



The Exonian

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Permit Number 78

"The Oldest Preparatory School Newspaper in America"

Vol. CXL, Number 21

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire

PEA Takes Initiative Towards Mental Health

By ANNE BRANDES
and MAI HOANG
Staff Writers

Senior Liana* recalled her first real panic attack from prep fall before an important biology test. "I came back to my room and it was a mess, so I couldn't handle it. I went to my bathroom freaking out. My body was shaking and I couldn't breathe," she said.

While renown for its rigor, many PEA students cite increased workloads, competition and pressure—specifically in the college admissions process—as reasons for rising levels of stress. Dean of Health and Wellness Gordon Coole, among many other adults on the PEA campus, hopes to help students to counter stress.

Upper Gina* identified open discussion of achievement,

and her subsequent self-criticism and comparison to others, as a major cause of her own anxiety. "Everyone comes to Exeter because they think they're smart, and we still compete with each other to see who's the smartest." Gina believes this stems from insecurity, the constant questioning of whether one fits in at Exeter and deserves to be here. "Whatever you do in your own life feels mundane, like I'm a tiny

fish in a big pond with lots of big fish who have trained their whole life to be here," she said.

Though she described the official workload at Exeter to be manageable on the surface, Gina brought up that many students push themselves to fill their schedule with other activities. "Teachers assigning less would not solve the problem, because we're still going to do more," she

STRESS, 2



Helena Chen/The Exonian

Mold Vexes PEA Church

By ISABELLA AHMAD
and SENAI ROBINSON
Staff Writers

Several buildings, including Phillips Church, three faculty houses and Wentworth Hall dealt with a mold infestation during the summer.

The mold affected primarily the church basement, near the wooden kitchen cupboards and carpeted meeting space. Mold was also found in the office spaces, the Stuckey Room and parts of the Wicks Room. According to Tegan Marquis DeGenova, PEA's Environmental Compliance Manager and Chair to the mold eradication process, the mold did not affect the main lobby and nave, which is the central part of the church building. The church has since been remediated as its increasingly poor condition called for high level treatment.

Despite the potential for health complications, Rev. Heidi Heath reflected on how the situation could have turned out more negatively had either the Jewish community's Torah Scrolls been eaten by the fungus or the church not reopened before the school year. "While many, many things could be replaced if they could not be cleaned,

MOLD, 2



Senior Garrett Kimball and Nick Devonshire '07 Paula Perez -Glassner/The Exonian share a conversation at Senior Alumni Dinner.

Alums Respond to Abuse Report

By ERIN CHOI, SUAN LEE, and ANGELE YANG

The Phillips Exeter Alumni for Truth and Healing (PATH)—an "action group comprised of both survivors of sexual abuse at PEA and their supporters in the alumni community"—published a petition on Sept. 20 calling for the Academy to reconduct its investigations on sexual assault in response to documents released via email to the Exeter community on Aug. 24 from Interim Principal William Rawson.

The petition, which has 294 signatures to date, claimed that the Academy's most recent investigations were not truly independent because cases were only reported to the law firm Holland & Knight (H&K) after they had already been reviewed by PEA and law firm Nixon Peabody (NP), the Academy's legal counsel. Rawson has expressed hesitation to repeat these investigations.

In an email to faculty responding to PATH's petition, Rawson said that "PATH's letter reflects a fundamental lack of trust in the Academy—with respect to what the Academy is doing now to provide a safe teaching and learning environment, as well as with respect to the investigations and reports on past incidents of sexual misconduct," he said. "To some extent, this is on the Academy, for having lost their trust in the first place. Trust lost is not easily regained."

Rawson continued that PATH's petition reflects misgivings about the recent investigations and the administration's response to the results. "PATH's letter is still disappointing, as we have worked hard to

PATH, 2

Rawson Pushes for Stricter Attendance at Future Assemblies

By NIVAN DHIR, SUAN LEE, EMMA LYLE and RACHEL WON
Staff Writers

Dean of Student Health and Wellness Gordon Coole steps onto the Assembly Hall Stage, and students wait in anticipation as he begins, "Assembly check for..." Students who are clear rush out, while others head to the marble steps of the Academy Building to check in with faculty.

According to Dean of Student Health and Wellness Gordon Coole, the school will conduct an assembly attendance check at almost every assembly for the coming year at the direction of Interim Principal William Rawson.

According to Coole, faculty and administrators have grown increasingly dismayed by students choosing to miss assembly. The Dean of Students' Office is currently working with Campus Safety and the Information Technology Governance Committee to develop an electronic method of taking assembly attendance for the entire student body. Students would swipe into the Assembly Hall using their Lion Cards. "This particularly is being driven by safety concerns and risk management," Coole said.

Coole hopes to implement this online system "as soon as possible" and believes that a new system will not detract from discussions following the assembly as in-person checks currently do. "You want to leave a wonderful assembly in a manner that allows people to continue talking about the assembly topic," Coole said. "I'm an interference. People are just thinking 'Who is Dean Coole going to check today?'"

Until the school develops an electronic system, however, Coole will continue to conduct in-person assembly checks.

Despite pressure to attend assembly, students expressed concerns about the risks associated with a full Assembly Hall. Lower Philip Horrigan suggested that an Assembly Hall filled up to or over maximum capacity could be a fire hazard, saying "the problem is that there's going to be over a thousand kids in the Assembly Hall every single Tuesday and Friday, and that's



Coach Adam Silva speaks at assembly. Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

Director of Campus Safety Services and Risk Management Paul Gravel, however, assured the community the school has discussed fire safety precautions at length with the Exeter Fire Department. "We are not breaking Fire Code when full assembly is in session," he said. "All members of Campus Safety are certified Crowd Managers [...] and are in attendance during Assembly. So we can exceed posted occupancy."

While History Instructor Michael Golay understands the value of assemblies, he sympathized with students' occasional need to repurpose the 50-minute assembly block. "I used to allow my advisees who were having a particularly difficult time or had a test coming up [...] sit out an assembly in my classroom occasionally. I don't feel I can do that any longer with the new system," he said. However, Golay believed that periodic, random assembly checks were beneficial. "I suppose in a perfect world, I would wish that students who have a particularly heavy day could have a little discretion about whether they could sit out a particular assembly."

History Instructor Betty Luther-Hillman suggested that the decline in assembly attendance points to "a larger problem with the culture" at the Academy. "The school says we care about certain things—attending assembly, learning about the world and about our peers—but sometimes the things we officially reward can conflict with the other things we value. If a student

ASSEMBLY, 2

ESSO Dorm Service Will Be Optional

By CHARLES FALIVENA, LINA HUANG and ANGELE YANG
Staff Writers

The Exeter Student Service Organization (ESSO) will launch an optional dorm community service initiative from October to March after piloting the project last spring.

The organization hopes to incorporate Exeter's core value of non sibi into students' daily lives. Students will select a project in late September or early October. Each dorm will participate in a project of its choice for a two to three week period. Hoyt, Lamont and Wentworth Halls first piloted this dorm service program last spring.

Since then, ESSO has modified the initiative for this year so it is optional and more flexible around students' schedules. Senior and ESSO Co-President Jenny Yang explained that students were more receptive to the initiative when they chose the projects they wanted to participate in and the length of their service. According to Yang, the dorms will now decide on how long students will commit to the program. "We're not going to force anyone to do an hour and half of service if that's not what they want to do," she said.

Yang added that ESSO will use a reward system for students who participate in the program. Dorm heads almost unanimously passed the modified proposal for dorm service last spring.

Some of the projects will include cleaning

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Stress Remains Prevailing Concern, Students Cope

Continued from STRESS.1

said. “It’s promoted by ourselves.”

The Academy aims to improve the care available to students dealing with stress and anxiety. Two years ago, the school only had three counselors and one psychiatrist; now, five mental health Counselors and two part-time psychiatrists can assist students. “We’re significantly ramping up our abilities to intervene in cases where students do have mental health issues,” Coole said.

However, the solution to mental health issues, according to Associate Director of Counseling and Psychological Services Dr. Christopher Thurber, is not just about hiring more clinicians and advisers, but also about a fundamental change of principles. “I think [improving our program] will happen by modernizing our pedagogy. And that doesn’t mean abandoning Harkness, but we’re sometimes very slow to change.” Thurber offered two ways to advance Exeter’s curriculum: “improved schedule and improved workload guidelines, for both faculty and students.”

The additional pressure of elite college admissions, combined with uncertainty and increased workload, also burdens Exonians. College Counselor Betsy Dolan explained that the admissions landscape has changed over the years. “The admit rate for selective colleges is much lower and as such, adds to the stress of the college process for Exonians,” Dolan said. Similar to Thurber, Mathematics Instruc-

tor Joseph Wolfson believed that it is up to everyone in the community, adults and students, to find courage and alter our mindset. “You will get into a good school, but you probably won’t get into Harvard anyway,” he said. “So you have a choice about how much you want to worry.”

Exonians find many outlets to decompress from their stresses. For senior Pavan Garidipuri, he sets aside time for self-care and reflection. “I make sure that I get eight hours of sleep or more; it does come with me sacrificing some homework quality, but 30 minutes of extra sleep is sometimes better than 30 minutes more homework,” Garidipuri said.

Many Exonians also find help by reaching out to other students or adults on campus. Benfield remembered a severe panic attack in her room in her lower year. “I crawled out of my door to the hallway, where there was another upper. She stayed with me until campus safety could come. I just held her and cried.” Benfield credited her counselors, coaches, teachers and dorm mates for helping her through the most difficult times of her Exeter career.

Yet seeking help is not an immediate response for all students. Senior Jordan Davidson only realized he should use Exeter’s counseling services after he opened up to his parents at the end of prep year. “They said, ‘Talk to the counselor. I was resistant at first. It took a bit of pushing, but I went...it was a

great experience,” he said.

Coole expressed hope for change in the coming months with a three-part solution to improve Exeter’s ability of combating mental health issues by “bolstering our students, better recognition capabilities of our faculty and better support services for those do have mental health issues.”

This initiative targets stress management while maintaining Exeter’s high degree of academic difficulty. Coole notes that “[students] want a demanding academic curriculum. So we can’t back down on that because we have to service the students that find Exeter attractive.”

Skills For Success is a new component added this year to strengthen Exeter’s mental health program. Positive education is a large element of this component. “It’s really a mindset following [Stanford psychology professor] Carol Dweck’s mindsets of being not just growth-oriented, but also benefit-oriented. This piece right here is very, very big in being proactive in terms of supporting good student health and not just sitting down waiting for the mental health issues to happen,” Coole said.

Despite these efforts, Instructor of Biology Townley Chisholm remarked that many of the core stress-related problems are beyond the school’s control. “We can’t change college admissions, national politics, world peace or global climate change,” Chisholm said. “If we reduce homework or inflate grades (even more) all we do is to make our students more

alike and less distinctive to colleges. Advisers can and do encourage students to do their work early, to get enough sleep and to exercise.”

Other recent developments are the Academy Life Task Force and Community Times. “The Academy Life Task Force advocated for more training of our adult staff to help students navigate life’s challenges,” Interim Dean of Residential Life Carol Cahalane said. “Linked to that, I was very happy with the required training about anxiety, stress and perfectionism that we had a couple weeks ago. I am excited to see how we can use our Community Times to address shared issues and concerns, student well-being being one of them.”

Lamont Health and Wellness Center Psychologist Dr. Szu-Hui Lee thinks there is still more work to be done. “I would like to see ongoing programming, increased resources and most of all, I hope the stigma around mental health and the hesitation to seek help will continue to decrease,” Lee said. “The more we give ourselves permission and opportunity to talk about how we are doing and feeling, the more we can connect as a community and help one another out. Mental health is both an individual concern, as well as a community concern. We have to work together.”

**Asterisks denote name change to protect anonymity.*

PATH Launches Petition, Calls for More Accountability

Continued from PATH.1

regain trust. We would be very reluctant to repeat all the investigations, as PATH urges,” he said. “We have been and remain committed to a thorough discovery of our past, support for those who have been harmed and the undertaking of appropriate corrective action and communication.”

In a supplemental document to the H&K findings, PEA acknowledged the screening process the petition later addressed. “Once we learned that the EPD had closed a case...we consulted with counsel to determine whether there was sufficient information to allow for an investigation of our own. When we determined an investigation was possible, we enlisted the help of external investigators,” the document reads.

According to the document, H&K only proceeded with investigations when “there was sufficient identifying information about the alleged victim, reporter, and/or alleged perpetrator,” “the report alleged employee sexual misconduct” and “the allegation had not been fully investigated or addressed previously by the Academy or the police.” The decision of whether or not an allegation met these standards and warranted further investigation was left to the Academy’s discretion.

Julia Gray ’97, a PATH spokesperson, found the investigations and reports incomplete. “The investigative reports do not give a comprehensive account of historical sexual misconduct,” she said. “This is dangerous because without a full accounting of the

scope and severity of harm that’s occurred, how can there be assurance that PEA is taking all appropriate measures to remedy it?”

In the petition’s appendix, PATH claims that “much, if not all, of the information H&K received was filtered through lawyers defending the school from liability.”

To “encourage true transparency and accountability,” the petition requested that all relevant allegations and evidence concerning abuse perpetrated by PEA adults against students and peer-to-peer abuse allegations be turned over to an investigator both PATH and Exeter agreed upon.

The petition further expressed concerns that the Academy was unable to comprehensively investigate the matter due to its authority as an institution, inflicting “secondary harm” to students who had come forward with reports. “It is not surprising that although NP found that PEA grossly mishandled many of these allegations by failing to report to authorities or even to parents in some cases, there are no disclosures of any details regarding which PEA faculty and administrators mishandled the allegations,” the appendix stated, citing the Rockingham County files which described that administrators “often downgraded ‘assaults’ to ‘harassments’” to forego mandated reporting laws.

Alumna Arielle Lui ’18, who claims to be a survivor of on-campus sexual assault, emphasized that “the school has failed to address student-on-student misconduct,” which she claimed “is definitely more preva-

lent today than what happened in the past.” Lui recalled the challenges she faced while reporting an incident of sexual misconduct perpetrated by another student, stating that “some of the deans acted unprofessionally to me at times.”

Lui ultimately decided to directly register a claim with the EPD rather than going through the PEA administration. “The Academy didn’t really have any say over the investigation other than attempting to provide support, which they didn’t really do,” she said.

Alumna Hannah Sessler ’15 hopes the petition will encourage the Academy to be more transparent in its investigation and reporting. “The documents Exeter recently released have important information, contexts, names and acknowledgments missing. There is much more to report on,” she said.

PATH further requested that former principals and deans no longer be in attendance or honored at alumni events “given the complicity of past administrators in the mishandling and concealment of sexual abuse.”

The H&K report that the Academy’s “dual record-keeping system” on information pertaining to sexual misconduct allegations, where information was not universally accessible, “resulted in other administrative staff members having an incomplete view of the conduct history in the confidential file.”

Rawson stated that these discrepancies will be eliminated moving forward. “All employee files are now centrally stored

in the Human Resources Department. Department heads and other managers have received and will continue to receive training on proper documentation and record-keeping, and in particular, proper documentation of all personnel concerns,” he reported.

Alumna Kirsten Mallik ’95 said that “for years, Exeter fell into a trap that so many other high-profile institutions have: thinking that preserving their reputation and preventing a scandal was truly in the best interest of all its students.” She described this outlook as “a heartbreaking betrayal of the trust families and students put in Exeter.”

Carl Lindemann ’79, who served as PEA Assistant Minister from 1991 to 1993, requests that Exeter adhere to its core values. “Lawyers...can be the very embodiment of ‘knowledge without goodness,’” he said. “Here, I really think we need to reflect deeply about what our values are as Exonians—and if they are compatible with doing the legal thing.”

According to Gray, PATH hopes to continue collaborating with PEA administration and the Trustees to thoroughly investigate and confront the Academy’s history of sexual misconduct. “Each time a statement is released from Exeter, we hear from new people who have never stepped forward to share their story. What that means to me is that this kind of transparency is important. It is important because it might start that individual on a path towards healing from the harm they experienced,” she said.

Academy Addresses Mold Infestation around Campus

Continued from MOLD.1

those are sacred texts and irreplaceable,” she said. “Thankfully, [the scrolls] were undamaged...Our biggest joy was being back in the building in time for our Jewish community to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.”

History Instructor Bill Jordan resides in one of the homes that the mold affected. He moved into the house in June and, as a result, the basement of the house was in use, serving as storage for several boxes; it became an optimal location for mold to grow. Facilities recommended that Jordan vacuum out the mold, which he plans to do in the next few days.

Two other faculty houses neighboring Jordan’s also suffered mold in in the basement and window areas.

Three different companies were hired to help eradicate the mold issue, DeGenova said. American Technologies Inc. Restoration, a mold and asbestos remediation service, disposed of the mold and cleared af-

ected areas. EFI Global, an environmental consulting company based in Wilmington, Massachusetts, conducted post-treatment sampling and testing to make sure the areas were clear of mold and within acceptable health limits. Envirotech Clean Air Inc. cleaned up the air ducts in the building. However, a majority of the Academy Facilities Department, particularly the Custodial Department, Mechanical Services, Building Systems and Environmental Compliance, were also involved in dealing with the mold.

According to Wentworth dorm head Sean Campbell, there was also a significant amount of mold growth in the Wentworth basement, where the dorm participates in a Dorm Grill tradition. Dorm faculty closed the room to students so that PEA’s facilities staff can replace their refrigerator and clean out the room.

Upper Sam Farnsworth remarked that the loss of Dorm Grill has considerable implications for dorm members. “No more late night snacks or drinks,” he said. “Couple

that with the fact that Dominos closed down, and we’re looking at a catastrophe.”

A combination of two environmental factors caused the mold fester in specific locations on campus. First, Exeter experienced an unusually humid summer with particularly high temperatures. Second, carpets and rugs, wood, drywall, cardboard boxes and upholstered items are everywhere on campus.

According to Biology Instructor Townley Chisholm, the growth of mold is very dependent on the climate. The July weather in Exeter was humid, and consequently, it was rare to see mushrooms growing. August, however, was extremely humid. “Bacteria and fungi need warmth, moisture, food and darkness to grow,” Chisholm said.

In addition, mold, like all living things, needs a food source to sustain itself, and the various organic materials that both make up and are inside the buildings provide exactly that. PEA exhibits ideal conditions for mold.

Jordan agreed. “There is a global warming issue here—it is more humid around here than it used to be,” he said, recalling the weather during 9/11 to be much crisper and much less conducive for mold.

Though mold spores are everywhere, when they grow and increase in concentration, especially in spaces where humans are exposed to them, they can pose a real threat. According to DeGenova, exposure to mold can cause nasal congestion, throat irritation, coughing, wheezing, eye and skin irritation.

Farnsworth agrees, noting that he has seen more Exonians getting sick this year. “There seems to be a lot of people getting sick with minor symptoms that are exacerbated in the morning after they have spent the night in [Wentworth],” he said.

However, Chisholm argues that, mold aside, there are many factors that can cause detriments on human health, and just because mold is present in a community does not mean it is the cause of any ailments of the community members.

Faculty to Check Student Attendance at Every Assembly

Continued from ASSEMBLY.1

has to choose between attending assembly and finishing their homework, I can totally understand why they would choose the latter,” she said.

Senior Ruby Bagwyn believes that most Exonians only skip assemblies under extenuating circumstances. “A lot of people try to use that time to do homework. [Missing assembly] gives me more free time to get work done and it’s a comfort to know that I have that time if I need it,” she said.

Others, however, are not convinced by the claim that Exonians only skip assembly for extenuating circumstances. “I hear

too many stories of students with double sleep-ins before assembly who choose to skip and I see far too many empty seats to give these excuses [about heavy workload] much credence,” Science Instructor Townley Chisholm said. “Students should plan their days around assemblies just as they do around their classes,” he said.

Coach Olutoyin Augustus-Ikwuakor holds a similar opinion and believes that Exonians should prioritize assembly for its importance as “the only official and consistent time when we gather all students together to hear one message. It is a space for inclusion.”

Despite the vast array of speakers, many students contest Augustus-Ikwuakor’s claim. Upper Francisco Silva has not always found assembly to be a valuable learning experience. “There have been some assemblies where we leave and we’re just wondering what the point of that was,” Silva said. “The problem isn’t that the school isn’t cracking down on assembly checks—it’s that the school isn’t inviting more inspiring speakers.”

Senior Priscilla Ehrgood agreed. “I think [the level of engagement] really depends on the speaker. There are some assemblies that everyone finds engaging

and others that are only interesting for an exclusive group of people,” she said.

English Instructor and new Chair of the Assembly Committee Alex Myers is aware of such sentiments and noted that the Assembly Committee is open to student feedback about how to make assemblies more engaging. “I do hear people sometimes say ‘It’s a waste of time. I don’t enjoy it. I don’t learn anything.’ To those people, I would say ‘let me know what wasn’t good and let me know what you would like to hear,’” he said. “I want the program to be good and I will take the time and the energy and the effort to make it good.”

ESSO Board Establishes Dorm Service Program, Made Optional

Continued from ESSO, 1

classrooms, wiping down tables in the dining halls, raking leaves and shoveling snow around the dorms.

Director of Service Learning and ESSO Adviser Elizabeth Reyes believes the program will connect the Exeter community by having students help staff members with their daily tasks. She said it will, “give everyone a chance to give back to the community in ways big and small...It will teach us to take care of the space where we live and pay better attention to what goes into making PEA such a strong community from the academics, to the gardens, to the sports fields, to the food we eat.”

Senior and ESSO Co-President Grace Gray specified the hard work that staff members do to keep Exeter functioning. “Many people don’t know that our custodian staff often cleans classrooms and administrative buildings until 3:00 a.m. each night,” Gray

said. “If we can each play our part in helping out, even if just for 30 minutes out of the whole school year, our school could generate great helping power.”

Facilities Management Executive Assistant Kathryn Kokin, who worked with students to clean hallways, vacuum rooms and wash chalkboards last year, offered her insight on last spring’s pilot. She said it “was a big help for our night custodial staff. We worked with this group for five weeks, three times a week in the Academy Building and Phillips Hall,” she said. “The boards, in particular, were a huge help and saved us a lot of time. This assistance may seem inconsequential, but having that time allows us to focus on additional work or work that may not get the attention it might deserve and is quite a morale booster.”

Kokin and ESSO are currently collaborating to train entire dorms in how to complete the service.

Director of Facilities Management

Mark Leighton said that his “hope was that the students would gain a greater appreciation and understanding of the work that happens behind the scenes while also building a connection with facilities management staff.”

Upper Velen Wu, a Hoyt Hall resident, appreciated her experience during last year’s pilot. “I was intrigued by how the dining hall operates,” she said. “I didn’t actually realize how much work it was until I started doing it because I thought it was just a few chairs, no problem, but [the dining hall] is a mess after dinner. [The dining hall staff] were so happy about how we were [helping] after dinner, and that just felt really good.”

Wu’s dorm mates, seniors Issy Wise and Sloane Valen, also enjoyed their experiences last year, but offered some insight on how to make the dorm service program more appealing to participants. Wise said she would have preferred if the program revolved around reward for participation,

rather than punishment for not participating, because she believes involuntary service counters the benevolent principle behind the program.

For Valen, the biggest problem with last year’s program was the timing of the operation. “The program was a great idea, but it took place at night during homework crunch time, when people were less eager to do the tasks.”

Gray hopes the newly modified program will help lift the burden off of facilities employees. “Although this program is helping to lift the burden off facilities employees, we are not doing their job for them; they still have more than enough work to do, even with our help,” she said. “We’re also creating a longer standing help by hopefully weaving these ideas of cleaning up after ourselves completely in the dining hall or cleaning up our classroom when we leave and taking care of our dorm, instilling those into our community values more neatly,” Gray said.

Alumni Community Convenes for Exeter Leadership Weekend

By ANNE BRANDES, MOUHAMED GAYE and SAM WEIL
Staff Writers

This past weekend, hundreds of alumni young and old interspersed throughout the Assembly Hall, chatting with current students over lunch in the dining hall and walking through campus amongst buildings both familiar and unrecognizable. These class agents and parents of current students who fundraise for the school arrived on campus on Friday September 21, to participate in the annual Exeter Leadership Weekend (ELW), a testament to Exonians’ past and present dedication to the Academy.

The weekend commenced with assembly speaker Stephen Robert ’58. Robert spoke on his Exeter experience and his work with the Source of Hope Foundation. After the speech, ELW attendees, from class officers to members of the Parents Committee, chose to either sit in on a class or attend an informational session on admissions at Exeter.

After lunch, attendees learned more about Exeter’s health program and listened to a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Panel. Participants were also given the opportunity to tour the brand new David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Theater and Dance. Director of Facilities Management Mark Leighton and sat in on a Concert Choir rehearsal in the Forrester-Bowld Music Center.

Leighton described the importance of Exeter’s community in the development of facilities on campus. “The new facilities cannot happen without the tremendous support of the alumni,” Leighton said. “Tours of the new facilities allows the attendees of ELW to see the buildings in use and how they are making a difference.”

The day concluded with an Alumni Cocktail Reception and a dinner with the

Class of 2019. Former Trustee Monica Shelton-Reusch ’77 described the senior dinner—a chance for the senior class to connect with graduates—as one of the highlights of her weekend. “[I enjoy] the opportunity to speak with the seniors, to find out what’s happening from their perspective and to see how their experience is going,” she said.

During this dinner, the 2018 General Alumni Association President Award was presented to Robert Baldi ’03 and Eric Steel ’82. Shelton-Reusch found the ceremony inspiring, specifically commenting on Baldi’s and Steel’s speeches. “They spoke not only to the alums but to the seniors as well; everyone could relate to what they were saying,” she said.

On Saturday, Head of the Trustees Tony Downer, Interim Principal William Rawson, Dean of Faculty Ellen Wolff and Interim Chief Financial Officer Marijka Beauchesne addressed guests in the Exeter Leadership Weekend Assembly.

Wolff recounted her speech’s message, explaining how she emphasized teachers’ commitment to students. “I spoke for about 10 minutes, sharing information about the professional development work faculty members did this summer,” Wolff said. “It was a great opportunity to tell these engaged alumni, alumnae and parents about the exciting ways in which members of the Exeter faculty continue to grow as teachers and scholars, in order to bring the very best to Exeter students.”

Beauchesne elaborated on the main purpose of her speech. “My goal was primarily to help the General Alumni Association (GAA) understand the fundamental activities the Exeter Fund supports,” she said. “I look forward to spending more time with our dedicated and passionate alumni volunteers without whom the full Exeter experience and related operating budget would not be pos-

sible. These individuals share a tremendous amount of their valuable time with us and our alums in an effort to support the Academy’s continuous pursuit of excellence in education and growth of the whole child.”

Shelton-Reusch especially looked forward to Rawson’s speech and afterward thought he was “absolutely terrific.”

“While there were some positive conversations, there also were some difficult questions that were asked of the principal and the Dean of Students,” alumnus Anthony Chen ’78 said about the assembly. According to Chen, the questions surrounded “Exeter’s commitment to diversity and inclusion” and “ongoing concerns and questions about the sexual harassment.”

Chen elaborated that these questions called attention to the Academy’s past and present awareness of sexual misconduct and its relation to general media regarding sexual harassment.

Jonathan Ross ’71 commended how Interim Principal Rawson answered these questions. “[Rawson] was challenged a bit on the whole subject of the cases of sexual harassment and the Academy’s response, and he said, ‘Okay, I hear you, and I welcome you in my office to come talk with me about how you think we should handle this,’” Ross said.

The weekend concluded with a lunch during which non-reunion class volunteers, regional volunteers and admissions volunteers could engage with students.

The various meetings stressed the importance of how to increase donations for the school. Ross, a newly inducted class volunteer, particularly appreciated the way the meetings emphasized the school’s devotion to helping the attendees “be more effective at fundraising. It’s not just getting out there and to bring in the dollars, but rather it’s how can we help to increase participation

among the alums, as well as increase some of the gifts,” Ross said.

Jonathan Peele ’87 also stressed the importance of these meetings. “If you’re going to go out there and ask people to support Exeter, you need to understand Exeter’s needs. And to be effective, you need current information when they ask questions such as, ‘How does Exeter use my donation? Why should I give so much? How can I help Exeter?’”

In addition to ELW allowing class agents to raise funds, the weekend serves as an opportunity to express appreciation for class agents, according to Director of Parent Giving Laura Schwartz. “Every year, the Office of Institutional Advancement invites back alumni and parent volunteers to thank them for their dedication and hard work,” Schwartz said. “It is also a weekend to update them on what is happening on campus and give them an opportunity to hear from campus leaders and students.”

For Shelton-Reusch, ELW represents alumni’s long-standing commitment to the Exeter community. “I can remember the very first time I came back for Exeter Leadership Weekend, the only people I really knew were my classmates,” Shelton-Reusch said. “Now when I go back I enjoy reconnecting with alumni from across the classes, staff and faculty that I have come to know over the years. I just feel like my community has grown tremendously and continues to grow.”

Psychologist Dr. Szu-Hui Lee, who led an open house with Director of Student Well-Being Dr. Christina Palmer on Exeter’s ongoing commitment to student health, noted the importance of Exeter Leadership Weekend. “[The] PEA community runs wide and deep,” Lee said. “It’s important for us to create opportunities to come together.”

Browning House Officially Renamed as Front Street House

By MAI HOANG, SYDNEY KANG AND FELIX YEUNG
Staff Writers

In the middle of his summer vacation, upper Grant Goodall, a resident of Front Street House, received an unexpected notification on his Facebook group: beginning in the 2018-19 school year, his beloved dorm would no longer be called “Browning House.” Instead, it would be renamed “Front Street House.” When he returned to campus this fall, the old plaque had been replaced.

Goodall said about the renaming, “Firstly, I felt a bit conflicted about it because we were all used to the name Browning... We were worried initially about whether any of the spirit of Browning dorm would be diminished by having a different name,” he said. Goodall realized, however, that what the Browning family stood for was quite different from the values of Browning House.

In 2016, alumnus Louis N. Browning ’50 wrote a letter to the Academy’s Board of Trustees requesting that his name be taken off the dorm building. In the letter, he demonstrated a difference in opinion about the progressive direction the school was taking with issues including official support for the LGBTQ+ community, specifically “same-gender marriage and homosexual coupling.” Browning also took issue with the lack of representation of students from the “hinterland” regions of the Appalachians and Rocky Mountains.

Browning could not be reached for comment at the time of publication.

Many dorm residents stressed that Browning’s views did not reflect those of the students who live in Front Street House. Upper Thomas Wang said, “What [Browning] did, he perverted Browning. Browning has always stood for this dorm, it has never stood for him as an individual or any of his beliefs.”

Some were rather disconcerted with the change. “A lot of people were rather disappointed,” upper and resident Alex Norton said. “They thought that the Browning name

transcended just that of the founders. It has become ingrained—a part of that dorm forever, a part of the school.”

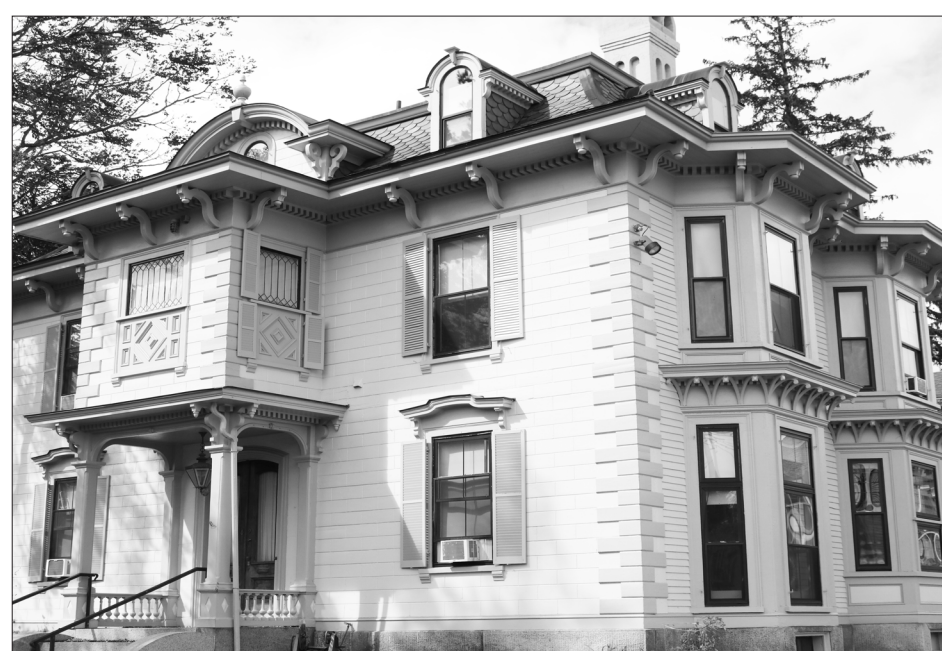
Other dorm members, however, believed that the name change was necessary so members of the community would not misconstrue the spirit of Browning House. As prep Daniel Chen put it, the dorm is “intrinsically connected with the nature of the name... That’s why I feel like it’s a necessary change,” he said.

Despite the sentiment of Browning’s letter, Assistant Principal Karren Lassey did not experience pressure from the family to quickly change the name. Rather, there was “a sense of obligation to comply with a donor’s request,” she said. In choosing the name, the school sought input from a variety of parties last spring. “Discussion between Facilities, Institutional Advancement, the Dean of Students’ Office, the principal and others last spring resulted in agreement on the name,” she said.

Head of the Trustees Tony Downer agreed that it was a deliberate process. “The Browning House renaming process was one that was undertaken overwhelmingly by the on-campus leadership team,” he said. Though he was not closely involved with the process, he asserts, “The Trustees have supported and continue to support the change of the name.”

Now christened Front Street House, some residents are feeling nostalgic for the formerly-named Browning. “A lot of people still feel that Browning House is the name of the dorm they’re living in—they don’t want to change that because it’s so instrumental to their life, it’s such a big part of who they are on campus that it’s almost like redefining them,” said Norton.

Others, meanwhile, view the name Front Street as lacking in vitality. “The name change to Front Street doesn’t really feel like a renaming,” said prep Daniel Chen. “It feels like more of a denaming. It doesn’t really add any sense of identity to the place and because Front Street is just a very bland name; it’s not very representative of the community.”



The renamed “Front Street House.”

Paula Perez -Glassner/The Exonian

English Instructor and Front Street House Affiliate Todd Hearon expressed a similar sentiment. “I think the new name sounds very teutonic and utilitarian,” he said. “But at least the residents won’t get lost coming home.”

Residents unhappy with Front Street House wish for a more representative name. Some specifically had new names they hoped would replace “Browning House.” “I respect the decision to change the name, but personally, I would’ve liked it to be something cooler, like Zuck House,” proctor and senior Josiah Paintsil said, referring to the fact that alumnus Mark Zuckerberg ’02 was a resident of the dorm.

Currently, despite their respect for the reasons behind the name change, dorm members still use “Browning” and “Front Street” interchangeably out of habit. “When we’re talking with each other, we say Browning, but when we introduce ourselves in class we say Front Street,” Paintsil said.

The dorm members also still cheer for “B House” during assemblies. However,

this cheer now refers to “Best House,” according to Paintsil, who credits senior Rajrishi Das with the idea behind the cheer.

Chen described the use of “Browning House” as a sort of in-joke. “People joke and still call it Browning, but it’s obviously not going to be called Browning four years from now,” he said.

Opinions differ, however, on whether the new name will stick with subsequent dorm members. “Honestly, I think it’s going to stay as Browning,” prep Allen Suh said. Despite having only been in the dorm for a few weeks, he has grown familiar with and attached sentimental value to the old name that his fellow students still use. “The thing about a name is that the more you use it, the more it becomes a part of you,” he said.

Hearon, on the other hand, imagined that the old name will “fall off” with subsequent residents. “Did you know Phillips Hall used to be named Hearon Hall?” he joked. “I pulled my donation and they changed it 14 years ago. Now, no one knows the difference.”

For Whom Are the Liberal Arts?

Mai Hoang '20
Columnist

“We are a liberal arts institution,” the University of Chicago representative stated at the beginning of his college information session. “At our university, you can freely experience subjects you never thought you’d be interested in. Most students do not declare a major coming into UChicago, and most of the ones who do change their minds.”

True to this prologue, in the course of his hour-long session, the representative mentioned the term “liberal arts” at least four more times, as if it were one of the pastel-colored marbits in a bowl of Lucky Charms that no one could ever have enough of.

I will not attempt to deny it—I am one of the impressionable marbit-seekers; I decided to do more research about this college because I was drawn to the concept of academic exploration and the freedom that it promised. “The ideal major is the one in which the student feels the most intellectually engaged and successful,” the university website stated under the “Choosing a Major” tab. I snapped while reading this sentence out loud. At UChicago, there is no such thing as the relegation of departments into separate undergraduate colleges, the pre-professional constrictions that bar students from majoring in Renaissance studies and Geophysical sciences at the same time. If you think you can handle both, why not?

Upon further reflection, though, I realized how much my thinking had changed during the past two years; before Exeter, I could not even conceive of a liberal arts college, let alone see myself thriving in one. Goal-oriented, high-achieving students go into college knowing what they want to get out of it. Jumping across different fields is for the lost and the rich.

In eighth grade, not knowing what career I wanted for myself was an ever-increasing cause for anxiety; my parents fortunately do not raise kids according to the “shoot for the medical field, second comes pharmaceutical, third, dentistry” maxim, having been taught

thus as young adults who had their Pedagogical College applications torn apart by their parents.

Yet the general consensus was clear—I should figure out what I wanted to do. And fast. All of my friends seemed to be snug in their cozy little niches, whether that be computer science, biology or history, while I was still meandering, not even sure if I was more of a “humanities” or a “STEM” person. Well, perhaps Exeter would help me find out what I truly want.

Big misconception. Prep me started out with science and public speaking clubs, only to ditch science for poetry over the summer, then take up anthropology lower year, then re-embrace science again this past summer. If anything, Exeter has made me even more lost, with its myriad of opportunities and uncharted paths; the message here, whether delivered in a forthright manner by assembly speakers, or subtly in between the lines of our slogan and coursebook description, is the vague promise of learning to be “future leaders of the world,” rather than future citizens trained with a specific set of professional skills.

Goal-oriented, high-achieving students go into college knowing what they want to get out of it. Jumping across different fields is for the lost and the rich.

In some ways, Paddy Spence ’85, Business Club’s guest speaker last spring, was the unconventional Exonian. Instead of obtaining a fancy internship to make connections, he paid his way through school by working at UPS. A self-styled “scrappy underdog,” Spence went to Harvard but did not live on campus; he concentrated on Classics because of his love for the subject and out of convenience, for it would allow him to graduate in three years instead of four. After graduation, Spence still ended up going to business school and buying the zero-calorie soda company, Zevia. His advice? Major in anything. College is the time for you to freely pursue your passions.

But Zevia-CEO aside, Spence’s story also reeks of privilege, the sort of privilege experienced first-hand by students of liberal arts institutions. After all, a certain level of financial security, whether in the form of family backings or scholarships, predates the pursuit of knowledge in any form. This is especially true when it comes to subjects with no direct practical value, such as art history and classics. I don’t mean to say that these fields of study are less important than the others; my point is, their followers are typically ardent scholars to whom day-to-day matters, such as paying the bills, are of little to no consequence, something that can be pushed off into the future.

But I also cannot deny a simple fact—I am afraid. What does the future bring for me, an individual not exempt from practicalities, who has fallen in love with the liberal arts?

Though I no longer think that not knowing what you want to do with your life at sixteen is a symptom of a lost soul, I still have trouble refuting the concept of wanderlust intellectual exploration as being “for the rich.”

The Atlantic, in an article bluntly titled “Rich Kids Study English,” published research from the National Center for Education Statistics that proved a correlation between students whose parents make less money and those who pursue more “useful” subjects, such as math or physics. The “warriors to dilettantes” phenomenon, which held true in the age of John Adams, still holds true today. There is a reason why “anthropology major” is shorthand for New York debutante intent upon marrying into money—the stereotype Woody Allen used, for example, in his Oscar-winning “Blue Jasmine.”

Liberal arts, a term derived from the Latin “liberalis,” meaning free, and “ars,” meaning principled practice, were skills once considered prerequisites for a person to become a free, thinking individual. Note that free, thinking individ-

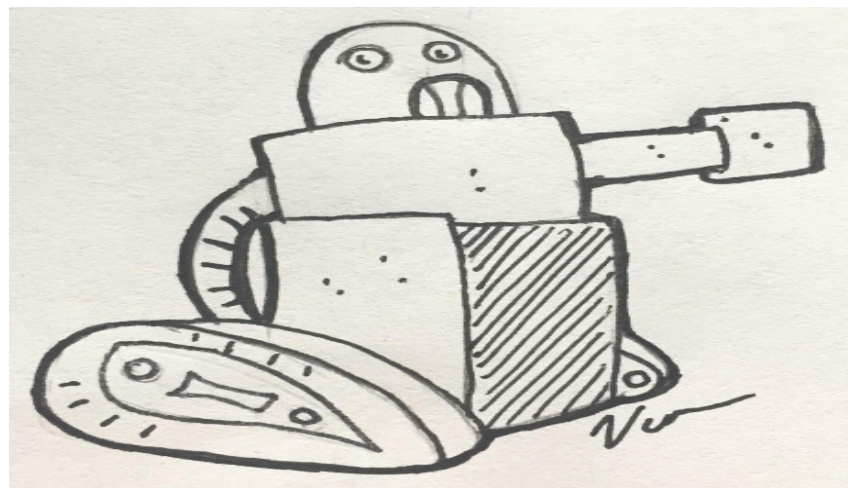
uals in Classical Antiquity meant men who participated in public debates and civic life at the expense of slaves who did all the manual labor. The concept of the modern liberal arts undergraduate college arose in the Northeast region of the United States, with institutions such as Harvard and other members of the infamous Ivy League; even now, most liberal arts colleges can be found east of the Mississippi river, plus California. Outside of the US, this model is relatively rare. There are virtually no liberal arts institutions in developing countries, where the cultural emphasis is on obtaining marketable skills and tangible diplomas.

Even in the US, the popularity of liberal arts colleges is on the decline. Ironically, a professor at the University of Chicago, Gary Becker, is partially responsible for this, with his development of the human capital model in economics and its implications on education. Education for participation in the workforce is a great investment, like buying a machine. Education for leadership, or more pretentious yet, education for the sake of education, is an infinitely greater one, so great that if one judges by rate of returns alone, the benefits might never outweigh the cost.

In terms of the literal cost of a college degree, no one can deny is on the rise. This rise correlates with a growing disdain, not only for liberal arts colleges, but for all universities. Indeed, if one’s goal is to learn practical life skills and vocational technicalities that can quickly transfer into a job, might as well not go to college at all.

Ultimately, is it a worthy goal, the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake? The eternal debate that permeates every public investment in institutions of higher education, basic research and visual arts. Typing these lines in the largest secondary school library in the US, and indeed, the world, looking at the rows and rows of tomes that simultaneously evoke a tender fondness, yearning, reverence and an acute sense of unreality, I cannot say no. But I also cannot deny a simple fact—I am afraid. What does the future bring for me, an individual not exempt from practicalities, who has fallen in love with the liberal arts?

The Rise of Robots



focused on cash transactions—could now work in new departments within banks. This is not to say that an individual who handles bank transactions can smoothly transition into the marketing team. The number of jobs will stay the same, if not increase, but the shift in skills is generational. The market will cater more and more to individuals who can operate robots and improve technology.

47 percent of the American workforce is impacted by automation, according to the Oxford Martin School. While the burden of automation will mostly fall on the shoulders of low-skilled workers, technology may benefit them in unexpected ways. Specifically, many low-skilled workers work in factories and other unsafe environments, where hazardous materials expose them to health risks. In the age of automation, robots can take over these dangerous jobs and improve the workplace environment. To reduce the frequency of hand injuries in garment manufacturing, companies have installed automated fabric-cutting machines. Such innovations are especially crucial in developing countries, where sweatshops are oh-so common.

Increased productivity and improved safety combined, automation will spur economic growth and revolutionize the way businesses conduct operations. Take Paypal as an example. Before the creation of a specific computer algo-

rithm, Paypal employees reviewed every single transaction; the creation of an algorithm meant that only the suspicious transactions—a tiny fraction of all of the transactions—were reviewed by workers. With less employees in the busy-work department, Paypal had more leeway to invest and expand.

The Paypal example underscores that robots may not only help businesses, but also the consumers who rely on their products. A company that saves money may invest in new products and create new jobs—as did the banks in the 1990s—or lower prices on their existing products and thus generate more demand. Either way, the consumer benefits from better quality, lower prices and a wider variety of goods on the market.

Think about it as a cycle. Amazon gets robots to help man their warehouses.

This makes their operations less expensive and allows them to decrease prices. The decrease in prices increases demand from their wide consumer base. The increase in demand means that Amazon must now hire more workers and buy more robots for its warehouses. And so the cycle continues. This is perhaps why the rate at which Amazon hires workers has not budged in this age of automation, even as the number of robots in its warehouses has increased from 1,400 to 45,000.

It is tempting to imagine a robotic apocalypse. But if anything, history—from the Luddites in nineteenth-century England to the scientific discoveries in twentieth-century America—gives us room for optimism. So, yes, “the rise of robots” is just that: a phrase in quotation marks.

Mark Blekherman '19
Opinions Editor

Robots are the future, Silicon Valley tells us. And to a certain extent, they are the present. In 2016, news that Japan had automated the farming process went viral. That same year a French woman announced her intention to marry her robot. And three days ago, on September 24, Forbes reported that restaurants like Spycy will use robots to cook meals on-demand.

The question of the century is whether these omnipotent robots will supplant raw manpower. The good news is that robots will increase our productivity in the long run. The bad news is that a few generations may suffer as we adapt to the new job market.

What exactly is this new job market? The case of ATM bank tellers illustrates the best case scenario. Before the advent of ATMs (automatic teller machines) in the 1990s, a customer would go to a bank teller to deposit checks and withdraw cash. With ATMs automating these tasks, one would think that the bank tellers would become obsolete.

The opposite was the case. ATMs made bank operations more efficient and cost-effective, allowing managers to devote more resources to marketing and customer support. Tellers—previously

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EU Parliament: Meme Slayer or Web Savior?

Stephen McNulty '21

Guest Contributor

The European Parliament, in its latest in a series of regulatory measures aimed at “tech giants” (ie. Google, Facebook, and Twitter), sought to update its copyright laws by passing the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single-Market. In essence, the law, soon to be adopted by EU member-states, seeks to strengthen digital copyright protections by enacting restrictions on large tech corporations.

Unfortunately, the very coalition of Silicon Valley mega-corporations affected by the directive have mobilized in epic proportions to stir controversy, having spent by some estimates up to \$29 million, by a campaign of vast disinformation and lobbying. These companies, known in Brussels as GAFA (Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon), convinced countless netizens to contact their members of European Parliament (MEPs) in opposition, rallying around two fundamental concerns: (a) that the directive creates a “link tax” that would require people to pay for linking articles in their writing, and (b) that it constitutes some sort of “meme ban” or would otherwise allow internet censorship.

Those would be good reasons to oppose, if they were at all true. Naturally, they are nothing more than intentional scaremongering by institutions who don't want to play fairly. Just saying this, however, is hardly enough to assuage the fears of well-meaning internet users, many of whom are afraid and worked up into hysteria right now. So, let's examine this new copyright law: What does it do? Do its opponents have a point?

Does the law help or hurt the purpose of the Internet, which is to spread ideas?

The first concern stems from Article 11, which reads that: “Member States shall provide publishers of press publications with the rights provided for in Article 2 and Article 3(2) of Directive 2001/29/EC so that they may obtain fair and proportionate remuneration for the digital use of their press publications by information society service providers.” This essentially means that news aggregators (think Google News, Facebook, Yahoo News, etc.) and other groups disseminating news within the EU would need to pay to do so. The reasoning is simple: at the end of the supply line, news sources—small and large—have to pay significant amounts to actually get their news out there. In short, free news is a myth. In order for reporters to carry on with their work—the most noble, democratic job there is—they need some source of revenue. Yet, at present, Google and Facebook, who have no reporters and no news team, profit off real journalism by making use of the journalistic content of struggling newspapers, both small and large. Article 11 would force these tech giants to actually fairly compensate media groups for content that they profit from. In contrast to what many believe, this article certainly wouldn't require internet users to pay for accessing said content.

Basically, it requires companies to pay the price for content that they don't make, yet profit off of. Article 13, the other source of criticism, does the exact same thing. At present, copyright holders are responsible for requesting the removal of content that violates their intellectual property rights. Imagine it this way: let's say that D-Hall sells

Exeter bars, and Walmart began selling products using the exact recipe for D-Hall's “Exeter bars” at a much cheaper price, and then profits dramatically from the sale thereof. Naturally, this hurts the sale of Exeter bars from D-Hall. So, the Dining Staff file a request to have this specific brand of Exeter bar copies (we'll call them Andover bars) removed. So Walmart does so. But the next day, Choate bars pop up, again using the exact same recipe as Exeter bars. Then, St. Paul's bars. It's like a never-ending game of whack-a-mole. Article 13, however, shifts the burden onto Walmart to remove the Andover, Choate, and St. Paul's bars to begin with, rather than waiting for D-Hall to file a complaint. Walmart would need to take the steps to identify and remove these copyright violations, subject of course to protections regarding fair use and parodies (which, I will note, do in fact apply to our beloved memes under virtually any reasonable interpretation). Naturally, Walmart would oppose that: they stand to gain loads of money from the sale of Andover bars. Similarly, Google naturally rejects Article 13 because it means that they will no longer be able to profit off ad revenue from stolen content.

Articles 11 and 13 of the EU directive protect content creators, news outlets, and other innovators from exploitation by multinational tech giants. In this sense, the law works to save the free internet—a platform for the exchange of ideas—by stopping GAFA and friends from gaining off stolen content. Though it certainly is tricky to balance proper intellectual property protection and internet freedom, the basic tenet of the European Parliament's directive is, if enforced properly, a step in the right direction.

Trump vs. Iran

Bizzie Lynch '21

Guest Contributor

On Tuesday, Donald Trump addressed the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly and repeatedly bashed Iran. He said that they are ruled by a “corrupt dictatorship” and that “Iran's leaders sow chaos, death and destruction.” He spoke of Iran in this demeaning manner for the entirety of the speech. *The New York Times* reported that he condemned Iran for how it has “looted its people and used the windfall from the nuclear deal to finance” what he described as a “terrorist campaign that is destabilizing the entire Middle East.” Once his speech concluded, Trump credited himself for the change he saw in Iran's behavior, as he orchestrated America leaving the deal. *The New York Times* wrote that “he claimed, without evidence, that Iran had abandoned its ambitions to build a land bridge to the Mediterranean Sea. At some point, he predicted, the United States and Iran would have ‘meaningful negotiations and probably do a deal.’” Trump also declared that Iran was trying to get into talks with America and still continued his verbal onslaught of Iran. “Iran is a much different country today than it was a year ago. They have riots in the street,” Trump remarked, “They have horrible inflation, the worst in the world. Their currency is a disaster. Everything in Iran is failing right now.”

This is not the first time that Trump has spoken vehemently about Iran. In May, President Trump removed the United States from the Iranian nuclear accord, a foolish move. Iran, perhaps more than any country in the region with the exception of Israel, has since moved farther down the road to democracy. Though flawed, the country holds elections. Regional and international diplomats collaborated on the Iranian nuclear deal in the years leading up to its finalization by former Secretary of State John Kerry and Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Javad Zarif. This deal was the first big step into a lasting relationship between the two countries.

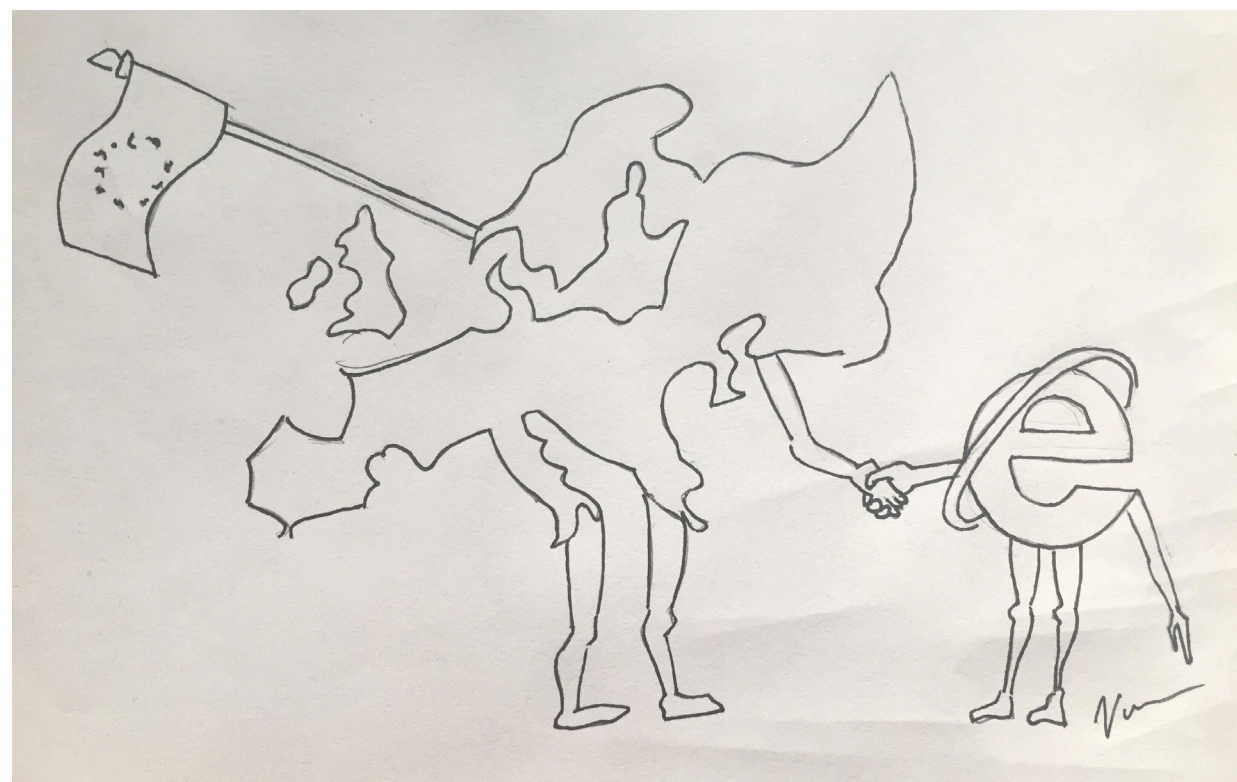
Iranian civil society activists were exuberant, as the majority of the population had wanted to achieve a stable, prosperous and democratic country. The election of the progressive President Hassan Rouhani clearly demonstrated that the country was taking steps to having a more democratic government. The nuclear deal was a first step—yet a tentative one—towards a stable relationship between Iran, the United States and the West. Barack Obama may have made many mistakes in its creation; however, when dealing with the Middle East, it's understandably impossible not to make tough decisions.

The decision to leave the deal altogether was haphazard. Not only did it destroy a relationship that both countries have been working hard to nurture for decades, but it also further embarrassed America on the world stage.

This past Monday, France joined Germany, Russia, China, Britain and Iran in reaffirming their commitment to the Iranian nuclear deal, against Trump's protests and warnings of severe sanctions. Despite immediately following Trump's speech, French President Emmanuel Macron ignored Trump's warnings, and instead emphasized how the Paris Climate Accord is alive and well even without America's signature. He even said that countries should not trade with those not in the deal. In contrast, Iran's president Hassan Rouhani criticized Trump for leaving the agreement and said that he didn't trust his offer to talk, saying that “it is ironic that the United States government does not even conceal its plan for overthrowing the same government it invites to talks.”

Last year, Trump scared the world when, at his United Nations speech, he directly insulted Kim “Rocket Man” Jong-Un. Our hold on the title of “biggest global power” is slowly slipping from our hands.

This year, Trump opened the United Nations to laughter when he said, “In less than two years, my administration has accomplished more than almost any administration in the history of our country.” The rest of the world can see how Trump embarrasses our country with his lack of knowledge and inability to comprehend the nuance of foreign affairs. As we all focus on the national consequences from a potential verification of Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court, we need to stop and remember that there are also worldwide consequences to Trump's chaotic presidency.



Hitchhiker's Guide to Upper Year

Andrea So '20

Columnist

As the novelty of the new school year wears off, I already feel like I've been here for longer than a few weeks. I still can't wrap my head around the fact that I'm already an upper. It seems like I was a prep just yesterday, getting lost while looking for my classrooms and jiggling Weth's locked door knob on the weekends.

The momentary joy you get from sitting at Grill chatting for an hour instead of working is not worth starting your English narrative at 11 pm, then falling asleep for an hour just to wake up and keep working.

Over the past two years at Exeter, I've learned the value of time management. Even though I've known of its importance since prep year, I've never quite managed to fully grasp it until now. With the heavy course load of U.S. History, things can quickly go south if you procrastinate on even one subject of homework. It has taken me way too long to realize that the best thing to do now is finish your work first, because the momentary joy

you get from sitting at Grill chatting for an hour instead of working is not worth starting your English narrative at 11 P.M., then falling asleep for an hour, just to wake up and keep working.

Upper year doesn't have to be as hard as some people make it out to be—it all depends on your perspective, and what you choose to dedicate yourself to.

I understand the struggle of wanting to have normal teenage experiences of not having to work all the time, but we should be able to find that joy within our work. Oftentimes, getting started on the project itself is the hardest part, so just get it over with. You will never regret having finished your homework early, especially during upper year. You need to prioritize homework, extracurricular activities, as well as the people who mean most to you. Or else, you'll be the person who shows up disheveled to class, their mental health a mess, having completed half their homework and running on four hours of sleep. Upper year doesn't have to be as hard as some people make it out to be—it all depends on your perspective, and what you choose to dedicate yourself to.

It's also true that in upper year—unlike prep year, where everyone is new and desperate to have people to sit with in Grill or D-Hall—you find out who your real friends are. With the harder coursework of upper year, you simply don't have time for superfluous activities or people in your life, as there are so many things to think about: such as leadership positions, grades and upcoming college applications. If the activity or the person is important to you, then you'll find a way to dedicate time to them regardless of work, and vice versa. Things change and relationships change, and you become more and more cognizant of who here at PEA values your presence in their lives.

I realize now how little time I have left at PEA, and how my time here has passed so quickly. I barely have time to sit still for a moment, much less treasure what it means to be at Exeter. The second I leave campus for breaks, I find myself longing to get back to my room, and have my friends sprawled across from me on the other side of my bed. I miss bonding with classmates over the Physics test we both think we failed, getting completely engrossed in a historic topic at the Harkness table, seeing my favorite teachers hurriedly bike past me because they're late to class. This is truly a place unlike any other. Now, I know not to complain because soon, I'll be gone.

Got Opinions?
Write for *The Exonian*
Opinions Section!

Browning to Front Street: Renaming or Denaming?

Daniel Chen '22

Guest Contributor

What does the name “Browning” mean to you? Does it suggest images of the namesake family it was named after and their views, or rather the community and culture vested inside of the house? For me, it is the latter. Honestly, how many people actually know Gideon Lane Soule, or Harlan P. Amen, or the ideas they believed in, or even their virtues?

Obviously, the name Browning is unique in the sense that it does carry the weight of understanding. The day when Browning began to be recognized as Front Street, questions arose, and the answers given to those questions made many people uneasy. The Browning family simply did not agree with the progressive direction Exeter has taken, especially in its support for LGBTQ+ members of the community. And that is the root of the current controversy—but I would argue that Browning House has distanced itself from the Browning family’s values, and is a unique entity.

“I think [when Exonians think of Browning] they think of the community and culture, and none of those things make anybody in the LGBTQ community feel threatened.”

This draws me back to my original question. When I think about Browning House, I don’t think about Browning himself. A student who wished to stay anonymous shares this sentiment: “I think [that when Exonians think of Browning], they think of the community and culture,

and none of those things make anybody in the LGBTQ+ community feel threatened.”

But, I also do understand that Browning is intrinsically connected with Browning House. Senior Rajrishi Das explains: “Now that the name change has been made, it’s implicit of the reason why the name change was made.” And I completely agree. It’s an awkward thought that is, for the most part, ignored, but extant. That is a problem.

Browning may not make me think of the person Browning, but it is undeniably connected to him and his ideas.

“Given the motivations of the request, I’m not opposed to it. I’m not mad at all about it,” Das adds. “I don’t believe the name of our dorm should represent something that alienates members of the community.” Browning may not make me think of the person Browning, but it is undeniably connected to him and his ideas. The Academy must respect the wishes of his family, and the usage of their name. But this brings forth another question.

If not Browning, then why Front Street?

The name Front Street House is simply awkward. Part of it may just be resistance to change, with Browning being such a long-held name that is connected with our dorm pride, but Front Street? “If they were a bit more creative, that would have been nice. I understand these things require donors, but Front Street just sounds a bit lazy. I feel like it could be named like the Academy Cen-



ter was, posthumously to reflect the progressive direction the school has taken.” Das also says. There is a general sense of ridicule that is present when the name “Front Street House” is mentioned.

I believe the name Front Street is something that may be effective in the interim, but it’s a bland name for a dormitory that is so much more.

I believe the name Front Street is something that may be effective in the interim, but it’s a bland name for a dormitory that is so much more. Creative suggestions from dorm residents have come out (obviously needing the assistance of the namesake to apply) such as “Gay House”, after

Roxane Gay and the inherent irony, or after any Exeter LGBTQ+ alum that would be willing to show full support for the progressive change Exeter is undertaking. As mentioned earlier by Das, a posthumous naming similar to what was done with the Elizabeth Phillips Academy Center would also be welcome.

Browning is a dormitory that holds a vibrant community, full of diverse people. We are in no way affiliated with the Browning family’s opinions. But the nature of sharing a name does mean that when mentioned, it will always hold a minor association. I believe that the name Browning, however disappointing this fact may be, has run out of its time at Exeter. But the name Front Street does not even begin to live up to the greatness of the people living there, or their virtues. I implore the Academy to consider a new name that Front Street residents can be truly proud of.

Give New Lowers A Grace Period!

William Victor '21

Guest Contributor

As a new lower, I would love to have an entire term of pass/fail, but the truth is we don’t need it. The transition to Exeter as a new lower is anything but easy, so a two-week grace period, rather than a full term of pass/fail, would serve as a great way to acclimate new lowers to the Exeter community and workload.

The transition to Exeter as a new lower is anything but easy, so a two-week grace period, rather than a full term of pass/fail, would serve as a great way to acclimate new lowers to the Exeter community and workload.

Academically, I think that entering Exeter as a new lower from the U.S. is much easier than as a prep. Lowers from the United States have already completed a year of high school, which gives them experience with concepts like time management, organization, and the general expectations of high school teachers. Additionally, an extra year of maturity helps with these vital academic skills. Unlike our prep counterparts, the transition to Exeter for new lowers is less about adjusting to high school and more about adjusting to Exeter

Of course, adjusting to Exeter is

no easy feat. Adapting to Harkness, navigating the campus and understanding the social and academic expectations are just a few of the challenges new lowers face. Exeter students have diverse academic backgrounds, which means that no two students will have the same transition experience. A student who has experience with discussion-based learning will have an easier transition into the Harkness method than someone who has never even seen a Harkness table in their life. Some students will face gaps in their knowledge of some areas or will know more than others. But, the challenge new lowers face when coming to Exeter is learning to develop skills—such as Harkness skills—in a relatively short period of time.

Adapting to Harkness, navigating the campus and understanding the social and academic expectations are just a few of the challenges new lowers face.

It doesn’t take an entire term for new lowers to adapt (not become an expert, I said *adapt*) to the Harkness classroom, to swiftly navigate the campus or to understand class expectations. Most new lowers will need a couple of weeks to learn the intricacies of life at Exeter, which is expect-

ed. A two-week grace period would allow new lowers to feel comfortable at Exeter before having to worry too much about grades, quizzes and tests.

A pass/fail term for new lowers would unnecessarily segregate new and returning lowers, which nobody wants; a two-week grace period, on the other hand, gives new lowers a chance to adjust without treating them too differently from their peers.

A two-week grace period also prevents the difficulties that a pass/fail term would present. A pass/fail term for new lowers would unnecessarily segregate new and returning lowers, which nobody wants; a two-week grace period, on the other hand, gives new lowers a chance to adjust without treating them too differently from their peers. It is also very simple to implement. For assignments during the first two weeks of the fall term, new lowers could earn anything above a 60 percent for a passing grade. In this system, a 75% on their first ever Exeter math test doesn’t ruin a student’s chances for an “A”, nor does it grant any passing student the unfair advantage of having an 100% or a “P” in the gradebook. It provides new lowers the time they need to acclimate to Exeter, while simultaneously preventing the

impact of a failing grade resulting from simply trying to get used to the Exeter grind.

Also, certain admissions officers, schools, and alumni might view a pass/fail term for lowers as evidence that Exeter is becoming easier and prone to grade inflation.

This system would also allow the grades of returners and newcomers to be fairly comparable by colleges, due to the lack of any advantage given to a new student with a passing grade. Lower fall is by no means the most important term for college admissions, but (as much as I don’t want to think about it) it is still a meaningful term. With a pass/fail term for new lowers, colleges would lose consistency between Exeter transcripts. Additionally, certain admissions officers, schools and alumni might view a pass/fail term for lowers as evidence that Exeter is becoming easier and prone to grade inflation. This type of news can hamper the Academy’s academic reputation, which can especially be problematic for college admissions. The two-week grace period prevents this because its purpose is to limit the scope of a single subpar performance often seen while adjusting to Exeter, not to give new lowers the advantage of an entire term of pass/fail.



The Exonian

Come to our Writers’ Meeting on
Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in the Forum!



ExonianHumor



How to Avoid Signing Up for Clubs at Club Night

By RYAN XIE
A Little Late But

1. "Sorry, I have something else at that time."
2. Pretend you don't hear the person shouting at you.
3. "Sorry, *The Exonian* takes up my whole Wednesday."
4. "I'm on too many email lists already."
5. "Only if I can add you to my club's email list."
6. "Sorry, I don't think I have the time for it; prep fall is really strenuous."
7. "I'm deathly allergic to ALL candy, geez! Why would you force that onto me?"
8. "My parents want me to focus on Debate and Student Council."
9. Mistype your email on purpose
10. "I ONLY do ESSO clubs."
11. "Hmmm, trophies aren't really my thing; I'm not very big on winning. I'll probably just join MUN."

Perspectives: a Poem

By LIZZIE MADAMIDOLA
Credence

I see... I as though I
see a pencil I have lost my
faces.

I see it I bloom...like a g o o d
book I eat graces!

I see the I have
meadows... lost my three
turn into lol pencils...

lipops again?

I see the
fruit turn into
dropshots

Could we
swap places?
I feel as



TFW the Cocoa Puffs Dispenser Is Full

By THE HUMOR EDITORS
We <3 Our Senior of the Week



Please submit. Please.

Please.

Please.

Email exonianhumor@gmail.com.

Phillips Exeter Academy, As Seen By a Non-Exonian

By NICK SCHWARZ
Day Student

I recently heard about this high school called Exeter. I don't know if it's really called that to be honest. Is it just Exeter? Exeter School? Exeter Academy? I don't even know where Exeter is. I've heard it's a fancy prep school, so it's probably in Connecticut—or one of those other little states crammed in the upper right corner where they did a lot of stuff in the olden days. Oh, it's in New Hampshire? Never heard of it.

Apparently, it's somewhat connected to Phillips Academy in Andover, which I definitely know about. Maybe it's a spin-off—like the vocational school—of the one

at Andover. It's also a boarding school, like (insert cliché Harry Potter reference here).

I also learned that they used to churn out C-list celebrities like there's no tomorrow. Franklin Pierce? Google him; he was President when the world was still in black and white. Rankr.com says he's the third most useless President of all time. He also was last in his class freshman year at Harvard, so I guess he wasn't exactly well prepared coming out of high school. Also, a lot of New Hampshire Congressmen, some minor league hockey players and the guy who wrote *Jaws*—not the movie,

the book.

The school's obsessed with what they call the Harkness method. Sounds fancy, I know, but it mostly seems like everyone sits at one big desk and they all make random observations.

How has this school earned its reputation? Are they good at sports? I've heard that no one goes to the games, except for this one game every year when they get weirdly competitive before they inevitably lose. Is it their self-proclaimed excellence in what they call the Latin language? Again, fancy rhetoric; just say Spanish.

I'm (Still) New Here

By SHRUTHIRANJANI NEDUMARAN
Prep Writer

School is hard when you're ugly, dumb, and have no friends. But enough about me.

Exeter is a pretty cool place, if you, you know, ignore how tired you are, the fact that you suck at math, and how the food gets progressively worse.

Actually, the food is pretty good but don't take my word for it, I eat everything.

Except for chocolate. And ice cream. Please don't hate me.

Some people say that the state

of your desk is a reflection of the state of your mind. That would explain a lot. My desk was pretty organized for the first week, but now it looks like a human girl got too lazy to organize, well, everything, and dumped it all on her desk, which, interestingly enough, now also fully functions as a closet, a storage area, and possibly a bed in the future. I should become one of those cool interior designer people.

Another thing I learned in my two weeks here is that textbooks are expensive. Use Amazon, people.

I feel like a lot of my classmates

are annoyed at me because I keep asking to borrow pencils. I honestly have no idea where they're going. And then I come back to my dorm and there they are, getting friendly with my random Harry Potter t-shirts in my closet- I mean desk.

Also, there are some weird things written on the weird-drawer-thing that you pull out from under the desk.

That's also where I keep my Oreos stash. I love how healthy I am.

Keep going, Exonians. You still got a whole year ahead of you.

The Thoughts Of A Germ: A Story

By FI MADRID
It's flu season, my dudes!

Mind of a germ at PEA, a biologically unsound saga:

Hmm. I'm hungry. Maybe I should grab a snack.

I infect one student

I lay some eggs

This student is nasty; they don't even wash their hands.

I HAVE to get outta here. Oh, that girl seems nice. And if she's nice enough to hang out with my gross host, she's nice enough for me. Oh, but how do I get to her. I'll just wait for my host to touch her...

So, he's just not gonna touch her. That's fine, I'll just wait for someone else. There's someone! Oh, but we're walking away. There! And away again. My nasty host insists on breaking my heart every time I fall in love.

I guess it's time to find a rebound. Searching... Was that a hockey flow I saw? Perfect. Oh! We're actually headed toward them. Nice. As my host dabs up the bro, I leap onto the bro's hand. He provides me with a nice meal, and I lay some eggs. And some waste :)

That was good, I'll rest now. But no, my new host is going in to dab up some other hockey bro. I suddenly get slammed onto another hand and involuntarily lay some eggs. My eggs!

For all of the five minutes I spend in the Grill listening to the "High School Musical" tunes these weirdly musically inclined men blast, I lose my eggs to about twenty different bros. And I miss the births of all of my children. And my children all suffer the same fate. And we all die.

D-Hall Game of the Week: "Prep or Fac Brat?"

By ABBY ZHANG
"This is the best article I've ever written"

When in doubt, the answer is usually prep.

Quotes of the Week

"Do we have an Exec Meeting right now! Oh No!"
-Rose Horowitch (Editor in Chief) '19

"Is a Wentworth gender neutral dorm?"
-A Wentworth Prep '19



ExeterLife



Students relax on the quad as they enjoy the warm weather.

Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

NYFOS CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY OF BERNSTEIN

By **VERONICA CHOULGA** and
YUNSEO CHOI
Staff Writers

Exonians and faculty alike stared in wonder as two singers, including Joshua Jeremiah, performed “Arias and Barcarolles,” Leonard Bernstein’s final major piece. The voices tripped over each other in 12 tone harmony, creating a creepy yet lively atmosphere in the Bowld. The piece is palpably autobiographical and allegedly came from a remark that President Eisenhower made while Bernstein was performing at the White House. “You know, I liked that last piece you played. It’s got a theme. I like music with a theme, not all of them arias and barcarolles,” Eisenhower said.

2018 marks the 100th birthday of composer, conductor, pianist, educator and humanitarian Leonard Bernstein and the 30th anniversary of the New York Festival of Song of which Bernstein was the founding advisor. To celebrate the double anniversary that the NYFOS has planned for over the past two years, the singers have been performing Bernstein concerts in and outside New York City for the past two seasons. This past Friday, Sept. 21, NYFOS had its debut in Exeter in the Forrester-Bowld Music Building. The concert was open to the pub-

lic, free of charge and starred Loeb as the mezzo-soprano, Jeremiah as the baritone and Steven Blier and Michael Barrett on the piano, both of whom had won Grammy awards for their piano arrangements.

Barrett, protégé of Leonard Bernstein, described how the NYFOS was created. “We were frustrated with the vocal recital as it was being presented 33 years ago. We just thought it was so boring, so predictable, everyone singing the same songs over and over. We knew there was a huge amount of song out there: art songs, theater songs, pop songs, even the Beatles. We started this recital series and all of our concerts are thematic and about something. We started making them interesting, like ‘songs of the afterlife,’ one of our first themes.”

When asked what he hopes the Exeter community gains from this concert experience, Blier said “I hope the community rediscovers the true Bernstein experience.”

Leonard Bernstein was born on Aug. 25, 1918 in Lawrence, Massachusetts. His early works date back to as early as the 1940s during World War II and as late as the 1970s anti-war movements. During this era, Bernstein portrayed the voice of urban America into his songs. Best known for his score, “West Side Story,” Bernstein composed songs for anywhere from small

ensembles to philharmonic orchestras to Broadway. He also spent many years conducting many groups around the globe such as the London Symphony Orchestra and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

However, according to senior Hanna Pak, who composed her HIS430 final paper about Bernstein, the composer had a rough personal history behind the international acclaims he received. “There were also a lot of rumors, and some of them may have been confirmed, that he was a closeted gay, so there was that inner tension going on. And I’ve heard of allusion to doing drugs and cheating. He doesn’t have the most steady moral compass out there, but he is a great composer,” she said. On top of this inner tension, Bernstein constantly rebelled against his father who escaped Ukraine to avoid mandatory service in the military and came to the U.S. with an American dream. The conflict originated as Bernstein’s Jewish father wanted Bernstein to take the path of a religious career such as being a rabbi, while Bernstein wished to follow pursue music.

A day before the main concert, on Thursday, Sept. 21, NYFOS held a master class for four PEA students: Pak, upper lhamo Dixey, senior Paula Coraspe and senior Madeleine Potter. These students were

selected by each of the four vocal teachers at PEA. During the master class, the students performed various scores written by Bernstein and received detailed feedback from the members of the NYFOS crew.

“Everything he (Bernstein) did was explosive, revolutionary, and I think at one point in my essay I compared him to Icarus—he flew too close to the sun,” Pak said. Even though she was told only one week in advance that she’d be performing for the NYFOS crew, Pak employed her experience playing Bernstein’s scores at the summer camp she attended recently to deliver a fabulous vocal performance for the audience.

“His beautiful melodies are exclusively American,” Barrett said. “His music is full of emotion and love. It’s smart and lasting. It speaks to us as human beings.” Just as Barrett had predicted, Friday’s concert definitely spoke to the Exeter community. Exonians crowded the wings of The Bowld in an attempt to absorb as much music as possible before running for check in.

Lower Christina Xiao enjoyed this way to start off this year’s concerts. “One of my favorite pieces they performed was [Mr. and Mrs. Webb Say Goodnight] because I loved how the pianists sang in it. I personally hadn’t listened to music like that in a while.”

E-MAX EXPERIENCE

By **CANDY TANTICHIRASAKUL** and
MIMI HARIPOTTAWEKUL
Staff Writers

An eerie haze poured onto the floor of Love Gym from four smoke machines in front of a giant movie screen as Exonians settled onto the bleachers. Snacks in hand, Exonians of all ages filled the stands as they dove into the beloved world of Harry Potter through Exeter’s very first E-MAX experience of “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them.”

Kicking off with free concessions at 7:30pm, students were greeted with mini-M&Ms, a selection of popcorn, and bottles of Squamscot soda. Only two weeks into the school year, students appreciated the opportunity to meet the other students on campus. “I wanted to come here to both socialize and watch the movie,” lower Steven Gao said. “My friends are here and it’s a great way to relax.”

Students eagerly awaited the movie while watching a slideshow of Exeter throughout the years. Not only paired with

an impressive surround sound system, a multitude of special effects such as rolling fog, haze, and lighting effects that coincided with the events of the movie enhanced the experience. “We had a discussion about it and we decided that “Fantastic Beasts” was probably the best [movie to show] because of all the special effects [it had],” upper and Recreation Committee co-head David Kim said.

Improving upon last spring’s “Black Panther” movie night, the Student Activities Office partnered with MFI productions, a company which has experience in doing hundreds of college and high school events all over New England.

Working months in advance, PEA’s Student Events Coordinator Kelly McGahie was responsible for making the event a reality. After working with MFI productions on a variety of student events for almost a decade, she was excited to work with them again to create a unique experience to start off the school year. Though McGahie was the spark, and ultimately the person who tied the event together, she was appreciative

of all the hard work that everyone put into the event. “The student council reps have been on it...I’m grateful for the PEAN for helping out...I can’t thank enough the MFI people...and I can’t give enough credit to the folks here at Elm Street dining hall.”

Wanting student input, McGahie enlisted the help of the Student Council Recreation Committee to make the final touches as well as to help advertise the event. “We’ve been having a lot of meetings with Ms. McGahie...The first week of school, we actually met with the guys who are in the production company,” senior Katie Yang, a co-head of the Recreation Committee, said.

In order to arrange the best event for Exonians, McGahie constantly met with the group of students who carefully selected the movie and eventually came up with the name of the event. “[McGahie] said that there were connections because Hogwarts is a boarding school of the magical world and we’re at Exeter, the boarding school of the no-majs [people without magical powers],” senior Ela Ferhangil, another co-head of the Recreation Committee, said. To

welcome students back to another school year at Exeter, the Harry Potter universe explored similar elements of the concept of boarding school in a more fantastical atmosphere.

After the end of the movie, Love Gym was once again transformed—this time, into a dance floor. Music started playing, and Exonians began dancing with their friends. “It looked like something you’d see at a concert,” said senior Nyaila Newbold. “It looked cool.”

With E-MAX being the first official non-academic student event on campus, the many collaborators on the event hoped their weeks of preparation had paid off and that everyone had enjoyed the event. “We’re hoping that this is going to be the place where preps, lowers, uppers and seniors just comes in and we’re all together,” Ferhangil said before the screening of the movie. “You’re going to be with your friends and there’s going to be surround sound, a big screen and there’s also going to be a dance at the end. There’s something for everyone.”

BIG RED GOES GREEN

By **ISABELLA AHMAD**
Staff Writer

Televisions, refrigerators, printers — their lifetimes are incredibly short. Think about all the cell phones you’ve owned in your lifetime. In fact, the average American keeps the same cellular device for only 18 months. Everyone has a similar story: your iPhone battery becomes spastic, or your screen cracks, and maybe it might make more sense to purchase the shiny new model instead of fixing the broken parts in the phone you already own. Maybe the cost to replace is not all that much more than the cost to repair. Maybe you just really want your pictures to come out a little bit clearer.

The first world discards 50 million tons of electronic waste (e-waste) annu-

ally, with the United States accounting for nearly a fifth of that amount. Only 12.5% of this e-waste is recycled. Several companies, notably Apple, Dell, Toshiba, Hewlett-Packard, Philips, Panasonic etc. dump their waste, often illegally, in poor parts of the world that do not have the mechanisms or infrastructure in place to properly dispose or recycle the unwanted products.

In the landfills of the developing world, these products affect both the environment and the people who live nearby. It is common for children to go into the e-waste dumps and burn wires and cables they find in attempt to salvage the precious metals built into them, such as copper and nickel, for profit. The people who go rummaging through the e-waste are exposed to a multitude of neurotoxins such as lead

and cadmium. The effects of neurotoxins include memory loss, loss of vision, uncontrollable behavior, headaches, cognitive issues and sexual dysfunction among many others. According to Ghanaian environmental journalist Mike Anane, who is following the massive amounts of e-waste in Accra, Ghana, the people who collect at these e-waste sites, some of whom are children, complain of persistent headaches, respiratory problems and chest pains as well, not to mention the risk of physical injury these sites already pose.

In addition to the detrimental health effects of e-waste, the actual making of all of these electronics is also straining the Earth; it takes 530 pounds of fossil fuel to manufacture one computer and monitor. Perhaps the most maddening part of this issue is there is actually so much potential

for benefit in the solution, both economic and humanitarian. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, for every one million cell phones that are recycled, 35,274 pounds of copper, 772 pounds of silver, 75 pounds of gold and 33 pounds of palladium can be recovered. The gold and silver parts alone could generate over 60 million dollars every year. Even the plastics in e-waste can be recycled into garden furniture, the batteries reused in other batteries and metals repurposed in jewelry and automotive parts. In addition, educational organizations could make so much progress in reaching the last mile; there are so many expensive computers in India, China and of course, Ghana right now that could be fixed with a 25-cent part. E-waste is an undiscovered gold mine; it is time for its eradication to rise as a movement.

FacultySpotlight

JEANETTE LOVETT

By ERIN CHOI, VIRGINIA LITTLE and EMILY JETTON
Staff Writers

"I love puzzles of all kinds," Science Instructor Jeanette Lovett said. At times, piecing together her many commitments on campus can feel like a puzzle; after all, she is a chemistry teacher, advisor, coach, dorm head, Puzzle Club advisor, and the parent of a toddler. But Lovett manages to fit the pieces of her life together well, and she is admired by faculty and students alike.

Lovett joined the Academy's Science Department in 2014; since then, she has become "a vocal and integral member of the chemistry teacher cohort," according to fellow Chemistry Instructor Andrew McTammany. "Ms. Lovett has incredibly high standards for herself and her students," he said. "She's dedicated to creating a positive classroom environment, and her classes run like the Swiss Train System: efficient and well-planned."

Lovett graduated from Phillips Academy Andover before attending Brown University. After graduating from college, Lovett taught at PA, then at the Dana Hall School in Wellesley, MA. She then received her Masters in Education at Harvard University before coming to Exeter.

Lovett said she was drawn to PEA because of her boarding school background, desire to work with self-motivated students, and the Harkness method. "I think [Harkness] is what keeps me here year after year," she said. "It's so much more fun for me to engage with my students in discussion rather than stand up and give a lecture." Even when she is teaching several sections of the same class, Lovett finds each class to be interesting because the "discussions go in different directions."

Senior Gavin Cotter, who had Lovett as a chemistry instructor for two terms last year,

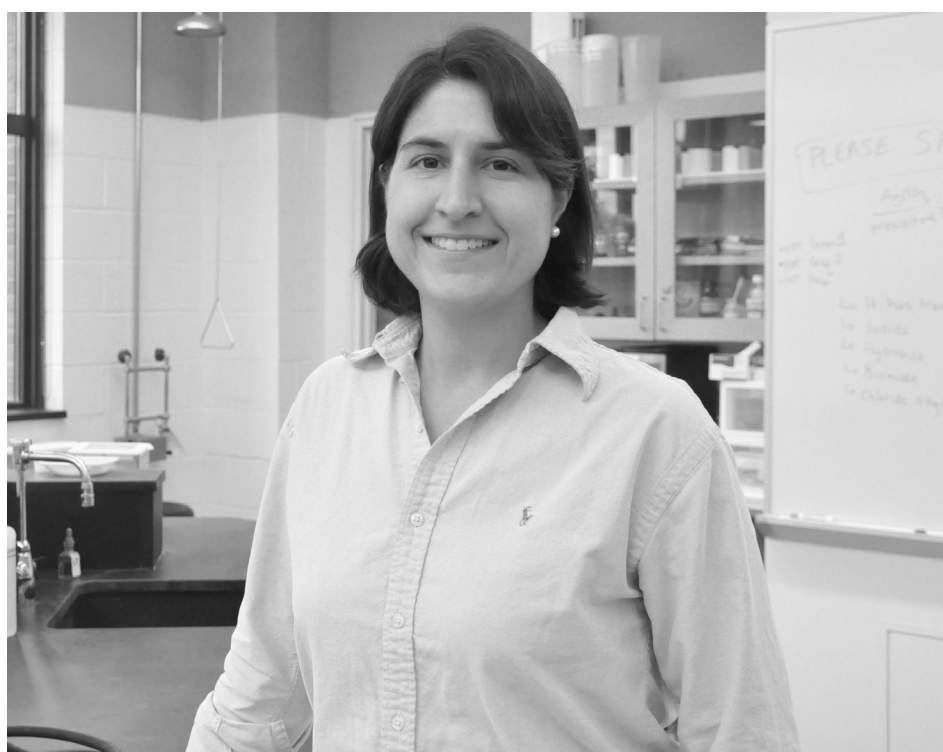
described her as "an extremely kind person who is always willing to help you if you need it," adding that her classes were engaging. "She manages to make the learning very fun with a lot of great labs." Cotter has fond memories of Lovett's homemade nitrogen-cooled ice cream as "a great way to end the term."

Lovett enjoys teaching in a boarding school setting because of the many ways she is able to interact with students. Especially as a chemistry teacher, which Lovett admits is "not everyone's favorite subject," she appreciates having the opportunity to see students outside the classroom. For Lovett, the time she spends with students in different contexts enables her to "see another side of them."

As the current dorm head of Lamont and the former head of Gould House, Lovett enjoys dorm life for "having time to talk to the kids without an agenda, like grades or athletic performance, and just getting to know them, talk to them about how their lives are going." Some of Lovett's fondest memories at Exeter have been made each year on Academy Life Day, which for her has always been "a really positive experience...where you get to see a lot of bonding within the dorm."

Stephanie Girard, a math instructor and faculty member in Lamont, described Lovett as "very thoughtful and even-keeled, always looking for ways to best serve the students of Lamont and the adults who work there." She added that Lovett is "incredibly well organized, keeping us all informed about dorm meetings or concerns in a timely and, again, thoughtful manner."

Senior Emma Cohen, who knows Lovett from both the chemistry classroom and the dorm, describes Lovett as "approachable. She's always ready to help a student, and if she can't, she'll send you to the right person for that help." Cohen said that she and Lovett often



Helena Chen/ The Exonian

joke outside of class, especially when it comes to Lovett's eighteen-month old son Benjamin, who entertains dorm members with his small toy alligator lawnmower.

Lovett has also coached several sports during her time at Exeter including crew, ice hockey, and cycling. She finds that sports "do a lot for kids, especially being on a team." She expanded on how sports have impacted her own life, saying, "A lot of my personality and character was shaped by being on sports teams." Lovett appreciates that in sports, students can learn how to work with those who "don't necessarily think the same way as you."

In high school, Lovett played soccer and ice hockey. She still pursues hockey on a women's league at the Academy with other teachers. Lovett also rowed, starting in

her senior year at Andover and continuing into college. "[Crew] is a really demanding sport," she said, "but it's one of those sports where you see the results of your hard work." She added that "I love crew because it is the ultimate team sport; it is imperative that you all pull together."

In her spare time, Lovett enjoys getting outside for jogging, cycling, and, in the summer, hiking. Indoors, she is an avid reader and puzzle solver -- both crossword and jigsaw. "I like baking, but not cooking," she added. The Lovett family is also expecting a second child this spring, and Lovett was creative—as well as scientific—in letting the dorm know about the baby by hosting a "gender reveal party." Lovett mixed two clear liquids together in a beaker, which turned blue. "So, it's another boy!" she told the dorm.

SeniorSpotlight

MARY PROVENCAL-FOGARTY

By ANGELINA ZHANG and ANNA FAHEY
Staff Writers

At every E/a pep rally, a stadium full of maroon-clad Exonians cheer as dance groups tumble and waltz across the field. Senior Mary Provencal-Fogarty steps in time with multiple dance groups while balancing her passions for journalism, activism and academics.

An avid dancer, Provencal-Fogarty is a co-head of Imani, Lionettes and Precision. She began dancing at a young age, working in both hip hop and jazz, and continued throughout high school. Provencal-Fogarty had little experience with classical dance before Exeter, but now partakes in dance as a sport for all three terms.

"As soon as I came to Exeter, I realized it was a totally different world. I wasn't expecting to join dance clubs and to do it as my sport," Provencal-Fogarty said, "But four years of Exeter dance has opened my dance world."

At PEA, she was introduced to a variety of types of dances. Provencal-Fogarty joined the Lionettes on a whim and loved it. As a talented hip hop artist, Provencal-Fogarty was immediately drawn to Imani, the campus hip hop group. She dedicates the bulk of her time to this group through choreographing performances and getting to know the girls on the team. "Mary is a fantastic choreographer," senior and co-head of Imani Ogechi Nwankwoala said. "She is so creative, and everyone always loves the stuff she comes up with."

During Imani practices, Provencal-Fogarty creates a welcoming environment for the members. "Mary is such a fun part of practice," Nwankwoala said. "She breaks out into dance all the time and makes everyone laugh."

During her lower year, she tried out for the female step team Precision, and now serves as its co-head. Provencal-Fogarty describes this club as "the most empowering thing I've done at Exeter. [Allowing me] to find my strength, and to find myself in Precision."

Senior Alayna D'Amico described Provencal-Fogarty as a strong leader for these clubs. "Mary is very passionate. I've never met somebody who can be so warm, inviting, kind, and understanding. She is a great leader," D'Amico said.

Outside of dance, Provencal-Fogarty has dedicated herself to working with activism and intersectionality on campus. She is on the MLK Committee and is a staff writer for MVMent Magazine, a magazine unaffiliated with Exeter that focuses on sexual assault, gender and sexuality. The magazine's focus has al-

lowed her to combine her activism with a newfound interest in journalism.

Provencal-Fogarty is also a secretary for Woke, an intersectional feminist club. She founded the group with her friends because they wished to explore feminism as a topic intertwined with identities such as sexuality and race.

Senior Wynter Tracey, a cohead of Woke, describes a typical meeting that includes "really inclusive programming, like reading articles and watching movies on women of color, LGBT women—basically any minorities."

Provencal-Fogarty is also a student listener, serving as a leader and trusted peer to other day students on a daily basis. Student listening allows her to receive training both on campus and through outside organizations like HAVEN, the largest violence prevention and support agency in New Hampshire. D'Amico, a fellow student listener, expresses that "she [Provencal-Fogarty] is so good at getting people involved in things, finding their best fit, and understanding how to make them comfortable."

Senior Gillian Quinto, who has had class with Provencal-Fogarty, said that "even when she is not feeling great, she is always laughing and smiling." Provencal-Fogarty's positivity and commitment to her work shine through, both in and out of the classroom. Provencal-Fogarty, a self-declared "humanities person," has a passion for English, history and Spanish.

Specifically, Provencal-Fogarty states how she fell in love with Ceremony, a book by Leslie Marmon Silko that was assigned to her English class during upper spring with Instructor Johnny Griffith. "I've definitely gotten into books. I love reading, but it was the first book in my life I would overread the homework by 40 pages because I was so obsessed! [Mr. Griffith] and I would have casual conversations before class where I would rant to him about how incredible this connection was [right] from the beginning of the book."

Of Provencal-Fogarty's love for reading and dedication to the class, Griffith said, "When some of her peers might have felt that the books were too confusing or overly difficult, she found the challenges and confusion to be exhilarating and fun. She helped the class strike that really difficult balance between serious intellectual work and play."

To combine her love of history and Spanish, Provencal-Fogarty will be heading to Spain for her winter term. On Spanish, she said, "It's just the most beautiful language [...] and it leads to beautiful conversations about the world."

However, it won't be Provencal-Fogarty's first trip abroad with Exeter. Last

spring break, she went to South Africa with a group of students. There, she said, "We really had to push ourselves beyond what we know about the United States because the history of South Africa has parallels but is so different [...] you can't expect to just ease right into the culture." By being pushed outside of her comfort zone, Provencal-Fogarty believes that she was able to foster a connection with fellow Exonians "that you just don't real-

ly get to meet unless you do stuff like abroad trips [...] they really enhance your life once you know them."

Provencal-Fogarty has left a lasting impact in the community through her choreography, dances and activism. Tracey said, "She's really selfless, socially aware, and I really value her friendship because she's a caring person, but she downplays it a lot. She's super humble about it."



Numi Oyeboide/ The Exonian

Boys' Varsity Soccer Secures a Victory

By MILO WALSHE
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 20, Exeter boys' varsity soccer hosted The Belmont Hill School, in their third game of the season. Exeter proved triumphant and came away with a win, 1-0.

Prep John Jean Baptiste dribbles the ball into the box, and fires a shot at the net. Belmont Hill's goalie saves it, but the ball quickly rebounds back into play. Lower Matthew Ngai runs to the ball and takes a powerful shot, sending the ball into the back of the net. Exeter boys' varsity soccer's first goal of the season, putting Big Red ahead.

Heading into this game there were a few setbacks early on in the season. One of them being the injury of the team's starting striker, upper Jake Gehron, during the practice before game day. Upper Carson Garland said, "We lost Jake the practice before and he's the starting striker so we had to shift everyone around, which was weird. We needed different players to step up and get moved around."

Senior Nick Tilson said that despite the injuries, the win for Big Red was really a "team effort." He was proud of his team for getting first win of the season on Exeter's turf. "We all wanted to finally get off the starting blocks and win our first game. We're excited to keep the train rolling this season."

Exeter and Belmont Hill were an equally matched teams. However, Big Red's strong defense managed to shut them down the whole game. Senior Tyler



Senior Jonah Johnson runs with the ball.

Avery Napier/The Exonian

Swanbeck applauded the defensive abilities and said, "Our defense definitely limited Belmont Hill's attacking opportunities. We've been locking down other teams, which is good." Garland agreed

that the team credited the win to its impressive defense and ball movement. He said, "The team played really well. The ball movement was a lot better, we actually passed and kept possession unlike

the first two games." Garland also noted upon the strength of the team's defense, "The defense looked really good. They were winning headers and all the fifty fifty balls which gave us a lot more possessions."

Additionally, Belmont Hill is also ranked higher than Exeter, making the win even more impressive. Swanbeck was impressed and proud of his team's success and said, "Belmont Hill is ranked top ten, so it's pretty good that we beat them. We were ranked fourteen at one point but then we lost two games so I don't know anymore."

Swanbeck also noted a few of the team's strengths, "Right now I would say our style of play is very strong, and so is our will to win."

Senior Kojo Aduhene shared similar sentiments as Swanbeck. "Despite having a lot of injured players, we are really focused on improving day by day as a team and working hard to win."

The only goal of the game was scored by Upper Matthew Ngui. Garland said, "It was off a rebound. John shot it, the goalie saved it and Mat finished it. It was the first goal for both Mat and the team this season."

Unfortunately, not everybody was granted the opportunity to play during Thursday's game due to injury, but Aduhene remained positive for the rest of the season, especially when the injured players return. "We're playing well right now, and as soon as everyone gets healthy, we will be even better. I'm excited to watch us grow and win together in the next few weeks."

Varsity Field Hockey Ties Cushing

By CAROLINE FLEMING
Staff Writer

Upper Jill Cloonan dashes down the field, and the Cushing defense smacks the ball over the endline in an attempt to halt the attack. Tied 1-1 in the second half, Exeter's girls' varsity field hockey takes advantage of a key opportunity to shoot in their second corner of the game. When the ball slides in front of the goal, prep Molly Longfield wastes no time smacking it in the back of the net, and Exeter takes the lead 2-1. As tradition, Longfield races to the center of the field to meet Big Red's goalie, lower Ursie Wise, in an epic chest bump celebration.

PEA's girls' varsity field hockey team had a big game this past Saturday, tying 2-2 to Cushing Academy in the last minute and refusing to let any more goals in during overtime. Although it is early in the season, the players expect great things this year starting out with a 2-0-1 record. Wise celebrated her team's success so far by saying, "Last year we were good, but this year I feel like we are even better."

The game started off very even between Big Red and Cushing this weekend. Lower Elizabeth Griffin said, "The first half was pretty even; we possessed the ball just as much as they did. But later

in the first half, we began to pull ahead and kept the ball in their half for most of it." Exeter set the pace of the game when senior and co-captain, Lydia Anderson, scored the first goal, Cushing chased behind to tie it in the last few minutes of the first half.

Tied going into the second half, the Exeter players dominated, keeping the plays in Big Red's offensive third and scoring off of an incredible corner to take the lead.

Senior and co-captain, Hannah Littlewood, said that the team, "dominated the second half and had a lot of goal-scoring opportunities. In the last minute and a half of the game, though, Cushing had a corner and scored. This brought the game to overtime."

Unfortunately, Cushing was able to sneak a goal in the last few minutes once more tying the game. Exeter field hockey worked fearlessly through the overtime, keeping possession in the offensive zone and taking plenty of shots, but none made it through before overtime ran out.

Having beat Cushing in overtime last year, a rivalry ran high between the two teams, both sides struggling to see who would come out on top. Wise describes one intense moment of pressure, "There's no beef between our teams, but at one point there was a scuffle between two



Upper Leah Cohen strides down the field.

Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

girls and both got carded and sent out in overtime."

Big Red will host Deerfield this Saturday on Hatch field, ready to take a win especially after a close match-up last season. Longfield explained their deter-

mination to be prepared for the match. "We don't have a game on Wednesday this week, so we will have a lot of time to prepare and work on our ball movement and defense in practice so we can defeat Deerfield on Saturday," she said.

Bear Polo Splits Double-Header

By CAROLINE FLEMING
Staff Writer

The boys' varsity water polo team travelled to Williston this past weekend. Big Red played a grueling double header against Williston and Hopkins. The day ended with Bear Polo topping Williston but just getting edged out by Hopkins. These results set the team's season record to 2-4.

The boys were coming off a tough loss to Andover on Thursday. However, Big Red trained through their Andover game and worked on their swimming and defense in practice. "Despite having a game on Thursday, Friday was one of the hardest practices of the week. We knew we had to work on swimming and taking care of the ball, so those were the main components of practice," senior and co-captain Troy Marrero said. "After doing a multitude of sprints and head up swimming drills, we transitioned into ball handling and shooting."

Bear Polo breezed through their first game against Williston. The team dominated the scoreboard with a final score of 13-5. "Our game against Williston was really easy. They weren't good so we were able to get some of our bench players in for most of the game," upper Milo Walshe said.

The next matchup of Exeter vs. Hopkins was a long and drawn out battle for the win, resulting in an overtime. Despite

leading throughout the first quarters, Big Red ultimately succumbed to its fatigue and couldn't hold off Hopkins' offense. "We lost the second game against Hopkins 15-14 in overtime," lower Cooper Walshe said. "That was a really tough loss especially because we went into the fourth quarter leading by 6 goals, then we got sloppy and made some mistakes that Hopkins took advantage of."

Milo Walshe praised Hopkins' talented players, especially their "six foot eight goalie" and top offensive player. "We played the first three quarters really well and worked together as a team to obtain a 11-5 lead. I think we played so well because everybody was helping each other out and looking for each other on offense," he said. "However in the fourth quarter, their best player took a lot more shots from far out and they just started to go in." In dramatic fashion, Hopkins secured the overtime win with two unexpected shots from Hopkins goalie.

Although the boys had a tough time in the second game, there were still standout plays throughout the day, one of which was executed by upper Michael Carbone. "He killed it with his lockdown defense on Hopkins' best player. He was playing while sick but you wouldn't have been able to tell," Cooper Walshe said.

Another standout player from the game was his brother, Milo Walshe. "He



Upper Charlie Venci prepares to throw the ball.

Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

was taking shots, banging goals, adding steals and blocks onto that. He was killing it," lower Aidan O'Brien praised. Cooper Walshe recalled a memorable goal from him. "One of his goals was in the last 30 seconds of the fourth quarter when he turned his defender and swam with the ball right at the goalie and when the goalie lunged at the ball, he quickly pulled it

around and threw it into the back of the net," he said.

A silver lining from the tough day was that the team recognized areas of improvement for its future games. Marrero noted what they will be working on in the coming weeks: "We are going to be practicing working together. Getting back on defense. Making every shot count."

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK: JULIANA MERULLO AND OGECHI NWANKWOALA

By **BIANCA LEE** and
CHARLOTTE LISA
Staff Writers



Numi Oyebo/The Exonian

Girls' varsity soccer co-captains, seniors Juliana Merullo and Ogechi Nwankwoala, are leading the team with newfound energy and drive, working hard to improve every day. The co-captains' dedication and enthusiasm for their team has helped create a fresh dynamic on and off the field, an effort that their teammates and coach recognize and appreciate. Already, Big Red's season has improved since a 1-5 loss to Nobles to a 6-0 win against Bradford Christian Academy and a 5-2 win against Brooks School.

As seniors, this season marks Nwankwoala's fourth year on the team and Merullo's, who came to PEA as a new upper, second season. The captains cite their teammates as some of their first and closest friends on campus. Both have been playing soccer since they were young, and now are thrilled to be leading Exeter's team.

"I love the team, I love playing soccer and I always have. We're so busy during the day, that having two hours to go out on the fields and play a sport that I love, is a great part of Exeter," Merullo said.

Nwankwoala says that team sports at Exeter have had an incredible impact on her Exeter experience. "I love all the aspects that come with playing team sports here: the bus rides to an away game, cheering or having a snack afterwards, team dinners—they're all great things that we do that create bonds," she said.

Girls' soccer head coach, history instructor Alexa Caldwell, and teammates both testified to their collaborative leadership and its noticeable effects on the team's dynamic. The two captains play their best for both themselves and the entire team on the field. "[They] make themselves vulnerable by how much effort and passion they will play with. That is a special trait and I feel lucky to work with such strong, confident and willing captains," Caldwell said.

Lower Mei Li Hart, a new member of the team, pointed out that their commitment shines through in practice, organization of team dinners, and games, calling their positive attitude and enthusiasm "infectious."

Senior Gillian Quinto recalled an incident that reflects the pair's commitment to

the team. When the boys' water polo team attempted to take the team room in Elm Street for dinner before a game, Merullo and Nwankwoala "came and just cleared that room out, took control and made sure that we had that room."

This dedication to their team is evident to every player on the field. Upper Robin Potter said, "They both have such strong wills to win and get the team excited in practice and on the way to games... [and] are well respected by everyone on the team."

Caldwell commented on the duality of both of the captains, and their commitment to working together cohesively, each bringing something different to the table. "They work really well together as leaders of defense and offense," she said.

Caldwell noted each captain's personal assets. "Juliana's strengths include her commitment to the team and to herself. She holds herself to an incredibly high standard, and she is the first to celebrate everyone else's achievements. She has a great shot and cross, and she loves the game."

Meanwhile, "Ogechi reads the opponents' attack very well. She is fast and anticipates the next play. Her tackles are

strong and she plays with a fierce resilience. Both captains encompass a fierce attitude, and, more importantly, they both model a 'team first' mentality," she said.

Lower Marymegan Wright lauded her captains' collaboration. "They seem to be working together in everything they do, whether they're just partner passing or leading the team in a drill."

Not only do Merullo and Nwankwoala care for their teammates on the field, but they also pay special attention outside of the game. Lower Evie Houston said, "They are really involved in our academic and personal lives, so our relationships are much closer which you can really see on the field as it translates to better playing as an overall team."

"We've worked really hard to get to where we are—it's nice to know that your teammates trust you to lead them," Merullo said.

Senior Gabby Brown, a friend of both Nwankwoala and Merullo, says that their "great qualities such as compassion, positivity, humor, and selflessness" are what make them good friends and teammates. "[Nwankwoala] is one of those people who gives 100 percent," senior Chimenum Tasie-Amadi said. Whether it is on or off

the field, those around Nwankwoala and Merullo always appreciate their presence.

Merullo and Nwankwoala are attacking this season with tenacity. They are focused establishing Exeter girls' varsity soccer as a forceful competitor this season. "Our goal is to get to playoffs," Caldwell said. "Already the team has reacted to their leadership." Quinto mentioned that the team's loss to Choate 0-1 this season showed improvement to last year's 0-7 loss, stating "I think they are really shifting how the team thinks and how they work together."

Houston also explained that teammates on the sideline are required to stand during the game to show support for those on the field. "They really put a lot of emphasis on being one team and not individual players."

Nwankwoala said she is hopeful for the rest of the season and looks forward to leading alongside Merullo. "It's really exciting to see what we're gonna do in the future... We need to focus game by game and [concentrate] on what we need to work on."

Merullo agreed, and added, "I think just keeping a good energy and winning mentality—something that Coach

Fall Sports Highlights

Athletes Reflect on Top Moments of Fall Athletic Season So Far

By **CHARLIE VENCI**
Staff Writer

"The field hockey team is winning. We are really going hard out there, tearing up Hatch Field. Undefeated. Woohoo."
-Ursie Wise '21

"XC is undefeated so far! So proud of my team for running fast and far and winning the Bobcat Invitational."
-Maddie Machado '20

"Spending quality time with my teammates, especially Ethan Rosenthal."
-Josh Riddick '20

"Spending quality time with my teammates, especially Josh Riddick. Also we want ice water. We want our troubles heard. Thanks."
- Ethan Rosenthal '20

"I can think of the worst thing! One word: Loomis."
- Billy Menken '20

"Field Hockey is currently unbeaten."
-Bella Hillman '19

"I love playing field hockey. I love the food the parents bring after away games even more. I love my teammates the most."
-Jill Cloonan '20

"I shut down #2."
-Michael Carbone '20

"The first race showed how deep our team is. We have a lot of good, young runners."
-Will Coogan '20

"Girls' soccer beat Brooks and scored in the first minute!"
-Robin Potter '20

"We shoot strong shots on weak side... that's why we're JV."
-Yulian Ye '20

"Opting. Leaves a lot of time for curls."
-Harrison Murray '19

"My only motivation is when coach Fish offers me chocolate to workout."
-Myra Collins '19



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