The Phillipian

finally got to live out my boston tea party dreams

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2024 Alumni Award of Distinction Winners Speak at ASM

A. LEE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Carroll Bogert '79, one of three alums presented with the 2024 Alumni Award of Disctinction, accepted her award with a speech at ASM.

NIKI TAVAKOLI

Every year, three Andover alums are presented with the prestigious 2024 Alumni Awards of Distinction. This year's recipients are Carroll Bogert '79, a humanitarian advocate and journalist, William A. "Trey" Ellis '80, an award-winning filmmaker, screenwriter, and novelist, and Dr. Vanessa Kerry '95, an envoy to the World Health Organization and the founder of Seed Global Health. Upon receiving the awards, the nominees gave speeches discussing their experiences at Andover, their career, and their advice for Andover students at last Friday's All-School Meeting (ASM).

A former journalist and international correspondent for Newsweek, Bogert became a Deputy Executive Director for Human Rights Watch, where she oversaw the launch of its multimedia division. Currently, Bogert is the president of The Marshall Project, a non-profit news organization that covers the American criminal justice system extensively to raise transparency within it. Bogert spoke about her reasons for applying to Andover in a separate interview for *The Phillipian*.

"I was really in love with the history of the revolution and some of the ideas of the revolution and Boston. The idea of being near Boston seemed so cool. And it was like the '70s. Boston's like a student town. It just seemed like it would be fun and exciting, and I had no idea that I would be able to get into Andover. So my parents agreed that I could go to boarding school, which wasn't anything my brother or sister had done or anything and they took me around. I found some names of some schools, and we went to visit these schools, and then it turned out that my test scores were good enough that I could apply to Andover. And I was like, 'Really? Andover? That's the best school in America.' I couldn't believe that I could maybe be in that league. It was a shock that I got in," said Bogert.

Filmmaker and novelist Trey Ellis has won two Emmy Awards and the Peabody Film Award. Throughout his works, Andover has become a motif, as he noted it to be a foundational place for his career. Ellis spoke about how he attributes part of his success to his time at Andover, and to the teachers who fostered his creativity and encouraged his endeavors.

"At Andover, you find those people that look you in the eye, and they don't see you as somebody's son or daughter or anything, they see you as yourself. I felt celebrated by the teachers for my creativity. I think it's important to identify teachers who want to bring out the best in you. I had an amazing teacher, Dr. Quattlebaum, in my history class. Once, I included a little poem, a sort of funny, slightly risqué rhyme, in my paper, and he thought it was great. I can imagine that in my other school, I would have been called to the office for that. Being celebrated for thinking outside the box and being creative was an incredible experience," said Ellis.

He continued, "Because it's so selective and filled with interesting people from all over the world with all these big dreams, I felt like I could do anything. I felt like I could take on the world. I grew more in those two years than in the four years before or the four years after. I know that's true because when I look back at my work, my second [novel] takes place in Andover, and the new one I'm working on now [does] too. [Andover has] become a touchstone for me, which I didn't realize right afterward."

Continued on A5, Column 4

New Policies Address Civil Discourse, Set Limits on Political Signs

LOUISA CARTER

Andover has two new policies that are meant to guide students' discussion on politically charged issues. Head of School Dr. Raynard Kington announced the policies, respectively called the Civil Discourse and Political Activity policies, in an email to the community on September 23. The policies are accompanied by revisions to the Regarding Political Activity employee policy, now also called the Civil Discourse and Political Activity policy, which outlines rules for employees on separating their political engagement from the Academy's.

Amidst the 2024 election season and the rise in student demonstrations across the country, many colleges and universities are adopting similar policies that both regulate and provide a framework for political discourse and demonstration on campus. Andover's Civil Discourse Policy explicitly states student demonstrations cannot interfere with Academy programming or administration, violate Community standards, or damage Academy property. Since the beginning of last year, this kind of political activity has been minimal.

Eric Denby, Instructor in History, said, "I am surprised I haven't seen any real political action on campus since I got here, which was last school year. The [Civil Discourse and Political Activity Policies] might be in anticipation, or that we're just behind other institutions for having this document, but I don't see a lot of protests happening to begin with."

Kington described how the Civil Discourse policy is an explicit extension of Andover's core values of having diversity of thought and experience. While it aims to encourage dialogue between individuals, the policy also details the importance of using non-harmful rhetoric within these conversations.

"It was important for us to have a policy that stated explicitly what has been the implicit policy and the implicit practice of saying, 'here are our community standards when it comes to civil discourse,' " said Kington.

Kington continued, "We believe in civil discourse. We think it is important and we think students should engage in civil discourse. Part of what we do is prepare students to be engaged citizens, we want our students to be engaged with the world out there. But we also think that it's important to have a clear statement about what our institutional and community standards are for how that discourse occurs."

These community standards, which emphasize speaking for oneself and not the Academy, have raised questions about what institutional neutrality and non-partisanship look like in practice. The policy states, "students and student clubs are not permitted to use Academy resources in connection with a political campaign to support or oppose any candidate for public office at the federal, state, or local level ('Candidate')."

As a nonprofit entity, Andover is obligated under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code to remain non-partisan. Beyond the legal requirements, Kington noted how the policy was created to establish Andover as a space that supports community-wide political engagement.

"Neutrality is a means to an end. The end is engaging with ideas and struggling with complicated ideas, even ideas you disagree with, because that's our mission to educate. And you cannot educate at a high level without students, faculty, and our community being able to engage with ideas. That is how I would characterize [institutional neutrality] as a tool that creates the circumstances that allow students to learn optimally and develop the critical thinking skills that are part of our educational

Continued on A5, Column 1

Fall Term Club Fair: A Showcase of Creativity and Community

DYLAN SIEGEL

From heavy weights to a buzzer machine to lightsabers and a working rocket, this year's Club Fair saw club leaders bring unique parts of their club to Snyder Center to attract potential members. The fair also featured the new debut of the club system: Club Hub, with club stands including QR codes leading to their Club Hub registration page.

In an attempt to centralize registered clubs and streamline the sign-up process onto a single platform, the 2024-2025 Co-Presidents Nate Liang '25 and Saraya Angbazo '25 hosted a meeting in coordination with Christopher Capano, Director of Student Activities, and Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, on October 3, to orient club leaders about Club Hub's launch at the fair. Sebastian Lemberger '25, Co-Head of the Philomathean Society, provided insight on the choices that his club took in order to attract as many students as possible.

"This year, for the club fair, we are bringing out some stuff that I was previously unaware that we had. We have this room full of trophies under Morse, so we figure that we will just bring a bunch of trophies to the club rally to look like we are good at what we do," said Lemberger, "There's [also] a bit of a logistical change because Club Hub, the new platform for managing clubs, is launching, so now, instead of using email lists, they are encouraging clubs to promote their Club Hub page at the fair. They give you one QR code. It's a prerequisite for being able to be present there, so it's part of the administration's crackdown on registered clubs."

K. MA/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

An array of clubs gathered in Snyder Center, cheering with signs, for the annual Club Fair.

The fall Club Fair presents the first official opportunity for students new to Andover to be introduced to existing clubs on campus. Anya Casey '28 shared her excitement about the opportunities she found exciting and hopes to take part in during the upcoming year.

"The club fair [was] very hectic but very fun. I signed up for the creative writing club, a poetry club, the gospel choir, and a couple others. I would describe the Club Fair as being fun, loud, and has helped bring me closer to the community. People are more friendly and less scary than I expected," said Casey.

As new students discovered clubs for the first time, returning students had the opportunity to discover emerging clubs that were created in the past year. Emily Wu '25, Co-Head of the Dharma-Sunga Club and Buddhist Philosophy Club, reiterated the importance of the Club Fair as being a space to find new interests and explore potential passions.

"This year, there were a lot of people, more clubs than I expected, and the [Juniors were] interested in everything. I have seen a range of attitudes, some very enthusiastic and some very not. I have

Continued on A5, Column 4

Andover Announces Plans to Create New Cell Phone Policy Next Year

CHRISTIAN ESTRADA & NIKI TAVAKOLI

Andover has unveiled plans to create and implement a policy regulating cell phone usage across campus starting next year, according to a schoolwide email sent from the Dean of Students Office to the student body on October 3. To catalyze the transition, the school will establish a task force of both students and faculty members to develop a comprehensive cell phone policy.

Susan Esty, Dean of Students and Residential Life, and David Gardner, Assistant Dean of Students and Residential Life, outlined the logistics of the task force in the email. According to the announcement, the task force will evaluate Andover's current cell phone policies and compare them to the policies of other schools, discuss existing research, and work through the summer of 2025 to finalize and implement the policy.

"[This task force] will play a crucial role in shaping the future of cell phone usage at Andover and in supporting the growth, health, learning, and happiness of our entire Big Blue community," wrote Esty and Gardner in the schoolwide email.

Although there is currently no schoolwide cell phone policy at Andover, many other schools have implemented systems to reduce screen usage throughout the school day. Deerfield Academy adopted a policy in 2022 that requires students to leave their phones in their dorms from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekdays. Similarly, Hotchkiss banned cell phone usage in classrooms, the dining hall, and community gatherings beginning fall of 2023.

Some instructors enforce their own regulations in the classroom to minimize distractions and improve learning. M.C. Post, Teaching Fellow in History, shared how phones can disrupt focus, especially in discussion-based classes. They currently implement a system where students keep their phones at the door during class.

"I'm pretty proximate to a student age, just because I graduated college almost two years ago, and I know how distracting phones can be when I was a student. I know that students don't want to be distracted, but it's just so easy to go on your phone when you have it right there, especially for a discussion-based class. The quality of education is better when phones aren't using people's attention. Just removing that all the way from students, nine to five... allows them to be more present," said Post.

Students will play an active role in forming the new policy as members of the task force. Aly Blakeney, Instructor in History and Economics, spoke on the value of having student voices inform the new policy, and her hopes for how the task force will continue to operate with this value in mind.

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Nitrogen Gas Executions
In the final installment of a larger series of articles on the death penalty, Simba Xiong '28 weighs the benefits and morality of nitrogen gas executions.

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Attack of the Phones
The Cell Phone Task Force Strikes Back

Sports, B1
BVS Going Strong
With a week full of matches, Boys Soccer fought tenaciously against Choate, St. Sebastian's, and Pingree. The high energy games yielded strong results with two wins and a tie.

Arts, B6
Senior Cruise
On Tuesday, the Class of 2025 dressed up in various formal attire to spend an evening with friends on the annual Senior Cruise.

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Editorial

On Civil Discourse and Political Activity

In the closing statement of Head of School Raynard Kington's email sent to the Andover community on September 23, 2024 outlining the new Blue Book policies "Civil Discourse" and "Political Activity," he expressed excitement for "a year filled with many lively discussions and debates." Despite this sentiment, the enclosed content centers primarily on what students can not do when engaging in discussion or political discourse on campus, such as skipping class, interfering with Academy programming, or inhibiting the freedom of movement of community members on campus. Noticeably, these policies seem to include little information on future initiatives or actionable steps for students to foster more civil discourse on campus. Amid major political conflicts, university campus protests, and hyper-polarization of the political climate, having a clear policy on political demonstration and expression as a guiding document is crucial. While the long string of can nots emphasized in these new policies is useful for students to know and for the administration to reference in the event of extreme circumstances, its primary emphasis on what is not allowed detracts from the email's stated hope of cultivating a more effective and open environment for discussing politics and global issues on campus. Rather than being an affirmative encouragement that outlines direct ways students can approach engaging in said discussion and debates, the list of restrictions embodies a punitive connotation that serves to further push students away from easily having these crucial conversations.

Informed, productive debates have the prerequisites of adequate education and awareness in discussion etiquette. While Andover has made efforts towards providing students with these essential learning opportunities in the past, such as Frank Tipton's "Israel-Palestine 101" lecture on December 4, 2023, they are few and far between, and not nearly enough. If students on campus wish to engage thoughtfully and respectfully with complex issues, more knowledge is needed to lay a factual foundation of the issues at hand. Furthermore, according to the 2024 State of the Academy, 89.7% of respondents believe that Andover has a political leaning to the left. On a campus with such a strong perceived political affiliation and given America's current political climate that has become more hostile and personally-targeted than ever, we must be actively taught, whether formally or informally, how to properly partake in a discourse. There are important distinctions, such as treating every opinion equally – whether it seems to be "commonly shared" among campus members or not – and separating the person from the belief, that we must know and recognize to have productive conversations. It is only with training and experience that we will be able to minimize instances of unintentionally hurting or ostracizing our discussion partners and instead facilitate effective debates that broaden our perspectives and expose us to diverse viewpoints in a positive way.

Moreover, in a student body that exhibits such a political leaning, it is inevitable that some expressed opinions will be controversial and unpopular. However, as long as these instances fall within the guidelines outlined in the new Blue Book policies, we should approach them with an open mind. We shouldn't view controversy as proof that open and fair discussion cannot exist; we should instead view these moments as opportunities for iterative improvement. Do not bite your tongue until we have reached a perfect, open environment. The open and ideologically diverse community we seek isn't achievable overnight, and our journey there will be uncomfortable. Be willing to share your opinions, even if glares may come your way. With each shared opinion, the next comes easier.

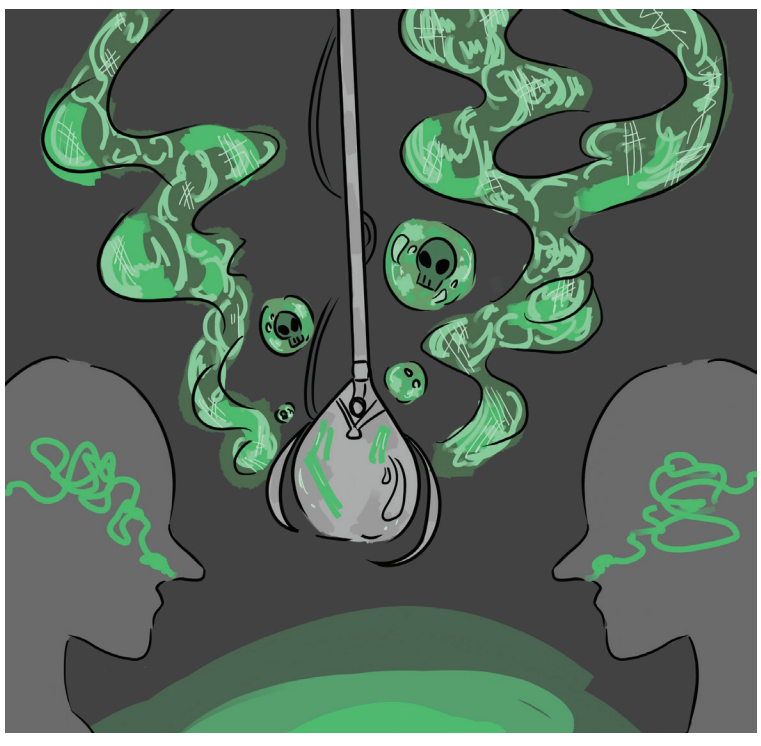
Finally, let's remember. These guidelines are made with the intention of creating a safe space for discussion. They are the means to achieving an environment of empathy, respect, and understanding. When Brian Gittens '89 skipped classes to sit on the steps of Samuel Phillips Hall and play Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech on repeat, that was his means of protesting for what he believed in. That was his way of pushing for what, in his eyes, was right and just. That is the reason why we have MLK Day On. The very purpose of "Civil Discourse" and "Political Activity" is to spur on the change that we want to see on this campus. Be civil, but be unafraid. Let the existence of rules and limitations and endless may nots not be an instillation of fear, but instead a reminder instead of what is possible, what we have the power to begin.

This Editorial represents the views of The Phillipian, *vol. CXLVII.*

Nitrogen Hypoxia and Dealth Penalty

SIMBA XIONG

A. LEE/THE PHILLIPIAN



MARIKA SAITO/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

The second-ever nitrogen gas execution occurred on September 25 in Alabama. Alan Eugene Miller, who had been on death row since 1999 after committing three cases of murder, was executed in what officials call a painless way of death by paralyzing the subject and gradually depriving the body of oxygen. Yet, there is no particular scientific data to prove that the method of execution is indeed as painless as it sounds. According to reports, Kenneth Smith, the first person to be executed by nitrogen gas, was seen shaking and writhing for at least two minutes before passing away. This led many to question whether it is possible to create a painless death, and whether criminals should be punished with the death penalty due to its cruelty. However, in the long run, nitrogen hypoxia has the potential to resolve all of these ethical problems by reducing the crime rate and ensuring fairness to both the victim and the convict at the same time.

Many people believe that the flaws with the death penalty make this practice extremely ineffective and even inapplicable in our society. For instance, some people believe that death penalties would be extremely inhumane when considering the mental pain that death row inmates have to go through before their execution, and others even believed that the death penalty would accidentally sentence innocent people to death.

First, it is crucial to understand that a degree of cruelty in practice is the reason why the death penalty ensures social order. According to Steve Marshall, Attorney General of Alabama and a prominent advocate of nitrogen hypoxia, "We are finally starting to see these cases move faster." Due to the convenience of the death penalty, Marshall believes that with the help of nitrogen hypoxia, families of victims don't have to "wait for decades until justice is served." Many argue that the inhumane existence of the death penalty has caused many delays on death row, driving criminals to wait for years until justice is served and live in fear. Yet, as Marshall had mentioned, incorporating nitrogen hypoxia could be helpful as it not only reduces trauma and fear from inmates but importantly speeds up the process of each case, allowing more inmates to receive the punishments that they deserve.

Undoubtedly, the death penalty is potentially cruel from a moral perspective and many people argue that taking away someone's life is a form of revenge rather than justice. However, is it fair for the victims to die innocently while the murderer simply receives a life sentence? Here, it is critical to note that besides the death penalty, a life sentence itself is also a form of retribution. The death sentence deprives an inmate of the right to live while the other deprives them of the ability to engage in society. Yet, the ultimate goal in our community is to deter crime and the effect of laws on social order matters first as we should prioritize our attention towards maintaining a healthy community rather than considering whether to end the life of one who took away countless lives of many.

According to the statistics of many developed countries, the crime rate is significantly smaller in nations that exercise death penalties. For instance, the U.S., which only incorporates the death penalty in 27 states, has an intentional homicide rate of 4.7, which is about four times as much as China, which fully incorporated the death penalty, with a rate of 1.12 percent. Another similar comparison would be between the UK and China, with China having half the homicide index as the U.K. and implementing strict gun bans.

By incorporating the method of nitrogen hypoxia, we are essentially combining both the social effect of the death penalty and the mental effect of life sentences simultaneously. Nitrogen hypoxia is an effective way to deter homicide rate by establishing fear but also a more tolerant way for death row inmates mentally. Scientists have seen a decrease in resistance from the death row inmates who died of nitrogen hypoxia, possibly suggesting that this practice is becoming more effective and less painful to one's body and mind. Also, as our technology improves, this practice could gradually become more effective, allowing punishments to be exercised in the most humane way possible. Still, to those who believed that people might be wrongfully convicted, the progression of technology and forensics will allow people to see the truth more easily.

The death penalty could potentially be a useful tool in our society if used appropriately. Utilizing nitrogen hypoxia would make the criminal justice system more fair to every victim and convict. For high schoolers, having a fair punishment system serves as a warning to all of us to be mindful of our actions both on and off campus, building a peaceful and friendlier community.

Simba Xiong is a Junior from Beijing, China. Contact the author at xxiong28@andover.edu.

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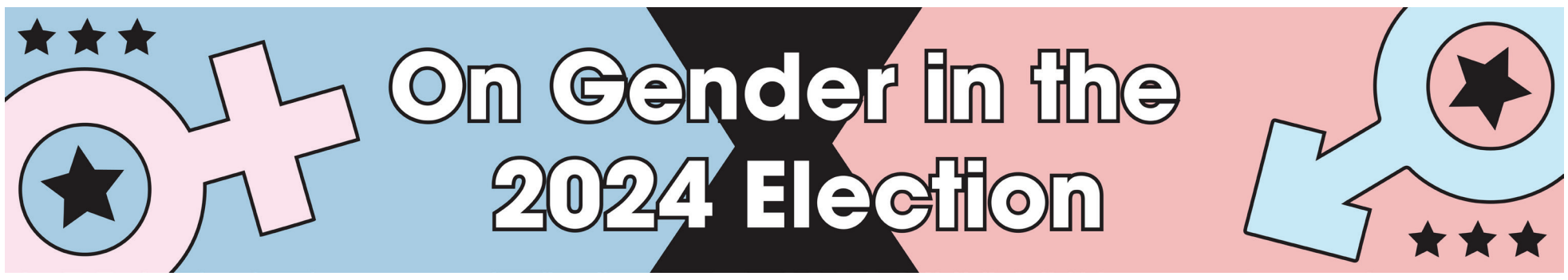
CORRECTIONS:
In the Arts article "Andover Blooms with Budding Nail Art Entrepreneurs," photos were taken by Ishaan Padmawar.



CLAIRE WANG/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

NATHAN RAMANI '27

There is still gender bias and discrimination despite what many people say. It is kind of difficult to tell where that line is drawn, and some people can hide their bias by saying they don't like Harris's policies or character. Unfortunately, being a woman still weakens a candidate's chances, though not as much as it used to. Harris has had to be careful not to exacerbate that problem by talking about breaking barriers. For instance, she hasn't spoken much about breaking barriers being the first female president or being the first person of South Asian descent to be president. That's kind of where most of the bias and discrimination lies in our society today, and that's how it'll affect this election.

LUCAS BERNADETE '26

Looking at the numbers, abortion isn't simply a partisan issue. In a recent Gallup Poll on Abortion, it showed that about 85 percent of the population think abortion should be fully legal, or legal in most circumstances. That same poll showed that only around 12 percent of the population advocate for strong bans on abortion. By tying himself and his campaign to the anti-abortion movement, going so far as for him to say that "I was able to kill Roe v. Wade," Trump is allying himself to a fringe element of our Nation to vie for their vote at the expense of many moderate votes. It's my opinion that Trump's stances on abortion would hurt his campaign's chances overall rather than help.

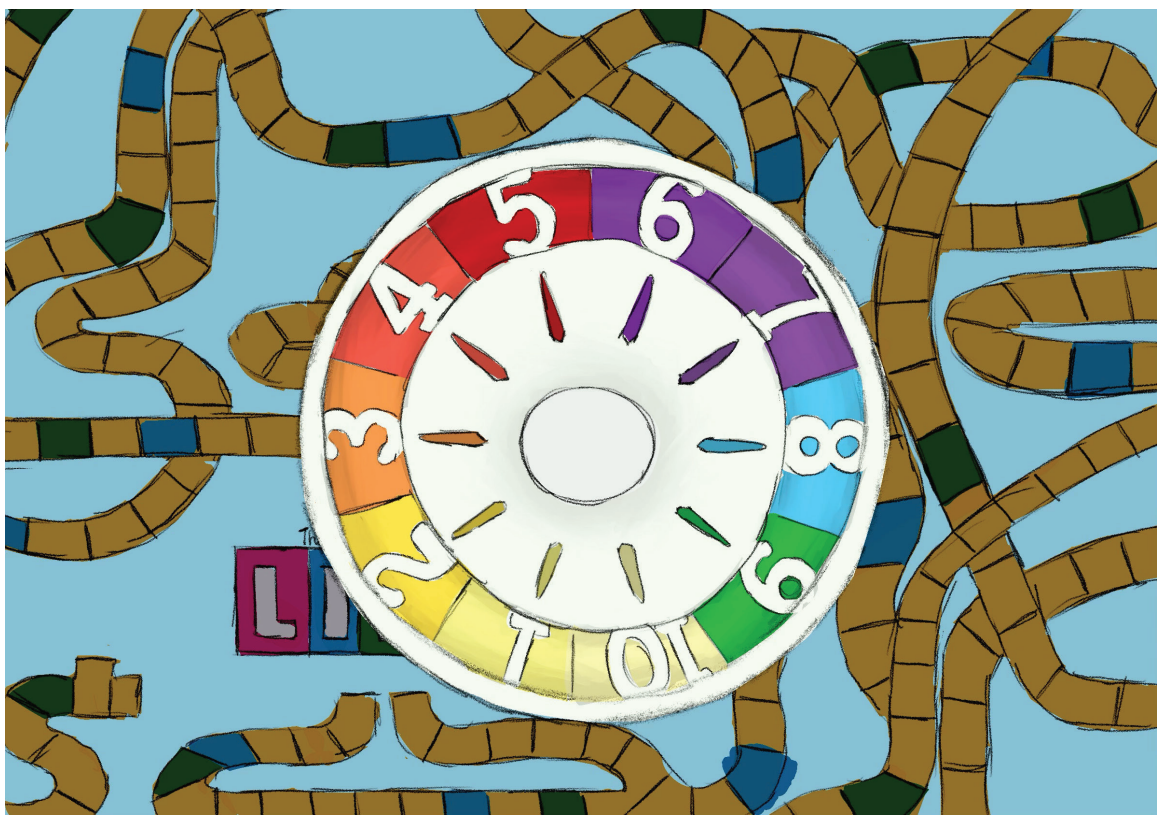
KAREN DOUYON, TEACHING FELLOW IN THEATRE AND DANCE

Gender issues are affecting Donald Trump's campaign in two different ways. One could say in a positive way, because there are groups of individuals who support his belief system, so that pushes his campaign forward. He has a big following of people who agree with him, and it's driving his campaign. In a negative way, there's a group of people who don't agree, who feel like women should have autonomy over their bodies. This is something I wholeheartedly agree with, I believe women should be able to choose what happens with their bodies, whether it is for or against, they should have that choice. Therefore, that is affecting Trump's campaign negatively because there's a lot of women, men, and gender-non conforming people who feel blatantly that women should have autonomy.

We Have Been Taught The Wrong Definition of Gratitude; Here Is Why

JEANNIE KANG

K. MA/*THE PHILLIPIAN*



GEMMA PARK/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Congratulations on winning the lottery. The single toughest lottery to win, the lottery with unimaginably many applicants, the lottery on everything or nothing. Whether you knew it or not, you won the lottery the moment you were born. The lottery that is called life.

Every human is a culmination of prerequisites: the Earth had to acquire a perfect environment for life, specific ancestors had to survive, many people had to fall in love, many loves had to die out, and the one out of 300 million sperms had to reach the egg. Perhaps an uncomfortable shift around a chair is many people's intuitive response to this miracle because there is no going back once this glaring reality strikes. Each time one fails to meet expectations, they hear the boos of the lives that never came to exist; they feel the bricks of privilege and miracle piling on shoulders; they taste the stinging pain of "Do I deserve any of this?" Even worse, society constructed a glorified statue of gratitude on every street and every corner of the world. When our shoulders are slumped and faces are grim, she tells us there is always someone worse off than us. She whispers, "Be thankful even when thunder strikes because some people have never felt a ray of sunshine." She scolds us for being immature and inconsiderate because appreciation is somehow expected of us.

As an agnostic rebellious youth attending a Christian elementary school, "gratitude" sounded like one of many jargons adults invent to persuade children into submitting to their standard of a "good life." When my pastor instructed 30 children to close their eyes and be grateful for having food on our table and a roof over our heads, I listened to kids squirming in their seats waiting for the bell to ring and wondered, "How, why, and when should I be thankful?" After countless Bible classes, advice to remain grateful, and books on gratitude, I realized society's perception of gratitude is not for me.

Here is my take: first of all, gratitude can coexist with complaints. Thanks to society's mandate of gratitude and blanket criticism against anyone who is not "sufficiently" grateful, people come to cover themselves with a varnish of thankfulness. Even in Andover, students add phrases such as "I am so grateful, but..." and "not that I am not grateful, but..." to their complaints to fit into the skewed definition of gratitude. People are seen as immature and blind to the suffering of others when they voice out the unfairness or difficulties they face.

Contrary to this common misconception, gratitude is a discovery of personal growth amidst the ups and downs of life. Trevor Noah, an eminent South African political comedian, grew up in a society packed with racial segregation and domestic abuse. On the Jay Shetty podcast, he commented, "I am never grateful for suffering. I am not grateful for pain... what I work to be grateful for is [qualities like] resiliency... and our ability to adapt [that comes from the struggles]." Gratitude does not require turning a blind eye to our struggles; it is about acknowledging the unfairness and reflecting on how we established ourselves through such experiences.

Secondly, gratitude can be ephemeral. Gratitude is a cup of tea on some days, but shoving it down the throat on tough days can cause burns. There are rough mornings when the light blue sky seems all gray and gloomy, an uphill walk to classes feels like climbing Mount Everest, and the conversation with friends sounds like a screeching scream. Those days, I enter my secret hiding spot, angrily voice out my anxiety, and kick a boulder with the tip of my sneakers. Sometimes, it is okay to let negative emotions — the guilt, the stress, the anxiety — befriend you because gratitude cannot be ever-lasting. Gratitude is an old familiar friend you lean onto after partying with the new best friends such as excitement, anxiety, or other emotions that overwhelm you with joy or sadness. Feeling present at the moment, thanking yourself and the people you care about for all your achievements and beauties. That short moment of gratitude can aid in comprehending your emotions and soothing yourself.

Third, you can be grateful for yourself. When the pastor told me to be "grateful," my ten-year-old wondered, "To whom? To my parents? To God? To those who are suffering instead of me?" Though many of us owe our privilege and happiness to people who have come before us, thanking ourselves for the effort and dedication keeps us going. After a proud achievement or a disappointing miss, look into the mirror and thank yourself for your progress. For being courageous enough to raise your hand despite the risk, for spreading kindness to your friends, for simply waking up and taking care of yourself. We all need a pat on our backs for journeying through the mountain of life.

How are you today? Whether you are agitated, scared, excited, or fulfilled, take a brief moment to think about the staircases you climbed and the ladders others built to get you here. As Langston Hughes said in his poem "Mother to Son,"

"Life for me ain't been no crystal stair...
But all the time
I'se been a-climbin' on,
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light."

I hope gratitude becomes your motivation to continue climbing the stairs of life.

Jeannie Kang is a Junior from Seoul, South Korea. Contact the author at nkang28@andover.edu.

Sự Lạc Hướng Trong Dịch Thuật

(DOLLY) BẢO NGHI ANH NGUYEN

COURTESY OF DOLLY (BẢO NGHI ANH) NGUYỄN

Một linh hồn mê hoặc lung linh như giọt sương mai trên cánh hoa sen. Những cánh đồng lúa trải dài đến tận chân trời với những khu chợ vùng quê, rộn ràng nhịp sống, nơi chúng ta nghe những bài hát ru và những câu chuyện cổ tích của ông bà bằng âm thanh chúng ta hiếm nghe trong cuộc sống hiện đại ngày nay. Mang một tinh thần sôi nổi hòa mình vào dòng chảy thế giới, dường như thế hệ trẻ Việt Nam đang đứng giữa ngã ba đường, vừa thú vị lại vừa nguy hiểm. Chúng ta ngày càng bị giằng xé giữa một bên là sức hấp dẫn của một xã hội toàn cầu hóa còn một bên là căn tính.

Không thể phủ nhận lợi ích của việc đi du học. Du học là ước mơ của nhiều người và với nhiều người du học là chìa khóa cho một tương lai tốt đẹp hơn. Tuy vậy, khi ta đeo đuổi một bản sắc toàn cầu, ta lại có nguy cơ đánh mất căn nguyên của mình. Tiếng Việt, chẳng những là công cụ giao tiếp, mà còn là văn học, lịch sử và là bản sắc văn hóa. Tiếng Việt chuyên chở những câu chuyện dân gian, những câu chuyện gắn kết lớp lớp thế hệ và còn chứa đựng trong đó trí tuệ của ông bà ta. Vậy nên, khi thế hệ tương lai sử dụng tiếng Anh hay bất kỳ thứ tiếng nào khác làm phương thức biểu đạt, ta cần hỏi mình rằng: Liệu trong quá trình đó, có chăng ta đã đánh mất một phần bản thể?

> Chúng ta ngày càng bị giằng xé giữa một bên là sức hấp dẫn của một xã hội toàn cầu hóa còn một bên là căn tính.

Khi những đứa trẻ bắt đầu dành nhiều thời gian hơn ở những môi trường chỉ xem Tiếng Việt là ưu tiên thấp còn những tiết Tiếng Anh thì choáng mất thời khóa biểu, sự giàu đẹp của ngôn ngữ chúng ta bị mai một. Bản thân tôi đã trực tiếp trải qua những điều tương tự. Là một người đã dành mười hai năm cuộc đời học tại hai trường quốc tế tư thục, một Anh một Mỹ, hiển nhiên, tôi thành thạo tiếng Anh và thứ ngôn ngữ này cũng trở thành một phần của tôi. Đáng buồn thay, sự thành thạo này đã phải trả giá bằng việc năng lực tiếng Việt của tôi ngày một giảm. Dần dần, tôi đã trở thành một vị khách ghé tạm chính nơi mà tôi thấy vô cùng quen thuộc. Khi một đứa trẻ Việt Nam cảm thấy khó khăn trong việc tìm kiếm từ để diễn đạt ngay cả một ý đơn giản có lẽ đó cũng là lúc chúng dần mất đi kết nối với gia đình mình. Những cuộc trò chuyện bằng tiếng việt đã từng trôi chảy nay bỗng trở nên gượng gạo. Và trớ trêu thay, tại ngay nơi mà tôi thân thuộc nhất, thứ Tiếng Việt chúng tôi dùng để trò chuyện đã bị thay thế bởi một thứ ngôn ngữ ngoại lai. Những cuộc họp mặt gia đình đã từng rộn rã tiếng nói cười, nay dần trở nên lạnh nhạt. Sẽ thế nào nếu thế hệ trẻ Việt Nam có thể đọc làu làu Shakespeare, nhưng lại chẳng thể nói nổi được mấy câu bằng tiếng Việt với các cụ trong nhà?

Tương lai phía trước có thể đầy rẫy những thách thức khi ta đi tìm mình trong thế giới nghẹt những tiếng ồn. Nhưng thật ra tất cả chúng ta, chẳng riêng gì những người trẻ tuổi, phải đi tìm lời giải cho vấn đề này. Gia đình, những nhà giáo dục và những nhà lãnh đạo cần nhấn mạnh tầm quan trọng của việc gìn giữ ngôn ngữ của dân tộc và trang bị cho thế hệ tương lai những kỹ năng cần thiết để bước ra thế giới với căn tính Việt Nam. Giáo dục song ngữ có thể là chiếc cầu nối, kết nối điều tốt đẹp nhất từ cả hai ngôn ngữ. Trong các trường học, Tiếng Việt cần được tôn vinh bên cạnh những ngôn ngữ khác và quá trình giảng dạy Tiếng Việt cũng cần kết hợp với những bài học về văn hóa mà có mối liên hệ đến đời sống hiện nay của học sinh. Thêm vào đó, chúng ta cần tạo ra không gian trong cộng đồng để cho Tiếng Việt phát triển một cách mạnh mẽ, thông qua các lễ hội văn hóa, các buổi workshop hay những buổi kể chuyện. Và cũng đừng quên rằng cứ mỗi một từ ta nói ra bằng tiếng mẹ đẻ là một viên gạch củng cố không chỉ là căn tính của ta mà còn là củng cố cấu trúc xã hội. Vậy nên, tới những ai vẫn đang loay hoay đi tìm sự cân bằng giữa các nền văn hóa, xin nhớ cho rằng ngôn ngữ không chỉ là về những từ đơn lẻ. Mà ngôn ngữ còn là những câu chuyện ta kể, và cùng nhau, ta có thể tôn vinh ngôn ngữ của mình, truyền vào những lời kể một thứ nhựa sống mới và để chắc rằng những lời kể này, rồi đây sẽ vang vọng qua các thế hệ mai sau.

NATHAN WU / *THE PHILLIPIAN*

> Sẽ thế nào nếu thế hệ trẻ Việt Nam có thể đọc làu làu Shakespeare, nhưng lại chẳng thể nói nổi được mấy câu bằng tiếng Việt với các cụ trong nhà?

Dolly (Bảo Nghi Anh) Nguyễn is a Lower from Saigon Vietnam. Contact the author at bnguyen27@andover.edu.

Lost in Translation

(DOLLY) BẢO NGHI ANH NGUYEN

COURTESY OF DOLLY (BẢO NGHI ANH) NGUYỄN

An enchanting spirit shimmers like the morning dew on a lotus flower. The rice paddies stretching into the horizon bustled markets pulsing with life, where we hear the sound of our grandmother's lullabies and fairy tales in such language that we barely hear in the modern era. Vietnam's lively spirit flows into the future, yet our Vietnamese youth face an exciting and dangerous crossroad. Our people are increasingly torn between the magnetic pull of the globalised world and the beauty of their heritage as they grow up in an incredibly interconnected society divided by culture and identity.

There is no denying that studying abroad offers countless advantages. It's a dream many chase, and it often promises a brighter future. Nevertheless, as we pursue a global identity, we risk losing touch with a fundamental part of who we are. The Vietnamese language has always been more than just a communication tool; it is our literature, history, and cultural essence. It carries the shared narratives that unite Vietnamese generations and our ancestors' poetic wisdom. So, when our future generation embraces English or other foreign languages as their primary means of expression, we must ask ourselves: what pieces of our identity are slipping away in the process?

As children spend more hours in settings where learning Vietnamese is a second priority, the richness of our language starts to fade, thanks to being overshadowed by English lessons, Western cultural influences, and digital media consumption. I have personally experienced this firsthand. As a student who spent 12 years of her life studying in two different private international schools, one British and one American, my English is without a doubt more proficient and has become my second skin. Unfortunately, this came at a cost: my Vietnamese capabilities started to erode, and I slowly became a visitor in a place that was once so familiar. Should a Vietnamese child find it difficult to articulate even simple ideas, they may eventually struggle to form a bond with their family. The conversations back home that once flowed smoothly in Vietnamese now feel rigid, often replaced paradoxically by a foreign language. Family gatherings that once resonated with laughter and the rhythmic exchange of stories diminish in spirit. What if young Vietnamese people in the future can recite Shakespeare, but cannot have a meaningful conversation in their mother tongue with their elders?

> Our people are increasingly torn between the magnetic pull of the globalized world and the beauty of their heritage as they grow up in an incredibly interconnected society divided by culture and identity.

> What if young Vietnamese people in the future can recite Shakespeare, but cannot have a meaningful conversation in their mother tongue with their elders?

The future may be fraught with challenges as we find our place in a world often saturated with noise. However, it is up to all of us, not just our youth, to address the situation. Families, educators, and leaders in the community must emphasize the importance of preserving our language and providing future generations with the skills they need to embrace both the global environment and their Vietnamese identity. Bilingual education can create a bridge, blending the best of both worlds; Vietnamese should be celebrated in schools alongside other languages, and the teachers should incorporate cultural lessons that are relevant to students' current lives. Moreover, we must create spaces within our communities, be it through cultural festivals, workshops, or storytelling events, where the Vietnamese language can flourish. Let's not forget that every word we speak in our mother tongue strengthens not only our identity but the fabric of our society. So, to anyone who is struggling to find the balance between cultures, remember: language is more than just words. It also reflects our identity, and together, we can reclaim and celebrate our languages, breathing new life into our narratives, and ensuring they echo through generations to come.

NATHAN WU/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

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Community Reacts to New Civil Discourse and Political Action Policies

Continued from A1, Column 5

mission," said Kington.

Kington continued on to highlight how students should not express their personal beliefs in ways that could be conflated with Andover's institutional beliefs. While not explicitly mentioned in the new written policies, he said that students should not visibly hang political flags outside of their dorm windows, a contrast to past elections where multiple students visibly displayed campaign posters.

"All of us have to think about when we do something that could be construed as speaking on behalf of the institution. For example, having a political sign on the outer wall of your dorm, hanging out of your window. That could be construed as a statement of the institution. Having that sign on the inside of your room is unlikely to be construed as being a statement about the institution, from the institution," said Kington.

This change seems to mirror the updated employee policy, which states, "Faculty and other community members who reside in Academy-owned or rented residences are not allowed to display any signage endorsing or opposing a candidate for public office at the federal, state, or local level, party, or ballot measure in a manner that is visible to those who do not reside in their residence."

Although the policy supports political dialogue in nonpartisan environments, it does not state any places specifically aimed for fostering this discourse. Rania Ali-Svedsater '26 hopes that the school will provide students with physical spaces and opportunities to talk about politically charged issues in the future.

"There aren't any spaces that are explicitly for civil discourse as of yet. Civil discourse on campus happens between people in a more informal setting versus on a grander scale. There should be more opportunities for students to voice their opinions potentially at bigger events or, for example, [All-School Meeting]. There should be more initiatives implemented by the school in order to expand civil discourse, but there is definitely a culture that enables students to put their opinions forward," said Ali-Svedsater.

Similarly, Sergia Hay, Instructor in Philosophy and Religious Studies, said she appreciates that the new policies guide students in how they should express their political viewpoints. Hay highlighted the importance of developing informed opinions when navigating controversial subjects.

"I hope these changes will prompt all of us to think of new, concrete examples of how to live out the Blue Book values, particularly how to 'cultivate relationships with a diverse group of people.' Being willing to appreciate the complexity and diversity of human thought and experience takes courage and an open mind and heart. It also requires practice and an acknowledgment that sometimes we won't do it well, yet we should keep at it. High school is a great time to start doing this, as you'll want to start honing your own carefully thought-out positions rather than being swept away with the boisterous crowd," wrote Hay in an email to *The Phillipian*.

Andover has several student-created spaces for political conversations through political clubs and unions. Pragun Seth '25, Co-President of Andover Political Union (APU) and Andover Conservative Club (ACC), felt that the new policies would not change student's political activity on campus, but instead encourage discussion. He mentioned that the APU and ACC already facilitated safe spaces for students to discuss without judgment.

"From my understanding, the new policies are to ensure that we aren't using our resources to enforce candidates. What that really means is that we give people the opportunity to discuss and disagree... I don't think [the policies are] going to change much because I haven't seen [students] misusing academy resources or misusing their positions to force their political views on others," said Seth.

Denby hopes that this policy will lead to more conversations between adults and students in the coming year.

"What I would like to see is if there will be any follow up to this policy at an institutional level. How can we talk about it with our students, whether it's in cluster meetings or an All-School Meeting, in some way that we can actually unpack the usefulness of this policy, because the knee jerk reaction from some students is, 'here's another policy, here's another set of rules we've got to follow.' There wasn't as much explanation as to why these rules are important. Granted, there was an email and it did explain, but just one email isn't going to [have an] impact. I assume many students didn't read the email or just quickly read it. There needs to be follow-up conversations," said Denby.

Distinguished Alumni Advise Students to Appreciate Andover in the Moment

Continued from A1, Column 3

Despite their varying career paths, all of the nominees spoke about the community they found at Andover and how their experiences were transformative ones for their life trajectory. Eugenia Evangelinos '27 spoke on how this message will impact students and whether or not they can resonate with it currently.

"At least for a lot of Andover students, they're so worried about college admissions, getting all the right, the right extracurriculars, and the best GPA. Sometimes it's very difficult to stay in the moment and really enjoy the time here at Andover. Even if it didn't resonate with everyone, [the message] includes some sort of hope for everyone that at some point, they'll have the ability to stay in the moment here at Andover. When I've graduated from Andover I'll really try to engage with more alumni because we all have such interesting stories. This is sort of our starting-off point because our next stages will be formed by our experience here," said Evangelinos.

Dr. Vanessa Kerry, this year's final award winner, further enforced Evangelios's takeaways. Kerry is the founder of Seed Global Health, an organization that trains medical personnel around the world to help reduce healthcare inequities to 76 million people.

"We're not that different: we all want to be happy; we want food on the table; we want our children cared for; we want our families safe; we want to feel joy. I hope very much that a place like this can help us to build that community that we need going forward. My friends from this place held my hand through some of the toughest times of my life," said Kerry.

Kerry continued, "I am nothing but an optimist, [and] everything that we face today in this world is absolutely solvable."

FOR EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS WITH CARROLL BOGERT '79 AND TREY ELLIS '80 GO TO PHILLIPIAN.NET FOR FULL TRANSCRIPTIONS

Students and Faculty Reflect on Potential Phone Policy

Continued from A1, Column 5

"It's incredibly important to have student voices because we are not Generation Z. Campus adults, by definition, are not part of Gen Z. [Students] are the ones who know exactly where the trigger points are, what are the hard spots, in what ways does technology help you, and what does it hinders. It very much shouldn't be a top-down decision. I don't think the administration is taking that [path] to begin with, they're doing very well at encouraging a grassroots holistic evaluation, but it's incredibly important that we get a diversity of voices, both student and adult, on that committee," said Blakeney.

The short application sent out to students asks why they personally want to join the task force. Jasjit Hargun '27 spoke on why he chose to apply and his personal goals for the task force.

"It was the talk about super strict restrictions on phone usage, [banning phones from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.], that motivated me to join because I don't think that's the way to go. The phone task force is marketed towards people who want to limit phone usage, and I think if we just have those people, it's not going to be a good solution or a solution that reflects what the student body wants," said Hargun.

Hargun continued, "I'm hoping to be a moderating influence, where they don't go super extreme on the phone policy but it's not like I'm going to stop all restrictions, there definitely should be some. I want to keep things reasonable."

According to Blakeney, phone policies are often less effective because students have access to their laptops, which display the same notifications a phone would. Blakeney noted that the school should implement a technology policy as opposed to a cell phone policy and suggested some ideas.

"Though I think cell phones are a really good place to start, it's a symptom of a much larger problem. We need to address technology with a capital T... I would love to see something like GoGuardian implemented... It allows teachers to set times when their classes meet where it locks the browser and or records everything that the student is doing, so if I get an email later that so-and-so doesn't understand the concept, I can look at GoGuardian and be like, 'Oh, that's so funny, because you were liking cat memes for the past thirty minutes of class.' It holds people responsible without being too creepy [and] too invasive," said Blakeney.

Similarly, John Bird, Instructor in English, spoke on the challenge of enforcement and of affecting cell phone usage outside of the classroom.

"I don't think you should be looking at screens before you go to bed, but how do we enforce that? We can enforce [not having] them in class, but the moment you get it back, you're going to look at it again. That's just life. As much as possible, what we should be promoting is the idea that you have an opportunity to actually become a person, and that outsourcing your personhood to a phone is actually not good for you. That's just something we have to keep telling you guys, and hope you listen," said Bird.

Club Leaders Speak to the Importance of Clubs at Andover

Continued from A1, Column 3

definitely re-signed up for clubs, and I have also joined a lot of new ones," said Wu.

Lemberger spoke about his perspective on being part of club leadership. Having discovered the Philomathean Society coincidentally, he highlighted how managing the club had been a challenging yet fruitful undertaking.

"At many points throughout my time at Andover, the amount [of work] I have had to do with clubs and extracurriculars has been way, way greater than the amount of work that I have had to do for classes and such. So, it's a bit like taking eight classes because it's a lot of additional work, and being able to balance that with classes and having friends and that kind of thing is very difficult," said Lemberger.

Lemberger continued, "I really enjoy leading those spaces and helping people pursue their interests. I wouldn't say that I have changed especially... but I've had a lot of meaningful and interesting experiences."

Duke Law Professor Neil Siegel Discusses Constitution and Political Discourse

CHRISTIAN ESTRADA

In an event planned in coordination with the History department, Dr. Neil Siegel, a professor of Law and Political Science at Duke, covered the U.S. Constitution in a conversation with Leon Calleja, Chair in English. The event, held on October 9, served as part of Andover's efforts in the broader initiative for students to engage in political discourse on campus.

Kicking off the event, Siegel explained the importance of the Constitution, a document that heavily influences the lives of everyone in the United States, particularly in a time of polarization.

"Because the U.S. is so extraordinarily diverse, the U.S. Constitution is often called our civic religion. Especially during an era in which our politics is quite polarized, it's important to ask what binds us together as a nation. At the top of the list is the U.S. Constitution," said Siegel.

Siegel continued, "The Constitution is our fundamental law, the law from which all other laws either follow or are impermissible because they violate the Constitution... You're going to be living with the consequences of how the Constitution is interpreted or misinterpreted a lot more than the people currently on the Supreme Court."

Calleja, in conversation with Siegel, who formerly clerked for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, covered pressing topics such as recent Supreme Court cases and the constitutional framework surrounding democracy. Calleja hoped that students would leave the event with a deeper understanding of the legal and historical context that shapes contemporary governance.

"In the spring of last year, we were talking about the kinds of programming the school could offer around democracy and the elections for the upcoming year... [Students can take away] their own role in how government works, where their voice fits in, and the kinds of responsibilities and obligations one has, even if that means getting a better understanding of how government works, how our laws and the Supreme Court works. The combination of just education on a part of the law and a part of our government sometimes goes under-analyzed, but hopefully motivates people to think more," said Calleja.

Calleja further emphasized the importance of incorporating diverse perspectives into political discussions, asserting that fostering open-minded conversations allows students to grapple with complex issues while respecting differing opinions.

"At the end of the day, the school, in terms of trying to articulate more clearly a policy on civil discourse, is trying to be really clear about being open-minded and allowing speech. As much speech as possible while still being clear and direct with what the school does not believe in, in terms of hate speech and things like that," said Calleja.

Sebastian Lemberger '25, a student in Calleja's Colloquium class that previously brought in Siegel as a guest speaker, reflected on the value of discussing constitutional law with experts on campus, acknowledging the timeliness and importance of such discussions in the current political landscape.

"It's always interesting to hear from someone outside the school who has studied these topics in depth. Professor Siegel brought a critical view of the Constitution that challenged how we think about democracy... This is especially timely because questions of how the Constitution relates to democracy have been coming up a lot, especially with Supreme Court rulings like Trump versus the United States. So that's a very important issue to be discussing as the election and the potential of a second Trump term emerges," said Lemberger.

Lemberger continued, "I don't think it will either increase or decrease political discussion on campus, but for those who are interested in constitutionality and how democracy works, it will give them something interesting to talk about. The questions of how the Constitution impacts our democracy are very important to discuss right now."

A. LEE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Dr. Neil Siegel, professor of Law and Political Science at Duke University, spoke to students and faculty about the U.S. Constitution in Tang Theatre.

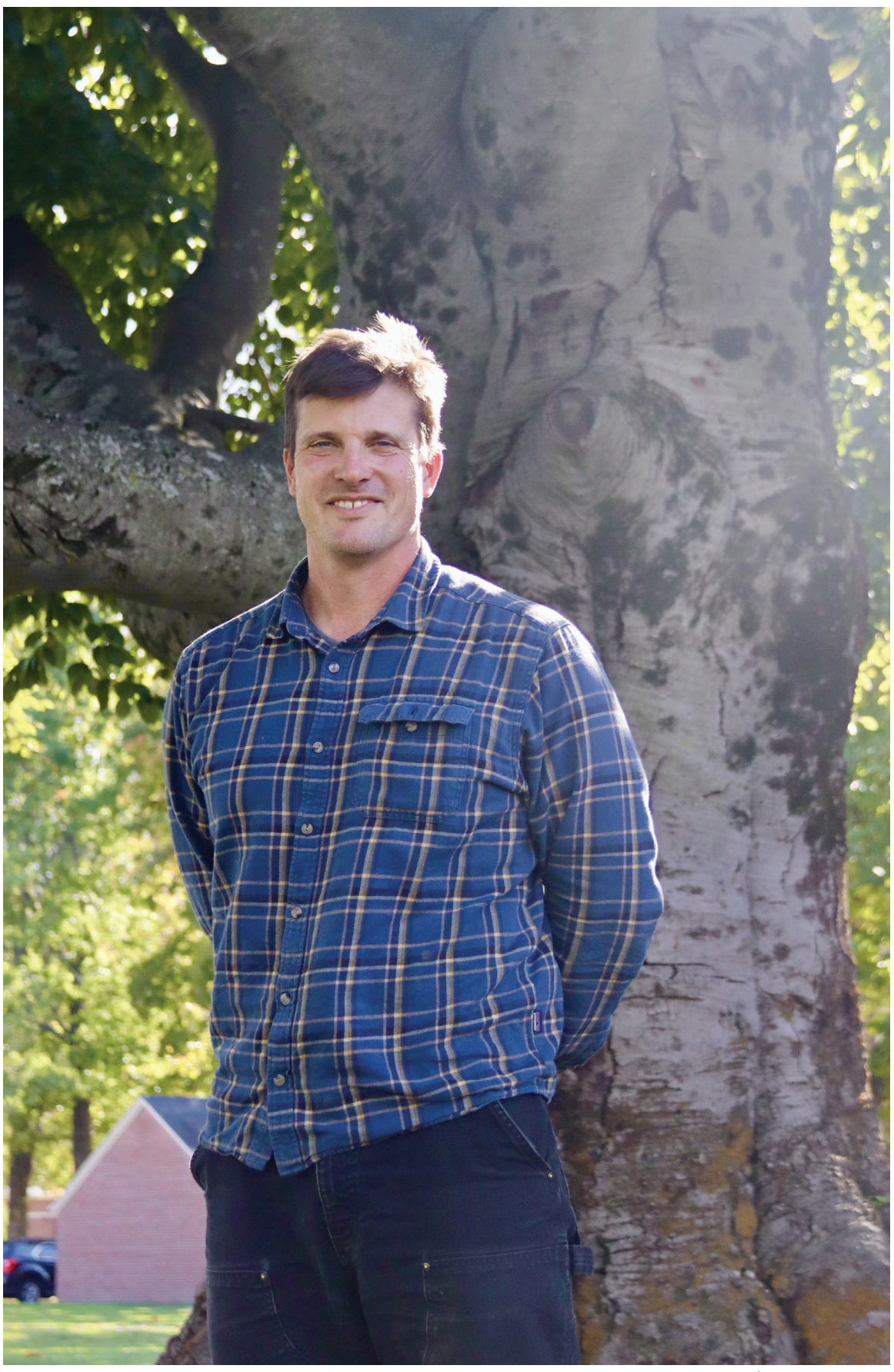
Jasjit Hargun '27, a member of the Andover Political Union (APU), commented positively on the event and Andover's efforts to establish political education and conversation on campus.

"Last year, no one really talked about politics. Some people don't like talking about it, which is fine, but we should be educated on it. The school is doing a good job of helping us learn about the political system and different political views. It's important to see that not everyone here has the same political affiliation. People often assume everyone must be a Democrat, but that's not the case as I've seen through APU. A diverse set of viewpoints, with respect to community norms, helps students learn how politics work so that they can engage more when they're adults and can make the changes they want to see," said Hargun.

10 Questions With Kit Leckerling

REPORTING BY KRISTEN MA & ANNIE ZHAO

Kit Leckerling is the Dean of West Quad North (WQN) Cluster, an Instructor in History and Social Sciences, an academic advisor, and an assistant coach for Varsity Football. In his free time, Leckerling enjoys biking and running, as well as tending to his own vegetable garden.



E. LIU/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

How was your experience in college at University of North Calorina (UNC)? What did you major in? What got you into U.S. history?

I had a great experience at UNC. I majored in anthropology and ended up minoring in history. I didn't play sports there, so it is sort of a surprise that I went there... I thought I would go to college in New England and play football. In fact, I was recruited to play football at a lower level in college. However, my college counselor came to me in my Senior fall and told me that they wanted to nominate me for a scholarship at UNC and asked me whether I was interested in going, and I agreed... What I really enjoyed was that since UNC is a large research university — there are graduate programs in every single department. Once I took some of the undergraduate courses, in the last two years, I was able to take graduate-level courses in history and anthropology, which I was interested in. Another great part of it was that since it was a large school, it never felt too small. It gets smaller for the communities you are a part of or activities that you are engaged in, but it never got too small to run out of opportunities.

What was your experience like as a history and forestry teacher at the Mountain School of Milton Academy?

My primary role was still a history teacher and a house counselor, but there was a need for someone to run the forestry program, a semester program for eleventh-graders who come from all over the country from schools like Andover, etc. They would come for a semester and do their regular courses, but instead of having sports and arts as their extracurricular commitments, they would do farming. We taught them how to grow vegetables, raise animals, cut firewood, make maple syrup, and so on. The idea was that we would have a school that is sustainable, self-sufficient, and ecologically sound. Although I had no prior experience, I had an interest in forests and forestry before that. I was not a trained forester by any stretch of the imagination, but there was a need there; I brought a growth mindset to it, and it turned out to be fantastic.

What drew you to Andover the first time?

It was certainly the teaching fellow program. It was an amazing way to start a teaching career, with such amazing students and colleagues to work within such a supportive institution. Having gone to Choate and knowing what it is like to learn and live in an intentionally diverse community that is committed to scholarship, excellence, sports, theater, and arts was a big reason why I wanted to come here.

Why did you decide to return to Andover?

For me, it was specifically my interest in the Cluster Dean role. I had a sense that the pandemic was a real challenge here. It really profoundly impacted how community building happens at Andover. It was appealing to me to come here at a time when there was an opportunity for real impact in terms of getting back to some of the community building that was interrupted by the pandemic. Hearing about the new student conduct system and philosophies behind it, centering student growth and learning and trying to get away from discipline and the punitive nature of how the older systems existed in boarding systems was particularly appealing to me.

What roles have you played on campus and how have those roles changed over time?

I would say that the role of Dean has changed over the course of two-plus years in that I have so much more of an idea of what it means to be a Cluster Dean. I had some ideas coming in, but obviously, any time you start a new job, especially one as intensive as being a Cluster Dean, you're like, 'Oh, that's what this job entails...' I also teach history, I'm a member of the history department. Right now, I'm teaching History 300, which I love... That changed over time because history and our approaches to teaching history change all the time; that's what makes history exciting. It's not about a correct answer, it's about how we see the world and how we see the past. And how we construct stories and narratives and understandings about the past, which is always changing. I love to engage with students in that process of discovery, empowering them to see themselves as historians, and do their own interpretation of the little pieces of evidence, primary sources, and materials that give us windows into what it was like to live in other times and what it was like to be other people.

As someone who has two children enrolled at Andover, do you think that affects or changes your perspective on your work as a dean?

Yes, it definitely does. It affects it from a personal level. The fact that all four of us are working on the same general project, which is building a learning community here, and being a part of this incredible community, that definitely changes things. It's not to say I'm more committed than someone whose spouse or kids don't go here, that's not necessarily true since we all have different ways of committing to the work that we do. I will say that we're fully in it. I'm really grateful for the opportunity that our kids have to be able to go to school here, that they get to have our colleagues as their teachers. They're fantastic people and educators, so it's a wonderful connection and a level of community I don't take for granted. It's a different thing to be a faculty kid and a Cluster Dean kid. One thing I really appreciate is that I get to see them in action; I try to keep my distance and give them space, but I get to see and support them from the side. I get to know their friends and peers, which is pretty amazing.

People have mentioned seeing you running or biking some mornings; how do you enjoy or take advantage of Andover's surrounding environments?

I love to start the day by getting outside and going for a run, which is something I have done for many years. At the Mountain School, it was easier. It was very rural and I could just run out the backdoor. Moving here was more of a suburban environment; I knew I had to find that important connection to the place. Initially, it was the [Cochran Bird] Sanctuary, and then Ms. [Comfort] Halsey, [Instructor in Spanish], since she does [Outdoor Pursuits], introduced me to the Ward Reservation and Harold Parker State Park. Every morning I get up a little bit earlier just to ride my bike, I go past Snyder [Center] and over to the Ward Reservation. There's a little loop in that state park that I like to run in the morning... I also try to remind myself every day that we are on Native land. The Indigenous people of this area are still here and will be here forever; it's important to remind ourselves of that. It informs my teaching and the way I interact with other people.

What is your daily routine?

What I love about my routine is that I get to interact with a lot of different people all through the day. Certainly, I would wake up earlier than everyone else. I would go over to Holt Hill and run in the woods over there. When I come back, Ms. Halsey is awake, so we have a moment to connect in the morning before the business of the day starts. I get to say goodbye to Rowan [Leckerling '26] and Cedar [Leckerling '28] as they rush off to breakfast or first period or whatever. I love the days when we have third period since I teach it, I love to see my students and being in that space together. I also love days when we meet as a Deans Team, because the Deans Team is such a great group of people. Such a great team where everybody is very supportive of each other and recognize we are so much better together than as individuals.

What is your favorite food?

That's a hard one for me to answer. I love food. I especially love food that I know the origin of. I like to know the person or people who produced it. Sometimes it's me and Ms. Halsey because we love to garden and grow food. Nutrient-dense foods that come from here that are produced with sustainable practices and with stewarding the land in mind are important. Being mindful of the experience of the people who are working to grow, transport, and do all the things to get the food to our plates.

What words of wisdom would you give to students from Andover about having the full Andover experience?

I would say there is no one full Andover experience. Rather than having a fixed idea of what the Andover experience should be, students should be open and flexible to think about what that looks like for them. What's important in terms of accomplishing that is really cultivating skills of mindfulness, thoughtfulness, and self-reflection to understand what that looks like for me. What is the right version of that for me? Latching onto something that is right for somebody else or imposing something on yourself is unproductive. It's better to develop skills and practices around mindfulness, self-reflection, self-care, and connection to others is a lot of times through others.

HERE AND THERE: THE WORLD RIGHT NOW

COLLECTED BY PHILIP JEONG

Climate: Bosnian Flood Leaves 18 Dead and Many Missing

Rescue teams are still searching for missing people following the aftermath of Bosnia's worst flash floods and landslides recorded in years. With at least 18 confirmed deaths, reports detail an alarming number of towns and villages having been cut off from support with many more submerged underwater. According to "Al Jazeera," a sudden downpour caused rivers to overflow, triggering landslides and leaving residents with little time to evacuate. As Bosnia declared a state of emergency, Serbia, Croatia, North Macedonia, and European Union (EU) countries continued to send aid. However, with roads, bridges, and railway tracks washed away or blocked by debris, rescue teams have been struggling to advance in their efforts. According to the "BBC," this has been the region's rainiest recorded four-day period, with scientists noting the growing connection between floods and climate change.

Economy: Chinese Duo Sentenced to Prison for Defrauding Apple of 2.5 Million USD

Haotian Sun and Pengfei Xue, two Chinese nationals residing in Maryland, have been sentenced to over 50 months in prison after defrauding Apple of 2.5 million dollars. Over a span of two years, the duo exploited Apple's iPhone repair policy, which guarantees replacements for defective products, by sending around 6,000 counterfeit iPhones to the company. According to "USA Today," the phones originated from Hong Kong and had fake serial and International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers to secure eligibility requirements. Authorities only uncovered the scheme after conducting an in-depth analysis of iPhones recovered throughout the investigation. According to "Wccftech," District Court Judge Timothy J. Kelly ordered Sun to pay 1,072,000 dollars in restitution and Xue 397,800 dollars, with both also sentenced to prison and several years of supervision following release.

Conflict: American WWII Bomb Explodes at Miyazaki Airport in Japan

An American bomb detonated at Miyazaki Airport, creating a crater in the runway and causing the cancellation of around 87 flights. Following an investigation by the Self-Defense Forces and local police, Japanese officials confirmed the explosion was caused by a 500-pound American bomb that dated back to World War II. According to "The Guardian," land and transport ministry officials claimed there were no aircraft nearby during the explosion. However, the "BBC" reported that a passenger plane had passed the bomb site a minute earlier. Japanese officials reported no injuries due to the explosion and expected operations to resume as normal on Thursday morning. "CNN Travel" notes that hundreds of tons of unexploded bombs dropped by the U.S. military during World War II are still being discovered across Japan, with many buried under civilian areas.

Politics: Citizens in Tunisia Question Fairness of Election Process After Kais Saied Is Elected for a Second Term

In the recent Tunisian presidential election, former president Kais Saied was sworn into office for a second term. With many opposing candidates in prison or disqualified, concerns over the integrity of the election have arisen. Following his 2021 power grab, Saied restructured the Independent High Authority for Elections (ISIE), allowing his administration to disqualify several opponents, including those who had successfully appealed to run. According to "CNN World," this restructuring has raised questions about the election's fairness. "Middle East Eye" notes that Saied also made constitutional changes that granted himself the ability to rule by decree, further tightening his control over Tunisia's political landscape. While Saied retains support from parts of the population, many worry his victory could push Tunisia further toward authoritarianism amid the country's ongoing socioeconomic instability.

Science: Largest Solar Flares Since 2017 Raise Hopes for Northern Light Sightings

On October 3, the sun released its largest solar flare since 2017. Identified as a powerful X-class eruption, the largest on the scale for classifying solar flares, it caused shortwave radio blackouts across Africa and Europe at the peak of its eruption. According to the "BBC," solar flares are bursts of intense electromagnetic radiation that travel from the sun at the speed of light, reaching the Earth in about eight minutes. When paired with coronal mass ejections (CMEs), which carry electrically charged particles, these solar flares can trigger solar storms that interact with Earth's magnetic field. "Space.com" explains that this interaction releases light energy and produces the phenomenon known as the northern lights or aurora borealis. The recent CME has the potential to arrive on Earth this weekend, allowing residents in Scotland, Northern Ireland, and parts of northern England to witness the auroras.

Updates on 2024-2025 Student Body Co-Presidency of Nate Liang '25 and Saraya Angbazo '25

SAKETH LINGISETTY

October marks the seventh month in the tenure of Andover's 2024-2025 Student Body Co-Presidents Nate Liang '25 and Saraya Angbazo '25. Over the past summer and this Fall term, Liang and Angbazo have been working on four core objectives: reforming All-School Meeting (ASM), streamlining club organization, expanding room visitation policies, and adding "Rec Spaces" around campus.

Liang described how the recently implemented "Club Hub" addressed one of his and Angbazo's main objectives to make clubs more accessible to students. He outlined their work in integrating Club Hub into the club system at Andover.

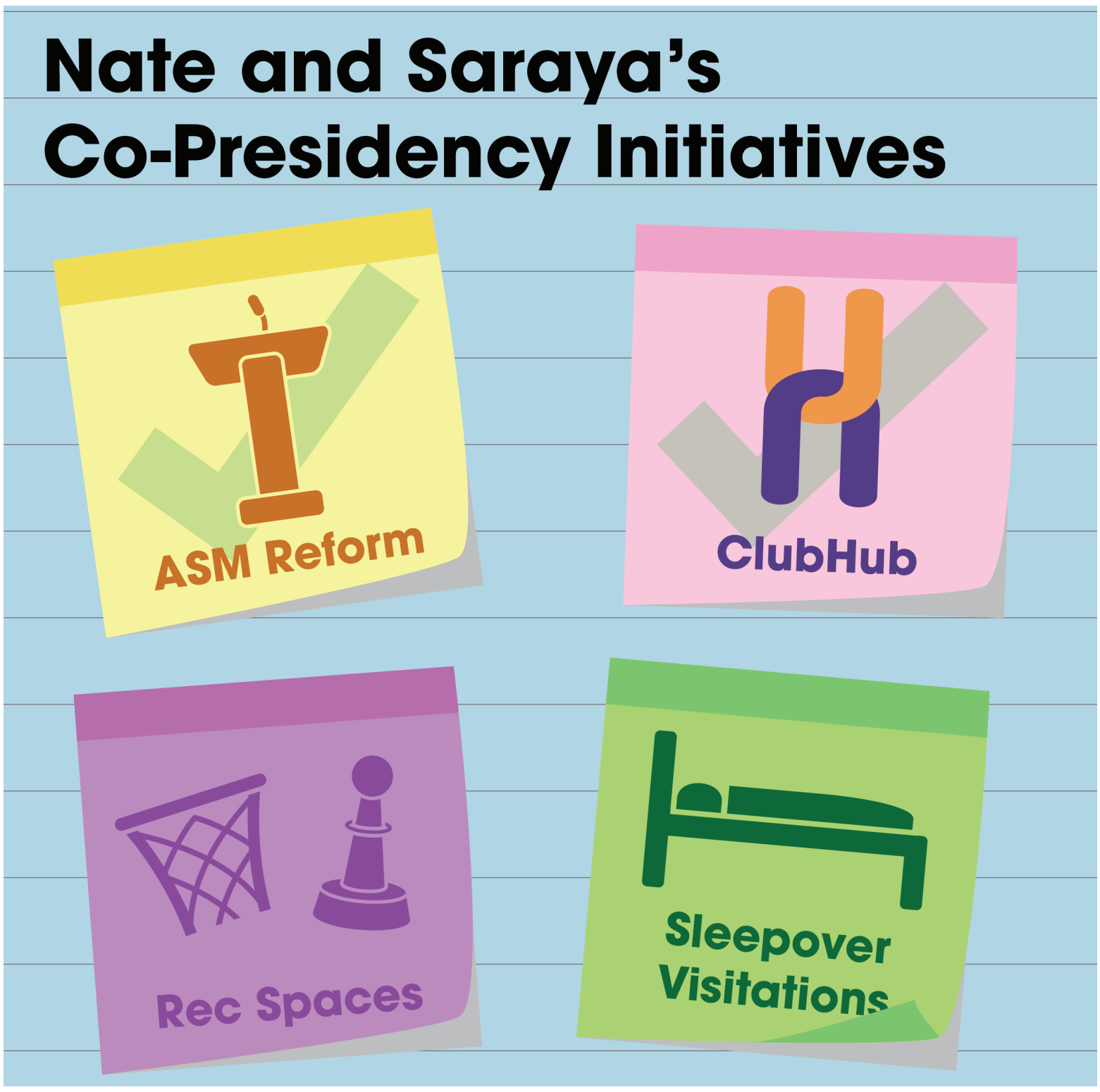
"One of the recommendations of the Andover Anti-Racism Task Force was to streamline clubs, especially in the area of [Community and Multicultural Development] (CaMD). That was something that Mr. [Christopher] Capano, [Director of Student Activities], and other people dealing with clubs had already thought about before... Saraya and I thought it would be a good idea to host a meeting for all the club leaders to ensure that every club moves over to that," said Liang.

In addition to centralizing clubs, Liang and Angbazo have successfully implemented changes to ASM. Liang detailed their efforts in reshaping ASM after hosting a student forum and discussions with Linda Carter Griffith (LCG), Associate Head of School for Equity, Inclusion and Wellness, and Reverend Gina Finocchiaro.

"Last spring we hosted an ASM forum along with LCG and [Reverend Gina Finocchiaro]. We were in charge of managing the attendees in the forum. The vote for the ASM [being] biweekly went to the faculty, so we weren't directly involved in choosing that. But we were able to review with LCG what students wanted in terms of speakers... Through the forum, people were able to go and voice their opinions as well," said Liang.

Regarding the pair's ClubHub initiative, Ella Kowal '25 noted that while it has helped increase club engagement, the transition away from using email lists and Canvas pages could be more gradual.

"It might be good to make the transition [to Club Hub] a little bit slower instead of being encouraged to switch to Club Hub right away because a lot of us are still getting used to the platform," said Kowal.



J. XIAO/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Similarly, Adrian Perez '27 expressed how Club Hub allowed him to pursue his interests and better manage his extracurriculars compared to the previous system of how clubs were managed.

"In my Freshman year, I signed up for a lot of clubs, and I ended up just giving up on [most of them] because they didn't match my interests. Now I know what clubs I really want to be in with Club Hub and was able to sign up for more clubs that are in those interests," said Perez.

The Co-Presidents have also participated in increasing engagement among the Andover community through school-wide events. Lily Liu '26 highlighted the recent Cluster Olympics, which Liang and Angbazo helped coordinate with the Cluster Co-Presidents. She is also excited for the return of Oasis Spaces instituted by last year's Student Body Co-Presidents, Ryan Lam '24 and Eleanor DeHoog '24.

"The Cluster Olympics [was] definitely a highlight. It's something that if I had that my Freshman year, I would have found Andover to be a much more warm and welcoming place. Definitely having the Oasis Spaces and hammocks back would be really nice. Those [were] a really nice addition to campus last year, and it's good that they're continuing these traditions while adding new elements to [campus] life in general," said Liu.

Liang and Angbazo shared their plans for the rest of their term, including expanding dorm visitation talks and establishing a yearly agenda for ASM. Building on the Oasis Spaces initiative, they also plan to implement "Rec Spaces" around campus as places for students and faculty to socialize.

"In terms of our [sleepover] initiative, we're trying to open up the talk about visitations in general, especially in the winter time, [when] Seniors get privileges like closed-door visitation, which will make the conversation around visitation a lot easier. We're hoping that will be the stepping stone for a conversation that's going to last multiple years," said Liang.

Angbazo continued, "Posting [a yearly] ASM schedule and creating more buzz around ASM, and bringing more fun activities inspired by the Snooze-The-Blues events last year to the community block that we have on Fridays, those two are probably our next big items on the to-do list. Soon, we'll [also] be starting to work on our Rec Spaces initiative."

Editor's Note: Nate Liang is a Digital Editor for The Phillipian.

Phone Phreedom

Dearest Minions,

As the WNBA finals are coming to a close, the best of 2024 is ending. It is time to look forward to 2025. I plan to use this last year at Andover to uphold the Blue Book in every way I can, in order to please my great King(ton). Below, I outline the plans for our year as members of the ~~Democratic~~ only accepted Party at Andover, as we have survived the club fair purge:

1. Removing athletics from Andover.

A PG called me fat.

2. Required Service in the Cell Phone Task Force.

For the greater good. TikTok is a plague that infects us all and we must rid Andover of any distractions.

Will increase ability to focus on the majestic words and features of Dr. Kington

3. Add testosterone to the water fountains in Commons.

Will happen with or without approval

4. An addition of a Dean worship space in the Chapel.

It is my religion and they can't deny it

5. Punish academic integrity violations with death.

Flagpole becomes Guillotine

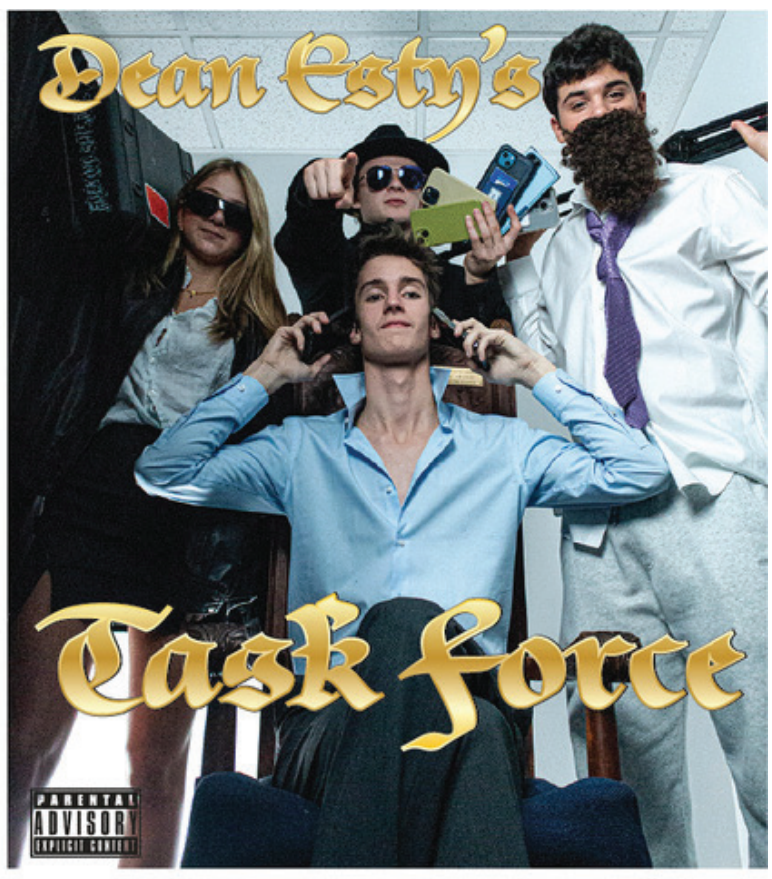
Any further additions can be emailed to me and I will bring them up with our faculty advisor before the club continues to meet. Ideas will be brought to the board of trustees at the end of the year and they will likely be put in effect (They owe me a favor).

See you later alligators,

Debra Drummond '25

Week's Top Headlines

- *Sykes Wellness Center Receives 400 Visits for "Ear Pain" Following the Release of KSI's New Single.*
- *Campus Saved After Dr. Kington Awards Beyonce With Honors at ASM.*
- *Student Asks "Chat, is this rizz?" After Recieving College Promotional Email*
- *Physics 552 Students Discovered "Torquing their peanits" Using the "right hand rule" in the Gelb Second Floor All Gender Bathrooms.*
- *Senior Cruise Makes Halloween Dance Seem like Paradise*
- *Student Applies for IP in Finger Painting; Gets Accepted Over Award Winning Sculpter*
- *Upper Disappears After Complaining to Seniors About College Applications Post PSAT*



Scan here for a sneak peak of the Task Force

"Call me Hurricane Milton the way
I make the basement flood."

"If the Deans are going to monitor my cell phone, they should monitor the locks to their homes as well."

OVERHEARD ON THE PATHS

"I don't like feet, but if I HAD to say, the ideal foot is skinny but not bony, plump but not fat, rosy but not red, and short but not squished with not too much toe spacing, but enough that each toe is clearly individual. Ideally, the toenails are painted white but not a dull white, a nice bright white"

"It's ok... it's a healthy vape"

List of Banned Clubs

Men in Finance: Self-explanatory

Andover Skinny Men Club: Too many boys hospitalized after "Bulking Season"

Model UN: Lack of interest in world peace from the Andover community

Straight hair club: Too political

The Union of Bakers: Negative press

The Phillipian*: No free press*

Politics Club: Doesn't apply to Andover

The Phillipian
SPORTS
it's sweater weather!
Volume CXLVII | Number 21
October 11, 2024

Boys Soccer Dominates Through Tough Three Game Slate

ALEX DIMNAKU

SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	1
Choate	1
MONDAY 10/7	
Andover	3
St. Sebastian	2
WEDNESDAY 10/9	
Andover	0
Pingree	3

A.TSAO/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Kai Myles '27 smoothly maneuvers the ball around the St. Sebastian opponent.

Boys Soccer dominated against tough opponents and played with strong offensive gameplay, capping the last five days with a draw and two wins. Kai Myles '27 shined on the offensive line — scoring four of the seven goals for the team.

Andrew Rodrigues '27 commended his teammates, Myles, Elijah Robinson '25, and Co-Captain Jack Alexander '25 for their lockdown defense, scoring the only goal, and saving numerous difficult shots, respectively, in its match against Choate.

"Elijah Robinson played really well because he was playing left, he was playing in the back, and he didn't really let anyone through, also definitely Kai because he put the ball in the net. He was just a great attacker throughout the entire game. Also, Jack for sure. Jack made a few really good saves," said Rodrigues.

The team controlled the flow of the game against Choate. Ir started strong offensively in the first half and passed around the ball efficiently, forcing Choate to drop back deep into its own half, noted Rodrigues. Although Choate equalized on a penalty kick, its goalie made a kick save to deflect the game-winning shot by Co-Captain Spencer Madge '25 just over the crossbar.

Rodrigues said, "We controlled the game almost the entire time. The whole team worked together, we were passing the ball around like Barcelona. The best part was how we made the other team park the bus, and it really showed our strength as a team."

Although Andover struggled with keeping composure during referee calls, it kept up much better against St. Sebastian's. Andover opened the scoring five minutes in from 30 yards out by Marc Nelson '25. Midway through the first half, St. Sebastian's equalized on a defensive scramble. In the second half, both teams fought hard, though Myles scored the game-winner from the edge of the box.

"I would say in the box, the defenders got unlucky. But just controlling ourselves during the Choate game was tough because there were a lot of controversial plays. Although we tied the game, it was hard to maintain our emotions throughout. But in the St. Sebastian's game, we faced similar controversial calls, and the whole team controlled themselves pretty well, so we learned from that," said Rodrigues.

Rodrigues continued, recalling Head Coach Joe Donnelly's pep talk during halftime, which helped the team come out of the game with a hard-fought win to be able to compete for the playoffs.

"That halftime moment really made us buckle down. He said 'a great team always finds a way to win, even when they're playing badly.' So, I think the team really came together to find that last goal and make it a 3-2 win for us," said Rodrigues.

Following the St. Sebastian's match, Madge commended Paul Gichana '25, who put immense pressure on the Pingree defense and scored the last of the three goals.

"Paul Gichana stood out today with his non-stop engine and motor. He was running all game, hustling for balls and constantly keeping their defenders on their toes by being an attacking threat," said Madge.

During the match, the team exploited Pingree's weaknesses to heighten its chances of scoring, commented Madge.

"Their backline was a weakness, especially their outside backs. As a result, players such as Marc Nelson or Paul Gichana were able to attack them all game especially taking them down the line with speed and dusting them and creating an offensive chance whether it be a cross or a cut back," said Madge.

Although a shutout game against Pingree, Edrian Vargas '27 noted how the team could have worked on finishing the ball more effectively.

"We had a lot of chances but only scored three goals, so there's always room for improvement... We'll probably focus on getting enough rest since this was our third game this week. We'll make sure everyone sees the trainer and stays healthy, and then we'll just play the way we always do," said Vargas.

Boys Soccer plays St. Paul's on Friday at home.

Andover Football Falls Short in Shocking Comeback Story From Kent

JACOB JONES

SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	42
Kent	43

Andover Football (0-3) traveled over three hours to face off against the Kent School (Kent) Football team on Saturday—a game on Andover's schedule that typically serves as a confidence and morale booster. While dominating in the first half, Kent was able to come back from Andover's double-digit lead, ending the game with a two-point conversion that put Kent one point ahead by the final whistle.

Kent delivered an action-packed end to a high-scoring shootout that shocked the confident Andover Football team. Byron Johnson '25 recapped the last few minutes of the game and highlighted Kent's star player who managed to tear apart the defense of Andover leading to the close loss.

"They ran into the end zone both times with their best player that we had planned for the whole week to defend. He just made good football plays. Then, they needed a two-point conversion. They tried a trick play. We thought we tackled the guy who had the ball, but their best player again, the guy we had known was good, stripped the ball from his own teammate and ran into the end zone, and we didn't know. We were busy celebrating as we thought we had secured the game and he took the ball from his own teammate and scored," said Johnson.

Even though Andover dealt with a heartbreaking finish to the game, the team put up a dominant performance in the first half, playing very well on both sides of the ball. Offensive lineman, Scott Carmichael '27 discussed the first half and his optimism that the team can hold down leads in the future and manage to put a win on the team's record.

Carmichael said, "On the road, the team had a pretty calm, cool, and collected demeanor. We were really ready to beat the brakes off Kent. We were up 21-6 at halftime and we ran the rock really well. Even though the second half didn't quite go our way, we're hoping to bounce back and get our first win at home on Friday."

Similar to Carmichael, Carter Aime '25 is ready to experience victory for the first time this season. Aime believes it starts with practice and having a growth mindset during the week to make sure the team puts its best foot forward on gameday. The team is looking ahead to Friday — hoping it will be an opportunity for Andover to finally put a win on the board. The team will be excused from classes on Friday as the game will start at 11 a.m.

"The practices have been pretty hard this week, which is good because we need that intensity. Today [Monday], we had an especially hard practice since we have a game on Friday. We have been practicing our run and deep pass defense because that is what we struggled with last game. That is what we are focused on right now," Aime said.

Andover Football returns to Phelps Stadium to play in a home game against Cheshire Academy on Friday.

M.STOUT/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Jun An '27, running back for Andover Football, sprints, clutching the ball.

Boys Cross Country Defeats Choate Despite Injuries

MATHEW LIU

Andover achieved a resounding victory at the annual Choate-Andover cross country meet last Saturday on Choate's course, claiming five of the seven fastest times despite several team members being sidelined by injury. Standout runner Arashi Hunter PG'25 led the way, winning the race and posting the seventh-fastest time ever recorded on the Choate course.

Sebastian Vermut '27 shared that the team was dealing with multiple injuries, including one to their top runner, Tam Gavenas '25. Despite this, Hunter delivered an outstanding performance, leading Boys Cross Country to a victory over Choate.

Vermut said, "Well, it was an interesting race because Tam, who was injured, sat out this race, and he's usually our fastest runner, but Arashi, he ran a really great race. He's got seventh on the leaderboard all-time at the Choate course. He ran a 16:04 or something similar to that, and he did really well."

Hunter, a new postgraduate (PG), attributed his success to the specialized workouts the team did the week prior. He explained that his workouts were new, and credited Coach Riley for introducing the challenging and effective training regimen that prepared him for the meet on Saturday.

"Going through the variety of workouts [Head] Coach [Patrick] Riley asked for was definitely very crucial. Being a PG, the workouts are very new to me, so it's exciting to get to do these workouts in different places," said Hunter.

Hunter expressed his appreciation for his teammates, thanking them for their warm welcome and for creating an exciting, friendly atmosphere. He credited the team's supportive culture as a key factor in his success.

"Our strength is definitely the team culture. The team is very welcoming, and we all work together and collaborate well. The meet was a bit of a drive away, so there was excitement and nervousness as a team, but we did well nonetheless," said Hunter.

Charlie Domina '27, who ran his first competitive 5K at the Choate-Andover meet, also echoed his appreciation of the training regiment, mainly its focus on hills. Domina noted that Choate's cross-country course is similar to the Andover course in that both have dramatic changes in elevation and steep hills.

Domina said, "One unique thing about the course that favored us was that it is similar to our home course. We were in similar elements. It was a crazy hill in the sun at one point, which I found very brutal. I was thankful for the hard hill workout we did during the week when I saw that big hill at the Choate course, and I bet others probably felt pretty similarly."

Vermut expanded on the team's resilience during the race, highlighting how several runners battled through the challenging Choate course, both mentally and physically, to finish with strong performances.

"I've been sick for a little while, but when I got to the race, I just told myself, just push, my heart rate can recover, and I'll make it down fine. And then that's what I did. And I didn't perform as well as I would like to, but that's just because I was sick," said Vermut.

This Friday, Andover Boys Cross Country has its highly anticipated first home race of the season against St. Paul's.

Girls Soccer Co-Captain Ava Davey '25, Leading With Consistency and Mental Strength

ETHAN LY

Co-Captain Ava Davey '25 leads the Girls Soccer team by fostering a family-like sense of community. Her presence on the team is felt through both her skills as a player and her leadership as a Co-Captain. Her consistent work ethic and her warmth allow her to connect with each player while also serving as a role model.

Davey shared her appreciation for both old friendships and memories she has made since starting soccer in second grade, and new ones that she has formed as a part of Girls Soccer. She also highlighted how enjoyable the competitive aspect of the team is, pushing each player to work their hardest.

"I first started playing soccer in second grade. I feel like everyone in their childhood years goes through that soccer phase, but I'm really glad that I stuck with it up until my high school years because I've made so many friends and memories along the way. Additionally, I really like the competitiveness of soccer. Especially with the league we're in, every game is so competitive, and that's what I love about GVS, we always put up a fight in every game that we play. It's such a tight-knit group of girls that strive towards achieving goals and winning games. I really love the friendships I've made, and I've made such a great family with Girls Soccer," said Davey.

Murathime Daisley '26 highlighted how Davey leads by example, modeling what it is to be a good player. Daisley described the effects of Davey's willingness to try things and make mistakes, pushing others to take more risks.

"Ava contributes in many ways, but the main way that she contributes is by showing through her actions what it means to be a great teammate and player. She's someone who just doesn't lead by the words that she says, but also by the person that she is. She's also very willing to show her mistakes and her shortcomings. It makes everyone else feel comfortable to make mistakes and to try out new things. This has helped us improve a lot as a team, especially having a lot of younger players that are looking up to her as well," said Daisley.

Wylie Roossien '26 highlighted Davey's consistency and ability to connect with her teammates. She also noted the team's commitment to making Davey's Senior year a standout season.

"Ava is the most positive and encouraging leader I've ever played under. She's so consistent, every practice, every game. She's always there,

I.PADMAWAR/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

encouraging us and just truly connecting with us. That's the best thing she does, and everyone on the team would say she's their best friend because she's so personable and that translates on the field as well, because she's able to just connect with everyone when we're playing on the sidelines or on the field. That gets us all going because we want to play for her, especially with this being her Senior Year," said Roossien.

Daisley also emphasized Davey's work ethic, commenting on her focus during practice and games. She admires her Co-Captain's mental strength and ability to play under pressure, especially because Davey's position of center-back often leaves her as the last defender.

"Ava's probably one of the most hardworking people on the team because she consistently shows up and gives her best. She's always locked in, and I hardly see her joking around. She's one of the most mentally tough people on the team," said Daisley.

Daisley continued, "Being center-back puts a lot of weight on your shoulders as well as being a Captain. In the position, you are the last defender, and so oftentimes they don't blame the goalie, they blame you. Even if something doesn't go her way or if she doesn't do what she feels is her best, she does a good job of staying locked in and finishing out the whole game."

As Davey reflects on her career at Andover, she is thankful for the community the team has given her. She has high hopes for the rest of the season, aiming to lead her team in a way that allows each athlete to tighten up skills and improve overall.

"I'm so proud of the team, and it has provided such a great community for me during my time at Andover. As we get further into the season, I really want to hone in on the little things and strengthen our overall skills, both individually and team-wide. I hope I can lead the team in a way that is conducive to that. Ultimately, I can't wait to see how the rest of the year plays out and what we can accomplish," said Davey.

Hayden Fischer '25: A Leader of Unrivaled Passion and Positivity

ALEX DIMNAKU

Hayden Fischer '25 approaches her role as Co-Captain of Girls Soccer with optimism and ambition. From an aspiring athlete at a young age to now a Co-Captain and one of the best players on the team, Fischer invests her all into the game while also ensuring to help those around her. Backed by her own dedication and a strong team, Fischer has her sights set on the playoffs and wholeheartedly believes in the team's ability to achieve victory.

Fischer explained why she keeps returning to soccer, a sport that allows her to both connect with new people and take a mental break. She emphasized the importance of forging new friendships within the sport and how it positively affects her life off the field.

"I think it's just the team culture and all the teams I've been on. I've met my best friends through soccer. You spend a lot of time with them both on and off the field. I love spending time with different people, especially at Andover. It's a diverse group of players with different backgrounds and playing styles. It's interesting to play with and get to know so many different types

I.PADMAWAR/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

of people, both on and off the field," Fischer said.

As a leader, Fischer tries to maintain a positive mindset at all times but also wants to make sure the team is working hard to do their very best. By maintaining a disciplined routine during practice and games, she is convinced that the team will succeed as a cohesive unit.

Fisher said, "I try to stay positive, but I'm also very ambitious. Our team has a lot of talent, so we have high expectations for everyone. I try to keep the motivation up while also being encouraging, making sure no one feels degraded. It's important to keep the work ethic strong because we expect a lot from everyone."

Lola Aguirre '26 mentioned that Fischer is extremely fun to be around and gives good direction on the field while also fostering a tight-knit team culture off the field.

"She's definitely really fun to be around, but she's also an insanely hard worker. She gives a lot of direction on what we're supposed to be doing while keeping it fun and enjoyable. She also helps a lot with team bonding," said Aguirre.

Fischer spoke about how she has different personalities on and off the field. On the field, she acts more boldly and tenaciously, while off of it, she tends to be quieter and more of a listener. This balanced approach ensures that each player can contribute their best and embody themselves in different ways, both within the intense atmosphere of the game and in a more relaxed team camaraderie off the field.

Fisher said, "On the field, I'm very aggressive and vocal. But off the field, I'm quite reserved and keep to myself. It's nice because I can exert that energy on the field, and off the field, I take time for myself and channel that reserved side."

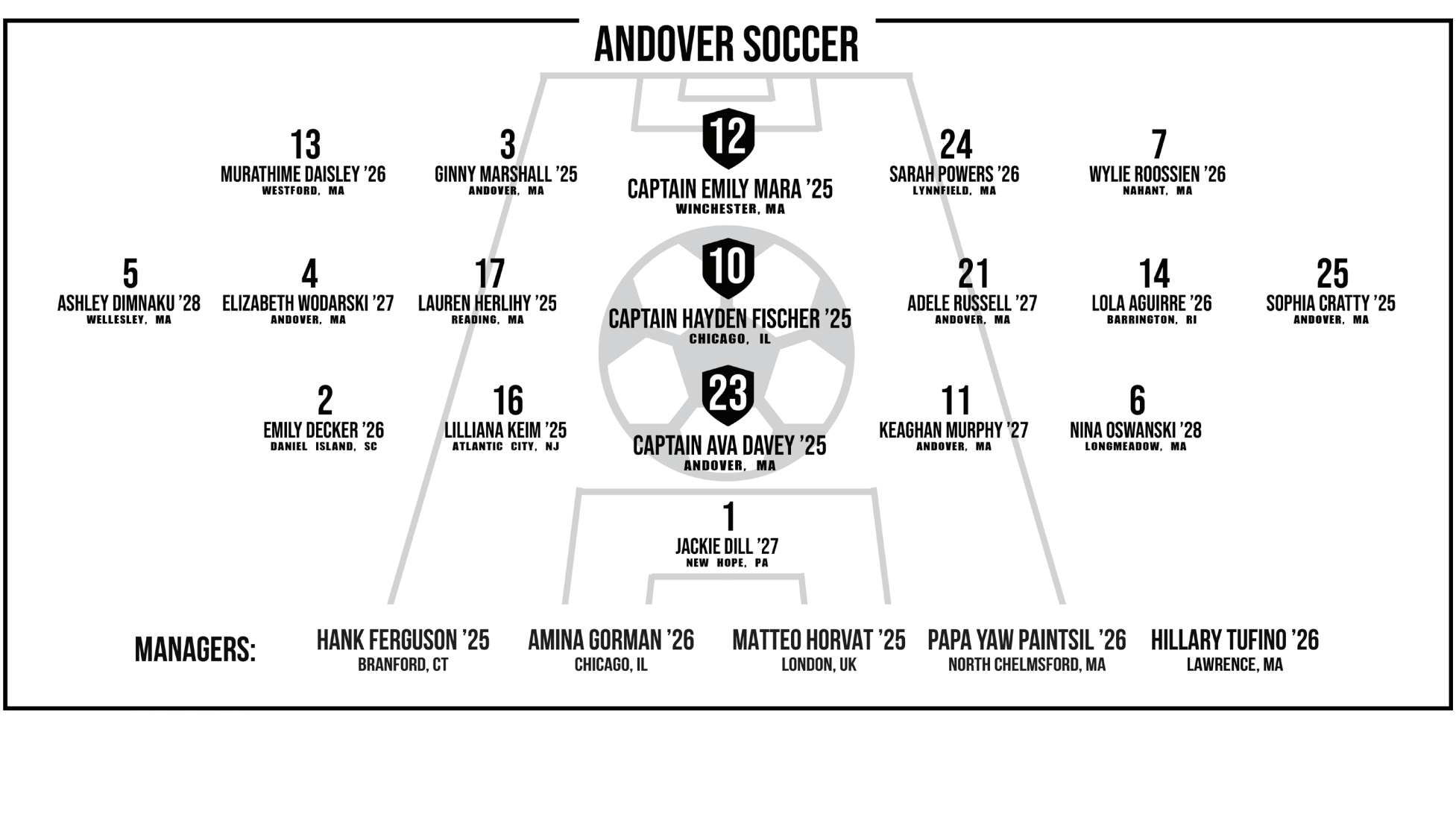
Ashley Dimnaku '28 noted that Fischer is not only committed to the sport and highly determined, but also sets a strong example for her teammates, playing with a unique flair that elevates her performance.

"I think Hayden's extremely hardworking and sets a great example for her teammates. She's also very creative with her passing, she doesn't make the same pass twice, which makes her unpredictable, and that's a good thing. She's also very physical and aggressive, which helps her get the ball back," Dimnaku said.

Fischer expressed her hope that the team will make the playoffs this year, assured that with hard work and strong execution on the field, they can achieve that goal. In her final year at Andover, Fischer is committed to making a lasting impact, not only through her own performance but also by contributing to the team's overall success.

"We're really hoping to make the playoffs this year. It's a reasonable goal for this team. We have a lot of talent, and I'm confident we can do it. I feel like we've gotten a lot of our hardest games out of the way, so now we just need to execute, finish our chances, and keep up the work ethic for the rest of the season. I'm confident this team can do it, and it would be a great way to end my Senior season," said Fischer.

Editor's Note: Hayden Fischer is a Copy Associate for The Phillipian.



Co-Captain Emily Mara '25: A Bubbly Personality and a Play-Maker on the Field

EMMA HONG

The thrill of competition and the reward of triumph come hand-in-hand in driving Co-Captain Emily Mara '25 on the soccer field. As a Division I commit to Boston College, Mara has displayed her extensive soccer skills and athleticism throughout her high school career, receiving the likes of her teammates.

Although Mara began her soccer career after her parents encouraged her at the age of two, she persisted and learned to love the sport and the competition. Mara is now the captain of Girls Soccer for the second season.

Mara said, "I really love competing and playing in games. I love to win. I love going into hard games and not knowing what the outcome will be but still working hard to get that victory nonetheless."

While leading the team, Mara emphasizes accountability and camaraderie as the basis for an elite performance on the field. She focuses on uplifting her teammates and fostering a driven work ethic.

"I strive to make us all a very united team, almost like a family, both on and off the field so we all feel comfortable playing with each other, but also holding each other to high standards. I try to emphasize that we can and will win games. We like to keep practices high intensity; we like to make sure we're all prepared before a game and communicating and just making sure everyone understands their role in the team and how to execute it," said Mara.

Murathime Daisley '26 noted Mara's bubbly personality and how she challenges her teammates to grow on the field.

"She leads by positivity and energy and by example, plays her hardest all the time, and she's always hungry. As a Captain, she's very encouraging. She sees me trying my best and trying something new and always tries to make it known that I'm doing good," said Daisley.

Mara described herself as extremely competitive and hardworking and explained that it is reflected in her greatest strengths and weaknesses.

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"One of my weaknesses is making sure to keep composure when the referees are bad or if frustrating plays are happening."

When asked about Mara's strengths, Daisley stressed the persevering and positive atmosphere Mara and the other Co-Captains always strive to achieve.

Daisley said, "As an athlete, her strengths really lie in how she's so tenacious and aggressive and wants to win all the time, which is amazing and trumps all skills that anyone could have. As a leader, her strength really is her amazing, fun energy like I said before. Sometimes when we think of leaders we think of strict, stone-faced leaders but she has such a bubbly personality."

Ashley Dimnaku '28 shared similar sentiments to Daisley, emphasizing Mara's impact on everyone through her intensity and positive attitude during practices and games.

"Emily is a great leader because she's always working really hard on the team and just always staying positive, always reminding everyone that we can and will win, which makes everybody else work harder and lifts us all up," said Dimnaku.

Although Mara has been committed to the Eagles for a year and a half, she still harbors lots of ambitious excitement and care for her last high school season.

Mara said, "We're trying to win as many games as possible with the goal of making [the] playoffs."

Head Girls Soccer Coach Lisa Joel: Tri-sport Collegiate Captain and Perfect Blend of Tough and Gleeful

ALEX DIMNAKU

Head Coach Lisa Joel, athletic director and coach of Girls Soccer (GVS) has been involved with soccer and athletics for her whole life. She grew up playing soccer, basketball, and lacrosse and captained all three teams at Amherst College. Joel also attributed a lot of her recent success to assistant coach Nouredinne El Alam, Instructor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, who brings a lot of positive energy to the GVS team and valuable experience as a retired player himself.

Joel described how she started playing soccer at a young age and pursued it through co-ed teams and at the collegiate level. She also mentioned how her early experience allowed her to experiment with other sports rather than just soccer in college.

"Like a lot of GVS players, I started playing soccer in elementary school. This would have been in the 1980s. It was town soccer. I grew up in Rhode Island, and it was co-ed teams, but mostly boys with some girls on it. It was only within your town; there was no club soccer until the last decade and a half," said Joel.

She continued, "Then I went to high school and college to continue playing soccer... I was able to play multiple sports in college because there were no sports specialization or club teams. I went from soccer season right into basketball season, then into lacrosse season. It wasn't super common, but it wasn't impossible like it is now."

K.MA/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

At Andover, she started as an assistant coach for soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. Joel detailed how her coaches in college helped motivate and inspire her to become a coach, especially her soccer coach.

Joel said, "When I was in college, all three of my coaches were women. In particular, my college soccer coach, Michelle Morgan, who is a bit of a legend in women's soccer, was hugely impactful in how she coached us. You didn't know at the time what a legend she was. She was involved with the U.S. Women's team before 1999 when everyone knew about the U.S. Women winning in the Rose Bowl. Michelle Morgan and her impact on my life and, quite frankly, the lives of all the players she coached, was immense."

She continued, "Coming to a job here and in my first year coaching the sports I played in college, as an assistant coach at the Varsity level, was just full circle. It was the perfect match and that led me to recognize the incredible coach I had."

Lola Aguirre '26 described Joel's coaching style and how she can coach based on the current situation of the team. She added that Joel knows how to encourage fun on the team while also knowing when the team needs a serious presence.

"She coaches the team specific to their situation. Every team is different and every player is different, but she has a good balance between being strict and being fun, making practices and the games fun, and being able to help the team bond while at the same time improving. She does a great job balancing being strict and fun," said Aguirre.

Ashley Dimnaku '28 discussed how Joel believes that hard work on the field and selflessness is imperative to the success of the team. She spoke about her perspective of what Joel wants for the team.

"One of the main core values... is to always work your hardest. When playing soccer, Coach makes us think that if everyone on the team does their role, is unselfish, and is able to work together, we will always win every game, which will lead us to our biggest goal of winning NEPSAC [New England Preparatory School Athletic Council]," said Dimnaku.

Joel highlighted how valuable the experience of coaching at Andover is and how being a student-athlete at Andover in general can change people for the better.

"I've always felt that being a student-athlete and having this experience is transformative. Having done it as long as I have, I'm certain that at its best, the Andover athletic experience for many students is often the highlight of their Andover journey and education. Also, it's the space where they probably find lifelong friends. It is not unusual that, over the years, when alums return, they often return to their teams and their coaches," said Joel.

Joel continued, "You work hard in the classroom, and the playing field is just another classroom. The lessons learned and the relationships with coaches and teammates really transform and change people positively."

Girls Soccer Falls Short to Choate, Scores Last Minute Game-Winning Goal Against Brooks

ETHAN LY

SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	2
Choate	3
TUESDAY 10/9	
Andover	2
St. Sebastian	1

On Saturday, Girls Soccer (6-1-3) put up a tough fight against Choate, ultimately losing by one goal scored by Choate in the last minute. On Wednesday, though, the team returned to the field and won against Brooks while dressed in special pink uniforms for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

In the Choate game, the team was down 0-1 at halftime but managed to score two goals in the second half, just falling short of Choate's three total goals. Murathime Daisley '26 looked past the team's loss against Choate, commenting on the close connection the team has with each other and the player's excitement to compete.

Daisley said, "Especially because we're such a close-knit team, we're always very excited to play with each other. That just reflects how we come onto the field: we come onto the field with high intensity, and we're very just excited to get started and get playing. We have a lot of fast players and we like to play fast and that's just a big strength of ours. That all contributes to our energy. That was seen especially coming out in the second half; [we were] so hungry and so ready to go."

Wylie Roossien '26 praised her teammate Lauren Herlihy '25, who, in the midfield, put up a fierce performance against strong opponents. A Senior this year, Herlihy's experience and composure helped in leading the team.

"[Lauren Herlihy '25] was in the midfield for us, and she was playing attacking mid and holding mid for the majority of the game. [Choate] had a very, very talented midfielder, and I would argue that that was probably the strongest point of [their] team. [Lauren] was able to stay with all those players and essentially shut them down," said Roossien.

She continued, "When she was in, she didn't give up anything, and she was such a strong point for us, and in a game where it's so even throughout the field, you depend on that, and you depend on that strength in the midfield to keep us going. She was very composed. When we were scoring, she was excited for us, but she did not put her head down when we let up a goal. Again, [she showed] that senior leadership."

Daisley noted the challenges that come with a smaller roster. With fewer players, the team has to exert themselves more and play for longer periods. She also praised her teammates' competitiveness and focus for the duration of the game on Saturday.

"Generally, our strength is definitely our speed, our physicality, and our competitive spirit. In this game, we definitely felt the team being smaller this year even though everyone was holding their own," said Daisley.

Daisley continued, "It's hard on your fitness playing close to 80 minutes and also being down which made it a challenging game. We did a really good job of staying locked in the whole time."

Roossien mentioned Ashley Dimnaku's '25 performance in the game against Choate which was characterized by scoring the team's second goal early in the second half, which gave the team the confidence and encouragement to keep pushing through the match.

"Our second goal, to be our last goal, was scored by Ashley, [one of] our Freshmen. She was, forward or attacking mid at that moment, but that was in the second half–the first five to ten minutes of the second half–and that gives you so much momentum in such a tight game. Although we weren't able to pull it off in the end, we were winning and then were tied for the majority of the game up until the last minute. Ashley's goal really gave us that confidence but also encouragement to keep fighting throughout the duration of the second half," said Roossien.

In Andover's game on Wednesday that resulted in a win, Co-Captain Hayden Fischer '25 scored the game-winning goal with three minutes left on the clock. Adele Russell '27 described how the initial pass to Fischer from a corner kick played out, allowing for a shot on goal.

"For our second goal, it was in the last four minutes of the game, off a corner kick passed to her, Hayden played a big pass in front of the net and the ball found its way into the back of the net, just after bouncing around a little bit in front of the net. [That] was really nice because it was a tie game at that point," said Russell.

Girls Soccer will play St. Paul's at home on Friday.

Girls Cross Country Crush Choate

THIAGO JOLLON

SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	43
Choate	17

Girls Cross Country defeated Choate last Saturday in a commanding 43-17 win. The top three finishers all ran for Big Blue: Anya Budzinski '26, Chloe Song '26, and Zoe von Eckartsberg '26, respectively. Seven runners set personal records (PRs) as Andover romped to victory over Choate.

The team built up its endurance and fitness for the Choate meet, commented Song. She credited her personal best time running the course to the team's workout.

Song said, "Last week, we did one really iconic distance team hill workout called Boston Hills, and it was very intense, and then the next day, we did Holt Hill for the first time as a team... That really helped with the rolling hills and the big hill on the Choate course. So, we put them to work and we reaped the fruits."

Budzinski described the energetic atmosphere Andover had built during the race. The Girls team received much praise from Boys Cross Country.

"It was more team oriented since it was smaller than the last one, so there was a lot of really good team energy. During my race, all the boys were on the course cheering for us, so there was a lot of joy and excitement throughout the event," said Budzinski.

Despite her injury, Captain Emma Hagstrom '25 showed out for her team. Hannah Jung '28 commended Hagstrom for her commitment to the team and to guiding them through the course.

"She was there to support us morally. And at one of the very difficult parts in the race, I saw her there, and she was cheering everyone on, which was a very nice thing for her to do... It really showed the community that we have," said Jung

Song also applauded Head Coach Keri Lambert for her thoughtful email prior to the race. Even though Lambert was unable to attend the meet, Song emphasized how Lambert's encouragement and reminders stuck with the team throughout the meet.

"She'll tell us three things to focus on for the meets and during the day. More like what you do outside of the race that will help you lock in better. The first thing she'd tell us is to stay locked in, and the second thing was support, and the third thing was love and joy and the emphasis was focusing on the process in building an excellent race day," said Song.

Budzinski applauded Ela Budzinski '28 for her accomplishments in her inaugural race.

Budzinski said, "She scored on Varsity for the first time. This is her first year running cross country. She PRd by over by over a minute, which was really awesome to see her progress and on only her second 5k ever."

Sharing Song's sentiments, Jung described the team's mental practices in lieu of the race.

"We did a few visualization exercises before running when we were at the starting line as a group. We visualized breathing in clean air and exhaling all of our worries and doubts, and that really helped me lock in and focus on the race itself," said Jung.

Since there were only 30-40 runners on the big course, Song noted the challenges in getting distracted with racing against a smaller number of people.

"You always want to be focused on crossing the finish line, but if you're thinking about where to go next, it can be annoying and confusing and hurt your performance. So that's something we can work on is just being a little bit more mindful of sticking in groups and sticking in packs during dual races," said Song.

COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Girls Cross Country huddle together at the meet.

As the team embarks on its first home meet, the team has been strategizing the course and visualizing the race.

"Today we did a workout in the [Cochran Bird] Sanctuary, which is about half of the courses in the Sanctuary. And that's where the two big hills are. So doing a harder effort. The course really helped us to get to know how to best run on that part of the course for the meet this weekend," said Budzinski.

Girls Cross Country will host St. Paul's, Austin Preparatory School, and Northfield Mount Hermon for its first home meet of the season on Friday.

Boys Water Polo Falls to Hamden Hall and Choate in Hard-Fought Double Header

ERIC CHANG

SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	5
Hamden Hall	14
SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	11
Choate	14

On Saturday, Boys Water Polo played two back-to-back games against Hamden Hall and Choate. Although the team ultimately lost both games, it showed great improvement from the first game to the second.

In its first match against Hamden Hall, despite trailing 0-5 by the end of the first quarter, the team quickly adapted, switching up the defense to lock down Hamden Hall's top scorer. Ethan Zhu '26 mentioned how this allowed the team to rebound and play stronger in the second half of the game.

"We struggled quite a bit in the beginning against Hamden Hall and were down 5-0 at the end of the first quarter. Hamden Hall was difficult as we had a tough time organizing ourselves and playing patient and that ended up hurting us. Luckily, as the game went on, we were able to rebound and played much better in the latter half of the game. We did this by making adjustments for a defense to stop Hamden Hall's best scorer, which slowed them down," said Zhu.

Lincoln Tomlinson '27 commended the team's goalie for his impressive save against a penalty shot, which resulted in a fast break and a goal. He acknowledged how impactful this was for the team.

"One crucial moment happened after Hamden Hall had earned a five-meter penalty shot and our goalie did a great job of blocking the shot, not letting them get the free goal, and in that same play, we had a fast break that resulted in a goal for us. That was definitely a game changer," said Tomilson.

Although the team was falling behind, players nonetheless displayed grit and perseverance. Austin Stern '27 shared how the team's collective energy positively impacted the atmosphere, providing motivation.

"Despite being down most of the game we were really determined to keep trying and put full effort into the game. We never stopped putting pressure on Hamden Hall. Even though we weren't winning, we kept fighting our absolute hardest until the end. This made the atmosphere really energetic. We were excited to play them and played hard, drawing fouls, always sprinting, [and] taking shots," said Stern.

Boys Water Polo exploited Hamden Hall's weaknesses to increase scoring opportunities. Tomilson commended the team's defense and its ability to manage plays against the opponent's strongest players.

"Hamden Hall's weaknesses were that they weren't as fast as Andover; thus, we won every swim off and were able to score on turnovers and fast breaks thanks to the faster swimming that our team possessed. Overall, our defense was strong, and we were able to keep their best players in check," said Tomlinson.

In the team's game against Choate, Zhu noted that it traded goal for goal in the first half. Despite Choate eventually gaining a significant lead, Boys Water Polo stayed persistent, taking advantage of Choate's weak defense and almost taking back dominance over the game.

"Our game against Choate was really even throughout, especially in the first half because while we had some really good points, they also responded with good points too," said Zhu.

Zhu continued, "Eventually, Choate started to pull away but we kept it close until the very end and we cut their lead to just two. We forced Choate to tighten up their defense, and because of that they almost lost control of the game."

During the game, Co-Captain Jason Kokones '25 and Zhu both stood out with their exceptional performances. Stern mentioned how Kokones was able to take leverage against Choate and exhibit his leadership and also highlighted Zhu's improvement, noting both individuals as offensive threats during the game.

COURTESY OF PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Oliver Stabach '26 looks across the pool, ready to shoot.

"The two people who stood out to me the most were Ethan Zhu and Jason Kokones. Both had a really good game offensively and defensively. Jason is one of our Captains, so it is not uncommon for him to take control of a game but he really was in control against Choate. And Ethan is someone who has gotten so much better so quickly this year. Him and Jason were both threats from deep in this game," said Stern.

Going forward, the team is optimistic about sharpening its offensive strategies. Zhu acknowledged how the team has improved significantly throughout the season so far.

"Our game against Choate made some of the improvements we need to make clear. One of those would be to improve our ball movement and vision in the pool. Also being more patient and making smarter decisions when we're on the attack. Sometimes we struggle to get open near the goal, but we're working on that. Looking ahead, we have already come so far this season, especially considering many of us only play Water Polo for two months out of the year. I'm excited to see how we keep growing as a team," said Zhu.

Boys Water Polo will compete away against Suffield Academy on Wednesday, October 16.

Girls Volleyball Falls to Choate, Ultimately Defeats Austin Prep in Five Set Game

ALE LASALA BERGARANCHE

SATURDAY 10/5	
Andover	0
Choate	3
WEDNESDAY 10/9	
Andover	3
Austin Prep	1

On Saturday, Girls Volleyball (5-4) faced Choate, ultimately resulting in a loss. However, on Wednesday, the team beat Austin Preparatory School (Austin Prep) in a nail-biting five set victory, coming back to win by six points in the final set after being down by five points.

After the game against Choate, Head Coach Clyfe Beckwith praised Co-Captains Saraya Angbazo '25 and Sophie Holten '25 for leading through their play, generating offense with their hard hits, and making it difficult for the opposing team to defend.

"Despite the loss, I think there were definitely some moments to be proud of. We had a lot of really hard hits from both our Captains, Saraya and Sophie. That really helped us develop an offense during the game," said Beckwith.

Hailey Piasecki '26 emphasized the team's ability to create an energetic atmosphere that fostered communication and collaboration. She also noted the team's defensive hesitation, which caused some athletes to struggle mentally, contributing to a rough third set and the loss overall.

"We had great energy, communication, and a lot of teamwork. On the other hand, our weakness was not staying on our toes and hesitating to go for certain balls. The ending was pretty rough because our serve receive wasn't great, and we got in our heads. Overall, this game taught us the importance of mental strength, especially in tough moments like the last set," said Piasecki.

In the practices following the match against Choate, new approaches were implemented, utilizing conditioning and watching film. Although it can be difficult to focus on weaknesses, Holten shared how this helped the team bounce back after the loss by focusing on positioning and movement.

"This week, our practices were structured differently on Monday and Tuesday. So Monday, we did a lot of conditioning and film. That really pushed us to go beyond our comfort zone in our play. In film, it was really helpful to look at and nitpick almost every detail. Especially against harder teams where we zoomed in on our weaknesses, focusing on our positioning, our movement, and our touches was really helpful. Tuesday was just mostly gameplay and we were really able to focus on getting those faster plays in and being on our toes more often. When we paired those two practices together, it really just helped elevate our game in a way that was really useful and helpful for the next game," said Holten.

In its Wednesday game against Austin Prep, the team was forced to adjust to the different environment of Austin Prep's gymnasium, which led to a slow start. Beckwith shared how the atmosphere of the game both distracted but also motivated the team to outdo its competition, generating spectacular plays in the end.

"The energy definitely built from the first set to the second and so on. Austin Prep played a really sound game. We found our rhythm after we got used to the different type of ball and the different gym environment. Austin Prep also had a pretty rowdy student section; they even received a yellow card from the referee for heckling our team. This, at some points, caused a lack of focus on our side, but it also fueled us to try and shut them up in a way. We had some really impressive plays while nearing the end of the game," said Beckwith.

Holten commended Angbazo and Kaliah Fortune '26 for their impactful play. Through setting and hitting, they transformed the team into a threat against Austin Prep, motivating the rest of the team through their energy.

"Saraya, my Co-Captain, was an absolute monster in the middle today. She was up on every single ball, and she was just absolutely swinging everything she could I was really impressed with her effort, her ability to work for every single point, and her energy. I'd also say Kaliah was an important part of this game. She was able to take a couple of off balls from the back row and turn them into absolutely beautiful sets for our front row players and our back row players," said Holten.

The game concluded with an exciting come-from-behind win in the final set, despite being down early. Beckwith highlighted a leading factor in this comeback, noting how Kate Rodgers '26's serves brought the team to victory with many aces and impressive plays.

Beckwith said, "A standout player in this game was Kate Rodgers. She hit and passed strong throughout the game, but she was particularly crucial in the fifth set while serving. She served over ten points to finish the set 15-9, starting when we were behind 4-9. It was a mix of both aces by her and also well-fought plays by the team as a collective."

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

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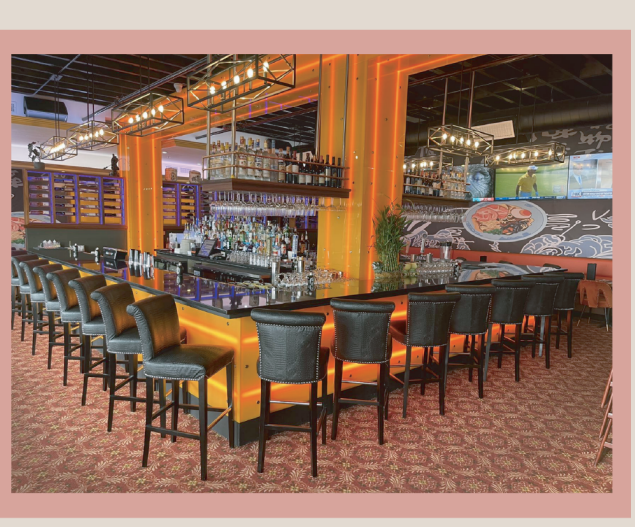

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12PM-9:30PM SUN

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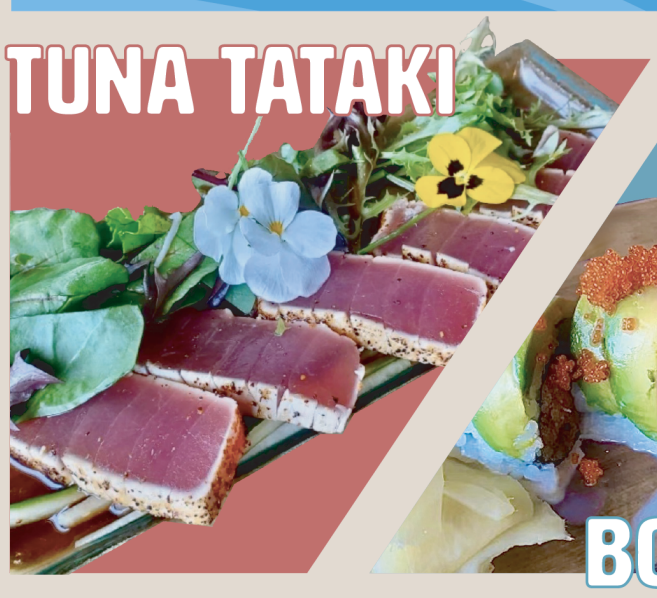

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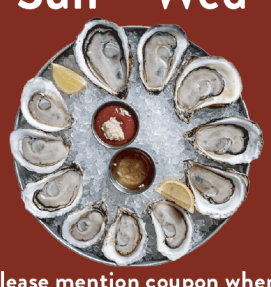

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Sun ~ Wed

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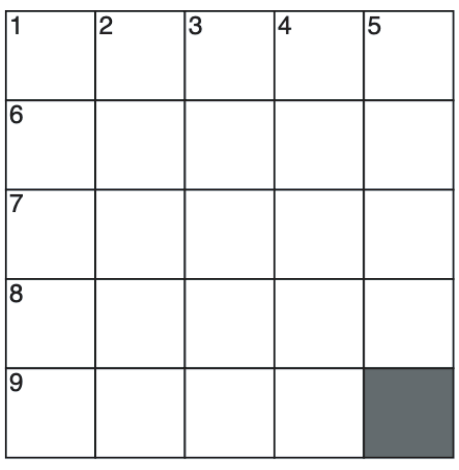
Crossword Corner

BY MAX LANGHORST

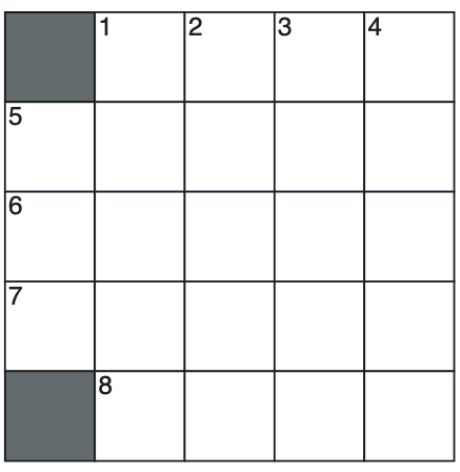


ACROSS

1 Attempt, scientifically
6 $100, in slang
7 Following
8 The Army ___ of Engineers
9 Stomach in a _____ (when one is nervous)

DOWN

1 Notable Commons chocolate milk quality
2 Too long, as a sentence
3 First paragraph
4 Foster
5 Tough times

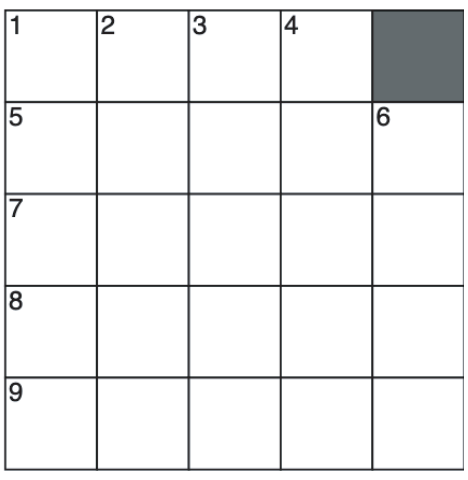


ACROSS

1 Expendable chess piece
5 ___ Curie, discoverer of radioactivity
6 Numbers divisible by 2
7 Fundamental principle
8 People who make terrible jokes

DOWN

1 Surfaced, as a road
2 Place for a battle
3 ___ and dined
4 Birds make these
5 Got introduced to

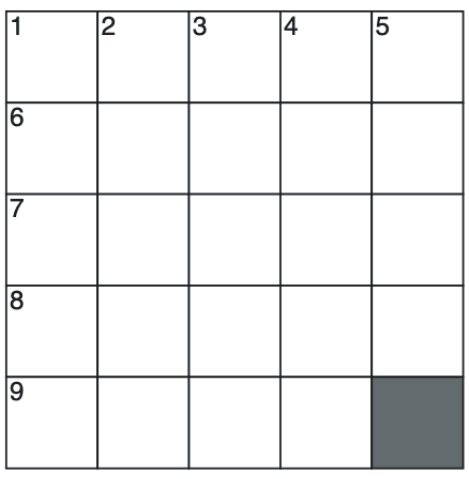


ACROSS

1 Fastest man ever
5 separated
7 Even more uncommon
8 Duplicate
9 "All jokes ___..."

DOWN

1 Real Madrid rival, Abbr.
2 October gemstones
3 The Kid ___, maker of "Stay"
4 Fad
6 Familv or Oak



ACROSS

1 Take your feet off the pedals
6 Red fruit
7 Aired again, as an old school
8 Tea-drinkers and beans enjoyers
9 Time to get things cheap

DOWN

1 Word that describes bagels, rice, pasta, and potatoes
2 Italian theater
3 Earth Day month
4 A blank ___,
5 Hamilton bills

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

Senior Outfits Light Up Boston Harbor

REPORTING BY ADELE CIOCIOLA

AVERY DAVIS '25

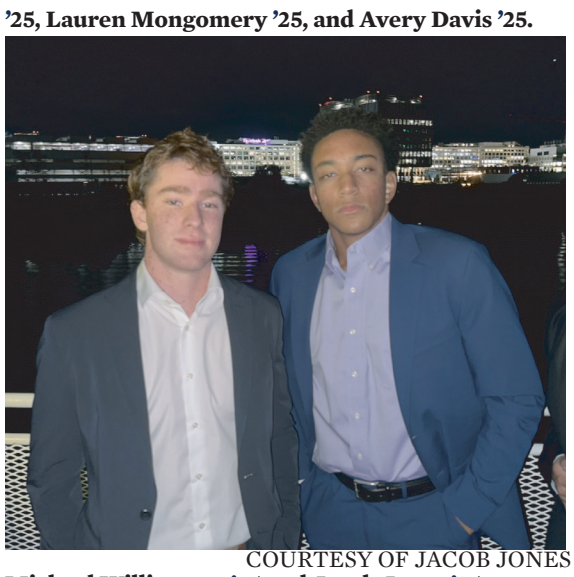
"I wore a long blue dress that I had seen on Pinterest and then found through Google image search. I knew it was going to be really cold so I wanted to wear something long and I also wanted to do dark colors. It was very murder-mystery movie. I paired it with stud earrings, gold necklaces, rings, bracelets, and heels. A lot of people were wearing short dresses, but also dark dresses, so I feel like my dress went pretty well with the serious, formal night-wear look."

JACOB JONES '25

"I wore a navy blue suit with a lavender shirt. I wore navy to match Andover's colors and honor the school while being different from all the other guys. I've had this suit for about a year now and I thought it was a good time to break it out. Wearing a lavender shirt brought a pop of color and showed the fun side of myself. My outfit fell within the theme since it was a dark color since everyone wanted to be very formal."

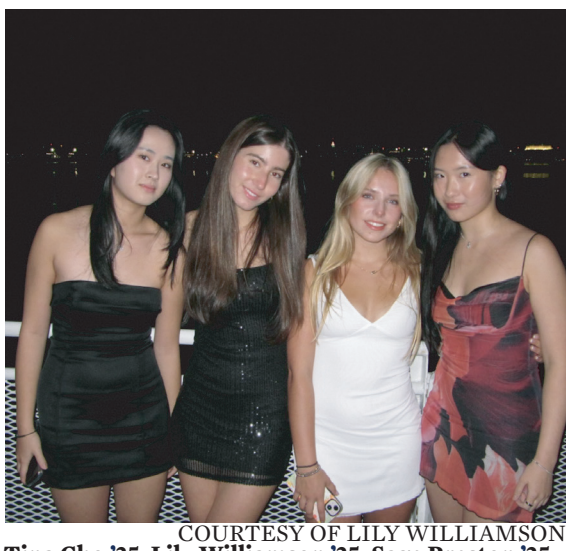
COURTESY OF AVERY DAVIS

Ella Kowal '25, Marcela Hernandez '25, Jac Gordon '25, Lauren Mongomery '25, and Avery Davis '25.



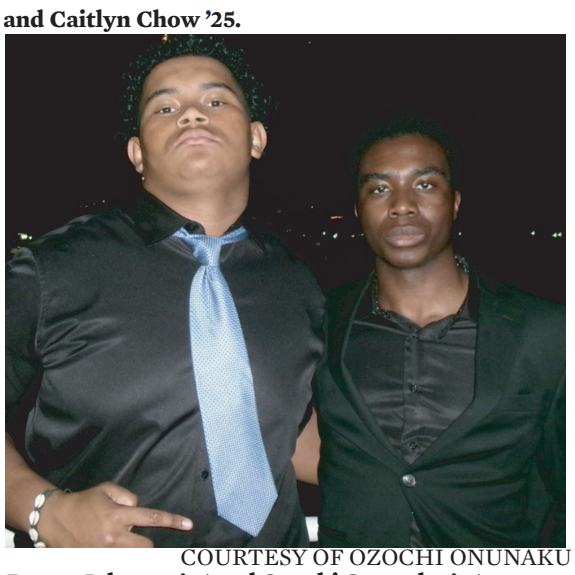
COURTESY OF JACOB JONES

Michael Williamson '25 and Jacob Jones '25.



COURTESY OF LILY WILLIAMSON

Tina Cho '25, Lily Williamson '25, Sage Preston '25, and Caitlyn Chow '25.



COURTESY OF OZOCHI ONUNAKU

Byron Johnson '25 and Ozochi Onunaku '25.

LILY WILLIAMSON '25

"I wore a little black dress: it was long-sleeved, had sparkles on it, and I wore it with kitten heels. I initially saw it when I was looking online, and I knew it was the dress for Senior Cruise, so I ordered it. It came very close to the day of Senior Cruise, so I was a little nervous about that, just the timing of it. I ended up loving it, and I was glad it was long-sleeved because it was cold on the boat. Everyone was wearing dark colors, so I'm glad I picked a darker color."

OZOCHI ONUNAKU '25

"I wore all black: a black dress shirt, black suit, black slacks, and black dress shoes. I felt like going with the general vibes of the boat cruise. I felt like an all black fit would be pretty sleek, pretty fashionable. Throughout all the photos I took, my look blended well with the general theme of boat cruise. It was a very formal event, but also a bit casual. At least for guys, we were able to experiment with different suit and dress shirt combinations."

LOTW Tina Phan '26: The Art of Classy Fashion for First Impressions

ANNA TSVETKOV & ANNA LU

Centering her outfit around a dominant pair of boots, Tina Phan '26 combines simple yet unique clothing items to reflect her classy aesthetic. She adds a denim mini skirt and a simplistic white blouse for balance, then a scarf to incorporate a pop of color. Phan sees her clothing as an extension of herself, serving as a first impression to all the communities she is a part of.

Much of Phan's fashion inspiration has been derived from her surroundings, specifically the environment in which she grew up. Phan discussed how her parents' stylistic opinions at a young age influenced her present-day fashion choices. Having matured in age and style, Phan now closely resonates with her parents' preference towards simple and classy pieces — a transition from the taste of her younger self.

"I have my parents to thank for a lot of my inspiration because when I was little, I definitely liked pink and glitter and very maximalist fashion, which I still appreciate, and I do really like that artsy maximalism, but nowadays, I find myself drawn to pieces that my parents would have wanted me to wear more when I was younger... Outfits where the majority of the outfit is simple, but there's one piece that's kind of a statement, whether that's your shoes, or a scarf, or jewelry, which I have both of my parents to thank for," said Phan.

Phan's formula for building her daily outfits follows these guidelines from her parents, tending to center around a statement piece and supplementing with basics. Using these basic pieces to shade match and curate coherent looks, Phan ensures a balanced versatility between unique and classy. Phan described her attention to detail after choosing a centerpiece clothing item, ensuring no part of her looks out of place.

"I usually start with one thing that I know for sure that I want to wear, [whether] that's a pair of jeans, or a skirt, or a pair of shoes, or a top that I know for sure I want to wear the next day. And then I kind of build the rest of my outfit on top of it and make sure that the wash of the jeans will match the top, or whatever jewelry I'm wearing will match the color palette. And then I usually match my hair to that as well, so if I think wavy or straight hair matches better, or if I think my hair should be up or down, then I sort of match to that as well. It starts off with knowing for sure there's one thing I want to wear," said Phan.

L.RUSTUM/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Phan believes that fashion is a way to embrace ones identity and project confidence.

Looking ahead to her future, although Phan does not anticipate joining the fashion industry, she nonetheless acknowledged the profound influences of fashion on her life. Phan talked about the importance of fashion as a form of self-expression and as a window for the world to read you, no matter the work field. She expressed the significant place that appearance holds in society and the impact that fashion can have on one's mindset.

"Not only is [fashion] a passion of mine, because I'm attracted to...aesthetics, also I think that it's a really useful tool. So I don't think that I ever will be going to Vogue and becoming an editor there or anything, but I do think that knowing how to dress for the right occasion is a really useful tool...in [dictating] how other people perceive you. While everybody exclaims, 'Oh, just be yourself, who cares, nobody cares just be yourself,' I disagree. You should just be yourself and embrace whoever you are, but people do care. And whether or not you care that they care is up to you. How you dress is 50 percent of how you show up, and that's why it's really important in my future and in everyone's future," said Phan.

Riya Patel '26, Phan's close friend, described the roots of Phan's style as classy and preppy in her Junior year, which progressed to incorporate more streetwear elements in the present day. Patel also described her favorite outfit of Phan's, focusing on her shoes which are a unique piece that encapsulates her aesthetic and identity. Patel discussed the evolution of Phan's style over the time she has known her.

"At the beginning of Junior Year, her style was a lot more academia, classy, and preppy, and then throughout the years, [it] was more influenced by her friends and the people around her and it became more streetwear... One of my favorite outfits Tina wears is her Editked top that she was gifted by one of her really close friends paired with a white skirt and her Adidas Gazelles that are very, very unique to her. We spent a lot of time convincing her out [of buying] them but she bought it, and she styles it and rocks it like no one else could ever," said Patel.

To Phan, fashion can serve as both a public statement and a personal aesthetic. With a clear-cut formula to creating everyday outfits, Phan has been able to routinely express herself through her meticulous styling habits. Phan discussed her final outlook that fashion can also be a place to surround oneself with a community that shares tastes and preferences.

"Be yourself, and whatever your style may mean to you, embrace it because there is always going to be, even if it isn't received well by some people, there are others in the world that do appreciate your style, or who you are, or how you present yourself. So more important than dressing for an audience is finding an audience that responds positively to how you dress," said Phan.

L.RUSTUM/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Phan has leaned away from maximilism as she has gotten older, embracing her parent's style more.

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

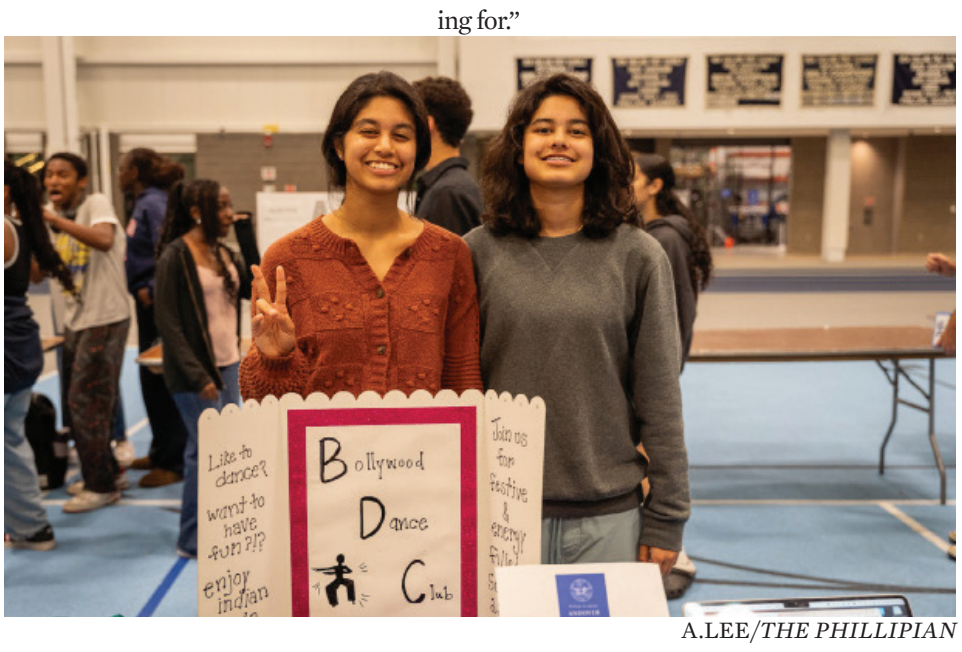
Arts Clubs Spotlight: A Glimpse Into Andover's Artistic Scene

MAGGIE SHU & DANIEL LIU

Last Saturday, hundreds of students poured into Snyder Center for the annual club rally, excited to see what fun clubs were in store this year. Whether it be trying something new or reconnecting with a past passion, there are a plethora of opportunities to engage in. This week, The Phillipian *interviewed a wide range of arts clubs offered this year. From performance art to creative writing, there's sure to be a club for every creative passion.*

KARISHMA CARA DEL CASTILLO '25: BOLLYWOOD DANCE CLUB

"We are a performance and event-based club... We perform in shows like Dance Open, any club fairs, things like that. But we also host movie nights, and we like to collaborate with the South Asian Society... I started this club because Dance at Andover had a very specific few genres that it was tapping into... And really helping to diversify the dance program by representing a group that I feel is underrepresented in dance. We are a non-affinity space. We don't require anyone to have any dance experience... I keep it as complicated as I can while making sure that I'm keeping in mind who I'm choreographing for."



A.LEE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

ETHAN LIU '26: POETRY CLUB

"For Poetry Club, our plan for this year is to build a community where anyone of all levels of experience with writing, short form or poetry, can come and enjoy the process of writing poetry, the creative process. We want to host a variety of different club meetings from workshops, to learning how to write poetry, the different forms of poetry, and the rules that come with poetry. Free writing exercises/sessions, where people can take time out of their, go off of theme and write poetry that reflects themselves. We want to do open mic nights, where people can go up and share their poetry, as well as maybe including a fusion of poetry, slam poetry, and live music. I was thinking, since I do jazz music, I could play the piano and improvise chords while people recite their poetry."

CHRISTOPHER FU '26: ANDOVER WRITER'S ALLIANCE

"We usually bring prepared prompts to have people write about for short periods of time... Some basic examples would be, 'What weather are you feeling like today?' and try to describe yourself as that weather or write a diary entry as if you are that weather... People can read through, we can read through together, and then we use that as a starting point from which people can develop their own writing, and they can use that original piece as inspiration... I would just say we're planning on bi-weekly workshops this year something like that, and we're hoping to collaborate with a lot more clubs."

CYRIL COUMANS '25: F-STOP PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

"Every year [our published zine] is a different topic and the topic is just one word; This year it was 'intimacy.' What separates us from other media clubs is our yearly publication of our magazine. It's sort of rooted in simplicity, and we really just ask anyone from Andover, any student from Andover to share their photos with us for publication and after every year we make the zine, and then we sell it. It's really cool, and we're starting to build an archive of repositories... Join the club; it's great. Photography can serve the purpose of keeping track of memories but also keeping track of history."

CINDY YANG '26: PHOTON

"My favorite part of Photon is the community. If I'm going to be a little sentimental here, my first year, Glow Show was really special for me. It's our annual performance hosted by Photon during the end of Spring Term. We feature all our routines, some people can do solos, duets, whatever. And so, during my [Junior] year, my first Glow Show, I just remember feeling really supported, and really appreciated. Everyone there is screaming and cheering for you, and that's a really nice feeling when you're performing on a stage."

A.LEE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

MICHELLE CHEN '25: ASIAN PERFORMING ARTS CLUB

"No other dance club on campus does our dance style. And it's just something that a lot of the dancers look forward to seeing, just because in our dance style we use props a lot. We create images of flowers, stuff like that... My other co-head, Lilienne [Zhang '25], she's from China and so we can buy a bunch of cheap costumes from there. She just brings them over, which is something we have to plan ahead of time. I love the costumes, so it's really fun."

Rhode Beauty: Creating an Inclusive "Clean Girl Aesthetic"

SIENNA RODRIGUEZ

Sleek multicolored colored lip gloss tubes populate classrooms as students hop on the latest beauty trend: Rhode Beauty's peptide lip tint. While scrolling through social media, it is almost a guarantee that you will come across the name Hailey Bieber at least once. Born to actor Stephen Baldwin in Tucson, Arizona, Hailey Bieber has secured her name as the founder of one of the most influential makeup and skincare brands of the century. Rhode Beauty's success has been exponential due to Bieber's ingenious marketing which leverages social media presence as well as the aesthetics of the brand itself. While on the surface it seems as though Rhode Beauty is just another celebrity-owned makeup brand created as a cash-grab, there is more to Rhode than meets the eye.

Throughout Rhode's lifespan, the brand has often been linked to the term "Clean Girl Makeup," a more minimalist approach to beauty focused on emphasizing one's natural beauty rather than overriding it. This makeup style emphasizes glowy skin, flushed cheeks, perfectly done eyebrows, and long natural eyelashes. "Clean Girl Makeup" aligns perfectly with Rhode because the brand has always gravitated towards simplistic packaging and products that supply a softer, more natural look. Though on the outside "Clean Girl Makeup" products may appear as though they can be used by everyone, there have been clear gaps in the way makeup brands have gone about releasing products catered towards this makeup style.

Oftentimes these large makeup brands simply create products meant for people with lighter complexions and skin tones, ignoring those who do not fit into this category. While the idea of people with darker complexions being heavily ignored in the beauty industry is not a novel concept, it would appear as though, societally, have moved in the direction of progress. This, however, is not the case; the beauty community has instead been running in circles, still ignoring the concept that inclusivity is the bare minimum.

However, this is where Rhode sets itself apart. The company has been taking strides to combat exclusivity by reframing "Clean Girl Makeup" as accessible to everyone, regardless of skin tone or complexion. When Golloria George, a prolific influencer in the beauty space criticized the brand's lack of inclusivity, the brand responded to this feedback with action. On June 20, 2024, Rhode Beauty released a collection of "Pocket Blushes" intended to be worn on the cheek or lips for a "glowy finish without a greasy feel." While on the surface the blush seemed it would be open for everyone, this proved to be false.

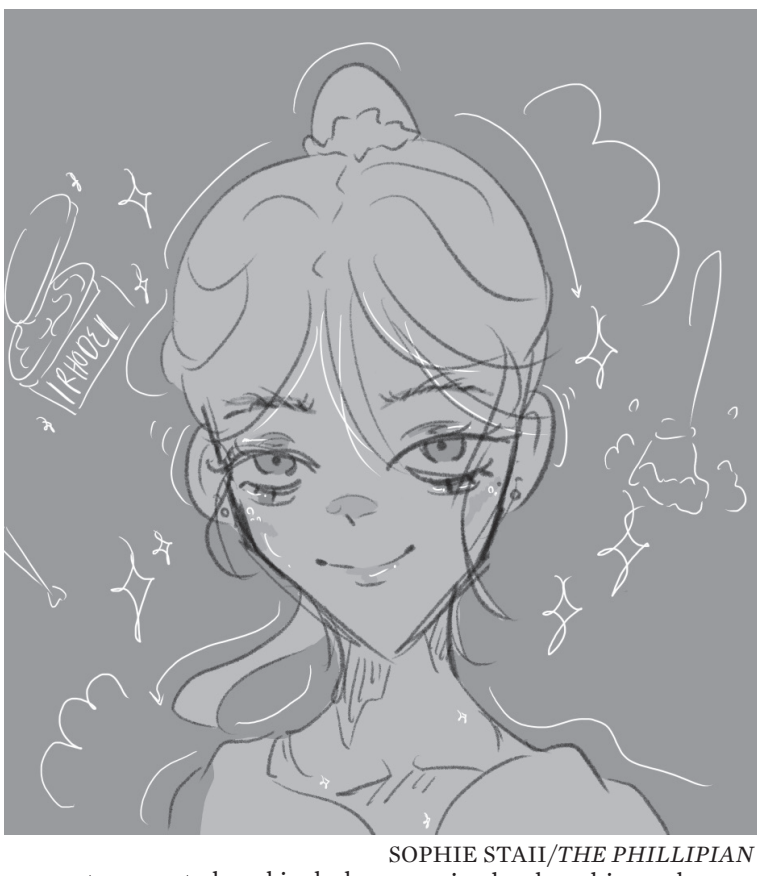
While most people with lighter complexions were raving about how well it worked for them, people with darker complexions were saying the complete opposite. George, known for reviewing products on darker complexions, claimed that instead of giving her the promised glowy, flushed look, the blush looked "ashy" on her skin tone. George then went on to state, "I just feel like in 2024 if you're gonna drop anything complexion [related] that it should be able to work for any skin tone."

While most brands would push this criticism under the rug and ignore consumer complaints, Rhode instead decided to reach out to George herself to get to the bottom of the issue. A few weeks later, Rhode released a reformulated pocket blush made to suit people with darker complexions.

"This is why you advocate for yourself," George said.

"You see what happens whenever you're not complacent? And that's what we call redemption."

When looking at this incident from an outsider's perspective, it may not appear to be a big deal; however, when we look at the way people with darker complexions have been historically ignored in the beauty industry, we can see the significance of Rhode's response to George. Instead of preserving her brand image by suppressing her complaint, Bieber used it as an opportunity to fortify her brand's inclusivity, allowing consumers of all complexions to use the product.



SOPHIE STAII/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Arts & Leisure

The Phillipian

One Hanger, Endless Possibilities: "Hanging On," an Art 600 Exhibit

HLUMA MANGCU

As members of the Andover community walk through the Gelb Gallery, they will encounter sculptures, photographs, and paintings hanging from the ceiling. Made from a variety of materials such as wire, cloth, tissue paper, and yarn, each piece tells a uniquely personal story. Despite their differences, all of these works share one common element: a black hanger.

On October 4, students enrolled in Art 600 debuted their first exhibition of the term, titled "Hanging On." Each student received a black hanger and was told to interpret the theme however they saw fit. This creative freedom allowed for personal expressions of students' lived experiences, critiques of society, and much more.

For some students, the exhibition became an outlet for personal reflection. Elise Zhang '26 created a piece titled "Fragments of Confidence," which was directly related to her identity and the importance of staying true to oneself despite adversity. Using acrylic paint to depict a confident, warm-hued face on pieces of a shattered mirror, she encapsulated the fleeting nature of confidence. The piece was created to resonate with others who grapple with the struggle of maintaining one's sense of self in difficult times.

"Everyone in the class interpreted it really differently and used different materials to create their piece and make it come to life... Something that resonated with me was the theme of hanging on to my confidence despite what life throws at me or what other people think... While I feel like there is a lot that I hang on to, confidence and some of my other personality traits are things that are very pure to me. They are what speak to me the most, which is why I was drawn to this idea for the exhibition," said Zhang.

A.LEE/*THE PHILLIPIAN*

Art 600 students were each given a black hanger and the the theme "Hanging On."

On the contrary, Ivy Randall '25's piece, "Hooked," forced the viewer to reflect on the things they hang on to, even without meaning to. More specifically, her piece criticized our generation's unhealthy dependence on technology. Designed to engage with viewers on a personal level, the piece invited personal reflection on viewers' own experiences with the internet by incorporating mirror paper, wire, and a painting that depicted the psychological effects of social media apps.

"What I hang on to the most is my phone and social media. There is a sort of literality to that because I'm always physically hanging on to my phone, but there is also a more figurative sense. Many of us hang on to the pressure of the perfect images and ideals that we see on social media. The premise of my artwork is that there is a figure that is made out of a mirror to reflect that this is a universal circumstance. When you walk by as a viewer you see yourself in the mirror and you're forced to realize that you are severely impacted by this issue," said Randall.

These student artists take great pride in their work, considering the challenges of the artistic process. Randall acknowledged how the project could have gone even better had they been more familiar with all of the materials. She shared how this made it a little difficult for her to get the ball rolling with her piece at first.

Randall said, "The most challenging part was working with the wire because it was much harder than I anticipated. My original plan was pretty one-dimensional and boring, because I was not aware of all the materials I could use. In the end, I started experimenting with color and reflection and it ended up really going together well... Ultimately though, I am really proud of how cohesively it turned out."

The exhibition was ultimately about more than just creating visually aesthetic work. As student artists navigated challenges and experimented with various materials, they not only discovered new techniques but also built meaningful connections with one another. Zhang described how the class allowed for strong bonds to be formed as she saw her fellow students' creative processes.

"This project in general, what I'm most proud of is getting close to the people in my class and seeing everybody's artistic strengths and their own expression and how deep in thought and creative all of our students' pieces were. I think seeing everybody's different [materials], it was really inspiring to see how far you could go with it, and also seeing other people's projects come to life," said Zhang.

"Joker: Folie à Deux," A Dull Descent Into Madness

EMMA HONG & ADEN HWANG

In 2019, Todd Phillips' "Joker" took the world by storm, telling the story of one of the most famous villains in pop culture. Focusing on his struggles with mental health, it dove into how Arthur Fletch, portrayed by Joaquin Phoenix, eventually becomes the laughing psychopath we know as the Joker. Rated an 8.4 on IMDb, the film won countless nominations and awards, including Joaquin Phoenix's first Academy Award for Best Actor in 2020. On October 4, a sequel was released. "Joker: Folie à Deux" explores Arthur Fletch's struggles with his mental health as he faces trial.

A key difference from the prequel is how "Joker: Folie à Deux" expresses Fletch's battles with music. At several points throughout the film, the audience sees Fletch's inner thoughts as mini-musicals inside his head. As creative as the idea is, the musical theme doesn't serve much of a purpose. It feels like a loss, considering the songs could've been used to tell a deeper story. Furthermore, despite the casting of Lady Gaga as Lee Quinzel, Fleck's newest lover and biggest fan, the film doesn't utilize her talents to their fullest potential.

In addition to the new theme, the movie diverges from the original film's unexpectedness, instead focusing on the results of Joker's actions and clearing up the picture of what really happened. However, this works against the viewer's desires, as it lacks the madness fondly associated with the Joker. In turn, the film is predictable and dull. Its themes regarding music lose their meaning as the movie goes on, almost making it feel as if it's being dragged on.

What saves the film is the excellent portrayal of the characters. Just as we saw with Joaquin Phoenix's incredible performance in 2019, his acting in the 2024 film is nothing short of spectacular. From the sinister laugh to the sorrow and gloom of Fleck, Phoenix captures every emotion meticulously. Furthermore, the actor has allegedly gone to lengths to study the character, from understanding the Joker's mental status to perfecting the clown makeup, all of which contribute to his masterful performance.

Considering its faults, it makes sense that the sequel performed worse than the original. While individual talent shines, it fails to deliver what is expected of the Joker. This might be attributed to Todd Phillips's vision for the movie, and allegedly wanting "nothing to do with DC," according to an interview from "Variety" with an inside worker. Furthermore, in an interview with "The Hollywood Reporter," he announced that he had no plans for a third movie, leaving Joker's death, Quinzel's character, and Fleck's legacy in Gotham in the dust. It's unfortunate that the unresolved elements of this universe and its connection to Batman will never be explored, leaving a bitter aftertaste for fans.

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