

## School Responds to Reports of Alleged Secret Society Activity

### STAFF REPORT

Following more than a week of hushed discussion on campus about alleged actions of the secret society Truth, Unity, Brotherhood (T.U.B.), Head of School Raynard Kington sent an email to the community about a “report of concerning behavior” and reminded students that “we do not tolerate actions that are threatening or pose a risk of harm to the health, safety, or wellbeing of self or others.”

*The Phillipian* repeatedly requested interviews with Kington, Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, and Merrilee Mardon, Deputy Head of School for Academics and Student Affairs, at the beginning of the week. All requests for interviews were declined. Tracy Sweet, Chief Communications Officer, then emailed a response to the questions from *The Phillipian* on May 23. Kington soon after sent out statements with similar language to students, families, and campus adults.

“Upon receiving a report of concerning behavior the week of May 12, the deans and other campus adults took immediate steps to support our students and gather information. They learned that the behavior alleged may have involved an unsanctioned student group,” wrote Sweet. [See page A5 for a full statement.]

Andover has a long history of secret societies and for

over a century the administration has grappled with how to regulate or ban their presence on campus, according to previous *Phillipian* reporting. Current anti-hazing rules in the Blue Book have evolved since the 1944-1945 school year document entitled “Faculty Rules Concerning Secret Societies.”

Former Head of School Claude Fuess wrote in the document, “The accidental death of a boy in 1933, following an initiation, brought about a rule forbidding any initiatory ceremonies outside of the house itself, and banning all the physical torture which had previously been one of the methods of welcoming a new member.”

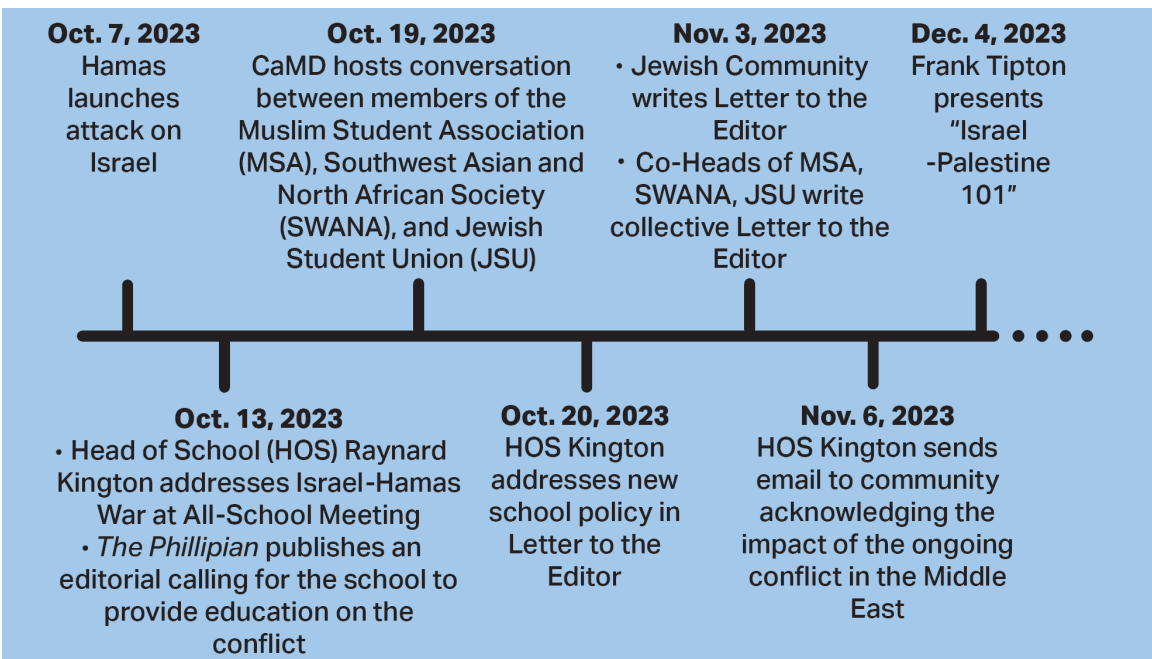
Since their decline in the mid-20th century, two secret societies have reappeared: T.U.B. and Madame Sarah Abbot Society (M.S.A.S.). In 2012, Andover officially prohibited all secret societies, with the Blue Book currently stating, “Participating in a secret society, club, or other exclusive entity is prohibited.”

The most recent visible stunt of a secret society was in April 2023, when the American Flag was replaced by a T.U.B. flag. This prompted an email to the community from Esty on April 4, condemning T.U.B.

“T.U.B. has had a history not only of exclusivity but also of hearkening back with

*Continued on A5, Column 4*

## Students Seek More Education on Israel and Palestine



H. CHOI/THE PHILLIPIAN

### JONATHAN OH & BAILEY XU

More than 75 percent of Andover students do not feel the school has adequately educated them about Israel and Palestine, according to *The Phillipian's* 2024 State of the Academy (SOTA).

SOTA is the annual anonymous survey sent out to Andover's student body containing 146 questions regarding aspects of student life on campus, politics and worldview, education, and more.

After Hamas launched an attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, *The Phillipian* published an editorial on October 13 calling for the school to provide education on the matter. Later that morning during All-School Meeting, Head of School Raynard Kington spoke briefly on conflict in the Middle East, noting that educational programming would be available soon. Seven weeks later, on December 6, Frank Tipton, former In-

structor in History at Andover, delivered a 75-minute introduction to the history of Israel and Palestine, entitled “Israel-Palestine 101.” Now, over five months later, the school has not organized another educational opportunity intended for the full campus community.

Sami Tokat '26, Co-Head of the Muslim Student Association (MSA) and upcoming Co-President of Southwest Asian and North African Society (SWANA), viewed Tipton's presentation as a relatively neutral explanation of the history between Israel and Palestine. However, he noted the pause in Andover's efforts to bring light to the situation, despite the conflict's continued development.

“We wanted something more unbiased, and that's what we got with [Tipton's presentation]. But after that, nothing really came afterward, and that's really important because this situation is changing, it's an active situation. The attacks happened on October 7. This conflict didn't end on October 8, it's

still going on, and it's still ever-changing, and it's still dynamic,” said Tokat.

Prior to Tipton's talk, the Office of Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD) hosted a conversation between the members of MSA, SWANA, and Jewish Student Union (JSU) to better understand how the conflict was affecting students, according to an email statement to *The Phillipian* from Kington. Subsequently, Co-Heads of MSA, JSU, and SWANA published a Letter to the Editor on November 3 declaring their unity and mutual solidarity. CaMD also invited educators from the Fig Tree Alliance to meet with members from the chaplaincy and students from JSU, MSA, and SWANA.

Ella Kowal '25, President of JSU, commended these initial efforts but spoke on the importance of having continued efforts that address

*Continued on A5, Column 1*

## AAPI Heritage Month: ASM Keynote Speaker R.F. Kuang on Journey to Becoming an Author

### JEANNE KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET & GUETTY MOITA

In observing Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans Heritage month (AAPI), Andover invited R.F. Kuang to speak at All-School Meeting (ASM). A New York Times bestselling author of “The Poppy Wars” trilogy, “Yellow Face,” and “Babel: An Arcane History,” Kuang is now currently pursuing a PhD in East Asian Languages and Literatures at Yale University. During her speech on May 10, Kuang spoke about her journey in becoming an author.

Overcoming multiple stereotypes to become a published author, Kuang opened up her speech with how there is no “curriculum” in becoming a novelist. She emphasized that one can be a writer without prior connection to the industry or any specific type of studies, encouraging students to take risks.

“Very often, students ask me what steps they need to take to become a published writer, and I think we still have this assumption that writing is a career path that involves jumping through all the right hoops: submitting to contests, publishing in magazines, majoring in English, acquiring an MFA et cetera... Well, I have, and did none of those things, and somehow they still let me write books,” said Kuang during ASM.

As a Chinese immigrant, Kuang shared how her immersion into the English language at a very young age revealed her passion for books and writing. Growing up in Dallas, Texas, her readings were her first anchor to America.

“I fell in love with the English language because that was my en-

*Continued on A5, Column 4*

## OWHL Hosts First Abbot Book Festival

### ADEN HWANG & LUCAS BENARDETE

The Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL) was bustling with speakers and students gathered around food trucks and workshops at the first-ever Abbot Book Festival. This year's celebration, which took place on May 11, highlighted books such as “Binti” by Nnedi Okorafor and “The Disordered Cosmos” by Chanda Prescod-Weinstein and various other speakers came to share their work with the Andover community.

Anastasia Collins, Instructional Librarian and Geographer for the OWHL, was one of the key organizers of the event. Collins spoke about the process of organizing the event and noted the issues around engagement that the literary world was facing.

“Right at the start of last summer, a couple of the other library folks and I were talking about multiple things around engagement in the library, engagement with the collection, but also about sort of the uptick in book bans that we're seeing happening and what that conversation looks like, in independent schools... and someone just asked, has there ever been something like a festival book fair here. And to the best of our knowledge, there hasn't been, for lots of reasons. Some of [these] have to do with the role that the library used to play on campus in the history of Andover. But since it hadn't happened before, we started thinking of what it could look like today,” said Collins.

A speaker at the event, K. Iver, a Writer-in-Residence at Andover, hosted a poetry



COURTESY OF CHLOE SONG  
**Timothy Hall, musician and performance poet, performed at the opening of the festival in front of the OWHL.**

reading during the Book Fair. Iver, a published author, read various works of the poetry they had written. Iver also participated in a discussion amongst faculty on some of the books displayed at the Book Fair, noting the interesting conversations that took place.

“It was great. I had a little mic, and people turned up and listened. I read a poem from my book that had themes of space in it, two of them actually have space themes, and that seemed to be the prompt for the festival. I read a poem about reversing grief, or the idea of reversing grief, in a way that lets one grab pleasure and joy for two if someone you miss is no longer there to experience wonderful things with you, are there ways to make them more wonderful, as if you were grabbing joy for two,” said Iver.

Theresa Okokon, another one of the speakers at the event, had previously come to Andover to give a workshop on TEDxPhillipsAcademy.

Laerdon Kim '24, who gave a TEDx presentation earlier this month, expressed his excitement for the festival and welcomed Okokon back on campus.

“I was really excited for there to be more activity around the library. I think that sometimes, on the weekends, it's a little bit scarcer. But, overall, I was really excited for the readings and the different craft activities. And I had listened to Theresa Okokon from her doing a workshop on TEDx, so I was eager to see her return,” said Kim.

Along with the speakers, the book festival hosted a variety of hands-on and kid-friendly activities, ranging from zine, T-shirt, and button-making. Russell Robinson '25, an attendee of the-

*Continued on A6, Column 1*

Commentary, A2

### Finis Origine Pendet

Cleo Xu '26 reflects on the meaning of “goodbye” describing the word as a culmination of both beginnings and endings.

Eighth Page, A8

### Prom Season is Here

Get ready Seniors.

Sports, B1

### Girls Tennis Falls Before A/E

Girls Tennis competed at the Class A NEPSAC Championships to reclaim the title for the second season, although falling short.

Arts, B6

### The Repercussions

Last Friday, the Repercussions upheld tradition and performed a combination of pop, jazz and rock music in Susie's.

### SUBSCRIBE/ADVERTISE

Email us with requests:  
**phillipian@phillipian.net**  
Subscribe online at:  
**phillipian.net/subscribe.**

The Phillipian

Vol. CXLVII

Phillips Academy

The oldest preparatory newspaper in the United States. Founded 1857.

Louisa S. Carter

Editor in Chief

Jacqueline J. Gordon

Executive Editor

Heyon Choi

Executive Digital Editor

Tianyi Evans Y. Gu

Managing Editor

Alice He

Managing Editor

Valencia M. Zhang

Chief Financial Officer

Arts

Annabel Tu

Sophie Tung

Wendi Ying

Commentary

Leilani Glace

Amy Oku

Copy

Mia Burton

Claire Cheng

Thao Pham

Kendra Tomala

Digital

Christina Cho

Nate Liang

Kai Mafunga

Kevin Niu

Eighth Page

Theo Sfikas

Charles Vest

Graphic Design

Claire Wang

James Xiao

Abby Zhu

Finance

Suvir Virmani

Outreach

Jaceil Britton

Illustration

Avery Lin

Claris Shin

Kira Stepanova

Layout

Connor Gleason

Daniel Seong

Audrey Wan

Multilingual

Sophia Geng

Noel Kim

News

Will Ge

Cathy Ma

Photo

Alex Lee

Leena Rustum

Albert Tsao

Sports

Sophia Cratty

Angie Lucia

Nabilah Nazar

Video

Edward Chen

Leo Sim

Business

Julia Fox

Philip Meng

Staff Positions

Arts

Penelope Tong

News

Bailey Xu

Eighth Page

Nadia Vargas

Video

Nathan Egbuna

Photo

Ethan Liu

Business

Sophia Lazar

Illustration

Sophie Staii

Sports

Henry Snow

Commentary

Micheal Kawooya

Sahana Manikandan

Editorial

A Goodbye for the Last Time

Four years ago, the Class of 2024 entered Andover’s campus in the midst of a global pandemic. The 2020-2021 school year was challenging, trying, and yet, the Class of 2024 persevered. To our beloved Seniors, thank you. It was in these buildings and these hallowed halls that you left your legacy. Though it may not be noticeable, the dips in the steps of Paresky Commons are slightly deeper and the paths are slightly more worn because of you. What is noticeable, though, are the marks you have left on all of us – your friendship and welcoming arms, your leadership in clubs and sports, your invaluable wisdom in what it means to be true to ourselves.

While our appreciation for you cannot even begin to be expressed in words, below are just a few of the many pieces of gratitude the board would like to share:

“From the Seniors I’ve known since Freshman Year to the ones I recently befriended, you are the reason I can look forward to my own Senior year. I know it’s been a tough year, but seeing how you manage to still bring joy in others and myself, I realized how some things just never change. Thank you for always being real with me and reminding me that I should be less stressed, since I am in fact, a year younger.”

“To our favorite PATF Seniors (you know who you are), we love you dearly. Your departure will leave a gaping hole in our hearts that will never be filled. Your guidance, leadership, relentless optimism, demon speed, mad hops, horizon-reaching throws, and sky-touching vaults have made you the greatest role models to ever live. Thank you for being you. It has meant the world to us.”

“To the Commentary Seniors who will forever remain on the teal computer screen in the Newsroom, thank you for reminding me about what it means to write with pulsing passion. You guys were always there to remind me that the appetite is sometimes bigger than the joy, and that is ok. Thank you for teaching me how to do layout. Thank you for teaching me how to laugh when it’s hard. Thank you for saving me from numerous mistakes. Thank you for being my layout eye candy every Thursday. Ayo, I’m crying. God, I’ll miss you guys.”

“My Seniors. I am so incredibly proud of you, you’re finally done and free! You have worked so terribly hard. You’ve been all I’ve ever really known at Andover and I’m scared of what it’ll be like now that you’re leaving. What will I possibly do without all of you. Thank you for being some of my closest friends throughout my time here. Thank you for all of the kindness, patience, and love you have given me. You have been my world

and I cannot even begin to describe how much I will miss you guys. A special part of my heart will always belong to you. Only wishing you the best, I’m always rooting for you and I’ll always be here if you need me. I only want to make you proud!”

“Through my time at Andover, I’ve often thrived off of having role models and people I look up to. As the years passed, I slowly became closer and closer in age to these role models, and they became less of my idols and more so my friends. Thank you, Seniors, for teaching me how to run clubs and have no fear when sending emails to 200 people, for showing me the ropes of what it means to captain a team, and for passing along a legacy that I am slowly learning how to carry on myself.”

“To the Seniors who I think less of as friends and more as sisters, thank you for always providing me with a family to call my own in the dance studio. I will forever miss seeing you around campus and the space that you all will leave will be irreplaceable. I wish nothing but luck and the best in all of your lives, and maybe, just maybe, come and visit Andover soon <3”

“Our Beautiful ’24s: what can I even say. Learning, writing, and performing alongside you has been the most memorable and extraordinary experience one could dream for at Andover. Impromptu ramen runs, questionably legal house visits—these moments are worth their weight in gold and more. Your light shines brighter than the stars, and your presence on this campus will linger for the years to come. Look at the sky! That infinite expanse is the home of your stories.”

“To the Seniors, you shone. You taught us how to embrace what Andover has to offer and how to rise and wake in this hallowed campus with love and laughter. You brought us through blood, sweat, and tears (too many yet not enough). I will always remember you, and I will take all that I’ve learned from you here and beyond. To the ones who make this place so beautiful, so much love.”

To all of our Seniors – thank you, for walking a path ahead of us so we can feel a little less lost in the magical yet also undoubtedly frightening forest of adolescence. You have been our anchors in restless oceans, our lighthouses in the face of stormy seas and thunderous skies, our fires in the deepest and darkest nights. As you forge ahead in your journeys of exploration and self-discovery, we wish you the best, and we will forever hold the memories of your kindness and love close to our hearts.

With the utmost adoration and gratitude,  
The Phillipian, vol. CXLVII

Don’t Burn Out Just Yet

MICHEAL KAWOOYA



Between this spring and last, I have come to a seemingly unpopular opinion that spring is the hardest term of the year. After Winter Break, students have two months of school and, subsequently, Spring Break. However, even after two weeks of break, I felt burnt out heading into the Term. The third and final trimester includes ten long weeks of school, which can be difficult to endure at the end of the academic year. Unlike Spring, Fall term comes after summer vacation, and Winter Term has a mid-trimester break, which affords students more downtime. This isn’t to say that one term is particularly easier than another; however, campus-wide burnout is more prevalent in students in the spring. As the end of the school year approaches, I find myself expending energy, wondering how I will manage to make it to summer break with a decent GPA. As I have consulted my family and friends for advice, I have reflected on the importance of preventing and mitigating burnout.

I have come to realize my burnout and stress often come from overcommitting. Because club turnovers happen in the spring,

students often have more on their plate between final performances, papers, and tests. Long days, running from dress rehearsals to group project meetings to studying for my majors or AP exams, constituted my Spring Term. While I’ve become accustomed to the rigorous schedule synonymous with life at Andover, it can become difficult for even the best students to meet every demand. I haven’t always understood that trimming down a laundry list of commitments doesn’t make me any less capable or competent. Furthermore, in pursuing this faux success, I end up anchoring myself with obligations. However, quantity and quality are often mutually exclusive. This has made me struggle to make it to chorus rehearsals or submit assignments for the extra elective I pressured myself to enroll in. I’d consistently succumbed to the tendencies that led me to take on a course load that I couldn’t handle or juggle extracurriculars that consumed all my time. However, after many sleepless nights spent catching up on missing assignments, I began reducing my commitments to only those I could manage while prioritizing my wellness. In my

Being mindful that we are not biting off more than we can chew or expecting too much from ourselves is a central part of making sure school is a catalyst of our curiosity and learning — not an obstacle.

case, I made the difficult decision to walk away from certain obligations, such as outdoor track, in

order to make sure I consistently slept eight hours a night and succeeded academically. This decision freed me from much stress and reduced my burnout, allowing me to devote my full attention to a handful of obligations and thrive in each.

While I have continued to combat overcommitment, I have come to realize that perfectionism has been contributing equally to my exhaustion. This winter, I was a cast member in “Shrek the Musical.” From the first rehearsal, I was committed to delivering my best performance. However, mere weeks before opening night, I caught the flu and was out of classes and rehearsals for a week. Naturally, when I returned to practice a week later, I immediately realized that my voice was half as strong as it was before, affecting my confidence. For hours every night, I would run vocal exercises and obsess over every measure and word I sang until I was satisfied — but it never came. My performance came at the mercy of the state of my voice, which needed time to heal. Even when it eventually rebounded, I failed to recognize that perfection is unattainable. The goalposts I set for myself continuously evolve, making it impossible for me to chase perfection and be content with my abilities.

Undoing my mindset on perfectionism was no easy feat. I was adamant about meeting my failures with denial instead of embracing my humanity. However, during Spring Break, I witnessed my father’s rejection for an academic grant he had worked tirelessly for. Initially, I expected my father to react like I would — by sulking around the house and living off Ben & Jerry’s ice cream. However, I was shocked and inspired when he chose to do the opposite. He told me that dwell-



GEMMA PARK / THE PHILLIPIAN

ing on one seemingly massive failure would only hinder his ability to succeed elsewhere in his life, whether as a scholar, father, or husband. Instead, he decided to step back and assess what areas he could improve on to turn his failure into success. His ultimate goal wasn’t perfection but rather satis-

This decision freed me from much stress and reduced my burnout, allowing me to devote my full attention to a handful of obligations and thrive in each.

faction with his achievements and capabilities.

Being a student at Andover can be taxing, especially towards the end of each year. However, there are conscious decisions we can make as students to relieve ourselves from unnecessary stressors. Being mindful that we are not biting off more than we can chew or expecting too much from ourselves is a central part of making sure school is a catalyst of our curiosity and learning — not an obstacle.

Micheal Kawooya is a Lower from Columbia, S.C. Contact the author at mkawooya26@andover.edu.

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

To subscribe, email subscribe@phillipian.net, or write to The Phillipian, 180 Main Street, Andover, Ma, 01810.

All contents of The Phillipian copyright © 2017, The Trustees of Phillips Academy, Inc. Reproduction of any material herein without the expressed written consent of The Trustees of Phillips Academy, Inc. and the Editorial Board of The Phillipian is strictly prohibited.

CORRECTIONS:

# So How Do I Say Goodbye...



“How lucky I am to have something so special, that makes saying goodbye so hard.” Julia Carmona ’24’s final remark during her reflection at All-School Meeting (ASM) resonated with me long after the actual echo had died inside the Cochran Chapel. Spring is supposed to be about new life and beginnings, yet amidst the blooming winter jasmines and the cherry blossoms, there have to be goodbyes.

## Goodbyes aren’t really for those that are leaving, but for those that stay.

I often wonder if “goodbye” is one of the first words to be invented in the human language. There is “hello,” “hi,” and all the greetings we use when we meet new people. The introductory remarks, which spark our friendships and relationships with others, inevitably have their counterparts when we part ways from those we meet. Every language

has a word for goodbye. Sometimes, the farewells are the same as the greetings. In Italian, ‘Ciao’ means both goodbye and hello; in French, people say ‘salut’; and in Hawaiian, there is ‘aloha,’ which also translates to the breath of life. One can say that there is also an equivalent word in English: “good day.” “Good day” as in “good morning,” when one passes by a friend on the way to Paresky Commons, or “good day” as in “have a nice day” when one goes separate ways after class to go to sports. In a sense, one is communicating their salutations and expressing their good wishes at the same time, so goodbye is also a way of greeting, and one greets with hindsight that a farewell will eventually come.

There are even different ‘degrees’ of goodbyes. If it is just a short time of separation, there is “see you soon,” “see you around” or simply “see you.” It could also be a succinct and brisk “bye” when you are in a hurry. You are probably smiling as you say these words, knowing that you will eventually see the people again. But when you say the entire thing — “goodbye” — there is weight in its length and gravity. We smile because it’s the only thing we can do to stop our tears from falling.

In both literature and movies, we often encounter characters bidding each other farewells. You may have read the book “A Long Goodbye” by Raymond Chandler who writes, “to say goodbye is to die a little.” Maybe you have watched “The Truman Show”, and heard the host, before he leaves the world he has lived in for almost the entirety of his life, say “In case I don’t see ya, good afternoon, good evening, and good night!” But no matter how many times we’ve seen the characters

hug as they turn around to leave, or how many times we’ve read about the carriage driving away and disappearing in the distance, goodbyes in real life still feel surreal. The goodbyes we have to say to those we know and love cannot be experienced through a book or through a screen. Those goodbyes are too awkward, too deep, too gentle to come right at you all at once with full force. Those goodbyes are in the dented steps of Paresky Commons, the afternoons spent on the great lawn, the late nights studying together for a chemistry test. Those goodbyes, we know deep in our hearts, are not just goodbyes: they are all the laughs and tears muffled, the

good and bad memories buried.

## It has to be the right time, before one dives into the new world, and after one has made closure with the old one.

The worst part is finding the right time to say goodbye. It cannot be too early — for the fear it will bring about unnecessary sadness too soon — but it cannot be too late since many regrets are made for not having enough time for an adequate goodbye. It has to be the right time, before one



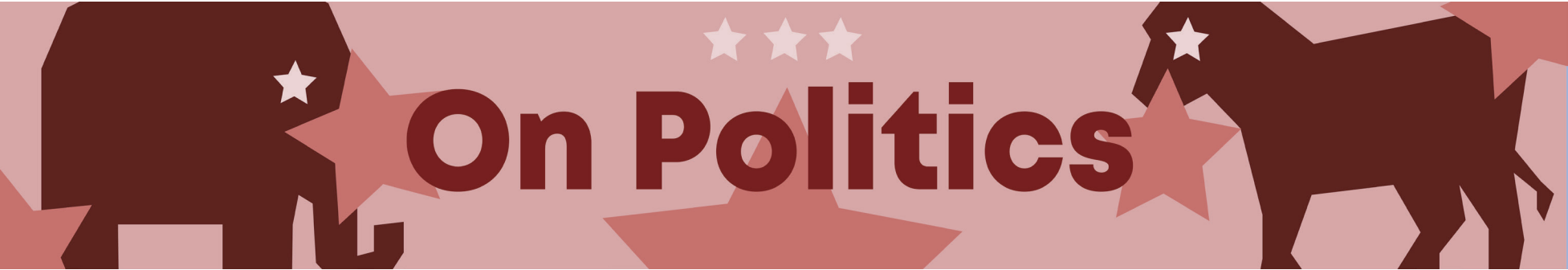
ANGELA GUO / THE PHILLIPIAN

dives into the new world, and after one has made closure with the old one. One can only hope to get a “goodbye” right, knowing all along that no time is ever good for goodbye, that goodbye defies the concept of time.

But you have to say the word eventually.

Goodbyes aren’t really for those that are leaving, but for those that stay. After the word is said, the Seniors graduate, the current Uppers become the new Seniors and the clock is reset. Next year in spring, there will be goodbyes, again. Somehow, each time, we deal with farewells a bit better. We eventually find a way to reconcile with the fact that we may never see the people we share the same class, the same struggle, and the same high school years with. But time simply moves on and you are forced to move with it. By the time it is our turn to say those words, we would have become a veteran already. We would have felt what Julia was feeling when she said those words on ASM. We would have known that we don’t truly leave a place but simply bring it with us. We would have known “goodbyes” are really “Ciao,” “Salut,” and “Aloha” all combined, that old parts of us don’t have to die for new buds to blossom, that spring is both for beginnings and endings. No matter what happens next, we know we are truly lucky to have something so special that makes saying goodbye so hard.

Cleo Xu is a Lower from Beijing, China. Contact the author at [kxu26@andover.edu](mailto:kxu26@andover.edu).



C. WANG / THE PHILLIPIAN

# Now is Not the Time to Give Up on Ukraine



The last time a major war broke out in Europe, the United States decided it was not our problem. Two years later, 3000 Americans died proving us wrong at Pearl Har-

bor, and it would take another four years and tens of millions of lives to bring the war to a decisive end. Today, major war rages in Europe again. Just like last time, one fascist dictator’s pseudo historical expansionism threatens peace in Europe and beyond and, just like last time, we in the West are beginning to look the other way. Ukraine needs our support, as residents of the U.S., as representatives of our school’s non sibi values, and as democratic citizens. We must do more to help Ukraine triumph in the name of justice, setting an example for other authoritarians, and for the invaluable opportunity Ukraine’s defense offers the West.

The first and most important reason we cannot falter on

Ukraine’s defense is the moral requirement for us to act. Tens of thousands of Ukrainians — civilians and active defenders of their homeland — have been killed in Putin’s war, and the authoritarian oppression of Russian civilians has only increased in light of Putin’s stumble in Ukraine. The vast majority of global governments recognize that Ukraine is fighting a noble war against a tyrannical, imperial regime that is actively attempting to erase its language, culture, and sovereignty. As such, sending military aid so Ukrainians can defend their homes is a moral necessity, from the perspective of U.S. residents, in service of Andover’s non sibi spirit, and simply as democratic global citizens. Whether or not

Ukraine can win this war will largely be determined by how aggressive we are willing to be in its support. The U.S. can provide (and has provided) far more aid to Ukraine than any other Western country, especially in terms of military hardware designed with Russian opponents in mind. As the largest contributor to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), American policy towards Ukraine also influences how far European countries are willing to go in providing aid. Russia is treating this as an all-out war, and if we want to meaningfully safeguard Ukraine and its people in the long term, we must start to do the same.

Additionally, the ambitions of an expansionist like Putin are unlikely to end at Ukraine’s western border. Supporting Ukraine will help make an example of Russia’s attempted land grab, working to deter additional Russian aggression toward Europe and Chinese aggression toward Taiwan. Taiwan’s leadership is reportedly “extremely worried” about the prospect of what the West abandoning Ukraine’s struggle might mean for its situation with China. As a close ally of Taiwan reliant on its semiconductor foundries, aggression against Taiwan would be a serious threat to America’s global positioning and domestic industries. This is our chance to make things right, and if we fail to make an example of Putin’s invasion, there will be nothing to stop the other dictators of the world from violating their neighbors.

Lastly, aiding Ukraine provides the United States with an invaluable geopolitical oppor-

tunity. For a cost no higher than a fraction of our annual defense budget’s worth in outdated weaponry, Ukraine has devastated the international perception and armed capabilities of the Russian military. Numbers like the 60.7 billion dollars that was recently approved for Ukraine might sound tremendous, but such a sum represents less than 1 percent of last year’s 6.1 trillion dollars in total government spending — imagine what they’d be able to do if we were willing to give them two percent. We are lucky enough that we don’t have to sacrifice our own lives and livelihoods in helping Ukraine; frankly, a little more help is the least we can expect to give them. Simply put, we currently have the rare opportunity to defeat one of the largest threats to international security at a very low human and financial cost to ourselves and most other countries. I believe we should use this opportunity while we still can.

Today with Ukraine, we have the opportunity to prevent history repeating itself as Poland in 1939. Moral obligation, strategic deterrence of future conflict, and the opportunity to secure global peace for a relatively low price all point towards doing much more for Ukraine than the bare minimum that we are currently providing. Russia isn’t holding back in its war against Ukraine, and we can’t afford what may happen if we fail to do the same.

Shloak Shah is a Lower from San Francisco, Calif. Contact the author at [sshah26@andover.edu](mailto:sshah26@andover.edu).



NATHAN WU / THE PHILLIPIAN

# Healthcare in the U.S.: A Flawed System



I remember when I was in elementary school, I had a babysitter who I absolutely loved. Both my parents worked, so after school, she would pick my brother and me up, drive us home, and spend almost the rest of our day with us. She cared for us like we were her own kids, dedicating so much time and effort just for us. I was so appreciative of her, even as a fourth grader. What I didn't understand at the time is that she was going through problems of her own. Before leaving each day, she would rant to my parents about how she could not afford healthcare not only for herself, but also for her newborn baby. My parents both work in healthcare, so they tried their best to help her in any way they could. I never knew the direness of this situation, but it's been weighing on me recently. People in the United States of America, specifically those who are not as affluent, are disproportionately affected in terms of their access to basic healthcare and living. Bias also shines through healthcare, in the way that identity also plays into the level of care received.

According to KFF, around half of U.S. adults have difficulty paying health care costs, and by extension these adults delay or do not get medical care due

to cost. The fact that many are willing to go without proper help is concerning, and it indicates the need to make basic healthcare more accessible to the public. According to the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, the average citizen in the U.S. spends more on healthcare per person than in any other country, averaging 12,555 dollars in 2022. The struggle of paying the high costs for healthcare weighs most heavily upon lower income communities. People who live in poverty are usually also already associated with shorter life expectancy, higher infant mortality rates, and higher death rates. Poverty already sets up the environment for these health outcomes, and with no healthcare easily accessible there's no way to be treated due to cost. Cost is the main barrier that needs to be overcome when it comes to accessibility of resources and, in turn, minority groups are disproportionately affected.

**When we are at school, all of us are fortunate enough to have access to the resource that is the Sykes Wellness Center. While it may seem simple, not everyone can say the same.**

In addition to these high costs, large disparities and gaps still exist in the system in turn based on identity due to a long history and current bias. One major example of this disparity presently is the fact that Black women are three or four times more likely to die of pregnancy than white women. The reason for this is rooted in health care segregation in the past, where Black families were banned

from well-funded hospitals in the late 1900s, meaning Black women never got the same support during pregnancy as white women, among other problems. This has still carried on to today. Additionally, some health caregivers also incorrectly perceive Black people to have biological differences from white people, making them stronger, which has scientifically been proven wrong. Because of this, there tends to be less pain relief for Black people because healthcare givers rate their pain lower.

**Bias also shines through healthcare, in the way that identity also plays into the level of care received.**

Along with the unequal treatment of patients, there are simply flaws in the system across the country. This summer I got the opportunity to volunteer at a hospital. I worked at the front desk, mostly giving directions and pushing people in wheelchairs, but every so often there were special cases. For instance, one man with Parkinson's disease was discharged with no transportation and absolutely no place to go. Helping this man, among others, was an experience that opened my eyes to the amount of effort and work that needs to go into reforming the current U.S. healthcare system, along with problems involving cost and identity. When we are at school, all of us are fortunate enough to have access to the resource that is the Rebecca M. Sykes Wellness Center. Whether we need simply a box of tissues, Albuterol, or a place to stay when feeling sick, we have amazing on-campus health-



KARA HORNE / THE PHILLIPIAN

care. Students all receive the same quality of care, regardless of their identity. While it may seem simple, not everyone can say the same. By realizing this prerogative, we can take a step towards advocating for the same throughout the U.S.

**Primarily, changes need to take place with the dire price of healthcare in the U.S.**

Healthcare is a complex issue. It's not something that can be easily affected, just because of the amount of people it serves. I can't write this article without acknowledging the fact that innovation is constantly occurring, and surely there is positive data and feedback about healthcare in the U.S. as well. We have amazing healthcare workers and hospi-

tals, but it's hard for everyone to get access to these resources. Primarily, changes need to take place with the dire price of healthcare in the U.S.. The U.S. spends twice as much per person on health than peer countries, but despite spending exponentially more, the U.S.'s health outcomes do not prove to be any better. In fact, our country performs much worse in certain health metrics, such as life expectancy at birth, safety during childbirth, and unmanaged diabetes. Healthcare in the U.S. is unpredictable, varying depending on background and identity. This is truly the reason for many deaths in America, and it cannot go on.

*Prisha Shivani is a Lower from Houston, T.X. Contact the author at pshivani26@andover.*

# Evading Taxes and Eroding America



No one "likes" paying taxes. No one likes traffic rules either. But we still follow them for the overall safety of ourselves and our fellow drivers. How would other drivers feel, though, if the police suddenly decided not to issue tickets to violators who drive luxury cars? Rightfully, there would be a riot. Now imagine: the richest, most profitable company in the world — one that made 120 billion dollars in profits in 2022 alone — paid practically zero dollars in taxes to Uncle Sam and hid behind "legal" chicanery and loopholes. That is what Apple has been doing for decades, and we need to urgently act to stop this profit-offshoring pandemic. It is time to write Tim Cook a ticket.

All companies utilize several legal avenues to avoid or minimize their taxes. It is their fiduciary duty to do so. Equally, it is the duty of the U.S. government to ensure that the services American society provides are not taken advantage of. Sometimes, some companies even receive net "rebates." For example, in 2020, rather than paying taxes on a total of 8.5 billion dollars in net income, 55 companies in the S&P 500 paid zero dollars in taxes. And, ironically, they actually received 3.5 billion dollars in rebates. While this number may

not seem high, bear in mind that this data is from the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic. So imagine the amount of money these companies saved before the pandemic. Apple has strategically spread its fortune around the United States and the world to avoid taxes everywhere. It pays little to no taxes in its actual work headquarters in California nor where its "bank" is in Ireland and remote islands in Europe, such as Jersey.

According to tax analysts, Apple does most of its research in the United States. Most of its key employees are in the United States. The company's long-lived assets, retail stores, and sales are also based in the United States. Therefore, they must pay the costs of manufacturing, marketing, and selling in this country.

A critical part of this issue is that if any individual or small corporations were to utilize the land and create (relative) revenues that Apple makes in the American economy, in addition to the revenue that Apple generates through the sale, marketing,

and production of their devices, the federal government would receive a proportional amount of tax based on the size of the individual or group that Apple does not provide the federal government with.

Congress explored this issue in 2012 following the Senate hearing where the then newly-minted Apple CEO, Tim Cook, was questioned about the company's offshore tax avoidance strategies. Former Senator Carl Levin, the Michigan Democrat who led the inquiry, stated that offshore tax avoidance by corporations is a "significant cause of the budget deficit, and adds to the tax burden that ordinary Americans bear." As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Investigations, he and his team were expected to form Congressional changes to the tax code. Unfortunately, with his retirement in 2015, this was unable to see completion and that is where the deep investigation into crooked companies such as Apple faded. There are still senators such as Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sand-

ers, Chris Van Hollen, and Sheldon Whitehouse who sent letters in March 2023 regarding the tax avoidance issue of the uber-rich. With this law being a connected theme and a high precedent for their pushes to the Treasury, it is almost certain that they will sponsor this case. They will bring it to the current members of the Subcommittee on Investigations, who have investigated Apple's

**The impact of offshore tax avoidance by corporations such as Apple extends beyond the budget deficit and tax burden on ordinary Americans.**

tax avoidance in the past.

Corporations, led by Apple, will challenge these proposals. Apple will peddle the strawman that, because its shares are widely held by mutual funds, increasing Apple's taxes is essentially increasing taxes on the middle class. That is false. No one is asking for Apple's taxes to be increased. The request is to pay the fair share for using the benefits that America provides including roads, energy, schools, etc. The impact of offshore tax avoidance by corporations such as Apple extends beyond the budget deficit and tax burden on ordinary Americans. It also affects high school students by limiting the funding available for education. When corporations avoid paying their fair share of taxes, it reduces the resources that can be allocated to schools, resulting in decreased funding for essential programs, resources, and opportunities for students. This perpetuates educational inequality and hampers the ability of high school students to receive a quality education. Apple is in

California because it wants to be in California. Apple is in America because it wants to be in America. No one is preventing Apple from moving its actual headquarters to Ireland or the Philippines. A teacher in high-tax Illinois, for example, can not suddenly claim she is "incorporated" in the Bahamas and refuse to pay federal and/or state taxes.

Congress needs to pass a Tax Equality Act — which has been in the works for decades. The supporting senators should craft a bipartisan bill and present it to the Investigations Subcommittee for review and, eventually, to the House and the Senate. The Minority Ranking Leader, Senator Ron Johnson, has been accused of tax avoidance in the past with his business but with the public backlash, he has been encouraged by his team to support the cause of enforcing taxes in large companies and it is likely he will be advised to support this bill, even if it is just to better his public and political appearances. Simultaneously, public voices should be raised at the White House as well. Presented with context and clarity, the American public will almost certainly support this policy change as it benefits all taxpayers and gives everyone "their money's worth."

If a Tax Equality Act is passed, then larger companies, including Apple, can pay their rightfully due taxes to the U.S. Additionally, this act will likely encourage lawmakers to use this case as a precedent for all types of organizations and companies, along with the rich that benefit from this idea of "tax avoidance." It is time America gets its justly deserved slice of this Apple.

*Sahana Manikandan is a Lower from Princeton, N.J. Contact the author at smanikandan26@andover.edu.*



SOPHIE STAI / THE PHILLIPIAN

# OWHL Scholars Symposium: Collection of Student Presentations and Projects

PRISHA SHIVANI

The new Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL) Scholars Program, made up of a cohort of nine students, presented their year-long projects during the OWHL Scholars Symposium. Stationed in different spaces of the library, students presented on a wide range of topics including pandemics, mental and physical health, and usage of Chinglish and Konglish, utilizing mediums such as essays, scrapbooking, documentary, and art on May 17.

Scholars completed five components throughout their research project, consisting of an annotated bibliography, a final product proposal, a final product, a five-page reflective essay, and a presentation. Intended to give students unique exposure to the library's collections and resources, as described on the OWHL Scholars website, students were encouraged to build on their interests and develop a multi-faceted skillset.

"The Oliver Wendell Holmes Library (OWHL) Scholars Program provides students with the opportunity to have an intensive, interdisciplinary, and fun research experience using the library's resources and collections. Mentored by a member of the library team, the scholar will develop an interdisciplinary project that will enhance their library knowledge and skills while contributing to the growing student scholarship and academic conversation at Phillips Academy," according to the OWHL Scholars website.

The 2023-2024 group started meeting in the fall and continued their projects until the cumulative presentation in the spring. Camille Torres Hoven, Director of the OWHL and one of the main organizers for the program, recalled her initial motivation to start the OWHL Scholars program, noting how the program differed from other student research opportunities on campus.

"I saw the CaMD Scholars Program, the Brace [Scholars Program], and the Sustainability [Scholars Program], and I thought there was a hole for something like this which could nicely fit into the library... I thought it would be cool to do something that wasn't just papers. Scholarships can look different for everybody, and some people don't want to write another thirty page paper. There are different ways to show how your brain works, and the ideas that you have," said Torres Hoven.

Georgianna Harpole '25, one of the inaugural OWHL Scholars, investigated deep fakes through her project. She reflected on her topic's unique and emerging nature, affecting her paper to change often throughout the research process with more current news and updates.

"I've never written a paper this current before. Deep fakes, the first one was published in 2017, and now they're getting more attention than news in part because [Artificial Intelligence] is getting more attention. There's so much attention on this, which means there's so much more information coming out, there's so many more news articles about

it, and instances where these circumstances are popping up in the wild. It was like instead of trying to find primary sources, the primary sources were just in progress," said Harpole.

Keren Song '26, who researched Confucian traditions and modern realities, commented on the challenges that came with the process of preparing for her presentation. Song highlighted how the experience of presenting also introduced her to new perspectives she had not previously considered.

"The most challenging part was preparing for the presentation. I had written more than thirty pages for my final product, which was in creative nonfiction format, so reducing such text that I had poured so much effort into down to its bare core was heart-breaking... I think [the presentation] went great. My favorite part was the Q&A that followed my presentation. People asked me questions that I had never even thought of, though I had previously thought I knew my project the best," wrote Song in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Harpole also reflected on the importance of conciseness throughout the research process, especially while consolidating large amounts of content for an audience. She spoke on how a challenge for herself was breaking down the entire project into a short presentation, but stressed its importance in the process of presenting research.

"Specificity is always good... I think you have to consider, especially with the OWHL Scholars,



COURTESY OF THE OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES LIBRARY

it's not just a paper for a class, it's something where you're trying to share information really with people. That means people have to be able to digest it, so you need to have a clear argument. It has to be something that can be relayed to people," said Harpole.

Because of the program's demands through the school year, the next OWHL Scholar Program has been pushed to be started during the summer, similar to other programs on campus. Torres-Hoven noted that this shift in the future included both advantages and disadvantages.

"We had such a good cohort because we met all throughout the year as a group even though we started slow... It was so hard, and I felt so much pressure on all those students to complete an extra assignment while they were trying to do everything else, espe-

cially during finals. We are actually going this summer and line up with the CaMD and Brace Scholars this year and streamline this process more," said Torres Hoven.

Song expressed her main takeaway from the program, and also offered a piece of advice to future OWHL Scholars regarding the process of picking a topic. She highlighted the enjoyment she had from picking a topic that personally connected to her.

"Don't be afraid to question your reality. It's easy to stick to topics that are not directly relevant to your life, but I would like for future OWHL Scholars to know that it's okay to get personal. The uncomfortable familiarity will often lead you to unique answers," wrote Song.

## Students and Faculty Call for More Conversation and Education Reagrding Israel-Palestine Conflict

Continued from A1, Column 5

the ongoing conflict, noting the risks of having it fall into the background.

"We started off really strong, having Tipton come speak, and then we kind of just forgot about it. Obviously, the conflict is still going on and obviously, anti-semitism in the United States [of America] is rising, so there needs to be more to address both, whether that's consistently bringing speakers in talking about anti-semitism in our institution [or] understanding what's going on recently. It's definitely something that's going on. It seems like other things have just taken precedence and we've just stopped having these conversations. That's the danger," said Kowal.

Regarding the SOTA statistic, Rabbi Joshua Greenberg, Andover's Jewish Chaplain, applauded students for recognizing their incomplete knowledge, noting that Andover is the place to learn.

"Specifically for our community here, based on the resources that have been available, while not exhaustive and not perfect, [organizing Tipton's talk] was better than nothing," said Greenberg. "I find it very inspiring that students here are humble enough to admit that they don't know everything, are honest enough

about that, and display a sense of curiosity to learn more."

Greenberg continued, "My message to students at Andover, or the 76 percent of students who don't know enough is, good for you for acknowledging that you don't know enough. That's not on the students. In fact, I mean, obviously, it's cliché, but we're a school. This is a high school. What's a better place to learn about something?"

Kington confirmed future initiatives to continue conversations on the campus both this and next year. He connected this programming to the broader goal of fostering civil discourse for difficult topics.

"Looking ahead, CaMD, the Dean of Students Office, College Counseling, and [Rebecca M.] Sykes Wellness Center are planning an opportunity for Seniors to discuss the protests on college campuses and the impact this will have on their entrance into college. And for all of us returning to campus in the fall, I look forward to introducing programming aimed at building our capacity for civil discourse and respectful discussions. This initiative will be broadly framed and not only applicable to discussion around the Middle East conflict," wrote Kington in an email to *The Phillipian* on May 22, 2024.

Tokat concluded by speaking on how he hopes students

will be able to maintain respectful conversations, even though the topics of these conversations are difficult and often polarizing.

"Though there may be Israeli sides, Israeli perspectives, and Palestinian perspectives, it should not lead to any anti-Semitism or Islamophobia. In an educational environment, this is the most important thing, that in our discussions of these topics, these important questions, that it does not lead to anti-Semitism, it does not lead to Islamophobia or any hatred of any kind," said Tokat.

## Statement From Tracy Sweet on Recent Student Activity

Continued from A1, Column 2

nostalgia to a time when Phillips Academy was almost entirely white and male and socioeconomically privileged.

"Our highest priority at Phillips Academy is ensuring the safety and wellbeing of every student. While we cannot discuss the details of student conduct matters, please know that whenever we receive a report of behavior inconsistent with our community standards, we respond immediately.

Upon receiving a report of concerning behavior the week of May 12, the Deans and other campus adults took immediate steps to support our students and gather information. They learned that the behavior alleged may have involved an unsanctioned student group.

Such groups have been banned on campus for decades. About eight years ago, Andover explicitly restated that ban when a prank signaled their ongoing existence. Dr. [Susan] Esty [Dean of Students and Residential Life] issued another reminder of the ban in Spring 2023, saying in a

The group's messaging has created an environment in which community members have felt unwelcome, intimidated, threatened, and at times even harmed," said Esty in her email to the community from April 4, 2023.

letter to the campus community that these groups promote values that are inconsistent with the Academy's values. '...we will listen to students of all identities and beliefs, but we will not tolerate behavior that harms people or that creates a community where all of us cannot live in our dignity,' she wrote.

As always, our primary concern is for the safety of our students, which is why the Blue Book states that we do not tolerate actions that threaten or pose a risk of harm to the health, safety, or wellbeing of self or others.

We also trust that students look out for one another. Any student who is aware of activity regarding secret societies, clubs, or exclusive groups should bring that information to the attention of a dean. They may also use Ethics Point, which has the option to report anonymously," wrote Tracy Sweet in an email to *The Phillipian*.

## Students Praise AAPI Heritage Month ASM Kenote Speaker

Continued from A1, Column 2

try point to becoming American. My family immigrated to Dallas, Texas from Guangzhou, China, when I was five. And Chinese was my first language, but when we moved to the U.S., reading became my way of immersing myself in this strange language that I now had to exist in," said Kuang during ASM.

Aquita Winslow, Dean of Community and Multicultural Development (CaMD), shared her excitement over the keynote speaker's participation in campus activities. She notably highlighted Kuang's empathy toward student writers and the enriching conversation she led with Andover's Asian Society.

"We worked with students from the Asian Society to do the introduction. They came to dinner with us the night before so that they could learn a little bit more about Ms. Kuang and her writing and she could learn about the school from the kids which is really great. She also went into a class and taught in a Fiction class the morning of the ASM," said Winslow.

Sophia Tabibian '26 was particularly struck by Kuang's journey from her uncertainty in her education path to success with her career, especially as a young author. Tabibian enjoyed the connections the speaker drew to the audience and noted how her young age allowed students to feel understood.

"[The speech] was really inspirational, but above all, I think that it was great that us students

could relate to her more, since she is young. Coming from the student perspective, I think some of the ASM speakers can't really relate to the student body, but she did. She knew what it was like to go through college and not necessarily know what you want to major in, and to me, that was a pretty special experience to have," said Tabibian.

Sharing how personal details of her life allowed her to become an author, Kuang emphasized the importance of her past experiences within her writing. Tabibian appreciated Kuang's vulnerability and openness, which made her consider more of Kuang's personality rather than just her accomplishments.

"I really like how she spoke about her mother and her family. I think that the fact that she incorporated more personal aspects of her life, like her fiancé, her mother, the people who have sacrificed things for her, and are important to her, made me connect with her. When she shared those experiences, I felt more connected with her as a person, other than just an author," said Tabibian.

Ethan Liu '26, a member of the Asian Society at Andover, which partnered with CaMD to organize the event, highlighted his hopes for the future of All-School Meetings.

"In light of AAPI month it's really great that we were able to bring such a profound speaker to the school, to represent us as Asian Society, and we hope that for the years to come we can keep doing this, and maybe even do it more often and not just once a year," said Liu.



# 10 Questions With Eileen Christelow Ahrenholz AA '61

REPORTING BY ALLEGRA LEE & NIKI TAVAKOLI

*Eileen Christelow Ahrenholz AA '61 is an author and illustrator of more than thirty acclaimed children's books. Her work includes the "Five Little Monkeys" series, "The Great Pig Escape," "Letters from a Desperate Dog," and more. Besides writing and illustrating, Ahrenholz enjoys photography and gardening in her free time.*

**What was your favorite memory at Abbot?**

I just liked my friends and meeting people, living together with people, very different from my experiences in elementary school. I actually found it a little bit of a hard transition from living for my Freshman year, in Tokyo, Japan, and being able to just get on a bus with friends and go into Tokyo, walk around, and then coming to Abbot, where it was very restrictive, but going to Abbot [was]... a wonderful memory, and I had some wonderful teachers.

**You photographed buildings for architects and did photo essays for making your books. Do you still take pictures?**

We were living in Philadelphia when I was doing most of my photography and, for some reason, there was something about being in Philadelphia that made me want to take pictures and it wasn't buildings... I did architectural photography because I studied architecture, and I kind of knew what the architects were looking for, but I was a street photographer. I knew the people, it was the '60s, there were the peace marches, the anti-Vietnam marches, Civil Rights was a big thing... I photographed on Skid Row, just lots [of photography]. Then, I would put all of the prints together in a portfolio and take them out and show them to people and sometimes they'd say, "Oh, we'd like to use this one in a magazine."

**When you decided to start illustrating children's books, what was your family's reaction?**

I'm not sure they had much of a reaction. I mean, they basically hoped that I would earn a living, and I was always doing other things: graphic design, photographing for small magazines, [building] up a portfolio. I have a feeling they couldn't figure out what I was doing, as long as I was able to earn a living. I married fairly young, but my husband was also an artist and... he'd build a garden for somebody and design this or design that... Between the two of us, we [lived] together and that was, I think, basically what they cared about. They may have thought



COURTESY OF EILEEN CHRISTELOW AHRENHOLZ

we were totally nuts, they probably did, but they didn't say so, which was good.

**How did you first come up with the idea to personify your dog Emma as a character in your books and webcomics?**

I love anthropomorphism, and I started with her as a character in "Letters from a Desperate Dog," and then I did another book called "The Desperate Dog Writes Again," all about this dog Emma, who I adopted from the local humane society. I love animals, and some of the stories in the first book, "Letters from a Desperate Dog," are true. In the story, where the dog locks the guy out of his truck, that happened to my husband. You take a little bit from real life and then it grows.

**What advice would you have for someone considering starting a career in illustration?**

Things have probably changed, I know that the publishing world has changed a lot... All the publishers are eat-

ing each other up and they're now five great big publishers. Mine was Clarion, which is a small part of Houghton Mifflin. If somebody wants to do illustration you just draw and figure out your style. Figure out what you want to draw and if you want to do books, there's all kinds of illustration that a person can do. I started with photography, that was the first kind of illustration I used. You have to put together a portfolio, then start making phone calls, and take that portfolio out and show it to people. Hopefully you find somebody who says "I'd like to use that," so it's a long process. Lots of times people say "No, thank you." Every once in a while, somebody says, "Great."

**To the kids who read your books, what's one thing you'd want to tell them?**

If you're thinking about what you want to do, think about what makes you happy. Think about doing something that you want to explore, that you care about, not something that some-

body else wants you to do or that sounds good or because it earns lots and lots of money. I am fine with living [at] a bare minimum, as long as I'm doing something I want to do.

**What does your workspace look like as an author?**

It's a fairly big room, enough so that I have several desks. It obviously looked a lot different when I was painting but now it's centered around a computer desk that you can either stand at or lower it to sit. I always put the whole book up on the wall so I can see all of the pages at once, which is useful to see a story.

**If you could learn more about one thing, what would it be?**

Probably history. I was thinking I should say learn something that I'm totally bad at, like mathematics or something, but I think maybe taking some bit of history and just exploring it more. I've been exploring World War II a little bit more because I was born

just as World War II was ending. You think about how the adults were acting, what they were saying, what they were doing, and you think back on it and you think, "What was it all about?" and then you can start reading.

**What's so appealing about Vermont and why have you chosen to live there?**

My mother grew up in Vermont, so I was somewhat familiar with it. She went away to school and did other things and married my father [but] her parents were still in Vermont. Then they moved on to various other jobs, but then they came back to Vermont and they bought a farm. It's interesting because I have nine cousins and all ten of us can reminisce about that farm forever and there's probably three or four of us right now who are living in Vermont. There's just something that's really nice about it, but it's a wonderful place and I like it, it's just laid back.

**What's your favorite book?**

[Growing up], I loved "Madeline." Somebody gave that to me after I had my appendix out, and "Madeline," reliving the story, that stands out in particular... [Now], I've been reading non-fiction and then I'll go to fiction... A book I'm reading right now, I would not say is a favorite, it's just incredibly long, but interesting. I love [Elena] Ferrante, three books that she wrote, "My Brilliant Friend," I can't remember all the titles, but those are wonderful.

## Book Festival Invites Off-Campus Speakers and Authors to Campus

Continued from A1, Column 5

Abbot Book Fair, explained his enjoyment with the various events offered, including a demonstration by the Phillips Academy Rocketry Club, wherein a model rocket was launched. "The thing that I was most excited about was the free

books. I personally picked up 'Binti,' but I was also really excited for the food and the poetry speakers," said Robinson. While the Book Fair took place on a Saturday and during Advanced Placement testing season, Collins noted her excitement at the overall turnout and how they enjoyed seeing the participation of a wider range of the Andover

community beyond students who normally frequented the OWHL. "My expectations were so blown away. It's spring, it's the middle of May, and we're in the middle of APs. I was hopeful that we would get some of the folks who regularly come to the library on Saturday. That they'd have this sort of extra fun thing to do. But the real turnout of people,

not just not just students, but community members was so thrilling. And considering this was literally a year's worth of work trying to get it, it really felt like a great success. I hope folks got out of it as much as we did and the fun we had putting it together," said Collins. Laura Mazarrelli '27 noted how while they enjoyed the activities offered, the event

could have benefitted from more diversity in the activities which could have made the festival even more exciting and engaging. "Maybe adding more activities could be good. They were really focused on doing them all, but it all kind of felt under the same category. So maybe branching out from just crafts could be a positive change," said Mazzarelli.

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

COLLECTED BY  
JENNA LIANG

Culture: Several Injured and Arrested at UC Irvine Pro-Palestinian Protest

47 people were arrested by police officers for protesting at the University of California, Irvine, on May 15. ABC News reports that several hundred pro-Palestinian protesters surrounded the lecture hall, and officers began arresting demonstrators after they refused a dispersal order. According to the “New York Times,” one student was injured and three police officers were hospitalized. Howard Gillman, chancellor of the university, wrote in a letter addressed to the community that what could have been “a manageable situation that did not have to involve police” escalated into a situation “that required a different response” through protestors surrounding the building. The “New York Times” reports that UC Irvine moved all classes on the following day to be taught remotely, and resumed in-person instruction on Friday.

War/Conflict: Slovakian Prime Minister Undergoes Emergency Surgery Following Attempted Assassination

Robert Fico, Prime Minister of Slovakia, was sent into emergency surgery after an assassination attempt on him last Wednesday. According to the “New York Times,” Slovakian news has identified the suspect as a 71-year-old man who was “radicalized” after the recent presidential election. Fico was shot in Banikovo Square after he held a government meeting. According to “CNN,” the suspect was a writer and poet who disagreed with the government and the reforms made, pushing police to believe that the attack was politically motivated. The “New York Times” reports that the shooting increased polarization between the political landscape, with some global

leaders such as Vladimir V. Putin and Joe Biden “condemning” the act.

Health: F.D.A. Approves Tarlatamab: A Breakthrough in Small-Cell Lung Cancer Treatment

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized a new treatment targeted at small-cell lung cancer patients with a life expectancy of about four to five months on, May 16, 2024. The drug, tarlatamab, claims to be able to triple the life expectancies of its users. According to the “New York Times,” small-cell lung cancer affects approximately 35,000 Americans each year, and most individuals live only eight to 13 months after initial diagnosis, even if they undergo treatment such as chemotherapy and immunotherapy. In an interview with the “New York Times,” Dr. Anish Thomas, an oncologist at the federal National Cancer Institute, stated that the recent approval of tarlatamab indicates a sign of further development in the field. Despite the benefits of tarlatamab, the drug also bears a few harmful side effects. The “New York Times” reports that an intake of tarlatamab could result in cytokine release syndrome, leading to symptoms such as a rapid heartbeat, low blood pressure, and difficulty breathing. According to “CNBC,” the company that developed the tarlatamab, Amgen, will be marketing the drug as Imdelltra.

Natural Disaster: Texas Hit by Severe Storm and Intense Heat Waves

A severe storm swept across Texas on May 16. The “New York Times” confirmed that at least four were killed in the incident, two of which were due to fallen trees, and that multiple organizations have been physically damaged. The storm

carried winds of up to 100 miles per hour, bursting windows, blowing trees over, and disrupting power and service lines. According to the “New York Times,” Houston’s public school district announced the closure of all schools on Friday. Emergency responders also urged residents to remain indoors due to the “impassable” condition of many roads and the widespread disruption of traffic lights throughout the city. Looking ahead, weather forecasters predicted that Texas will suffer from uncharted heat extremes for the rest of the month, according to Axios.

Politics: Biden Administration Proposes Marijuana Reclassification

The Biden administration proposed elevating marijuana from a Schedule III to a Schedule I drug on May 16, signifying a shift in federal perspective on its medicinal value and potential for abuse. The “New York Times” classifies Schedule III drugs to be all medications that pose a mild to moderate risk of abuse, such as Tylenol, testosterone, and anabolic steroids. However, Schedule I drugs lack any currently acknowledged medical utility while also presenting a substantial risk for abuse. Current Schedule I drugs include magic mushrooms, heroin, and ecstasy. The Schedule categories are controlled substance classifications and dictate production quotas, accessibility, research opportunities, and legal disciplinary responses. “CBS News” reports that the proposal will take 60 days to be observed, at the end of which officials will make a final decision before legislation is published. According to the “New York Times,” Biden applauded the proposal, stating that “far too many lives have been upended because of a failed approach to marijuana,” and that “[he’s] committed to righting those wrongs.”

Senior Course Favorite Workshop 12 to be Discontinued

LILY LIU &  
SELENE XU

Workshop 12 will not be continued next year. Over the past few years, Andover students have been able to take part in Workshop 12, an interdisciplinary class for Seniors in which they conduct targeted research on various topics. The Workshop, taught by Correen Martin, Instructor in English, Andrew Housiaux, Instructor in Philosophy and Religious Studies, Ellen Greenberg, Instructor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, and Eugene Hughes, Instructor in French, did not follow a concrete structure. Instead, Workshop 12 provided students with a more flexible schedule that worked around students’ individual projects.

The reasons behind the discontinuation of Workshop 12 remain unclear. Housiaux, one of the teachers of Workshop 12 who is leaving Andover, commented on his regret with the discontinuation.

“Earlier this Fall, I was informed that Workshop 12 would not be continuing. I share in the disappointment of the members of the Andover community who, like me, had hoped that it would,” said Housiaux.

Solar Lu ’24, a student in Workshop 12 this Spring, described what a typical class period would look like. They discussed how class content

often varied in form, ranging from independent research to group discussions or field trips.

“In the first half of the term, we had teacher-lead projects. These groups included Public Health Humanities, Listening to the Buddhists in our Backyard, Visualizing Inequality, and Three Towns. We would meet with these small groups to plan our project, either group based or independent within each theme, discuss what we’ve researched, go on field trips, meet with experts, work on completing the projects, etc. The second half of the Workshop is dedicated towards independent projects of our choosing... We’ve heard from people who work in education, medicine, artificial intelligence, producing musicals, etc.,” wrote Lu in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Ashley Park ’24, another Workshop 12 student, recounted her lasting memories from The Workshop. She spoke on how the time the class spent together as a part of The Workshop allowed the students to create special bonds.

“We actually took a few moments last week to reflect on our Workshop experience, and what a lot of people were saying was the things that we were able to learn from each other. Because of the [schedule], you have to dedicate basically every day to the workshop, rather than having specific class [periods]. That really bonds all of us, all 21 of

us, in a very unique way. Not in a way where we’re helping each other solve math problems, or helping [each other] summarize a book for English class. But rather, more like teaching each other, informing each other with life skills that you really can’t experience anywhere else. That’s what really made the workshop just a very memorable experience,” said Park.

Students in The Workshop do not receive numerical grades. Park commented how the lack of a concrete grade in the course provided students with the opportunity to learn more freely.

“We have a rubric that explains different goals we should reach within the term, and one of the goals that we have is called ‘learning to learn.’ I think that was a very crucial part of my experience in The Workshop... There’s a lot of interdisciplinary research done, and there’s a lot of individual research that you have to take responsibility for, that’s very important when you’re trying to learn something compared to [when you are] just getting the answer,” said Park.

Agreeing with Park, Jenny Jin ’24, who also took The Workshop, pointed out the differences between the teaching styles of Workshop 12 and other classes. Jin mentioned how the faculty used The Workshop’s teaching methods to think about creating change in current teaching models.



COURTESY OF THE TANG INSTITUTE

Senior students examine different archival documents in the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library.

“The Workshop is more about exploring. [The faculty] lets us explore stuff ourselves and try to figure out what we like best and how we work best, so even if sometimes we fail, they’re pretty understanding and they actually encourage us to fail more so we can learn more from the failures. Shout out to them, they worked really hard to make this happen, and they worked really hard to try to push and to make people think about how education should be structured,” said Jin.

Martin, one of the original organizers of The Workshop back in 2020, is leaving Andover after the conclusion of this school year. She commented

on how The Workshop has been one of the highlights of her time at Andover.

“I will look back on my experience with The Workshop as one of the best parts of my whole time at Andover. I’m lucky enough to have been one of the original group that conceived, planned, brainstormed and dreamed, yes I’m going to use the word ‘dreamed,’ the program. From the planning to the researching, talking, actually teaching in it, and being a part of it, [The Workshop] has really been one of the highlights of my almost ten years at Andover,” said Martin.

Poet and Author Aimee Nezhukumatathil Gives Presentation as Isham Fellow

CADE RUTKOSKE &  
NIKI TAVAKOLI

Aimee Nezhukumatathil, the 2024 Isham Fellow in Poetry, came to campus to give a reading of her works, followed by a question and answer segment and a book signing on May 17. Nezhukumatathil, who has published four poetry collections and numerous books, is a professor of English in the University of Mississippi’s MFA program. Her works are currently being taught in many English classes at Andover.

The Isham Fellowship, established in memory of former

student Sandra Isham, brings poets to campus so they can share their work with Andover. The selection of an Isham Fellow in Poetry is spearheaded by Kathryn McQuade, Assistant Chair of the English Department, but decided on collectively by the whole department. Leon Calleja, Chair of the English Department, spoke on why the department chose Nezhukumatathil.

“We wanted poets who engage with students with great positivity and a sense of wonder for the world. Her book, ‘World of Wonders,’ was something that intrigued many of us initially, and it’s being taught

a lot this year across the curriculum. Just the sensitivity she has in thinking about the world is something we really want our students to see. We think it would be great for them to learn from her example,” said Calleja.

Students appreciated Nezhukumatathil’s work for its candor, optimism, and juxtaposition of vivid adjectives. One aspect that stood out to Alina Chen ’27 was the unconventional way Nezhukumatathil linked multiple seemingly unrelated topics and personal anecdotes together in explaining complicated concepts.

“She has this format where she sometimes makes these connections between very disparate topics, [like] nature or certain organisms, and she’ll just start listing these facts about them. But she does so in a very deliberate manner, and she actually manages to tell her own personal narratives through it. For example... she made this connection between axolotls’ regenerative abilities, since they’re able to regenerate their limbs if they’re cut off, and she compares that with how people of color are sometimes expected to forgive and forget countless instances of prejudice and discrimination,” said Chen.

Many attendees appreciated the structure of the event, noting Nezhukumatathil’s ability to showcase her versatile writing, keep the audience

engaged, and provide insightful answers during the Q&A. Sebastian Cynn ’24 elaborated on how Nezhukumatathil’s responses during the Q&A added context to the variety of work she chose to showcase.

“Nezhukumatathil has such a wide-ranging span of work, where she’s not just a poet, where she’s not just an essayist, but where she does both, and she does the hybrid of all of the above. I really liked the fact that we got to hear both sides of that come out [when] she read three of her poems, and she also read one of her essays. That felt really complete to me, in a way... She was able to tell us things afterwards in the Q&A, where she said how much of her book, ‘World of Wonders,’ was written in the form of bedtime stories for her kids, which almost put the rest of the talk into a different kind of context,” said Cynn.

Nneka Ezeike ’26 mentioned how Nezhukumatathil’s presence during the reading inspired her to take advantage of her time at Andover and opportunities to meet contemporary writers in person. She talked about previous instances where she was able to speak with such writers.

“I didn’t really expect to like her work as much as I did, and it was a great way to expose students to new writers by having them come in person... I got the chance to meet Angie Thomas as well from

the [All-School Meeting] before, and that was also a really nice experience. So the fact that we have the ability to see these amazing writers and interact with them on a different level is really cool and has made me more appreciative of the resources that Andover has provided us with. I think it’s inspired me to take charge of those resources more often and to use them,” said Ezeike.

Nezhukumatathil reiterated the importance of writing and optimism throughout the reading. Jasjit Hargun ’27 spoke on how after doing a vignette project in his English class, he’d been considering writing more as a way to express his feelings. He noted how Nezhukumatathil’s advice made him resolve to continue writing in order to feel a sense of optimism.

“What she said kind of made it solid in my mind, but I’m going to keep writing over the summer. Also she pointed out something that a lot of us think we know, but we ignore: that even with all the bad in the world, you can still focus on the good. You can still change the bad, but you don’t have to be constantly thinking about it and letting it get you down. You can take a break and look at the good in the world sometimes,” said Hargun.



COURTESY OF KATHRYN MCQUADE

Students line up to have their book signed by 2024 Isham Fellow Aimee Nezhukumatathil.

PROM ROASTS

Mary Lord and Adam “Mobile” “Shootah” Landry:

This pairing could have been a lot different if an unfortunate couple of evenings did not take place

Grade: Picturesque

Anjola Odukoya and Ellis Denby:

This pairing could have been a lot different if an unfortunate couple of evenings did not take place

Grade: Picturesque

Carly Hopkins and Sam Myles

They put the team on their backs

Grade: Choo choo

Isa Curran and Posey Beckwith:

Deny deny deny

Grade: Truthful

Josh Heaney and Kelly Su:

I don’t think we should be doing this

Grade: Opposites attract?

Jake Ledoux and Isaac Lamson

Anyone tryna fight?

Grade: I need 30 bucks

Gabby Batchen and George Ryckman

You miss 100 percent of the shots you don’t take

Grade: Slimmest Shady

Sadie Pease and Zane Matraji:

David vs Goliath

Grade: Biblical

Sarah Hassanein and Ollie Buckhoff

If you time travel either forward or back this gets very awkward

Grade: 4ft

Joe Carrera and Shea Freda

A third will be joining \*cough cough\* overpass

Grade: 19/69

Ryan Lam and Mia Pao:

Get a room.

Grade: NERRRRRRRRDS

Natalie Murphy and Max Dabbous

A large percentage of Andover will be unhappy about this

Grade: Cost of Golden Goose sneakers

Jack Bainbridge and Clementine Lubin:

Glazing or yapping? You decide.

Grade: Simply Gritty

Jonathan Ji and Vera Zhang

All those late nights in the newsroom. . .

Grade: Plipceat

Sebastian Valesek and Jazzy Cormier:

First instance of love between a Neanderthal and homo sapien

Grade: 3/4

Garrett Holman and Maris Moody:

Best ball kickers at Andover

Grade: Politically incorrect

Peter Elliott and Mia Wanacott:

Should have asked the other girl

Grade: Oliver Wendell Holmes Library



# The Phillippian SPORTS

Volume CXLVII | Number 12

a week left!  
May 24, 2024

## Baseball Exemplifies Selflessness in Thrilling Playoff Game Despite Loss, Falls Short to Austin Prep

ROBBY SWAN

SATURDAY 5/18	
Andover	2
Deerfield	3
TUESDAY 5/21	
Andover	1
Austin Prep	5

On Saturday, Boys Baseball competed in the Central New England Prep Baseball League (CNEPSBL) Semifinals as #5, falling short to #1 Deerfield in a close game. The team went on to lose against Austin Preparatory School (Austin Prep) on Tuesday. Marek Krystofolski '25 noted the excitement surrounding such a high stakes semifinals game. Everyone was excited going into the event, and despite losing, Krystofolski highlighted how all players worked their hardest. Krystofolski said, "We were all excited. It was a big game, the semifinals. We were all hyped up and ready to go. Everybody was in a pretty good mood and looking to play. We were really excited for the game, and even though it wasn't the outcome we wanted, we still played a good game. Everyone played their hearts out, which is

good to see." According to Robert Brown '25, during practice on the Wednesday before the game, there was a collision, resulting in two key players being out with substantial injuries. While this caused a stir in the team dynamic, it also gave it motivation to play for those that could not. "We were certainly facing adversity though since two of our players had a collision during practice on Wednesday, so we were missing our expected starting centerfielder. This led to two of our players going down with pretty significant injuries. The team was definitely rattled, but our team motto going into the game on Saturday was to sort of play for them since they would have loved to be able to play," said Brown. Krystofolski gave recognition to Luke Gallo '25, Isaac Lamson '24 and Jace Roossien '24 for scoring two runs in the beginning of the game, putting the team ahead. Although it did not work out in the end, the early scored points raised the morale and got the team excited for the remainder of the game. Krystofolski said, "I'm not sure what inning it was, but the inning in which we hit our runs, we had some really big hits from Luke Gallo, Isaac Lamson, and Jace Roossien. They brought in two runs and put us ahead at that time, which was really good. It gave us a chance to win. I'd say that's probably the biggest moment, putting us ahead in that situation."

Brown shared that leading up to the game, the team worked on keeping everyone focused and energized for the entire game, not just the beginning. Brown also highlighted the team's selfless tactics, working on approaches that will benefit the whole team rather than just an individual. Brown said, "One of the things we worked on, not physically, was keeping that energy up, keeping everyone dialed and focused. That was one thing we worked on a lot, which definitely translated. Also our approach at the plate was something we talked about a lot, not getting too big in the moment and staying small and having selfless approaches instead of selfish approaches to benefit the team and not just yourself and your own steps." Rishi Rane '25 also noted the selfless approach, specifically in terms of hitting. He shared that this was executed especially well in not just Saturday's game, but also Tuesday's against Austin Prep. "One thing we've been working on most of this season, but mostly recently, is not being selfish at bats when we're hitting. Basically, we hit as a team and each individual player does their job, and we did that much better later in the season, especially in the last two games. That definitely worked out in the end," said Rane. Brown mentioned the improvements the team has made in the latter half of its season; wins or losses, the



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Robert Brown '25 roars passionately to celebrate a point.

team has stayed close with its opponents. Baseball looks to continue its strong work through the end of the season. "We had a rocky first half of our season, but our second half of our season has been much stronger. We really showed our capabilities throughout that second half, even in our losses, they were all close and hard fought games. We had plenty more wins in the second half. The biggest thing we're focusing on is keeping the momen-

tum and staying with our approach that has clearly been working," said Brown. Boys Baseball will play in its final game of the season at home against Phillips Exeter Academy on Saturday.

## Varsity Boys Tennis Captures NEPSAC Tournament

TARA MENON

SATURDAY 5/18	
Andover	4
Hotchkiss	0
SATURDAY 5/18	
Andover	4
Groton	0
SUNDAY 5/19	
Andover	4
Taft	2

This past weekend, Boys Tennis (15-0) advanced to the final stages of the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) Tournament. On Saturday, Andover progressed through the quarterfinals and semifinals, defeating Hotchkiss and Groton. A day later, despite gloomy weather and delays, the team went on to beat the second seed, Taft, to win the NEPSAC Championship. Chase Burke '25 emphasized how Ben Shin '26's impressive match against Taft energized his teammates. Shortly after, carrying the momentum, Kevin Niu '25 secured the winning point, clinching the championship title for Andover. "Ben at four singles had a really dominant victory. He brought a lot of energy to the team. People won their first set easily but were struggling in the second sets, and everyone pushed through. Kevin was the final clincher, he won his match 6-1 6-3, to give Andover the win which was super exciting," said Burke. According to Shin, the doubles set against Groton boosted the team's confidence for the remaining sets. After overcoming a highly technical and powerful opponent,



A.TSAO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Jeff Shen '26 hits a powerful forehand back to his opponent.

the team gained a one-point lead going into the singles, needing only three singles points to secure the victory. "I think the start of our doubles against Groton really helped us win and just feel the good vibes for the next matches on Saturday. I would say the same thing about Sunday. We started off strong in doubles, which is always very crucial if we want to win. At one doubles, we had to play a really tough opponent, a kid

from Botswana who is one of the best in our league. We were able to beat him and win the doubles point for our team, that was definitely a really crucial moment," said Shin. Despite remaining undefeated this past season, Boys Tennis faced its own internal challenges. Their passion for tennis is so intense that it occasionally leads to unnecessary disputes. However, when it comes to tournaments and

matches, the team reunites, driven by their mutual love for the game and for each other. Burke said, "A lot of us get into it in practice sometimes and we bicker and we have problems with each other. But when we come together in these matches, it's just super important to stay together as one unit, remember, we're a team and we all want each other to win. We all love each other. We're here to support

each other." Leading up to Wednesday's match against Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter), the team will focus on staying consistent. By attending practice, and sticking to their well honed skills, the team feels confident that as they sharpen a few tactical skills which are specific to every individual, they are capable of succeeding. However, after reaching their season's goal of winning NEPSACs practice is taking place in a more laid-back form. Shin said, "Now it's a little bit more relaxed, but we have a match coming up tomorrow, against Exeter, we still really want to win, we want to finish our season strong. But, after we won NEPSAC there's kind of just this pressure lifted off our shoulders a little bit. Because that was our main goal of the season, that was what we were aiming for... We wanted to win the NEPSAC championships. And so now that we've done it, we're very happy, but we still want to finish strong with a match on Wednesday." Andover played Exeter on Wednesday, winning 5-2.

# Track & Field Competes With Grit and Energy at NEPSTA Championships

KATE RODGERS

Andover Track & Field sent a group of athletes to Deerfield to compete at the season's culmination event, the New England Preparatory School Track Association (NEPSTA) Championships (Interschols) on May 18. The boys placed sixth (47 points) and the girls placed fifth (58.8 points) overall. The team set 21 season bests, 16 personal bests, and three class records at the competition.

Bennett Rodgers '26 acknowledged how preparing for Interschols influenced the team's practices in the week prior. He noted how important being in the right mindset is and how the team prepared both physically and mentally.

"Getting ready for Interschols really impacted the week before in practice. That week we were really just working and getting ready, especially because this is one of the biggest meets of the year.

One of the biggest things is just getting in the right mindset. We didn't have any crazy workouts because we just really wanted to make sure that we were both physically and mentally prepared for the meet," said Rodgers.

The team prepared using various training methods to optimize fitness while coaches provided helpful advice to athletes. Sarah Bae '26 mentioned how fun the recent weeks have been due to fun activities while also working to improve technique.

"The whole week going into Interschols we were peaking and tapering, which was really helpful and our coaches have been great with providing us with feedback. Practice has been especially fun these past two weeks. We did something fun called 'intersquad' which is where we do fun little competitions with the team. This can include things like pacing a slow 4x1, a push content, or doing a plank challenge. Additionally, we focused on sharpening our technical skills. For

sprinters we would do blocks and then for hurdlers we'd go over technique. Sprinters would work on turnover and strides," said Bae.

Pole vaulters Hailey Piasecki '26 and Rodgers placed first for the girls and boys side respectively, earning ten points each for their team. Rodgers shouted out Piasecki for achieving first place and setting a new personal record.

"Hailey Piasecki had a really great meet. She set a new personal record in pole vault clearing 9'6, and she also got first place at the NEPSAC championships, which is really cool. Both Hailey and I were able to get first place for pole vault on the girls and boys side which was very exciting," said Rodgers.

Gracie Aziabor '26 highlighted how big meets bring both excitement and occasional nerves. She stated how many of the athletes were competing at Interschols for the first time which added to the atmosphere.

"There is pressure at big meets like this. A lot of the

people who were competing were actually new this year too and it was their first year at Interschols, me included. I think the main feelings were definitely excitement but there were also a lot of nerves, considering this was a big moment for a lot of us," said Aziabor.

The meet brought in competitors from 17 different schools, fostering a highly competitive atmosphere. Rodgers stated how due to the competitive nature, athletes worked especially hard to prove their skills from both practices and previous meets.

"The energy was super fun and competitive. The energy was really high because this was one of the biggest meets. It has a lot of schools and is overall very competitive. It has all of the best athletes which creates a fun vibe where everyone is trying to prove how hard they have been working in practices and previous meets," said Rodgers.

Ultimately, Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter) took first

on the girls side and second for the boys. Aziabor highlighted how this meet has allowed the team to learn what they have to work on and help it prepare for its upcoming meet against Exeter.

"We only have one meet left and it's [Andover/Exeter]. Exeter has some really great competition as we were able to see at Interschols... We definitely have more things to look for and to work on and I think learning from how their athletes run and their events is really going to help us prepare," said Aziabor.

Track & Field will compete at home against Exeter on Saturday for its annual dual Andover/Exeter meet.

## Girls Tennis Out of the Running to Reclaim NEPSAC Championship Title

MADDY LEHMAN & ALASTRIONA O'DONNELL		
SATURDAY 5/18		
Andover		5
Greenwich		3
SATURDAY 5/18		
Andover		1
Hopkins		5
WEDNESDAY 5/22		
Andover		8
Exeter		1

Girls Tennis (13-3) competed at the Class A New England Preparatory School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) quarter-finals, winning 5-3 against Greenwich Academy (Greenwich). However, the team lost 5-1 during the semifinals against Hopkins, who went on to become the eventual champions. On Wednesday, Andover took a strong victory against Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter) at 8-1 in the final match of the season.

On Saturday, Andover played Greenwich and Hopkins in a bid to win the Class A NEPSAC Championship for the second year. Mercan Draman '26 highlighted the team's focus and grit during their matches.

"I would just say that ev-

eryone was very active in all their matches. They were all very focused, they were all attacking. No one was hitting really easy shots. Everyone was going for it," said Draman.

During the quarterfinals, Draman highlighted Kendra Tomala '26's resilience in persisting through a line call discrepancy and winning the match despite the ensuing conflict.

"When we played Greenwich, they started a fight, and parents got involved, and coaches were yelling... [Kendra] called something out, and the other team was sure that it was in even though it wasn't... That was a really important match for us to win if we wanted to go on to the semis and Kendra won de-

spite all the horrible circumstances," said Draman.

On Wednesday, Andover ended its season 8-1 against Exeter. Mira Phan '27 highlighted Co-Captain Lena Ciganer-Albeniz '25 for playing skillfully in her singles match.

"Lena Ciganer stood out to me a lot, especially in her singles match. She was doing quite well on the court. She took her time with the ball and it was a really fun match to watch," said Phan

Phan continued, highlighting the different formations the team has been experimenting with in doubles. The change up enabled the teams to win all three of its doubles matches on the way to their victory.

"For the past two to three

weeks, we've been working on different formations in our doubles play... My sister [Tara Phan '24] and I have been using a few I-formations just to experiment with it and I would say overall it went quite well. I also saw Amy Oku ['25] and Lara Madan ['27] use I-formation and it definitely helped a lot with the point," said Phan.

## Softball Gets Redemption After Loss in the Big East Tournament

CAITLYN LY		
WEDNESDAY 5/22		
Andover		4
Brooks		1

Softball (10-2) competed in the Big East tournament over the weekend then played its second to last game on Wednesday. Andover was eliminated from the tournament after a close loss to Brooks. However, the team turned its defeat into fuel and came back to beat Brooks scoring four runs.

Gabriella Potter '27 noted the team's performances in each game during the tournament. Despite its moments of trouble, Andover was able to keep the spirits high. This led to a collective focus to fight back and stay strong.

"Even though we didn't win, I thought that we performed really well against each team. We battled back each time we were down, and we kept each other going. And that helped us to keep each other's energy high so that was really awesome," said Potter.

Madison Hugo '25 discussed the positivity of the team. According to Hugo, every player contributed in their own way, and the team worked incredibly hard to

keep the spirits up. The support from everyone made for an encouraging environment.

"We've done an amazing job this year and this season of fostering a positive mindset and atmosphere in the dugout which has really helped us. Everyone on the team has really worked to uphold that no matter what position they play and no matter what their role on the team is. There has just been really high energy and lots of cheering with massive amounts of support from everyone involved," said Hugo.

Potter shouted out Co-Captain Emerson Buckley '25 for her hard work in defense and noted her own homerun.

Potter said, "Emerson made a great play at second base. She played amazing at shortstop, and her defense has been very good since the start of the season, her hits as well. I also hit a homerun on Sunday, which was nice as well, but I believe Emerson played incredibly well this entire season."

On the days leading up to the tournament, Hugo mentioned one of the team's values is its mindsets. Girls Softball took part in creating goals about individual performances, as well as the bigger picture of being a good teammate.

Hugo said, "We do a lot of goal setting and talking about our mindset before the game, which I think helps point us in the direction of motivation of how we want to play indi-



A.TSAO/THE PHILLIPIAN

Gabriella Potter '27 readies for a powerful swing.

vidually, and how we want to be good members of the team. I think it also adds to the atmosphere that we foster that brings us success."

Before its game on Wednesday, Hugo also noted what the team would work on in preparation for its second game against Brooks. After already facing the team, Andover learned one of Brooks' main strengths, which was fast pitching. So, during practice, Softball developed its skill set against pitchers similar to Brooks by hitting against pitches from Ashley Schuman '27.

"We'll definitely focus on hitting against faster pitching which is something Brooks has, their pitching is really incredible and hopefully we'll practice pitching off of Ashley which should give us a better basis on how to pitch against Brooks on Saturday," said Hugo.

On Wednesday, Andover won its game against Brooks by three runs. Buckley was proud of the team's performance and she mentioned how its energy early on aided the team to its big win.

Buckley said, "We were all really excited because we

all really wanted to win this game. So, I think just the fact that we got the momentum going early and putting up runs early was just really big for us. Everyone in the dugout was really happy and cheering each other on and we had a lot of energy, so that was good."

Buckley additionally discussed the strengths of the game, which was having productive bats, something the team lacked previously. Andover was also able to stay consistent with its defense, as it did in the Big East tournament.

Buckley said, "After this weekend, we lost that Brooks game because we didn't hit well. So, going into this game we were focused on having productive bats, even if that means you're getting out, at least moving a runner or scoring a run was great. That's what we were really focused on in that game, and also staying consistent with our defense because we played great defense all weekend. So putting the two together was what we were focusing on."

Andover will face Phillips Exeter Academy on Saturday.

# ShoYu

Chinese & Japanese Cuisine



RESTAURANT  
& BAR



KARAOKE



Thurs-Sat 9:30pm-12:30am

11:30AM-11:00PM MON-WED  
11:30-12:30AM THURS-SAT  
12PM-9:30PM SUN

A Pan-Asian banquet awaits guests to ShoYu Andover spanning far more than just the Middle Kingdom and the land of the Rising Sun. There's plenty of signature dishes and sushi delights to satisfy a constellation of hungry appetites.



SHOYU RAMEN



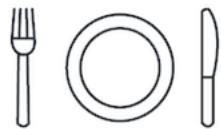
BOSTON MAKI



SASHIMI BOAT



RESERVE A  
TABLE NOW!  
(978) 409-1494



**\$5 OFF**

with \$30 food purchase. Please mention coupon when ordering. Can not be combined with other specials.

**\$10 OFF**

with \$50 food purchase. Please mention coupon when ordering. Can not be combined with other specials.

**\$20 OFF**

with \$100 food purchase. Please mention coupon when ordering. Can not be combined with other specials.

Oysters

**\$1**  
Each

Sun ~ Wed



Please mention coupon when ordering. Can not be combined with other specials.

Visit our  
website  
for more  
information!

<http://shoyusushi.com/>

Visit our website to see our locations, menus, gallery of foods and more!

40 Park St, Andover, MA 01810

# Andover Narrowly Loses to Exeter, Places Third Out of 27 Teams in Kingswood-Oxford Invitational

DAVID SIAHAAN  
& ALEX DIMNAKU

WEDNESDAY 5/15	
Andover	2.5
Exeter	5.5
SATURDAY 5/18	
Andover	5
Exeter	3

Despite winning the second half of the doubleheader match against Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter), Andover ultimately lost the game to the rival team. On Wednesday, after beating Loomis Chaffee (Loomis) and Hotchkiss in a three-way playoff for third place, Andover placed third out of 27 teams at the Kingswood-Oxford Invitational (KIT), their final match of the season. Though the season is now over, Andover Golf aims to continue training and improving over the summer to prepare for the next season.

In the team's doubleheader series against Exeter, Sebastian Montemayor '27's absence in the

first half took a notable toll on Andover, contributing to their defeat. Sean Niu '25 emphasized Montemayor as a crucial reason for their third-place finish at the Kingswood-Oxford Invitational.

Niu said, "Exeter was a two-day series. An 18-hole match on Wednesday. We did not have Sebastian, and we were a man down, and it had a domino effect. Saturday, we had Sebastian, and we beat them, but it wasn't enough to win the series. Everyone played a really crucial part. First off, we got third out of 27 teams through a three-way playoff. We wouldn't be in the position that we were without everybody, especially Montemayor. His round really helped us place well. Everyone did their part, and we beat out Hotchkiss and Loomis."

Kevin Zheng '26 stressed Montemayor's ability to play under pressure and described how he handled one of the playoff holes with ease. He also mentioned how he and Sean used Montemayor's performance as a launchpad to claiming victory in the playoffs and a final ranking of third place.

Zheng said, "Sebastian made a huge play with a crucial 180-yard draw into the wind on the playoff hole, landing the ball just 12 feet from the pin. His performance under pressure was an absolute spectacle. Additionally, Sean and I were able to finish the job, securing our win in the playoff and ultimately placing third in the

tournament."

Niu highlighted the team's excellent attitude and resilience following their loss to Exeter in the first half of the doubleheader. He expressed pride in the team's ability to remain steadfast despite the setback.

"We had a really good attitude. We knew we were down in the series and everyone played very well on Saturday, which really shows the resilience that these players have for being able to win a lot of their matches while knowing they are down on the series," said Niu.

Montemayor talked about how the Exeter match marked a new opportunity for the team to redeem itself after its loss on Wednesday.

Montemayor said, "Going in, we were mentally locked in as a team. We believed we had a chance to win and were determined to fix the mistakes we made on Wednesday."

Golf's successes were marked by crucial moments. Niu mentioned several standout instances during the playoff, which included impressive performances by Sophia Liu '27, Montemayor, and Zheng.

Niu said, "Definitely, in the playoff, Sophia Liu '27 made a really good three-footer under pressure. Montemayor made a really good approach shot on the final hole. Kevin Zheng '26 was the one who took the final stroke for Andover to seal the three-way



COUTRESY OF SOPHIA LIU

Andover Golf claimed a proud third place at the KIT.

playoff."

Montemayor noted that, in his opinion, the K.I.T. wasn't as well-run as other tournaments like the Independent International Invitational (Triple-I). However, he acknowledged that despite the suboptimal organization, the courses were still in good condition, and the team was able to compete effectively.

Montemayor said, "This tournament was very poorly exe-

cuted. If the Triple-I is like the Mona Lisa of golf, the K.I.T. is like if I tried to draw the Mona Lisa with my eyes closed. I am proud, though, of how even though this tournament had such poor organization the team was still able to take advantage of the nice course and the full day ahead of us to battle hard as a team."

## Crossword Corner!

Created by MaxLang

	1	2	3	4
5				
6				
7				
8				

### ACROSS

- Future opposite
- Alabama city known for civil rights protests
- 1984 Weird Al parody with the line "Don't you tell me you're full"
- Flake on a snake's skin
- "\_\_\_ Johnny!"

### DOWN

- Opposite of war
- Table in a Christian church
- Make a happy expression
- Bake shop known for chocolate chip cookies
- A meeting for a particular activity, informally

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

### ACROSS

- Man made river
- Famous fort from the Mexican-American war
- Places to find diamonds
- Chris \_\_\_\_, Captain America actor
- <

### DOWN

- Animal with hump(s)
- Having a pulse
- Grandmas, to a kid
- Affirmatives in church
- What L stands for on a sports record

	1	2	3	4
5				
6				
7				
8				

### ACROSS

- Guitar type with four strings
- Programmed to, as a thermostat
- Declame
- > or <-
- "Aches and \_\_\_"

### DOWN

- Yogi \_\_\_
- 80s video console famous for Breakout
- Squished, as a granola bar in your back pocket
- Thick soups
- Creator of suds

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
	9			

### ACROSS

- "I'd like to speak with you," on a returned exam
- A secretive group, especially a political one
- Bikini \_\_\_\_, place of American nuclear testing
- \_\_-grain or \_\_-cultrual
- Throw, as Tom Brady

### DOWN

- A fraud
- "\_\_\_ \_\_\_!", something to say to someone who hasn't touched their food
- West African virus
- Grain products used for fermentation
- \_\_\_ Island, New York island used for



★★★★★ on 

# Bagnall

## Family Dentistry LLC.

*“The dentists as well as the staff were very friendly, and I felt welcomed from the moment I stepped into the office. It was a comfortable, stress-free experience that I would recommend to any PA student or Andover local! Truly the best dentist in town.”*

- Sophia Lazar ’26

**(978) 475-3997**  
**www.BagnallFamilyDentistry.com**

16 Haverhill Street • Andover • MA • 01810  
info@bagnallfamilydentistry.com



**BARTLET**



**STREET**

*Let's Eat!*



**11 BARTLET ST, ANDOVER, MA 01810**

**Haircuts, styling, color services, smoothing treatments, curl specialists, and more!**



It's that time of year to weather-proof your hair this Spring and Summer with our May discount smoothing treatment!

*Inca Glow (organic)*  
~~\$375~~ → **\$275**

*Brazilian Blowout*  
~~\$375~~ → **\$275**

*Gloss* - **\$25**



978-474-1825  
marissamichaels.info@gmail.com

38 Florence St,  
Andover, MA 01810

Gibson

Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY

## An Unmatched Experience



"Henry Gourdeau provided outstanding service during our recent property search and purchase. Henry demonstrated an exceptional level of knowledge and expertise in navigating the challenges of a limited inventory market while covering a wide range of communities on the North Shore. Once we found the property that met our criteria, Henry's advice and negotiation skills helped to secure the property at the best possible price. Throughout the entire process, Henry kept us informed at every step and was always responsive to address any concerns or questions we had. I wholeheartedly recommend Henry to anyone searching for a real estate professional with exceptional knowledge of the North Shore and who excels in a competitive market."

—**Craig Thompson, Buyer**

"I highly recommend working with Henry for your realty needs! He recently helped me sell my home in less than 1 week and for over asking. I was so pleased with his knowledge of the market in the greater Boston area and his ability to go the extra mile for his clients. He was responsive and communicative during the whole process. As a first time seller, he was patient and clear in his explanations of what comes next. I could not be more pleased with the outcome of the sale and for choosing Henry as my realtor!"

—**Katie C., Seller**



**Henry Gourdeau**  
Class of '89  
Global Real Estate Advisor  
Henry.Gourdeau@GibsonSIR.com | 617.955.0443

**RECENT ACTIVITY**

**19 Buttonwood Drive, Andover**  
UAG | Listed for \$1,695,000

**64 Salem Street, Andover\***  
Sold for \$2,700,000

**300 Andover Street, Georgetown\***  
Sold for \$1,160,000

**45 Avery Park Drive, North Andover\***  
Sold for \$1,065,000

**12 Granli Drive, Andover**  
Under Contract | Listed for \$1,275,000

**34 Pleasant Street, Andover**  
Under Contract | Listed for \$899,000

**20 Dewey Street, North Andover**  
Under Contract | Listed for \$699,000



Scan to view available properties.

**OUR REPUTATION IS YOUR ADVANTAGE.**

**No. 1**

**MASSACHUSETTS BASED FIRM**  
BY SALES VOLUME

**\$3 Billion**

**TOTAL SALES VOLUME**  
IN 2023

**Highest Average Sale Price**  
OF THE TOP 20 FIRMS

Source: MLSPin. Each office is independently owned and operated. Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. All offerings are subject to errors, omissions, changes including price or withdrawal without notice.

SPORTSOPINION

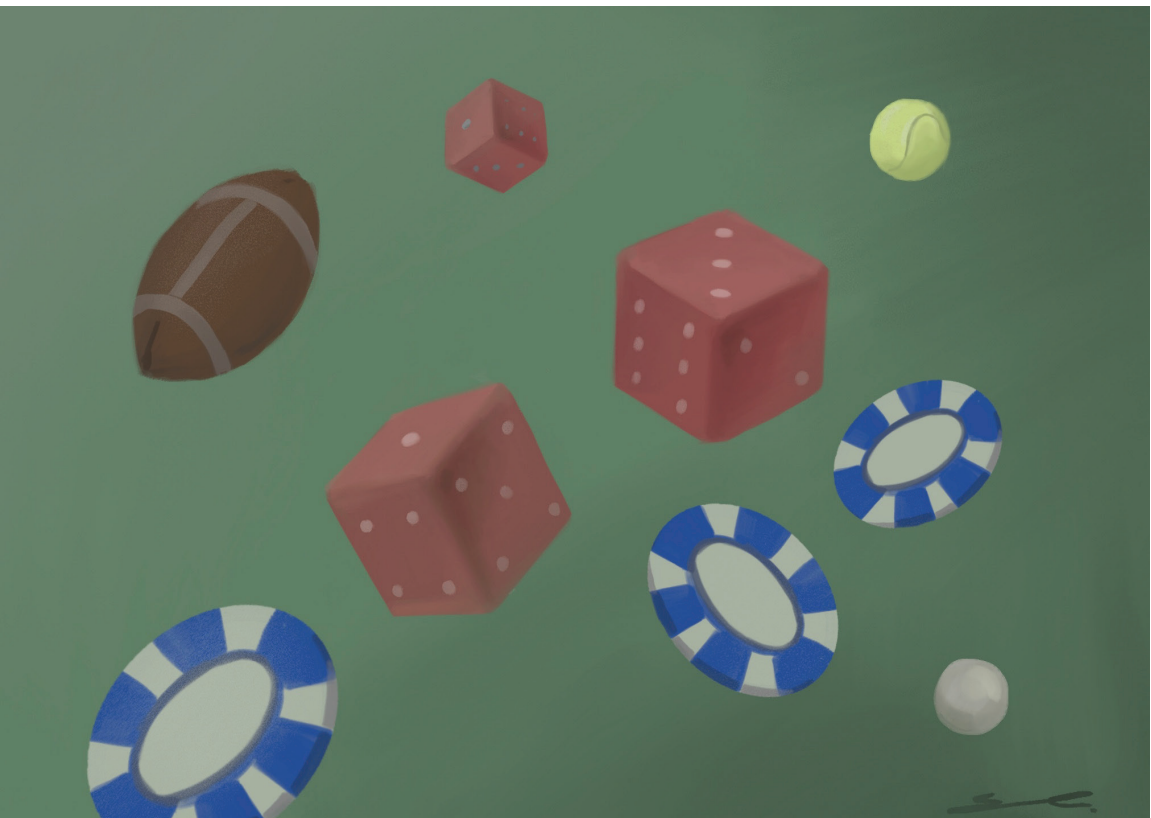
Sports Betting Is a Booming Disaster

AARON HUANG

In a world that is becoming increasingly digital, it is not surprising that the realm of sports betting has surged to develop in that direction. With the nationwide legalization of sports betting in 2018 almost six years in the past, hundreds of betting companies like DraftKings and FanDuels have developed fast-paced, easy-to-navigate betting applications that are only an arm's length and a few screen taps away.

The profitable and accelerating industry has generated a 10.9 billion dollar profit in 2023, a rise of almost 45 percent from 2022. Also, consider this: in 2018, just over one percent of the U.S. population had access to legal sportsbooks. Now far more than half of Americans can participate in legal sports betting. Sports betting has truly grasped a foothold within the daily lives of tens of millions of Americans.

However, with growth comes issues. The main problem with the current framework of sports betting is how fast, easy, and deceiving it is. When people participate in a digitalized form of sports betting, they play a game that significantly reduces the delay between risk and reward in comparison to in real life betting, so they end up increasing their speed and frequency of wagers. Moreover, many sports bettors believe that sports betting is becoming increasingly more controllable because they have access to a lot of information and think that their own expertise and skills can win over chance. This double whammy tends to lead to unfortunate results, with



CLARIS SHIN/THE PHILLIPIAN

overconfident players dumping and ultimately losing money at a rapid pace.

There is also an issue with how frequent and mass-produced sports betting advertisements have become. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for an unskippable DraftKings advertisement to pop up when someone is casually enjoying YouTube videos about sports. Not only does this highlight the exposure sports betting may generate for those under the age of 21 but also how prominent and interconnected sports betting is with sports. Indeed, a vast majority of sports franchises and industries have turned from anti-gambling to near-full support of it.

These advertisements, often including sports celebrities and players, bait unsuspecting potential customers into trying “risk-free” gambling deals in the hopes that they will get addicted. Many of these deals require non-refundable deposits, and the bonuses offered only come after certain conditions have been met and are in the form of one-use credits, forcing the player to make another bet.

In addition, there are thousands of channels that claim to show you the “winning method.” While a very select, relatively lucky group of people may be able to use advanced statistical analysis and deep research to increase their chances of winning,

nothing is guaranteed. In fact, an average person will more likely end up drowning in tens of thousands of dollars in debt because of gambling on sports as opposed to making a profit. Nationwide, calls to gambling hotlines have increased nearly twofold since 2018.

It is also unfortunate and disappointing that student-athletes in college and professional athletes are inevitably tied to the evil side of sports betting. Imagine a team is down six points in basketball, and a bench player sinks a three at the buzzer to pull the final gap down to three. As harmless as this three-pointer may be (that player was just trying to win), they have just ruined thou-

sands of parlays and bets, as the opposing team was favored to win by four. Now their DMs are flooded with death threats and hateful, nasty comments.

Obviously, these cyberthreats can be seriously detrimental to the mental health of players, especially those still in college. And it is clear that sports betting encourages and has contributed to a rise in this unacceptable behavior.

Not only are players constantly harassed for performances that “sell the bag,” but they also may end up ruining their careers for betting-related reasons. A recent example of this is ex-NBA player Jontay Porter, now banned for life, for gambling on NBA games.

The general soccer community may recall a few talented soccer players who have received lengthy bans for their participation in betting. It came as a major surprise when young Italian star Sandro Tonali, along with other Italian national team players, was found guilty of betting on unauthorized websites. Now serving a year-long ban, Tonali had admitted to being addicted. He is just one known example of a professional player struggling with gambling issues.

At the end of the day, sports betting is fueled by our ever-growing interdependence with technology. Our world becomes smaller and quicker when it is held within a screen in our hands, and we feel more in control of our bets. Nevertheless, the current digitalization of sports betting can lead all sorts of people to devastating consequences that may ruin their life. The swift growth in sports betting must be seen with caution and more attention should be given to the negative aspects of sports betting delineated above.

Girls Lacrosse Falls in Prep Cup Semifinals, Beats Brooks in Tough Matchup

ANYA BUDZINSKI

SATURDAY 5/18		
Andover		9
Dexter Southfield		8
SUNDAY 5/19		
Andover		11
Sacred Heart		17
WEDNESDAY 5/22		
Andover		17
Brooks		16

On Saturday Girls Lacrosse played #5 Dexter Southfield in the Prep Cup Quarterfinals, winning by one goal. The team

then lost against #1 Sacred Heart Greenwich in the Prep Cup Semifinals. On Wednesday, Girls Lacrosse beat Brooks in a close game.

In Saturday's game, the team found strength in its camaraderie and spirit, despite being down scorewise. Gracynn Hartley, '27 highlighted the team's supportive culture.

Hartley said “The strength of our team and the game is that no matter what situation, we’re always staying hyped. Especially on the sidelines and everything and throughout the game. Everyone’s always just hyped up and we’re all hyping each other up no matter what’s going on. If someone’s having a down game, there’s always someone to lift them up, and everyone’s just always there for each other. It’s a good team dynamic.”

Despite the loss, the team brought energy to the game

on Saturday at Dexter Southfield. Dylan Siegel '26 highlighted the team's high energy throughout the game.

Siegel said, “The atmosphere was really great, and there was a lot of energy, and everybody was just supporting everybody else. And it was a lot of fun to be at the game because our energy just made everyone really excited to be there, and even though we lost we were all in good spirits throughout the game.”

Lola Aguirre '26 shared that leading up to Wednesday's game against Brooks, the team worked to utilize the whole field and every player.

Aguirre said, “Leading up to the game we worked on playing as a team. It is really important for us to play together and use the entire field, so we worked a lot on that, especially going into this game. We knew it would be a tough matchup,

so we had to really come together. We also worked on set plays which helped us to have more of a plan in some situations in the game.”

Aguirre emphasized Co-Captain Lauren Herlihy '25 for her impressive performance. Not only did she create scoring opportunities for other players, she scored the goal that tied the team with Brooks after being behind for most of the game.

Aguirre said, “Lauren had a great game, she was super tough on offense. She created a lot of great plays where we were able to score goals and she ended up scoring the goal that tied us with Brooks since we were losing for a while. She really put us in [a] position to be able to pull away in the end and take the win.”

Wednesday's game featured temperatures close to 90 degrees, which was far

hotter weather than they had previously played in. Aguirre shared that the heat was a challenge, but the team was able to overcome it, staying close to Brooks the whole game.

Aguirre said, “Overall, the game went really well. It was a super competitive game and the whole time we were neck and neck with the other team. It was a super hot day, almost 90 degrees and sunny the entire time. We haven't practiced in weather at all close to as hot as it was today so the heat was definitely a challenge but we were able to work through it really well.”

Girls Lacrosse will play against Phillips Exeter Academy at home on Friday.

Boys Lacrosse Losses to Berkshire and in Overtime to Pingree

MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

SATURDAY 5/18		
Andover		11
Berkshire		18
WEDNESDAY 5/22		
Andover		10
Pingree		11

Boys Lacrosse lost against Berkshire School on Saturday, fighting a close game against Pingree on Wednesday before ultimately falling short in overtime. Its record now stands at 10-7.

Jacob Keller '24 reflected on the incidental assist during the second half against Berk-

shire that deterred team morale.

Keller said, “It shouldn’t be funny, but when our own player passed the ball to the other team right in front of our own net for a wide open goal, it was definitely in our best interest to laugh it off. That moment, unfortunately, set the tone for the game and it occurred right after half. After that the team lost a lot of spirit that led to the result of the game.”

Following the team's loss against Pingree, Max Herbison '25 commented on the pressure end-of-season games place on the players, especially upperclassmen.

“Just before OT [overtime], we won the face-off with about 20 seconds left and almost scored to end it there, so we felt like it was going our way. I think there was a lot of pressure, especially because we only have two games left, everyone wants to win, and the Seniors and PGs on the team will have their highschool lacrosse experience come to an

end. Everyone really wanted to do the right thing and get the win, but it was unfortunate in the end,” said Herbison.

Liam Doyle '24 emphasized keeping composure after tough losses and moving forward regardless. He also shared the team's plan for the Andover/Exeter (A/E) Weekend.

Doyle said, “Losses help bond everyone together. You have to have a short term memory in these kinds of games, especially with [Phillips] Exeter [Academy] coming up on Saturday, which is probably the biggest game of our season. With them coming up, we are going to just keep our short term memory. We got practice tonight, practice tomorrow, and we'll have to scout all their top players. They’ve got some big guns this year but we are excited to face off against them.”

Keller detailed the team's routine when preparing for matchups, which includes reviewing opponent rosters and

analyzing their game strategies through videos.

“After every game over the weekend, on Monday, we get an email that scouts the other team and has not only our matchups, but the entire other team's roster and their hand, and their tendencies. So, as an offensive player, I'll look at the goalie. Then I'll look at my matchup as a midfielder. Sometimes we may even look at a bit of a film and then as a team we'll look through their clears, their defensive sets, and their defensive tendencies,” said Keller.

Herbison praised goalie Paul Harrison '25, who has the highest save percentage of Andover goalies at 0.516, totaling 79 saves for the season.

Herbison said, “I thought Paul played very well. He played great in the first half, as he only let in two goals which set the bar high for us going into the second. Unfortunately, we were not able to capitalize off our lead. He really held down the fort to start

the game off, and he was part of the reason why we were pretty confident going into the second half.”

Despite the 10-11 let down, Andover's offense kept pace during the game. Doyle highlighted Jake Murray '24's performance as integral to the team's ability to persevere through difficult plays.

Doyle said, “Jake Murray played very well. He helped ['24] settle the offense when we weren't that settled. We were out of sorts quite a bit and he helped keep our team composed. He was able to break free on offensive a few times and put up some really good shots. All in all, he played very well, and was definitely a backbone for our team.”

Looking ahead, Andover will play Exeter in its last game of the season on Saturday.

# Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

## The Repercussions Takes the Stage for 2024 Den Show Featuring Alumni and Student Performers

STELLA SEONG &  
JOY-SHANTI  
SINDAYIGANZA

On May 17, the student band called the Repercussions took to the Susie's stage to perform their third rendition of the Den Show in front of a crowd of eager students, some of which had returned to the audience after previous years' shows, and some of which were listening to the band for the first time. This year, the band featured the musicians Jacob Kaiser '24, Brandon Fu '25, Will Lucas '24, Sinan Muratoglu '24, Ethan Liu '26, and Constantine Krenteras '24. With the show starting at 8:45 p.m. and a Seniors only show at 10:00 p.m., the room vibrated with energy throughout the night as the band played tunes ranging from jazz standards to TV show theme music to the fan-favorite rendition of "Gravity" by John Mayer. Along with the main band, the set featured other student musicians including alumni and other bands on campus.

The Repercussions was formed as a small jazz ensemble in 2022, and first performed the Den Show as a way to showcase a solo musician. Last year, it was developed into a collaborative show, inviting musicians from around campus to perform with the band to sing solo music with instrumentals. Similarly, this year's show featured collaborative works with students, including alumni, and also invited other ensembles to have their own sets in between pieces. Kaiser, a member of the Repercussions who had performed at all three Den Shows, gave insight into the developments the show underwent throughout the years.

"We did this year's Den Show because it's just been so fun. The first Den Show was



Saxophonists Brandon Fu '25 and Ethan Liu '26 perform as part of The Repercussions at their third annual Den Show.

two years ago and there was a guitarist and songwriter at the time who wanted to showcase some of his music, so we got a group together. Last year, we redid it but centered it around not just one musician, but people from all over campus and we got a good reception. This year we did a similar thing, [but it] was less of a production compared to last year, which was more stylistically ambitious. This year was about vibing with tunes," said Kaiser

Much of the audience was comprised of students who had returned after watching previous years' shows. From waving phone flashlights during emotional songs to standing up and clapping during upbeat tunes, the show encouraged the audience to interact with the music being created on stage. Lily Liu '26

alluded to the sense of community and strong bonds she saw between the members of the audience and the band. Being the second Den Show she's watched, Liu enjoyed the continued light-hearted and entertaining nature of the show.

"I decided to come to the Den Show because last year's [Den Show] was a blast. I specifically remember Sebastian Altomare ['23's] performance of the song 'Gravity.' The moment the first words of 'Gravity' came out of his mouth, the entire room was captivated and was singing along. It was a really special moment because, as a freshman last year, the Den Show really showed me how closely knit the campus community is. The audience all really got into the songs and it brought out a softer side in people, re-

ally showing the number of special bonds in this community," said Liu.

During the Senior Show, alumni Altomare, a bassist and singer, returned to campus to perform with the band during the Senior Show, singing "Gravity" once more as a homage to the standing tradition of his piano-vocal performance of the song for the past shows. Sitting in as an audience member and also performing, Altomare noted the energy he felt from the community through reconnecting with his friends and seeing everyone in the audience continue to cheer on the band throughout the years.

"I just had to come back for this year, it gets bigger and better every year. I sang 'Gravity' by John Mayer again which I had done last year. I met so many old friends and

that's really the best thing about the Den Show. It's not the great music or the great performances, it's everyone cheering everyone on. A lot of Seniors in the band are graduating but I hope they keep doing [the show]. It was so fun to see them succeed in the Den Show again and to have that feeling of playing with this band again," said Altomare.

After three successful runs of the Den Show, many of the original members of the Repercussions are graduating from Andover. Despite this, Kaiser hopes that the Den Show continues to carry on through new performers or new ensembles. Serving as a unique space for musicians to present collaborative performances and a place where alumni could return to campus to celebrate their past performances, Kaiser stresses the importance of the Den Show carrying on.

"The Repercussions has kind of been a loose idea for the past three years. The idea has always been to play jazz, pop, fusion... and try to perform as much as possible on campus. Whether or not the Repercussions continues is up for debate. I don't think it will because original members won't be there anymore and there are other bands on campus. But I don't think that's important. I think that there absolutely should be a Den Show continuing. There aren't a lot of opportunities to perform on campus that really showcase everyone in a collaborative way. The student recitals in Graves [Hall], those are still mostly solos... [and] it's never a collaborative effort, but every year the Den Show has really been founded upon bringing as many voices and instruments into the equation as possible... I'm almost certain that the Den Show will continue on, and I really do hope it does," said Kaiser.

## Comedic Performance "Chinglish" Reflects on Engaging in Business With Language Barriers

ANYA BUDZINSKI &  
HLUMA MANGCU

The cast of "Chinglish" put on an interactive and engaging performance in the Underwood Room over May 17 and 18. The play, which had live subtitles, operated in both Chinese and English and told the story of a complicated business deal between businessmen who had a language barrier between them.

After preparing and rehearsing for the show throughout the duration of Spring Term, Frank Hu '26, who played an American businessman, described his excitement in showcasing the group's work. He highlighted how the play emphasized the disconnect that can happen between languages and cultures.

"[The mistranslations] are kind of beautiful, and the whole point was that we still don't really understand each other too well. Although it's a struggle, it's also a sign of the beauty of life and the different cultures," described Hu.

For Hu, "Chinglish" provided a unique platform to explore language dynamics. He noticed a wide range of audience reactions, specifically between English-only speakers, and those fluent in both English and Chinese.

"This kind of bilingual play is really niche. I think it's definitely the first time that I've seen live subtitles being played out and for it being a bilingual show, it's definitely really interesting seeing how people who only speak English versus people who are bilingual in both English



A.LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN

Audience members were enraptured by the comedic yet beautiful linguistic disconnections that lied at the heart of "Chinglish."

and Chinese come to understand the jokes in the show, so I think that's something that was really special about 'Chinglish,'" said Hu.

Similar to Hu, audience members resonated with the play's in-depth exploration of multilingualism. Magdalena Mercado '26 attended the show because she was curious to see how the show would play out, expressing her interest in how people from different languages could connect nonetheless.

"I'm very close to people on the cast, both cast members and also the person that directed it, Dr. [Lilia] Cai, [Instructor in Chinese], but I

also was really interested because I really wanted to see what the play was about. It talked about the experience of being multilingual... and how regardless of language barriers or not being able to speak either language, you still could still develop relationships and connections and friendships with people nonetheless, so it was actually pretty good, I enjoyed it," said Mercado.

While the cast was small, Mercado was impressed by the seamless performances of the cast. The cast of the show indirectly interacted with the live subtitles, which made her watching experience overall

more engrossing.

"The biggest thing that stood out to me was everybody was really good at playing their respective roles. The cast was pretty small, it was probably ten people, if not less. Every scene they would put on a different person or they would put on the slide show that was broadcasting on the screen with live subtext. They had the individual descriptions for each of the characters and what they were and what they do and what age they are. So that provided the audience with insight on what the people were supposed to be doing, how they're supposed to be

acting, and they were good at filling those rules," said Mercado.

Nina Torrens '26, appreciated the humorous aspect of the show as a factor in conveying the overall message of overcoming language barriers. She elaborated on her takeaways from watching the play.

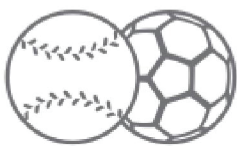
"I really liked the parts where they were at a conference because one of the characters is an American and he's trying to do business in China and the translators were purposefully really bad and they would put translations on the screen of what they were actually saying and sometimes they were really funny. The struggles of doing business in another country where you don't know the language was definitely a major theme, and that you can always persevere. At first, the main character was struggling with finding deals and not getting scammed because of the language barrier and he ended up doing really well," said Torrens.

Torrens agreed with Mercado, applauding the cast members for fully committing to their parts and executing their roles with professionalism, particularly noting their ability to maintain character even during the funniest moments.

"They all really got into it and really played their parts. Since it was a comedic play, it was definitely more fun for them to do and they all did a really good job staying in character and not breaking out laughing, even in the funniest moments when everyone else was laughing," said Torrens.

# Arts & Leisure

The Phillpian



ALLIANCE  
SPORTS

## WE ARE ALLIANCE SPORTS.



WE BUY  
AND GROW  
SPORTS  
TEAMS.



### OMAHA STORM CHASERS

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

### RICHMOND FLYING SQUIRRELS

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



### MONTGOMERY BISCUITS

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

### UNION OMAHA

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



# Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

## Fun Home: A Musical of Death and Enjoyment

ADELE CIOCIOLA

In the final moments of “Fun Home,” the Alisons transcended time as they sang a three-part harmony and dissolved the barrier between the different versions of themselves. Directed by Jack Swales ’24, his Theatre & Dance 901 production of “Fun Home” attracted students this Friday and Saturday night to the George Washington Hall Theater Classroom. Told from the perspective of child Alison, college Alison, and adult Alison, the play dealt with heavy themes of identity and family dynamics. Alex Giarnese ’25 shared how the show resonated with him.

“I thought the performance was really impactful. I really appreciated all the themes that it was covering and I think Jack did a fantastic job of casting and directing a show that really made a mark on me and imprinted itself on the audience... Learning to accept yourself and learning how to reflect on your identity and what events make you, you. Especially because I think a big part of the musical was Alison reflecting on herself as a child and as a college

student and how she grew up, so I think a really big theme that was being conveyed was figuring out how the events you experience as a child and young adult really shape you as a person,” said Giarnese.

An important part of conveying these themes was maintaining the distinction between each Alison which showed her development through time. A key part of this personal growth was an increased level of awareness surrounding the events in her past and her present. Ivy Randall ’25, who played young Alison, provides us with further insight into the younger version of her character.

“My role specifically showed Alison’s relationship with her dad at a young age and kind of the peculiarities of her life that she didn’t really realize at the time. It revealed a lot of her father’s verbal abuse and the scenes with small Alison hinted at affairs her father had with men visiting the house that she didn’t realize were happening when she was younger. It also shows her experience growing up running a funeral home. There was a really funny song where all the little kids are making a commercial about their family

funeral home, but it’s pretty disturbing if you think about it that at such a young age they’re dealing with dead bodies and such a dark topic, and I think that’s kind of a theme throughout the show. My character, young Alison, was dealing with a lot of heavy, dark topics, but she didn’t quite realize that yet because she was still young and naive,” said Randall.

Although Alison may not have understood the depth of the situation, her mother carries the burden of maturity. This heaviness culminates in the mother’s final song, “Days and Days,” where she explicitly reveals the happenings of the house and Alison’s father’s extramarital affairs with men. In this song, the implicit is made explicit, and Giarnese shares the significance of this moment in the play.

“My favorite part was Simi [Gandhi ’24]’s song at the end, or if you saw the play, it was the mother’s song, towards the end of the show. It was almost all a capella, her voice was beautiful, the way she sang the song almost brought me to tears. It was such a beautiful performance and I really appreciated how much emotion Simi was putting into her acting and into her singing. I thought it was a really impactful turning point in the production where we started to see the true themes and the true identities coming through of, not only Alison, but also the other characters in the play like the mother and the father, so I thought it was probably the most impactful change of scenery in the play,” said Giarnese.

Although the musical itself dealt with heavy themes, behind the scenes the performers had a thoroughly enjoyable experience. As a student directed show, the students were able to form a unique bond with their fellow castmates and facilitate an environment that was focused on growth and fun. Randall shares how Swales made his Theatre & Dance 901 production something that was a highlight of her day and facilitated an atmosphere that fostered creativity.

“In terms of Jack’s leadership, he was very encouraging and inspiring from the beginning. He made the class so fun to go to but



COURTESY OF ADELE CIOCIOLA

**Alicia Zhang ’24, Davyn Gottfried ’25, and Ivy Randall ’25 star as the three Alisons in Jack Swales ’24’s THD910 production of “Fun Home.”**

also something that you want to put work towards. Even though it was first period in the morning, I could hardly wait to go to school in the morning, I could hardly wait to watch videos of the actors and really study my character so that I could get it right because he fostered this really encouraging atmosphere that made us all want to do well,” said Randall.

This tight-knit community was also beneficial to the quality of the performance. The close relationship shared by the cast members allowed them all to work together seamlessly and support each other throughout the performance. Giarnese shared how their con-

nection could be felt as an audience member as well.

“This performance seemed like the cast had a really special connection, and I think that is due to it being student directed. Oftentimes, we find that with teacher directed performances that sometimes the cast doesn’t have as strong of a connections because they don’t do a lot of cast building or working to make sure everyone gets along, but I could definitely feel that the cast loved each other, had so much fun creating this piece, and were really excited to produce it, which I think that really showed in their production,” said Giarnese.



COURTESY OF ADELE CIOCIOLA

**The play follows Alison as she navigates complex family relationships.**

## Art Instructor Evonne Avalos Nurtures Artistic Passion and Cultivates Creativity

CAMERON MANZO

Evonne Avalos, Instructor in Art, has been passionate about creating since a young age, carrying around art supplies since kindergarten. She found her passion for teaching art in the different experiences it brings.

Avalos finds herself connected to a variety of art pieces, and draws inspiration from her time cataloging painter Lois Dodd’s work. Over time, her understanding and preferences in art have shifted dramatically as well.

“My understanding of what art could be when I was younger was kind of confined a little bit more to what I knew, which was probably painting, things that belonged in a museum, and artists that I knew in my own life and the work that they were making. But I think that over time, my idea for what art is

has really blown up... I’m drawn to artwork that tends to be sort of more maximalist, [with] lots and lots of visual information kind of coming at you, whether it’s sculpture that is very ornate, or spaces that have a lot going on visually that are competing for your attention. I would say in painting, though, I’m kind of drawn to the opposite. I like things that are more minimal,” said Avalos.

At Andover, Avalos teaches Art 225 (Visual Studies), Art 304 (Drawing), and Art 305 (Painting). Avalos finds joy in teaching these introductory courses, enjoying opening doors for students who may have never taken a focused art class prior to Andover.

“The most exciting thing to me about [Art] 225 is there’s this opportunity for folks who have experience in art and folks who have maybe less experience in the visual arts to gain some confidence

in expressing themselves through making things, [and] also gaining confidence in feeling like they can access the Addison [Gallery of American Art] or the art community on campus. Then, hopefully, as they take that with them into the bigger world, like feeling that the visual arts is something that they want to participate in or have an appreciation for or are curious about,” Avalos said.

Avalos’s own art inspiration is spontaneous, driven by a combination of personal experiences and openness to the world around her. She often finds ideas strike at unexpected times, where she will even use speech-to-text to jot them down. This constant search for inspiration has given her many experiences beyond the world of art.

“Art has definitely pushed me out of my comfort zone at lots of different points in my life, to try

expressing new ideas, but also to move to places and get involved in communities that I might not otherwise have gotten involved with... My biggest inspiration is staying open to how I’m experiencing the world around me [and] experiencing people that I meet... My inspiration mostly comes to me for putting together an artwork or a lesson or something when I’m in the car and driving,” Avalos said.

For students looking to take art classes, feeling self-conscious is a natural part of starting. Avalos emphasized. She encouraged students to embrace the uncertainty in the process and interpret art in their own individual ways and express themselves, and that in the end, the work pays off.

“Something that people might face when they start taking an art class is not being sure about their abilities, not being sure if their



COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

ideas are strong enough or unique enough... Those are still things that pop up for me from time to time. But, I’ve come to know that by working through it, it pays out. The reward is worth it, in artwork that wouldn’t otherwise exist if I didn’t,” said Avalos.

## Academy Concert Bands Perform Diverse Repertoire in Final Concert of the Year

CAMERON MANZO & ZADIE ROBINSON

Songs ranging from “A Festival Prelude” by Alfred Reed to selections from Pirates of the Caribbean rang in Cochran Chapel as the Academy Concert Bands played an eclectic collection of songs last Friday. No specific theme was chosen for the concert, providing a unique experience for both students and the audience.

Ray Daniels, conductor of the Concert Band, curated the four pieces that were performed. One particularly, “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night,” by Elliot Del Borgo, stood out musically and personally to him. The piece, inspired by Dylan Thomas’s poem of the same name, transforms the themes of life and death from the poem into music, which resonated deeply with Daniels.

“[‘Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night’] is just a very challenging piece. It goes through a lot of emotions. It’s about going from life to death. And so it has embedded in it different hymns, but it’s also aleatoric. It’s lots of clashing sounds and things that don’t seemingly go together. Now, both of those pieces, the second piece and the middle piece, have to do with mortality. So there’s also a personal reason why I picked those pieces... My dad is 92 and my daughters and I have been kind of talking about my father passing away and how we deal with death and life,” said Daniels.

Following this piece, Daniels hoped to contrast its somber tone by ending the concert on a bright note with music from the Pirates of the Caribbean. He elaborated on the importance of an ensemble’s enthusiasm for a piece, and his own creative expression as a conductor and musician.

“The music is great. The audience loves that piece. But more than anything, the ensemble loves to play that piece. And I needed something that was fun and light compared to something that was a little bit more serious and heavy. So just trying to reach a lot of emotional spaces but also reaching a lot of different people and wherever they are, and again, my own personal journey with it... I’m an artist and so this, my work here, is part of my artwork. So not only just an educator, but I exercise my artistic will,” said Daniels.

This year also concludes Daniels’ first year conducting the Concert Band. With his positive and energetic approach, he has fostered a supportive and motivated environment, helping students practice and perform together well. Shixun Song ’26, a saxophonist in the ensemble, commented on Mr. Daniels’ teaching style.

“Mr. Daniels [is] an amazing musician and has a tremendous amount of experience. During a rehearsal he told us how the Boston Pops sometimes ask him to conduct. I’ve played alto sax in the band during the last two years and will probably continue in the next few years,” said Song.

Preparation was challenging considering rehearsals were only once per week in the spring, when many students are especially busy with various other commitments. Anny Wang ’26 echoed this, finding that Daniels’ enthusiasm was able to boost attendance.

“At first the band had all the Seniors not here because of Senior spring, so it was a little bit brutal. A lot of freshmen quit [too]. We had maybe one third of the people showing up. At first, it was really bad, but I think later on Mr. Daniels was able to persuade everyone to come back and it actually went really well [in] the end. I think Mr.

Daniels is a very passionate band director and I respect him a lot,” said Wang.

Looking ahead, the Academy Concert Band will be renamed to the Academy Wind Ensemble, reflecting the band’s increase in virtuosity. The Tuesday Band will remain the same. Song expressed excitement towards this change, which he hopes will increase the ensemble’s reception on campus through more performance opportunities.

“I hope the audience can hear all of the hard work and dedication we’ve put into the music. Very few people come to the band concerts compared to other concerts, and I really hope that if people liked the music, they’ll bring more people to the next concert... There have been plans for us to play at ASM [All-School Meeting] next year, and I’m really looking forward to it,” said Song.

# Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

## Lillian Montalto

SIGNATURE PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL



\$2,300,000

2 Mackenzie Court, Andover, MA 01810

5 BEDS | 4F 2H BATHS | 6,227 SQFT

- PERFECTLY LOCATED IN THE PIKE SCHOOL & PHILLIP'S ACADEMY AREA
- FINISHED LOWER LEVEL WITH WALK-OUT ACCESS TO THE MANICURED GARDENS WHERE YOUR BACKYARD SANCTUARY AWAITS WITH PATIOS, A PERGOLA, FIREPIT, VIBRANT LANDSCAPING, ROSES AND FLOWERS GALORE, PERFECT FOR RELAXING OR ENTERTAINING

SERVING THE ANDOVERS FOR OVER 40 YEARS!



16 Balmoral Street - Unit 104, Andover, MA 01810

\$364,900



2



1



762

- 1 BEDROOM & A LOFT THAT CAN BE USED AS A 2ND BEDROOM OR OFFICE
- EXCEPTIONAL 1ST FLOOR CONDO
- ABUNDANCE OF NATURAL LIGHT



167 Summer Street - Unit 167, Andover, MA 01810

\$10,900/month



5



2F 1H



3,558

- LUXURIOUS FULLY FURNISHED RENTAL IN PRIME ANDOVER LOCATION!
- OPEN CONCEPT
- DOWNTOWN ANDOVER
- 1ST FLOOR PRIMARY



16 Balmoral Street - Unit 304, Andover, MA 01810

\$355,000



1



1



682

- CONVENIENTLY LOCATED CLOSE TO THE HIGHWAY, COMMUTER RAIL, PLAYGROUNDS, PARKS, DOWNTOWN AND MUCH MORE
- DOG-FRIENDLY
- HIGH CEILINGS

“Let me find you the perfect home while your children attend Phillips Academy!”

CALL ME DIRECTLY (978) 662-9700

BUYERS

Scan here to find your dream home!



Lillian.AndoverHomes.com



SELLERS

Scan here to see your home's value!



Lillian.AndoverHomes.com/Seller