Outstanding Student Athletes and the New England Preparatory School All Star Selection in 2022. Peter Elliot '24 applauded Holman for his ability to make everyone feel like they have a role on the team.

"I think given that Garrett is a player of such high quality, the attitude and the respect that he treats every other player on the team really makes everybody feel like they have a space on the team. When somebody of that level of leadership and that level of play can make space for everybody, it really creates a sense of belonging and community for everyone," said Elliot.

Holman noted the challenges of being a notable player on the team. While he serves as a leader, there are pressures that come with navigating the role. Even so, there are many rewarding aspects of working with the team.

Holman said, "I think my favorite part is just having a

group of people that look up to you. I think that's a major part because I think it helps me grow as a person because I have people looking up to me. I now feel that I have to watch what I do, how I act, and what I say because obviously there's a lot of young kids on the team, so I think my least favorite and the hardest part is probably just remembering that they're going to look at the negatives as much as they look at the positives, so I think that's a hard balance to have as a Captain."

Oliver Buckhoff '24 recalled his experience playing alongside Holman, after he had to fill in for another player. Buckhoff highlighted Holamn's friendly spirit and his ability to work with his teammates in times of need.

"He's always there to support us and help us out. Last year I was a right back and then our [post graduate] got injured, so I had to shift into center back right next to Garrett. I think he was one of the most welcoming and supportive players... I think he really showed me how to play the position and it was very helpful and it just inspired me to see him welcome and create a partnership with him and that was a really fun and gratifying experience," said Buckhoff.

Elliot added that Holman's ambitious nature coupled with uplifting his teammates with

him motivate the team, and pushes each player to act as a unit. Holman is able to address the team and help it strive for success.

Elliot said, "I think as a player, Garrett is really just a competitor. He's really a winner. He plays to win and I think that [his] competitiveness really drives everybody around him and it's part of what makes him such a good leader. The passion that he brings to the sport really drives everybody on the team to push themselves. But I also think he's become a really, really uplifting teammate and leader on the team. I think he's made a pretty conscious effort this year to bring people up when they're making mistakes."

While Holman may not be the most vocal on the team, he uses his play to set a standard on the team. Working with three other Captains, Holman is able to hone into his strengths and display his unique skills.

"I wouldn't say I'm the loudest leader, but I think I try to lead with my play, and by example, and during the week before games, I try to make practice as competitive as possible. I think that's my job, but I think having four Captains, we all complement each other pretty well, and we're all four different Captains, which can present some challenges, but I



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

think we do a good job of balancing that," said Holman.

Buckhoff highlighted Holman's adept skills and presence on the field, as well as work ethic. He commended the work Holman puts in beyond Andover Soccer, like on the New England Revolution club team.

Buckhoff said, "I really respect him and everything that he does on and off the pitch. As a leader, I think he's very vocal as I said earlier. I think he's always there to support

everyone in the team. He's just a great guy on and off the field. As a player he is phenomenal. He's one of the best players in the league. He plays for a great club team... He's class."

Holman plans to continue his academic and athletic career at Syracuse University.

Co-Captain Ellis Denby '24 Hopes to Lead Boys Soccer to the Playoffs

HENRY HE

Second-year Co-Captain Ellis Denby '24 is one of Andover Boys Soccer's most critical players, serving as both a vocal leader and dominant midfielder. Playing soccer since the age five, Denby has become a leading goal-scorer at Andover and is flexible in his positions.

As a Co-Captain, Denby often sets the tone in practice. Goalkeeper Jack Alexander '25 described how Denby has the ability to go from a friendly conversation to being locked-in on the game in no time.

"Denby can switch on and off from serious mode to not. It's really apparent during warm-ups when we're only messing around and having fun and then switch to doing drills. Denby immediately sets the tone and will be on you if you're not playing at the level he knows you can or should be," said Alexander.

In addition, Denby frequently provides support for individual members of the team. Striker Kai Myles '27, the youngest member of the team, appreciated the support and guidance he received from Denby, helping him transition into a new school environment.

"Ellis has always assured me

that I am a good player. He has assured me that some things will go wrong because of what happens in life and in soccer, but no matter what he tells me to keep my head up and keep going as we need all of us in this team to win," said Myles.

According to Denby, his improvement in keeping a cool head is one of his proudest feats. He continues to work on this aspect with the team as well, hoping to instill resilience and confidence in his teammates.

"One thing I've improved on is dealing with frustration. In recent years, I have let frustration affect my playing a lot, and it is something that I've been working on. I think mental toughness is really important and I believe I have become more resilient and not let setbacks in the game determine the outcome. As a team, I think that we have all gotten better at this," said Denby.

On the pitch, Denby is a wizard with the ball. Spencer Madge '25 emphasized Denby's ability to keep possession while dribbling. His high level of play on the field combined with his hard work serves as a testament to his dedication to the sport and his team.

"He has improved his ability to shield the ball and strength to hold opponents off the ball a

lot since I met him my [Junior] year. His leadership skills have also grown a lot over the years, he has realized and grown into his responsibilities for the team and has only benefited the team more each year," said Madge.

Additionally, Denby excels at putting the ball in the back of the net. In this season's game against Choate, Denby was able to score two goals. Myles commented on Denby's highlights.

"The best goal from Ellis was probably the goal from the Choate game. He hit one off a volley, and the connection and the sound were simply sweet. If you were there to see it and witness it, it was simply an amazing volley from outside the box," said Myles.

On the defensive end, Denby has shown an ability to step up when called upon. Last season, with key defenders out, Denby stepped up for Andover.

"For a few games, Denby had to drop to center back because one of our center backs was injured. He played calm in this new position that demanded highly. I immediately gained tons of respect for him, as being a goalie someone that can fill that role without a hitch creates a sense of safety among the back line," said Alexander.

This season, Denby hopes to



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

utilize his improved scoring to help lead Andover to the playoffs. With a few new additions to a familiar roster, Denby is looking forward to seeing the team's full potential.

Denby said, "My goals for this team this year are to make the playoffs and go far into the playoffs. Last season we felt a bit snubbed and didn't make it into the playoffs. This year we have a lot of Seniors and a lot of experience, and we have also filled some holes that we

had last year. I have really high hopes for the season, and I think we can go really far. Individually, I would really like to score more than I have in recent years. Last year, I only had about five goals, and I felt I could've scored more. This year, I already have ten and I am hoping to continue to be a prolific goal scorer and help the team in that way."

Co-Captain Zane Matraji '24: A Player with “Finesse”

AARON HUANG

Co-Captain Zane Matraji '24 started his soccer career following in his brother's footsteps. At three years old, Matraji was signed up to play with a local North Andover team, which sparked a passion for the sport. Now, Matraji also plays for the MLS-Next Seacoast United team, and he looks to integrate leadership skills with his strong technique.

“In terms of how much time I spent playing, that’s

why I was able to be really technically good [from] a younger age... [As] I got older, the leadership comes and you are able to combine the two things, which helps me [become] a more dominant player on the field,” said Matraji.

According to Paul Gichana '25, Matraji is a strong leader both on and off the field. Gichana highlighted how Matraji is an approachable teammate that people can easily talk to and look to for advice, especially on the field and during practices and games.

Gichana said, “He is really super supportive when we’re

playing. He is always there to celebrate with you, he’s always there to cheer for you when you score, when you do something good. But, he also gives you constructive criticism and advice that could help someone play better for the next game or practice.”

As a newcomer to the team, Kai Myles '27 appreciated the connection Matraji quickly established with him, which helped him feel at ease not only in a new school setting but also in a location far from his home in Jamaica.

“Zane was actually the first player to reach out to me when I was going to Andover. He offered to do a campus tour with me when I came here and to move in and everything,” said Myles.

Myles stated that Matraji’s composure in the game plays a crucial role in maintaining energy during difficult moments. Matraji is able to reunite the team with confidence and help the players strategize ways to overcome challenges.

“On the field, Zane is one of the guys who helps rally up the boys, especially when we are in tough moments when we can’t get a goal and we need one, or we need to defend all the match, or somebody is having an argument. He always makes sure that everything is good and [makes]

sure that we do it as a team and not as individuals,” said Myles.

Matraji’s soccer career has shaped his leadership style, as his various experiences on a team helps him to empathize with his teammates. Matraji explained how he strives to set a positive example for the team through his actions.

“Sometimes using words isn’t enough, and oftentimes you come off as demeaning and a little too harsh...but doing what you want other kids to do is the best thing to do in my experience. The manner in which I lead allows me to feel like I can understand people. As a player, personally, I have seen a lot of different stages of my career. There were times when I wasn’t playing at all on my team, so I understand how that feels and I am able to use that perspective to better communicate with kids on the team,” said Matraji.

Spencer Salhanick '24 noted how Matraji’s creative tactics are impressive, especially through their time playing together on the team. Salhanick highlighted Matraji’s keen soccer sense and field awareness, as well as how entertaining his abilities are.

“Zane has the most finesse on the team. I am always mesmerized by the way he can receive the ball, and I think his playstyle is the most exciting

out of anyone on the team as you don’t really know what will happen. Also his crosses are the best on the team. He always finds a way to get passes into the box and into the right spot. He scores a surprising amount of headers which means he can put himself into the correct positions. He is very fun to watch and just impressive overall,” said Salhanick.

Matraji looks forward to leading Andover at the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) championships. With one of the strongest teams in recent years, he has faith that with a good work ethic and a strong mentality, the team will achieve its championship aspirations.

“I enjoy and love leading the boys out there every day, they are like my family, and hopefully this year we can go and win the NEPSAC,” said Matraji.



M.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

Head Coach Edwin Escobar Prioritizes Character and Growth

ORLA NAUGHTON

Andover Boys Soccer Head Coach Edwin Escobar values humility and leads his team upholding strong morals. Escobar became the Head Coach for Boys Soccer in 2017, previously coaching both Boys and Girls Soccer at Tabor Academy. Escobar holds the National Coaches Association Certification and two Catalan Fútbol Federation Certificates from Barcelona, Spain.

Escobar strives to coach his players with compassion and care above all else. Fostering similar aspirations as Andover Head Baseball Coach Kevin Graber, Escobar hopes to foster relationships with his players that transcend the game.

“I still remember vividly [Graber’s] words of coaching, and those words are that the players that you have, they don’t really care about how much you know unless you show them that you care. My approach to coaching is bringing in a group of players that I feel that I can help, that I can teach, and while they’re here, my hope is that they feel that their coach is somebody that cares about them not just for what they do on the field



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

but also how they do off the field,” said Coach Escobar.

Kai Myles '27 noted that Escobar’s support extends beyond the soccer field. Myles emphasizes Escobar’s willingness to offer assistance and advice to his players in all aspects of their lives.

“He always gives everybody a fair chance, fair playing time when they deserve it, and he’s always willing to help. Even out of football, or

and downs in order to improve.

“If you find yourself at the bottom at times, that means that you’re in the right place. That means that you are in a place where you are being challenged, and I think that’s the most important thing for an athlete, is for you to be in an environment where you can continue to learn, and I think that’s what we have here for the players,” said Escobar.

Paul Gichana '25 highlighted how foundational practices are highly emphasized by Escobar. Gichana recalled that making small differences in day to day routine can drastically help athletes perform well both on and off the field.

“Coach Escobar always says to do the little things right. The basics are everything whether that be eating, sleeping, staying hydrated, doing your homework. He always says that the little things are the most important things because when you do those things, everything else will come into play,” said Gichana.

Myles appreciated Escobar’s efforts in welcoming him, ensuring that the team bonds well with each other. As a Junior, Escobar was one of the main people who helped integrate new players

like Myles into the Andover soccer team.

“He’s helped me in many ways, I think one of them being just making sure that I’m included in all squad activities, making sure that I’m not left out by anybody... Especially because I came late to preseason, I didn’t get enough time to gel with the squad as much as all of the new players did. He still ensured that everybody was nice to me and knew me and had some type of connection with me,” said Myles.

Escobar values the experiences of the team as much as making it into the championship. He hopes that each player can create unforgettable memories and feel satisfied with their experience as part of their Andover journey.

Escobar said, “My goal is for them to say that they were part of a team that as the season went on they developed and they became something better than they were when they initially started. Obviously, in terms of reaching a goal for the players is to be able to make it to the playoffs, and to make some noise in the playoffs, but for me as a coach what’s going to stick with them is how they felt when they were part of the team.”

ANDOVER BOYS SOCCER



H.CHOI/THE PHILLIPIAN

Boys Soccer Continues to Dominate, Unbeaten in Last Six Games

SOPHIA CRATTY

SATURDAY		
Andover		3
Choate		0

WEDNESDAY		
Andover		12
Pingree		1

Following a 3-0 win over Choate on Saturday, Andover Boys Soccer poured in the goals on Wednesday against



M.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Ellis Denby '24 scored the third goal of Andover Boys Soccer's game against Choate.

Pingree, winning 12-1. In the game against Pingree, Andover earned an extreme lead early on, and the entire team had the opportunity to play.

On Wednesday, despite the quiet fan environment, Andover maintained a high spirit. Spence Madge '25 noted spirit to be one of the aspects of the game that is often overlooked but is so important to practice no matter the situation.

Madge said, "[The game] was pretty quiet, but one thing we were talking about a lot was that the energy comes from us. I think the bench and also the players on the field, all the energy came from them and just [trying] to create the energy and attain it."

According to Paul Gichana '25, Andover worked to improve its defense and adapt to the oth-

er team's attack following its game against Choate. Adapting to the strategy of the opposition allowed Andover's defense to predict the movement of the other team, while making runs to receive the ball up the field.

Gichana said, "We worked on our movements off the ball, specifically our front three. Our movements will depend kind of on what the other team will do. And especially with their defense making runs for them so that they can find themselves in our attack. ... So just working with our defensive shape as well."

The score of Andover's game against Pingree demonstrated a disparity in talent between the two sides. Liam Rorke PG'24 commented on how the whole team got an opportunity to showcase its skills.

"In a game where there is a difference in talent, sometimes it could be hard to keep the level high, but we just kept going and kept playing and having a good time and that resulted in a lot of goals. ... We're all supporting when [everyone] scored and congratulated everyone. A lot of players got to play, so it was good," said Rorke.

Before the halftime whistle had blown, Andover had already secured five goals, and the team was neither intimidated by Pingree nor anxious about the outcome of the game. Rorke described Pingree's goal as a slight slip up by Andover, but the team quickly regained its composure and responded with another seven goals.

"We'd already had five by [halftime]. [We] kind of just lost



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Alvin Liu '24 drives the ball.

focus for a second, but then we just got back to what we were doing and kept playing well and supporting each other. So it was good," said Rourke.

Alex Lee '25 highlighted Andover's composure in the final third of the game, noting significant improvement since the team's first games. According to Lee, if the team can continue to maintain pressure on opposing sides, its confidence for future games will increase.

Lee said, "The game was good. Something that was better this week, [compared to] past weeks, is that we finished our chances, which is something we've been working on in practice. So it was good to see that result on the field today."

According to Lee, the team looks to hone in what it can control for future games.

"In general, we need to keep a positive atmosphere and go take each game one at a time and just focus on our plan, not the other team. Because in the past we've looked at the name on the shirt and that's kind of impacted how we play. We go into the game with an expectation of the other team's quality, so we just have to focus on our own play," said Lee.

Editor's Note: Alex Lee '25 is an Associate Photo Editor for The Phillipian.

Field Hockey Concedes First Goal of the Season

TASHA BOHORAD

SATURDAY		
Andover		8
Choate		1

WEDNESDAY		
Andover		6
Milton		0

Andover Girls Field Hockey dominated Choate on Saturday despite conceding its first goal of the season. The team still reigns undefeated after beating Milton Academy on Wednesday. The team's current record is 8-0.

The team ended halftime with a 5-1 lead, directly after a stagnant period and a swift penalty shot by Choate. The team was not disheartened. Ava Murphy '24 noted that the team responded to the goal with fervor, leading to the ultimate victory. She shared some of her logic and mental strength when playing,



L.RUSTUM/THE PHILLIPIAN

Captain Shea Freda '24 escapes Milton opponents.

and in this game, getting scored on.

"Immediately, a lot of people had thought we would respond to a goal [and think that] we won't be able to win it back, or we will be in total shock. But I think that's the opposite of what we did. We actually racked up three more goals right after that," said Murphy.

Murphy also spoke of a 'so what?' mentality. The team refused to back down from a tough play. Instead, it chose to use that situation to its advantage and re-

new its strength instead of fixating on its mistakes.

Murphy said, "I shouted to the team, 'So what?' That's my big motto: 'So what?' If you have a bad play, win it back next play. I usually say, 'Next play, or so what?' And I really think that's really important because you should not be defined by your mistakes. And if you're defined by your mistakes, you're held back by fear."

The team also saw success in both offensive and defensive tactics that they had focused

on in practice and that they will continue to work on. Meg Stineman '25 spoke on switching the ball from one side of the field to the other, as well as using defensive strategies to stop the player with the ball more effectively.

"Coming out of the game, we've focused a lot on, number one, transferring, which we definitely succeeded in. And then also we were focused on double teaming defensively, which we probably could have done more on in the game, but we're still working on, [as well as] our defensive positioning and organization throughout the whole field," said Stineman.

The team competed with the class and respect that the Andover community strives for on and off the field. Towards the end of the game, Murphy said that the level of play became increasingly elevated, but the team stayed calm and competed to their consistently high level.

"[For] the rest of the game, we really turned on the jets and we really stuck to our Andover Field Hockey. Even though the game became very chippy and the refs were not calling in our favor, we definitely just took a deep breath... We didn't respond to the chirping and the chippiness of the other team. We didn't let it get to us and we won by that

too, not just on the scoreboard," said Murphy.

Autumn Christian '27 reflected on the team's ambitions going into playing Milton. The team focused on moving the ball out of the defense and up the field, as well as offensively pressuring Milton, which were both take-aways from their game against Choate. Coming out of the game, the team strives to hone its fundamental skills.

"We worked on trying to get the ball on our defense out quick[ly]. As soon as the ball entered [our] defense side in the circle, our goal was to try to get it out as quickly as we [could]. And we did pretty well at that. We also did pretty well at pressing when they had the ball on their free possessions to try to get the ball back.... [We want to] just work on the fundamentals, just going back to like what we can do to better ourselves and then to better the team, and I think just reflecting and then pursuing and trying to fix the little details that come together to make a big deal," said Christian.

Girls Varsity Field Hockey will play at St. Paul's School on Saturday.

Girls Cross Country Wins First Home Race

DAVID SIAHAAN

SATURDAY		
Andover		26
Choate		31

Andover Girls Cross Country resumed its strong season with a win against Choate on Saturday. With the team spirit being at



K.WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Tara Menon '26 (right) and Chloe Song '26 (left) placed second and third, respectively, against Choate.

an all time high, 13 out of the 23 runners made their home course debuts.

Maddie Fletcher '27 revealed her first impressions of running her first race on Andover's course. She commented on how the team's encouragement helped cultivate welcoming spaces, regardless of experience level.

Fletcher said, "The team is definitely not hierarchical. We are all here to run, we are not here to beat each other, we are trying to beat ourselves. In the most recent race, we had a sort

of pack of six of us. We all had high spirits and told each other to keep going which fosters a great team spirit. Our team in general is very enthusiastic and supportive."

Alison Schneider '26 expanded on the impact of a young team. According to Schneider, the presence of only one Senior and one postgraduate on the team has shifted the team dynamic from previous years.

Schneider said, "We have a lot of new runners. I was on the team last year, so it is good to introduce new runners to the team. But I think it is a good thing to have a young team so we have runners for the next few years."

The team focused on maintaining quality during practices in preparing for its home course debut. Sophie Staii '25 talked about how doing hill repeats up Heartbreak Hill in the Cochran Bird Sanctuary was a major part of the team's training regime.

"We did a lot of running on the whole course. Heartbreak Hill, which is in the Sanctuary, is a big hill so we went to that part of the course and ran it multiple times. We also just made sure which turns to take so we would know where to go," said Staii.

For most people, Heartbreak Hill was the most challenging part of the race. The hill's steepness proved to be an obstacle, especially at the tiring last stretch of the race, according to Fletcher.

"Pacing Heartbreak Hill is the main thing. Heartbreak is tough. Choate was struggling more, but we were struggling as well. It is



K.WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Despite being the front-runners of Saturday's race, Storrie Kulynych-Irvin PG'24 (left) and Emma Hagstrom '25 (right) were disqualified for accidentally going off course.

mostly an even or small hill race, but once we get to Heartbreak Hill, getting over that hurdle and getting over that hump is very difficult. Great Lawn is also really challenging due to the long path and bad, spongy condition. In addition to those both being at the end, it takes what little stamina you have in you away. But once you get past those two parts, you know we are good," said Fletcher.

Despite the victory, the team will continue to focus on areas of improvement. Since the team is still in the early stages of the season, the team is prioritizing

endurance and team bonding, according to Schneider.

"Well it is the beginning of the season so speed and stamina since they are big components in cross country. I think that our community is well formed. I think we are getting into the swing of things and finding people that we can race with and follow," said Schneider.

Andover Girls Cross Country will race St. Paul's and Austin Preparatory School away on Saturday.



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The Omaha Storm Chasers are a Minor League Baseball team in the International League and the Triple-A affiliate of the Kansas City Royals. They are located in Omaha, Nebraska.

RICHMOND FLYING SQUIRRELS

The Richmond Flying Squirrels are a Minor League Baseball team based in Richmond, Virginia. The team, which is a part of the Eastern League, is the Double-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants.



MONTGOMERY BISCUITS

The Montgomery Biscuits are a Minor League Baseball team based in Montgomery, Alabama. They are the Double-A affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays and play in the Southern League.

UNION OMAHA

Union Omaha is an American professional soccer team playing in the USL League One based in Omaha, Nebraska. The team debuted in 2020 and won the League One championship in 2021.



Girls Volleyball Victorious Over Choate and Austin Prep

LIZ WODARSKI AND MADDIE SHIN		
SATURDAY		
Andover		3
Choate		1
WEDNESDAY		
Andover		3
Austin Prep		0

Andover Girls Volleyball demonstrated resilience this week, defeating both Choate on Saturday and Austin Preparatory School (Austin Prep) on Wednesday. The team's consistent support for one another led to a great week of games for the team.

In its game against Choate, Sophie Holten '25 acknowledged how well the team did as a whole, but also highlighted how Sarah-Beth Sirmon PG'24 was resilient after the team would lose a point and being a source of support for the team.

"Sarah-Beth...[is] very good at coming back after a point that we've lost and just changing something and kind of just rebounding off of it easily and just resetting, and she's just always

such an amazing base and foundation for our team," said Holten.

Holten noted how Andover's loud atmosphere during Saturday's game contributed to its strong performance. According to Holten, the high level of energy didn't just come from the players on the court, but also the bench and the people in the crowd.

"I think that not only the starters, but the bench obviously brings a huge amount of warmth and volume to the table when we're playing a game, and also the audience and our friends who come to watch us... Andover in general is just a place that's just loud and friendly and full of energy... I think that's really well reflected during games, especially volleyball because it's a loud sport," said Holten.

According to Jacqueline Li '27, the team's loud and strong communication on the court has helped them succeed because other teams have noted the high spirit and volume of the team.

"We've been labeled as a decently loud team by other teams in our league because we yell a lot which I think is good for us... We have a lot of energy and other teams are intimidated by that," said Li.

Andover ultimately defeated Austin Prep 3-0, but it wasn't exactly an easy win for Andover. According to Saraya Angbazo '25, the team started off strong in its first set but suffered a significant drop in intensity in the second



A.CHINN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Sarah-Beth Sirmon PG'24 digs the ball.

and third set.

"Our first set started off really strong and we had top-notch energy...[W]e brought a lot of fire to the beginning of the match, something we've been needing to work on for a while. However, in the second set, our energy dipped tremendously, and the score was actually quite close, scaring us a bit. We were able to pull through, but the third set wasn't looking [too] amazing either. We had a dip in the energy, but luckily, we were

able to bring it up, winning us our match against Austin Prep!" wrote Angbazo in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Angbazo looks forward to the anticipated game against St. Paul's today and predicts a close game. Despite the quick turnaround after the Austin Prep game, Andover will step onto the court ready to play.

Angbazo wrote, "With only one day to practice between [the] Austin Prep game and Friday's

St. Paul's game, we'll definitely be working towards cleaning up our playing and increasing the aggressiveness we bring to the court. As a whole, we're always looking to up the energy both on the court and on the sidelines, so that's something constantly in our minds!"

Andover Girls Volleyball will play away against St. Paul's on Friday.

After Loss to Choate, Girls Soccer Dominates Brooks by 'Controlling the Controllable'

ORLA NAUGHTON		
SATURDAY		
Andover		2
Choate		4
WEDNESDAY		
Andover		6
Brooks		2

Following a disappointing 4-2 loss to Choate on Saturday, Andover Girls Soccer claimed a stellar 6-2 win against Brooks with two goals each from Hayden Fischer '25, Wylie Roossien '26, and Co-Captain Emily Mara '25. Andover's record now stands at 5-4.

After struggling in the first half of Saturday's game against Choate, Keaghan Murphy '27 noticed the team's shift in energy in the second half. Their change in mindset allowed them to bring their goal count up, scoring twice after half-

time.

"I think the first half we weren't really ready for how they pounced on us on the attack. However in the second half we definitely came out and we were hungry to get those two goals and we put up a good fight," said Murphy.

Despite the loss, Murphy thought the team had created strong passes that resulted in the possibility for goal-scoring. When everyone on the field was involved, their best plays were executed.

"There were a lot of plays that were built up from the back and went through the midfield and we found a through ball up top, which created a good opportunity. So, I think the best moments we had were when almost everyone got touches on the ball," said Murphy.

Similarly to Saturday's match, the team had a bit of trouble starting out in the first half against Brooks. However, Lola Aguirre '26 emphasized the team's ability to stay focused after discussing their objectives for the last half of the game.

"Definitely part of our half-time goal was to control the controllables, and just play soccer instead of focusing on

the intangibles like what the other team was saying, what the refs were doing, etcetera," said Aguirre.

Lauren Herlihy '25 feels that part of the team's ability to execute on the field is due to the relationships they have formed with each other outside of the sport. As teammates, their support resonates in places outside of practice and games.

"I feel like we've really bonded throughout the season so far and I feel like there's a lot more to come... Wed do a lot of off the field things together, we always eat dinner together, we have team dinner all the time, and we're always doing homework together in the library and I feel like everyone's a really good person and there's a lot of good friendships on our team," said Herlihy.

For future team success, Herlihy hopes to build on the determination the team showcases later in the games and bring that energy right from the start.

"It takes us a couple minutes to warm up in a game and then we really get it going in the second half... If we just played the way we did in the second half then we'd always have a better start to the game," Herlihy said.



A.TSAO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Jill Reichenbach PG'24 jumps to save the ball against Choate.

Reflecting on the last two games, Aguirre is proud of the team's ability to keep pushing no matter the circumstances. Their consistency in working together through the challenges and keeping their heads strong in the game keeps them playing well.

"I think [motivation] comes from within the team. Part of our halftime is discussing with the team right, what happened,

what we can improve, what we're going to do. I also feel that our first half gets us going and we just know what we want to do and so we take that in the second half and go with it," said Aguirre.

Andover Girls Soccer will face St. Paul's School on the road on Saturday.

Boys Water Polo Shows Promise Despite Losses Against Choate and Hamden Hall

EVAN CURTIN		
SATURDAY		
Andover		7
Choate		13
SATURDAY		
Andover		4
Hamden Hall		12

With a doubleheader this past Saturday against Choate and Hamden Hall, Andover Boys Water Polo lost both matches. However, the team persevered to the end, fighting every minute of the game.

Ethan Zhu '26 commented on the loss against Choate, mentioning that there was significant improvement in the team's movement in the pool. Despite the loss, Zhu shared that the team was satisfied with the work it accomplished in-game and less concerned about the end result.

Zhu continued, "We had underperformed in the previous games, so we were just expecting to play better and more focused, especially because last time, a



M.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

Jason Kokones '25 eyes the goal for a shot.

lot of us were tired. And it was a Wednesday game, so we weren't really focused, and we didn't play as well as we thought it would. Really, the main goal was just to focus, remember what we did in practice, and just execute."

Hooyeon Lim '27 added to Zhu's point, expressing that the team had prepared constantly to improve from its previous match against St. John's Prep. Lim shared that although the loss against Choate was disappoint-

ing, the team is focused on the gradual progress at play, which was evident last Saturday.

"Despite the loss, we saw drastic improvement compared to the St. John's [Prep] game. This is one of the best games we've had so far as a team together, so we're looking forward to building on that and beating whoever's next on the list," Lim said.

Zhu credited a majority of the team's ability to put points on the scoreboard to teammates Jona-

thon Ji '24 and Samuel Lee '24.

"Two people [that really stood out to me were] Jonathan, I think he scored a lot of goals, five, and then also, Sam Lee. He had this really cool save where he saved two shots in a row, which made the game really close," said Zhu.

With 3 hours and 15 minutes in between games, the team let its performance against Choate distract it from the game against Hamden Hall. According to Lim, the team was less focused going

into its second game, leaving it unprepared for the level of intensity Hamden Hall brought.

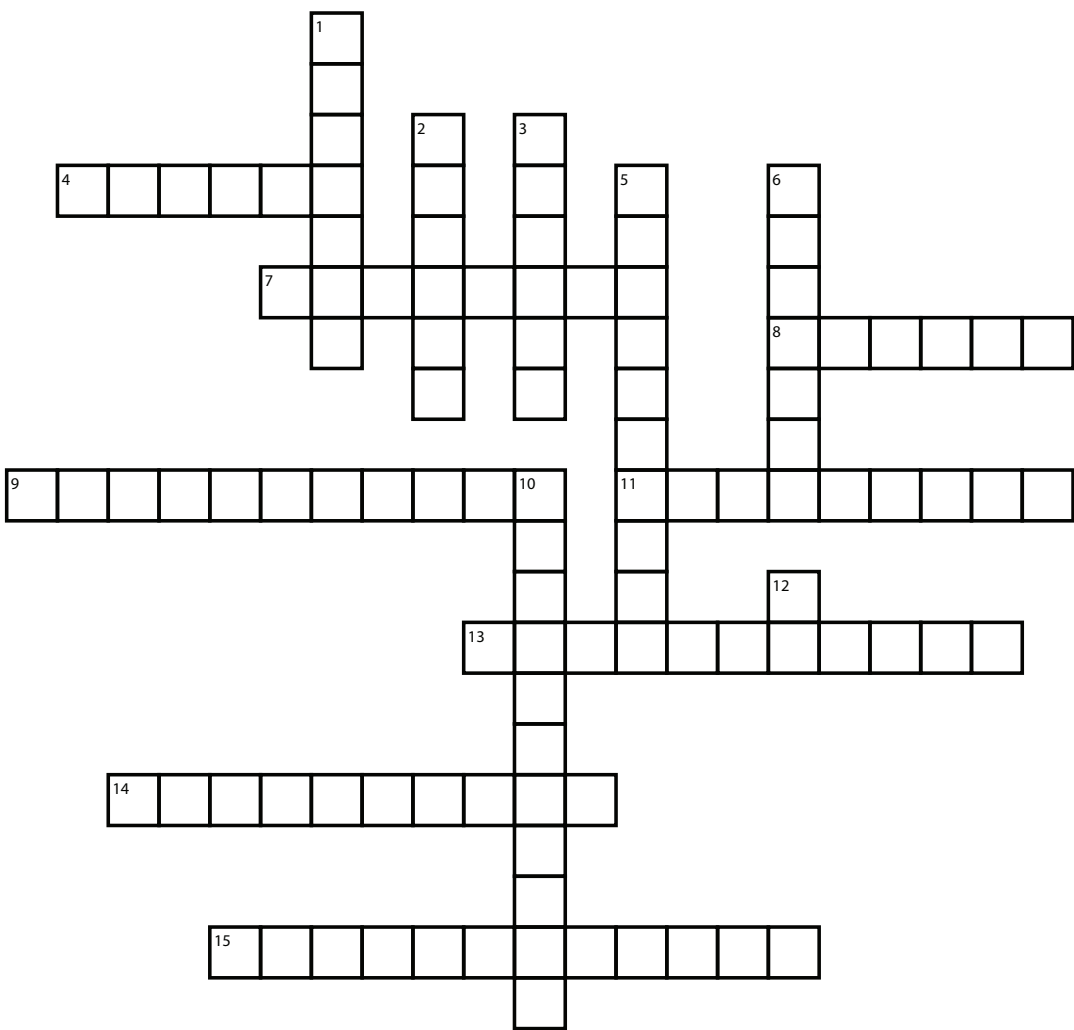
Lim said, "I think that going to the Hamden Hall game, we were a little bit more relaxed and I think that's what caused us to have a little fall back at the start and, which led us to a loss. Going in, we thought we did really well at Choate and we thought that that's exactly how we were gonna be performing at Hamden Hall and that's not what happened, at that time."

Curt Herlihy '24 commented that the team's unstable defense contributed to some of the mistakes made in the game. Looking ahead to future practices, the team hopes to improve this aspect of play.

"I think that we really had to work better on changing how we played our defense to better counter their offense, which was focused on two very, very strong players. So we should have probably run closer to a drop defense to be able to have them both double-covered more efficiently. That would be our biggest shortcoming. And I think in practice, we're gonna start working on being more dynamic with our defense and our offense to help better combat different teams," said Herlihy.

Andover Boys Water Polo will play away against Loomis Chaffee and Brunswick next Saturday.

Trivia Crossword



Down:

1. Oldest building on campus
2. "I found gold!"
3. This years zodiac
5. "I am your father."
6. 1980 Winter Olympics
10. Past co-presidents
12. Possible response to a two answer question

Across:

4. The Rival
7. Next month
8. Another word for fall
9. Andover alums
11. Winner of the 2022 World Cup
13. Has a famous forehead scar
14. Staple of the French Revolution
15. Bend it like...



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Crossword Answers

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Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Paris Fashion Week 2023: Best and Worst Dressed

STAFF REPORT

Paris Fashion Week showcased the latest collections from some of the most renowned designers and luxury brands, including Chanel, Alexander McQueen, Saint Laurent, and many other high-fashion brands. Celebrities like Gigi Hadid, Troye Sivan, and Paris Hilton graced the runway and attended a series of fashion shows. The collections on display inspire some of the latest trends in everyday fashion, especially sheer fabric and off-shoulder silhouettes.

BEST:

Kiko Kostadinov: Kiko Kostadinov definitely made a statement at this year's Paris Fashion Week. Boasting a total of 31 looks by Laura and Deanna Fanning, this collection combines earth tones, monochrome,

and vibrant shades to portray elegance as a breath of fresh air. One of the outfits that stood out the most was a milk-white matching set consisting of a V-neck kimono-styled top and a sheer maxi skirt with a ruffle hem. The model looked effortlessly angelic and was dressed perfectly for any occasion, from a dinner party to a stroll on the beach.

Andreas Kronthaler:

Andreas Kronthaler, widower of the late British designer Vivienne Westwood, modified some of the designer's most iconic pieces by incorporating modern-day trends, such as knee-high boots, corsets and floral prints, while still staying true to her "anglomaniac" style. Kronthaler's ability to merge the old and the new is evident in his playful look consisting of a lilac graphic sweatshirt, rough-edged vest, and sheer blue maxi skirt. The outfit showcases Westwood's maximalist style through the in-

clusion of many small details.

Alessandra Rich:

Womenswear brand Alessandra Rich stunned the fashion industry with its vintage Spring 2024 show. The majority of the collection utilizes silky black and cream-colored fabric with the rare inclusion of pink tweed. The showstopper was a lacy skin-tight dress with a Victorian-styled neckline. This design conveyed the delicate yet empowering brand image of Alessandra Rich.

WORST:

Miu Miu: Miu Miu's show by Miuccia Prada featured well-tailored suit jackets, balloon mini-skirts, and robe-like blazers. Linking all the outfits together with a navy blue theme, the collection conveyed a "preppy" vibe with its shirts and cardigans. Unfortunately, the closing piece did not live up to expectations. Cailee

Spaeny, who is cast as Priscilla Presley in the new Sofia Coppola biopic, walked down the runway in an oversized black suit jacket that goes all the way down to the ankles. Compared to the silhouettes of the other looks, this one feels awkward and lacks cohesion. Spaeny also had to clutch on to the jacket, as if it was going to fall apart at any second.

Maison Margiela:

Known for its avant-garde designs and use of unconventional materials, Maison Margiela is a brand that specializes in fabric construction and androgynous clothing. However, designer John Galiano may have gone too far with a cardboard fisherman's hat, faux leather corset, and polka dot-covered scraps. Its dull color scheme makes it unpleasant and confusing to look at, and it simply doesn't belong on the runway.

Valentino:

Casting supermodels such as Kaia Gerber and Sora Choi, Pierpaolo Piccioli's Valentino show tapped into the cut-out and floral trends. Despite the implementation of geometric elements and sharp palettes, the show failed to impress. The texture of the pieces made them seem crafty and too much like origami. For example, Vittoria Ceretti donned a red gown chained with cutout flowers and plunging neckline. Apart from being oddly proportioned, the flower petals on the gown were crumpled at some spots and the thick material made the entire situation even messier.



Fall Coffeehouse 2023 Features Diverse Sounds and Dynamic Environment

CAMERON MANZO AND ASHIQ KIBRIA

Paresky Commons was jam-packed last Friday night with the gathering of enthusiastic students, the aroma of apple cider donuts, and the sounds of live music. The annual Fall Coffeehouse featured student

performances—ranging from improvised jazz jam sessions to the alternative rock pieces of Radiohead.

The Fall Coffeehouse offered students an open stage to showcase their musical talents without any kind of limitations, according to performer Jacob Kaiser '24

"There wasn't really any preparation. It was very spon-

aneous... I didn't know a lot of the people singing, but a lot of people just got up and applauded for them anyway, which I thought was great," said Kaiser

Throughout the evening, the audience was treated with a diverse array of musical styles and a constant rotation of student performers, keeping the event engaging and unpredictable. For instance, Micheal Kawooya '26 performed his original pop song "Static," which was well-received by the audience. Sofia Lin '26, a new Lower, noted how uniquely positive the space felt, both for performers and spectators.

"The people here performing were really good, so that was really cool to see how much of a music community there is at Andover, because

I didn't really have one at my old school... The performances were pretty expressive, you could tell that the performers were enjoying themselves. It got the audience to really enjoy it as well, because when the performer is having fun, then usually the audience does too," said Lin.

The casual environment helped many students break out of their shell and take the stage. The quick, back-to-back performances also meant that the audience environment was constantly changing. ND Nwaneri '24, a performer and event coordinator, further commented on this sentiment.

"I'm really glad I got to [run] it; it was really fun... I feel like the atmosphere kind of changed with each song. Some of the songs were a lot

more chill and solemn, some of the songs were kind of upbeat, [but] I feel like everyone matched the energy of the performers, so that was pretty great," said Nwaneri.

The event continued for about two hours until the audience gradually dwindled. Reflecting on the event in hindsight, Kaiser expressed content with its successes and outlined his ambitions for the event's future.

"I would've liked to see maybe a few more people participating... Maybe we could expand Coffeehouse into more of a bigger thing. Get a drum set out here, bass player. If we have a rhythm section always up here who can just play songs, that'd be cool," said Kaiser.



E.LIU/THE PHILLIPIAN

Ruthie Collett '24 and Louis Leone '24 sing and play guitar at the Fall Coffeehouse.



E.LIU/THE PHILLIPIAN

The audience turned on their flashlights and sang along during a slow song.

Arts & Leisure

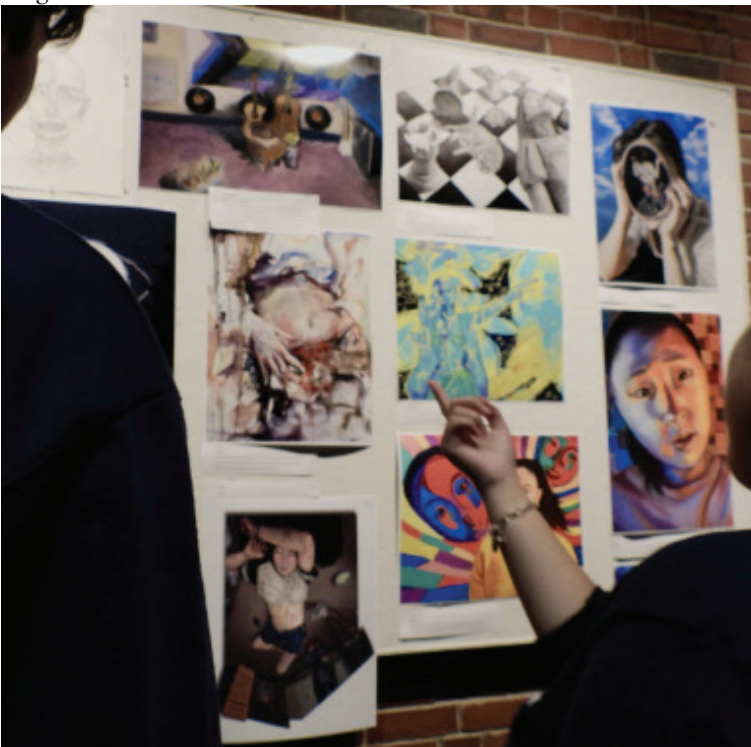
The Phillipian

Art With Impact: Interpreting the “Dreams” of Andover Students Through Artwork

PENELOPE TONG

Art With Impact, an event-based art club, held an exhibition last Friday centered around the theme of “Dreams.” Talented artists across campus were welcome to submit their artworks regardless of experience, providing a diverse collection of pieces showcasing different interpretations of the prompt. Art With Impact founder Michelle Chen ’24 provided insight into the selection of

this theme and the underlying purpose. “We wanted to make something broad, so everyone had something to submit to, but we also wanted to have striking art, so we felt like the ‘dream theme’ encompassed that. While a lot of the pieces here are more literally dream-like, as in sleep dreams, I feel like it’s also important to capture the dreams of Andover students, ambitions, hopes, so that’s kind of what I thought the exhibition could be about,” said Chen.



COURTESY OF EVAN HUANG

A variety of student-produced artwork following the theme of “dream” was displayed at the event.

Artists utilized a broad range of artistic media to create these pieces. Chen, herself, gravitated towards oil paint, reflecting on how this familiar medium helped ground one of her multimedia art pieces. Her final fragmented painting symbolized the process of gathering the scattered pieces of oneself, reflecting the dreamlike state of trying to understand who she is. “It actually took me months to finish because the middle is an oil portrait of myself, which is my preferred medium, and the faces around it, which are meant to represent your different selves, are all made out of colored plastic, cellophane, and they took me forever to cut and paste and organize and layer,” said Chen.

In addition to the sculpture, sketching, painting, pastels, and digital programs used to embody the theme, some artists utilized creative writing to provide more context and depth to their pieces. Attendee Jackson Slack ’26 shared his appreciation for a particular poem that accompanied a piece. “I didn’t catch the name, but there was a poem associated with one of the pieces. It was a short poem, a couple of lines, and I thought it was very beautiful to read... The main thing I took away is to look and try and find the meaning of the painting, and it’s interesting how every single paint-



COURTESY OF EVAN HUANG

Kian Burt ’24, Maggie Qi ’24, Anna Ohm ’24 observe the art at the exhibition.

ing is different, and they all express different things. And that specific painting, the person used a poem to help get their point across which I really like,” said Slack. Although the gallery attracted many students to come and see the work, the limited space created slight challenges. Going forwards, attendee Marika Saito ’25 hopes that the next event can be held in a different room, and potentially showcased the artwork to art classes who might’ve missed the exhibition due to the overlap of Friday night events.

“I feel like maybe we should advertise this a little more, because it would’ve been cool to see everyone’s artwork regardless of if they’re taking an art class or not. And maybe also finding a bigger gallery space. I mean, this is also a gallery, but I feel like it would be a lot more special if we had a nice room for these paintings just to celebrate them. Also, maybe making it at an earlier time so that all students could come view the work together. Maybe we could even have art classes to come view it too,” said Saito.

The “Whimsigoth” and Nature-Themed Capsule Wardrobe of Nadia/Aidan Wilkins ’24

SIENNA RODRIGUEZ

Nadia/Aidan Wilkins ’24 layers a lime green blazer with leaf stitch patterns over a mountain gray top. They emphasize the floral embroidery design on their magenta wide-legged pants by pairing them with patent leather boots of the same color. Utilizing thrifted and reused clothing, as well as combining feminine and masculine pieces, Wilkins creates a whimsical and eco-friendly closet. Wilkins first started focusing on fashion because of their mother, who taught them fiber arts, mending, and sewing. “My mom used to sew clothes for me and my two younger siblings. I remember sometimes helping her pick fabrics, and my favorites always involved a lot of color: stripes, floral patterns, or rainbows,” said Wilkins. The evolution of Wilkins’ fashion reflects their journey in self-discovery. With their current style, they experiment with combining conventionally feminine elements such as

pink colors, glitter, and skirts with more androgynous pieces to create a look that helps them feel more comfortable and confident with their own self-expression. “Style has become a way for me to explore and express queerness. When I first came out as genderqueer, I avoided wearing things that were ‘girly,’ like pink items, glitter, makeup, skirts, and so on, [because] I was convinced that my clothes would equate to my gender. As I’ve become more comfortable with myself, I actually find that I enjoy exploring femininity with my clothes because I’ve realized that gender is not always inherent in style,” said Wilkins. Being a strong supporter of a sustainable ‘capsule wardrobe’, Wilkins usually buys interchangeable clothing pieces that complement their statement pieces easily. They take inspiration from upcycling content on Instagram and scour sites like eBay, Depop, and Poshmark for second-hand pieces. “I believe really strongly in working with what you have... A lot of my favorite pieces

are either thrifted or they are repurposed from things my family [already had]... There’s something special in finding life in a piece that is...old and has already been loved,” said Wilkins. Wilkins characterizes their style as an amalgamation of “whimsigoth, maximalist, [and] cottagecore.” They also favor nature-themed colors and embroidery patterns, as reflected in their favorite brand, Solstice Handmade. They described their signature scarf they can’t go without. “I have this giant scarf that has color blocks of brown and red on it; I wear it all the time in winter. It must’ve had a previous life as a shower curtain, but I find it goes with lots of my outerwear and can also serve as a makeshift hat if things get really desperately cold,” said Wilkins. Overall, for Wilkins, their style and self-expression have offered them a valuable casual outlet to express an aspect of their identity without requiring too much effort or thought. Going forwards, they hope to try more with creating and modifying their own clothing. “I want to learn more about sewing my own clothes and mending or resizing things I already own. I want to be able to wear the clothes I already have for a long time, so I want to build a wardrobe that can be worn multiple ways and can accommodate a body and a human that changes over time,” said Wilkins.



COURTESY OF CAROLYN BARBIE

In the future, Wilkins would like to learn how to sew, mend, and resize their clothes.



COURTESY OF CAROLYN BARBIE

These maroon Doc Martens are a staple in Wilkins’ closet.



COURTESY OF CAROLYN BARBIE

Wilkins enjoys the small details, seen with their choice of accessories.

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Lilli Lewis '93 Returns to Andover Music Department's "Safe Haven" and Empowers Students with Music

PENELOPE TONG & PIPER LASATER

A soft voice echoed throughout Timken Hall as Lilli Lewis '93 held a note — teasing the audience as if the song was about to end — but before the audience could clap, the drums and guitar joined in and Lewis picked up the melody, creating an exciting atmosphere. Audience members swayed with the beat before being invited to sing a small part in the next song.

During Lewis' time as an Andover student, she found her place in the Music Department as a safe haven from other more overwhelming aspects of the school.

"In some ways, the Music Department really embraced me, and understood that I was born for music, even though I

didn't have a lot of the experiences other students had. They really taught me well in ways that served me for the rest of my life," said Lewis.

Audience member Emily Wu '25 came to see the performance because she had heard of Lewis through some of her teachers. She wanted to take advantage of the opportunity of getting to see her perform on campus, as it is not a frequent occurrence.

"It was quite different from my expectations, actually. The drummer and the bassist were amazing to me. The way they kept the group, and the way they kept doing music [after] high school, that's really what 30 years of dedication [looks] like... The performance was so inspiring because they looked like [they] cared about what they were doing, and were happy onstage, which is what music is all about," said Wu.

Growing up in the deep South, Lewis faced racial discrimination and did not have much support to fall back on. Coming to Andover was a formative experience for Lewis, as she found a home away from home in Timken Hall. She reflected on the importance of Timken Room to her, mentioning her instructor, Chris Walter, who actually suggested she return to campus to perform this concert.

"I went to every single recital in this hall when I was here. I sat in that corner up there where no one could see me, and the only person who noticed I went to every single recital was Chris Walter, to whom this piano is dedicated. I remember one time I missed one, and after he said, 'There must have been something really going on with you because you haven't missed a single one!' So yeah, my

whole world changed, all my chemistry, all my molecules, changed in this room, and so it's incredible to be able to play in this room and with these people," said Lewis.

Audience member Madelyn Esposito '27 shared that apart from Lewis' singing and playing, one of the most memorable parts of the performance was how she would stop after each song and share her Andover experience with the audience. Esposito recalled one of Lewis' stories that stuck to her.

"One story I found that was particularly memorable was about how one day she and a few other students had a workshop on improvisation, and she learned that as long as everyone was playing from the heart, it sounded beautiful. She said 'It didn't matter what they thought, or what they loved, as long as they

all lived together,'" wrote Esposito in an email to The Phillipian.

Moreover, Lewis wants to mend the trend of self-doubt in Andover's competitive culture. She hoped her performance would encourage the students to be more self-confident and share who they are with the world.

"I tried to portray hope but also responsibility. There's that saying [of] 'to whom much is given is required' and I think that's really true. It's really easy to get competitive, and there's a lot of vanity involved in that. I want to remind people that you have a responsibility to be yourself, to lift your gaze, even when it's hard to walk in the world, it's not altruism, it's really just necessary," said Lewis.

Jack McVeigh '25 Explores Diverse Styles and Forges Community Through Song

CAMERON MANZO

Jack McVeigh '25, a member of Andover's Fidelio Society and the student-led a capella group Keynotes, enjoys singing a diversity of music genres. His passion spans genres and instruments, whether he's participating in formal choir performances or a capella performances using his voice. McVeigh's commitment to singing intensified during middle school, but his inspiration to start sparked much earlier.

"I first started singing in sixth grade, in middle school. I auditioned for a select a cappella group and then also was in the school choir... I did some super casual musical theater when I was in elementary school. [I] really enjoyed the singing aspect of it most, so when I got to middle school I wanted to keep singing," said McVeigh.

At Andover, McVeigh seized the chance to explore a broad spectrum of musical styles. Unlike many who specialize in a single genre, McVeigh embraces diversity — he's realized that he doesn't need a definite style. His willingness to explore various aspects of singing, particularly emotions, has

contributed to elevate the music.

"I like to sing a bunch of different styles, cause I'm in different types of groups. What I sing with Chorus or Fidelio is a lot different than what I sing in Keynote[s]. Sometimes I'll be doing some more classical stuff, and sometimes more pop music. I'm kind of all over the place with what I sing... There are some songs that I try to convey more of a deeper, sad tone. But, there are plenty of songs that I sing that I want people to feel good, or dance to, or just have a good time listening," said McVeigh.

For McVeigh, the Andover singing community provided more than just a platform for musical expression. It's a space for him to connect with other like-minded individuals who share a similar interest. He emphasized the importance of the people who have created memorable and valuable experiences with him.

"My favorite part about singing at [Andover] specifically is definitely the people. Chorus is one of the most close-knit communities on campus, so I always enjoy spending time there... One of my favorite memories was when Fidelio had a concert off campus [where] we sang at a retirement home.

The performance went really well, and then on the way back we stopped at Bertucci's and got food there, and I just had a great time talking with everybody," said McVeigh.

McVeigh's years of experience, experimental spirit, and deep love for the vocal community have shaped him into a more refined singer. He described this process of growth over the years, and potential future plans for his singing career.

"I think I've matured a lot as a singer just through experience. And I think that's come from being able to sing a lot of different types of music. [It] has allowed me to become more versatile with what I'm able to sing. So I think that's one of the biggest ways I've changed. And then specifically since I got to [Andover], I've gotten to work with an awesome vocal instructor that's really helped me technically with my singing over the past three years... I will definitely still continue singing through high school, and I'd love to join an a cappella group or a school choir when I get to college," said McVeigh.



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