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Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire

Mercer Survey Shows Faculty Discontented

By JACOB FEIGENBERG
and SAM WEIL
Staff Writers

Human resources consulting firm the Mercer Company recently administered to faculty members a survey on the state of affairs at the Academy. The study's results showed widespread discontent, according to an Agenda Committee summary of the survey. This survey is one part of a comprehensive research endeavor regarding employment conditions for Exeter's faculty.

According to Principal Lisa MacFarlane, the Academy appointed Mercer to address faculty concerns, to "understand which benefits mattered most to faculty and staff" and to find possible inequities between faculty members. With this research, the Trustee Committee on Work and Life plans to develop a new strategy of compensation.

Assistant Principal Karen Lassey acknowledged that the current method of workload, compensation and benefits (an A-level, B-level, C-level method and a "step system"), has some faults that the school needs to address. "I think for a long time we've recognized that there are flaws in both of those models, so we contracted with Mercer SURVEY. 2



Upper Grace Carroll holds a sign at the Portsmouth March for Our Lives. Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

Students Participate in Nationwide Gun Legislation Marches

By RACHEL WON
and ANGELE YANG
Staff Writers

A teenage girl, hard to miss under her dark red Exeter baseball cap, stands proudly as she holds a cardboard sign which reads, "Where is the love?" All around her, students, teachers, and parents hold up similar signs in protest. "Make America Sane Again." "Fire Trump, not guns." "Teachers want to pack books, not pistols." Speaker after speaker give empowered speeches, and the crowd erupts after each one. There are those that clap in fury and those that stand in determined silence. Yet at the end of the day, these people march in solidarity, united in protest against gun violence.

More than 800 "March for Our Lives" protests took place nationwide this Saturday, following the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting five weeks ago. Marches in Portsmouth, Boston and Washington D.C. attracted Exeter students and faculty alike to advocate for gun violence awareness and stricter gun control laws. High school students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida led the demonstration. Being one of the largest protests in American history with nearly two million protesters, the cause gained the support of numerous celebrities and politicians and the attention of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Upper Jordan Davidson spurred PEA's involvement in a local march by reaching out to a number of adults in the Exeter community to ask for help organizing transportation to the march. After discussing timing and location possibilities, the group ended up deciding to provide transportation to Portsmouth.

Exonians who attended the marches were intent on creating change on the topic of gun violence. "I wanted to come to the March because I think that enough is enough," senior Molly Canfield said. "We live in a society with a government that is doing little to nothing to protect its students and other people of all ages." Canfield hopes that this event will make state legislatures and the federal government recognize just how much people want change, and encourage them to pass better laws.

Senior Nick Song travelled to Washington D.C. to attend the March for Our Lives. The issue of gun violence has been prevalent in Song's life ever since hearing

MARCH. 2

Microaggression Flowchart to Ease Reporting

By MAI HOANG, BONA HONG
and EMMANUEL TRAN
Staff Writers

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA) is currently working in conjunction with student groups on a reporting plan for students who witness or experience an attack on an individual's personhood.

Lower Penny Brant's teacher allegedly made racially-charged comments in written feedback. As a multiracial

person, Brant shared that this was not her first experience with a microaggression. "People call me halfies and other degrading words, though I certainly did not expect that to come from a teacher in a written comment. I was shocked," she said. Brant has reached out to multiple teachers and members of the administration about the incident; however, she feels that "there are not enough paths that a student can take" if they experience a microaggression on campus.

To prevent such instances and those that were mentioned in the Afro-Latinx Exonian Society (ALES)'s video FLOWCHART. 3

Tech Glitch in PEA Admissions System Delays Notifications

By EMMANUEL TRAN
and JACK ZHANG
Staff Writers

In the early morning of Saturday, Mar. 10, Exeter's Admissions Office sent its decisions to this year's pool of prospective students. However, due to a software malfunction, nearly 300 applicants did not receive their results from the office.

Dean of Enrollment and External Affairs William Leahy explained that numerous waitlisted applicants had not received their decision emails due to a glitch in the email delivery system. While the Academy used the same framework as it had in prior years, the Admissions Office tweaked the system so waitlisted decisions would be sent to guardians as well as the individual applicants. Unfortunately, if either the applicant or their guardians' emails were invalid or missing, the system did not send any results to the entire family.

According to Leahy, the admissions officers realized the mishap after parents contacted the Admissions Office. "We discovered, because we got feedback, starting Saturday afternoon and that Sunday, that about three hundred people never got their email," he said. He explained that the Admissions Office was never alerted by the system that anything wrong had transpired or that emails had never been sent out.

Leahy noted the importance of sending clear and timely decisions to all applicants. "If any one of the three or four emails in the household weren't there, then the email didn't get sent. By Monday, we had lots of emails and voicemails from people," he said. "We were devastated by that, because I think that how you say 'no' is actually more important than how you say 'yes.'"

Leahy noted that the Academy uses different systems for accepted and waitlisted applicants, and that the system Exeter has historically used for waitlisted and denied students indicated that the emails had all been sent. "For those who were not offered admission, the vast majority MALFUNCTION. 2

New Visitation Policy Trialed; Students React

By ISABELLA AHMAD
and ANGELE YANG
Staff Writers

On Saturday, Mar. 10, Academy dorms Wheelwright Hall and Merrill Hall implemented a pilot visitations policy that will run for the next two weeks. The procedure was created in response to a campus-wide push for a less hetero-normative policy.

The pilot replaces the old visitation rules by establishing gender-neutral visitations. During visitation hours, all Exonians outside of the pilot dorms, regardless of gender, will be required to obtain permission from the faculty member on duty before entering a student's room.

The Student Council Executive Board, Student Council advisers and the Dean's Office collaborated on drafting the policy. According to senior, Merrill Hall proctor and Student Council co-president Menat Bahnasy, the ultimate goal of the new policy was to be more inclusive of all members of the community. "Another goal is the de-stigmatization of visitations, hopefully making it more normal for students to interact with each other, form relationships and avoid the current pressures of requesting visitations," Bahnasy said.

Visitation hours are from seven p.m. to eight p.m. on Sundays through Thursdays, seven p.m. until check-in on Fridays and eight p.m. until check-in on Saturdays, which is the same as the current policy.



Jelani Cobb visits PEA to deliver assembly. Read more on page 3. Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

In addition, Exonians can obtain visitations from one p.m. to five p.m. on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. If someone fails to obtain permission from a faculty member before entering another's room, they will receive the same disciplinary action as stipulated under the current policy.

Some praised the pilot as an effective advancement towards inclusivity that also allowed more hours for visitations. "There is this romantic connotation behind getting visitations, but the new pilot takes away any assumptions both students and faculty can make about sexuality," lower and Merrill resident Fiona Madrid said. "By making everyone ask for visitations, it takes away the potential pressure of someone to come out as LGBTQ+ if they wanted to get V's with someone of the same gender."

Although some agreed that the pilot creates a more inclusive community, the new policy has also raised concerns for students in the dorms piloting it. Aiyana Brough, a

senior in Merrill, believes that the new policy did not promote inclusivity to any significant degree. "Compared to the old policy, it seems that the only substantial change besides changes in visitation hours is that now students, regardless of gender, are subjected to the same uncomfortable procedure," she said. "Making it harder and harder for students to explore intimacy with each other will only force them to do so in less safe ways. I'm not saying we should just let kids do what they want, but the innate lack of trust displayed by the administration doesn't exactly encourage mature and trustworthy behavior either."

To address this issue, Brough proposed having a digital check-in sheet accessible to faculty members rather than having a system in which students ask for visitations in person with a faculty member.

In addition, according to senior Clara Lee, a proctor in Wheelwright, many were concerned that because the policy will only be implemented

POLICY. 2

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Exonians Join National March for Our Lives, Portsmouth

Continued from MARCH 1

about mass shootings such as the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. "This is the first point in my lifetime that I've been able to be so heavily a part of [something that directly affects our generation]," Song said. "It made the March more meaningful, knowing that although it's only a drop in an ocean, it's still something."

Two Exonians, Davidson and senior Gregory Miller, gave their own speeches to the huge crowd gathered in Portsmouth. Both Davidson and Miller had personal connections to those affected by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, and conveyed their emotions publicly at the March.

"I wanted my speech to be unique and passion filled," Davidson said. Davidson wrote his speech a few days before the March, and spent a significant amount of time planning out his thoughts. "It felt great giving the speech because the

crowd was so into the March and just as passionate as me about gun control," he said. In Davidson's speech, he stressed the importance of making arguments on gun control that appeal to the other side. "Massive support from everyone across the nation is the only way we can convince our lawmakers to do something about the gun issues," Davidson explained in a later comment.

Biology Instructor Townley Chisholm offered his insight on why the protest was so popular among Exonians. "There is a great deal of pent-up frustration on campus and in the US over the Trump administration in general and gun violence in particular," he said.

Dean of Students Melissa Mischke, who helped organize logistics with Davidson, observed that students within the Exeter bubble weren't immune to the gun control issues that plague the rest of the nation. "Anybody can be affected by gun violence—in fact, we probably have

students in our community that have experienced or known somebody that has experienced gun violence," she said. "So it affects us whether we live in the bubble or not. I think if it's important to people to support, which clearly it is because we've seen a lot of movement across the country this past week, then I think it's important in our community as well."

At Harvard University, Exeter alumna Lyle Seeligson '17 met with Parkland students who led the marches and listened to their goals for the movement going forward. "It was really interesting to learn about their process of coming together, meeting with politicians and preparing for the march, as well as to get a look into how they interact with each other and mesh and work together as a group," Seeligson said. "They collectively have a powerful energy filled with vision, perseverance, hope and respect and a hard work ethic that I think will give them the motivation and focus to propel this movement into the future."

Students left their respective protests profoundly impacted. For lower Aiwon Desai, the March was an opportunity for her to contribute to a greater cause. "I think the biggest thing is awareness," Desai said. "More people knowing about it puts pressure on politicians to do something."

"It was insane," Song reflected. "There were around a hundred to two hundred thousand people. [...] Everyone had the feeling of 'we're here for a purpose,' and it was contagious. It was so powerful being with so many people and seeing the signs in the air, all [rallying] around this one idea of gun control."

Davidson, too, admired the emotion in the activists gathered at the March. "I learned that there are people who will keep fighting for what they believe in with unbelievable passion," Davidson said. "I learned that we are strong in numbers and we are able to support each other through this movement in ways we might not even think possible."

Faculty Express Dissatisfaction with PEA State of Affairs

Continued from SURVEY 1

to help us develop new models that we could consider for workload and compensation," Lassey said.

The A-B-C level system is the structure in which workload compensation is calculated. According to the faculty handbook, one C level activity entails between four and six hours of work per week, one B-level requires between eight and ten hours of work per week and one A-level activity necessitates 12 or more hours of work per week. The guidelines stipulate that a C-level activity and a B-level activity are equivalent to an A level activity; however, so are two C-level activities. "I don't think anybody really thinks it's logical, the way it's done," said Math Instructor Panama Geer. "Everybody knows that needs fixing."

Mercer will complete research later this spring. Its data will guide the Academy in reforming faculty experience at the school. Head of the Agenda Committee Andrew McTammany thinks that "there will be a concrete change in the near future...Whether it's related to housing, workload, compensation, that depends upon what the faculty is interested in pursuing, as well as what the administration thinks is realistic for what we can achieve."

127 faculty members completed the survey. 72 percent of respondents were teaching faculty, ten percent were faculty administrators and 18 percent were administrative faculty. The survey highlighted complicated issues, including but not limited to dismay over the environment and culture at Exeter, unexpected time commitment and lack of equitable compensation and housing.

MacFarlane highlighted a weakness in the survey, saying that certain

questions were difficult to understand and because of that, faculty weren't able to answer to the best of their ability. "Faculty have expressed concern that sometimes the survey questions themselves were hard to interpret, which makes the data unclear," she said.

The respondents' most negative feedback regarded Exeter's general environment and culture. Out of a total of 53 responses in this section, only six reported content with Exeter's environment. According to the survey summary, 14 comments regarded "lack of community," six comments discussed the "corporatization of the school," six comments emphasized "failure[s] to address issues of diversity," and five comments that criticized "a lack of communication" between faculty and administration.

In the survey, one faculty member expressed their dissatisfaction with the "loss of democratic governance by the faculty." According to the same individual, "The school has become morally bankrupt. Aside from the loss of democratic governance by the faculty, the administration now operates in an arbitrary manner."

Chair of the Math Department and Math Instructor Eric Bergofsky, who has worked at Exeter for 41 years, has noticed a shift in the consideration of faculty opinion in handling school regulations and policies. "I think the tradition of the teaching faculty having an important role in the governance of the school should never change," Bergofsky said of the response above. "Any movement in which we take the teaching faculty, the ones who are in the classroom, on the athletic fields, in the dormitories, the ones who are interacting with the kids day in and day out most closely, that lessens their role in the decision-making processes... is a bad direction."

Another faculty member's comment in the survey stated that Exeter was becoming "much more corporate as a school." They continued, saying that Exeter "as an employer, feels more impersonal than I remember it feeling, and I have more of a sense now that I am not really known as an individual."

McTammany said about the survey, "I think the biggest issue that I saw was faculty wanting to feel like this is a community, where all of their opinions are cherished and valued as well as listened to and appreciated." McTammany believes that the frequency of comments expressing faculty members' desire to feel valued by the administration will "serve as a wake-up call."

However, History Instructor Jermaine Matheson, who works part-time and has worked at the Academy for one year, feels that the Exeter community has embraced him. "I think the school is a welcoming place, but it really depends on who you are, how confident you are and how much experience you bring to the school," he said.

The survey divulged another point of contention: the equity of faculty housing. In the housing section of the survey, only 12 of 50 faculty members considered the current situation was fair. Geer reasoned that since the Academy is a boarding institution, housing could be considered necessary in the job description. "I've heard colleagues say that we should be grateful for it being 'free.' While I understand where that sentiment comes from, the reality is that it is a benefit of the job that each of us factored into our compensation calculations when we decided to take the job," Geer said.

When surveyed about workload and time commitment to extracurricular activities, faculty expressed dissatisfaction

in their treatment. Some reported feeling as though they needed more effective compensation for workloads. One faculty member commented, "There are hidden responsibilities that lie outside the workload formula, depending on the department." They went on to describe that there are many obligations that "receive no workload recognition."

Geer brought up an example of an unpaid commitment some faculty can take up: teaching a 999. "This is pretty outrageous," Geer said. "Students ask us to teach a course that's not on the books, and people say yes out of the goodness of their heart. I have felt awful about having to say no to students in the past... Not everybody is able to work for free." Geer explained that it is hard to justify to her family that she would take on an extra class, which means spending less time with them, and not receive pay to do so.

In a comment regarding workload, one teacher brought up the impact on themselves. "We do this because we love the kids and want to help them do what they want, but ultimately we get frazzled, and can't do the things we do well," the comment read.

Despite some faculty difficulties, data collected by Mercer actually pointed to the relative luxury that Exeter faculty experience. According to Lassey, "one of their findings was that our compensation for faculty was at the top end of the market, compared to around 30 other schools."

Bergofsky agreed, saying that the general treatment of faculty is fair, in his opinion. "I would say our working conditions, our compensation, our overall workload, as a faculty, is probably as good as it gets in this industry," Bergofsky said. "I don't think you'll find it better anywhere else."

Exeter Admissions Failed to Notify Waitlisted Families

Continued from MALFUNCTION 1

received their decisions that morning as planned. Unfortunately, about sixteen percent of the students who were not admitted did not receive our email on the tenth despite our system showing that all emails had been sent," Leahy explained.

A current Exonian who was originally placed on the waitlist—who chose to remain anonymous—described their hypothetical reaction if they'd been put in this situation. "I imagine I'd feel in a state of limbo. I imagine I'd be pretty disap-

pointed, hoping that this temporary pause before your decision comes out means that you're in, and then being notified you're on the waitlist. Hearing it the day of decisions was tough enough, so I can't even imagine the stress having to wait for a few more days," they said.

According to Leahy, the waitlisted applicants and their families were forgiving. He explained that most of them, while concerned during the few days of uncertainty, were ultimately relieved just to hear the decision. "We didn't know what caused it for several days. By the

time we figured it out, most people had already called or emailed in to ask about what was going on. I think most found out quickly, since they were so eager to find out," Leahy said. "They mostly wanted to hear their decision. We spent the next week working with our IT partners to determine the cause. We were totally sympathetic to their concerns and understand their disappointment. Unfortunately, we didn't know it was really a problem until Sunday."

One applicant to the class of 2022 described a sense of numbness by the time

they heard from the Admissions Office. "After that much waiting, the few days immediately before I heard my decision all felt like a blur. I had already waited for so long, a few days wouldn't matter that much. It really didn't feel like anything," the anonymous applicant said.

Leahy added that the Office is working to ensure this delay is not repeated next year. "We will adjust our process next year so that this will not happen again. Those families impacted were very understanding, and we felt terrible that their decisions were not delivered as intended."

Merrill, Wheelwright Experiment Amended Visitations Policy

Continued from POLICY 1

for two weeks, dorm residents might avoid it by choosing to see their same-gender friends outside of Wheelwright or simply avoiding visitations altogether. "We're actually trying to get some concrete data," she said. "I hope that in the future there would be something that would come from it."

The new visitations policy also seems to be an impediment for day students. According to upper Claire McGrath, recently affiliated with Wheelwright Hall due to the pilot, it is more challenging for day students to make friends than it is for boarders, as day students do not have a small community they are immediately welcomed into due to a shared living space. As a result, she believes that day

students have close friendships across campus and compelling a day student to affiliate with just one dorm infringes on one of the best parts of the experience. "Day students find their space all over campus and in multiple residencies," McGrath said. "With the new V's policy, I fear this unique feature of day student life will no longer exist and make the day student experience more difficult."

Despite these concerns, many were hopeful for the future of the visitations policy. "I know that there has been talk of plans being made to use the V's pilot—piloting a few different versions, some boys' dorms, seeing how that affects the number of visitations," Lee said. "As a senior I hope part of the legacy my class leaves behind is to help push the V's policy in a more gender neutral policy."


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Journalist Jelani Cobb Visits Exeter, Talks About Free Speech

By GINNY LITTLE and RACHEL WON
Staff Writers

This past Tuesday, journalist, author and educator Jelani Cobb delivered an assembly in which he examined the concept of free speech and how the First Amendment is used in society. In the evening, he held a talk concerning equality, race relations and privilege in America.

Prior to becoming the IRA Lipman Professor of Journalism at Columbia University, Cobb was a professor of history and the director of African American Studies at the University of Connecticut. He has been a staff writer for the *New Yorker* since 2015.

Cobb was invited to campus for the second time by *The Exonian* and his visit was funded by the Strickler Fund. “I personally was really excited to have him because I read some of his pieces in the *New Yorker*, and I really admire his work,” Editor-in-Chief Rose Horowitch said.

Cobb began his assembly by describing the laissez-faire approach America has

taken to the First Amendment, meaning that one can exercise their right to freedom of speech without censorship. However, this also leads to the misuse of the First Amendment to advance “anti-democratic ideals.”

Such instances include the neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville this summer and the mocking depictions of Islam in the satirical French magazine, *Charlie Hebdo*. Such controversial incidents call the morality of people’s right to free speech into question. However, Cobb advocated for the preservation of the First Amendment to maintain democracy. “There has been an unprecedented scale of assault on the First Amendment,” he said. “However, we need freedom of speech to avoid a scenario in which we develop an inflated sense of our own capacity and ideas.”

History Department Chair William Jordan thought Cobb’s speech applied to the polarized political environment at PEA. “I appreciated the idea that it’s important to allow different kinds of viewpoints to be heard, even ones we disagree

with,” he said. “One of the problems we have here is that a majority of people here are liberal or moderate. We don’t have a lot of conservatives.”

Jordan emphasized Cobb’s point about how without opposing views, students aren’t able to strengthen their existing ones. “His analogy of the boxing was a great depiction; If you’re only hitting a bag, then you’re not becoming a good boxer,” he said. “You have to have a sparring partner.”

However, some students disagreed with this message. “I understand his point of view, but I also disagree. The misuse of the First Amendment can still hurt others and marginalize one group, especially concerning the neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville,” lower Genesis Baez said. “People shouldn’t be targeted, even if it is in the name of freedom of speech.”

Cobb acknowledged these misuses, discouraging engagement with the people who have “ridiculous” arguments. He emphasized the importance of being informed when making claims, saying that “when you have an extraordinary claim,

it must be backed up with extraordinary evidence.”

Students and faculty appreciated the content and delivery of Cobb’s message. “I learned a lot more about how to present a political argument that isn’t an attack,” lower Maureena Murphy said. “On campus it’s easy to create an argument that makes someone feel attacked. However, he presented his argument in a way that was more about the conversation than disagreeing.”

Baez appreciated Cobb’s personal backstory. “I found it inspiring that although his father and grandfather were boxers, he decided to take up a different career path and write,” Baez said. “I also appreciated how informative he was, because he was discussing the historical view of education, describing how his parents once went to segregated schools.”

“I appreciated that he spoke about the issue of free speech with some nuance,” Jordan said. “He recognized how you don’t understand your views fully until you have to defend them.”

New Class of Students Accepted to Phillips Exeter Academy

By ERIN CHOI, JACOB FEIGENBERG and SUAN LEE
Staff Writers

On Saturday, Mar. 10, over 400 students opened their inboxes to receive exciting news: an acceptance letter from and a warm welcome to Phillips Exeter Academy. For many, this one-minute video—full of radiant faces and jovial tunes—signifies the beginning of an unforgettable Exeter journey.

According to William Leahy, Dean of Enrollment and External Relations, the school received a record 2,668 applications this year, making this “the most selective year to gain admission to the Academy.” 16 percent of those applicants were accepted, totalling 440 admitted students this year. The majority of these students, 256, are preps. In addition, there are 88 admitted lowers, 57 uppers and 39 seniors and postgraduates. The ratio of male to female students is nearly equal, and stands at 51 to 49.

Leahy said the school accepted students “who demonstrated intellectual curiosity, kindness and humility, who represent and appreciate the very best qualities of Exeter and fulfill our mission of enrolling youth from every quarter,” after an extensive review process based on input from both faculty members and the Admissions Department.

Biology Instructor Elizabeth Stevens was one of the faculty members who reviewed applications this admissions cycle. “We write comments about each applicant and rate them according to the characteristics we are looking for,” she said. Stevens explained that the committee was “looking for high-achieving, bright, hard-working students who are intellectually curious. We’re also looking for students who will be active in the community in some way and have good character.”

Leahy found the increase in applications to be unsurprising, despite recent reports of sexual misconduct and racial tensions that have arguably undermined the Academy’s reputation. “Prospective families consider a variety of factors when deciding to apply to certain schools—academic offerings, extracurricular opportunities, teaching style and overall composition of the student body. In this regard, Exeter continues to provide a much sought-after education,” he said.

Prospective upper Lenny Chen confirmed Leahy’s sentiments, detailing the positive personal accounts of Academy life he had heard from current Exonians. “I read some negative things about Exeter in some news articles, but I pretty much just dismissed them,” he commented. “I have two friends who go to Exeter right now, and they both influenced my opinion in a positive way.”

Dorothy Baker, a prospective prep, stated her conviction in the Academy’s efforts to address and solve issues, particularly those pertaining to sexual misconduct. “I’m sure that these allegations were a one-time occurrence and that it will not happen again because students and faculty are more mindful. The allegations did not affect my decision to apply,” she said.

Since the start of his tenure, Leahy revealed how he had changed the application process as the new Dean of Enrollment and External Relations by merging the Exeter application process with the Gateway to Prep Schools online application consortium. Leahy said that the shared online platform comprised of over 50 independent school applications “streamlines the application process for both prospective students and the school.” The Gateway system allows students to complete a common candidate profile for multiple schools, organize their submissions and more easily track the status of their applications. Previously, Exeter required applicants to apply using its own online system.

Leahy emphasized that Gateway still allows schools to provide applicants with a unique set of requirements and written response questions. “Gateway is a common platform, not a common application,” he said. “That’s important because I don’t want

students to choose a bunch of schools off a list without really thinking about it. We want them to feel a level of commitment to Exeter and the other independent schools they may be applying to.”

Mei Li, an incoming lower, agreed that Gateway made the application process simpler. “I think it made the process much easier because the Gateway site has a clear checklist of things to be done before the deadline so you could clearly see the things you accomplished as well as the things you still needed to complete,” she said.

Having gotten an early taste of the Exeter experience through the Academy’s summer school, Baker is excited to become a full-time Exonian. “Everyone at Exeter is determined to learn, and everyone works hard to make themselves the best they can be,” she said. “I felt that the community as a whole wanted everyone to succeed and students and faculty were always very willing to help... I fell in love with Exeter at summer school.”

Lucy Weil, an incoming prep from Washington, D.C., described the feeling of anticipation she has about beginning her Exeter journey. “I’m excited to meet new people and live in a dorm. I hope to learn new things about myself and learn how to work under a lot of pressure,” she said. “I know it will be hard, but I’m excited for the challenge.”

OMSA Streamlines Exeter’s Microaggression Reporting Policy

Continued from FLOWCHART, 1

last year, OMSA has drafted a flowchart for students who have experienced or witnessed “an attack on personhood.” The initiative was spearheaded by OMSA intern Jessica Alvarez, along with Dean of Multicultural Affairs Sami Atif and Associate Dean Hadley Camilus, with input from Director of Student Well-Being Christina Palmer and the Student Council. The work drew inspiration from the Relationship Violence and Sexual Assault response flowchart created by Exonians Against Sexual Assault (EASA) and the Dean of Students Office.

Central to the new flowchart is a working definition of “personhood” as “the seen and unseen self, including one’s human and civil rights.” Attacks can take the form of “shaming, slurs, microaggressions and/or physical harm.”

Microaggression response, according to Atif, can take multiple forms. “There are four different response routes that students can take—respond in the moment, seek

advice in person, seek advice anonymously and make a report,” he said. Atif further explained that it is important to remember that microaggressions can “come from ignorance or sarcasm and aren’t overt attacks. It’s the constant encounter of microaggression that creates real harm.”

The OMSA flowchart was created to let students know “the right language” and the mechanisms at their disposal to respond to such situations. Many come into Exeter having never heard of the terms “microaggression” or “attacks on personhood” before.

Early in the process of creating the flowchart to the Dean’s Council, a body of student representatives. Senior Chi-Chi Ikpeazu, co-head of Student Council’s Committee on Community, Equity and Diversity, then brought the item to her committee for more discussions and feedback. “We also worked to compile resources to put on the flowchart,” Ikpeazu said. The flowchart will also likely be presented to the whole Student Council for more discussions, ac-

ording to Vice President Michaela Phan.

Atif also collected feedback from faculty members. Towards the end of February, the flowchart was presented to dorm heads, whom OMSA hoped would play a role in its rollout.

The faculty as a whole also discussed the chart the first week back from spring break. Various interest events for the community have also taken place between Dean Atif and students involved in the initiative.

Rollout of the flowchart will happen soon, potentially as early as Apr. 2. At the first interest event that Atif held on Mar. 21, many students spoke about the importance of preparation for the rollout, thinking that community conversation is key to the plan’s success. “Ideally, when students see the flowcharts on the wall, that’s not going to be their first time knowing about them,” Atif said. The rollout will be prefaced by discussions in dorms and athletic teams.

For Ikpeazu, this initiative is valuable in establishing the responsibility of leaders on campus. “It’s important to engage

teachers and hold them accountable for adequately resolving instances of microaggression happening in their classroom,” she said. “Leaders within the student community, especially student listeners, should also step up and provide safe spaces for lower-classmen.”

Brant agreed, and said, “The school needs to engage student listeners more so they know what to do.” She hoped that no other Exonian would share her experience. “Students should feel like they can reach out to student listeners if they feel that their identity is not respected in any way,” Brant said.

The initiative also clarifies reporting policies. “You have to walk a tight line to make sure students know they have options,” Atif said. “It’s not clear at the moment where students can go with something.” Similarly, Brant reflected on her negative experience last term, and said, “Ideally, there should also be a way to report in which your grades are not affected; anonymity would help.”

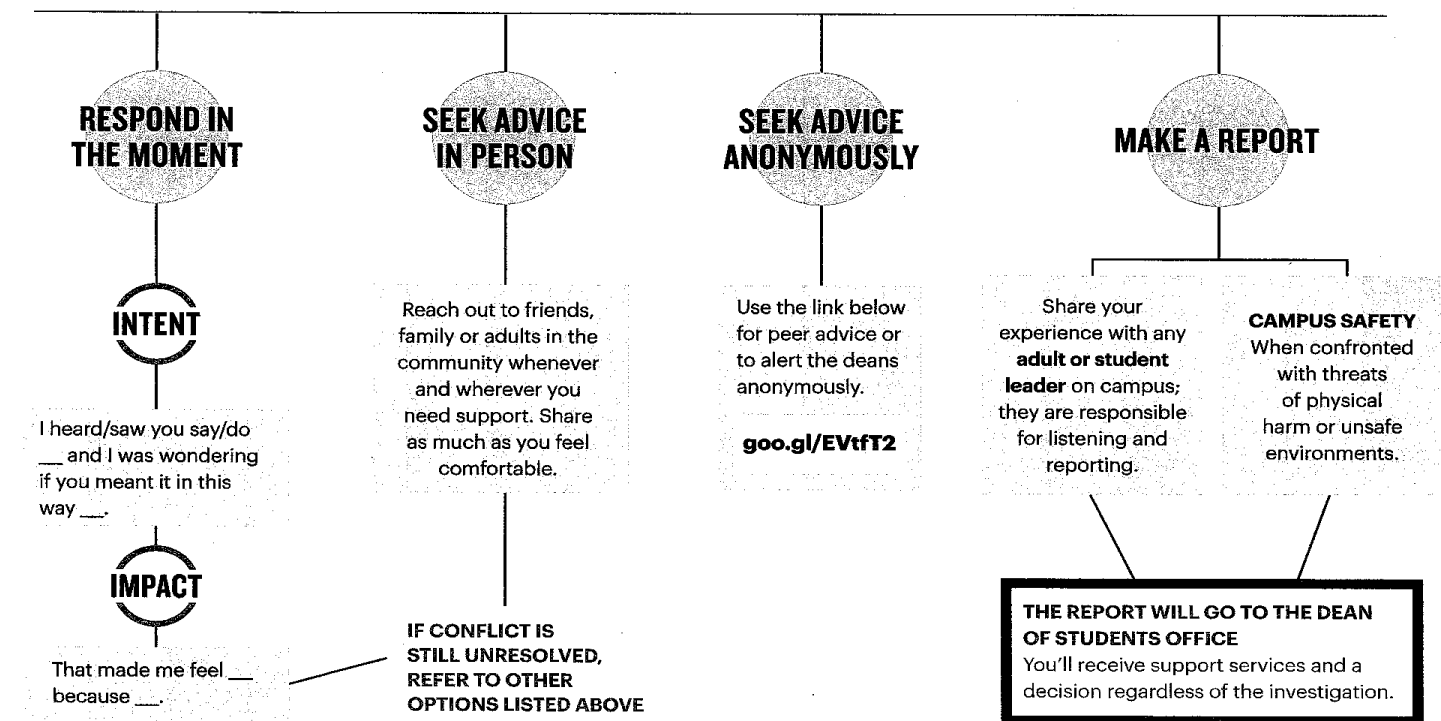
According to Atif, faculty members have largely responded favorably to the flowchart, but there have been questions regarding freedom of speech. Responding to these concerns, Atif said, “People think this infringes upon freedom of speech or choice of word. I think this does the opposite. It’s an opening for question.”

However, William Jordan, Chair of the History Department, expressed concern regarding the use of the terms “attack on personhood” and “microaggression.” Jordan said he feels like he needs to give the flowchart some more thought, but his first impression was that “it advances new terminology that may do more harm than good.” He said, “The concept of ‘attack on personhood’ may be describing things that should not be equated with violence, which the word ‘attack’ implies in my mind.” “The intention of this document is to help students to be more assertive about standing up for themselves, and that is a commendable thing; but from what I can tell, people on campus—students and adults—do not have a clear, common understanding of what is included under the term ‘microaggression’ and what should not be included. A better term might be ‘accumulated impact.’”

The flowchart is designed to be a step toward ensuring that students do not feel silenced. “At Exeter, there is a power dynamic between teacher and student because teachers are the ones determining your grade,” Brant said. “So many people do not feel like they can speak up.”

IF YOU EXPERIENCE/WITNESS AN ATTACK ON PERSONHOOD*

*Personhood: The seen and unseen self, including one’s human and civil rights. Attacks can take the form of shaming, slurs, microaggressions and/or physical harm.



PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL STUDENT AFFAIRS

Pictured above is a draft of OMSA’s microaggression flowchart.

Note from the Editors

140th Editorial Board

At Dr. Jelani Cobb's Assembly this Tuesday, a student stood up and questioned the factual validity of an Opinions piece written for last week's issue. The student claimed that the

information regarding the poisoning of Sergei Skripal was taken out of context and falsely blamed the Russian government for making and using the chemical weapon.

However, *The Exonian* Board will continue to accept articles that properly cite *The New York Times* and CNN, two reputable news sources that were referenced in the aforementioned piece.

Before publishing each issue, the editors make certain that writers use credible sources and include facts to bolster their argument. We would like to emphasize that the Opinions section's aim is not to provide a detailed account of current events, but rather to give students an opportunity to interpret proven facts and take a stance on them.

We hope that the Opinions pieces featured in our newspaper ignite discourse on campus. If you disagree with the logic or conclusions of a piece, we encourage you to respond with your own writing. All viewpoints are welcome.

This Editorial represents the views of the majority of the Editors on The Exonian Board at this time.

The Ethical Obligations of Corporations

Jack: Yeah, but people do not like Facebook because their privacy got sold out, not because of some ideological grievance. It is also not uncommon for social pressure to act in the opposite direction. The majority of people believed slavery was good. So, on this marketplace of ideology in the 1700s and early 1800s, much of the social pressure was absolutely one that pushed towards the continuation of slavery. The external force of social pressure on corporations is not something that necessarily makes them ethical, since the force itself may not be pushing towards something ethical.

Janalie: Also, for those social pushes to be effective, a majority of the corporation's consumers need to push for it. Otherwise, the push has no effect. You gave the example of Facebook, but how many people here still use Facebook, despite the controversies? How many people across the United States still use Facebook despite the controversy? Social pressure needs to be more uniform than it usually is for it to make much of a difference.

Ben: Sure. But the point is not that they will always act ethically, it is that social pressure, as a phenomenon, can influence corporations in ways that seem contradictory to what you claim their sole purpose is.

Jack: But when that choice for social pressure to be exerted is gone, what happens? What happens when every single cereal company in the world relies on slave labor to farm wheat because profit margins have been driven so far down by competition? The tendency for the rate of profit to fall clearly implies that it will eventually be necessary, for companies to survive, to rely on effectively slave labour.

Janalie: That is exactly why we see companies outsourcing jobs to other countries. When it becomes too expensive to make their products in the US, they move, because it's the biggest benefit to their ultimate goal of making a profit. Quite a few corporations use labor extremely close to child slavery for their own benefit, at the harm of other societies.

Ben: This is exactly the point of minimum wage laws and collective bargaining as a check on free enterprise. These were agitated often times for by the workers, and they gained unprecedented protection for workers. It is true that corporations move jobs to other countries when they believe that prices are too high in the US, but social pressure can often prove to be an effective antidote to these excesses. For instance, Nike was pressured to close down their sweatshops in the 1990s, and in large part they have, so it seems to be that, however inconsistently applied, social pressure can induce business to take more ethical actions even at a cost to profit.

Janalie: But a lot of other corporations do not. Even with the capability for ethical change, social pressure on corporations is far too inconsistent to ultimately change the appearance of their ethical standpoints. There are so many examples of times where people pressure corporations because of one incident that happened, and then a few months down the line almost completely forget about why they pressured that corporation and essentially stop all their efforts. Take, for example, PayPal. People stopped using PayPal when they found out that the founder supports Trump. But, here we

are now, quite a few months down the line, and what has come of that? Social pressures spike and then drop as certain events happen and are publicized. We as a society have too short of an attention span to exert consistent social pressure on a corporation. Thus, you see a spike and a drop over and over again.

Jack: Yeah. I am very skeptical about the utility of social pressure on corporations.

Ben: Well, that is the nature of our democracy. We cannot compel people to protest for things they are not passionate about. Some movements are successful and some are not. That is how it goes, and what is successful is often what is more important to people such as minimum wage laws. What are we going to do? Are we going to create a body that prescribes ethical behaviour at all times?

(Ben left our conversation at this point.)

Emmanuel: Actually, that is exactly what I think should happen. We know that corporations will not have any obligation to act ethically, and that demand-side external pressures will not help that much, so it seems like the only thing left to do is create a new group of people that direct and explicitly guide corporations towards ethical behaviour.

Jack: I suppose it is true that this concept of the "unwashed masses" voting for people and on things they do not understand is a scary thing to imagine. But what else is there that could work? Who is this supreme body on ethics that puts the pressure on companies?

Emmanuel: I think that government by an educated elite would be the best method to ensure that corporations act responsibly. By elite, I do not mean any person who makes hundreds of millions of dollars, but instead by those who have been raised from birth with a sense of ethical virtue instilled in them and the understanding of their particular subject taught to them. In essence, the aristocracy. I mean people who have a strong background in government and the like, as opposed to officials who are elected. Arguably, these elected people are the most unreliable in ensuring corporate ethical behaviour, as the elections for these positions could easily be swayed by meddling companies' propaganda. Democracy always has ended up as a plutocracy; that is how it always ends up, that is what we are seeing in America now. I want the ethical body to be composed not of the monetary elite, but of the intellectual and moral elite.

Jack: There is a lot of overlap between those classes today, though. Many intellectuals and academics are deeply involved with the industry they would then be required to regulate.

Janalie: Also, I would argue that we already have an aristocracy in the United States because of big corporations. We effectively have an aristocracy within corporations themselves, with the executives and their children and chosen successors being the aristocrats. However, those corporations already control a big portion of our government through lobbying and legalized bribery.

Emmanuel: No, no, I agree. Every country has an aristocracy, whether they call it one or not. In the Soviet Union or revolutionary China, party members and their associates were the elites. In the Ancien Régime, aristocrats were the nobility. No matter which example of a country you pick, there has always been

an elite. The problem with the United States is that there are no rules for the aristocracy. If you make a lot of money, even through unscrupulous means, you are now part of the aristocracy. What I am saying is that we should recognize the aristocracy as a class, and ensure that membership in the aristocracy is not determined by wealth or power, but instead by the want for helping the nation or society broadly. A CEO is not going to be concerned with anything except making money, and an unacknowledged class of CEOs working in the shadows does not help anyone. When the explicit goal of the aristocracy is then to help society, it is an entirely different ballpark.

Janalie: How do you quantify what is "good for society" in a society that has so many diverse peoples and viewpoints? How do you determine what is good for a society that does not agree on what good even means?

Emmanuel: I think there are definitely some individuals out there with enough virtue such that I doubt that many people in this country would believe them to be immoral. Even if you cannot put an exact number on it, you can still qualitatively examine individuals. For example, I think most people would believe that a volunteer nurse who willingly dives into active war-zones to assist others is morally superior in terms of selflessness to Joe the office worker. Similarly, we could probably agree that Bill Gates is more philanthropic than the average billionaire who does not share their wealth. Really, it is analogous to any topic, including business ethics.

Jack: I suppose so. But, how would these aristocrats force corporations into implementing ethical policies that cut into their bottom line?

Emmanuel: Well, they probably do it in the same way that our government does it now. Threaten them with lawsuits, sanctions, penalties, whatever gets them to agree. Now, it is just that the government is less corruptible than appointed officials, and more stable than constantly changing and unreliable popular social pressure.

Jack: Sure, but then what is to stop companies from just leaving the country to avoid all these penalties and threats from the aristocracy? Even if this incorruptible aristocracy could force these companies to act ethically while they stay within the borders, why could not these companies just pack up and leave as soon as their profits are threatened?

Emmanuel: Well, it is absolutely going to be a game of incentivizing corporations to act ethically while also balancing the penalties for bad behavior. In the case of environmental protection, for example, I think that implementing both a carbon tax and subsidies for energy-saving processes could incentivize companies to both contribute to the economy while acting in a responsible manner. It is a matter of balancing the carrot and the stick.

Janalie: I agree with that. I am still a little unsure on the whole need-for-aristocracy part, but I think I get the idea.

Jack: Same here. I think that the largest question that still remains is on the most effective way to get corporations to act ethically positive. Whether you take the Marxist perspective or not, it seems like we have more or less agreed that corporations have no moral obligations of their own. It is up to someone else, whether it be individual consumers or the state, to keep them in check.

The Exonian

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Guns and American Exceptionalism

Shivani Tripathi '20

Guest Contributor

Ever since its founding, the United States has projected an image of being the epitome of freedom and liberty. This idea of American exceptionalism has shaped the world's perception of the United States, but more importantly, it has elevated our sense of self-importance and worth.

We are taught from day one that the United States is an exceptional nation because it espouses the values of liberty and justice for all. Yet, a simple look at American history shows how we have fallen short many times. We choose to ignore these dark spots and revel in the comfort of the self-deluding myth that is American exceptionalism. I am a proud American, but I refuse

political spectrum. For many of us, questioning the validity of guns is to question the Constitution and the Founding Fathers, and in turn, the ideal of American exceptionalism.

From the Revolutionary War

This past weekend, thousands of formidable students marched across the nation to protest gun violence. The echoes of their footsteps are strung together in a melody indicative of not only cultural change, but a growth in mindset.

to the World Wars, many view guns as critical to establishing and maintaining the American ideal of liberty for all. This is

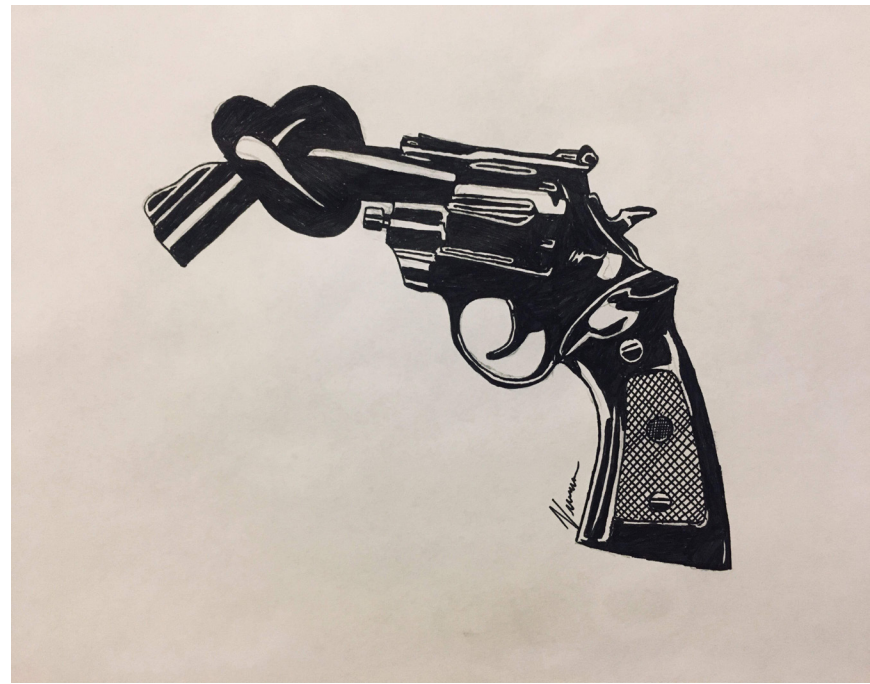
protects our right to self-defense and upholds personal liberty. The founders probably did not envision that the right to bear arms would one day be so grossly misused. They probably did not envision that one day, the intent of the Second Amendment would be used to peddle war machines in the hands of unstable juveniles, resulting in heartbreaking losses in schools around the nation.

Currently, we are 12 weeks into 2018, and there have already been 17 school shootings where dozens of children have perished. America has the least rigid gun laws out of all the developed countries and the highest gun-related death rates as a result. However, many of us refuse to see other nations as an example to learn from because we view ourselves as morally and culturally superior. American exceptionalism prevents us from seeing the flaws in our gun culture, although we are surrounded by liberated nations with stricter policies. How can we possibly be wrong if we are taught to view ourselves as the best?

Hence, giving up guns means more than just giving up the physical object — it entails giving up our delusion of moral and cultural superiority. It is acknowledging that our pride in being American doesn't conflict with self-introspection and calls for improvements.

Reforming gun laws definitely isn't the only way to acknowledge America's shortcomings. We must also strive to depict historical events accurately in schools in order to enable the American youth to analyze our world with an unbiased eye and to make educated decisions. This past weekend, thousands of formidable students marched across the nation to protest gun violence. The echoes of their footsteps are strung together in a melody indicative of not only cultural change, but a growth in mindset. We understand that the Constitution is a living document, but the drafters intended it to reflect the adapting times. In light of that sentiment, it is now time to demand that the legislation takes away weapons of war from our streets and stops the carnage.

The Second Amendment



to believe that exceptionalism was solely reserved for the likes of me.

When we convince ourselves that we are so exceptional, we don't introspect; we don't think that we have any room to improve. This is detrimental to the American populace's ability to fairly consider controversial matters, such as gun safety. The debate around gun availability and regulations extends far beyond the two sides of the

further emphasized in the Second Amendment, which reads: "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." Therefore, guns have become more than just a physical object. For many, they are a cultural symbol of America's most paramount values of patriotism and liberty.

Russia Rushes to Elect Vladimir Putin

Emmanuel Tran '21

Guest Contributor

On March 18, Russians went to the polls in an election that will critically influence the future of their country. Three men and one woman competed for the votes of millions. The results were fair and definitive. In its official report on the election, the pro-Western OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) wrote, "Legal and technical aspects of the election were administered efficiently and within the deadlines."

Of the four major candidates (in addition to a few minor ones), there was one clear winner. President Vladimir Putin received almost 77 percent of the votes. Communist Pavel Grudinin won 11.77 percent, while nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy garnered a little over 5 percent. Pro-American liberal Ksenia Sobchak won almost 2 percent. Evidently, when Russians went to the polls, they didn't merely vote for Putin—the people cast their votes for a clear vision of what they want out of their society.

In voting against Grudinin, Russians expressed that they had no wish to return to the days of the Soviet Union. In opposing Zhirinovskiy, Russians expressed that they have no interest in engaging in meaningless wars. In opposing Sobchak, Russians expressed that they want Russia to remain a free nation, not a puppet of the EU or of the USA.

The people's overwhelming support for Putin was a sign that they support his program. It was a sign that Russians want a just, peaceful relationship with the USA and EU. It was a sign that they approve of his efforts to rebuild Russia's military and to restore its position in the world. It was a sign that, after almost a century of attacks on Eastern Orthodoxy, they are in favour of its revival. It also shows that they support Putin's tolerance of, as well as his respect for, Russia's Muslim inhabitants.

When President Putin first rose to power in the 1990s, Russia

was in a state of disaster. After the fall of the Soviet Union, Russia regressed into a small, poor country. A new elite, who attended English schools and dressed expensively, rose to power. Amidst the ensuing power dynamics and undeniable corruption, Putin promised a new Russia. He did not look to the Soviet Union for inspiration; instead, he looked further into the past to the old Russian Empire. The story of Emperor Peter the Great especially inspired Putin's vision for a new

from Kazakhstan to Belarus. It is not a "ethno-purist" view; it can't be—Russia is too diverse. Putin's sole wish is to remake the old Russian Empire, to reunify it. He dreams of a "Eurasian Union." Once he remakes that Russian Empire, he will have no more territorial interests.

Putin also has an interest in remaking the Russian economy. While a recent slowdown has occurred, it is more prosperous than ever. In 1999, Russia had an unemployment rate of 13 percent. In



Russia, as Peter the Great advanced Russia from its status as the poor cousin of Europe and forged the country into a powerful nation. In light of the swift, pivotal alterations that Peter the Great brought to his country, it's no wonder that Putin took inspiration from this historical figure. Peter the Great took the rump of a dead empire and rebuilt it into a world power, a power that made and still makes the USA and EU tremble.

Importantly, though, Putin has no interest in a Russia that is at war with the USA or the EU. He knows that war with America will only make Russia weaker. Nor does he have an interest in the conquest of the entire world—Putin is a very normal Russian patriot and Imperialist. He takes the view that there exists an entity known as "Great Russia." Great Russia stretches

2014, that rate was 5 percent. Putin's economic plan is quite measured. He realizes that a massive expansion of pure capitalism will result in chaos. He also realizes that the communist system will not work either. So, he has come up with a system of regulation that will ensure that capitalism is controlled.

For many, Putin's election is a farce, similar to the "elections" of the Soviet Union. In reality, the situation was more complex. The election was clearly clean. An official for the "Civic Chamber" group said it was "unprecedentedly" so. It was a sign that the Putin is as popular as ever. As Russia faces the future, many issues confront the nation: an aggressive America, economic issues and many more obstacles. Only united will Russia be able to deal with those problems.

Exclusion in Gun Control Movement

Andrea So '20

Columnist

On March 24, rallies took place in every corner of the nation, as well as few cities abroad. These student-led demonstrations, sparked by the most recent school shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and Great Mills High School, attracted hundreds of thousands of protesters.

I attended the Portsmouth March for Our Lives rally where we heard the messages of teenagers and many well-established gun control activists. This included two powerful speeches from Exonians that were met with support. However, when one speaker at the event brought up the fact that people of color—black men and women in particular—are injured and killed by guns at a much higher rate than Caucasian people, her point was met with silence.

That reaction encapsulates one aspect of the gun-control movement which is largely excluded from the narrative: the efforts and achievements of black activists. When black students organized to protest the deaths of Trayvon Martin, Tamir Rice, John Crawford III, Akai Gurley and so many others killed at the hand of police brutality, there was no media outlet calling their rallies "triumphs of organic, youthful grass-roots energy, and of sophisticated organizational muscle," like *The New York Times* described the March for Our Lives this past week. No black activists were given the opportunity to appear on the cover of *Time Magazine*, or even featured in major publications to advance their goal and spread their message of gun control to the public. Instead, black youth were villainized and various news outlets made the looting that took place the focal point of the protests.

That reaction encapsulates one aspect of the gun-control movement which is largely excluded from the narrative: the efforts and achievements of black activists.

On March 18, an unarmed black man was shot by police 20 times while in his grandmother's backyard. The police officers allegedly mistook the cell phone in Stephon Clark's hand for a weapon, but they chose to mute their body cameras after fatally wounding him. This was not brought up at the rallies. Stephon Clark is dead, and yet the mass shooters of the 2012 Aurora shooting, the Charleston church shooting and the Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting are still alive. In other cases, such as the Sandy Hook shooting and the recent case of a bomber in Austin, the perpetrators committed suicide and were not killed by police.

In this country, we have a serious problem with believing and acting upon the stereotypes of people of color. We find it easier to scapegoat them for problems rather than validating their humanity.

This piece is not meant to negate the validity of the current movement that is taking place. The students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas deserve our respect for their monumental efforts to change a gun-obsessed culture that has been embedded into the social fabric of this nation for so long. We owe it to them, and all survivors of mass shootings, to take solid, concrete action, so that what they experienced will never happen again.

That being said, the two aspects of the gun control movement can coexist within the wider narrative—we can give black leaders credit for their previous work on gun control and empower the March for Our Lives platform at the same time.

One of the Parkland activists, David Hogg, has already called out the media for failing to represent the voices of black students, who make up 25% of the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas and 40% of the students in his school district. These two issues are tied together. We cannot divorce a need for gun reform from the fact that black people are being shot at disproportionately high rates, and that black voices continue to go unheard. By combining everyone's voices, we will create an indomitable path for change that no corrupt politician or violence-saturated history can obstruct.

Want to have your voice heard?

Submit a piece to the Opinions section of *The Exonian!*

Contact exonian@gmail.com

Send Letters to the Editor to the same address.

Justice for Stephon Clark

Johanna Martinez '20

Guest Contributor

With all the hashtags surrounding the March for Our Lives movement and continuous push for legislation towards ending gun violence, it is important that all communities are included in the ongoing conversation and reform. It is also important to note the intersectionality of this issue. We must realize that gun violence and police violence are not separate conversations. Amidst all the tragic shootings that have taken place, guns have also been the reasons why various unarmed black men have been fatally shot at the hands of police officers.

On March 18, twenty-two year old Stephon Clark was fatally shot in his grandparents' backyard in Sacramento, California. The police officers had been in the area responding to a call about a car break-in. The officers said that Clark was advancing towards them with an object that they believed to be a crowbar. Even though Clark's hands are up in the videos that were released and the police reportedly believed he

had a crowbar, the two officers on the scene did not attempt to "disarm" him. Instead, they fired their guns ten times each, killing Clark. There was no gun found on the scene nor any other weapon — Clark only held a harmless cell phone.

Yet, another example of how racism is sadly still integrated in our perception of others and can lead to the murder of an unarmed black father of two.

Even if the twenty bullets that pierced Clark's body would not have killed him, Clark was left bleeding in the backyard and was not administered CPR. In fact, he was not provided with any other medical help for six minutes—too long a time to wait to save his life. However, it is unfortunately not a surprise that he was neglected, given the fact that they shot him twenty times and seemed to care little for his life. Why was it necessary to shoot him so many times? Why was it necessary to shoot him at all? You would think that trained police officers who retain years

of experience would find a way to "unarm" a man without fatally shooting him. Given their extensive experience, you would think that they would be able to distinguish a rose gold iPhone 6 from a gun or a crowbar.

Clark was a stay-at-home father of two boys, one-year old Cairo and three-year-old Aiden. He was also a great son and brother. It is no wonder that his untimely death at the hands of two police officers caused a public uproar. Over a hundred activists gathered together in front of Clark's local light rail station for a protest and vigil to call attention to the unjust nature of his death.

We must continue to protest because his life matters just as much as the other lives who were taken by gun violence and because policy reform and change are needed in our nation.

In recent weeks, various people and public figures resorted to Twitter and Instagram to remind the public that unjust police shootings are still occurring and that this was another tragic ex-

ample of a person of color being killed even though he was unarmed and not endangering the life of anyone. It is absurd that more people are dying at the hands of police violence and gun violence. Yet, another example of how racism is sadly still integrated in our perception of others and can lead to the murder of an unarmed black father of two. And perhaps the most unexpected aspect of this whole injustice is that his family was not even informed of his death until many hours after he was fatally shot.

Last week, a GoFundMe page was initiated to help the grieving family pay for funeral expenses. Clark's brother announced that the family wanted to bury him next to another brother who was also killed by gun violence a few years ago. In our discussion about gun violence, we must also remember Clark and the many other people who were unjustly killed by police violence and gun violence. We must continue to protest because his life matters just as much as the other lives who were taken by gun violence and because policy reform and change are needed in our nation. We cannot let the police kill yet another unarmed black man. We cannot let more people die at the end of a gun.

Motorbikes: The Environment's Real Foe

Mai Hoang '20

Columnist

The website Green Choices, "a group of individuals committed to providing consumer information on the green choices available," recently published an article recommending environmentally-conscious consumers to switch from cars to motorbikes. Their argument was that motorbikes provided the individual freedoms associated with cars, at a lower environmental cost. The main evidence listed to support this claim is that motorbikes need less fuel, generate less emissions and therefore causes less environmental damages in their production. But should we really ditch the bulky cars and go for the smaller and more efficient options? They can not only avoid congestions and carry you through town faster, but cause less harm for the environment too!

Though these claims may seem

Studies replicated and supported around the world by institutions such as the Kanazawa University, the European Union and even Mythbusters have pronounced that motorbikes do damage to the environment to a much greater extent than cars do.

credible at first glance, a brief dive into concrete research and data is enough to debunk the myth. Studies replicated and supported around the world by institutions such as the Kanazawa University, the European Union and even Mythbusters have pronounced that motorbikes do damage to the environment to a much greater extent than cars do.

Although it is true that motorbikes

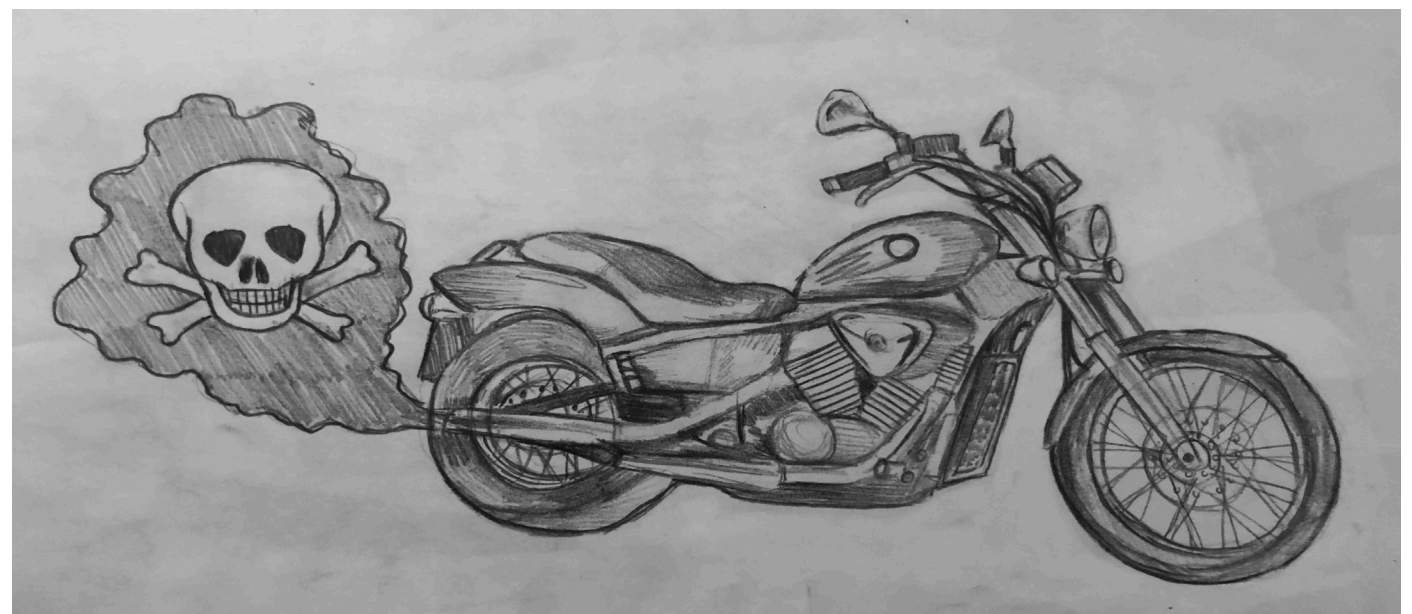


Illustration by Ariane Avandi

use less fuel and emit less carbon dioxide, this is made up many times over by the gargantuan amount of smog-forming hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen, as well as the intensely toxic carbon monoxide that they produce. On average, motorbikes from the 2000s generate 416% more hydrocarbons, 3,220% more oxides of nitrogen and 8,065% more carbon monoxide than cars of the same decade do.

According to research done by the University of Kanazawa, the hydrocarbon-filled exhaust released from these vehicles can act as a teratogen that causes the malfunction of human embryos; in moderate amounts, hydrocarbon is capable of inducing genetic mutations and complications in testosterone and oestrogen creation.

One of the major reasons behind why motorbikes emit so much toxic greenhouse gases is the sheer lack of converters, sensors and other emission control devices packed onto passenger vehicles since the 70s. Because of its prevalence, there has been a stronger push towards cleaning up automobiles.

However, this kind of advocacy is absent in the history of two-wheelers, and thus producers have been able to get away with all manners of disease-inducing gases. Regardless, if they had wanted to place more converters on two-wheelers, it wouldn't have helped much anyway; there is simply not enough space on motorbikes for control systems as comprehensive as those on cars.

The claim that motorbikes use up fewer resources when built, specifically "around one-seventh of the resources needed to build a car," has also turned out to be false. Using the online Economic Input-Output Life Cycle Assessment, one could easily see how the construction of a \$15,000 car on average generates 9.41 metric tonnes of CO₂, while the construction of a \$15,000 motorcycle generates only 13.7.

If motorbikes were actually that environmentally friendly, the motorbike centers of the world, namely Indonesia, India, Pakistan, Vietnam and other developing countries in the South and South East Asian region, would also be the cleanest. Reality tells otherwise. Re-

search conducted by the Kanazawa University since 2007 has also found that in seven of Asia's major cities, air pollution exceeds international standards due to the hordes of motorbikes that fill up urban areas. In this part of the world, most people do not feel safe leaving their homes without a face mask and protective eyewear, as thirty minutes of exposure to "street gases" are enough to cause anything from minor discomfort to an actual bout of dizziness and coughing. In either case, the build-up of inhaled particles in the lungs does not fail to cause harm in the long run.

I am not saying that cars are friends of the environment either, but they are only the lesser of the two evils, and the Earth would be much better off without them. However, claiming that we can solve this issue by each hopping onto a motorbike is simply bogus. The true long-term solution is nothing less than a firm commitment to public transportation, bikes and better yet, scientific innovation that produce green vehicles like electric cars for increasingly lower prices.

March for Our Lives Disregards Opposing View

Jordan Davidson '19

Senior Columnist

This past Saturday, I attended and spoke at the March For Our Lives event in Portsmouth, NH. I wanted to change the fact that I am growing up in a generation plagued with mass shootings. If you are not already acquainted with the event, March For Our Lives was a nationwide march that protested gun violence and the lack of effort our lawmakers have

The fact of the matter is, it will take years before any serious piece of legislation gets passed that would prevent any more of these school shootings from happening again.

put into ensuring our safety.

A couple of days before the march, I prepared a speech to present to the hundreds of people who attended. I chose not to rile up the crowd by saying what they wanted to hear, but I in-

stead provided them with serious food for thought about the issue. I believe that what I spoke about should not only be heard by the people who went to the rally, but also by everyone who supports gun control.

I chose to discuss the one thing that all supporters of stricter gun laws need to do: listen. We live in a nation so polarized that many make the conscious decision not listen to what the other side has to say. Whether we are talking about social justice, the economy or international affairs, there are always two or more sides to the issue. Yet when we are talking about gun control, the emotions run especially high because of the passion that both supporters and opponents of guns inherently have about the problem.

Gun supporters rightfully believe that the Second Amendment gives them the right to own any type of gun that they want. On the other hand, people who oppose the ownership of firearms believe that the deaths and injuries that guns have caused, especially to children in recent years, are unacceptable and warrant a government-mandated ban on such weapons. So, this issue really boils down to two emotional and compelling arguments:

personal liberty versus preservation of human life. Even though talking about gun control with those who disagree with you can be hard and frustrating, there is no point in having this movement if we cannot persuade those who are opposed to gun control.

The fact of the matter is, it will

By paying more attention to what the other side thinks, we will be able to move people from being pro-gun to being pro-gun control.

take years before any serious piece of legislation gets passed that would prevent any more of these school shootings from happening again. Look at previous revolutionary movements in American history: the Civil Rights Movement, the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, women's suffrage and equality, etc. What do all of these movements have in common besides the fact that they were ahead of their time? It took years and years of fighting before they saw any true success. We cannot let the same happen to the gun control move-

ment because by then, far too many will have died for absolutely nothing.

This is why it is necessary for all of us to not only listen to the other side of the controversy, but make arguments that appeal to those dissenters. When you strive to get your point across to someone taking the opposing point of view, there is no use to present arguments that make logical sense to you. Instead, we need to get inside the heads of the opposition. In the context of guns, we need to be making arguments about what our rights truly are. One argument that we could make is that the small fraction of liberty that comes with the right to own a gun infringes upon the two natural rights immortalized in the Declaration of Independence: life and the pursuit of happiness. Also, we could present the hypocrisy of our political leaders who argue that they are in favor of guns while simultaneously professing to be tough on crime.

By paying more attention to what the other side thinks, we will be able to move people from being pro-gun to being pro-gun control. If we fail to do this, this movement will be largely unsuccessful for years just like many other American movements in our past.



ExonianHumor



How to Seem Funny

By MAEGAN PAUL
Certified Humor Writer

1. Laugh at your own jokes. Not only will it inspire others, but it will also boost your confidence when other people pretend to laugh along.
2. Just tell lots of jokes. If you're lucky, people will only remember the good ones. If your bad jokes stick, at least your legacy will be preserved.
3. Make fun of yourself. It shows vulnerability and people might feel bad so they feel obligated to laugh.
4. Post in Exeter Memes. If you get less than 30 likes within a day, take it down. The remaining 27 are only out of pity.
5. Make "Black and Strong" jokes - who cares if it happened almost 7 months ago?
6. Talk to upperclassmen about how stressful prep year is - especially how tired you are because of the extreme course load.
7. Talk about the struggles of the life as an Exonian. Nobody gets annoyed by hearing a joke (like the one above) about your completely unique suffering.
8. Write for the humor page.
9. Airdrop memes to people at random times - StuCo meetings are a perfect and appropriate.

Prep Reading "Animal Farm" Notices it "Might Connect to Something Historical"

By AVA HARRINGTON
Said in her Exeter Interview she "Likes to Read Sometimes"

Recently, a prep made a fascinating observation in his spring English class. Upon reading the text "Animal Farm" by some guy named George, the young child noticed something strange. "I don't know," he said to us in an exclusive interview. "It just seems...so familiar. Wasn't there something that happened in um, China? A country near there. There were these guys...John Lemon and Nome Chomsky and a space race...I think that was it. I told the teacher-er, the class-that I thought that 'Animal Farm' could be an agora...alle...alegra...alle-

gora...um, a metaphor for a historical event, and that was a real breakthrough." The other preps in his class noted that this particular prep was a literature fiend. "When we were reading The Good Gatsby, he suggested that maybe the green light wasn't JUST a green light. I don't know how he does it, but this kid really gets literature" We asked the youngling what he thought he might do with this newfound literary proficiency. He feels he has enough experience to become an editor, considering he "enjoys peer editing" and has nev-

er visited the writing center. To conclude our interview, we wanted to know if the whiz-kid had any more literary insights to share. "Well, 'Animal Farm,' right? It's by this guy named 'George ORWELL.' But I've also heard that phrase 'Orwellian' in reference to government. So I was thinking maybe that George chose his name because he...um...I think he really likes government probably. Yeah. Definitely that." Only the best and the brightest attend Exeter, and it's a beautiful feeling to be among them.

Best Conclusions for Professional Emails

By AVA HARRINGTON
Sends Emails

For any application or even an email begging for a third extension, you want to have the most professional sounding email possible. Here are some sign-offs to mix it up while also remaining as professional as possible.

1. Sincerely,
2. Thanks for your assistance,
3. With sincerity,
4. Love,
5. AAAAAAAA,
6. Hugs and Kisses,
7. Kisses and Hugs,
8. Don't do drugs,
9. Give me your social security number,
10. *67,
11. I love you so much,
12. tHanks i rEaLly aPpreciate it and i'M Excited to work with you,
13. Thinking bee,
14. I'm vegan,
15. Have mercy,
16. ,,
17. XOXOXOXO,
18. There's a snake in my boot,
19. Shrek fanatic,
20. Spaceballs deserved better,
21. From,
22. Meme Kween,

TFW Your Teacher Cancels Class for the March so you March to Your Room

By AVA HARRINGTON
I'm Actually Very Proud of Teens in Politics and You Guys are Great Keep Doing Anything You Believe in!



Are you infected with E. Coli and have extra time on your hands? Submit to the humor page!
exonianhumor@gmail.com.

People in Your Math Class

By JASMINE LIAO
2+2=4

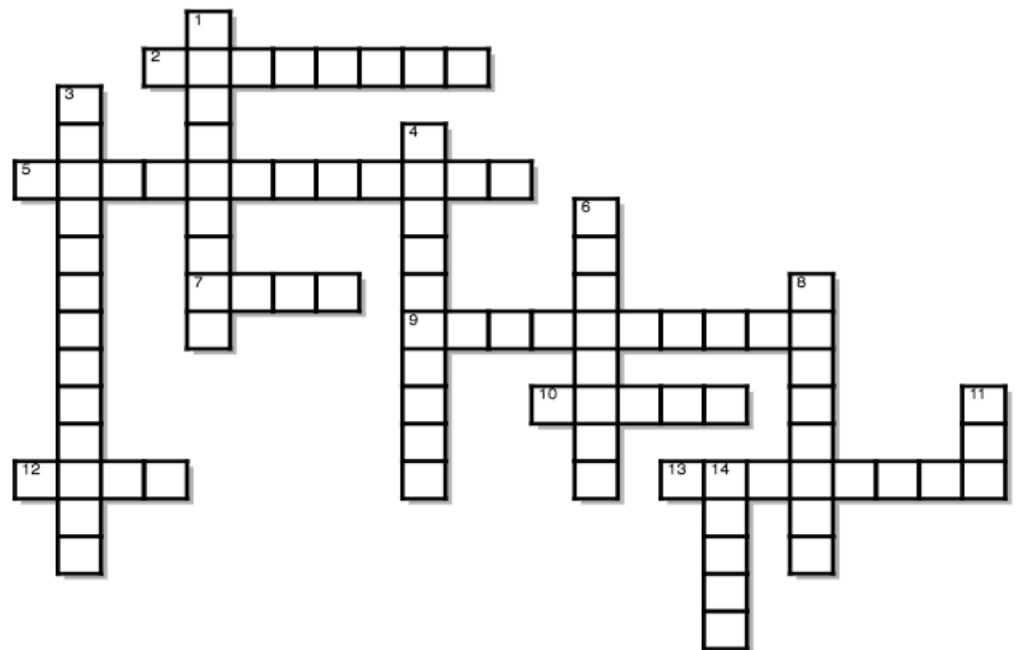
1. The "I-have-another-way-of-solving-this" kid. They crave attention. Their solution is probably the same as the one already presented, but they do it anyways. They clearly spent ten extra minutes solving out the equation just so the teacher will think, "hmm, someone's a try-hard."
2. The "I'm only in this class for the easy A" kid. This kid was put in 310 but they got "robbed" from their stop in 311. They never talk in class but always seem to find their voice when you talk

3. The "Desmos Whiz." They always have their laptop out. Who knows what they're doing. Whatever it is, it definitely isn't math, because every time you look over at them they're silently shaking. Whenever it's time for them to present a problem, there's an awkward silence before they realize it's their turn.
4. The kid who never does their homework. They don't even have a notebook. They take pic-

5. The kid who shows up 10 minutes early. They really wants some personal time with the teacher, boasting about their knowledge and putting up the hardest problem up.
6. The student who just doesn't show up.

March Crossword

By ABBY ZHANG
What She Means When She Says She "Does Crossfit"



ACROSS

- 2 Our favorite bus driver is back. If you're graduating in 2020 or later, there's a good chance you won't understand this one.
- 5 Squad that inhabits a corner of the 3rd floor of PAC, also known as the real reason I've survived calculus, aside from integral-calculator.com
- 7 "What's your 2k time?"
- 9 I'm convinced this Exeter bakery makes the best cinnamon rolls in New England.
- 10 His assembly check speeches can only be described as his last name.
- 12 Less intimidating side of Elm on which you'll find faculty with their families and people who spend too much time on Reddit
- 13 Spring sport played with sticks, baskets, and hockey players

DOWN

- 1 StuCo's favorite type of Friday and the only time you'll see people in the general Peabody vicinity
- 3 Website for stalking potential EP dates and figuring out whether assembly is worth goi—I mean, for reading StuCo minutes
- 4 Cups found in Weth but no longer in Elm, symbolic of the fact that Weth seems to offer everything Elm doesn't and more
- 6 If Back in Black were less terrifying and more inclusive
- 8 Quaint hipster coffee shop where you're bound to run into someone in Bancroft
- 11 A dessert, number, day, and legend has it, you get a dickey for each one you forget to complete!
- 14 Contains: flags, obscure photography, obscure day students, and upperclassmen trying to squeeze through the entire prep class on their way to P.O.

Quote of the Week

"This is the Union of Concerned Scientists, which is, as you know, Communist."
- Mr. Chisholm

"Sometimes, you just need to have a bad term. For me, that's every term."
- Reina Matsumoto, '19

"Trust me, you do not want to be an employee of this school."
- Anonymous Dean

STRKS (Snap Us)
@aharry01
@abbyz_hang
@lizzy127345



ExeterLife



Students enjoy warmer weather.

Inumidun Oyebo/Exonian

WHEELWRIGHT WHITEOUT DANCE

By NIKITA THUMMALA
and GENESIS REYES
Staff Writers

On Saturday night, Wheelwright girls daubed in neon paint stormed the North side of campus, chanting their dorm name. They ended their run in Grainger Auditorium, where they hosted the first dance of spring term, Wheelwright Whiteout. Students streamed in, where they were met with loud music, glow sticks and refreshments. Attendees clad in white clothing danced through the night, bumping to the beat of pop hits and partying with friends, their outfits glowing fluorescent under the blacklight in the auditorium.

The annual Wheelwright Whiteout dance has been an Exeter tradition for decades. "It's fun to wear light colors during spring term, despite the cold wintry weather, and the black lights always make white clothing look really

cool. The name 'Wheelwright Whiteout' has some nice alliteration to it!" Wheelwright senior and proctor Alexis Gorfine said.

Wheelwright residents divided tasks for the organization of the event, led by the dorm's proctors, who began preparing for the dance during the last few weeks of winter term. "Winter term, we worked with Ms. McGahie who was great about getting all the supplies we would need," senior and proctor Clara Lee said. By helping to hire a DJ, get refreshments and providing decorations, faculty member Kelly McGahie was integral in making sure the logistics of the event were covered.

Last week, the proctors advertised the event by hanging up flyers around campus and by creating a Facebook event. The preparation of the dance became a big dorm bonding event for the Wheelwright girls. They decorated white t-shirts for each girl in the dorm,

designing them with a blue and silver wheel and a "W" motif to represent their dorm. Each of the residents of Wheelwright played a role in making the event successful by joining either a set up or clean up committee. Even though these "chores" were tiresome, Wheelwright girls enjoyed being a part of dance set up.

The dance received many favorable reactions. Most students were thrilled about the song selection and overall set up of the dance. The DJ tailored to a high school dynamic when selecting a playlist and was open to requests. "Especially after Saturday classes when it's cold, it's been a lot of fun, [there is] good music, everyone is happy to be here, everyone is excited, everyone's dressed in theme and it's been a good time," said senior Marie Leighton McCall. The upbeat pop songs kept many of the students entertained, as they were all seen dancing eagerly along to the music.

Others loved the energy of the dance, even if they were unfamiliar with the music. "It's interesting. I don't really listen to a lot of the music that is being played, but I'm enjoying myself, so that's what really counts," prep Senai Robinson said.

However, a few people didn't enjoy the event as much as others. "I left pretty early. I was pretty disappointed when Darude 'Sandstorm' played," said upper Ray Alvarez-Adorno. Critics hoped to have a better selection of music but were still pleased with the decorations and food. Despite the criticisms, the dance seemed to exceed many people's expectations, and kicked off the spring term on a positive note.

The Wheelwright girls put their best efforts into the dance and their hard work clearly paid off. After a tiresome first week back, the Exeter community felt joyful to relax and have fun on a Saturday night.

ART+FEMINISM WIKIPEDIA EDIT-A-THON

By RACHEL WON and EMILY KANG
Staff Writers

This past Sunday, Mar. 25, Exeter held its first Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon for three hours in the Library Commons. The event was a branch of the larger, international Art+Feminism campaign that has been working to improve coverage of women and arts by editing Wikipedia articles. This is the campaign's fifth year, with the month of March marking America's National Women's History month.

The edit-a-thon kicked off with a comprehensive training session. Expert Wikipedia editor and MIT librarian Phoebe Ayers walked participants through the process leading up to their first Wikipedia contribution. Participants left knowing how to create a Wikipedia account, edit Wikipedia articles using the website's built-in text editor, check the revision history of articles, use Wikimedia to add images to articles, translate articles into different languages and more. Free pizza, snacks and t-shirts were provided for all participants.

The event was organized primarily by Reference and Outreach Librarian Virginia Rohloff. Academy Librarian Gail Scanlon had first heard about the Art+Feminism campaign at a library conference where ambassadors for the campaign spoke about their experiences hosting edit-a-thons in their libraries. Scanlon brought this idea back to Rohloff and Lauren O'Neal, the Director and Curator of the Lamont Gallery. The edit-a-thon coincided nicely with the current Lamont Gallery exhibit "Representing Feminisms." Rohloff said, "We thought this [edit-a-thon] was a good way to reflect the exhibit."

Ayers believes that Wikipedia's large platform allows women to ensure that women and other minorities are not misrepresented or underrepresented in encyclopedias without facing obstacles. "You don't need credentials or a specific background to make it better," Ayers said.

Upper Andrea Liu also commented on how the ease of editing Wikipedia directly translated into the feminism aspect of the event. "The thing about Wikipedia is that often times you don't realize that there are people behind the screen that make so many changes to it," Liu said. She noted

the gender gap among editors of Wikipedia: a 2011 study showed that less than ten percent of the site's editors were women. "The fact that this divide exists is a very human-based error," Liu said. She came to this event interested in finding out what exactly it would take in order to bring about some kind of change that would reverse this trend.

For Ayers, it was the massive scale and audience of Wikipedia that had the potential to bring about this change. "[Your work on Wikipedia can] be seen by hundreds, thousands, or even hundreds of thousands of people around the world," Ayers said. According to Ayers, students have the power to make a difference by improving the quality of articles, which would make sure that the accomplishments of people who have done amazing things in the world are documented.

Yet even without the tagline "Art+Feminism," many participants were interested simply in the concept of Wikipedia itself. "One thing we talked about [during the training session] was, 'Do your teachers let you use Wikipedia as a source?' We're taught not to use it," Rohloff said. But according to Rohloff, being able to see behind-the-scenes of Wikipedia and its operations may demonstrate its utility.

However, lower Elizabeth Kostina thought that if the library were to host this event again and there was a larger turnout, the event could be more focused on feminism instead of how to edit Wikipedia. Because this was the first year Exeter hosted an edit-a-thon, Kostina felt that the event relied heavily on teaching the participants how to edit and use Wikipedia, as opposed to actually being able to apply these skills as a tool for activism.

Rohloff and Scanlon plan to hold similar events in the future, maybe even on different themes. "There are a lot of Wikipedia projects other than Art+Feminism so maybe we could connect [one of these projects] to events that are going on in campus," Rohloff said, citing Climate Action Day as an example. She said, "We'd definitely like to try it another time to and see if we can generate even more interest."

TV REVIEW: JESSICA JONES

By NIKITA THUMMALA
Staff Writer

"Jessica Jones," a Netflix original show based on the Marvel Studios character, recently released its second season. Jones, one of the more mysterious characters to come out of the Marvel Universe, ends her short-lived career as a superhero after disaster strikes. She hides in a dilapidated apartment in New York City and starts a detective agency called Alias Investigations. With her super-strength and shrewd detective skills, Jones exposes the world's liars and cheaters.

Despite her successful career, the sadness in her everyday life takes a toll on Jones. She falls into an endless spiral of destructive behavior, bad choices and whiskey. However, when individuals from her past resurface to cause more wreckage, Jones is forced to put a stop to these people before they hurt others.

Jessica Jones, played by Krysten Ritter, is a cunning woman with extraordinary abilities. After her family dies when she is only a teenager, she is adopted by a woman. Not long after this, her superpowers emerge. At first, she uses them to help her boyfriend steal money and other objects.

After his murder, however, she moves in with Trish Walker, her adoptive sister, who helps Jones use her powers for good. After she saves one man from being mugged and murdered, Jones captures the attention of a man named Kilgrave. Kilgrave uses his power of mind control and makes Jones his personal slave. One day, he orders Jones to kill an innocent woman. The trauma of the murder finally frees Jessica from his spell and she escapes.

Trish Walker also has a difficult backstory. Her mother abused her and forced her to become a television star. Throughout the course of the show, Walker finally frees herself from her mother's control with Jessica's help. She later becomes the star of a hit radio show. Walker tries to always help others and often encourages Jones to be a hero.

Malcolm Ducasse becomes Jones's neighbor, and the mind-controlling Kilgrave forces him to spy on her. After Jones realizes he is a spy, Ducasse is freed from

Kilgrave's hold, and he helps Jones defeat the manipulator. In the end, Ducasse works with Jones under Alias Investigations and always has her back.

The show takes on dark themes, tackling subjects including drug addiction, sexual assault and mental illness. The show's handling of difficult subject matter is unusual for action shows and contrasts with the Marvel Studios version of "Jessica Jones." However, the series currently stands as one of Netflix's top originals.

Although some scenes are difficult to watch, "Jessica Jones" mirrors the real world much more closely than other superhero franchises. Jones lives in a world of pain where she struggles to pay bills and find her place. With these issues, she is nowhere near perfect, still relying on family and those close to her to stay on her feet. Despite this, she is a strong female lead.

"Jessica Jones" does not adhere to stereotypes about women, and provides a rare view of the real troubles women experience. Some have dubbed Jones a feminist, especially when she protects other women from the main villain, Kilgrave, and men who might try to hurt those around her. With her strong personality, Jessica Jones is not a damsel in distress, but rather a knight who defies expectations in a leather jacket and ripped jeans.



Courtesy of Google

StaffSpotlight

AYKUT KILINC

By VIRGINIA LITTLE and
VERONICA CHOULGA
Staff Writers

During winter term, 13 Roman history students dressed in white togas gathered in the Latin study to watch their instructors reenact the historic scene of Julius Caesar's assassination on the Ides of March in 44 B.C. As the class fell silent, history instructor Aykut Kilinc, playing the part of Brutus, stepped out from the shadow of the doorway and approached Julius Caesar, played by Latin instructor Nicholas Unger. With a dramatic flourish, Kilinc's Brutus stabbed the unsuspecting Caesar, earning a round of applause from the students.

Throughout four years at Exeter, Kilinc's talents in the history department and on campus have greatly benefited the school community. Born and raised in Turkey, Kilinc pursued undergraduate studies in Turkish, European and Islamic history before moving to New England in 2000 to pursue further studies. These studies culminated in earning a master's degree and doctorate in American history and foreign policy at the University of New Hampshire in 2014. His master's thesis reviewed Turkish-American foreign relations in the 1920s, and his Ph.D. dissertation on U.S. foreign policy toward Cyprus during the 1960s and 1970s dealt with the limits of American policy during the Cold War. During his graduate studies at UNH, he taught undergraduate courses in Middle Eastern and American history.

Kilinc credits his undergraduate teaching with his desire to pursue a career in education. Exeter first caught his attention when he met Dean of Faculty Ethan Shapiro, then the Academy's Director of Summer School. "Exeter had been on my radar for about a year and a half," Kilinc said of when he first came to the Academy. "And then as I was finishing my Ph.D., there was an opening, and I just jumped at it. I applied for it, and



Eva Carchidi/The Exonian

I got so lucky. I felt so blessed."

Kilinc was an important addition to the history department at the time of his arrival, as no current history instructor had such a deep background in foreign policy. He especially enjoys working with international students. "I can understand the difficulties they may be having," he said, noting that he had been an international student for fifteen years before coming to Exeter.

Outside the classroom, Kilinc has been deeply involved in several activities, including advising the Model UN club. Working with the Karam Foundation, a non-profit organization seeking "to restore the dignity and quality of life for people affected by conflict by eliminating barriers," he was instrumental in bringing Syrian refugee students to Exeter Summer School as well as bringing awareness on campus to the Syrian crisis. Kilinc is also one of the history teachers who, along with English instructors and under the guidance of English instructor Alex Myers, piloted and continues with the work of the Writing Center, a joint venture by the English and history departments to

help students improve their writing skills and to provide advice on student papers. Kilinc has broadened his history interests to include Greek and Roman history, and he just returned from co-leading a spring break trip with the Classics Department to Rome. "It is just a breathtaking, magnificent city," he said.

Kilinc's fellow instructors in the history department praise his individuality and the work he's done to bring attention to the Syrian crisis. "He's a great colleague, knowledgeable, eager, enthusiastic," history instructor Michael Golay, who is collaborating with Kilinc on an advanced U.S. history course during the spring term, said. "I like his candor. He's not shy about speaking his mind. His point of view is individual to him and quite refreshing."

Now in his fourth year at Exeter, Kilinc playfully calls himself a "senior." He spends his free time with his son, Jonah, his wife and a rescue greyhound dog named Omar. Though nine-year old Omar is rumored to be "part tiger," the Kilinc family adopted him when he was two and a half years old after

he broke his leg during a race. Kilinc enjoys going to farmers' markets and to "cook, freeze, pickle and jam whatever is available." He boasts that he makes the best hot sauce in New England and enjoys watching slow, depressing movies and history documentaries.

Kilinc's teaching style combines difficult subject matter with humor, the latter of which he sees as a way to connect better with students. Acknowledging himself as an introvert, Kilinc understands the importance of humor at the Harkness table. "Being sarcastic and being funny helps me get out of my skin and be someone else," he said. "I don't think I would be exaggerating when I say that students tend to think that I am kind of funny in class, so that's helpful for me because it's a sort of performance." He uses humor as a tool, "and that makes it easier for me to engage with students and to teach."

Students have responded well to Kilinc's classes and teaching style, stating that his classes are tough but fun, and that he expects rigorous Harkness participation. Lower Grace Ferguson took Kilinc's Medieval World history course during prep spring and appreciated his support both in and out of the classroom.

"He made the classes really interesting with stories about his travels," she said. Ferguson credits Kilinc's guidance of her class participation for improving her ability to contribute to discussions. "I met with him about my Harkness participation. We talked for a while, and it really encouraged me to start talking and to put my ideas out there; and not just in the classroom," Ferguson said.

Lower Pepper Pieroni shared Ferguson's sentiments, noting that in her first history class at Exeter, Kilinc's Medieval World history course, "he always made sure that his students were in a good mood before starting class. His jokes were funny enough to turn the entire day around."

Music Review: "Myth"

By ALAN WU
Life Editor

You know that Wilco documentary "I Am Trying to Break Your Heart?" Well, it's a great film, and it happens to detail the creation of one of my favorite albums, 2002's "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot." There's one scene in particular that I will never forget: Wilco is in the studio, recording what would eventually become "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot," and their late guitarist Jay Bennett is explaining how they're using ambience and synthetic noise to construct the track "Poor Places."

"A lot of times when you're playing, if you don't have any, like, sonic landscape behind you, everything turns into a folk song," he says.

Next thing you know, Bennett is kneeling on the floor by his propped up Les Paul guitar. And, like a musical shaman of sorts, he's holding an electric egg beater against the guitar's fretboard, generating a textural, atonal hum.

Watching that scene literally changed the way I experienced music. I used to think that some core element—a melody, a lyrical refrain—was "the song" and that everything else was just superficial flavoring. But after seeing Wilco deliberately create landscapes out of scraps of sound, all of my beliefs were obliterated. In reality, there is no distinction between the sonic landscapes and the core elements of a song. There is one thing and that thing is inhabited by many other things, and when I start to listen, my experience as a listener becomes a part of that thing.

Taoists call this perceptual paradox Taiji, which roughly means "supreme polarity." Think of an object and its shadow. Your brain delineates the two as separate things, but they're entirely interdependent on each other's existence to form a complete phenomenon. Does this make sense? No? Ok, I'll try again.

Beach House's fourth album "Bloom," released in 2012, begins with a song called "Myth," which opens with a pair of discordant noises: (1) a spray paint can sound loop, and (2) a bell sample. Then, after five seconds, Alex Scally's reverb-drenched guitar arpeggios enter the mix. But then, a hanging tom/floor tom drum pattern complicates the rhythm. Buried deep in the mix, a glistening keyboard begins to double the guitar, playing the same E-major/C-minor chord progression

across a whole scale instead of in sixths.

By the time lead singer Victoria Legrand's husky contralto enters the equation, an entire world has been created within "Myth." And after about two minutes, just when you think you've got this whole thing figured out, Beach House vacuums out the song's atmosphere in favor of urgent vocals and four repeating open chords. "Myth" does eventually return to its original formula, but it's already changed. The keyboards are more pronounced. The vocals are double-tracked. The guitar is sparser. And it all eventually melts away for a guitar solo that doesn't sound like a guitar solo. Those discordant noises from the opening? They're all but irrelevant by the end of the song.

"Myth," more than anything, is Beach House's thesis statement. The band has spent their entire career perfecting the sound of weighty, wounded dream pop. Across six studio albums, they have continuously dealt with the transcendent and the ineffable, capturing the paradoxical emotions that we experience but can't explain. The massive in the intimate. The warmth in sadness. The "Bloom" in the dark. With "Myth," and the rest of the album it occupies, Beach House has sharpened their songwriting, making songs that are simultaneously hookier and wisper. Even for all the musical changes and subtle layering, "Myth" is as accessible as it is indefinable.

That's why Beach House is the only contemporary band that consistently captures the ineffable. They combine individual elements that normally don't go together and unfurl them as overlapping tides of sound. The crests and troughs of those tides and the patterns they form sift into unfounded places between conventional emotion. That's why their music reminds you of a memory that doesn't exist. That's why you feel painfully alone yet warmly embraced. It's just how Beach House writes songs.

It annoys me when music listeners criticize Beach House for lacking in musical development. Beach House finds great depth in stability. And frankly, other bands haven't even come close to approaching the corner that they occupy. Nobody writes songs like this. No one understands sonic landscapes like this, not even Wilco. No one does but Beach House.

Music Review: "Anything"

By JOHANNA MARTINEZ
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 15, KOTA the Friend released an Extended Play (EP) entitled "Anything." Throughout the ten tracks, KOTA the Friend showcases his fresh, soothing R&B style. The EP features a grand selection of different artists, including Childish Major, Angel Haze, Sylvan LaCue and Hello Oshay. These artists and KOTA collaborated to create an EP that both feeds the soul and makes you want to dance.

KOTA the Friend is a relatively unknown rapper. With mainstream artists including Migos, Lil Pump and Kendrick Lamar taking over the top spots on the Billboard Hot 100, up-and-coming rappers like KOTA don't get the attention that their music deserves.

Although fairly new to the game and competing for popularity, KOTA is already making his voice heard and has rapidly gained a following. His chilled out beats and mellow bars have changed the image of rap music and tested musical boundaries.

Growing up in Brooklyn, KOTA was heavily influenced by the abundance of artists who created and set the rules for hip-hop and rap music. Among his many influencers, KOTA is perhaps most influenced by Nas, 2Pac and the Notorious B.I.G. This comes through in the way he spits bars of rap on all his tracks. It is this fusion of different rapping styles and beats that make him so unique in the industry and lend his ability to lure listeners.

KOTA first made waves in the music industry in 2016 with his album "Palm Tree Liquor." Like the majority of his albums and EPs, "Palm Tree Liquor"

was mostly produced by KOTA himself. His self-production combined with his laidback flow and seemingly effortless rhymes make his music stand out among current artists.

In his new EP entitled "Anything," KOTA the Friend discusses a large range of topics often seen as "too heavy" for rap albums. Unlike most other rappers, KOTA focuses on expressing his feelings and sending more profound messages. He does so while still maintaining a tranquil atmosphere for the listener. The twenty-three year old rapper focuses most of the EP on sharing what love means to him and how it has affected his life. KOTA also raps about alcoholism, depression, loneliness and coming to terms with one's inner demons. He enjoys being transparent with his audience and knows that some of his followers can relate to what he raps about or feel a strong connection to his profound lyrics. "Anything" is truly music for the soul and makes the listener feel more complete and understood.

Through releasing this magnificent EP, KOTA had one mission in mind: to bring attention to authentic lyricists and disrupt popular trends. Artists like KOTA often go unappreciated, yet they continue to push the industry forward. KOTA cares little for trends or mainstream attention; his top priority is making music that people genuinely enjoy, and not always because they are told it is "popular." KOTA's desire to rap for the people instead of conforming to the stereotypes of hip-hop and R&B music make this an EP which deserves to be listened to all spring and into summer.

SeniorSpotlight

CAMERON NAJAFI

By JACOB FEIGENBERG and
LOUIS MUKAMA
Staff Writers

Unmistakable among a crowd of Exonians, with his towering stature and iconic man bun, you may find senior Cameron Najafi drinking a warm cup of blueberry rooibos tea or watching the rich red and yellow sunsets over campus. He enjoys studying in the silence of the Phillips Church or the solitude of the fourth floor in the library.

Hailing from Phoenix, Arizona, Najafi came to Exeter searching for the “best high school in America” and kids his age who were “curious, passionate, and motivated.” So what would make a school the best in the nation? His answer: natural peanut butter and Taco Tuesdays in the dining hall.

Najafi is in love with the connections he’s made at Exeter. “I like having interesting conversations, hearing people talk about themselves and what excites them,” he said. Najafi recommends taking risks during high school. “Talk to someone you haven’t talked to before, ask a teacher for out for lunch, email someone who inspires you. Relationships are beautiful, and if there’s one thing Exeter has, it’s open, amazing people,” he said.

As the captain of “Varsity Yoga” and co-head of Buddhist Meditation Club, Najafi is dedicated to a lifestyle of mindfulness. “We first met as members of the Climate Action Day committee,” said Jon Sakata, Najafi’s piano teacher. The two coordinated a workshop on sustainable architecture. “I got to know him further because we are both practitioners of Buddhist meditation. And then, last fall, I was his faculty adviser for his Senior Project that interfaced architecture, social design, environmentalism that involved extensive research trips together to New York City and Cambridge in order to carry out site analyses, as well as



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

dense readings on architectural practices of particular firms based in Denmark, the U.S. and Japan,” Sakata said.

In addition to his passion for architecture and mindfulness, Najafi enjoys hiking, city-wandering and free-riding. “I feel that each person does their little part to contribute to cultural change in an organization,” he said. “Maybe mine was to push Exeter just to relax a little bit more, enjoy life—sunsets, lamppost light on the snow, ruffling of the trees—a little bit more, you know?”

To ensure he and many others will continue to be able to enjoy the great outdoors, Najafi was part of the Climate Action Day planning committee last year and is currently an E-proctor. He leads an “art and engagement” project where students make “art installations to engage the campus with issues of sustainability”; take, for example, the box arch between the pillars of the Academy Building this past fall. His passion for art has transitioned into his Senior Project, “Holistic Architecture,” which Najafi describes as “creating a social sculpture in the minds of Exeter students.”

Najafi’s impact on the community goes beyond his passion for the outdoors. His adviser, Amadou Talla, praised Najafi for his curiosity and intellect. “Cameron is a wonderful advisee,” Talla said. “He is a highly intellectual individual and an avid learner. When we get a chance to talk one on one, we discuss topics ranging from neuroscience to sustainable architecture and philosophy, and it’s all to Cameron’s credit.”

Talla, describing Najafi as “both kind-hearted and open-minded,” commended Najafi for his presence within the dorm. “He has positive and genuine interactions with my family whenever he is in Dow House,” Talla said. “After we meet in my study, he always makes sure to greet them, and he never leaves without a smile and a heartwarming: ‘Nu fanaan ak jamm!’ which means ‘have a peaceful night’ in Wolof, one of the national languages of Senegal where my family is from. I think that’s amazing.”

Najafi is in his third dorm in two years after returning from a term abroad in Spain. His room in Knight House was filled, so he moved in with close friend

and senior Alex Renaud in Soule Hall. Sharing a two room double, they then had the idea to put the beds in one room and make the other into a “pad” where they could hang out, do homework and read.

Renaud described Cameron as one of the most disciplined students on campus: he gets sleep and yet is also focused on classes and extracurriculars. They currently are in the same English class and are diving into the works of Herman Hesse together in a Religion 999.

Sakata praised Najafi for both his intellectual endeavors and his mindfulness in everyday life. “Cameron’s deep dedication, immersion, thoughtfulness, into all of these aspects of life and learning—the way they all inform and multiply for him such a constellation of perception, awareness, knowledge, purpose—is truly unique and far-reaching,” Sakata said. “I’m looking forward to his continued work with me here during spring term; as well, of course, what he will provide to communities globally in the coming years and decades.”

Building on his value of being in tune with one’s self, Najafi, offering words of wisdom to lowerclassmen, said, “Don’t get sucked into the whole mindset that you have to do this or that to get into a good college or look smart or whatever. Do what you love. Really. The world doesn’t need more people who follow the normal and the rules—it needs disruptors, ‘different’ people.”

Upper Yadviga Tedeschi, one of Cameron’s good friends, encapsulated Najafi’s presence on campus. “With Cameron, philosophy, ecology, spirituality aren’t merely reserved to class hours but become inextricable parts of life itself,” she said. “He is one of the elements of Exeter that makes me rejoice in having come, and though it is my first year here, I feel I have a made a friend whom I will be able to turn to for many years to come.”

BIG RED GOES GREEN

By ANNA CLARK, JULIA GOYDAN and MOLLY CANFIELD
Contributing Writers

Who doesn’t love ice cream? PEA students and townspeople of Exeter sure do, as they flock to Stillwells Riverwalk Ice Cream on an unseasonably warm Wednesday afternoon in February. As we joined the crowd for our share of moose tracks and mint chocolate chip ice cream, something was nagging at our conscience: while we patronize Stillwells on a regular basis—indeed, this was our second trip this week—our consumption meant that more and more styrofoam cups were filling up landfills across the East Coast. Some experts estimate that styrofoam takes 500 years to fully decompose, while others argue that it can never fully break down. With styrofoam filling up to 30% of our landfills each year, the vessels that house our delicious dairy treats could be deadly for the environment—and for ourselves. So why does Stillwells continue to serve their ice cream in styrofoam cups?

When we reached the front of the line, we mentioned our concerns to the woman behind the counter. She was simultaneously sympathetic and discouraging. She encouraged us to contact her manager, but said that several people had brought the environmental issue to her before and that she did not think the switch to biodegradable products would be eco-

nomicly feasible for the small New England chain—Stillwells has recently already had to raise prices.

Styrofoam, officially known as expanded polystyrene foam, is made from low density polystyrene, formed from a mixture of styrene (C8H8), derived from fossil fuels such as oil and natural gas, and other compounds. As it is an effective, lightweight and strong insulator, it has many applications and is used in everything from ice cream cups to pipe and building insulation. According to a 2014 Boston Globe article, 680 pounds of greenhouse gases are released per every 10,000 styrofoam cups produced. As stated above, it is not biodegradable, meaning that each year, styrofoam takes up more and more space in our landfills, contributing to the growing challenge of managing our waste sustainably. In addition to adversely affecting the environment, styrofoam has proven to harm our health as well: according to the Environmental Protection Agency, chronic exposure can lead to central nervous system dysfunctions, such as depression and peripheral neuropathy. For the over 90,000 workers who interact with styrene on a daily basis and for the millions of consumers who face the risk of eating food into which chemicals have seeped, these health effects can be deadly. And while it has

not been formally classified as a carcinogen yet, there have been studies that link styrene exposure to a greater chance of suffering from leukemia and lymphoma.

The solution is not as clear-cut as simply making the switch from styrofoam cups to those made from a biodegradable material such as paper, however. For paper cups to be able to withstand moisture, they need to be coated with polystyrene, another derivative of fossil fuels. According to the same Boston Globe article, the energy needed to produce 10,000 of these paper cups is equivalent to burning 542 pounds of coal, as opposed to the 450 pounds it would take to manufacture 10,000 styrofoam cups. In terms of raw materials, nearly twice as much water is needed to create paper cups than styrofoam. What to do? The situation grows more complex when we take into account the economic and humanitarian factors in our community.

While initially we hoped that Stillwells would eagerly accept our proposal to switch from styrofoam to biodegradable cups, we soon realized that this issue was much more complicated. Implementing this switch would cause Stillwells to raise its prices, making their delicious dairy treats out of reach for many Exo-

nians and Exeter townspeople alike. At least two businesses in the town of Exeter (D2 Java and Laney & Lu) already have made the switch to completely biodegradable containers, but the high prices that result from this switch mean that their products can only be consumed by those who can afford them. This connects to a broader tension between environmental sustainability and socioeconomic status. For example, many families would be happily give up their Dollar Menu meals for organic fruits and vegetables; however, the high cost of these healthier, more sustainable food options are often simply too high for countless households across the United States to afford. Many other families, though, lack the education necessary to understand the environmental impacts of the foods and products they purchase as well as the means to shop sustainably.

Clearly, there’s more than one side to this story. In order to see real tangible progress, we need to raise awareness for the environmental side of this story, while encouraging community discussion of our responsibility to address both the humanitarian and environmental aspects involved in our quest for sustainability.

*Stillwells now offers paper cups for an additional ten cents.

UPCOMING

ASSEMBLY

GABRIELLE
CALVOCORESSI

Friday, Assembly Hall, 9:50 am

EVENT

ANGIE THOMAS

Tuesday, Assembly Hall, 7 pm

EVENT

2018 NEUROSCIENCE
LECTURE SERIES

Saturday, Forum, 9 am

EVENT

PASSOVER SEDER

Friday, Powell Hall, 6 pm

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HAMPTON - 1/4 mile south of downtown Hampton (Rt. 1) on right, 1/4 mile north of Hampton Rotary (Intersection of Rt. 1/Rt.101) on left.

WELLS - Rt. 1 at the Wells Corner Shopping Plaza

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ExonianSports



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK: NOAH ASCH & EMILIO KARAKY

By MAI HOANG
& CHRISTOPHER SUHR
Staff Writers

Every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m., the members of the boys' varsity volleyball team can be found practicing tirelessly in the Love Gymnasium, taking turns digging the balls served by their captains, seniors Emilio Karakey and Noah Asch. Karakey holds onto the ball with both hands, before leaping into the air and giving the ball a strong and sturdy smack that sends it straight to the other side of the net. With a smile on his face, he paces the gym floor, watching the newest members of the team—preps James Keeling, Nam Nguyen, Kilin Tang and lowers Dylan Shen, Lucas Grandison, and Colt Delaney—hone their skills.

This is Karakey's third year on boys' varsity volleyball while Asch is beginning his fourth and final year on the team. During their last term at PEA, the pair is leading the team, which won 11 out of their 14 games last season.

Asch was a member of the team when they first won the New England championship in 2014-2015 and making history for Big Red volleyball. Since then, the team has won three championships in a row, beating Northfield Mount Hermon two years ago and Choate Rosemary Hall last year for the titles.

Both seniors are highly respected players on the court. Lower Kerick Walker distinctly recalled moments last season when Karakey performed spectacular feats, such as serving five or six aces in a row. More importantly, the captains are best known for caring deeply for each member on their team, especially the new recruits. According to Nguyen, Karakey and Asch are "incredibly patient with the new players [...] and always help out wherever they can."

Nguyen recalled that even though it was Karakey's senior fall, he spent countless

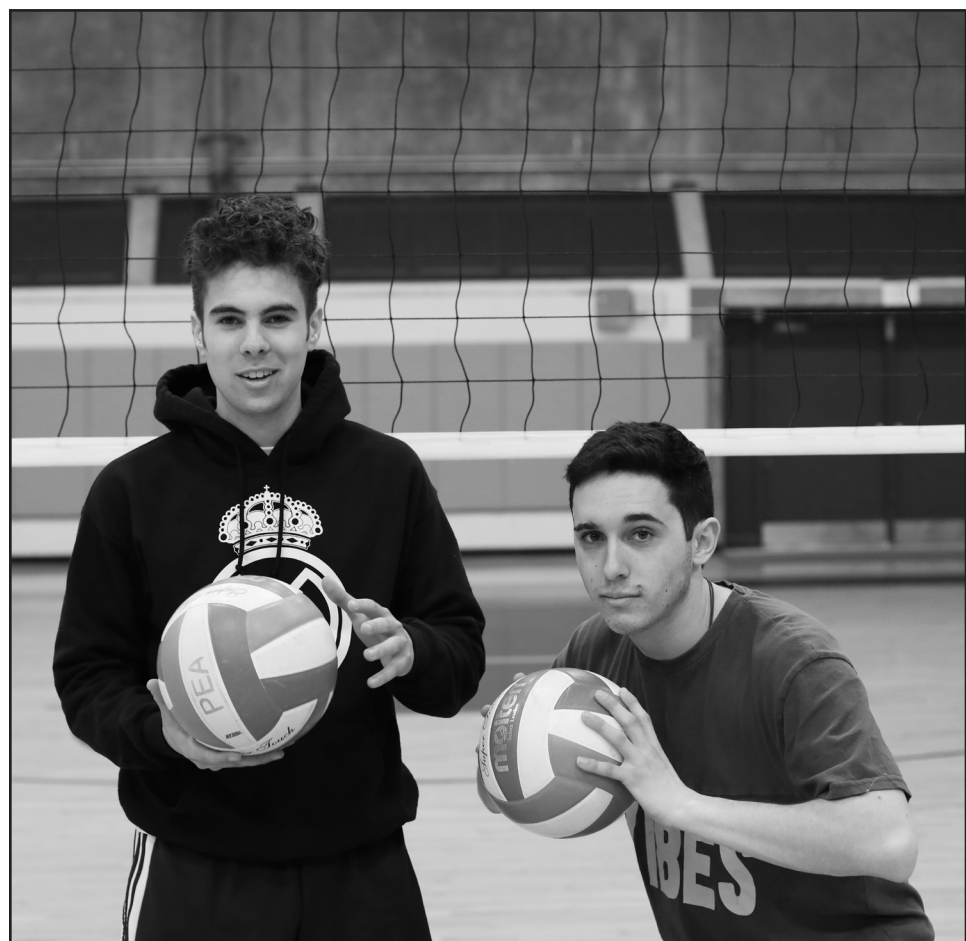
hours at the gym practicing volleyball with him, because he didn't have anyone else to practice with. Two days into spring break, Asch also texted Nguyen to congratulate him on making the volleyball team. Nguyen expressed his gratitude towards Asch's proactiveness. "He told me about the team dynamic and how I could help the team improve, even just by doing the little things," Nguyen said.

Echoing these sentiments, prep James Keeling described the captains as playing a key role in building a sense of community on the team. "It definitely feels like more of a team sport here; there is more of a connection," Keeling said. He has stayed late with the captains multiple times to work on his serve and Keeling expressed his appreciation for Karakey and Asch's willingness to "be there early and [staying] late supporting others." On his first days of practice, Keeling was paired up with Asch for warm-ups and he recalled receiving "a little tip for every single shot in a positive manner."

Upper Sam Michaels praised the captains for serving as integral components in boosting the team's morale. "When the team is lacking energy and it's quiet because we're down, they never fail to pick the team up and lead us to victory," he said. "They've served a key role in our victory as libero and outside hitter in the starting lineup." Similarly, Walker commented, "Emilio and Noah are very encouraging to everyone and they always make practices more fun."

Karakey felt thrilled and honored when he found out about his captainship. For this year, his goal is to work on creating a team cheer and other methods of maintaining a high level of positivity. "That's the key to doing well this season," he said.

He is also looking forward to the team's first game, which will take place at Northfield Mount Hermon School this Saturday. "We need to get our rotations down," Karakey said. "It's been a while since we learned



JaQ Lai/The Exonian

our rotations, and we're all a bit rusty, but once we get that down we should be good for the season."

Meanwhile, Asch looks forward to being "a mentor for those underclassmen on the team this year." Like other seniors and captains before him, Asch aims to be "a role model for the younger players on the team and give them a player they aspire to be like come senior year." Asch further notes that playing volleyball competitively can be "an emotional rollercoaster." Asch recounted the highly competitive New England Championship during his prep year where the team only won the fifth set 20-18 "after thinking we lost two times

during that set and having the other team rush the court, only to have the ref call a net infraction both times."

Asch reserves high ambitions for the upcoming year. "I am looking forward to upholding our reputation as a league powerhouse for men's volleyball," he said. With Asch and Karakey's leadership, team members look forward to a successful year, and possibly the fourth win in a row at the New England Championship. Asch said, "Although we are a young team, I am confident that we will get back to an elite level through hard work because it is clear that everyone wants to get better in practice every day."

GV Lax Opens Season with Scrimmages



Upper Chandler Jean-Jacques looks to catch a pass.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

By CAROLINE FLEMING &
CHARLIE VENCI
Staff Writers

A Lincoln-Sudbury high midfielder charges past the restraining line toward Exeter's goalkeeper. Senior and co-captain Anna Reaman declares her presence with a soaring "I got ball!" and charges up to confront the player while still covering her defensive mark. The opposing player attempts to pass the ball past Reaman, but out of nowhere, she extends her stick out and snatches the ball from Sudbury's possession. Hauling the ball towards midfield, Reaman develops yet another offensive opening for Big Red.

Last Sunday, the girls' varsity lacrosse team competed in a four game pre-season tournament at Lincoln Sudbury High School. Each game lasted 20 minutes and remained unscored. Deviating from the normal 50-minute and scored games, these scrimmages allowed the team to prepare for a grueling season ahead by garnering experience through game simulations. Additionally, from game to game, head coach Christina Breen mixed and matched the combination of players on the field. Thus, every uninjured member of the team was able to receive playing time.

Though the first couple games started off for Big Red, the team soon found its groove and went on to end the day with a definitive win against Sudbury. Senior Vivienne Kraus explained how the team abandoned their sluggish beginning, saying, "We got off to a slow start, but by the last game we had picked it up, [becoming] a more cohesive team." Lower Dennesha Rolle agreed with Kraus and explained how she "felt more confident after the tournament."

An important aspect of these early season competitions is the identification of strengths and weaknesses in the team's gameplay for them to analyze and improve upon in practices. Rolle expressed her belief that it would be beneficial for the team to "work on settled offense and communication all over the field. We also should spend time working on defensive rotations and settled offensive plays." Upper Bella Hillman shared similar sentiments, adding, "The teams brought a lot of competition to the field and each game was a hard fight for our team. The tournament for our team showcased what we need to work on for our season, particularly ball movement and smarter plays."

Members of the team highlighted areas in which the team excelled during scrim-

mages, especially during the last game. "We were doing a better job in the midfield than we had been, we were pressuring more and we had higher energy," Kraus said.

Hillman also expressed her belief on aspects the team performed well in. "We definitely did a good job of finding each other on the field and making heads up plays on the fly. It was nice getting to play after a fun, long few days in Florida with the team last week," she said. Senior Margaret Kraus added, "One of our strengths is definitely our speed. We're definitely going to focus on that."

Vivienne Kraus elaborated on positive highlights from the matches. "In the last game, there were a lot of moments that would have gone on our highlight reel. [Senior] Charlotte Polk and I had a really good time cheering on our teammates on the bench. Anna Reaman had a really sick pick. [Senior and co-captain] Lauren Arkell killed it in the midfield. It was just nice to see everyone working together a little bit better and a little more smoothly," she said.

With some playing action under their belts, the girls are focused on achieving an undefeated season this year. With a near perfect record of 16-1-1 last season – their sole loss against Noble and Greenough School

– the team will be looking to build upon their rich history of success. Last season, the team's games were filled with highlights. They had a 10-9 OT win against Deerfield, a sweet revenge after a loss the year before. They won in a dramatic fashion, down 7-9 with 45 seconds to go in the game. With two quick goals, Big Red forced an overtime and then copped a win. However, the climax of last season was E/a on home turf. The girls dominated the entire game and won 11-4, leaving Andover in a chilling loss.

As for this season, there is a lot of time left and the team is gearing up for greatness. Hillman expressed her excitement about this year's team, a relatively juvenile one. "I'm looking forward to seeing how the younger kids on our team do, especially because we have a young team this year," she said. "A lot of our team is going to have to emerge on the field and step up into positions that they've never played before."

Coming off of preseason in Florida, the team remains in good shape. They had a lot of fun in the Sunshine state and got a lot done in preparation for the season. At the moment, everyone is elated to be back. According to Rolle, "I'm excited to see how much the team can improve and learn throughout the season."



ExonianPhoto



March for Our Lives 2018



Photographs by Reina Matsumoto