



## Dorms Offer Additional Visitation Hours

By ANNE BRANDES, DANIEL CHEN, ELLA MALYSA and AVA YU  
Staff Writers and Contributing Writers

To compensate for the new visitations (V's) policy's more restrictive hours, all dormitories are seeking to accommodate four extra hours of visitations per week, some by appointing additional dorm affiliates, others by increasing the duty hours of its current faculty residents.

The Academy adopted a new V's policy earlier this year, limiting all inter-dorm visits regardless of gender to specified evening hours while faculty are on duty.

Dean of Students Brooks Moriarty explained that the four-hour weekly extension of visitation hours was proposed to offset this restrictive reform — "a big shift for the school."

The administration is still in the process of hiring more dorm affiliates. They began increasing dormitory staffing last year to promote "more face-to-face time with students," and are now continuing this effort to support the extra duty hours, according to Moriarty.

Not every dorm will be receiving an affiliate, however; the Academy is prioritizing dorms whose faculty residents have already been sustaining more burdensome duty hours. Dorm heads received a handout earlier this term mandating a minimum of 12 duty sessions in a four-week period for each faculty resident in a house, between six and seven sessions for each resident in "two resident" dorms and "medium brick" dorms, and six sessions for each resident in a "large brick" dorm.

Vs. 2



Front Street residents Sam Chang, Mark Peracchia, Kei Sakano and Joe Laufer enjoy golf on Academy Life Day.

JaQ Lai/The Exonian

## Downer to Complete Trustee Tenure

By VERONICA CHOULGA, TUCKER GIBBS, BONA HONG, KRISH PATEL and FELIX YEUNG  
Staff Writers and Contributing Writers

John A. Downer '75 will depart his post as President of the Board of Trustees at the end of this academic year. Throughout his three-year tenure, Downer has overseen many changes in the Exeter community, notably the appointment of Principal William K. Rawson and the creation of a Vision Statement on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

The Board of Trustees, which currently consists of 21 alumni volunteers, oversees the Academy's long-term development as well as its physical and financial resources. While not intimately involved in Exeter's day-to-day ongoing, the trustees are influential administrators who inform the Academy's priorities and institutional trajectory.

Downer clarified that the three-year cap on his tenure was dictated in a joint agreement made upon his election in 2017, though this decision was not publicized at the time. "My departure is neither premature nor unscheduled. The timing of my retirement was identified three years ago, and I will be concluding my service on that timeline," Downer said.

Downer's term length is comparable to that of his six predecessors since Byron A. Rose '59, who served from 1999-2002. Keeping with convention, Downer will simultaneously conclude his 13-year tenure on the Board of Trustees when he retires from his post as President.

TRUSTEE, 3

## Jewish Community Celebrates Rosh Hashanah, Classes Cancelled

By TOBY CHAN, KAYLEE CHEN, TINA HUANG and CHIEKO IMAMURA  
Staff Writers and Contributing Writers

In celebration of Rosh Hashanah, the Academy canceled Monday classes, allowing time for Jewish Exonians to observe their faith—a novel decision in Academy history.

Rosh Hashanah, the first day of the Jewish new year, is celebrated on the first and second days of the Hebrew month of Tishrei. The two-day celebration is a time to celebrate the joy of the past year and hope for peace and

prosperity in the next.

When creating this year's schedule, Director of Studies Scott Saltman incorporated the free Monday to coincide with Rosh Hashanah. "I created a draft of the calendar and shared it with several stakeholders," Saltman explained. "Principal Rawson recognized the hardship that having classes on Rosh Hashanah creates for our Jewish students and supported this break in our routine."

Jewish Exonians were grateful for the time given to observe the holiday. "It's a big holiday for us the way it would be Christmas or Easter for Christians,"

Religion Instructor Jennifer Marx-Asch said. This is reflected in the plans that Exeter had for Rosh Hashanah this year, which included a festive meal with food, worship services and traditional holiday prayers.

In previous years, Jewish students have had to choose between going to classes and celebrating Rosh Hashanah. "[I ask myself] am I gonna skip classes and maybe fall behind so I can observe a holiday or am I going to prioritize my academics and maybe feel guilty about it?" upper Caleb Richmond said. "I think that this really cuts out that kind

of bad gut feeling."

"This requires a balance and thoughtful decisions about what we value," Saltman explained. "We don't want students or adults to have to choose between attending classes and observing their faith."

Richmond elaborated on the challenges of missing classes for Rosh Hashanah at Exeter. "My middle school wasn't very academically rigorous, so I could miss a day," Richmond said, "Whereas at Exeter, if you've been sick or missed a day of classes, it's pretty

ROSH HASHANAH, 2

## PEA Students Recite Poetry on Gun Violence

By ANNE BRANDES, LINA HUANG, NEHA NEDUMARAN and SAFIRA SCHIOWITZ  
Staff Writers and Contributing Writers

Snaps echoed throughout the Lamont Gallery as students, illuminated in a spotlight and surrounded by peers and faculty, recited poetry addressing gun violence. Hosted in the *American Mortal* exhibit, the event spurred reflection on domestic and international fire weaponry.

The poetry reading, inspired by the poetry book *Bullets Into Bells: Poets & Citizens Respond to Gun Violence*, featured 25 lowers from English Instructor Mercedes Carbonell's classes and seven upperclassmen from other classes.

The performance was a product of a collaboration between Carbonell and Lamont Gallery Director and Curator Lauren O'Neal to "bring more arts into the community in a more spontaneous way." Additionally, Carbonell had hoped "to bring social justice into the classroom more intentionally."



Senior Alisha Simmons performs.

Courtesy of the Communications Office

After a fraught summer of "too many mass shootings" including White Swan, St. Louis County, Gilroy, El Paso and Dayton, Carbonell decided to teach *Bullets Into Bells: Poets & Citizens Respond to Gun Violence* for the second time. From past experiences, Carbonell was reminded of gun violence and its consequences.

"I had entered into conversations with friends and family as we remembered those we knew who had been affected by gun violence: my grandmother's neighbor, my grandmother who wore a 'Ban Hand Guns' pin on every jacket she ever owned, a father in my hometown who killed his chil-

dren, his wife and himself, my field hockey/lacrosse teammate and art friend in high-school who took her life; after Orlando, the active shooter training I went through as one of the organizers for Portsmouth Pride, the lives of too many black and brown and queer people I never knew and how those killings were affecting the people I teach with, work with and love," Carbonell said.

After these conversations, the reading, spoken word and art addressed "America in pain" and the pain abroad, according to Carbonell. "I would like to see us extend the

BULLETS INTO BELLS, 3

## Town of Exeter Hosts Racial Unity Day

By MOKSHA AKIL, ERIN CHOI and ANYA TANG  
Staff Writers and Contributing Writer

"I have a dream..."

A woman at the town gazebo begins singing Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 speech from the Exeter Town Hall. Townspeople gather nearby in pitched tents, offering face-painting, bracelet-making, and pamphlets about Exeter's history. Racial Unity Day is in full swing, and Project Manager Ken Mendis stops by each tent to make sure everything is going as planned.

Last Saturday, Sep. 28, the town of Exeter hosted its 5th annual Racial Unity Day and engaged in art showcases, musical performances, discussions and historic walking tours.

The idea for a Racial Unity Day started after the 2015 Charleston shooting, where a white shooter killed nine black people in a Charleston church, Mendis said. "What's important about churches in the south is that the churches are the sanctuary for black people in South Carolina," Mendis explained. "After the memorial service [in Exeter], I was sitting there in the pews, and I said, 'That's it? Nine people died. What else can we do?'"

Thus, Mendis created a Racial Unity Team

RACIAL UNITY, 3

## INSIDE

### CORRECTIONS

The *Exonian* misreported that Director of Institutional Advancement Morgan Dudley led DEI discussions during Exeter Leadership Weekend. In fact, Director of Equity and Inclusion Stephanie Bramlett was the facilitator. The *Exonian* apologizes for this error.

### OPINIONS

Lower Maxine Park criticizes V's policy for not addressing systemic "consent" culture at Exeter. 4.

Upper Jonathan Meng emphasizes the valuable impact of small actions in preventing climate change. 5.

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### SPORTS

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## WEB



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# Academy Life Day Activities Promote Dorm Bonding

By DAVID CHEN, ERIN CHOI, JEANNIE EOM and CLARK WU  
Staff Writers and Contributing Writers

Hoyt residents churned out t-shirts on the art studio's printing presses with bright blue and orange text, while Main Street Hall sprinted around the football stadium in an exciting game of capture the flag. Meanwhile, Front Street took over the Hilltop Fun Center's go-karts and mini golf courses, and Webster went to Wallis Sands Beach following dorm tradition.

These are only four examples of what dorms did together last Wednesday evening and Thursday morning as part of Academy Life Day (ALD) events. From on-campus mug painting to off-campus excursions to the apple orchards and beaches, proctors and faculty planned activities that fit their budgets and specific interests.

Wheelwright Hall hosted a High School Musical-themed field day with randomly assigned teams to encourage bonding across grades. Dressed in red, blue and pink, their residents relayed soaked sponges across the field to fill solo cups with water and sprinted to find their shoe.

Senior and Wheelwright proctor Addie Graham appreciated how through these events, she was able to connect with a variety of peers. "For me, the dorm is my family," she said. "So I see

ALD as an opportunity to get new students excited to have Wheelwright as their new home, and to strengthen the bonds between all students."

Hoyt Hall residents took over the printmaking studio and created their own t-shirts. Senior and Hoyt proctor Annabel Lee attested to how well the activity suited the purpose of the day: inclusive, easy communal relaxation. "The great thing about printmaking is that you don't have to be super experienced to make something that looks cool, and I think that everyone had a fun time," she said. "There was a great vibe in the room throughout the whole [event]."

Other dorms spent time off campus. Langdell Hall visited a corn maze on Wednesday night before making pancakes and completing a scavenger hunt the next morning, and Gould House went apple picking in Hampton.

Planning for Academy Life Day began at different times for each dorm. English Instructor and Webster Hall dorm head Alex Myers began preparing and had booked transportation before school had begun.

Transportation Coordinator Daisy Jobarteh said that there was no set deadline for when dorms should request ALD transportation. However, it was provided on a first come, first serve basis.

Jobarteh said that 19 dorms requested transportation, and that it was completely unavailable for one of these

dorms "due to the hours of departure and return they preferred." The school used 11 school buses, one coach bus, two vans, two minivans and three red dragons for ALD events.

Still, some dorms had to modify their plans quite close to the day due to transportation limitations. Wheelwright changed their plan from an off-campus trip to an on-campus field day with "four days" notice because of bus availability, according to Graham. Langdell moved their corn maze trip from Thursday morning to Wednesday night for similar reasons.

Nonetheless, regardless of such logistical challenges, boarding and day student Exonians had fun and unique experiences.

Main Street upper Thomas Guo noted that the event served as a unique venue to bond with day student affiliates; his dorm played capture the flag at the football stadium and enjoyed a faculty-run cookout. "I actually got to meet more day student affiliates, who don't usually spend much time in the dorm," Guo said. "During the cookout, we sat around together and talked, and afterwards, we had fun playing spikeball together."

Emily Wang, a returning lower in Bancroft Hall hopes ALD will encourage day student affiliates to spend more time with boarders. Bancroft spent the day painting mugs for one another in

their common room. "More day students showed up than I expected, which was great," Wang noted.

Senior and Front Street House proctor Grant Gooddall, who has an advisor not affiliated with his dorm, participated in an activity with his advisory group and a larger scale activity with his dorm. As a day student, Gooddall explained, "You both have these rambunctious, large activities you can do as a big group or a smaller, more intimate get together where you can talk about stuff is going. I [had] a smaller dinner with my advisor and the other advisees at the end of Thursday."

For many Exonians including senior and Webster proctor Jack Liu, the level of freedom given to each dorm allowed for a very carefree atmosphere. "The dorms do a very good job of providing a nice fun day ... it's organic," Liu said. "Academy Life Day is one of the only days where you don't have to think about being at Exeter. You're just thinking about being with your friends in your dorm."

Senior and Main Street proctor Sam Kim concluded that Academy Life Day has always been—and will continue to be—an important day for Exonians to start life-long relationships and memories. "Academy Life Day is some of my favorite times of fall term; I always feel like people are a lot closer together afterwards and I think it's a great day for everyone all around," he said.

## Students Press for Religious Inclusion

Continued from [ROSH HASHANAH, 1](#)

hard to [bounce] back."

On Monday, Rosh Hashanah services were held by Marx-Asch in the morning at Phillips Church. "Rabbi did a really great job," co-head of the Exeter Jewish Community (EJC) and upper Rachel Saltman said. "She always has. It was a really beautiful service and she gave me a very calming and relaxing feeling."

Lower Elizabeth Bolker commended Marx-Asch for incorporating community-building and educational activities into the day. "She does things to make it accessible for people who have grown up Jewish or people who are maybe just looking around for the first time."

Additionally, different activities occurred throughout the day—including brunch, ceramic pot painting and a Tashlich ritual which involves throwing bread crumbs into a body of water, symbolizing a casting away of past sins before a new year.

Many students consider Tashlich as a time to relax and bond with friends. "Sometimes we get a little feisty," said Rachel Saltman. "We throw some stale bread at each other. I think that's pretty fun."

Many members of the Exeter Jewish Community feel more connected to their religion at the Academy than at their previous schools. "It seems a lot tighter here than it was back home in Chicago," EJC co-head and upper Adam Tuchler said.

Students lauded the Academy for continuing to encourage diversity. "I definitely think that at public schools they're less accepting of that," upper Eliya Toledano said. "The calendar re-

volves around the Christian holidays... but I feel as if at Exeter they want everyone to be included."

Students hope that the administration will continue to recognize holidays in other religions. "Diwali was very important, but we didn't get that day off," lower Mana Vale said. "My family and I only had 30 minutes to spend with each other because of school." Vale continued, "There are several other religions that are practiced and they do not get recognized by the school the same way that Rosh Hashanah was this year ... There are other religions that deserve the same recognition."

Senior Kileidria Aguilar agreed, saying, "I would hope that in the future religious holidays are respected regardless of which faith one upholds." She continued, "Equity and inclusion, to me, go hand in hand, thus holidays of the Islam faith should be respected regardless of the number of students who follow the religion. I hope that more students feel, through this example, that faith is an important aspect of some Exonians' life and have the confidence to express their religious needs."

In the future, both faculty and students look forward to expanding the festivities. "I'm very glad to have Rosh Hashanah off and hopefully this is just one step in the right direction and they will eventually give Yom Kippur off," Bolker said.

In addition, Marx-Asch hopes that, "in future times, the greater Exeter community can join in on the festivities and create opportunities for everyone to set their intentions for the year because I think that's a really lovely way to start the academic year."

## Faculty Discuss Extended V's

Continued from [Vs, 1](#)

Dean of Residential Life Carol Cahalane admitted the potential shortcomings of this policy. "Do I think this is a perfect measure? No, I don't," she said. "However, it is the measure we are working with right now."

Faculty residents who do not currently meet their respective minimums will take on the four extra visitation duty hours themselves, without the help of an additional affiliate. For example, Webster's staff are offering to serve extended hours as their current count is less than that of similar dorms, according to dorm head Alex Myers said.

Kirtland House, meanwhile, with six student residents and four affiliates, will be assigned an additional affiliate next week, according to dorm head Courtney Marshall. "Once she is in place, we'll be able to have even more extended visitation offerings," Marshall said.

In Langdell Hall, which has 40 students and 6 affiliates, extra hours are assigned on a rotation. "The way we do extended V's is we rotate and whoever's on duty [on] Saturday offers 4 extra hours of visitations during the week," English Instructor and dorm head Patricia Burke said.

Whether a dorm is granted a new affiliate or just assigns extra duty hours to a current resident, faculty hope that increased interaction between adults and students will benefit the Exeter community. "I think it's nice for students to know that adults are accessible even if we're not sitting in the common room—that we are here if you have a question or a problem or you just want to talk," Burke said.

Yet, despite extended visitations,

community members are still debating changes in the new V's policy. Modern Languages Instructor and Dow House dorm head Amadou Talla questioned the efficacy of the reforms, saying, "I am not sure the whole policy will necessarily promote healthier relationships. We will have to try it out and see."

He echoed Burke's belief, however, that the addition of new faculty within the dorm would create a stronger and more diverse dorm environment. "This new affiliate brings a different set of experiences and perspectives that the kids in the dorm and the Day Students can benefit from," he said.

Science Instructor Michael McLaughlin, meanwhile, believes that students should be permitted to get visitations beyond faculty duty hours. "I would suggest open visitations between 10 a.m. and check-in, where students sign in and out using a smartphone app," he said. "I would not require a faculty presence in the building." He acknowledged, however, that the practicality of such a policy would require "consultations with our in-house counsel and the administrative staff responsible for contracting our liability insurance."

Marshall questioned if there may be other spaces on campus that are more appropriate for students to convene in. "I didn't grow up in a culture where people invited guests into their bedrooms; guests met in living rooms, kitchen, etc.," she said.

The Academy will assess the impact of distributing new faculty affiliates among dorms before deciding on a permanent, long-term arrangement that allows students to connect with their peers in residential spaces within the guidelines of the new V's policy.

## Community Members Address Gun Violence Through Spoken Word

Continued from [BULLETS INTO BELLS, 1](#)

conversation beyond the domestic, yet America has a distinct crisis to face or rather a series of crises," she said. "In the collection, many of the poems center on the ways in which white supremacy, institutionalized racism, homophobia and misogyny—as well as the cruelty of certain kinds of capitalism—are at the core of the gun violence crisis and those echoes ring out cleanly and clearly, revealing the hideous wounds of American culture."

The Lamont Gallery's exhibit featured artwork with "themes of patriotism, war and commemoration in our current cultural environment," O'Neal said. She added that *Bullets Into Bells* connected the art pieces to classes, clubs and the broader community. "We ... encourage collaborations, including those that amplify and extend exhibition themes."

Carbonell's students visited the gallery beforehand to consider how artists were examining America. "Had that not been the exhibit, I still would have taught *Bullets Into Bells* ... the exhibit was that feeling of someone telling you, 'Yes, you are on the right path,'" Carbonell said.

Students across campus gravitated

towards the mission of the reading and how it touched on various aspects of the broader issue at hand. Lower Jacqueline Luque, for example, used statistics in her performance to illustrate her claims against gun violence. "Did you know that there have been 25 mass shootings in this month alone?" she asked. "Statistics like those can hit you really hard."

However, as lower Oscair Page noted, the reading accomplished more than just relaying statistics. "We can relate to the stories expressed through poems and art and we begin to think of people affected by gun violence as real people with individual stories rather than just more numbers on a chart," Page said.

Lower Siona Jain felt that ensuring the reading was apolitical made performance more effective. "I think we were avoiding politics and, instead, honoring those who had their lives taken by a tiny but deadly piece of metal," she said. "I hope, with much of the community attending, we can spur conversations on gun control in clubs."

While some students read directly out of *Bullets Into Bells*, some, like lower Isaac Saunders, read their own poetry. For Saunders, an installation in *American Mortals* inspired his original

work. "When I saw that piece, a pile of matches representing civilian deaths illuminated in the gallery's lights, I knew I was going to write about it," he said. "I think that expressing work like this, which means a lot to my military family, is a very important opportunity."

Another reader, lower Sabrina Kearney, presented a painting that accompanied her selected poem. "I think that it is very important for poets and artists to express their opinions through their art because it touches people in a unique way," Kearney said.

For lower Lekha Masoudi, the reading highlighted the extent to which gun violence affects people across various demographics. "I think poetry really emphasized to me how deep those wounds are," she said. "It's not just for survivors or their families, but also just for average Americans who think they could be shot or for people of color who feel they can't trust the police at this point, because of all the police violence and racism in our society."

Reflecting upon her experience, upper Nahla Owens believed that this emotion is a product of expressing pain in a creative manner. "I feel like there's something about performance art in particular which makes people remember it," Owens said. "I think it's

because it sticks with people so much that it becomes a reason for dialogue to continue."

Lower Kiese Nanor hopes the reading will inspire more poetry and conversation. "I hope that the Exeter community will receive the reading with sensitivity, and they will be inspired to either learn more about gun violence or try to see what they can do as individuals or a community to speak out against gun violence across America," Nanor said.

Though affecting change at a young age can be difficult, the poetry reading could still spark action, lower Shep Seba expressed. "I personally think I am too young to make a huge impact, but if one person hears one thing, then they can make one change which leads to one success, which leads to one new thing in the lives of others," Seba said.

"I believe in social justice as a central pulse in curricular work," Carbonell concluded. "I would love a chance for us to explore the moments when, as educators, we are being called to stand in solidarity with our students, with national movements, when we are being called to speak out and participate in social justice activism. How might we consider social justice activism as a part of 'non-sibi'?"



# Preps Elect Cai, Holtz, Kim as Class Representatives

By TUCKER GIBBS, LINA HUANG and CLARK WU  
Staff Writer and Contributing Writers

This Tuesday, the class of 2023 elected Tony Cai, Charlie Holtz and David Kim as prep representatives in Student Council.

Student Council president and senior Ayush Noori emphasizes the role prep reps hold in connecting the prep community to Student Council. “Prep reps are the mouthpiece for the prep class. They’re responsible for communicating Council decisions and the outcome of Council meetings to their classmates, advocating for preps in Council meetings and voicing feedback from their peers,” he said.

Secretary and Upper JaQ Lai underscored the value of the perspectives that preps offer. “As students who are experiencing Exeter for the first time ... prep reps bring fresh ideas ... to council, and often remind us to consider experiences that might already be distant in the memories of older members,” he said.

Student Council Adviser Laura Marshall echoed Lai, noting that preps bring new ideas. “Sometimes, it’s easy to just step into the same patterns that we do all the time, and continue to do things the same way. Sometimes it just takes a question from someone new to say, ‘So why do you do it that way?’ And then people think, ‘Oh, we haven’t really thought about it,’” she said.

Holtz’s campaign focused on alleviating student stress, whether by initiatives such as decreasing homework or creating events such as parties. “I think somebody’s got to do it and have the voice to do it,” he said. After hearing the results, Holtz felt able to step into the position. “I feel like I’m ready to represent the entire prep class and I want to get some work done,” he said.

Kim emphasized his intent to form connections with older council members. “I don’t want to separate us from everyone else,” he explained. “I’m going to connect with lowers, uppers and seniors, and help with their resolutions in StuCo too.”

Meanwhile, Cai wanted to push extensions to check-in time and changes to the V’s policy. “We cannot do too much about this so far, because we are prep reps, but I’m sure that by working with Student Council as a group, we can try to see what we can do and come up with a plan,” he said.

However, upper and former prep rep Yunseo Choi expressed that prep reps should not expect to affect large degrees of change on campus. “Prep reps, realistically, are very short on platform; candidates should know they can’t change the V’s policy. These big things that people put on their posters, [are] just not going to happen,” she said, “I hope that—whoever’s running—can focus on more realistic small ideas.”

Class representatives are responsible for voicing their class’s opinions, voting

on proposals and planning events to facilitate student bonding. Last year’s prep reps planned events such as cookies and milk, bubble tea egg hunt, class picnics and created an Instagram account to promote those activities.

This year’s reps have already proposed a prep ice cream social. “There needs to be an occasion where we can gather as a whole class and have fun,” Cai said.

This, however, is the second year in a row with a lack of female representation in the prep rep position. Elections Committee head and senior Serene DeSisso recalled that, in her prep year, only one girl—senior Mai Hoang—ran. “Although I was elated that Mai would represent us, I remember also wishing that other girls would too. I can imagine that current girl preps feel the same,” she said. “Still, I am extremely proud of the guys that ran for this position and the determination that they showed.”

In order to represent those identities, Cai plans to send out anonymous surveys of preps’ suggestions, similarly to what he did during his campaign, where he received around 100 responses. “Representation is where you collect ideas from individuals,” he said.

Elections are typically located in the Elizabeth Phillips Commons, where Student Council members run the preps’ electronic voting. This year, the Elections committee added an additional booth in Elm during lunch for the purpose of increasing voter turnout. “As someone who has lived on South Side for my entire four years, I appreciate the comfort of being able to stay on South Side while still being involved with Student Council,” DeSisso explained. Last year, prep rep elections had a 53 percent turnout; this percentage was the highest out of any Student Council election last year, but the committee is still working to increase voter turnout.

For lower and former prep rep Otto Do, the most lasting impact of being a prep rep was his strong connection with his class. “From events, some people showed up who I never knew, but I started talking to these new people, just getting their names and chatting. Small communications helped me get to know people,” he said.

Kim recognizes this. “I hope to advance preps while respecting seniors and, knowing my position, I know that I’ll be mostly helping other people in StuCo to push their agenda,” he said.

Ninth grade coordinator Tyler Caldwell, meanwhile, has worked with prep reps to organize and publicize prep events, and recognizes the value of the goals they are able to achieve. “The work of the prep rep is particularly important because they help set the tone for the year as the class attempts to figure out their collective identity or the type of community they would like to foster,” he says. “I am sure every candidate will bring something unique and helpful to

# Exeter Residents Seek to Raise Racial Awareness

Continued from RACIAL UNITY, 1

of people who shared his mission “to connect people to people, and to have a conversation.”

Board member Derek Haddad elaborated on the goal of Racial Unity Day. “We want more white people to come and talk about their white privilege and really learn and think about and grow with us,” he said.

Haddad agreed with Mendis that the team tries to bring community members together through various activities that spur the discussions and action. “We want them to come to racial unity festival to feel part of the community,” he said, “And for white people in our community, we want them to come [to the] racial community festival to really talk more and learn more and grow with us in building a more just and equitable society.”

A unique aspect of Racial Unity Day has been its focus on the town of Exeter’s history and the evolution of its racial dynamic.

In 1790, Exeter had the highest population of free black men in New Hampshire, with a 4.8 percent black population; many black Revolutionary War veterans settled in the town. For art show volunteer Renay Allen, a significant question regarding achieving racial unity in Exeter was, “Why that isn’t the case any more?” According to United States Census Bureau data, Exeter’s population is now only 1.3 percent black.

The historic walking tours, which ran throughout the day, took participants through various points of pride and shame in the town’s racial history. While the Town Hall was the place of Abraham Lincoln’s abolitionist speech in 1860, Exeter’s cotton mill refused to hire black employees throughout the 19th century. Similarly, the Ioka Theater, which opened in 1915, advertised its first showing, *Birth of a Nation*, by sending two horsemen through town in KKK robes.

Mendis elaborated that the tour was significant since it acknowledged concrete impacts of racism in Exeter. “Exeter has a history of displaced minorities: the blacks, the Native Americans, etc. There was a Chinese person here [who] was displaced because he couldn’t bring his family here [because of the Chinese Exclusion Act],” he said. “All of these things are not good for the city, so that’s why we take the tour to educate the community as to what they have done, before moving forward.”

In the present, both the town of Exeter and the state of New Hampshire have had

numerous instances of racial strife, from the illegal detention of Jordanian immigrant Bashar Awawdeh by the Exeter Police Department this year, to the racial slurs targeted towards people of color on the streets, to instances of race-based bullying in schools around the state. Notably, two years prior in Claremont, NH, just 90 miles from Exeter, a group of teenagers taunted a 9-year-old black boy with racial slurs and pushed him off a picnic table with a rope around his neck, instigating state-wide discussion.

In light of such school incidents, the team hosted a workshop about raising children to be race conscious. The group is also working with the school district superintendent to prevent intentional and unintentional race-based aggressions, according to Joy Mendis, one of the founding members and the wife of Ken Mendis. “These incidents have brought to the forefront a need to make some changes within the school districts. Ken is working ... to make sure that kids are taught not to do this and to monitor this,” she said. “We are also working to change the social studies curriculum so that history is taught correctly.”

Attendees of the event expressed that the day’s activities provided insight into the racial history of the town of Exeter and solutions to the injustices that people face every day.

“[Racial Unity Day] is providing a necessary service to provide people the opportunity to discuss issues that are somewhat uncomfortable, but more importantly they are providing the opportunity to have this discussion,” attendee Rogers Johnson explained. “This is something that is necessary in order for progress.”

Nina Jones, who also attended Racial Unity Day, echoed Johnson’s opinion. “I think we have to be intentional about encouraging people to open up doors and expand their understanding, and Racial Unity Day is creating the opportunity for this.”

Ken Mendis concluded that Exeter is simply a microcosm of the state, and that local racial dynamics are a reflection of a larger issue. “Exeter is not too different than the entire state. When you’re looking at a state of 1.3 million people and you have the total number of black people in this state be 15,000 people, you get a general feel of what the problem is,” he said. “Until we can increase that diversity, nothing’s going to change. But in order to have that conversation, we need to have events like this.”



Holtz, Kim and Cai will represent the prep class.

Maegan Paul/The Exonian

# Downer Oversees Creation of New Trustee Task Forces

Continued from TRUSTEE, 1

The insight and contributions of the President is critical to the Academy’s operations. “The President of the Board leads and manages the board in all its duties, including setting annual goals for its work, maintaining focus on the Board’s top strategic priorities [and] making sure appropriate board policies are in place,” Rawson said, adding that he maintains a close working relationship with Downer through weekly communication.

His endowment of the Downer Family Fitness Center being just one example, Downer has showcased remarkable generosity and commitment to the good of the Academy in his tenure. “Mr. Downer brings a particularly keen eye to financial issues, cares deeply about access and affordability and has been a strong voice on those issues,” Rawson said, describing the trustees’ approval of the Director of Equity and Inclusion position among others as “significant accomplishments” under Downer’s leadership.

Downer has appointed two trustees to lead discussions identifying necessary qualities in the Board’s new leadership. Rawson anticipates that Downer’s successor will be elected in October from the current board of sitting trustees—as dictated in the Trustee Bylaws—which will grant Downer’s successor ample time to prepare before officially assuming their duties next July.

Trustees themselves are selected through a meticulous process led by the Committee on Trustees, which maintains a short list of potential candidates to be voted on by the entire board at

upcoming meetings. A new trustee will be selected to take Downer’s place after his departure.

The Academy’s priorities when selecting trustees is different from those of its peer institutions. “Unlike other institutions, we do not prioritize development capacity to identify a candidate, but express the desire that Trustees make the Academy a foremost philanthropic priority,” Exeter’s latest governance review reads. “We place a premium on an individual’s level of commitment and capacity to devote significant time and attention to the needs of the school. Trustees are not paid for their service nor given any tuition remission.” Diversity in all areas is also a priority for the Committee on Trustees.

Downer anticipates that commitment will be the primary factor that determines who next serves as President. “The Trustees, I believe, will be seeking candidates who demonstrate a thorough understanding of—and passionate belief in—the school: its values, its goals, its people, its mission, how it is lead and how it is managed,” he said.

Downer has indeed proven such convictions throughout his tenure. Governance Review and Mission Statement, two new trustee task forces recently created under Downer’s leadership, serve as another testament to his commitment to affirming the Academy’s values and institutional priorities.

The Mission Statement Task Force arose out of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges’ re-accreditation process. “The feeling was

expressed that we have a strong and compelling mission, reflected in our deed of gift and current mission statement, but that we needed a shorter, more concise statement of the mission of our school,” Rawson said. “[This would be] one that could more readily be displayed on campus and in school literature and as a result be more readily kept at the forefront of our minds.”

Rawson currently chairs the Mission Statement Task Force, which consists of Biology Instructor Anne Rankin, Director of Studies Scott Saltman, Director of Exeter Summer Russell Weatherspoon, former trustee Nina Russell and trustees Peter Scocimara and Claudine Gay.

Meanwhile, the Governance Review Task Force will clarify the distribution of responsibilities among trustees, administration and faculty. “The accreditation process identified the fact that nearly 10 years had passed since the Academy undertook an examination of its governance structure, an examination which culminated in the preparation and publication of the attached report,” Downer said. “[It] is a most worthwhile exercise to map out anew that distribution of authority and responsibility so that there is a clear and shared understanding of each stakeholder’s ... role in the various spheres of responsibility within the community.”

The Governance Task Group is chaired by trustee Deidre O’Byrne, who will be supported by History Instructor Cameron Brickhouse, Dean of Faculty Ellen Wolff, Assistant Principal Karen Lassey, Music Instructor Rohan Smith,

Classics Instructor Paul Langford, Biology Instructor Richard Aaronian, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Stephanie Bramlett, English Instructor Wei-Ling Woo and trustees Claudine Gay, Sally Michaels, Wole Coaxum and Downer.

These task forces are of vital importance to the Academy. “Both the updated Mission Statement and the Governance Task Force’s report will serve as documents vital to the objectives of ensuring that every member of the community ... has a clear understanding of the community,” Downer said, “[whether it be] its mission: who we are, what do we stand for, what do we value ... [or] a shared understanding of the role, responsibility and authority of the trustees, Principal, administration and faculty in the leadership and management of the school.”

Rawson added, “Mr. Downer and I discussed the membership of each group, to make sure we had good balance and diversity as a whole, but he took primary responsibility for inviting trustee membership, and I took primary responsibility for inviting on-campus membership.”

Downer’s retirement will be a significant loss for the Academy, as it parts with a devoted leader who has contributed much to community life in his 13 years of service. “Mr. Downer has worked tirelessly for the school as a trustee, and particularly in recent years as Board President,” Rawson said. “He has been a terrific thought partner for me. Helping the school through a leadership transition requires considerable thought and effort.”



## Pushing for a Need-Blind Admissions Process

**David Chen**  
Guest Contributor

In his opening remarks, Principal William Rawson reminded the school body of the Academy's history and its continued effort to be more inclusive. Since its decision 49 years ago to become co-educational, Exeter has redefined its original vision. It now not only includes the school's commitment to guaranteeing a diverse inclusive community, but also promotes being challenged by thoughts and identities that are different through the Harkness method.

An important component of that diversity is the racial ratios of school: a contentious issue that has wracked academia for the past fifty-odd years. While Exeter ranks relatively well compared to high schools across the nation, it still falls short of the mission racial diversity aims to achieve. There's a lot more the Academy can be doing for those of lower

others. Whites are slightly underrepresented, Ibero-Americans are massively underrepresented and Asians are extraordinarily overrepresented. Of course, these discrepancies are shaped in part by the presence of international students. Still,

**However, some people have misinterpreted the school to be need-blind, as 45% of students attending are on aid. While that percentage may sound impressive, Exeter does not have a need-blind policy. For those reasons, we fail to make this school truly accessible to all.**

they make up only 7.8% of the school.

In any case, rather than questioning if the school's ratios should represent that of the United States or New Hampshire—which is 91% white—we should be examining the kind of students that make up those percentages.

Understandably, without financial aid, the cost of attendance is expensive at Exeter. The school stands out with almost \$22 million of its endowment set aside to support students who need financial aid. However, some people have misinterpreted the school to be need-blind, as 45% of students attending are on aid. While that percentage may sound impressive, Exeter does not have a need-blind policy. For those reasons, we fail to make this school truly accessible to all.

Whether or not you need financial

**Most elite colleges (and Phillips Academy, Andover) have a need-blind policy. The reasons for this are many, but all in all comes down to the belief that merit outweighs a person's ability to pay.**

aid affects your application to the Academy. Most elite colleges (and Phillips Academy Andover) have a need-blind

policy. The reasons for this are many, but all in all comes down to the belief that merit outweighs a person's ability to pay. Under a need-blind agenda, an applicant's need for financial aid would not be considered in their overall application. Yet, while I do believe the school reflects those values—the belief that merit outweighs a family's affluence—the Academy doesn't operate under any kind of similar policy. I don't understand why this isn't a bigger conversation on campus.

Say there's one candidate that has the same qualifications as another candidate. Only, one of them wouldn't cost the school as much to attend, their family being more affluent. It's obvious who the Academy would accept, and who the school wouldn't: the school says it out-right. They prefer the affluent.

Sure, there might be reasons why Exeter hasn't already adopted a need-blind policy. The money could be used to hire more faculty members who reflect the school's diversity, or it could be spent on another set of unnecessary library renovations. But as emphasized by Principal Rawson earlier this year, Exeter has a

commitment to diversity and inclusion. We thrive on being challenged and on building bridges across differences. Only then are we able to "dispel ignorance and fear, and create space to achieve equity and excellence."

**But as emphasized by Principal Rawson earlier this year, Exeter has a commitment to diversity and inclusion. We thrive on being challenged and on building bridges across differences. Only then are we able to "dispel ignorance and fear, and create space to achieve equity and excellence."**

If we truly believe in those words, the vision of diversity, equity and inclusion, then a new initiative needs to be undertaken. The school can only become a community of greater diversity when it becomes accessible to all. Excellence today requires nothing less.

**Since its decision 49 years ago to become co-educational, Exeter has redefined its original vision. It now not only includes the school's commitment to guaranteeing a diverse inclusive community, but also promotes the idea of being challenged by thoughts and identities that are different through the Harkness method.**

socioeconomic status, and even more through its admissions process.

It's also important to recognize, though racial demographics are significant, they aren't the only factor we should take into consideration when talking about inclusion. The racial distribution of the Academy is as follows: around 50% white, 25% Asian, 10% black, 5% Ibero-American and 10% miscellaneous and other. The racial breakdown of the United States, however, differs in that 60% of its population is white, 5% are Asian, 10% are black, 20% are Ibero-American and 5% are miscellaneous and

## Is Four That Much More?

**Maxine Park '21**  
Guest Contributor

We are Exeter. This tagline is splashed across our social media platforms and chanted at our sporting events. But when we say this, what is the character of our community that we are trying to convey?

For the past few weeks, administrators, faculty and students have debated the merits and consequences of the new controversial visitation policy. Our administration recently decided to extend visitation hours by four hours per week. While the additional four hours is an improvement over the current policy, the question remains as to whether it addresses the policy's underlying tensions. Does it sufficiently help us reach the goal of having a truly inclusive school policy? Does it provide enough time and enough privacy in dorms to foster rich friendships? Does it address the fundamental disconnect between the administration and student body?

But perhaps most importantly: What does the visitation policy signal about who we are as Exonians—both to ourselves and to the world? Is this really the Exeter we want to convey to prospective students? To parents, alumni and donors?

My most memorable moments from prep year are those I spent bonding with

friends in my dorm room. From discussing family issues and schoolwork anxieties to games and light-hearted gossip, my closest friendships sprung from the accumulation of these short and spontaneous, yet frequent and intimate, hangouts. The new visitation policy makes it difficult to spend time, outside of group meals and weekends, with my closest friends who live in other dorms.

The quest for gender-inclusivity has come at the expense of developing the diverse relationships which define the Exeter experience. Presumably, our current culture surrounding affirmative consent and healthy relationships necessitates constant supervision.

An additional four hours can never compare to the 70+ hours available last year for same-gendered friends to visit each others' dorms, but it is a meaningful increase to the current policy. We should not overlook the fact that these hours are made possible by dorm faculty's commitment to sacrifice four hours of their personal time. However, the underlying issue—the administration's lack of trust in the student body due to our consent culture—is not an issue easily solved. Certainly not by a simple addition of four hours.

Culture is by definition founded on the consistency of practice and belief. In some ways, we may argue that our "consent cul-

ture" is barely a culture at all. The numerous controversies regarding sexual misconduct in recent years have exposed the widespread conviction that we lack secure, well-defined practices and beliefs around affirmative consent and healthy relationships. And our discussion of these topics is by no means consistent—the single community time presentation on consent last year, while well-intentioned, generated little content or meaningful discussion.

The current V's policy is a compensation for our underdeveloped consent culture. Extended visitation hours honors students' desire to bond with each other by allowing us more opportunities to socialize in spaces that are safe. Some have raised issue with the new completely-open-door policy, which denies us a completely private space. Students' problematic history of issues with consent justify the administration's caution surrounding closed doors. Nevertheless, this is not only an issue of student's gaining the trust of the administration. Outside of a few student-led events, the administration has not yet given us effective education or language to have a consistent and extensive dialogue about consent. Only through regular discussion will we be able to recognize the shortcomings of our community and develop solutions to address our shortcomings properly.

We must also consider how the V's policy casts our institution in the world. Yes, it indicates that our school strives to be more inclusive and less heteronormative. But unlike other policies, the V's policy reflects directly on the nature of the relationships we build and have with each other at Exeter. What are we saying about the nature of these relationships when students of any gender cannot be together privately without permission? What does it mean when it seems we cannot be trusted enough to be safe without the doors completely open? But before we can change how the world perceives us, we must change how we perceive ourselves.

Along with discussions, we may want to pursue a more empirical data-driven approach. When, where and how do students spend time with their friends? What do they need to feel supported and connected in the community? What are people's opinions about our relationship culture and why? Do these answers correlate with people's identities? In answering such questions, we may understand what kind of policy would be inclusive of people's needs and reflect a community of safety and inclusion.

Extended visitations are certainly an improvement within the current framework. However, much work remains to clearly define and internalize the culture and values we envision when we say, "We are Exeter."

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## Caroline Calloway: Unexemplary Exonian

**Dennis Kostagoklu-Aydin '21**  
Columnist

If you follow Exeter alumni or keep track of Instagram influencers, or even if you don't, you've probably heard of Caroline Calloway. An Exeter alum, Calloway rose to fame on Instagram documenting her life as a student at the University of Cambridge. Her witty and uniquely long captions, combined with her aesthetically pleasing photos, garnered her thousands of followers and a book deal.

However, a recent article published by *The Cut* alleges that Calloway's Instagram captions, along with the brand that

**Influencer culture is a very modern phenomenon. With the advent of social media and the rise of Instagram, people have been able to provide others with a window into their own lives in a way never before seen.**

Calloway created through her posts, was all created by a woman named Natalie Beach, Calloway's aide de camp. No need to worry, though—if you're confused by all of this, you're not alone.

Influencer culture is a very modern



phenomenon. With the advent of social media and the rise of Instagram, people

**This makes influencer culture a terrifying concept. You're literally signing over your free will to an influencer whether you are aware of it or not, so that they can dictate how your life is supposed to be like. And we're completely desensitized to this.**

have been able to provide others with a window into their own lives in a way never seen before. Personal privacy has become a thing of the past, and some see this as an opportunity—you could showcase their life to others while making money.

Caroline Calloway is one of those people. She engineered her Instagram posts so that the people who followed her would think of her as an adventurous, freewheeling girl who wants to see the world. So even if you can't go to, say, Barcelona, you could follow Calloway on Instagram and she would post pictures of herself around the city, allowing you to feel like you're there with her. This is the baseline concept of an Instagram influencer: someone who uses their position to project an image of how they think you should live, whose followers diligently pay attention to the gospel that the person preaches. If the influencer says that you should buy chairs made out of hand-fashioned oak wood because it helps the environment, you can bet that influencer's followers will run to their nearest furniture store and ask about oak chairs.

This makes influencer culture a terrifying concept. You're literally signing over your free will to an influencer whether you are aware of it or not, so that they can dictate how your life is supposed to be like. And we're completely desensitized to this.

However, the influencer lifestyle has a short shelf life. According to Beach, Calloway's agent Byrd Leavell (who also represented high-profile names as Chelsea Handler, Tiffany Haddish and Donald Trump) acquired her many opportunities, none of which came to fruition. Her book deal fell through, and a "Creativity Workshop," which, with a \$165 entrance fee and failure to deliver on promises like mason jar gardens, was billed as the next Fyre Fest, Billy McFarland's fraudulent "luxury music festival."

So what went wrong? The article

written by Beach is hard to corroborate, partially because most of the information she wrote about was acquired from one-on-one conversations between her and Calloway, and partially because nobody wants to spend valuable time fact-checking sources for a story about an Instagram influencer. After all, to many, "influencer" doesn't even count as a real job. So why do we place such importance on these people whom most of us have never met?

The basic answer lies in the foundation of social media. Social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, etc. were all founded on the premise of greater connectivity amongst people. We can make more friends, and more easily keep in touch with old acquaintances. It plays on very basic human desires and fears. Specifically, social media is a supposed cure for the human fear of loneliness, because if you're on Instagram, you're never alone.

Influencers manipulate that fear. They know that people want company, and they provide that. Whether they instruct you in fitness, tell you how to use a new makeup palette, or show you the new RV they bought, influencers know that their followers desperately want to be them, and they frame their posts to make their lives more appealing. By doing so, they can attract even more followers, and ensure that they keep the ones they already have.

**Specifically, social media is a supposed cure for the human fear of loneliness, because if you're on Instagram, you're never alone. Influencers manipulate that fear.**

Even followers, though, are a means to an end. If you're popular, people will give you more opportunities. From a company's viewpoint, it's a waste of time to spend money making advertisements if you can whip up some sort of a deal with an influencer, who will convince their thousands of followers to buy your product.

Caroline Calloway's story is much like this. The only reason she got her book deal, according to Beach, was because she was already popular on Instagram. The most worrying part of this? According to Beach, Calloway only ever became famous because, in accordance with her desire to have a book deal, she met with professional writers who helped her to post ads on Instagram. These ads made it seem as though Calloway had followers, and so people flocked to her page.

**However, if influencer culture disappeared overnight, I doubt society would change drastically. I noted that the influencer's image is what their fanbase wants to become. What this means is influencers survive by preying on people's low self-esteem.**

Of course, Beach might be lying. Again, there's no way to corroborate the information. But the fact that this story could possibly be true should speak to how much we've let influencers get away with, because there are other stories of other influencers which have been proven true (see James Charles).

You might be thinking, so what? They're making a living, same as the rest of us. Or you might think, "Influencers are bad because they are useless members of society. They don't contribute anything." To both of those points, I say I agree. Being an influencer is a viable career choice, because influencers quite cleverly use their popularity and brand image to attract people to them, and reap the benefits of having a massive following. It's the dictionary definition of "famous for being famous."

However, if influencer culture disappeared overnight, I doubt society would change drastically. I noted that the influencer's image is what their fanbase wants to become. What this means is influencers survive by preying on people's low self-esteem.

In fact, if you look at this more broadly, this is what all of social media does. It might provide a platform for people to connect, but it also provides a platform for people to feel bad about themselves. The concept of likes and followers establishes a hierarchy of popularity.

Instagram announced this year that they have started the process of removing likes, so that people won't feel bad if someone else gets a much larger amount of likes. Yet this is completely the wrong way to go about it. The reason why people feel bad about themselves is not because of the amount of likes. It's because the content itself reflects people's fear that they aren't living their best life.

This is why people like Caroline Calloway are not only unnecessary, they could potentially be dangerous. Calloway profited off her followers' anxieties without a second thought about her actions. This is influencer culture. This is what social media does to people.

## Think Small, For Now

**Jonathan Meng '21**  
Columnist

This past Friday was the Global Climate Strike, with some members of the Exeter community taking part through the Exeter Climate Lobby. Until very recently, I held what I believe is probably a popular opinion at Exeter, which is that the strike would largely be a waste of time and resources. However, after reading through some articles in the *TIME* magazine issue focusing solely on global warming and how we will fight it, I have to concede that this opinion is misguided at best and dangerous at worst.

The first point that I want to note is that I would probably prioritize climate change as the largest threat to our country and our planet as a whole. I believe climate change to be a bigger issue than others because it is all-encompassing. Without addressing climate change, the economy will be highly unpredictable, losses in the U.S. alone will amount to trillions of dollars, and habitable land will disappear.

**I believe climate change to be a bigger issue than others because it is all-encompassing. Without addressing climate change, the economy will be highly unpredictable, losses in the U.S. alone will be in trillions of dollars, and livable land will disappear.**

Climate change also has the worst impact on those that are chronically disadvantaged. Those being impacted the most right now are small, island nations with little to no power on the global stage, forced to deal with a problem that they did almost nothing to contribute to. Those with wealth can generally afford to pack up and move to higher ground as oceans rise, but those without do not have the option.

Poor laborers in Pakistan now have to deal with months of temperatures around 120 degrees, and Indonesia's president

**Global warming even ties back into feminist ideas – the U.N. has estimated that 80% of those displaced by climate change so far have been women.**

is even planning to move the country's capital to higher ground. There have been horrible food shortages within the Horn of Africa and droughts have led to more fighting. Northern Europe has seen permafrost melt, increasing risks of fires while waterways used for shipping have temporarily dried up and been shut down.

In North America, where we've largely tried to ignore growing issues and the US recently lowered environmental protection standards, the viability of farmland in the Midwest is at risk and Mexico City is actually starting to sink into the ground. Global warming even ties back into feminist ideas – the U.N. has estimated that 80% of those displaced by climate change so far have been women.

**I'm sure that I do not need to mention all the horrible effects of global warming on the environment and biodiversity as coral reefs die, lakes dry out, and ecosystems become deeply unbalanced.**

I'm sure that I do not need to mention all the horrible effects of global warming on the environment and biodiversity as coral reefs die, lakes dry out, and ecosystems become deeply unbalanced.

Still, even with all this in mind, I was very reluctant to believe that a few students skipping class and walking around would actually lead to any change whatsoever. I see now that the important thing about these marches is the media attention and public attention that follows. As each of these problems spread to affect more people in serious ways, the greater public opinion will shift towards action. Everything that we can do to spread awareness earlier will help.

I understand that most of us aren't willing to fully invest time in doing these things. Many of us believe ourselves to be too busy preparing for college, leading clubs and even feeling that there isn't much that one person can do. We don't think that getting behind on schoolwork is worth the little that can be done at one of these marches. However, we don't all need to take such large steps—praising the actions of those currently striking can ensure that they continue to pressure legislators.

Instead, I would suggest simply being more aware of everyday activities. Many believe that turning off a light or saving one paper towel won't do much, but it certainly won't hurt. I acknowledge that businesses and government have a huge role to play in our fight against climate change but we can only wait for that change to come. Focusing on right now spreads hope for this cause and awareness in smaller but equally important pieces.

**You will save money by ordering fewer things online while also cutting down on your carbon footprint. Taking in only what you can eat at d-hall will help you eat healthier and cut down on our school's food waste.**

Remind your friends to dry their hands with just one paper towel. Sort your recycling and compost correctly at Grill and around campus. Carry that plastic cup or any recyclable over to the closest recycling can rather than just tossing it in the trash.

Saving the environment will even help you directly in the short term. You will save money by ordering fewer things online while also cutting down on your carbon footprint. Taking in only what you can eat at d-hall will help you eat healthier and cut down on our school's food waste.

Smaller actions in a big movement also matter. We need these baby steps to come together and foster more public attention before large, important changes can be made.



## Caroline Calloway Reflects Falsified Realities

Felix Yeung '21

Columnist

We live in a post-fact society. This reality is a sobering one, but it is just that: a reality. Truth no longer matters. Nowadays, we are concerned only with your truth, my truth, his truth—a series of subjective truths that color reality. This phenomenon is seen most clearly in the political battlefield, where politicians and newscasters face a constant barrage of alternative facts. Nevertheless, this "postfactualism" has asserted itself in much of popular culture as well. Nothing makes this more clear than the rise and fall of Exeter's very own Caroline Calloway '10.

To those who are unaware, Calloway, or Caroline Gotschall, is a popular social media influencer. Leveraging her time at Exeter and Cambridge, she built herself an Instagram presence grounded in reveries of elitism. Much of her life is centered around prestige, pseudo-intellectualism and faux cre-

**Nowadays, we are concerned only with your truth, my truth, his truth—a series of subjective truths that color reality.**

ativity. The very flights of fantasy—that she is anything more than an egoist—that led to her rise, have now caused a remarkable downfall.

In the earliest days of her Instagram career, she crafted the narrative that she was a carefree American, staking her path at the Old World institution of Cambridge. She gave Harry Potter fetishists a modern retelling of the classic tale, an innocent falling in love with the fantastical institutions of Great Britain. Nevertheless, her narrative masked several truths.

First, that she had applied to Cambridge—and a series of other elite institutions—several times over a period of four years. She was continuously rejected, until St. Edmund's College

relented and finally granted her admission. The three years in the interim, she says, were gap years. As an article in *The Atlantic* shrewdly notes, "[This is] straining the term of art to the breaking point, and also a flagrant denial of something that happened [in real life]: enrolling at [New York University], which most people would consider putting an end to the gap years and starting

**Leveraging her time at Exeter and Cambridge, she built herself an Instagram presence grounded in reveries of elitism. Much of her life is centered around prestige, pseudo-intellectualism and faux creativity.**

college." Still, her followers ate it up. After all, what was better than the story she claimed to have?

Of course, Calloway already had much practice in constructing such narratives for herself. Even at New York University, Calloway told stories

**Of course, Calloway already had much practice in constructing such narratives for herself. Even at New York University, Calloway told stories of Exeter that were misconstructions of her experiences at the Academy.**

of Exeter that were misconstructions of her experiences at the Academy. She described an institution that had welcomed her with open arms when she was rejected three times. Of course, this is not to say that those who are rejected

**The way Caroline Calloway forged her path highlights a focal component in my understanding of contemporary culture: that today's youth decide on a certain narrative, do anything to make it a reality, and then blur the details so that their narrative is the narrative.**

and reapply are somehow less worthy of admission. I am simply attempting to elucidate the fact that Calloway created fiction and somehow made it a reality. Heck, even her name—Caroline Calloway—was designed at age 17 (by reversing the order of middle name and last name) to make her seem more like a member of the elite.

**Her self-conceived truth, that she could deliver on all her promises, resulted in failure after failure.**

The chronology here, though, matters. Calloway was eventually able to gain admission to some of the most prestigious academic institutions in the world. She was at Exeter. She went to NYU. She also attended Cambridge. Yet, she had told herself that she was destined for these things long before she had actually attained them. And when she failed to do so, she kept trying. Then, she wiped away all the inconvenient truths.

The way Caroline Calloway forged her path highlights a focal component in my understanding of contemporary culture: that today's youth decide on a certain narrative, do anything to make it a reality, and then blur the details so that their narrative is the narrative, the entire truth.

In some ways, Calloway's tactics have come back to bite her. She has

recently been labeled the Fyre Festival of influencers, a scam artist who has defrauded her loyal fans. After receiving an astronomical advance for a book proposal, she failed to deliver on her deal, forcing her to refund the publisher. Next, her attempts to organize a series of "creativity workshops" resulted in cancellations and refunds en masse. Her self-conceived truth, that she could deliver on all her promises, resulted in failure after failure.

Worse even, a former friend, Natalie Beach, published a vindictive account of how she edited some of Calloway's work and ghost-wrote the soon-to-fail book proposal. While these "crimes" do not seem severe, and she refunded all her patrons eventually, a predominant narrative arose in which Calloway was cast as a swindler, even though she offered refunds for all her work. She became a victim of the narrative gameplay that she so eagerly partook in.

Even after the transpiring of all these events, Calloway continues to drive her narratives forward. She labels herself as an art historian on Instagram, despite the fact that she has only one degree in art history and her "work," if you can call it that, revolves around taking selfies and occasionally sharing a few scattered thoughts on the actual artwork.

Moreover, she continues to drive home her narrative of connections to prestige. She discovered that her father, who she claimed was second-in-command at the Harvard Crimson, only had one letter-to-the-editor published. Not long after, she came out with a new claim: "It turns out I misremembered. My dad was second-in-command at The Exonian."

Ultimately, Caroline Calloway is just a symptom of a world that has forgotten objective truth. We now seek to indulge in stories that suit our interests and needs. Much of this evolution has been driven by the Internet, an echo chamber that prevents you from breaking out. Regardless, we are becoming more and more obsessed with alternative facts—glorified fiction.

This is the true tragedy of Caroline Calloway: that she is just one of many examples of the pitfalls of "postfactualism."

## We Can Win: Fighting Hate Online

Stephen McNulty '21

Columnist

For the past three years, I have had the pleasure of playing an online massive multiplayer nation simulation game. Now, I can already hear the laughter but bear with me here. In the game, you create a "nation" and govern it according to your values. These nations congregate into "regions," oftentimes communities united by a common value or interest. There are some roleplaying communities, some political communities, some religious communities, some communities for fun, etc. Typically speaking, most of these communities are great places; I've met plenty of wonderful people in them that continue to respectfully challenge my perspectives, teach me fascinating tidbits about their own lives

**But as we know all too well, the mask of anonymity has a darker side, insofar as it gives bigots, fascists and other extremists the ability to spew their rhetoric without fear of social consequences.**

and improve my gameplay experience.

Having said this, the internet also gives people the mask of anonymity. Oftentimes, this can be quite useful and liberating—it enables people to open up about things they wouldn't ordinarily tell people in real life. It enables them to be honest with their struggles, explore their identities and talk about important issues. But as we know all too well, that mask has a darker side, insofar as it gives bigots, fascists and other extremists the ability to spew their rhetoric without fear of social consequences.

Fascists seem intent on taking up residence everywhere on the internet—they are on Reddit, they are on Facebook, they are on discussion forums—they are everywhere. And so they try to take up residence in our

little game; a couple people have tried to form fascist and/or Neo-Nazi regions, to varying degrees of success. That led to a question we are still grappling with. How do we respond to the formation of hateful communities on our platforms?

When I first heard of their existence, I was frankly shocked. I had no

**Fascists seem intent on taking up residence everywhere on the internet—they are on Reddit, they are on Facebook, they are on discussion forums—they are everywhere.**

idea that the bigots were here too, albeit in small numbers. Part of me wanted to instantly walk away from the site entirely. After all, if I choose to sit at a table with Nazis, am I not complicit in their crimes?

But then I realized that walking away was a non-solution at best, and a surrender at worst. I had no reason to leave my online home because a few fascists decided to try and invade it. Instead, we had to fight.

But before doing so, we had to decide who our enemy was. The game had banned on-site hate speech, thankfully, so most of the fascist subcommunities tended to reside on offsite chat platforms for their specific regions. On the main website itself, the groups would often disguise themselves as "German

**I had no reason to leave my online home because a few fascists decided to try and invade it. Instead, we had to fight.**

monarchist" groups, or use some other in-character shield to hide their Nazism. They would lure people into those communities by having regional residents, many of whom were entirely oblivious to

the scheme, onto their regional chats. In those unregulated platforms, they would spread extremist, hateful propaganda and radicalize unsuspecting nations. More than a few were teenagers, some even younger.

The process of teasing out who these regions were has been complicated, to say the least. There have been some regions that we missed for a long time, and on the other end, some regions unfairly targeted as "fascist" by groups with their own motives, both in-game and political. But we've been able to take some steps; for instance, we developed a script to automatically alert nations who join known fascist regions.

Our rationale is simple there—we want to prevent people from being accidentally sucked into hateful communities. We have also used in-game mechanics, typically used for friendly, in-character "wargames," to shut down fascist regions. We have isolated their communities, and taken quite a few steps to keep them away from the eyes

**We have isolated their communities, and taken quite a few steps to keep them away from the eyes of younger, more impressionable players.**

of younger, more impressionable players. Those steps have been quite effective—there are fewer fascist regions than ever, and those that exist are perpetually on the run.

But sometimes, in the process of doing so, we forget to engage with the almost-radicalized, those at the tip of falling off the edge into a very sinister world of alt-right content. One of the typical extremist tactics is that of invasion, one where the fascists try to infiltrate existing center-right communities and radicalize them. Oftentimes, they can be very sly about this, disguising their views or exploiting more relaxed moderation teams. This exact process happened a year or two ago; a group of fascists subtly took over a center-right

region, one that my own region had been allied to for years, and polluted it with filth inappropriate to describe in a high school newspaper. When our region found out about this, we took several steps to clean up the mess. But the most important of those steps was an extended hand—we reached out

**Simply put, we need to stand up, firmly and peacefully, to deny extremism a platform in our communities. In the face of a radicalizing internet, we should not be afraid, because progress is possible when we dig in our heels.**

to those whose community had been taken away, and worked to monitor their clean-up. Their chat server has since gotten so much cleaner, the fascists have been expelled, and several have been deradicalized.

What is the point here? Simply put, we need to stand up, firmly and peacefully, to deny extremism a platform in our communities. In the face of a radicalizing internet, we should not be afraid, because progress is possible when we dig in our heels.

Did I make enemies in the process? Yes, and I'm frankly a minor player in the fight—my favorite moment on the site came when one fascist community's leader posted this: "the substantial clerical-fascist constituency of [our region] considers [your] progressivist and pro-LGBT interpretation of Roman Catholicism to be abominable." And I'm not even a major player in the anti-fascist movement. That region no longer exists, thanks to the work of people of all affiliations across the site, including at least three Exonians.

And that task of denying fascists a platform is left to all of us, not just a select few power-players. The task is certainly formidable, but there is the world to be gained.





# ExonianHumor



## Best Exonian Editors

By HELENA CHEN  
Wannabe Humor Editor

1. There
2. Is
3. No
4. Best
5. Editor
6. We
7. Are
8. All
9. Equal
10. Ryan Xie

## The StuCo Starter Pack

By RYAN XIE  
Bruh

1. Budget Committee: nothing to report
2. Community, Equity, and Diversity: nothing to report
3. Dining Hall Committee: nothing to report
4. Elections Committee: nothing to report
5. Mental Health Committee: nothing to report
6. Policy Committee: We're trying to make a new V's policy!
7. Public Relations Committee: nothing to report
8. Recreation Committee: nothing to report
9. Student Life Committee: nothing to report
10. Technology Committee: nothing to report

## The Struggle

By BENJAMIN GORMAN  
I'll Just Take The C

the last 5 minutes of an in class essay



## TFW You're Vaccinated

By BENJAMIN GORMAN  
I had my flu shot today!



## Academy Announces Hunting Season

By BENJAMIN GORMAN  
A Deer in the Headlights

New Hampshire is boring. If you haven't realized that yet, congratulations; you'll probably have your spirit broken in a couple months when winter hits. But really, there's not much to do here. You can go into the woods and like, walk, I guess. You could do homework in  $D^2$ , or you could do homework in the library, or do homework in Me and Ollies. Or, if you're looking to get really crazy, you could do homework on the quad. It's really no wonder they put this school here—it's the perfect place to take all the spirit out of kids and turn them into overworked and sleep deprived machines.

Luckily, the academy decided to liven things up a little bit this year. At exactly 11:38 AM on Wednesday morning, Director of Campus Safety and Risk Management, Paul Gravel, sent out an email revealing that Student Hunting Season would be starting on October 2nd through November 3rd.

While the notice is appreciated, part of me is concerned that Gravel is giving himself a leg up in the sport. Instructing students to both wear bright clothing as well as follow marked trails, I just don't see how it's fair to the rest of us, much less fair to those of us who decided to splurge a bit on

night vision goggles. Additionally, Big Paulie G told students that the proper course of action is to report any encounters with hunters to Campus Safety immediately. To be honest, this feels like a gross misuse of power, fueled by a self-serving administration that aims to keep its hunting license for one more year.

Fortunately, students seem to be focusing more on the game than Gravel's tactless effort at winning before the season had even started. Camouflage seems to be on the rise among the student body, with most of them aiming to hide themselves in bushes in between frees and classes. Just the other day, a kid in my math class came to class in a ghillie suit, saying that if I wanted to escape the hunt, I would have to learn to become one with nature too. Some students have decided to stay in their dorms for the entire month, considering a few dickies better than having to sprint to class like a gazelle running from a lion that hasn't eaten in days. Others, including whole dorms, have decided to view the event as both good exercise and a way to exert their dominance over the campus. An anonymous senior is quoted saying, "Yeah, we joined. Our dorm doesn't really do too many events, so we took advantage of the situation and decided to join the hunt.

Besides, I live for danger."

Faculty response has been a mixed bag. Most teachers have engaged in protests, saying that, "it's not fair to have just one month, turkey hunters get like three and it's not even hard." Others think the very existence of the season to be unlawful, but figure it can't be that much worse than five hours of homework every night.

Other teachers seem to be more on board with the whole shebang. An anonymous lower recounted that, "the other day [they] talked about the hunt in Ethics class... while [the teacher] chased [them] around campus." English teachers, on the other hand, can't seem to stop themselves from quoting Richard Connell's, "The Most Dangerous Game," a famous short story about a hunter hunting another hunter. Personally, I think the most dangerous game is actually showing up to class on three hours of sleep, ten cups of coffee, and no homework finished, but whatever.

Finally, Principal Rawson has stated that he only plans to hunt for one day out of the whole season. He says he plans to use Principal's Day then, so as to give students the best chance at escape. While I plan to be as far away from this school as possible on that day, I pray for the rest of campus.

## Big Red for the Big Green

By JASPER YU  
Recycled from his Humor Editor Application

As you may know, Exeter holds the glorious title of the largest endowment of any prep school. As of 2017, the endowment fund stood at \$1.25 billion USD. Sheesh! But we wouldn't be the #1 Private School in the nation if we settled for complacency. To remain the Big Kahuna of secondary schools, we must chase even more "guap." Fortunately for the administration, I've thought up some lucrative ways for Exeter to rack in the bills. Some may say we don't need these extra funds or that I'm Exeter's Scrooge. Well, if being an entrepreneurial mastermind is a crime, put me on stricts.

1. Fine Mark Zuckerberg for misplaced greys. Everyone loses them, I'm sure Zuck misplaced a shirt or towel.

2. Sell the football team. Free up some cap space. This is an old article so this doesn't make sense to you new kids. See, the football team is actually good this year! To put things into perspective, there used to be more students at Dungeons and Dragons club meetings than football games.

3. Invest in InstaBite, dividend yield is crazy right now.

4. Tutor Andover kids, god knows they need it. We're the "nerd" school for a reason. I guess that's what separates #1 on Niche from #3. #WhatUpBlue

5. Fine Preps for letting their lanyards hang from their pockets. Drip is Pass/Fail and lanyards are an automatic fail.

6. Sell Lamont. Period. The

ghosts don't even pay tuition.

7. Put the E-Book up for stand-up comedy. Its full of jokes! Sell-out crowd assured. Haha, please don't give me stricts, Dean Cahalane.

8. Found a professional mock trial league, guaranteeing back-to-back rings for Exeter. Imagine the 'wwz96 Chicago Bulls had a baby with the Supreme Court, that's how good the Mock Trial 'A' Team is.

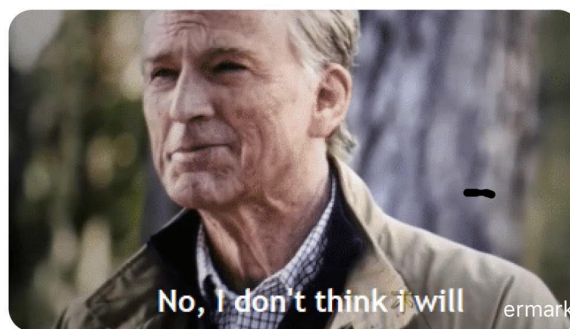
9. Turn Grill into a Food Truck. Everyone loves food trucks! Slap on some wheels on it!

10. Give Community Conduct cases to rich kids. Watch our donations soar.

## Meme Zone

By RYAN XIE  
Picasso on an iPhone

Student: will you return my English paper?  
English teacher:



When you walk through the Elm dish cleaning line



## Quotes of the Week

"My mom asked who Joe was..."  
-Sam Weil '20

"Did anyone else see Moriarty lift up a shoe at Back in Black?"  
-Ginny Little '20

"So when Flexeter finna start submitting here?"  
-Anonymous '19

"How is there a smile? Suan never smiles."  
-Mai Hoang '20

Please write for Humor.

Like seriously.

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Submit to [exonianhumor@gmail.com](mailto:exonianhumor@gmail.com)





Lamont Gallery presents *American Mortal*, an exhibit featuring work by Becky Alley and Melissa Vandenburg.

Helena Chen/*The Exonian*

## Lamont Gallery: American Mortal

By ANNE BRANDES,  
LINA HUANG and MINSEO KIM  
*Staff Writers and Contributing Writer*

Featuring installations such as two shelves of books hand-sewn with a collection of soldiers named Edward who died overseas for the United States or a canvas burned with the words, “EX” “PAT” and “RIOT” on separate lines, *American Mortals* aims to rethink Americans’ national identity.

Exeter’s exhibit is the third iteration of *American Mortals*, a collection of art by Melissa Vandenburg and Becky Alley. The exhibit, which will remain in the Lamont Gallery from Sept. 3 to Oct. 19, uses domestic items to delve into notions of patriotism.

Lamont Gallery Curator Lauren O’Neal began planning the exhibition in 2018 with the intention of offering an artistic platform and catalyst for political inquiry and dialogue. “*American Mortals* proposes the idea that we can be part [of] a nation—however that is defined—but still question its politics and policies,” she said. “Artists ... use their work to examine concepts such as partisanship, pride, and national identity, and to offer alternative ways of considering these ideas.”

The exhibit serves as a vehicle to chal-

lenge accepted aspects of America. “What characterizes patriotism, what is the impact of war, how and what do we commemorate and what democracy is, are complicated, even fraught, concepts,” O’Neal said. “They have always been so, but it seems especially urgent to examine them anew in today’s political climate.”

Each artist has different values concerning their creations. For Vandenburg, examining the concept of “homeland” has been a priority. “Flags, maps, Buddha silhouettes and gravestones are altered into somewhat antagonistic forms,” she said. “Questions surrounding patriotism, pride and partisanship begin to emerge in work that is both satirical and idealistic. The results are overwhelmingly about mortality, but not exclusively dark or negative.”

On the other hand, while Alley also uses commonplace materials, she is more drawn to “matches, soap, bed sheets, needles and thread.” Using these items, Alley often conveys overwhelming statistics in numbers. “With this ongoing series of memorials, I invite the viewer to viscerally experience the obscene human cost of war while attempting to behold and digest the staggering scale of innocent lives lost,” she said.

While the pieces in the exhibit were created individually, they work together in the exhibit, Vandenburg explained. “There are common denominators you can find right now between each of our pieces,” she said. “It’s amazing because those works come together. There becomes a conversation between them.”

Members of the Exeter community enjoyed the exhibit. Upper Adam Tuchler, who attended the gallery’s opening, was particularly taken by one of Alley’s pieces. “I was drawn to this installation of white flags, a work that I interpreted as a graph signifying the rise of deaths [in war],” he said. “It was a very moving piece.”

Lower and Lamont Gallery Proctor Jasmine Xi believes that *American Mortals* in an exhibit which provokes conversation. “This exhibit allows artists to discuss values and opinions on it through a form of communication which is art,” she said. “I hope students take away the value of art and what you can do and how you can really express yourself.”

In fact, the Lamont Gallery proctors oversaw an interactive element of the exhibit, a button-making design station during the opening reception for *American Mortals*. Senior and Lamont Gallery Proctor Isabel

Hou explained the premise. “This gallery is one that you absorb,” she said. “This is putting pen to paper—connecting with what art is really about—and bringing a little bit of art from the walls into your own hands by making a button that represents what you’ve taken away from the exhibit.”

The exhibit, according to Hou, is also very timely in context of the broader American political climate. “I think it’s important on the eve of our election to be questioning things like this, to be making conversation about this,” she said. “We should be starting to ask ourselves these questions about what it’s like to be an American.”

While Hou recognized the limited time of Exonians, she asserted that visiting the gallery is an excursion to carve time for. “Students here are constantly furthering their knowledge of culture, and the gallery is one of the biggest sources of culture on this campus,” Hou said.

The exhibit will become a medium for the community reflection, O’Neal believes. “Spend time with the work, and with your own ideas about how you define citizenship, allegiance and belonging,” she said. “Rewrite the definitions that no longer work. Imagine new ways of being together.”

## TV REVIEW: “THE POLITICIAN”

By FELIX YEUNG  
*Staff Writer*

“I love you so much. But I know I’m going to do whatever it takes to help you get what you want. And I’m sad for the person that’s going to turn me into.” These words come from the mouth of a sentimental Gwyneth Paltrow in an episode of Netflix’s “*The Politician*”. In many ways, this line captures the primary contention of the show—that people do morally objectionable things out of love, duty and passion. Produced by Ryan Murphy (“*American Horror Story*,” “*Glee*”), the show explores the human pursuit of ‘good’ by chronicling the political journey of Payton Hobart (Ben Platt), beginning with his election to the post of senior class president.

Platt is joined by a stellar supporting cast who balance his off-kilter charisma with their own oddities. Paltrow plays Hobart’s mother, Georgina Hobart, a socialite whose sophistry is matched only by her compassion. While Paltrow has been uneven in her performances of late, she shines in this show. She is certainly not a relatable character, with wealth and problems beyond the comprehension of the average viewer. Still, she connects with the audience, and her emotional beats land with force.

At school, Hobart is complemented by rival Astrid Sloan (Lucy Boynton) and love interest River Barkley (David Corenswet). Jessica Lange also stars as Dusty Jackson, a woman who manages to compel despite being clearly deranged. While the relationships between these characters often veer into perplexing territory, the performances ground the far-fetched plots, and nothing ever feels utterly unrealistic. In particular, the chemistry between Platt and Corenswet is utilized well—the tragedy that plays out between their characters is one that tugs at the heartstrings.

The aesthetic of the show stands out as well. Ryan Murphy brings his signature gloss to the production—bright colors, pink tints and California sunshine contribute to this effect. Costuming also impresses, with bold palettes that reflect the personality of each character. While

overall design choices are not dissimilar to several other “teen dramas,” “*The Politician*” never feels inauthentic in its embrace of the tone that the cinematography and costume design create.

Of course, the show would be remiss not to utilize the musical talents of this cast. Platt delivers several loving musical tributes, including covers of “River” and “Vienna.” The songs do not seem out of place, and they advance the plot in a way that seems grounded in realism and emotion. I would be wrong to call this show a musical series, but, when it does make use of musical elements, it does so with poise and elegance.

The show is also, in some ways, groundbreaking in terms of its representation. Yes, the cast is very much majority-white. Nevertheless, sexuality is explored in a way that does not make being gay, bisexual or queer a plot point. Rather, it is inauthenticity that is condemned in the microcosm of Hobart’s high school. Hobart, a cunning, manipulative political force of nature, does not see his fluid sexuality as preventative of his success. There is a bold representation of homosexuality, but matters of identity do not feel present for the sake of being present.

For a show about winning elections, it is also surprisingly unpredictable. Changes occur constantly, and political intrigue becomes personal. It is simply masterful how Murphy creates tension even after plot lines have apparently been resolved, driving the show along as though it were an unstoppable train. Even after the student government election, Hobart faces challenges that arise due to his earlier actions, and the resolution to his crises is just good television.

Trust me, “*The Politician*” is worth a watch. While it may seem to be just another “teen drama,” the last episode brings forward its true promise. Certainly, this show seems to be one of the most promising premieres of the season, and I—for one—look forward to another round of Payton Hobart’s machinations.

## MATTER: THE ARTEMIS PROGRAM

By JAEKEB HARPER  
*Contributing Writer*

In 1972, Gene Cernan of NASA’s Apollo 17 mission became the last Apollo astronaut to set foot on the moon. Almost 47 years later, he remains the last human to land on the nearest object to our planet despite countless technological advancements. “If it wasn’t for the political risk, we would be on the moon right now. In fact, we would probably be on Mars,” explained NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine in an interview with *Business Insider*. “It was the political risks that prevented it from happening. The program took too long and it costs too much money.” This summer, however, in a triumphant announcement video, NASA told the world that “we are going to the moon, to stay, by 2024.”

The program will be called Artemis, a reference to the Greek goddess of the moon and twin sister of Apollo. It promises huge, unforeseen scientific innovation that will be achieved in just five years. The program was spurred by President Trump, who allotted the nearly \$30 million dollars to the project out of the 2019 federal budget.

The first major hurdle is the rocket itself. Called the Space Launch System (SLS), NASA boasted that it will be the most powerful rocket ever constructed. Currently, the Saturn V, the first rocket used to take us to the moon, holds that title. The Saturn V has a max carrying capacity of 310,000 lbs and a thrust of 33.8 million Newtons. The SLS, by comparison, is slated to have a max capacity of 286,000 lbs and a thrust of 40.9 million N. It will carry the Orion Capsule, which is said to be a larger and modernized version of the original Apollo Capsule. NASA describes the craft on their website, saying that “the spacecraft will carry up to four crew members and is designed to support astronauts traveling hundreds of thousands of miles from home, where getting back to Earth takes hours rather than days.”

Once we arrive on the moon, the plan is

to install an International Space Station-style orbiter named the Gateway, which will act as a hub for a reusable, manned lunar lander. Once all the infrastructure is in place, NASA plans to mine water from the moon both for drinking as well as breaking down into oxygen for breathable air and hydrogen for fuel. They will also begin a lengthy exploration of the surface of the Moon, starting with its south pole. The Gateway will also be used by other space agencies. For example, HERACLES, a joint Canadian, Japanese and European project, aims to robotically collect samples from the surface of the moon and return them to earth.

How does this affect space exploration after Artemis? Artemis is actually part of a larger program dubbed “Moon to Mars.” In the opening speech for the project, Bridenstine said that we would “go with innovative new technologies and systems to explore more locations across the surface [of the Moon] than was ever thought possible. This time, when we go to the Moon, we will stay. And then we will use what we learn on the Moon to take the next giant leap—sending astronauts to Mars.” The Moon is a much closer—and competitively safer—place to test technologies that will later be implemented on manned missions to other planets. The SLS, along with SpaceX’s BFR, are said to be the first rockets ever to be capable of a manned mission to Mars; it is also exponentially easier to launch mission to Mars and beyond from the moon rather than Earth.

The Artemis Program is forging the cutting edge of our space exploration. Its bold promise to bring us to the moon in five years will certainly have lasting impacts on missions to Mars and beyond. As NASA concludes their announcement video, “We turn towards the Moon now, not as a conclusion, but as preparation—as a checkpoint toward all that lies beyond. Our greatest adventures remain ahead of us.”



## AlumniSpotlight

## TOM LOUGHLIN '83

By MOKSHA AKIL,  
EMILY KANG  
and SABRINA KEARNEY

Staff Writers and Contributing Writer

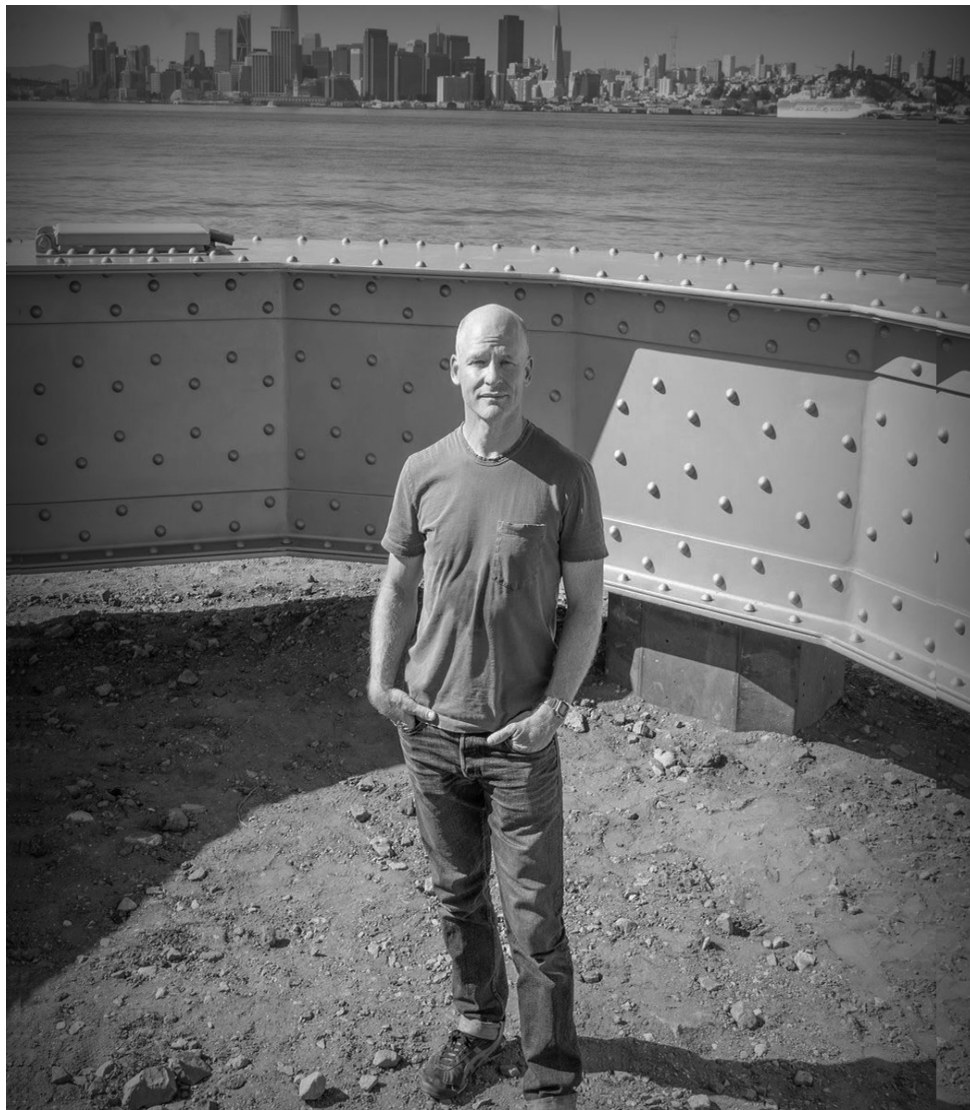
The recently revealed public art piece “Signal” on San Francisco Bay pays tribute to the demolished east span of the Bay Bridge. Following an earthquake that called for reconstruction of the east span, steel remnants of the old section of Bay Bridge were distributed to local artists to be used for various projects. “Signal” is the third such project to be revealed and the work of class of '83 alumnus Tom Loughlin.

Loughlin grew up in St. Louis, MO prior to coming to Exeter. His father, also an Exeter alumnus, often told stories of his time at Exeter. “I inherited propaganda from my dad who had a great time there and I wanted to go [to Exeter] to see what it was all about,” Loughlin explained.

At Exeter, Loughlin was not as much of an artist as he was a rower. Loughlin had never rowed before coming to Exeter, but he picked up the sport his prep year. He continued through high school and into college as a member of the Dartmouth University men's crew team. Loughlin even spent time after college to represent the United States at the 1996 Rowing World Championships in Glasgow, Scotland.

Loughlin credited his Exeter coach, David Zwift, for helping him find his passion for rowing, and, later, a career in art. “[Zwift] was, in some ways, the first person at Exeter who made me feel like I can be good at something I had never done before, something I never knew I would be good at,” he said. “He helped me accomplish what I was able to accomplish in the sport of rowing but also he made me believe that I have talents beyond... the classroom.”

After college and a career in rowing, Loughlin went to law school at the University of California, Berkeley, and worked as a lawyer for several years. However, he felt unfulfilled with his career choice. “My path



Courtesy of Google

to law school was just feeling like I wasn't sure what options were there for an English major and law school seemed safe,” he said. “It took me a lot of years to realize that that wasn't the right fit for me.”

Loughlin quit his job in 2006 and traveled to Iran, a place he remembered studying in his Middle Eastern history class at Exeter. He took photos of his travels and arranged them onto silk sheets, which he brought to his next reunion. “If I hadn't studied Iran [at Exeter], I don't know if I

would have made it,” he said.

From then on, as he searched for a new path to explore, Loughlin was drawn to art. “I got interested in intuitive and irrational ways of thinking. Art was an outlet for me to do that,” he said. He enrolled at the San Francisco Art Institute, a place that he felt gave him the space to think intuitively rather than with logic and reason as he had during his prior education.

Loughlin took a specific interest in sculpting, which he believes allows larger

space for creativity. “Sculpture is a form and the only rule is that it has to succeed on its own terms and it seems like there is a zone of pervasion there that I really appreciate.”

A piece of “Signal” consists of a sound portion. “The sound pieces are hard for people to appreciate unless they see them in person. I had several TV and radio crews who wanted to record the sound, but I kept telling them that you can't reproduce the sound on people's TV speakers,” Loughlin said. “I am more interested, as an artist, in engaging the general public more than making art for people who go to galleries.” Notably, he attributes this aspect of the sculpture, involving resonant frequencies, to his class with former Instructor in Physics Charles Compton. “I'm glad I was paying attention in class that day,” Loughlin reflected.

Former Wentworth dormmate and friend, Mike Moon '83, never knew about Loughlin's talent in art during their time together at Exeter, but has been supportive of every step Loughlin takes—whether rowing, law school or art. “I am a firm believer in doing whatever you want to do, but ... you have to do it to your fullest,” he said. “Tom really embodies that.”

David Folkenflik '83, another dormmate of Loughlin, praised “Signal,” highlighting Loughlin's ability to take the parts of familiar infrastructure and create a new piece of artwork that people could enjoy. “[Loughlin] took an iconic San Francisco fixture's discarded pieces and refashioned it,” he said.

Folkenflik also recalled Loughlin's breakthrough piece that he brought to the reunion. “He wanted to create affinity and force Americans and others to confront their assumptions and not make a general assessment,” he said. “He forced people to challenge their assumptions through reflective assessment. That is a theme of his work.”

Moon commended Loughlin's lifestyle. “He is living his own life to the fullest and I find that quite admirable.”

## SeniorSpotlight

## TALIA RIVERA

By ERIN CHOI,  
AMY LUM and ANDREA LUO

Staff Writers and Contributing Writer

Every Sunday evening, Talia Rivera checks in fellow Dunbar residents and asks them about their weekend. Rivera focuses on engaging the new students and making sure that their weekends were both fun and productive. “It's a way for me to help out the new kids because I was new, too,” she said.

Before she came to Exeter, Rivera struggled to find rigorous academics at her school. “I wasn't really challenged ... I'd sit in class not learning and teachers wouldn't pick me because they knew I knew the answers,” she said. “I was just bored.”

Rivera applied to the Academy after reading about its wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities. Once on campus, she was motivated by the intellectual environment to learn again. “I was really excited to [finally learn] something interesting and challenging.”

However, Rivera also found something even more valuable to her than hard classes: “genuine and nice people.” Rivera was surprised by the immense generosity and warmth of the community. “It was weird and nice being around so many sweet people.” With the support of upperclassmen, Rivera quickly became involved in Exeter life.

Upper Anna Rose Marion said that Rivera is excited about everything she does. “She has a lot of passions that she actively explores, and she never does anything that she isn't passionate about,” Marion said.

One area where Rivera's enthusiasm is especially apparent is the dance studio. She began dancing at nine years old and originally signed up for classes due to convenience. “My parents couldn't take me to sports practices because they worked during the day. Dance just happened to be one of the only things that were available after they got home from work,” she said.

After taking a hiatus from dance for a few years, Rivera reintegrated it as exercise into her



Paula Pérez-Glassner/The Exonian

daily schedule at Exeter. “When I came here, the fact that there was dance and that it fit into my schedule made it so perfect. I couldn't not take the school up on this opportunity.”

Now, Rivera enjoys dance as both a creative and physical pursuit. “[Dance] is such a beautiful way to express and convey emotions of a song or how you're feeling. It's super fun,” she said. “You get into your body and learn about yourself too.”

Dancer Sarah Liberatore '19 was amazed by Rivera's dedication to learning difficult dance moves for choreographed pieces. “She showed incredible persistence, and we spent many extra nights in Goel drilling time steps, Cincinattis and formations,” she said.

Marion, a fellow dancer, believes that Rivera's devotion coupled with her optimism makes her a more emotive dancer. “When she dances, she lights up the stage. Her personality is just so infectious. She has [a huge amount of] stage presence,” Marion said. “It's really fun to watch her move and to watch her express whatever she's feeling onstage.”

Dance Instructor and Rivera's advisor Allison Duke noted that Rivera carries her high spirits out of the dance studio and into her dorm and advisory. “We have shared many smiles and laughs in the dance studio, in our advisory group and in the dorm,” Duke said. “[Her] positive energy is infectious and she is

able to light up a room.”

At Exeter, Rivera also combined her interests with her passion for teaching children through leading ESSO. “I love children,” she said. “It's such a positive feedback loop and we make each other happy ... Their excitement makes me excited.” She affectionately described children as “little pint sized people who are just running around with so much energy.”

Rivera hopes to become a pediatric surgeon, a career that “people have told [her] is really fitting which makes sense because [she] loves kids and STEM.”

Rivera extends this same passion she finds in connecting with children to bonding with anyone in her life; she is a valuable friend and source of positive energy for countless Exonians.

Upper Morgan Lee recalled Rivera's assistance in helping her become more outgoing at Exeter. “Exeter can be a very isolating place, but [she] is someone who has brought me out and made me more social,” Lee said. “She values connections so much, and I give her a lot of credit for just feeling comfortable when meeting people and for many of the friends I have.”

Senior Patty Fitzgerald believes that Rivera has a balanced personality. “[Rivera] knows when to be fun and when to be serious. She gives really good advice, and you can always tell that she cares.” According to upper Annie Shin, Rivera is the kind of friend who leaves a bag of food, tea and candy outside her room when she has a bad day. “Talia knows that it's the small acts of kindness that can truly light up someone's day,” Shin said.

Liberatore, too, attested that Rivera will make sure that the people around her feel loved. “Even now, when I'm off at college, an hour long Skype call with Talia on an otherwise boring night ends in me going to sleep happy and full and love,” Liberatore said.

Overall, Rivera has learned from Exeter the importance of being kind. “That not only means being kind to other people but being kind to yourself,” she said. “There's only one you, and you only have one life. You have to make sure that you are living it in a way that makes you happy, and that also means being nice to yourself.”

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## FacultySpotlight

## REVEREND HEIDI HEATH

By JEANNIE EOM,  
BLAKE SIMPSON  
and FELIX YEUNG

Contributing Writers and Staff Writer

As the Interim Director of Religious and Spiritual Life, Reverend Heidi Heath spends much of her time leading the spiritual communities on campus. A strong believer in intersectional learning, Heath's work also extends to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee and various affinity groups. As she begins her fourth year at the Academy, Heath hopes to continue her work as the spiritual heart of this community.

At Exeter, much of Heath's work is in an interfaith setting. "My primary role is spiritual care for the whole community, and that can look like a lot of different things," she said. "It can mean helping make sure that there is space and time for students and adults in the community to practice their spiritual practices or their religious tradition." Heath runs the Interfaith Council and works closely with other religious leaders on campus to ensure that spiritual life continues to thrive.

While this type of job differs somewhat from congregational work, Heath's preparation for interfaith work is abundant. "My chaplaincy work has always been in a broad and interfaith setting, and I studied for a ministry and an intentionally interfaith environment," she said. "My Christian seminary shared a campus with our rabbinical college. At one point, we jointly employed a full time Muslim scholar." Living in these multi-faith communities prepared Heath well for her work at Exeter.

In many ways, the boarding school setting was also a long-awaited "dream" for Heath. "Campus work is really my passion in ministry," she said. "I loved the congregation, but this opportunity to work with teenagers, asking big questions like 'Who am I?' and 'How do I make meaning in the world?' and 'How do I make sense of myself in a particular context?' is really, really exciting to me."

In addition to her interfaith work, Heath "shepherds the Protestant Christian community." While she is an ordained minister, Heath has adjusted her leadership to best serve the Academy's student-driven spirit. "I try to adapt and shift based on who the group of students are... The students take on the bulk of the work," she said. "Of course, I'll fill the functions that are specific to an ordained minister—communion, for example... Otherwise, I really lift up and empower other voices and try to make the space as nourishing as possible for whatever others' needs are."

Instructor in History Hannah Lim noted that Heath has an ability to empower the members of the Exeter community, religious or not. "Not every student on campus has a very deep,



Courtesy of Communications Office

spiritual life, yet somehow, I think [for] every student I put in touch with Rev. Heidi, she's able to just give them really helpful advice, encouragement, and support that they need," she said. "For many members of the Exeter community who are lucky enough to get to know her and interact with her on a personal level, she really lets them shine on their own terms in a way that those people feel really special."

Although the Academy has employed chaplains for a long time, her appointment did mark several firsts—Heath was the first woman and first queer person to be appointed to her position. "For some folks in this community, I might be the first out, queer and practicing religious person that they've met," she said. "When I was younger, I really wanted and needed to see out, queer adults living healthy, happy, fulfilled lives, especially the kind of life I thought I might want to live. And so I don't take that responsibility lightly."

Instructor in English Mercy Carbonell met Heath after returning from sabbatical, during which President Donald Trump was elected. "That, in and of itself, was unsettling... Returning to discover that Rev. Heidi was an openly queer woman leading our Religious Services Community was a serious gift," Carbonell recalled. "And then I met her. And from the start, we spoke of what deeply matters within us and around us; our lives and our values and our loves and all we hope to transform."

In line with her responsibility as

a role model, Heath provides queer, religious students with acceptance and love. "I went through a period of my young adulthood where I basically was asked to leave the community of faith that I was a part of for being queer. I healed from that and found a new community," she said. "It's important to me that our students don't have to make those choices, that they know they can be part of our communities here... They don't have to make the choice between being queer and being Christian or Jewish or anything else."

In addition to this one-on-one work, Heath advises the Gender-Sexuality Alliance with three other faculty members. She also serves on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to further the idea of inclusion as a cornerstone of spiritual connection.

Heath's work in this realm has impressed her colleagues. "As a queer faculty member who is concerned with social justice, I have been so grateful for her in a crucial way... I think of the ways she has asked us to 'see' beyond what we grew up with, beyond colleagues, beyond into barriers meant to divide us," Carbonell said. "She is interfaith listening. She is hope knowing the criticality of justice. She is committed to the transformation of consciousness, which is the transformation of the soul."

Heath uses this strong empathy to support students as a dorm affiliate at Amen Hall. "Being in Amen is really a chance for me to get to come to students

on their turf, instead of having them come to me," she said. "I think a really special thing happens in a dorm common room at ten o'clock on a weeknight... It feels like a little opportunity to help create some home for students."

Heath has had a profound impact on the students she's worked with those in Amen. "She, on several occasions, has cleared her schedule to spend time with me... I cannot imagine my time at Exeter without her," senior Tatum Schutt, one of Heath's first advisees, said. "She goes out of her way to make everyone feel cared for and seen."

A lover of live music, Heath finds opportunities to experience performances both inside and outside Exeter. "[Music] nourishes me in my work, but I also think music takes us out of our heads and into our hearts. This is really a heart space and a space to kind of leave behind some of the pressures of the academic world," she said. "This is why [Evening Prayer] feels really special for me that way—that interplay between music and spoken word and kind of our connection to the community around us... There's interesting science that actually says when we sing together, our hearts start to beat in a similar rhythm and we start to breathe in similar patterns."

Heath stresses that spirituality and religion, while intertwined, are not synonymous. "Don't feel like you have to be religious or spiritual to come in the door here," she said. "If you are, we're so excited to welcome you and to make space you and your practices. And if you're not, we're so excited to welcome you, to hear your story and to welcome you as a broader part of our community."

Regardless of faith or religion, Heath is a resource on campus to reach out to when in need of advice, encouragement or knowledge, among many others. "She has this really amazing ability to find the inner strength of a person and really highlight that and share that with other people," Lim said. "[Heath] has this spider sense of when someone needs her. I really benefited from this a lot."

In some regards, Heath has become a spiritual rock to those on campus. "It is worth noting that even [now], I pause to look at social media, to glance at Facebook. And there is [Rev. Heath saying,] 'Hey friend. Keep going. You're doing better than you know. I love you,'" Carbonell recalled. "Her constancy is beautiful."

Ultimately, it is the diversity in faiths, perspectives and experiences that has kept Heath at Exeter. "I am a profoundly better chaplain and better minister for the time I have spent at Exeter. All of you provoke me, challenge me and inspire me every day to grow, to keep deepening my skills and working to be better at the work I do here and to grow as a person in the world," she said. "It's hard for me to imagine who I would be on this chapter of my ministry where it not for Exeter."

## BACK IN BLACK

By PRIYA NWAKANMA  
Contributing Writer

To be quite honest, I did not have high hopes for Back in Black.

"Don't dress up," said a lower in my dorm. "But wear something small and cute. But not too small, because people will take it as an invitation."

"Stop it, you're scaring her" said one of her friends. She turned to me. "Don't listen to her. It's just a mosh pit." This sounded only slightly better.

On Saturday, Phelps Science Building had a big "V" plastered on it in twinkling lights, like a beacon for preps who didn't know where Grainger Auditorium was.

The lobby was filled with balloons and people and bowls of Oreos. It was surprisingly cold, especially considering I had been warned about the heat by every person I had spoken to about this particular event. But when I walked into the auditorium itself, the temperature rose at least 10 degrees and the air became thick with humidity.

People clumped together and jumped—not quite to the beat—in an uncoordinated pile of teenagers. Strobe lights flickered, making everything feel detached, like a stop-motion film or maybe a fever dream. But when a good song came on, my friend snatched my hand, and pulled me deeper into the crowd, deeper until we were pressed against strangers and so close to the speakers that we could feel the beat in our throats.

The good thing about mosh pits is that nobody cares about you. You can dance without self-consciousness. You are so close to everyone else, that you're practically con-

nected. That becomes less fun, however, when somebody falls down on you. Suddenly you and four other people are on the floor—which is somehow slick with sweat—and your friend has to pick you up and take you outside for an Oreo and some air.

The lobby was filled with lowers saying things like, "This dance was better last year" and muttering "preps" disapprovingly, no doubt referring to the ninth graders, including me, who had done things like fill their cup with questionable punch they thought was water and then drank it because they were too afraid to say anything. Maybe they were talking about the preps who had stumbled into the opposite gender restroom to wash their hands because they could barely see, or the new students who crouched down behind a table to hide from an overbearing friend trying to pull them back onto the dance floor.

But I think we can all agree that the highlight of the night was when Dean Moriarty lifted a shoe in the air for around five minutes and a group of students formed a circle around him, thinking that he was leading a strange dance—only to realize that somebody had lost a shoe and Dean Moriarty was circling the edge of the dance floor trying to figure out who it belonged to.

There are two sides to Back in Black. One is blurry and exciting and dancing with your friends. The other is headaches and suspicious punch and—seriously—how did that floor get so sweaty? But all things considered, as first dances go, this seemed like a good start.

## FALL BUCKET LIST

By VERONICA CHOULGA and CINDY SU  
Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

Aside from the colorful landscape which the season brings, many Exonians can agree that fall comes with rain; a mysterious, campus-wide cold epidemic and other minor inconveniences. However, there are many ways to spice this season up!

If you're in the mood for fresh produce or a remarkable variety of maple products, make sure to stop by the farmer's market on Swasey, every Thursday from 2:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. My personal favorites are the fresh tomatoes and apple cider.

However, if you are one of the unlucky Exonians with a full schedule on Thursday afternoon, not to worry! Swasey is just as enjoyable in the evenings. Grab a few friends to walk along the river or stargaze with you. Make your stroll down the park even better by buying a cup of Stillwells along the way to sweeten up the view of the moon's reflection on the water. We recommend buttercrunch, coffee oreo and Maine black bear.

Swasey Park is also home to the 5th Annual Duck Race this year. On October 5th, Exeter town residents will gather to race over 1800 rubber ducks down the river to raise money for the Community Children's Fund. Come down and have fun while giving back. Purchase your own duck from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and race it at 3:00 p.m.!

While waiting for the race to start, head down to Me & Ollie's for an im-

promptu study session. Sip on a fall-flavored latte as you finish those last few Alex the Geologist problems. Sit by the window and watch those iconic autumn leaves fall. If the piles are large enough, jumping in with your friends is always an option! You can also buy candy from Walgreens and bury it in the leaves for a fun treasure hunt.

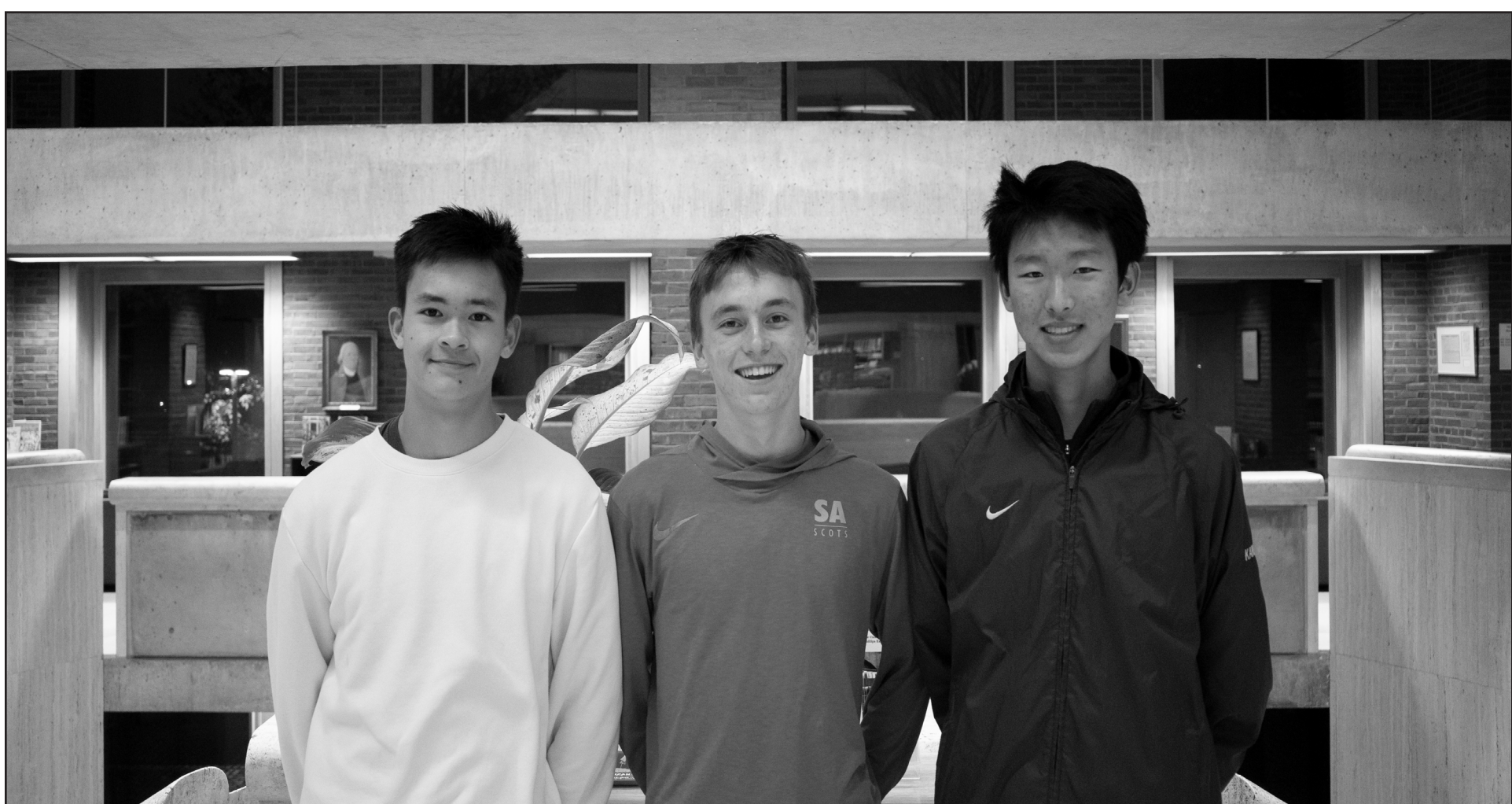
However, if you're not an outside person, or simply want a quiet evening in the dorm, we have some ideas for you! Gather a surplus of pillows, blankets and fairy lights, and set them up underneath your ridiculously high bed frame. Congratulations! You now have a pillow fort. Invite some of your friends over (during V's hours, of course) and have a movie night in your new VSCO-style hangout. Browse around Netflix, and end up deciding on "Tall Girl": the perfect film with a definitely not predictable plot.

Practice your Spikeball skills with your friends while getting some exercise and enjoying the nice fall atmosphere. After a couple of rounds, you'll probably be tired, so recharge by watching some Tik Toks! Try your hand (or your coordination rather) at learning the "spooky scary skeletons" dance.

Fall term offers many opportunities for Exonians to enjoy their time on campus, even if they may not be immediately apparent. Go out and explore, and happy autumn!



# ATHLETES OF THE WEEK: SAM KIM, WILL COOGAN & JINWOO KANG



JaQ Lai/The Exonian

By ANNE BRANDES &  
EMILY KANG  
Staff Writers

While some may call the cross country team “a cult,” senior Blane Zhu believes that the team’s closeness stems from the shared feeling that they’re “all in this together.” The captains leading the 2019–20 season, seniors Will Coogan, Sam Kim and Jinwoo Kang, foster the team’s culture of running faster and longer while enjoying the sport.

Coogan began his running career long before Exeter. “My family runs all the time,” Coogan said. “Both my parents run and so do my two older sisters. I also grew up playing sports along with cross country like soccer and baseball.”

However, what keeps Coogan running is the high level of competitive spirit that each race evokes in him. “It’s always been something that I was going to do, but after I started, I found I loved the competitive nature of running itself,” he said.

Kang, on the other hand, had minimal competitive running experience before coming to Exeter. He was originally a soccer recruit and played for the Big Red soccer team his prep and lower year. While he enjoyed soccer, Kang fell

in love with running during winter and spring track.

Kang devoted himself to running and decided to pursue the sport in all three seasons. “I switched from soccer to cross country, partly because I really liked the team and partly to help my track season,” he said.

Kim, like Coogan, began running competitively in middle school when he and his friends decided to try out for their track team. At Exeter, however, he decided to experiment with a different type of running. “When I got to Exeter, I fell in love with distance running,” he said. “It was a culture I couldn’t find anything else to compare to.”

Kim elaborated on the team dynamic, as well as the tone set by the captains his own prep year. “They started out as slow runners their prep year and then trained really hard to become the fastest people on the team who brought home championships. Everyone wanted to follow their footsteps,” he said. “After watching how much progress they made, I had it in my head that if they could do it, anyone could do it.”

Coogan echoed Kim’s sentiments, explaining how the captains he looked up to as an underclassman inspired his own leadership style today. “The

captains were setting a standard for the whole team,” Coogan said. “Even if you couldn’t run with them because they were older and faster, you could still model your work ethic after them. I try to help the kids on our team show up when it’s a workout day and give it the best they can—not to overdo it, but to work hard.”

This dynamic is coming full circle, as prep Oliver Brandes shared that Coogan, Kim and Kang’s leadership and manner of conduct is something he hopes to emulate someday. “My captains are mentors for how I want to conduct myself for when I am a senior runner,” he said. “In addition to their intense work ethic in training, they go on morning runs which inspires me to work harder.”

Zhu agreed, noting the captains’ positive impact on their training. “We always try to stick together during runs and when we’re running with people, we often talk with each other,” he said. “I think the captains really helped to establish that culture on the team.”

In addition to encouraging camaraderie, lower Garrett Paik noted how the captains have positively affected the runners’ attitude towards their sport. “They’re incredibly resilient; I’ve never

seen any of them give up on a run or during a race, something that carries over to the rest of the team,” he said.

Upper Phil Horrigan admired the captains’ diligence. “Distance running is the kind of sport where you have to work hard to get better, and our captains work hard every day,” he said.

The cross country team has already had a successful season, according to Brandes; the varsity team won their first meet, and JV their second. Despite the varsity team’s recent loss, their top runner, Coogan, brought home a gold medal at one of New Hampshire’s largest meets. “We’ve been doing well so far and, like most teams, we have room for improvement,” Brandes said. “I look forward to seeing how we do over the course of the season.”

While the captains make up much of the team’s fire power, the collective effort of each runner is integral to cross country. “We could have the best runner in the world our team—he could go out, race and crush everybody by two minutes,” Coogan said. “But if we have three, four, five runners lagging behind, we’re not going to win the meet no matter how well that runner performed. So, everyone is very important, which is part of the reason the sport is so fun.”



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## FOOTBALL CUT OUT BY CHOATE

*Big Red Takes a Hit After First Win in Two Years*



Senior Justin Jameson makes a running play.

Thomas Wang/The Exonian

By FELIX YEUNG  
Staff Writer

After a victory against Worcester Academy, the varsity football team lost 7-14 in a close game against Choate Rosemary Hall on Sep. 28. The match was tied until the second half of the game—only one touchdown determined the victor.

Choate's Wild Boars have historically been one of the most successful teams in the league and are currently ranked first in Central New England. Before the first game of the season, Choate had a winning streak of three years.

Going in, Big Red expected a challenge. "We knew ... that the game had high stake," senior and captain Gannon McCorckle said. "This team has lost one game in the past six years, so it was our chance to see how we paired up against one of the best football teams in New England."

Team members felt that, despite the loss, the game was hard-fought. "They are a very talented team and we played

toe to toe with them the whole game," upper Ryan Pettit said. "Our team played a very strong passing and run game. We just need to clean up some things and we'll be ready to compete and beat the next teams." Pettit pointed to improved plays and reducing minor mistakes as potential areas to work on.

Coach Bill Glennon stressed the collaborative nature of the game. "It was a great team effort from practice all week until the final whistle with a chance to win it at the end ... No real disappointments except the final score, but again we were in it at the end," he said. "Everyone contributed, from the starters to those that played on special teams to the excitement by those on the sidelines. Too many excellent performances by all to single out just a few!"

McCorckle agreed that the game was a toss-up. "Both their touchdowns were off mistakes that shouldn't have happened, but, when you are playing a team that good, they have a way of capitalizing," he said.

However, he also noted that the team was in a good position for a come-

back when the game ended. "We had the ball with thirty seconds left, and our player caught the ball for the first down on their three yard line, but the referee missed the call, and the game was over like that," he said. "I don't know if we would have won after that, but we deserved a shot we didn't get. But, hey, that's the game."

Other team members expressed regrets as well. "We could have done a lot better. There were some players who weren't staying with their blocks, and that allowed some Choate defensive players to tackle our backers," senior Deniz Akman said. "If we had held them back, we could have scored more touchdowns."

Still, Exeter's performance was remarkable against such a strong team. "After being outscored ... the last two years before this year, the close ... game definitely represented the amount of improvement the program's experienced this year," upper Hugh McLaughlin said. "Although it was not the result we wanted, it was definitely a good feeling for the team to know we're headed in the

right direction."

McCorckle felt that it would be best to look ahead. "We need to move forward. We played a good team very well, but we can not be satisfied," he said. "We have a big home game this Saturday against Loomis, and we need to stay hungry."

Akman looks forward to working on the technical aspects of the game. "We just need to practice our base techniques. We need to practice what we started doing on day one—getting our footwork and our handwork on point," he said. "That comes a long way in the game, much more than most realize."

Glennon felt that keeping morale high was important. "Keeping up the great work ethic to improve every practice and continue to perform as a team [is something to work on]," he said. "[I want] everyone [to] continue to do their job and keep up the great positive attitude as a team!"

The team continues to practice for its next game, which will be held on campus on Oct. 5 against Loomis Chaffee School.

## FIELD HOCKEY DEFEATED BY DEERFIELD 2-0



Senior Jill Cloonan steals the ball from her opponent.

Thomas Wang/The Exonian

By COOPER WALSH  
Staff Writer

This past Saturday, Big Red Girls' Field Hockey traveled to Deerfield, Mass. to take on the formidable Deerfield Doors. After playing an intense hour of field hockey, Big Red ultimately lost 2-0. Despite the loss, the team showed an impressive level of play.

Senior and co-captain Sophia Rosati was "perfectly fine with the outcome of the game"—last year, Girls' Hockey lost to Deerfield 4-1. According to Rosati, the narrower score margin this year is a sign that the team has improved.

Senior Jill Cloonan noted that along with the better score, she was impressed by her teammates' work ethic. "Every

player on the field was playing as hard as they could and the bench players were also very into the game," she said.

Cloonan especially acknowledged lower Margaret Norsworthy-Edghill's positive energy; while Norsworthy-Edghill was not on the field herself, she was "very enthusiastic on the bench [and] making sure everyone was bringing the intensity."

Knowing that Deerfield was an impressive team going into the game helped Big Red get into the fighting mentality. Rosati was impressed that her team was able to, "stay collected throughout the game against a very tough team."

One of the most notable standout performances came from upper Annie Smaldone between the pipes. Smaldone

has a background playing ice hockey goalie in the winter; however, this is her first season as a field hockey goalie. Upper Tia Reaman said that Smaldone is already "a huge part of the team. Without her, the score would have been much worse."

Rosati agreed, saying, "Annie made a countless number of saves and props to her for only letting in two goals which were very tough to defend. Deerfield was relentless in front of the net and Annie really held her ground."

According to Cloonan, Exeter's brilliant performance against Deerfield can, in large part, be credited to outstanding team spirit. "Every player before the game hypes their teammates up to make sure that everyone is excited to play as hard as they could," Cloonan said.

Meanwhile, upper Haruka Masamura shouted out Cloonan and lower Molly Longfield for "pumping others up before games and practices," but also "knowing when to take the sport seriously."

Not only is the Field Hockey team close on the field, but they are also frequently spotted dining together in D-Hall. Longfield said, "I can rely on my teammates to be there for me if I ever need them—we are a family like that."

Coming off of this exciting game, the future looks bright for the team. They are looking to turn their next game this Saturday against Nobles into another dub on their stat sheet. Rosati is confident that if the players show "the same work output" that they did during the Deerfield game, Big Red Hockey will annihilate Nobles.