MOMMY HELP :(

The Phillipian

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Veritas Super Omnia

OCTOBER 20, 2023

History of Grading at Andover

PHILIP JEONG & BAILEY XU

First proposed in "The Report of the Faculty Steering Committee of 1965-1966," the 0 to 6 grading scale was implemented in 1968, a move away from the standard 1 to 100 scale. As Simeon Hyde, former Chair of the Steering Committee, stated in The Phillipian in January 1968, the changes were implemented to simplify the grading scale and "[reduce] radically the 'atmosphere of competition' at Andover."

Although the 0 to 6 scale used at the end of the term has since remained the same throughout the years, grading for the midterm, or midpoint, has undergone several changes. Initially, instructors

used the following scale at the mid-point: Passing (Honors), Fail (F), Fail-Fail (FF), and Danger (D). Fail-fail is given to a grade below 50 percent, and danger is equivalent to a grade of 2 or lower on the current scale.

Later, the system was modified and varied across departments, where some used a Pass (P), Low Pass (LP), and Failure (F) scale during midpoint, while others employed the 0 to 6 scale. Over time, fewer and fewer departments adhered to the 0 to 6 scale for mid-point grades. As of Fall Term 2022, all departments now use the Passing (P), Low Passing (LP), and Not Yet Passing (NYP) scale, a system designed to promote student growth over the course of the term.

Caroline Odden, Dean of Studies and Instructor in Physics, shared her opinion on the current grading scale. She believes this simpler system can encourage students and instructors toward a more productive learning environment.

"I like the 0-6 grading scale. I agree with the idea that having a less granular system is helpful. The focus for students and instructors should always be on the learning, and anything we can do to push in that direction is a good thing, in my opinion ... While no system is perfect, I am confident that changes the faculty has made have been in service of student learning, growth, and support," wrote Odden in an email to *The Phil*-

Continued on A5, Column 4

Kington Reveals Policy on Issuing **Statements Amidst Tensions Regarding Israel-Hamas War**

The Andover Administration will not release public statements about a world issue, such as the current Israel-Hamas War, unless the Administration has "meaningful action to share" or the issue directly affects the Academy's educational mission, according to Head of School, Dr. Raynard Kington. He revealed the policy in a Let ter to the Editor draft sent to The Phillipian on Wednesday night.

Although the policy was created last spring, it was not shared with the overall Ando ver community. To learn more about the policy, read the Letter to the Editor on page A2.

Following the recent events involving Hamas and Israel,

some members of the community have voiced their desire for a written statement from the Administration. During last week's All-School Meeting (ASM), Kington did briefly address the Israel-Hamas War, noting that educational opportunities would soon follow. As of October 19, no update on these opportunities has been released.

Some students on campus have criticized the school's lack of action regarding these events, noting the fact that other educational institutions in the country have already done so. One such student, Hank Ferguson '25 expressed his frustration in a Commentary article about the absence of an official statement (see article, page A3).

HISTORY OF GRADING: AVERAGE G.P.A. AT ANDOVER*



*Data taken from Andover's college reports of respective class years

C. SHEN/THE PHILLIPIAN

Laura Gomez Explores History of Latine Culture in the U.S.



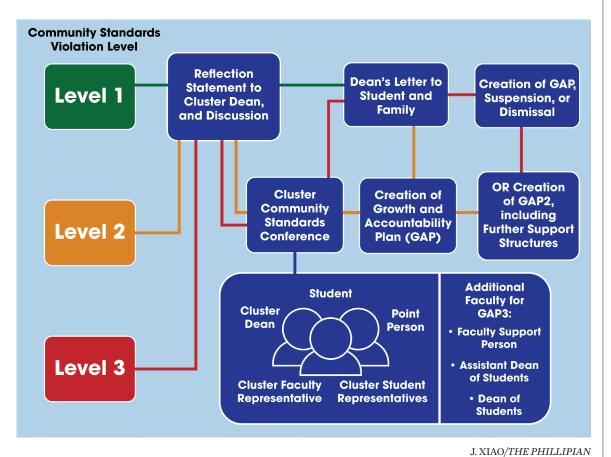
A. LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Laura E. Gomez spoke on a number of issues, such as immigration reform, also noting the diversity within Latine culture

JONATHAN OH & SAKETH LINGISETTY

that I could do to achieve: go to Harvard, pick the hardest major in Harvard, get my PhD and a law degree in six years. I'm

New Students Discuss Initial **Reactions to Conduct Response**



JENNA LIANG & LILY LIU

Over the years, Andover's community responses to rule infractions have greatly evolved. Last fall, the old Disciplinary Committee (DC) was replaced with a new student conduct system that introduced the Growth and Accountability Plan (GAP).

Dr. Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, emphasized Andover's efforts to avoid the negative connotation associated with the term "disciplinary system." Pointing to the principal values from Andover's reference guide, "Core Blue," Esty highlighted the difference between language that calls people to action rather than restricting action.

"We no longer call it a disciplinary system, and that's a choice because we were intentionally moving away from a system that many schools use that is analogous to the criminal justice system. The word 'discipline' actually means 'to teach,' so for a long time I think we felt comfortable with the term 'discipline system.' But it became synonymous with censure, probation, and language of the criminal justice system, so we decided to move away from that language as much as possible," said Esty.

Esty continued, "We believe in acting with honesty and integrity. Respect yourself, respect others,

[and] build a healthy and inclusive community. All the things that we worry about and would like to address with students that fall outside our community values could be organized in this way. Instead of saying, 'Don't do drugs,' we could say, 'Respect yourself.' You want to be healthy so that you can be the best student and learn as much as you can while you're here, and have fun, and build good

relationships." Harley Zhong '26 commented on the three-level misconduct response system and how he

Continued on A5, Column 1

As a capstone to the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs annually from September 15 to October 15, Andover invited Laura E. Gomez to speak at the weekly All-School Meeting (ASM). Touching upon the history and background of Latine culture within the United States of America, Gomez provided a deep lens into the timeline and progression of Latine heritage and representation.

Gomez spoke on how her background influenced her to pursue a career in Latine studies and awareness. Particularly, Gomez focused on wanting to give back to her parents, who worked hard to put her in a situation where she herself could work hard and succeed.

"I realized how lucky [I was] compared to [my] parents and grandparents and [felt] that responsibility to do the best just driven to do that. Part of that is me wanting to make my parents' investments worthwhile because they struggled so hard," said Gomez.

In regards to current areas for growth in the U.S. that would benefit the Latine community and fight against disparities against this group, Gomez emphasized immigration reform and inclusion for Latine members on a smaller scale.

"The really pressing issue is immigration reform. We can't have people living in the shadows like we have now. It wouldn't be a program where everyone crosses the border and can automatically gain citizenship, but you can say 'You've lived here for a certain amount of time. You've paid

Continued on A5, Column 1

Meeting about AI in Education **Kicks Off Tang Institute Series**

NIKI TAVAKOLI & JEANNE **KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET**

Students were invited to attend a presentation on the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and learning by Eric Hudson, an educational consultant who has collaborated with Andover teachers in the development of class curriculum and Workshop 10 and Workshop 12 for several years. The talk is the first in a yearlong series of presentations hosted by the Tang Institute discussing the growing role of generative AI in schools and the learning process.

Andrew Housiaux, Instructor and Chair in Religion and Philosophy and the Currie Family Director of the Tang Institute, noted the motivation behind the topic for the Tang Institution series this year. Housiaux highlighted AI's relevancy and challenge to the traditional learning process as

reasons why it is important to be educated about it.

"Generative AI raises a range of fundamental questions about the nature and purpose of a Phillips Academy education, and of schooling and education more generally. It's a rich and complex topic that is of interest to students and adults alike. Generative AI is also evolving and changing quite rapidly: it's not a problem that can be solved as much as it is an ongoing, dynamic reality that will have to be managed with wisdom and care," wrote Housiaux in an email to The Phillipian.

Although AI is often portrayed as a mechanism for cheating, Hudson expounded on different ideas, highlighting the different scales of assistance that AI can provide to students. Kashvi Ramani '24, one

Continued on A5, Column 1

Commentary, A2 **Israel-Hamas War**

Ella Kowal '25, Ellah Kotlarsky '27, and Hank Ferguson '25 explore their reactions to the recent conflicts in Israel.

Eighth Page, A8 **Check Out the Bonus Fact** So much for acknowledging history.

Sports, B1 **Girls Cross Country**

Girls Cross Country filled top five spots in tri-meet against Austin Prep and St. Paul's on Saturday.

Arts, B6 Grasshopper

Grasshopper 2023 delivers a wide variety of performances spanning a wide variety of art, from dancing, singing, glow-showing, and martial arts.

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A2 | COMMENTARY

parents may be left in the dark with regard to

their children. Parents Weekend is the perfect

to show our appreciation for our parents and

desire to support our success at Andover. It can

be hard to see your child leave for a new school

that is, more often than not, a long way from

home. And while adjusting to Andover as both

a new and returning student is hard in its own

ways, we'd also like to acknowledge that being

a parent of a boarding student is hard too. For

many students, up to our time at Andover, you,

our guardians, have guided and shaped us into

who we are when we first enter the Andover

community. But now, it's time for you to step

The Andover experience is set up to challenge

should, as scary as it is, give their children the

agency to fall, confident that they'd get back up and know how to persevere in the future.

It's understandable that parents do not want

to see their child fail, whether its receiving a low grade on a test or messing up a relationship

back and let us grow on our own.

First off, we would like to take the time

time to get back on the same page.

October 20, 2023

The Phillipian

The oldest preparatory newspaper in the United States. Founded 1857

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learn to take responsibility for their actions, Sophia Cratty and if they are under a hovering guardian's

Sean Park

students. Things don't always go smoothly, but struggle isn't failure at Andover. With struggle, students have the opportunity to learn selfadvocacy while, in turn, allowing them to ask

for help when needed and utilize the support structures of the school. Self-advocacy builds confidence, encourages active engagement in their multifaceted Andover career, and nurtures their growth. It is at Andover that many students

wing, they won't. This experience hinges on the

independence of the student, requiring them to recognize their current limitation and the resources they need to reach out to. Guardians

It's been a little more than a month and a half with a peer. But these experiences are what make students really grow, both in experience since students have moved into the dorms and started acclimating to campus. For many, this

and in intelligence. By giving them space to weekend is the first time they will have seen experiment and fall, parents are simultaneously helping develop their problem-solving skills and their guardians since coming to Andover. During Family Weekend, Guardians will get to tour their maturity in difficult situations. It is often said classes, watch sports matches, and see their that what someone learns the most from are children at school. Taking advantage of the fact their failures, and we believe this to be ever the that parents are on campus, the Masthead of The more true at Andover, a place where your child Phillipian encourages students and guardians to can fail and learn in safety. establish each others' wants and needs. Students Conversely, unnecessary parental are not always diligent with calling home;

restrictions can easily sour parent-child relationships. Children want to find their satisfyingly challenging path through Andover and experience joy and stress in both victories and setbacks. However 'helicopter parenting,' even in good faith, can stifle these integral parts of the Andover experience, and as a result, be negatively interpreted by students. Imperfect communication and extended time apart are the perfect conditions for misunderstandings to grow as they remain unaddressed. Luckily, Parents' Weekend is the time to iron things out.

For some students, what they want most from their parents during these challenging years at Andover is someone they can lean on and confide in. Others need space to figure out exactly what they want to do and how they want to do it. We recognize that the relationship between each student and their guardian is different, and that means what a healthy and working relationship looks like will be different. For some, scheduled weekly calls are what work. For others, the occasional text is enough. Whatever it is, we urge guardians and their kids to talk to one another and figure out what exactly that is. This is often easier said than done. Mutual respect for each other's wants and boundaries is critical for this discussion's success. To students and guardians, take a moment and talk seriously.

Editorial

We'll Take It From Here

Arts

Ava Chen

Athena Rhee

Letter to the Editor: From the Head of School

'n response to last week's editorial around the horrific events unfolding in Israel and Gaza, I believe it is important to articulate Andover's commitment to education around global events. As we prepare students to lead and serve in a complicated world, I agree that we can and should do more to educate and engage our community.

First, I will articulate our policy on institutional statements, which is an important part of understanding how we think about our education mission and values. Perhaps more importantly, I will also highlight All School Meeting as an educational forum to engage with global events.

Our mission prioritizes the education and wellbeing of our campus community. And in times of important global, national or local events, we look to our mission and values to guide

us. Sometimes our response includes issuing a statement that speaks to our values and communicates the action we are taking as a community. In the case of this ongoing tragedy in the Middle East, some have asked why Andover has not issued a "statement."

Given the increased regularity with which schools find themselves pressed to publicly address many societal events, last spring I and the senior staff developed a policy to guide us through these challenging decisions. Knowing that many schools faced the same challenge, our Chief Communications Officer published an article about our work. https:// www.nais.org/magazine/independent-school/spring-2023/ in-practice-when-should-aschool-issue-an-official-statement/

We regret that we did not communicate our policy to the

entire Andover community. Our basic premise:

In order for Andover to issue a public statement, either we must have meaningful action to share or the issue must directly impact our educational mission. We do not believe Andover should use a public platform to pronounce outrage or condolences without taking meaningful action or adding depth to the conversation. We teach our students to back up their arguments, to add detailed analysis to their stated positions. When a school issues a proclamation that lacks many of these basic principles (for example, by simply offering thoughts and prayers, outrage, or rote denouncement of a tragedy), it does nothing to further educate students.

Regardless of whether we choose to issue a public statement from Andover, our policy prioritizes taking care of the campus community. I remain grateful to the chaplains for their outreach in the early hours of the terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel, and I know that those students who are struggling remain in the good care of trusted adults.

As educational programming was taking shape but not yet fully conceived, we decided that All School Meeting, our community classroom, was the right place to initiate education on this crisis. I took this opportunity to address students, as my predecessors have done in this same venue for decades. This approach remains consistent with Andover's history of using ASM to bring the community together to discuss and debate global events. As we continue to strengthen our response to societal crises, I believe ASM should play a more prominent role in how we educate and engage students.

This will certainly not be the last time that the question of when and how the school speaks in an institutional voice about important events-in our community, in our country, and in the world - will be asked. I commit to doing a better job articulating our policy on when we issue institutional statements. Furthermore, at a time in which we are all overwhelmed with often superficial and simplistic messages on our screens, I aim to continue the tradition of speaking to our community about important issues in person at our weekly All-School Meetings.

Dr. Raynard Kington, Head of School

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

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CORRECTIONS:

Writer Shloak Shah's name was misspelled in the Commentary article "America Needs High-Speed Rail. Now." Coreen Martin and Ellen Greenberg's names were misspelled and the Abbot Learning Garden and the Brace Scholars Program were misidentified in the News article "Tang Institute's Workshop 12 Program Merges Andover Curriculum Into One Class."

ON THE ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

Editor's Note: While the Israel-Palestine conflict finds its roots in a plethora of moments in history, the current war in Israel and Gaza represents a uniquely contentious and brutal struggle. The Commentary Editors thank the three writers printed in this paper for their vulnerability and labor. We encourage all of you to educate yourselves on the many perspectives-and contribute your own opinion through an article.

ELLAH KOTLARSKY



woke up on Saturday morning to the persistent ringing of my phone. But it wasn't an alarm. It was a call from my dad, with the news that a war had broken out in my parent's home country. Again.

I am used to these calls; in fact, they have become routine. Mom gives me a hug, and Dad lays a hand on my shoulder, eyes cloudy as they tell me about Hamas, about Gaza, about the West Bank. I ask about my family, and they tell me everyone is safe. They leave, and I lock myself in my room, scrolling through news articles, biting my nails as the death toll rises, eyes tracing the numbers and names crawling along the screen, and then... The pictures and videos come. The screams of grieving Palestinian parents and terrified Israeli children bore into my ears until the screen becomes blurry

with tears, and I look away. I go on with my day while my cousins are cowering in bomb shelters, while Gazans don't have a shelter to go to.

But this time was different. This time, Hamas – a Palestinian terrorist organization - entered Israel by land, air, and sea, and started killing civilians. Horrifying footage showed armed men patrolling the streets, descending from gliders with guns drawn as Israelis waited with bated breath, calmed children, and closed blinds. According to the New York Times, upwards of 3,000 rockets were launched across the Gaza-Israel border. And while the Iron Dome, Israel's defense system, could deflect most of the rockets, the Israeli Defense Forces could not stop the hundreds of Hamas terrorists beheading civilians, terrorizing villages, and holding 199 Israelis - including children and elderly - hostage. One father, Thomas Hand, whose eight-yearold daughter, Emily, had been reported missing, screamed in relief when she was reported dead. He

Ever since I could understand the concept of war, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been nestled deep in my heart.

told CNN: "That is the best news of the possibilities that I knew ... Death was a blessing".

I Dream of Peace

This was not just another conflict. I would know. My parents were born in Israel and left their family behind for college in America. But they took with them a piece of Israel, a thick rope looped around their hearts, connecting them to the little country in the Middle East. Connecting me. Ever since I could understand the concept of war, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been nestled deep in my heart. At first, I tried to escape from it, covering my ears and cowering under the covers at its very mention. But in August of 2022, I could no longer cower under the covers; that sweltering summer, the conflict came to me in the form of a missile and a flash of red in the blue sky. Then, I could only squirm with my cousins out of the pool like fishes, run past the mango tree and into the bomb shelter, shivering as our parents joined us with warm towels and warmer hugs. Then there was the dull cry of the alarm sounding through the shopping mall, and, like clockwork, we dropped our bags and walked calmly to the shelter, checking the news, comforting each other. But my sirenfilled summer does not compare to Hamas' recent attack. As, according to the New York Times, the lives lost in Israel exceeded 1.400. and more than 2.800 inno-

Although the dead on both sides can never be resurrected, I hope, someday, Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza will heal.

cent Palestinian civilians in Gaza were killed by Israel's retaliation, I can't help but feel torn. Israel is vowing this will be the last conflict; Iscaac Herzog, the Israeli President, said in a statement that the country would do "whatever it takes." They are getting ready to eradicate Hamas once and for all, so I will no longer wake up to news of violence. But at what price? 1.1 million Palestinians have been forced to evacuate, and the flow of food and fuel into Gaza has stopped. The New York Times reports that hundreds of children are lying dead in the rubble from Israeli airstrikes. Thousands more are injured, and hospitals don't have the resources to support them. As the airstrikes aim for Hamas targets all over Gaza, Palestinian families pack and unpack their bags with every Israeli warning, searching for a safe space. Just as Jewish and Israeli communities are grieving, thousands of Palestinians are mourning what is the most deadly act of retaliation in decades; The New York Times says, Israel is "pummeling Gaza with a ferocity not seen in past conflicts."

This could be the end. I have some hope. I hope that, with time, the million Palestinians evacuating Gaza will return to their homes under the protection of the Palestinian Authority, supplied with food, water, electricity, and security. I hope that destructive Israeli settlers will finally return to Israel and face consequences. I hope bomb shelters will no longer be necessary in every Israeli home. I hope Palestinian families will not live in fear of Israel's retaliation. I hope Hamas' captives will arrive home safely. Although the dead on both sides can never be resurrected, I hope Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza will someday heal.

I woke up on Saturday to the persistent ringing of my phone, and I fall asleep tonight to the face of Abdallah Hasaneenask as he evacuated for his life from war-torn Gaza, the story of Emily Hand who was murdered at the hand of the Hamas, and the thousands more sufferers ringing in my ears. I dream of peace.

Ellah Kotlarsky is a Junior from Tiburon, Calif. Contact the author at ekotlarsky27@andover.edu.

Where is Our Head of School When We Are in Need of Support?

HANK FERGUSON



he administration's response to the recent events unfolding in Israel has made me wonder whether the values of Andover align with mine and whether I should remain at this school.

On October 7, Israel experienced the worst loss of Jewish life since the Holocaust. Hamas is a recognized terrorist organization according to the State Department. They launched a coordinated and unprovoked attack that targeted women, children, and the elderly. While devastating and shocking to many, this event has had a massive impact on the Jewish community around the world. Our safety has been shattered, the future of Israel is uncertain, and most of all it has pulled back the veil on a global disdain for Jews and their right to live in peace in Israel.

Amidst horror and fear for the future, I was looking for comfort and reassurance from the administration of Andover ber 7, would not be tolerated. Each morning I would wake up and check my email for a written statement from Dr. Raynard Kington recognizing the attack and conveying support for the Jewish community. Unfortunately, each morning I would leave for class disappointed that no such communication came.

that hate, like we saw on Octo-

Rabbi Greenberg quickly reached out to the Jewish students offering support, and for this I am grateful. The Rabbi also held a prayer vigil which was sparsely attended and I did not see Dr. Kington there. I had to ask myself if he even cared. Is he aligned with those who believe that this attack was a warped form of justice for people living in a country with a complicated land history? All countries exist with a complicated history, as the school's frequent land acknowledgements should remind us. Confused and worried, I reached out directly to the leaders of the school, by emailing Dr. Kington, Dr. Susan Esty, and Dr. Merrilee Mardon together. Dr. Esty and Dr. Mardon both gave me the courtesy of a reply and an offer to meet, but it was made clear to me that Dr. Kington makes the final decision for releasing official written school statements. Unlike the statement at All-School Meeting or the email from the Chaplains, official written school statements go out to a much larger audience affecting a much larger community.

After being ignored by Dr. Kington for the better part of the week, I reached out yet again. I asked him to "break his silence" and for a response. I was finally granted a meeting where I was able to ask the simple question: "Why does the school stay silent after the murder of more than a 1,000 Jews, but makes written statements about many other issues, for example the the murders of Asians in Georgia in 2021 and the Black Lives Matter movement in 2020?" Setting aside the long history of the conflict, the day of October 7 itself was a terrorist attack.

Dr. Kington explained that the school has a new policy. My understanding is that due to so many requests for statements, the school has created this criteria for issuing written messages along the lines of: the school will only make such statements when it directly affects the students, and impacts the mission of the academy.

In my meetings with Dr. Mardon and Dr. Esty I came away with no clear understanding of a new policy. Even with this policy - which has never been announced to students - wouldn't the terror unleashed on the Jewish community clearly fit the criteria for a written statement? According to MSNBC, the proportion of deaths adjusted for population caused by the attack would be the equivalent of 40,000 U.S. citizens. A terrorist

attack on a scale much larger than 9/11 when adjusted for scale clearly affects the entire Jewish population, as well as the community as a whole. On top of the attack the former leader of Hamas called for a "Day of Global Jihad" to be launched on October 13 against Jewish and Israeli people around the world leaving every Jewish person to wonder what they would wake up to the next morning. To think that this attack and looming threat supposedly does not directly affect the students, and the mission of the academy is perplexing. According to the 2023 State of the Academy survey, just over six percent of the student population at the Academy is Jewish.

I am not alone in my belief that important institutions have a duty to take a stand on monumental issues like what happened last weekend, and there have been myriad published pieces to this effect over the past week. To me, a reluctance to issue a written statement feels akin to condoning or justifying terrorism and hatred of Jews. This silence mirrors the build-up to the Holocaust, and everyone should be wondering whether it is purely accidental or follows the overall trend of erasing Jews from important institutions? It feels like the plight of the Jews is not popular in academia.

In my meeting with Dr. Kington, I conveyed my belief that silence is compliant and

anti-semitic. This statement was admittedly harsh but appropriately reflects how passionately I feel about the issue. From my perspective, Dr. Kington's inaction shows his lack of care regarding the murder and attack of Jewish people as much as he has cared about the lived experiences of numerous other ethnic groups as long as I have been here. I explained that he is on the wrong side of history. I expressed that his lack of care makes me wonder if Andover is the right place for me. He replied with a dismissive statement. I left my meeting with Dr. Kington with a feeling that he was agitated to have to meet with me. I walked away knowing that I would not be comfortable sending a child to a school that he is the head of.

My immature self wants to pack up my stuff and leave tomorrow. But my mature self knows that there is value in staying and supporting the Jewish community here and continuing to make my voice heard. My decision is this: I will stay.

Editor's Note: To read a full description of Dr. Kington's policy on issuing written statements, find his "Letter to the Editor" on A2.

Hank Ferguson is an Upper from Branford, Conn. Contact the author at hferguson25@andover.edu.



October 20, 2023

ON THE ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

Attacks in Israel: A Call for Informed Engagement

ELLA KOWAL



THE PHILLIPIAN

s students, we often feel the need to make a statement or take a stance on world events. While being vocal in our communities is a central part of what makes our role as students so vital, there is a certain arrogance that sometimes accompanies these statementsan arrogance that reveals itself when students hold themselves out as the arbitrators of good and evil, even when they may not fully understand the situation they are commenting on. I believe that was the case when a number of Harvard student organizations released a joint statement following the attacks by Hamas that killed over a thousand people, stating that responsibility for these attacks lay solely with the Israeli government.

These attacks occurred on the final day of a seven day long Jewish festival of Sukkot (a pillar Jewish holiday that represents the harvest) and Shabbat

many Jewish people refrain from their daily activities or do not use electricity), holidays that I celebrate as well. According to several reputable news sources, such as an article from ABC News, titled "Israel-Hamas conflict: Timeline and key developments," Hamas terrorists sent missiles from Gaza, randomly fired into civilians homes, and breached a music festival where young people from around the world were celebrating, opened fire, and took hostages who they threatened to kill one by one on broadcast. Children attending the festival hid under bodies to avoid being taken, as evidenced by footage I cannot bring myself to watch. This attack was not an act of liberation, but rather a series of terrorist acts directed specifically towards killing Jewish people: the biggest mass killing of Jewish people since the Holocaust. In my opinion, the Harvard students had every right to criticize the Israeli government's policy towards the Palestinian people. But in this context, their comments came across as justifying the brutal, indiscriminate, mass murder of Jewish people.

(the weekly day of rest where

The statement that Harvard students issued was premature, as they did not step back and attempt to understand the situation or wait for the events to unfold. Instead, they immediately seized on a tragedy to broadcast their opinion on the matter, which was frankly, uninformed, as it fails to acknowledge the anti semitic goals of Hamas' attack. In the context of the slaughter that occurred, Palestinian citizens and the Israeli government would not care about their poorly thought out statement, and potentially hurt the Palestinian people's cause by further polarizing public opinion. According to an article by CNN, these students are being blacklisted by a

The statement that Harvard students issued was premature, as they did not step back and attempt to understand the situation or wait for the events to unfold.

number of CEOs and teachers, as their view was not rooted in fact and it was incredibly hurtful and insensitive to the Jewish community who are still recovering from generational trauma from the Holocaust.

This is not to say that student activism is not effective; it can often be the most influential route to change. However, in order to be impactful it requires a sufficient amount of introspection and research. For these students at Harvard, there may have been more powerful ways to address what they believe to be the shortcomings of the Israeli government. However, this attempt was completely undermined by the nature of their statement due to the misinformation it spread. In trying to address one social justice issue, they completely invalidated another, demonstrating a lack of care and arrogance of opinion.

On our own campus, expressions of student activism through social media platforms have a similar effect to the statement the Harvard students released. When I checked Instagram, looking for support and prayers for lives lost, I was struck. So many of the posts stated that Israel "had it coming" or that these attacks were warranted. These posts suggest that the attacks were directed towards the government or the Israeli Defense Force, not towards innocent citizens and tourists. Saying that the mass murder of over a thousand civilians is warranted and justified is short-sighted, and I would say the same regardless of who provoked the attacks. Once again, this form of student activism is rendered ineffective as social media spreads misinformation and minimizes loss of life.

As a member of the Jewish community, it hurts me to see victims' lost lives forgotten in political arguments and invalidated through thoughtless posts and statements. Not only does this take honor away from innocent people's memory, but it also serves as a false justification for increased antisemitism all over the globe. I hope that members On our own campus, expressions of student activism through social media platforms have a similar effect to the statement the Harvard students released.

of our community will consider this before releasing potentially harmful statements.

At the end of the day, we can be most powerful in our role as changemakers by fostering important conversations between people, taking a step back to reflect and observe, and most importantly, by never making attempts to justify the murder of innocent people, regardless of which side (or no side) you align with. I hope that in our powerful role as Andover students, we can share our opinions in a way that maximizes our role as young activists without wrongly estimating the impact of our actions. Finally, my prayers go out to everyone: Palestinians, Israelis, and everyone else whose lives have been impacted by recent attacks.

Ella Kowal is an Upper from-San Francisco, Calif. Contact the author at ekowal25@andover. edu.

Stay Floating, Keep Laughing

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with the other swimmers, but to focus on your own lane, and maintain your own pace. For every swimmer, though, floating is a good start. Every one you admire was once a beginner, and every one needs to know how to float before learning to swim. As those of you who have taken the swim test will know, if you want to survive in a body of water, floating is essential. Try to float as long as you can. Sure, the homework will try to drag you down, the majors will feel like they weigh a ton, but keep your heads up, try to not work yourself too hard and be patient that you don't know how to do the butterfly stroke just vet. But don't just float, remember to breathe to take breaks. Just like in swimming, no one can hold their breath

Allow yourself to adjust to this place. Don't be afraid to take as much time as needed to catch your breath and center yourself before you restart that math review sheet or that English essay. Take your time. When the fear of drowning starts to reside, you will start to embrace the ripples, the waves and the occasional storms. It is

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to learn, to grow and to flour-ish.

Most importantly, no matter what sharks you will

Every one you admire was once a beginner, and every one needs to know how to float before learning to swim.



s an incoming tenth grader (or a new Lower, as I've learned), this midterm marked the first few weeks of my Andover journey. Entering as a new Lower is not easy for the very same reason that the rabbit struggles to catch up with the turtle in "The Tortoise and the Hare." The rabbit, who has blissfully slept through the ninth grade, has a late start to the game. Nevertheless, as the old saying goes – better late than never.

Now, I would like to point out that saying that life at Andover is analogous to "The Tortoise and the Hare" is a bit inaccurate. Andover is not a race. It is perhaps more similar to being in a foreign body of water for the first time, where you are likely still adjusting to the temperature and the unexpected torrents. The point is not to compete face in the future, or whatever danger lies in the unknown territory, remember to laugh at it. Laugh at your moments of embar-

> rassment, your failed group quiz, and the three levels of stairs that never seem to end in Morse Hall. And know that you are not alone. You are not stuck in an empty, deserted

to be different than the one you imagined at the start, and you don't have a say in whom you encounter and what views you see, but you do get to decide how you want to spend your time here. There will come times when you doubt yourself, when everything seems to be going downhill, but if you float long enough, if you are patient enough with yourself, you will eventually emerge as a better swimmer on the other side.

N. WU / THE PHILLIPIAN

forever, regardless of how strong their lungs are. And remember, there is always ample oxygen above the surface.

but an experience, every obstacle carrying the potential of becoming an opportunity ocean with no one in sight. We are all on this journey together. This journey is bound Cleo Xu is a Lower from Beijing, China. Contact the author at kxu26@andover.edu.

WRITE FOR COMMENTARY. EMAIL YZENG24, ALEE24.

Students Express Appreciation for ASM Speaker and Celebration of Hispanic Heritage

Continued from A1, Column 5

taxes. You've invested in the community. You should have rights. You should have the right to vote' ... That needs to happen at a more grassroots level, we need to keep doing that," said Gomez.

Furthermore, Gomez also highlighted and emphasized the need to acknowledge the diversity within Latine cultures throughout this month of celebration.

"It would be worth keeping in mind the rich diversity of the Latinx community. In terms of the national origin groups that come under that rubric,

in terms of language, in terms of histories, in terms of gender identity, experiences, and just the richness of [the community's diversity]," said Gomez.

Mario Calvo '24 commented on the importance of recognizing and having conversations about disparities within the U.S., and how this ASM with Gomez provided meaningful insights into current events on a much more professional level. He also related the ASM to how Hispanic Heritage Month can help foster these conversations and inspire change.

"When I saw the announcement, I thought 'Oh, great! It's Hispanic Heritage Month ASM; it's something I know the school always does.' I really like these ASMs because as someone who does identify as Latinx, I think it's important to have these types of conversations, and that the school does recognize the vast Latinx population in the form of these ASMs and just [build] a little more community engagement within this group... Her presentation will probably help foster these conversations regarding these histories and bring [them] front and center in the form of an ASM," said Calvo.

Calvo also mentioned his fondness for Hispanic Heritage Month and how it provides a way to look back at his roots and appreciate Latinx culture.

"Hispanic Heritage Month for me has always meant taking time to go back to where my family comes from and sharing the culture that I grew up with the rest of my friends. I've always been very proud of it. It's something I very much enjoy," said Calvo.

Anthony Diaz '25 spoke on the captivity of the presenta-tion and Gomez's intention in presenting the topic of anti-Latinx racism at Andover. Diaz detailed how he was able to forge an emotional connection between his own identity and discussions of Mexican culture at the ASM.

"During the ASM, I was a lot more captivated because it had

something to do with Latinx culture and identity. I was able to pay more attention [to the ASM] and wonder about the ASM speaker's presentation. I thought it was like a history class, but it was something I really enjoyed learning about, which was learning about the history of other countries, especially [those] of Latin America. I noticed that the presenter spoke a lot about Mexican culture, and me being half-Mexican and half-Salvadorian, I felt this emotional connection [to the ASM] because growing up Latino, it's like a connection that you have to acknowledge," said Diaz.

Eric Hudson Recognizes Artificial Intelligence as a Tool for Learning

Continued from A1, Column 5

of several students who attended the talk, enjoyed the opportunity to develop new perspectives on the potential of AI.

"I knew about AI in a very basic sense, but I did want to learn a lot more about it coming from an actual speaker, because it is such a big part of our nation today. The speaker was talking specifically about not banning AI in every classroom and calling it cheating, rather calling it assistance, and encouraging teachers to be more open-minded about students using AI. They told us a lot more about AI software that can be used for many different things. I will definitely be using some of them," said Ramani.

While many students agreed that the school's ban of all AI usage in assignments was a reasonable first step, they felt that Andover should reevaluate its policy on AI. Chris Wong'24 listed both AI's ubiquitousness and its potential to augment the learning process as reasons to change the policy.

"I'd like to see the school take a more considerate approach in terms of recognizing the inevitable usage of these tools. I think presentations like the one on Friday are good in terms of informing the community as a whole [about] the existential questions that AI brings to learning, like how can we recenter ourselves in the process of learning, and how can we best use and align our learning with these new tools that can catapult us in this journey. Instead of seeing AI as a roadblock, I'd like to see the school make some new revisions as administrators understand this new technology more," said Wong.

One of the centric themes in the discussion was the potential for AI to exacerbate current societal biases. However, Hudson also mentioned the possibility of using AI as an equalizer, pointing to an application called "LetterWise," which streamlines writing college recommendations. Georgie Harpole '25 noted how this example influenced her perspective on AI.

"One thing that people want to consider when we have these conversations is that a lot of kids in really large schools or schools that are perhaps not as well funded as Andover will not have access to personalized college counseling, if at all. The kids that go to these

schools oftentimes will not get great college recommendations, not because they're not comparable, not because they aren't high achieving, but because their teachers and college advisors have no time to write for them or do not personally know them. So when I heard that LetterWise was writing college recs, I thought that that's actually great," said Harpole.

Wong argued that although AI can massively accelerate the learning process, it also does not come without its dangers. Given AI's power, Wong noted, we need to be very careful and mindful about how and why we use it.

"In the face of this technology, it seems like it solves all these problems, because with the right prompting it can give you a better output than what you can do in the collective 12 years of your education, and that's a really easy trap to fall into. But what I've realized for myself is that learning is not just for the output, but there is something that's deeply satisfying for yourself in that learning process. The cultivation of something that you can own completely, of worldviews, of the ways in which we interact with the world. That's irreplaceable," said Wong.

The Journey of Andover Grading Systems Over the Years

Continued from A1, Column 3

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Paul Murphy '84, Instructor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, noted an increase in the distribution of higher grades in past years. He attributed this trend partially to changes in assessment methods, as educators have expanded their understanding of the various ways that students learn. New methods include grading for homework, participation, and group assessments.

"When you're assigning a grade to a student, you're giving them a chance to put forth their best effort in whatever way that is. [Since] we are a school that brings kids from so many different backgrounds, the definition of a good student has become broader and wider. For instance, when I first came here, there was a perception that if you weren't participating in class, you weren't engaged. We understand humans better now. We now know that [being] quiet in class doesn't mean that you're not engaged," said Murphy.

Murphy continued, "We

and a 3 or a 4 might actually be a low enough grade, might jeopardize someone's college admission... It's hard, because a lot of families are thinking that [Andover] is about getting into college... I wish we would have less of an eye toward [that]... Learn for the sake of learning," said Murphy.

John Bird, Instructor in English, shared a similar sentiment, emphasizing that grades often undermine a student's learning experience. Bird expressed that grades are an unproductive and often inaccurate way to evaluate a student's performance.

"Honestly, grades don't actually tell us much. I feel like grading is probably the least interesting part of a student [and] the least interesting part of my job... Grades loom really large. It puts a lot of pressure on you, it puts a lot of pressure on me. I know the effects that grades have on kids. It's hard, it actually affects how I grade. I also think that it's a drag. [Grading] is not actually why anyone teaches," said Bird.

According to Odden, there are no immediate plans to change the grading system. However, new developments in Andover policies remain an "There is a Learning Steer-

New Students Show Mixed Reactions to Conduct Response

26 compared Andover's system to what she was familiar with in France. She expressed that Andover's learning approach to substance abuse was helpful for the current student body. "To be honest, I don't really un-

keep students safe and happy. She highlighted the conduct response system's improvement throughout the years, and the current system's increased commitment to helping students throughout the accountability process. "In a way, we're actually offering more support to students [now]. It used to be, 'We hope that you've...learned from this experience,' but without actually providing any sort of hands-on opportunities for learning outside of just the adult relationship. But that could look different depending on the student and adult, so now it actually takes more time and effort. But we're more focused on what happens in the ten weeks after the student or someone makes a mistake... I'm just curious what students would like. What would be effective?" asked Esty.

Continued from A1, Column 3

thought the policy provided students with more opportunities to grow from their mistakes. Zhong praised the system for its practicality.

"Overall, Andover has a pretty good disciplinary system. The rules are really clear and structured by dividing the outcomes into three levels based on the severity. I think that the school is also doing a great job on providing opportunities to those who made mistakes to let them know their problems and [allowing them to] fix them. There [are] always warnings before punishments. As a new Lower here, I don't feel that there are any unreasonable rules, and I also really appreciate the school for providing a safe community for us," said Zhong.

Kosciusko-Morizet Jeanne

derstand the levels of infractions system because I didn't have that back in France. I think there are some good policies, and some that are sometimes strict. But I understand them because [the school] does that for the safety of everyone. For example, the sanctuary policy is really good. It wasn't a problem in my old school because in France, drugs aren't that big of a subject. But I found out that a fair amount of people get into alcohol and drugs [at Andover], so I think that it's great that we put safety first instead of the punishment," said Kosciusko-Morizet.

Esty concluded by re-emphasizing the system's primary goal: to

have to keep growing our sense of where everyone's coming from and not make everyone fit into some way of thinking. [We've] also understood that it's really difficult to assign a number to a student's performance. Classrooms over time have changed. Our classrooms are much healthier than when I was first here."

In addition to changes in the wider educational world, Murphy believes the culture around college admissions has influenced these grading trends as well. He hopes that students can instead focus on their learning experience at Andover.

'It's fair to say also that the college process has pushed us in that direction. I don't think it's pressure, so much as it is this worry that a low [grade], ing Committee [LSC] at work right now discussing many aspects of school. It is possible that conversations in the LSC might lead to a recommendation to change the grading system. Those conversations are just getting started, so it is too early to tell at this point whether this group may ultimately recommend a change to the grading system," wrote Odden in an email to The Phillipian.

Changes of the Status Quo: Andover Slowly Returns to Pre-Pandemic Lifestyle

PRISHA SHIVANI & CADE RUTKOSKE

As the Covid-19 pandemic fades into the past, life at Andover has slowly returned to normalcy. Despite this, some of the pandemic's impacts on the Andover community still remain embedded in daily life, classes, and campus culture.

Allison Fish '23 described off-campus trips prior to Covid-19, which gave students the opportunity to socialize. Fish noted that with the risk of the Covid-19 pandemic, regulations on leaving campus were strict, limiting the amount of weekend trips.

"[Andover] used to have pretty frequent shuttles to the mall, Salem, Target, or sometimes Boston. That shut down during Covid[-19]. They didn't want people to leave. During [my] Lower year, as people were starting to go back to campus, they wouldn't even allow us to go downtown. That's probably why they stopped that. I don't think it's something that would start up

unless students express their desire for those trips again," said Fish.

Weekend activities, which are announced in The Weekender every Thursday, are an important part of students' social lives at Andover. Louis Bernieri, Instructor in English, spoke about how detrimental Covid-19 was to the lives of students and expressed the importance of socialization to the development of one's identity.

"Human beings have always been drawn to large celebrations and gatherings. One, because we want to celebrate together, but also because we have our own identity, but so much of our sense of self comes from other people, particularly when you are an adolescent. It was really damaging for adolescents to be cut off from each other the way they were... On the positive side, we are much more aware of our health. It seems like in that way Covid[-19] has been a positive because it made us more aware of the mental and emotional health struggles that people have," Bernieri said.

Somin Virmani '22 also touched on the fact that while Covid-19 does continue to have a lasting impact on the community, it doesn't solely mean the disappearance of traditions, as both new traditions and changes to pre-existing ones have developed.

"In some ways, it just took what status quo existed and forced people to think about new ways to approach things. Before Covid[-19] they always had one big dance show every fall that was always the Nutcracker or a ballet thing. I think the department itself had to go online and there was a lot of thinking of what can we do about being separated. There were a lot of creative projects, [and now], I think they've veered away from having the Nutcracker every year," said Virmani.

Christopher Capano, Director of Student Activities, described that the transition back to normal life after Covid-19 was initially challenging because people were accustomed to being online. He added, however, that campus life and activities have returned to near full-swing.

"I feel like when we first came back from Covid[-19], everyone had spent so much time on their own, with the online world and Zoom. Now that we've put some distance between the Covid[-19] time and us, people seem to be coming back to the way it was, wanting to gather in groups and go out and do things," Capano said.

Amanda DiNatale '21 spoke about Non sibi Day, an opportunity for students to participate in a day-long volunteering outreach project. While this tradition was not possible during Covid-19, DiNatale expressed her hope for the program to return.

"I strongly believe that Andover's Non sibi influence empowered us to make a difference. While I am not sure if the Non sibi Day program has yet returned since I left Andover, I sincerely hope that it will. Non sibi Day is a time for Andover to reflect on one of its greatest values and remember that we are a force for good. This is a lesson that should be emphasized and amplified, and I hope that it continues to be passed on by prioritizing the restoration of

Non sibi Day," said DiNatale. Alexa DiCenso '21 expressed the importance of Andover's traditions in making all students feel included and connected to the larger community. She stressed that traditions mirror the principles of the academy, making it important to continue these traditions for years to come.

"As a day student, I definitely appreciated schoolwide traditions because it made me feel more connected to my boarding student peers. Although the specifics of traditions change and adapt over time, the presence of traditions allows any institution to reflect on the foundations and values with which the institution was established, so it is crucial to preserve and revive these traditions," DiCenso wrote in an email to The Phillipian.

Dr. Marie Hanna Presents for First Upperclassmen EBI of Academic Year

LUCAS BENARDETE & EMMA GREENHUT

Marking the first Equity, Balance, and Inclusion (EBI) session of the year for upperclassmen students, Dr. Marie Hanna, a practitioner from Boston Children's Hospital's Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program (ASAP), came to Andover to speak about substance abuse. In the presentation on October 12, she focused specifically on its effects on young adults.

Hanna began by discussing the "reward processing systems" found in adolescents, describing how they tend to be drawn to stimulants that feel like larger "prizes." She emphasized how substances feel different to different people when used, but the brain structures of teens make them particularly susceptible to developing substance abuse and addiction.

"Adolescents actually deactivate their response to a small reward, but then overreact to a very large reward. A small piece of candy might not be super appealing to you, but a truckload you'll go crazy for... All psychological substances [activate] the pleasure center of the brain [and] basically hijack your normal reward pathways...so you're developmentally primed to use substances," said Hanna.

use substances," said Hanna. In treating substance abuse, Hanna explored it as a multidisciplinary practice, which requires help from everyone. She advised students to look out for their friends, help them when they see fit, but disengage if the mental burden is too heavy.

"If you're worried about a

friend, there's a lot of things you can do. Know the signs, really encourage them to get help, talk to a trusted adult if you can. If you've done all that, you've done all you can and, if it's negatively impacting you, the best thing you can do at that point is to walk away, look after yourself. Watching someone you love go through that harms you, so you can try to take care of them, but at some point, you have to care for yourself," said Hanna.

Hanna also warned of the dangers of "roofie-ing" (a slang term for dosing a person with a drug, usually by hiding it in a drink, in order to rape or victimize that person), which is a common occurrence on college campuses. Applying those risks to Andover, she urged students to use the Sanctuary Policy and to inform the people around them if something feels off.

"A lot of you are going to college and [roofie-ing] happens a lot on college campuses... Be really careful, being safe is better than being sorry... If it looks funky, just stay away. Stick with your friends, always have your friends around, and if you feel any symptoms, you feel off, let your friends know so they can take you home. Let someone know, especially since you guys have the [Sanctuary Policy]," said Hanna.

McKenzie Williams '24, who is the Co-President of the Students in Medicine Club, was one of two students who introduced Dr. Hanna as an EBI speaker. After listening to her talk, Williams expressed how Dr. Hanna's educational approach aligned with the goals of the Students in Medicine Club regarding substance use.

"One of the goals [of the Stu-dents in Medicine Club] is actually to help the student body learn how to be as healthy and as safe as possible [regarding substances]. We have panels and discussions to raise awareness and education around the discussion about substances and substances on campus. One of our goals is to never come in with the traditional 'drugs are bad' approach because it simply does not work. Our goal is to frame it with a view of education, and I was happy to see that Dr. Hanna used the same approach," said Williams.

Sam Clare '25 shared how having an expert such as Dr. Hanna lead EBI was more informative as opposed to the underclassmen EBI classes that they attended last year.

"This [EBI] was much more interesting [than EBI as a Lower] because Dr. Hanna clearly knew a lot which made her really engaging. She was also able to be more informative as well. She said that anything could have fentanyl in it, meaning that it could kill you on the first attempt. I think that scared a lot of people, but it should, because it is scary," said Clare.

Upperclassmen meet once per term for a combined EBI lecture featuring guest speakers who present on specific topics, a change that was implemented last year. Taylor Ware, Associate Director of College Counseling and Head of Upperclassmen EBI Course, commented on the model of upperclassmen EBI and upcoming EBI speakers for the following trimesters.

"Recognizing the increased demands and time commitments of our older students, we shifted the Upper and Senior model last year to a speaker-based model where Uppers and Seniors attend one speaker per term... This Winter and Spring we are targeting speakers who will cover topics including mindfulness and boundaries," wrote Ware in an email to *The Phillipian*.

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Dr. Marie Hanna cautioned students against alcohol and drug usage, citing the detriments of substance abuse.

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10 Questions With 2023-2024 Co-Presidents Eleanor DeHoog '24 and Ryan Lam '24

REPORTING BY CHRISTIAN ESTRADA & ANDREW CAI

Eleanor DeHoog '24 and Ryan Lam '24 are Andover's 2023-2024 Student Body Co-Presidents. DeHoog and Lam share a commitment to transparency, community building, and student well-being, and are hopeful for a promising year ahead.

Before becoming Co-Presidents, what activities and groups did you involve yourself in on campus?

Eleanor: "Lower Year, I started doing wrestling and outdoor track and field. I'm a discus and shot put thrower, and I fell in love with both of the sports; [I] found really good communities there. Throughout my time at Andover, Student Council has been a huge thing for me. I've been a Class Rep [from my] Junior through Upper Year."

Ryan: "My journey in Andover has been more about trying to find myself, becoming more confident in who I am, as well as discovering my interests. I've found that in classics and chemistry... Also, I really love the soccer team here. That's been a big, big part of my community. I was [also] a Class Rep in 11th grade where I joined Nor before becoming the Student Body Co-President."

What motivated you to run for Student Body Co-Presidents?

Eleanor: "I would say one of my big reasons was having role models who were in these roles before. I looked up a lot to Nigel [Savage '23] and Sui [Yu '23] last year, and Mary [Muromcew '22] and Sean [Meng '22, the year before], and being able to see the work that they did, and the passion that they carried

for the role, I wanted to help continue the work that they were doing, and build into that legacy. But as well, [I wanted to be someone]

present... Effective delegation of responsibilities and reshaping class representative power to enhance student involvement are also on our agenda. We hope to inspire younger students and equip them with the skills they will need in the years to come."

Looking into the future, what legacy do you hope to leave as Student Body Co-Presidents at Andover with your short year as Co-Presidents?

Eleanor: "It starts with a legacy of gratitude, where expressing thankfulness is not merely a formality, but a genuine practice. We are committed to fostering interactions with others and promoting sociability among students, creating a vibrant community where simple gestures, like sharing excitement about a friend's wave on the paths, become cherished moments... Our goal is to create a lovable Andover by nurturing a strong sense of community, where people are at the heart of what makes the institution special."

Ryan: "For me, a lot of the things we do for small interactions is towards this goal of trying to create and encourage our culture of students that we want to proactively connect with each other with opportunities and spaces and the school. Having more pride with the school instead of shutting off and disengaging."

What's one piece of advice you would give to a new student at Andover?

that others can look up to and rely on as a friend. So much of the role is not the things that we do or the tangible outcomes that we might produce, but being able to connect with people in the student body."

Ryan: "I have two reasons. One is more personal... Pushing myself and getting out there, outside of my comfort zone, trying to challenge myself. Running for Co-President was really important to me in my personal journey. I found that I really wanted to help connect our class, not just within ourselves, but also to the school itself, [and] let our student body have more pride in and connection to the faculty administration and to the spaces

here on campus."

How did you both find each other and why did you choose to run together for Student Body Co-President?

Eleanor: "It was actually this week one year ago we met up. I've known Ryan since my Junior year, but when we started working together as Class Reps as Uppers that [was when] I was really able to see how brilliant he is. I'm always in awe of the way that he takes the time to reflect on what it is we're doing, in terms of thinking about how whatever it is that we do might affect another person, that's a really nec-

person, that's a really necessary and important skill to have as a Co-President."

Ryan: "I feel like I'm always learning from [Nor]. [Nor is] able to use her words to convey information, and [is] able to connect with people intellectually and emotionally, through words and through actions. Together, I think we really complement each other's strengths, and weaknesses and even



though we might be different in some aspects, it really works together."

What has been your favorite moment as Co-Presidents?

Eleanor: "Earlier this year for matriculation, all of the new students lined up on the great lawn and... Ryan and I actually got to lead everyone into the [Cochran] Chapel [and] walking with a group of new students. The energy was so cool, all the returning students were there clapping the new students in. Even though that wasn't necessarily something [new] that Ryan and I did, it's a tradition that Co-Presidents have... It's all of those little moments of ... people within this institution supporting each other...that I find super special about our roles.'

Ryan: "Two weeks ago, on Thursday night, we filmed an academic integrity video that [all students] saw. To me, that was really cool, with all the professional lighting, we had a teleprompter after having worked with Mr. [David] Fox[, Instructor in English,] on the script, and that was the more official side of the Co-President role... That very next morning, we got pied in the face for a Moroccan earthquake fundraising. That showed to me the duality of this role and how versatile it is, where it can be serious, and then super fun."

As Co-Presidents, you mentioned wanting to make Student Council processes more transparent. Can you share more about this initiative and how you plan to achieve it?

Eleanor: "The words that we used [in our platform] were transparency and involvement, and that second part about involvement is so crucial to the work that we're doing. [In addition to] town hall... we're also establishing our community committee [this week], which will be a cross-section of the student body. We're trying to get representatives across the student body, as many as we can into one room to discuss a lot of school policy changes... All these different people on campus, students who are passionate about making change in our community, [we wanted to help] to bring them together, and make change] with the help and support of student council's funds, and provide access to administration, and the resources that we have in our platform."

Ryan: "You might have seen some of our emails about 'Please, we would love for you to come to our town hall.' That's basically our regular Student Council meetings... We're opening it up to the student body. Anyone can come, listen in, and hear what is going on. Anyone can come and bring their own ideas to the table... Also, I feel like we've been pretty good E. LIU/*THE PHILLIPIAN* about our Instagram, follow @norandryan, where we share our meeting notes, we share our small victories that happen."

One of your campaign promises was to create "Oasis Spaces" around campus. Can you explain these concepts and how they will benefit the student body?

Eleanor: "Oasis Spaces are [stress-free] study spaces around campus, like hammocks on the lawn and refinishing spaces on campus. Our goal is for students to be using these spaces as a way to relax and come out of their dorm instead of locking themself in their room to study, and instead hanging out with friends... There's a spirit on campus where students introduce themselves and they hang out. Even as a Senior, I'm sitting at tables and I'm talking with people I wouldn't usually hang out with."

What do you consider the biggest challenges you may face in your roles as Co-Presidents?

Eleanor: "As Co-Presidents, we anticipate several challenges in our roles. There is not enough time, as we only have a year to make changes. We aim to sustain our plans beyond our term, as setting up a continued legacy is crucial. Re-establishing traditions is another challenge we face, necessitating a balance between preserving the past and adapting to the

Eleanor: "At the end of the day, you'll always have yourself. I've found that it's essential to seek perfection of character. For the past nine years, three to four times per week, I've written down my values and set them in place. I make sure to take my own experience into account and find my role models. I look for the characteristics that I want to create. Lastly, set tangible goals and live your values."

Ryan: "Please don't have fear, what I mean by that is don't be limited by what you think you can do, try all opportunities. Andover has so many resources... We're the only high school with an archaeological institution, two museums, and an archivist."

Community was a main part of your campaign. How would you describe this 'Community' you want to build in three words and why?

Eleanor: "Luck and Love. Our choice to sign every email with 'Luck and Love' underscores our commitment to these two qualities. 'Luck' represents our desire to wish the best for each member of our community, acknowledging that life can be unpredictable. 'Love' symbolizes the emotional connection and sense of belonging that we aim to nurture within the community."

Ryan: "Sharing Authentic Joy. 'Share Authentic Joy' is a powerful reminder of our mission. It conveys our commitment to creating a community where students can be themselves, experience genuine happiness, and most importantly, share that joy with others to be one community." A8 | EIGHTH

Don't Be Phake

Worst Things Andover Has Ever Done

STAFF REPORT

Commons pollock: Needs no explanation. By far the worst on this list.

Freshman and Lower EBI classes: the biggest waste of time ever

endured. Ironically, we discuss topics like time management by wasting 45 valuable minutes in EBI.

Allowing boys to wear Speedos and slap each other's penises underwater: an atrocity under the guise of "water polo."

Academic rigor: encourages copious amounts of drug and alcohol consumption whenever possible. Shortens the "bright" future Andover promises.

House counselors having sex: No one needs to hear that while trying to do Math 360 homework.

Room searches: Where else am I going to store all of my illegal substances/ sex toys?

Covid-19 vaccine mandates: My religious beliefs prohibit me from receiving this poison. (I have never been to church; I just agree with the 2nd amendment.)

Supporting affinity clubs: white people tried something like that in the 20th century, and it didn't go too well...

Not creating buildings specifically for having sex: leads to "frozen erections" in the Cochran Bird Sanctuary where students have to assure their misled partners that it's "usually bigger than this."

Lying to students about not having cameras in bathrooms: look out for the infamous "blinking shower heads" in Borden Memorial Gym.

***Bonus! This one's actually real. In 1835 Andover dismissed 50 students for forming an Anti-Slavery Society. This has not been mentioned in our four years spent at the Academy and it is shocking considering slavery was abolished in 1783 in Massachusetts.

Scobey, D C, G S Towle, A Grover, H Eaton, and J W Phillsbury. "A Statement of the Circumstances Which Induced Fifty Students of Phillips Academy, Andover." Lest we forget, August 5, 1835.



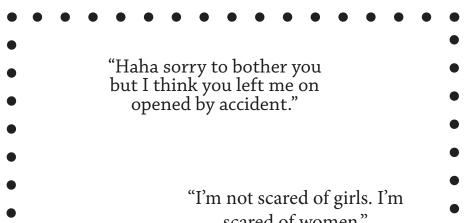
Teacher Crimes and Punishments

Crime

Punishment

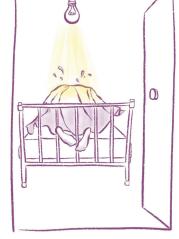
WEEK'S TOP HEADLINES

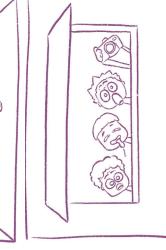
- Biden to Send 100 Million Dollars in Aid to Remove
 Freshman From Silent
- Dr. Esty Personally Rewrites Academy Constitution, Says "Anything That Old Has to Be Racist"
- Academy Forces All-School Meeting Speakers to Repeat the Name of Their Prestigious College at Least Ten Times Per Speech
- Ms. Joel Displays Incredible Self-Control, Fights Urge to Accuse Angry Instagram Commenters of Sexism
- EBI Speaker Reveals Shocking New Information: Alcoholism is Bad for You
- Students Organize Revolution Against Tyrant
 Paresky Commons Lady, Dump Thousands of
 Backpacks into Boston Harbor
- All-School Meeting Speaker Reveals Another Kind of Racism — You'll Never Guess Who's to Blame for This One
- Hidden Bonus: Sports Captains Receive Extra Year of EBI



CIIIIC	1 unionnent
Disagree with Kington	Annual salary cut by 50%
No Bernie 2020 sticker	10x income tax
Recognize value of	24-hour CaMD lock-in
tradition	
Dress conventionally, no	10 minute conversation
tattoos	with teaching fellows
Allow children to run	Forced vasectomy fol-
free in Commons	lowed by 16th trimester
Pronouns not in email signature	Attend every Brace Scholar speech until death
Recall time when Ando- ver had dominant boys' sports	Prolonged eye contact with a glaring Ms. Joel
Well-liked in high	Shunned by Andover
school	colleagues
Suggest apolitical ASM speaker	Death







AVERY LIN/THE PHILLIPIAN

	scared of women."
you're an asthr	petter than the catch. Unless natic dean chasing a group of runk freshmen."
"68 deaths, sound	s like 68 non-senders."
"Narca	an is an epi pen for beauties."
OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS	
"Good thing I use zyns."	"I vape because it reminds me of home."
	eal, yesterday a girl smiled at me I got a little hard."
	"Capital Gains Tax is like the 8th worst thing the U.S. has ever done."



The Phillipian SPORTS Volume CXLVI | Number 22

hi cooden

October 20, 2023

Boys Soccer Finishes Week with Two Wins and a Hard-Fought Tie

AARON HUANG

FRIDAY	
Andover	6
St. Paul's	0
MONDAY	
Andover	3
St. Sebastian's	3
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	2
High Mowing	1

<image>

Recently committing to Colby College, Co-Captain Zane Matraji '24 plays in the midfield for Andover Boys Soccer.

After a clean sweep against St. Paul's on Friday, Andover Boys Soccer came back from a 3-1 deficit at halftime against a strong St. Sebastian's (St. Seb's) squad to earn a tie on Monday. Later in the week, on Wednesday, Andover had a mid-season scrimmage against High Mowing in which it pulled up many JV1 players.

According to Spencer Salhanick '24, the team had a quick start in its victory against St. Paul's and never let up. Its ball movement proved to be a prominent strength, showcasing the synergy the team continues to nurture.

"We scored a banger right off the bat and the momentum kept us going, goals kept flooding in. Our defense performed well... They had no real attacking presence, [our goalie] Jack [Alexander '25] didn't have to do much. I think we transitioned the ball from our defense to offense well and found our targets. We played through balls well and I think that was our key to success," said Salhanick.

Paul Gichana '25 emphasized the team's need to seize every goal-scoring opportunity. Given the lack of shots on target in Monday's game, it became crucial for the team to make the most of each chance it had, something Gichana did not believe the team accomplished.

Gichana said, "From my perspective, being clinical in the final third is something we can improve on because in a very tight game, you can only get so many chances, maybe two or three the entire 90 minutes. I think we could have scored a lot more goals."

Monday's game against St. Seb's exemplified Andover's grit, perseverance, and ability to adapt to poor weather conditions. According to Co-Captain Alex Torrens '24, the rain proved to be a challenge for Andover.

Torrens said, "Obviously with the rain and [it being] on turf, it made it a lot harder to play through the middle and play those precise passes because the ball is bouncing... all over the place. It [is] so much harder to take touches and dribble in that compact space... [We] had to adapt and look to play more direct, trying to skip our middle line and look for the forwards in behind and trying to win that second ball to advance, so I think we had to change our play style a bit today, but that's part of being a good team, being able to adapt.

Salhanick mentioned that the team was disappointed at the result of the match, but focused on the fact that it was still able to salvage a tie due to its determination in the second half.

"For our team morale, it was demoralizing. We were down 3-1 at half. After scoring one, they scored three... But then we kind of came back together and performed. We worked so hard in the second half and scored two goals and performed very well, and outperformed them tremendously. So I think for our team, the first half was a blow for sure, but the fact that we were able to come back in the second half and respond very well was actually a good thing even though we wound up with a tie," said Salhanick.

Torrens believed that Head Coach Edwin Escobar played a pivotal role in sparking the team's comeback. His halftime speech inspired and instilled confidence within the team.

"He gave us an emotional speech, he told [us] that this isn't over, that we have to go out there and defend our turf, that we need to play at the level we have been playing all season and that we are capable of... You could tell from the huddle that everyone believed that we could make a comeback and I think that was a massive part in why we actually did come back," said Torrens.

In Wednesday's mid-season scrimmage against High Mowing, Andover pulled up several JV1 players who played their part in the game. Kai Myles '27 noted how games scheduled close together have taken its toll on the team.

In an email to *The Phillipian*, Myles wrote, "Today the team played very well especially considering we played a game on Monday and were given barely any time to recover due to how close the games were. We did well to deny High Mowing any open chances and we made sure we took our chances too. Even some of the players that came in from our bench and some JV1 players put in a shift to help us pull [through] today."

Looking ahead to the match against Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH), Andover viewed High Mowing's scrimmage as preparation for playing against similarly sized and aggressive players on Saturday.

Myles wrote, "I think the game today helped up really gave us kinda a 'practice' for [NMH]. With a team like High Mowing who should be just as physical and just as big as NMH players, it was a good way for us to practice and I think we dealt with this team very well which gives us high hopes for the important game against NMH."

Andover Boys Soccer will play NMH at home on Saturday.





A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Co-Captain Alex Torrens '24 scored one of six goals against St. Paul's on Friday.

N.TORRENS/THE PHILLIPIAN

Louis-Thomas Vincent '25 plays his first season with Andover Boys Soccer.

Girl's Cross Country Sweeps With Top Five Finishes at Saint Paul's

ORLA NAUGHTON

SATURDAY	
Andover	15
St. Paul's	57
Austin Prep	58

Andover Girls Cross Country took the top five individual places in a tri-meet against Austin Preparatory School (Austin Prep) and St. Paul's on Saturday, winning by a margin of 42 points.

Caitlyn Chow '25 felt that the environment at St. Paul's course was supportive, despite the meet being away.

"[The atmosphere] was really cheerful. There were a lot of people cheering at the finish line, there was a lot of excitement, and it was really beautiful there too," said Chow.

According to Alison Schneider '26, this week the team trained to build stamina to target the harder parts of St. Paul's, which featured technical trails and rolling hills.

"[Practice was] a lot of work in the [Cochran Bird] sanctuary because that's our home course and also [has] a lot of good hills, good scenery... We do some speed workouts or just some regular slow runs in there especially before the meets... For this meet specifically, I think we were working on endurance because this course is a lot. It's just very difficult with all its turns and stuff. It's the same distance but it feels longer," said Schneider.

Despite the challenge that the new terrain presented, Evie Wood '25 noted some of teammates' goals of achieving personal records (PRs). Overall, the team's motivation led to seven runners finishing with lifetime bests.

"[Everyone] was really focused, I think people were really ready to run their best... [There were] a couple of other teams besides us, and we were told that it was going to be a slower course. And I think people were ready to try and get better times, even though some of the technical aspects of the running might be a little bit slower," said Wood.

Chloe Song '26 credited some of the team's success to the more relaxed meet atmosphere. Teammates found it easier to enjoy their races, with their primary focus being to conserve energy for upcoming meets.

"The girls were really confident... Besides the home meet, this was our first meet that wasn't an invitational, so we were more familiar with the type of environment and it was very intimate. There were fewer girls, so I think everyone felt more confident in their training. [Our coach] was like 'today isn't the day for PRs,' so personal records. It was more of 'We train through this meet.' Our actual PR meet is Interschols, so that's what we're focused on," said Song.

Schneider appreciated teammates' efforts to stay connected with each other. Through traditions, like Secret Psyches, the team fosters a supportive and welcoming space.

"In the girls team specifically, we have these things called Secret Psychs, where our Captain gives us a teammate's name the night before a meet and we write a little note...anonymous[ly], just to encourage them and to show that they have a teammate that's rooting for them," said Schneider.

In the weeks ahead, Wood noted that each member is driven by their individual goals. Although objectives may vary, everyone is channeling their energy towards improving for the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council Championships (Interschols).

"Certain parts of the team are working on shaving off seconds and working on more technical aspects, while a lot of the rest of the team is working on running stamina and aerobic base... I think it depends on where people are on the team, but everyone is working hard," Wood said.

Andover Girls Cross Country will race Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH), Phillips Exeter Academy, and Deerfield at NMH's course on October 28.

GIRLSSOCCER

Co-Captain Jazzy Cormier '24 Fosters Family Like Team Dynamic on Girls Soccer

MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

Girls Soccer Co-Captain Jazzy Cormier '24 grew up in an environment where soccer was very popular. After being introduced to the sport by her family in early elementary school, Cormier has been dominating on the pitch at the interscholastic and club level ever since.

"I started playing soccer when I was really young. I think I might have been six or seven. My dad has played soccer his whole life and my sister and brother played as well. So we were kind of a soccer family. I started playing when I lived in Vermont and I played for a club team called Black Watch. As well, I think all my friends played soccer. I just wanted to try it and I really, really loved it," said Cormier.

Cormier's passion for the sport carries over to her desire for team community. As a new addition to the team, Murathime Daisley '26 felt warmly welcomed through Cormier's leadership, commending her attitude on and off the field.

Daisley said, "Jazzy is very vocal in a way that's almost calming and reassuring... She helps us make corrections to what we're doing, but she's also very encouraging and I think that's what distinguishes her a lot from other Captains I've had. Jazzy is a very comforting person. She's very optimistic and she lightens the mood a lot and I think that's reflective in her as a player. She doesn't let a mistake derail her or derail our team and she just really helps us keep going and get back up."

Cormier shared that in her leadership role as Co-Captain, she finds joy in creating unity within the team. She highlighted how rewarding it is to watch her teammates thrive.

"I love being a Captain. My favorite aspect of being a Captain would be my teammates. I love being someone that they can look up to, especially the newer girls and the freshmen. I love being someone that they can always talk to and can ask advice to. I just love being a role model for them and supporting them in whatever way that they need. I also love seeing them succeed. I feel like I'm like a mother on the team. I really, really love that," said Cormier.

Sophie Dandawa '25 commended Cormier for her impressive skills on the field. She also highlighted Cormier's ability to build a strong team dynamic.

Dandawa said, "She's really quick and she always has her head up and she always has to make the right passes. She's



also just a great teammate to work with in that regard. As a person, she always really cares about us both on the field and off the field. She's always texting us, and saying 'hi' to us on the paths, and making sure she puts together team psyches for us, and things like that. So she really brings us together and makes us like one big family."

Cormier shared how she weaves being a vocal leader and leading by example into her leadership as a Co-Captain. She notes her role on the team as the Senior Captain, J.CARMONA/THE PHILLIPIAN

and how she is able to work with the leadership of Upper Co-Captain, Emily Mara '25.

Co-Captain, Emily Mara '25. Cormier said, "I would say I'm a pretty vocal leader. I don't know how confident I am, but I know that especially on the team, the other Captain is Emily Mara, and she is an Upper, and so I feel like [as] the Senior Captain, I'm just very vocal on what we need to improve on and on what we're doing really well. I also think something important to me in leading is leading by example. In practice, I am working hard, just putting in the work so that other people will do the same. I think that's also another way that I lead, if that makes sense."

As much as Cormier helps the team through her leadership, she contributes heavily on the field as well. Dandawa spoke about Cormier's tide-turning goal in a game against Tabor Academy.

"I'm thinking back to our game versus Tabor. I remember she scored a really good goal. She scored the go-ahead goal for us and she helped us turn over that game as we had lost it previously. But this year, we ended up winning because of her goal and she was able to give us that momentum to end up winning the game overall. That was just a really great Captain moment for her," said Dandawa.

When reflecting on an interaction between Cormier and her, Daisley recalled Cormier's positivity and reassurance giving Daisley confidence in a crucial moment.

dence in a crucial moment. Daisley said, "One of my best memories on the team comes from an interaction I had with Jazzy. I remember, because Jazzy and I play the same position, one time I came in for the first minutes I got playing this year, subbing her out. As I went to sub her out she told me she believed in me or she trusted me, and that meant a lot coming from someone I looked up to."

Unifying for Victory: Co-Captain Emily Mara '25's Approach to Success in Soccer

HENRY HE

Co-Captain Emily Mara '25 leads the team to success through bonding, by striving for each player to reach the height of their ability. Committed to play Division I Soccer at Boston College, she aspires to share her knowledge and experience with her teammates and contribute to the team's growth both on and off the field.

Growing up with the influence of her sister – who shared similar athletic goals as Mara - has had a profound impact on Mara's soccer journey. Mara said, "I like to model my game after my older sister. She is a relentless player with a willingness to succeed. She has always inspired me as a player and pushed me to be better." With a central philosophy that focuses on reaching a player's individual potential, Mara encompasses ambition and fitness. Drawing inspiration from her sister, Mara hopes to encourage her teammates and help set them up for success.

ever it takes,' so we always try to play with those words in mind. We set our goals as a team, then recognize we will do whatever it takes in order to achieve," said Mara.

Hayden Fischer '25 recognizes Mara's empathetic attitude towards her teammates. Mara is able to create a space where success becomes the driving force for the team, inspiring others to follow her lead.

"Emily Mara is a very passionate and caring person. She always looks out for others and she is a very inspiring player... Her grit and fight to win is very inspirational on the team and that character trait runs off the rest of the team. It has definitely led to many of our wins and comebacks," Fischer said. Mara's influence extends well beyond her performance on the field. In fact, she considers leadership to be the area where she has made the most improvement, recognizing that the core of the team's success lies in its organization. "I have improved most on my leadership skills and communication on and off the field, whether it be through leadership meetings

or personal experiences," said Mara.

With working with Head Coach Lisa Joel, Mara fosters a welcoming and well-structured atmosphere. According to Fischer, this is achieved by receiving constructive feedback during matches, organizing activities to regain mental and physical rejuvenation.

Fischer said, "I think Lisa and Emily are very close so they talk about how the team culture can improve and how that can lead us to more wins. They talk at halftime during our games and talk a lot after practice, and organize team dinners."



"Our team motto is 'what-

Mara not only serves as a significant influence on her own team but also emerges as a formidable challenge for the opposing teams. This forces teams to adapt to her distinctive playing style and come up with new ways to challenge her.

"A lot of these higher level teams we have been playing definitely watch film, so they know [Mara's] playing style which is very unique. We have to shift the way we attack because of that. A lot of the time, she will get doubled or even triple teamed, so I feel like it does have an impact on the game because people know who she is and her skill level. Sometimes it gets into the other team's head," Fischer said.

Throughout the remainder of the season, Mara hopes to work towards more wins, with a focus on unifying the team, both on and off the field. Mara said, "My goal this season is to try and cultivate a team environment that pro-

motes a sense of community

as well as success."

Head Girls Soccer Coach Lisa Joel Fosters Team That Celebrates Each Other's Strengths

ORLA NAUGHTON

Andover Girls Soccer Head Coach Lisa Joel emphasizes off-field training as a big contributor to player performance. When pursuing athletics at Amherst College, Joel captained the Soccer, Basketball, and Lacrosse teams in her Senior year. She came to Andover in 1993 and became the Girls Varsity Soccer Coach in 1998.

Co-Captain Jazzy Cormier '24 described Joel's willingness to discuss plans for the team, with an emphasis on team bonding.

Cormier said, "Emily [Mara '25] and I are just in constant contact with Coach Joel… We focused a lot on creating a really close team culture, and she talks a lot about how important it is that we're able to connect off the field because that translates to on the field."

Joel creates an environment that focuses on growth through seeking constant feedback from the team. Jill Reichenbach PG'24 appreciates Joel's open communication and its benefits to her approaching the game.

"For me, as a goalkeeper, her first question is, 'What do you think?' not 'What do you think you did wrong?'... Maybe there's something that I saw that she didn't, or that other teammates saw, and so I think with her leading with the player and then the coaching, it's really helpful," said Reichenbach.

Reichenbach added her gratitude for Joel's mentorship in helping her adjust to the team and school environment. As a new student, Reichenbach appreciated Joel's patience in giving her time to adapt. "She's just been incredibly empathic. She was very forgiving [in] my first few weeks where I didn't really know where things were, or coming late to practice because I had to talk to a teacher about something," said Reichenbach.

Above all else, Coach Joel values health, family, and school before soccer. She hopes to send a message to her players that by taking care of external factors, suc-



J.CARMONA/THE PHILLIPIAN

cess will follow the players on the field.

"We attend to that, we take care of that, we let them take care of that, and then they can get back to the game of soccer... They can't play soccer well, they can't feel good as a teammate, they probably can't succeed out on the soccer field, if things are just complicated with aspects of their health or family or school," Joel said.

Cormier highlighted Joel's hospitable attitude towards her players. Joel is involved with each player and fosters players' needs beyond the soccer field.

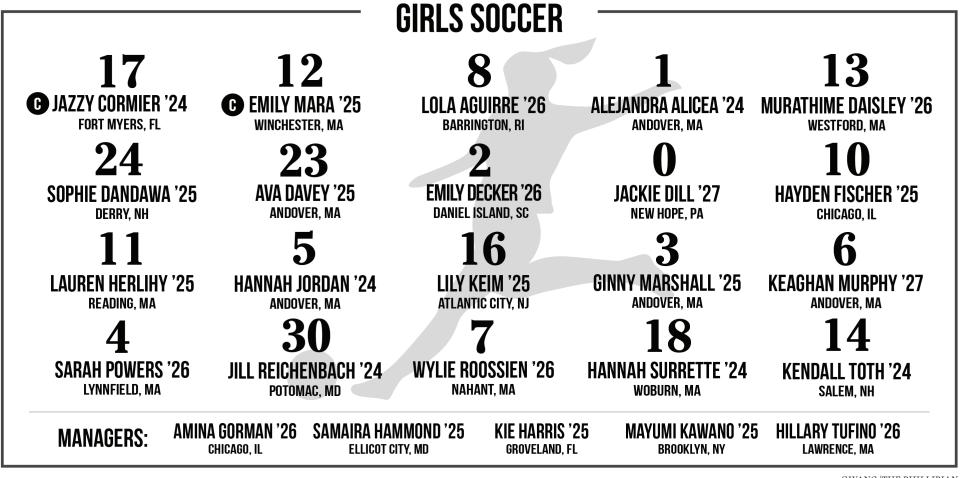
"She's like my second mom, even in my experience when I've been sick, when I've been down, she's literally brought me Whole Foods snacks and fruit and she's just the sweetest person ever and she always wants to hear how you're doing. She always wants to listen and she always wants to listen and she always wants to make sure that everyone is getting what they need to feel supported as an athlete," said Cormier.

While hoping to add a fifth title as the Class A Prep School Champions, Joel emphasizes staying present and focusing on details of the game to get better.

"While [The New England Class A Tournament is] our long term goal, we are taking every half at a time. We've got a game on Wednesday, and we want to win the first half of our next game, so we don't ever want to get our eyes too far ahead [so] that we don't take care of the business right in front of us," said Joel.

As players get closer to the end of their Andover soccer career, Joel relishes the memories each of them has made with the team. The program stands strong on creating a fun and engaging environment.

Joel said, "Some of these memories and these relationships will be some of their most lasting of their Phillips Academy experience... I want them to find joy in the sport, I want them to find joy in each other and also just learn that with the power of team, you can transcend what you as an individual might think is impossible."



C.WANG/THE PHILLIPIAN

Girls Soccer Looks to Make Adjustments at Midpoint of Season

ANYA BUDZINSKI

SATURDAY	
Andover	4
St. Paul's	1
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	2
Governor's	2

Following its win at St. Paul's on Saturday, Andover Girls Soccer tied with Governor's in a close game on Wednesday, scoring a late equalizer in the second half. Andover's record now stands at 6-4-1.

Heading into the St. Paul's game on Saturday, Head Coach Lisa Joel had athletes reflect on how they felt regarding the team's strengths Jill Reichenbach PG'24 felt that this was a productive way for the team to acknowledge where it needs to improve.

"I think this was really helpful because the pattern that emerged from that conversation was that we are not bringing out [our] best game to the first half, we get complacent in the first half then really turn it up in the second half," said Reichenbach.

Following its reflections, the team successfully executed the game plan in the first half of the game against St. Paul's. Reichenbach shared that the team was focused on corner kicks, which ended up producing its first goal.

Reichenbach said, "Going into the St. Paul's game we were really focused on bringing our best to the first half. The whole team brought it to the first half and it really showed. We have been working on different corner kicks and those really came together in the game. We had two really great goals from Keaghan [Murphy '27] and Wylie [Roossien '26] in the first half. One goal was off a corner kick that gave us a lot of momentum and we ended with a 4-1 win."

On Wednesday against Governor's, Kendall Toth '24 highlighted Co-Captain Emily Mara '25 and Roossien in their team effort to score. She shared that throughout the game although the team was not always able to execute, it created a lot of goal scoring opportunities. Toth said, "The first goal

Toth said, "The first goal was really amazing. Wylie created an amazing scoring opportunity for Emily Mara. Wylie played a great ball forward and Emily made a really strong run forward. Throughout the game we created a lot of chances in the final third which stood out. Unfortunately we weren't able to capitalize on all of our opportunities, but that is definitely something we will be working on going forward."

Andover was able to bring energy to the first half of the Governor's game and put together a strong and organized second half, according to Toth. She noted improvements in both the team's offense and defense as the game Toth said, "One of our strengths was we were definitely more composed in the second half. We had really good talking and communication on the field which made our game a lot smoother. Our marking was a lot better than it has been, as well as our stepping, which helped our defense. Our defense was really good especially with helping out on the wings. We used the width of the field a lot and played a lot of good balls up the wing."

According to Lola Aguirre '26, one of the team's greatest strengths this season has been its ability to bring passion to games. Aguirre noted how in the game against Governor's, much of the energy came from the opportunities the team had to score goals.

Aguirre said, "Soccer games always have a great atmosphere in the sense that they are always high intensity and very back and forth, which is really exciting. Today it was really exciting because we had a lot of opportunities to score, which is something we have been working on this low through on all of these opportunities, we still had really great energy throughout the game, and it was really fun."

After each game, the team always awards a member with being the "Most Valuable Player." Aguirre highlighted Toth as standing out with her ability to move the ball around in the midfield and take the ball up the field via the wing.

Aguirre said, "Kendall was awarded MVP of the game at Governor's. She had a great game today, she played one of her best games of the season. She was really strong on the midfield and on the wing. She created a lot of really amazing scoring opportunities in the midfield and played some great balls up the wing."

Girls Soccer will play Northfield Mount Hermon at home on Saturday.

Football Keeps Spirits High Despite Loss to Cheshire

EVAN CURTIN & THEO WEI

SATURDAY	
Andover	14
Cheshire	42

Andover Football (1-4) fell to one of the strongest teams in New England, Cheshire Academy (Cheshire), on Saturday. Despite the team's loss, Andover was able to take positives from the tough matchup.

Cheshire featured players committed to Penn State, University of Miami, Yale University, and University of Southern California, among others. Wide receiver Elan Shetty '26 described the team's mentality heading into the game against Cheshire.

"We saw them as one of the best teams in New England, but we went with it. They are beatable. We can beat them, and we're going to give our best effort in beating them," said Shetty.

However, Cheshire's reputation as a football team still caused some unease within the team starting from kickoff, according to defensive back Carter Aime '25.

"We knew coming into the game that they would be a really good team... We were scared in that way, like when we got on the field [on the] first drive... We were just scared at the beginning of the game, and that kind of just carried [through] the whole [game]," said Aime. Despite this anxious en-

Despite this anxious energy, some moments in the game allowed the team to gain momentum and fight back. Shetty noted that safety Nick Jones '24 made an impactful play that raised the team's spirits.

"Nick Jones recovered a fumble [in] the second half, and it just gave our team life, and it gave us momentum to go out there and want to get some points on the board," Shetty said.

Although Andover made some memorable plays, Shetty talked about how the team has been let down by its lack of effort in practice. He believes that this is one of the main contributors to Andover's poor record.

"We got to take practice

more seriously. We can't go around with an arrogant attitude...we [got to] bring our best at every single practice in every single game. Can't take plays off. We [got to] do the best that we can," said Shetty.

Defensive back Bennett Rodgers '26 is proud of the improvement the team has made since last year and expressed his high hopes for the rest of the season.

Rodgers said, "We have a much better team than last season. We [have] a lot more talent and I think it's a great group of guys... We always say we're like a family and I think it is really good."

Shetty held similar sentiments to Rodgers, mentioning that the team has improved substantially since it played together last year. Andover has not only shown growth in its level of play, but also in its chemistry .

"The brotherhood and the camaraderie between the team is a lot better than last year. You can definitely see the level of talent on both the offensive side of the ball and the defensive side of the ball, which is substantially better," said Shetty.

Andover Football will play at home next Saturday against Brunswick.

TAKE PHOTOS! email: alee25, atsao25, mmackinnon24

Boys Cross Country Locks In Podium Sweep at St. Paul's Quad Meet

ANYA BUDZINSKI

SATURDAY	
Andover	21
St. Paul's	51
NMH	65
Austin Prep	109

On St. Paul's course, Andover Boys Cross Country put five runners in the top ten, winning by 30 points over St. Paul's, Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH), and Austin Preparatory School (Austin Prep) on Saturday. Notably, Max

Huang '24, Luke Williamson '25, and Jakob Kuelps '25 secured the top three places, respectively.

With a tough week of training leading up to the meet, the team devised a race plan that accounted for the resulting fatigue. Robert Budzinski '26, who finished in seventh, noted his teammates' efforts to help each other with pacing.

"We did a really hard hill workout on Monday, followed by a long run on Wednesday, which was closer to the race than usual since long runs can often leave your legs tired for multiple days. Knowing we were going into the race with tired legs, we kept it really conservative and relaxed for the first two miles. In the last mile, we let loose and gave it what we had. The team executed this plan really well, and we had a really successful race," said Budzinski.

According to Captain Avin Ramratnam '24, the team-mates' abilities to commit to the race plan and hold one another accountable was a crucial factor in its success. The team's mantra of the meet was "lock in."

"The biggest strength was focus. On the line, we were all super focused. Everyone had a plan and the team had a plan. With our focus and our good mentality, we executed really well in the race. We had a really good strategy going into the race, and we have such a solid group of guys it is rare that we burn out or have a bad race. We all keep each other focused and push each other throughout the race," said Ramratnam.

Despite being a smaller meet, the team still went into the race anticipating a challenging five kilometers. Kuelps highlighted how the team relied on mutual support to maintain high spirits and confidence in the race.

"We had high expectations of ourselves since we have been training really hard. We all wanted to place well individually and win the meet as a team. We worked together to help our teammates to achieve [personal records]. I know some people were really nervous before the race so it was really important that we had a supportive environment before and during the race," said Kuelps.

Looking ahead, the team plans to continue expanding on the foundation it has built regarding training and team culture. Ramratnam talked about how camaraderie is the core of the team, with everything else revolving around the team's relationships.

"Throughout the season, we have established a great camaraderie of perseverance and of grit. We have emphasized mentality a lot, and we are really focused on building on that as we go into the championship season," said Ranratnam.

Andover Boys Cross Country will race at NMH in a quad meet against Phillips Exeter Academy, Deerfield, and NMH on October 28.

Girls Volleyball Defeats St. Paul's, Loses to Exeter

AARON HUANG

FRIDAY	
Andover	3
St. Paul's	1
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	1
Exeter	3

Last Friday, Girls Volley-ball faced St. Paul's and secured a 3-1 victory. Buoyed by this win, the team aspired to sustain its winning momentum. Unfortunately, despite its efforts, they couldn't maintain it, resulting in a 1-3 loss to Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter) on Wednesday.

zo '25, the team initiated the match with a commanding performance in the first set against St. Paul's. Neverthe-

less, it experienced a setback in the second set, prompting Angbazo to emphasize the importance of maintaining consistent energy levels throughout the entire match.

According to Saraya Angba-

"I think we definitely wanted to go in with a lot of energy and that we did start out with it. I believe the first set was 25-7. The first set was really strong and that got us pumped up except afterwards we had a dip in our energy and because of that, when we are not having fun or when we are not putting our all out there, that is when our play starts to go down.... We lost the second set, so that was a tough one, but we were able to bring the energy back up. But after that point the energy kept coming in waves and that is something we are working on as a team, keeping that energy consistent if not trending upwards," said Angbazo.

Although strong teamwork contributed to the win, Selene Xu '27 highlighted fellow freshmen Ashley Schuman '27 as a stand out player, highlighting her incredible services. Her rhythm and composure served to be a pivotal asset for the team.

Xu said, "I feel like the teamwork in general was really good. Also there were a few good servers. I think there were streaks of five to ten serves... I remember that Ashley Schuman served ten serves in a row... I think Ashley's serve really stood out because she just served a lot in a row and she is also a freshman, so I think that really stood out to everyone and we were all impressed with her serves this game."

Andover versus Exeter (A/E) games often bring out large crowds, and with it, pressure to defeat the rival school. In previous encounters, Angbazo felt that the team went into the game with a timid mindset, hindering their ability to play at their best. This time, although the team lost, she believed that their mindset was much better and is looking forward to a rematch. Angbazo said, "In my past experience of playing Exeter, we have always just had such a scared mindset going into the game, we have all this pressure riding on our backs, not just from our school but also from ourselves, we want to prove to Exeter we are better, we want to beat Exeter, that comes with being an Andover student. So often times we stress ourselves out and Exeter is a strong team, they have good people, so from my past experiences we have lost and it has been massive losses. But today was just a turning point for me. A turning point to see that Exeter is not something we should be scared about. Exeter should be scared of us. We were super strong and although the outcome was not what we were hoping for, I am so excited for A/E in a couple



Kate Rodgers '26 had eight service points against St. Paul's on Friday



L.RUSTUM/THE PHILLIPIAN

Front front to back, Sarah Beth Sirmon PG'24, Kate Rodgers '26, and Ashley Schuman '27 prepare to receive a serve.

weeks, that game is going to be incredible."

Sophie Holten-Moravek '25 thought that although the team could have put even more effort into the game, they ultimately played well. She believed that the outcome did not reflect how close the game actually was.

"Overall, I think we played hard. I think that we could have played harder and we could have played better, but I think we had good energy and we tried our best throughout the sets. The score ended up being 3-1 [Exeter] but we were very, very close in all of the sets and I think that if we made a couple of changes, we could have easily beat them," said Holten-Moravek.

Angbazo agreed that the team has the capabilities to defeat Exeter, but must fix their mistakes in order to do so. She stated the team will work on their technical abilities and maintaining their energy in upcoming practices to ensure that the team is ready for the next challenge ahead.

"I think today Exeter did not beat us. We made mistakes. The only reason we lost those points was not because Exeter was crazy or amazing, it was because we were messing up. We weren't moving, we weren't talking, we weren't communicating. We had a bunch of serve-receive rotations where we just weren't able to get the ball up. We weren't able to start that play. I think in the next practices we are going to be working on not only consistency with our energy but also technical things such as serve-received and serving and blocking, all those small details that contribute greatly to the ultimate game," said Angbazo.

Girls Volleyball will play Northfield Mount Hermon at home on Saturday.

"Playing for Pink": Field Hockey Dominates St. Paul's and Middlesex

TARA MENON AND LILY WILLIAMSON

SATURDAY	
Andover	4
St. Paul's	0
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	5
Middlesex	1

Andover Field Hockey (10-0) secured two wins this week, with Wednesday's matchup against Middlesex dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The team remains undefeated and hopes that it can sustain its momentum into

the final stretch of the season. Playing away at St. Paul's on Saturday, the team was prepared to endure a challenging and physical game. After the team's most recent win against Milton, Captain Shea Freda '24 pinpointed areas of improvement for the team.

Freda said, "[The game] against Milton gave us some things that we wanted to work on in terms of our passing, communication, working together, so going into St. Paul's, that was something we were focusing on as a team, in practices leading up to [the game.

Andover started off strong against St. Paul's, scoring two goals within a two-minute span in the first quarter. Andover picked up two more goals in the third quarter and a single goal in the fourth quarter, solidifying its win against Brooks. Neily Ware '25 highlighted the strengths of the team and its ability to

adapt throughout the game.

'We had a little bit of a stint where we were getting a lot of corners and not scoring on them and then we kinda turned that around and our forwards kinda got it together, putting it in, tipping really well. Meg Stineman ['25] had some awesome tips. We figured out how to put the ball in, so I think that turned things around for us," said Ware

Freda emphasized the importance of teamwork and ball movement, two aspects of the game crucial to the team's success against St. Paul's.

We had a really nice passing sequence and it felt great to execute off of that, it was good to see what we could do when we had those really good moments of working together from the back of the field to the goal," said Freda.

In preparation for Middlesex, Andover utilized similar strategies from Saturday's matchup. According to Autumn Christian '27, a big takeaway from the game against St. Paul's was the team's effectiveness in passing.

"Working on moving the ball quickly and using our back passes really helped in the St. Paul's game. We used the same tactics against Middlesex because of the way that they played. So we had to adjust and we did really well on moving the ball and transferring to the other side of the field," said Christian.

Against Middlesex, Andover scored in every quarter, pushing back against Middlesex's strong offense. According to Christian, Freda stood out as a notable player due to her assertiveness on the field.

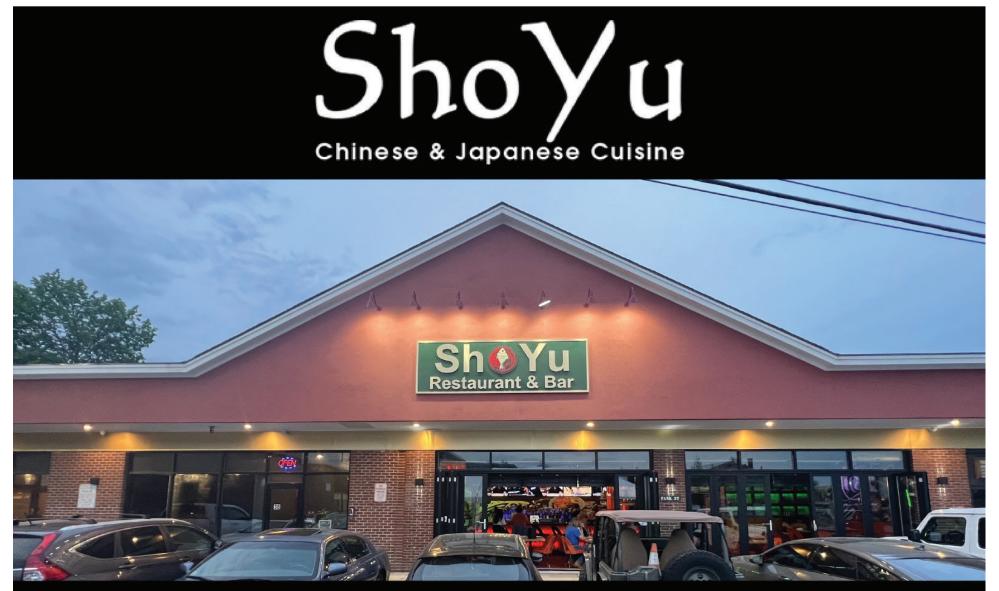
[Freda] did really well at the back, pulling out strong. She went for every single ball and was playing so aggres-sively... You could really tell her role was Captain out on that field," said Christian.

Looking ahead to upcoming games, the team looks to

maintain its strong passing, according to Ware.

"We had a lot of great passing sequences...and a couple of them resulted in a clean goal. So, we are just going to try to keep up that passing," said Ware.

Andover Field Hockey will host Northfield Mount Hermon on Friday.



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The Rise of PAFH: Team Spirit, Strategy, and Unwavering Determination

JILL REICHENBACH

Girls Field Hockey has recently been climbing up Max Field Hockey's High School National Top 25 Rankings, going from 24th in the nation for the second week to 20th in the nation in the third week. The team's record stands 9-0, only sparring two goals this season.

Molly Boyle '25 sheds light on the team's dynamics, emphasizing how each member balances a good work ethic with a fun atmosphere. Boyle reiterates how connections off the field improve communication and play on the field.

"I think that we are a very close team. We spend a significant amount of time together off the field, which I feel like helps us work better together while we are playing. We all make sure to be there for one another and support each other through the ups and downs in field hockey and just in life. When we are together, we are always working to get better, but have a fun time doing it which creates such a positive and inclusive environment," said Boyle.

Josie Sarno '26 highlighted the team's offensive prowess, noting the importance of gaining possession of the ball and attacking the defense. Evident in its high-scoring season, Sarno shared the team's mindset as soon as it steps on the field.

"In each game, we have a

I feel like a lot of the times within the first minute or two of the game, we tend to score a lot, even when we don't have possession of the ball. When we go out on the field, before the game even starts, everyone's locked in. Everyone's so focused on the game, and they really have that drive to win that. As soon as the whistle blows, even though the [opposing] team might have the ball, they go and take the ball, and I don't know how they do it, but they score within the first minute. And it's great because we start off with high

lot of special moments, but

energy," said Sarno. With a new positioning this season, the team has been able to facilitate better ball control, cutting, and passing. Meg Stineman '25 highlighted the tactical side of the team's success.

"I think our biggest overall adjustment has been our formation. We're playing with a different setup on the field, which has really been beneficial all over, just for cutting and making good passes... I would say that's probably our biggest one. And then in terms of our successes in the first half. Recently, we've been scoring more in the second half, but it really just all [depends] on our energy and coming out strong from the first whistle and making that first interception off the other team's pass," said Stineman.

In an email to *The Phillip-ian*, Head Coach Kate Dolan applauded the team for its

impressive ranking, noting that there is still room for improvement. Dolan hopes that the team can stay grounded and come in with high energy in the second half of the season.

Dolan wrote, "The poll/ ranking is fun and testament to the team's great start to the season — phenomenal, unprecedented. However, it is not where our focus is we are focused on improving and striving to be better in our communication, synchronized movement, and playing lower, stronger and with more poise. A poll in October means very little compared to a poll after the season is over — that is the poll we want to be in."

According to Boyle, while the ranking is something for the team to be proud of, there is still more work to do. Recognition on a national level is a head-turner for opposing teams and encourages everyone to play on their best level.

'I think that having this national ranking is a large accomplishment for our team and the PAFH [Phillips Academv Field Hockey] program, but it is not our main focus. We focus more on day-to-day improvement and how we can push each other to reach the highest potential this team can have. This ranking also makes other teams bring their best game against us every time we play, which encourages us to play at our highest level possible and focus on what PAFH is all about," said



Andover Field Hockey has let in just two goals in ten games this season.

Boyle.

Even with Andover rising in the rankings, Stineman, much like her teammates and Coach, emphasized the importance of continuous improvement and humility. The team plans to stay focused on one game at a time going forward, letting the ranking inspire but not distract them.

"The ranking is really great, but the consensus on the team is, we may be ranked 20th, which is amazing and we're a great team, but it's really important to keep it internal, and really just focus on ourselves and don't get caught up in being ranked 20th. We're so proud that we are, and we're so proud of ourselves for being able to work that hard this season and be there, but there's still so much to be done. And really, all that matters is improving from here. So although it's really great to be able to say that we're ranked 20th... We are trying to avoid getting caught up in the awesomeness of that, and just really continue to focus on our play on the field against every single opponent," said Stineman.

Boys Water Polo Bounces Back Following Loss to Brunswick in Double Header, Falls to Suffield

MADDIE SHIN & LIZ WODARSKI

SATURDAY	
Andover	4
Brunswick	21
SATURDAY	
Andover	6

[A] strength was that we still had our team morale up. So we had better communication than the Loomis team [and] I think that's what really won us the game. "

Leading up to the games against Brunswick and Loomis, Ethan Zhu '26 noted that the preparation process for the team included mocking possible plays and scenarios that could arise within the game.

"In practice, we just practice a lot of in-game scenarios. In-game specific scenarios, and some plays that other teams would do. We basically do those in our scrimmages just so we could reenact what it would look like in real game situations." said Zhu. Regardless of the hard work leading up to the games, Zhu noted that the team struggled to follow through with its preparation against Brunswick. However, the team applied the work it put in during practice better against Loomis. "Against Brunswick we were a little bit sloppy, but I think that was just because you're coming off a two-hour bus ride, and a lot of us were pretty tired. But we definitely stuck to the game plan a lot better against Loomis." According to Zhu, Andover learned from its mistakes after the game against Brunswick, and later was able to capitalize on Loomis's weaknesses. "Because Brunswick's defense is really good, we had already encountered a reallv hard defense, so our game plan was to do the same against Loomis and we knew that they wouldn't play as hard, so we'd get our plays and get what we needed to do a lot easier," said Zhu.

According to Zach Godsey '25, the team had made great strides in terms of offensive movement and taking its time. Despite this, there are still improvements to be made before the season comes to an end.

Godsey said, "We [had] a little bit more patience this game, especially with our offense, and I think our movement was pretty good on offense. I would say for things we need to do better, [we need to work on] center defender work and a lot of defense towards the center, and then passing under pressure. I would say passing under pressure is a big one." Godsev reflected on the team's loss against St. John's Prep a couple of weeks ago. Andover will have the chance to compete once again against them on Friday, and Godsey looks forward to the challenge. 'We have a Friday game against St. John's [Prep] that we lost. We lost [to] them by one like a couple weeks ago. It should be a fun game. I really, I would like to win that one, so I'm looking forward to it," said Godsey.



Loomis	
WEDNESDAY	
Andover	
Suffield	1

After a tough loss against Brunswick, Andover Boys Water Polo (8-3) demonstrated grit in the second leg of the double header, winning against Loomis Chaffee (Loomis) on Saturday. On Wednesday, the team faced another setback, losing to Suffield Academy.

Jeffrey Lim ²27 acknowledged Andover's fatigue after a well-fought game against Brunswick and noted that while the team was exhausted by the start of the Loomis game, it demonstrated resilience and dominance over its opponents.

Lim said, "Both teams were really tired after playing Brunswick. So the first quarter, no one scored. Nobody... Boys Water Polo will play St. John's Prep at home on Friday.

M.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

Zach Godsey '25 looks past his opponent.



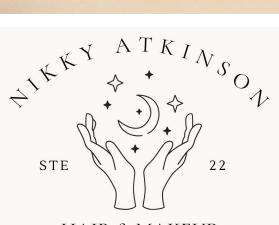
M.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

Andrew Chinn '24 is playing his fourth year on the Andover Boys Water Polo team.

Write for Sports!!

email: alucia25, ssnow25, scratty25

Classifieds

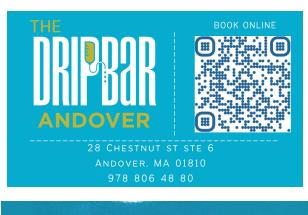


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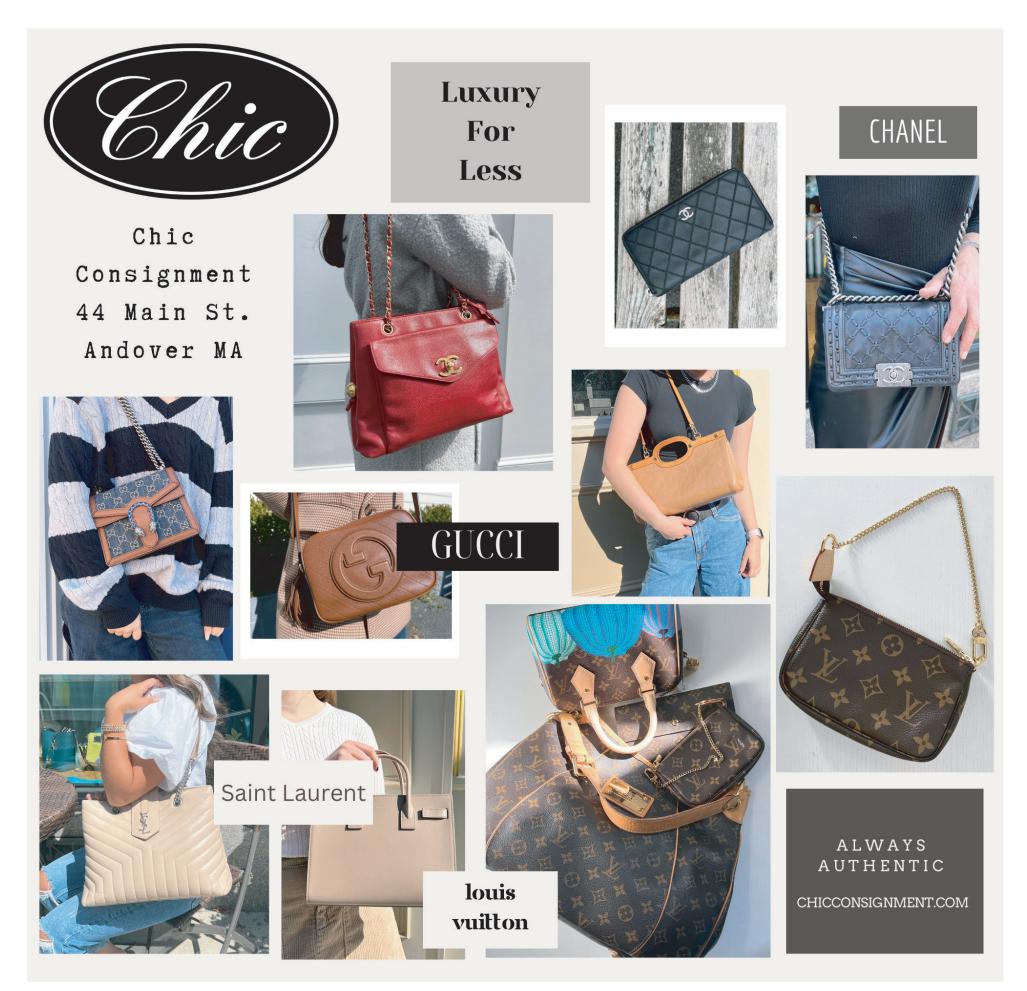
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ARTS B9



Grasshopper Behind-the-Scenes: What to Look Forward to at the Family Weekend Shows

SOPHIE TUNG AND WENDI YING

Grasshopper 2023, the heavily-anticipated fall talent show at Andover, will be showing four times throughout Family Weekend. This year's line-up features a wide variety of performances, ranging from tap-dancing and Chinese martial arts. Over the past few weeks, performers from groups like Asian Performing Arts Club (APAC), Downbeat, and Footnotes rehearsed and strove to perfect their Hollywood rendition of this year's theme: The Phillips Academy Awards.

APAC combines the musical power of the violin with intricately choreographed K-pop dances. They started preparing in summer and included numerous rehearsals into their back-to-school schedules. New member Yumi Lai '27 described what she found memorable.

"Bonding with all my friends in APAC [is memorable] because throughout each and every practice, I've gotten to know each one of them a little more and gotten close to them. And it feels great to finally be able to perform with these people that [I've] been working together [with] for a while," said Lai.

Footnotes, a tap-dancing club, will be delivering an entertaining and playful dance that integrates different elements of footwork to elevate the performance. Footnotes Co-Head Alex Giarnese '25 commented on the song of choice and how it cleverly fits into the theme of Grasshopper this year, adding a captivating dimension to the show.

"Footnotes chose our song

winning musical: 'Mamma Mia.' We're doing 'Does Your Mother Know' and we chose it because it's super jazzy and super fun and it invites people of all experience levels to tap with us and to have fun on stage," said Giarnese.

The final dress rehearsal on Wednesday night allowed Grasshopper performers to fully go through their acts, as well as cheer for other performers as audience members. Serafina Shin-Von Nordenflycht '25, member of Downbeat, mentioned one of her favorite things about the show. She also touched on areas she is concerned about.

"One of my favorite things is just standing backstage because [there are these] jitters that you get, that you don't find anywhere else. That's kind of unique to the performing arts. And I think that's why I love them so much. I'm a little bit nervous though... [about] the days where the audiences are a little bit less reciprocating of our own energy," said Shin-Von Nordenflycht.

Downbeat is preparing an acapella version of "Skyfall" by Adele, while Keynotes is going to perform a medley. They will feature soloists like Davyn Gottfried '25, Jacob Kaiser '24, and Evan Curtin '25. Downbeat member Talia Ivory '25 noted how despite facing nerves and challenges, the group ultimately pulls through and stays on track.

"[There are many] times my voice collectively cracks while I'm practicing. But then...we all pull it together in the end and I can't stop smiling because everyone sounds so good and I'm really proud... We goof around a lot in practice, but when it's time to get serious, we get serious," said Ivory.



ND Nwaneri '24 sings in 2023 Grasshopper as part of the band "Chillers."



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

based on the theme, which is [The] Phillips Academy Awards. We chose an award

A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Asian Performing Arts Club (APAC) started preparing its routine for Grasshopper over the summer.

The Princeton Nassoons' Inspirational and Heartwarming A Cappella Performance

CAMERON MANZO

In a performance that seamlessly blended melancholy, joyful, and emotional depth, the diverse tenor-bass repertoire captivated audience members, prompting some to rise from their seats and moving others to tears. With a unique fusion of vocal skill and a humorous spirit, the Princeton Nassoons delivered a memorable concert in Kemper Auditorium and an interactive workshop for aspiring a cappella enthusiasts on the evening of October 14.

Founded in 1941, The Princeton Nassoons, an allmale a cappella singing club at Princeton University, is the fifth oldest a cappella group in the United States and the oldest at Princeton. Performing across the globe, current Nassoons president Casey Beidel shared why they decided to come to Andover specifically.

"We're doing a tour throughout New England, and we always look for schools in the area to inspire young kids to pursue a cappella. I think [Andover is] where we have some of the most amazing connections as well. Just seeing some of the alumni come and sing with us on stage today, they might be Andover connection, they might just live in the area, it's really great to sing our music and cherish our traditions that we've had for 80 years," said Beidel.

The ability of the Nassoons did not go unnoticed by the



K.MACKINNON/THE PHILLIPIAN

The Princeton Nasoons compile a set list of many musical genres including country, jazz, and modern upbeat.

audience. Will Ware '26, a member of Keynotes, an a cappella group on campus, shared his appreciation.

"I came early to workshop our performance for Grasshopper, and met with them, and then I stayed and watched the performance... I did really like it. After this year, learning how to do a cappella and all the intricacies with it, I was very impressed. I have a lot of respect for them, because they were very good, and I [think] it's a very difficult thing to do," said Ware.

Beidel emphasized the unifying power of music and

the sense of community the Nassoons have fostered, even among individuals with diverse backgrounds. He hoped that students would take away a message: to embrace new experiences.

"Especially in this day and age, music is something that can really bond us all together... The goal is just to take your mind off something for 20 minutes by listening to a group of goofy college guys singing. And just really express how much we love each other, love singing, and the power of music... We're from all walks of life, all these different places around the globe, [and] we're studying every possible major under the sun. You don't need to be a musician to succeed in music in college... So just try new things, experiment, and see where you land. You can't really go wrong," said Beidel.

What added a special touch to the performance was the participation of Princeton Nassoons alumni, who joined the current members on stage to sing the club's founding song. Bringing together a diverse group of both seasoned alumni and budding young talents, the performance illustrated an enduring sense of community across generations.

"[Collaborating] is always the best time, cause you don't know where you're gonna find a Nassoon alum, and wherever you go, you find someone, and that's history; that's legacy. Every time, it's like you're bonding with history [when] you're bonding with a past member, and there's such a connection between all Nassoon alumni and current Nassoons... I think a common occurrence throughout a lot of our songs is a theme of love. We just want to express enjoyment, and we want to give enjoyment to the crowd," said William Yang, another member of The Nassoons.

The Nassoons conveyed their passion for the art to the audience, which left a strong impression on the listeners. Audience member Margot Furman '25 expressed the emotional impact the performance had on her.

"I loved it. Peyton [Kennedy '25] said that one of these men had a voice like an angel, and I really agree with that, in that it literally brought me to tears when they were singing their squad song... It was literally so wholesome; I started tearing up. [The alumni] remembered all of the song, too. It was so kind ... [I felt] irrefutable happiness throughout the performance... They should've made this an [All-School Meeting]," said Furman.



Teaching Fellow Emily Howell Showcases a Sustainable Wardrobe, Often Mending or Sewing Her Clothing

PENELOPE TONG

Dawning a light denim jean jacket paired with a maxi dress compiled of mul-tiple warm-toned colors and fabrics, Teaching Fellow in Chemistry Emily Howell loves to experiment with col-or and wear statement pieces. She pairs her dress and jacket with orange and gray floral socks and black shoes. It wasn't until college, when Emily Howell began to exercise more freedom re-garding the way she dressed, allowing her to develop a unique style. Howell de-scribed her fashion progres-sion.

sion.

"When I was your age, I just wore jeans and a t-shirt every wore Jeans and a t-snirt every single day. It's really difficult when you're in high school. I actually give you guys a lot of credit because a lot of you guys show your personality through how you're dressed... I was very, very frightened to do that, it wasn't really until I went to college when I felt like I had a little bit less pressure, a little more freedom,

that I started to really think about how I dress," said Howell.

Now, Howell dresses to intentionally express her per-sonality. She is inspired by sonality. She is inspired by television character Buffy the Vampire Slayer and admires Buffy's stylish confidence. According to Sophia Tabibian '26, Howell's clothing varies constantly, drawn together to match her mood. "I think that she is so unique, and she doesn't think twice about what she wears, she just goes for it and ex-

she just goes for it and ex-presses herself and I love how the vibes are always evolving and changing. Like one day it

and changing. Like one day it will be a maxi skirt and an-other it will be straight jeans and a flannel," said Tabibian. When picking an outfit for the day, Howell often bases her choices off of the weath-er. Whether it's a bright jack-at or a more neutral sweater et or a more neutral sweater, she tries to dress in compat-ible manners with the weath-

er. "I really like wearing fun, colorful, flashy things on more dreary days, so I can kind of have a little more brightness in my day. Whereas like to-

day is a beautiful day, so I'm dressed pretty boring because I didn't need anything color-ful, the color is coming from nature," said Howell. In addition to the fore-cast, Howell also makes sure

cast, Howell also makes sure to consider what activities she will partake in that day. Comfort and practicality is an important factor in How-ell's style, as being a teacher demands a variety of tasks throughout the school day. "I dress very differently based on what I'm teaching, because if I'm doing labs ob-

because if I'm doing labs, obbecause if I'm doing labs, ob-viously I'm wearing either a long skirt or pants. Also, if I'm giving a test I'm going to be sitting a lot more, so I'll wear something with an elastic waistband, so I'm more com-fortable, versus if I'm doing a lot of running around I'm a lot of running around, I'm more likely to be in something a little bit more form-fitting. Similarly, I do interviews, so I

dress differently on days that I do interviews," said Howell. Howell also prioritizes long-lasting articles of clothing, promoting less waste in doing so. Her favorite piece is a hand-made patchy yellow and green dress with gigan-tic pockets, which according to her, is for carrying "two books" at all times. When she isn't making or mending her own clothing, Howell buys from brands that focus on du-rability and quality to make sure that she gets the most

out of each piece. "I make a lot of my clothes, and the rest I usually steal from my mom. Carhartt is where I get most of my jeans and pants, and I love them because I destroy clothes by accident... This sweater I'm currently wearing has patch-es and holes that I've had to mend. It's nice to have things that I can't destroy, and that would be Carhartt for me. I also wear a lot of Dulu-th Trading [Company], they have these really awesome firehose pants that are made recycled fire hoses, I really like them," said Howell. In the future, Howell hopes to continue making her own



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN Howell likes to experiment with color, and often aims for vibrancy.

skills, as well as start some larger projects. "I want to start making more things, I already make

and stuff like that, but I can't make sweaters, so I'm thinking my next major skill that



C.BARBIE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Howell often mends, sews, or buys recycled clothing.

a decent chunk of what I wear. I can knit, but I'm not very good at knitting. I can't really make more complicated things. I can make shawls I want to pick up is knitting dresses," said Howell.

The Jags Band Plays a Broad Range of Styles for Casual Den Concert

clothing. Besides sewing, she hopes to improve her knitting

CAMERON MANZO

Lit in dim red light, the sound of guitars, drums, keyboards, and singing resounded from the stage of Susie's. Students dropped in to unwind from schoolwork, requesting custom songs, and even joining in the performance after the planned set.

On Friday night, a family band known as The Jags arrived on campus to perform. Lead singer Monica Jagentenfl explained why they came to perform at Andover. "Last year, my husband,

the guitar player, played here with a different group. This [time], we came here with our family. [The band consists of] my husband, our three children, and then we have our friend drumming... We're hoping people hang out and have a good time, but also hoping that some aspiring musicians might be here tonight...see some of their peers on stage, and have some inspiration," said Jagentenfl.

The Jags played a diverse selection of songs selected by the band members, which consisted of everything from Harry Styles to blues music from the '70s. Since the

members vary in age, with the youngest being 13, their varying music tastes allowed their concerts to attract a broad audience. Gabriella Kawooya '27, who came across the concert by chance, decided to stay because of the music choice.

"I was getting a snack from [Susie's], and they were playing a song I liked: 'Valerie' by Amy Winehouse. So I figured, 'I have some free time, might as well stop by," said Kawooya.

In past gigs, The Jags have typically played at events which heavily involved the audience. For example, they would perform live music on dance floors. Sofia Lin '26 praised the emotions and energy in The Jags' performance.

"I feel like they brought a very cheerful atmosphere to the place... They seemed like they were having fun, a fair amount of people in the audience seemed like they were having fun, and that's just the environment you need," said Lin.

The event was a unique experience for both attendees and The Jags themselves, as it was the band's first time bringing their tight-knit family band to a school environment. Overall, the band members felt the performance went pretty well - a sentiment band member and son Tyler Jagentenfl commented upon.

"I think we sounded pretty good. [You] can't beat playing with your family, [it's] a blast... It's fun. Especially if you've been playing with these people your whole life, like we have," said Tyler Jagentenfl.

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October 20, 2023

B11



OWHL Movie Screenings: Bringing Community and Culture Together Under the Art of Film

PENELOPE TONG

After a busy week of midterms, Derek Curtis, Programming and Digital Content Producer for Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL), transformed the Freeman Room into a movie theater complete with snacks and refreshments. Last Saturday's movie of choice, "Pariah," was just one of the carefully selected films that have been part of the OWHL movie screening project this year.

"I thought this was a great opportunity to provide a great venue for students who want to show up on a Friday night to see some things they've seen but maybe some things they haven't seen. A library is a great place to find out new things, see new things, engage new ideas, and I thought this would be a good extension of that," said Curtis.

This year, Curtis has been working on a passion project to share his love of film with the Andover community. These Friday night screenings are not your typical movies, but ones that are often overshadowed by mainstream media. Curtis hopes to provide the community with films

that showcase the diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and identities of individuals.

"I know there are so many great movies out there that aren't screened a lot, and I've been wanting to have an opportunity to show the community some movies that maybe aren't really seen, not seen as often as they should be... We need to show more representations of people than the ones that are often shown. I think the school does a decent job on many fronts of doing things that are showing everyone and celebrating everyone, and I thought this was an opportunity to do that with what seems to be, by reading about ["Pariah"], a very powerful film," said Curtis.

Audience member, Annabel Tu '25, echoed that sentiment – encouraging others to take advantage of the opportunity to broaden their horizons and seek films outside the mainstream spotlight.

"I enjoyed watching the movie and I think that it's a really great opportunity to see new movies because they're not all super well-known movies. So I think it's very nice that the OWHL is doing this and allowing people to branch out. They can see new movies that they might not have ever watched," said Tu.

With a focus on the theme of identity, future film selections will continue to revolve around recognition and heritage months. In order to ensure authentic representation of the diverse student body, Curtis also reaches out to clubs and affinity groups for recommendations.

"So next month is Native American Heritage Month, so the student group on campus, NAPA [Native Americans at Phillips Academy], I've reached out to them asking, 'What would you like to show?" But one film I know we're going to be showing next month is 'The Body Remembers," said Curtis.

members," said Curtis. Curtis hopes that his choice of movies not only unify the community but also leave a lasting impression on the students. As a film enthusiast, Curtis has witnessed the transformative power of compelling art and hopes that Andover students will experience it too.

"I'm definitely someone who believes in the power of art to change your life in a moment. You never know what you're going to see or engage that dramatically alters how you see yourself and the world... I hope people take away that you belong here, this school is trying to find ways to show things that are engaging you as who you are, and for you to see yourself in other people. I guess I hope that people engaged a fairly complex piece of art, and it gave them something to reflect upon, and provided them an opportunity to engage something real... Something like this

'Pariah' isn't a gloss on what it's like to be a Black queer person," said Curtis.





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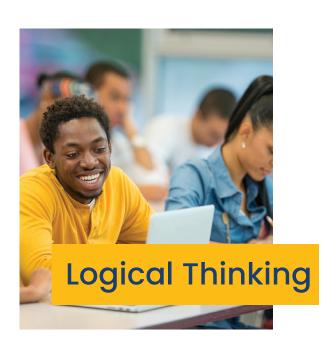
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