



Red Bandits lead the school in a cheer during E/A pep rally.

Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

PEA Examines Uses, Abuses of ASAP Program

By BELLA ALVAREZ, JOHN BECKERLE and PAUL JAMES
Staff Writers

Exeter established its non-disciplinary assistance (NDA) policy to encourage students to seek help in dangerous situations, but many students fear that the policy is sometimes abused by their peers to serve malicious ends. Though they acknowledged the positive intent behind the policy, several described instances when their classmates faced negative repercussions as a result of ill-willed NDA appeals.

On the topic of non-disciplinary assistance (NDA), the E-Book reads, "The Phillips Exeter Academy community wishes to encourage students to seek advice from adults. The Academy believes that students and faculty should be guided by their obligation to and respect for other members of the community in seeking the best possible help for themselves and others." Many counselors and faculty see the NDA policy as a way of offering help to students who may not come forward because they fear a harsh punishment.

As stated in the E-Book, students cannot immediately place other students in the ASAP program, but they can report other students for a rule violation with a request for a non-disciplinary response. After that, the Deans may make the decision to enroll a student in the ASAP program.

When ASAPs and NDAs are granted, students entered in the programs undergo a variety of different remedial processes. "The scope of the support is determined by the needs of the student. It always involves therapy."

ASAP. A2

NYT Reports Drafted Warrant for Deans

By MADISON KANG
Staff Writer

Although the widely reported sexual misconduct case allegedly perpetrated by Chudi Ikepeazu '16 was nolle prosequi (dismissed) in June 2017, the Academy's handling of the case resurfaced in a *New York Times* article published Tuesday. Reporter Richard Pérez-Peña revealed that arrest warrants were drafted for Dean of Residential Life Arthur Cosgrove and Dean of Students Melissa Mischke, citing a failure to report the cases to authorities.

Two years ago, two female seniors, aged 18 and 17 at the time, told Cosgrove and Mischke that Ikepeazu had groped them against their will, in separate incidents in the basement of Phillips Church.

The 17-year-old senior's allegation raised legal concern not only for the perpetrator, but the adults involved. New Hampshire's Child Protection Act mandates that adults must report to authorities all suspected incidents of underage

sexual assault. The draft warrant claimed that Deans Cosgrove and Mischke did not disclose the students' testimonies of sexual assault to the Exeter Police Department (EPD) or New Hampshire Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF). The *Times* article stated that New Hampshire State Police investigator Malory Littman drafted arrest warrants for the two deans on misdemeanor charges, and gave them to the Rockingham County attorney's office in October 2016. The warrants never went beyond the draft stage; no such charges were ever brought. According to Principal Lisa MacFarlane, the warrants were discharged because the prosecutor felt that the charges were inappropriate.

Cosgrove and Mischke issued a joint statement to the media on Wednesday. "In our respective capacities of Dean of Students and Dean of Residential Life at Phillips Exeter Academy over a number of years, we have repeatedly reported possible cases of sexual abuse and misconduct

to the New Hampshire Division of Youth, Children and Family Services (DCYF) and the Exeter Police Department. Based on the information reported to us in October of 2015, we did not believe, in good faith, that a reportable offence had occurred," they stated. "If we had, we would have reported it as we had always done and continue to do to this day."

In response to campus interpretation and discussion of the article, MacFarlane sent an email to all students on Tuesday night acknowledging the school's mishandling of the cases. She emphasized that Pérez-Peña obtained his information from tentative, internal police files and expressed her support for the two deans.

"Deans Mischke and Cosgrove cooperated fully during a thorough investigation into whether they should have, but did not, report to the authorities the underlying assault allegations," MacFarlane wrote. "[They] continue in their important roles at PEA. They have my

NEW YORK TIMES. A2



Seniors sing "Don't Stop Believing" at the EAR concert.

Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Faculty Discuss Security in Jobs, Annual Review

By DON ASSAMONGKOL and MAI HOANG
Staff Writers

I. Continuing Appointment

Of the over 200 faculty members Exeter employs, many have been at the Academy for decades. While these teachers become beloved faces around campus, others spend just a term or year at Exeter, leaving the school as quickly as each class graduates. This disparity is caused by Exeter's employment policies that, while largely unknown to students, are central to what it means to teach at Exeter.

A teacher's job security is determined, for the most part, by whether they are hired for a continuing appointment position. Continuing appointment, while not as secure a designation as tenure at universities, guarantees the existence of their position at the Academy for the foreseeable future. Despite this, no teacher's job security is absolute.

New Hampshire is an "employment-at-will" state, which means that any employee can be fired at any time for any reason. Furthermore, the Exeter's Faculty Handbook states, "Continuing appointment depends on the following conditions: that the faculty member adheres to the code of conduct in all respects and meets the expectations of the faculty."

FACULTY SECURITY. A4

Chisholm, Schwartz Model Political Debate

By JACQUELINE CHO and MAI HOANG
Staff Writers

Instructor of History Amy Schwartz and Instructor of Science Townley Chisholm took the assembly stage on Tuesday to model a political debate. Schwartz and Chisholm, who identify as a Democrat and a Republican respectively, answered questions posed by History Instructor William Jordan and students. The discussion touched on the role of government in American life, free trade, gun control and climate change.

Schwartz proposed holding a debate that represented viewpoints from both ends of the political spectrum and invited Chisholm, faculty advisor for the Republican Club, to participate as representative of more conservative thoughts. Jordan, who introduced the

two speakers and moderated the debate, stated that "many of [the faculty] are worried that we are increasingly living in separate bubbles, each with its own view of reality—we are becoming polarized." Jordan emphasized that as a democracy, the faculty believed that the Exeter community would benefit from more discussion and deliberation.

Schwartz began the debate by sharing her views on the role of governments. "The state is the most efficient way to redistribute wealth and pursue infrastructure spending and social programs that benefit the nation as a community," Schwartz stated. "That's not to say I think government is foolproof, honorable, omniscient, or fair. I just don't see a viable alternative to a big government in the global world in which we now live. I don't trust markets to do

the work of governments... Markets are smarter and simpler but governments are more accountable to the will of the majority." She asserted her beliefs in a multiracial, multiethnic democracy that pursues equity, social justice, environmental sustainability and regulates markets to ensure fairness and safety.

Chisholm stated that he preferred small, limited governments as well as less government spending on social programs and taxes. "You may or may not be the leaders of the future," Chisholm said as he addressed the audience, "but you are certainly the taxpayers of the future... In governments you shouldn't lie, and you shouldn't spend money that you don't have." Chisholm identified himself as a fiscal conservative, because he "sees no future in racking

ASSEMBLY. A2

INSIDE

NEWS

Read about winter tryouts and sports culture. A2.

OPINIONS

Read a Letter to the Editor written by history instructor William Jordan on this past Tuesday's assembly. A6.

LIFE

Read about the concert band, jazz band and drumming concerts that took place Tuesday. B1.

Upper Alan Wu reviews the music album "The Dusk in Us" by Converge. B2.

SPORTS

Grayson Derosi of Boys' Cross Country is our Athlete of the Week. Read about him on B7.

Boys' Water Polo demolished Andover 11-3 last Saturday, but lost to the Brunswick School. B6.

WEB



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Athletes Prepare for Competitive Winter Sports Team Tryouts

By ROSE HOROWITZ
Staff Writer

"I hope we're not already at the point of people having heart palpitations when they see my name in the lineup," reads Girls Basketball Coach Hadley Camilus' email to the team. Another message encourages athletes to run before the tryouts to prepare for intense cardio at the start of the practice. "In my past, I've always had to have trash cans around the court because the ones who are unprepared get sick," Camilus' note reads. Exonians are in the midst of trying out for winter sports teams, working to improve both their fitness and skill levels to compete against fellow athletes for coveted spots on varsity and junior varsity teams.

Lower Tyler Morris, a member of the wrestling team, commented that he enjoyed this hard work. "Getting in the wrestling room with my teammates and grinding out a tough practice is the most satisfying feeling," he said. Morris has been "preparing for tryouts since the end of last wrestling season." He added, "I try to keep myself in shape even when I'm not competing." Senior Kevin Ly-skawa, also on the wrestling team, said that

in his opinion, "Just wrestling all year is the only way to prepare for the season."

Bruce Shang, girls volleyball and squash coach, expects athletes to arrive at tryouts in strong physical condition, and provides them with a workout program for the off-season. "If they are not fit at the beginning of the season, they soon become injured and hurt the team," he said. Shang continued, "I am amazed at how many athletes come into the season out of shape and without practicing, expecting a championship."

For many athletes, preparation for the season begins before their team's official tryouts. Upper Matt Hawke, who opted during fall term in order to train with his teammates, said, "For basketball, tryouts start the first week of fall term." He added that the team works out five days a week during fall term to prepare for their season. According to Hawke, practicing together helps the team bond, reducing the pressure that comes from first impressions at tryouts.

Similar to Hawke, other students felt pressure during tryouts, and explained that it stemmed both from their internal drive and wanting to impress their coaches. Morris said, "I feel a certain pressure to do well in

tryouts, but the pressure is created by myself to be the best person in the room."

Lower Nick Schwarz, a former wrestler, said about the wrestling coaches, "They're good coaches. It's easy to see why Exeter wrestling is so successful." Upper Jordan Davidson, a former member of the wrestling team, added, "The coaches are really supportive, but they're very intense as well." He commented that some of the pressure also stemmed from working alongside dedicated athletes. "There are some kids who have been doing this for their entire lives, and so you're working with them and you want to be as good as you can because you're standing next to kids who basically [consider it] their entire life."

To help ensure all athletes feel welcome, Head Wrestling Coach David Hudson divided incoming wrestlers into three groups, attempting to make tryouts effective for all. Hudson allows fall athletes to observe the first few days of practice in order to heal, but starts training for the season with both experienced wrestlers who have prepared throughout fall term and wrestlers with minimal experience who are starting the season in a lesser physical condition.

Senior Samantha Weaver, a basketball player, found tryouts to be more stressful than the regular season. She said, "There is definitely pressure to perform better at tryouts. Tryouts are about showing the coach what you are made of, so there is a lot of pressure to perform well." She added that she prefers the regular season because "there is less anxiety if you mess up. A mistake at tryouts could be the difference between making a team and not making it."

Upper Innumidun Oyebo, a former basketball player, said "I always want to try harder during tryouts so show the coaches how committed I am." She added, "Tryouts personally are one of the hardest parts [of the season] because sometimes I'm out of shape and really want to push myself to do well." Upper Ursula Sze, a member of the squash team, similarly feels pressure to demonstrate her skills during tryouts. She commented that she feels she has to maintain or improve upon her standing in the squash ladder from last years. She said, "On this team, our coach has expectations from where we were last year, so I can't move down in the ladder."

Weaver described the challenges fall
WINTER SPORTS, A3

Students Consider Repercussions of Non-Disciplinary Responses

Continued from ASAP, A1

peutic counseling and may also involve educational sessions with a health educator," Dean of Health Gordon Coole said. "If drug use is a part of the picture, drug testing can be in place as well as a deterrent to use."

There are some cases in which ASAPs and NDAs are non-applicable, as stated in school rules. As written in Thurber's FAQ sheet on these two processes, "NDA was not designed to help students escape discipline with one faculty member after having been caught breaking rules by another faculty member or by law enforcement," nor are they in place to allow students to "sidestep a disciplinary investigation" if previous infractions are suspected, or if an examination of such behaviors is already underway.

Despite checks in the system, some students think the rules can lead to spiteful "revenge" NDA referrals. "I was maliciously ASAPed and forced to leave school with a few weeks left before graduation my senior year," one alumnus speaking on the condition of anonymity said. "In fact, I'd say almost all ASAPs I knew the facts about were because of personal vendettas."

Quinn Hickey '16 holds a similar view of Exeter's NDA policy. "While designed for genuine concerns, it was incredibly easy to do it simply out of petty spite," he said. Hickey attributes a loss of trust between his fellow students during their senior year to cases of malicious and false NDA appeals. "A drunk ex-classmate of mine bragged to me that she had been anonymously reporting students that she didn't like for drug use," alumnus Chris Lee said.

"I do know that [Dean of Residential

Life] Cosgrove was considerate and notified students when he perceived an apparently very malicious case of snitching," Hickey said. "I saw, as well as experienced, the ASAP therapy very positively, but I seemed to count myself among the few."

Hickey's experience aligns with the spirit of the ASAP, which is to provide help for students in need of it. "ASAP is a non-disciplinary program of required health services, such as counseling and health education," Thurber said. "It is one of the ways the Academy says to a student, 'We care about you. We have strong concerns about your health and well-being...so much so that we are notifying your parents, your adviser, and involving Deans and Health Services faculty.'"

But due in part to misuses of the disciplinary system at Exeter, ASAPs and NDAs are often viewed negatively among students. "At least among the people I hung out with, the ASAP process was heavily looked down upon. For me personally, it was a way for the school to strongarm me off campus," an anonymous alumnus who was reported for selling weed said. "My ASAP came as a total shock to me, not because I hadn't sold weed, but because I had stopped months before. Not once did someone come to me and tell me to stop while I was doing it, either."

A current student—who has been affected by what they deem to be a malicious ASAP—felt that "revenge accusations" represented flaws with NDAs. "The ASAP felt malicious because if the person was truly concerned for my friend, they would talk to him about it first rather than immediately report him," the student said.

Some students disagree with the

school's way of handling such sensitive issues. "Drug abuse [is] so often seen as a criminal issue, when in truth it's an emotional and psychological issue that requires treatment and compassion as opposed to discipline," Hickey said; he believes the wording of these policies treat certain offenses as harms to others and treat them ineffectively. "Kicking out that student is trying to erase the issues, not address them."

"One student's struggles should not be judged, much less punished, by their peers," Lee said. "No student should have the authority to determine a fellow student's academic fate."

Furthermore, the emotional stress placed on students in the ASAP program is overwhelming. "The amount of meetings per week that I am required to attend is very stressful, along with the regular workload," one anonymous student said who'd been ASAPed. "I'm giving up most of my free time for these meetings that aren't even helpful." The student noted that the ASAP program has caused a strain on their relationship with faculty on campus, as they feel a lack of trust. "I'm in treatment for something I don't have, and no one believes me because I'm a teenager," they said. "Nobody is really listening to what I have to say. The deans aren't taking into account my full story — losing all adult support on this campus has left me feeling unsafe and lost."

For Lee, the school's actions also raise questions about the administration's intentions for some students. "Regardless of the administration's earnest efforts to support the student body, they will never prioritize us above them," Lee said. "The ultimate

protection of their reputation will continue to determine the disciplinary treatment of their students."

Many faculty do not agree with this point of view. Thurber elaborated on the creation and approval of the NDA policy and ASAP, saying that its intentions were to allow students to get help unobstructed by fear of dismissal.

"This fear might lead to poor decisions about how to care for themselves or a friend," Thurber said. "For example, the Academy seeks to avoid situations where a student, concerned about her friend's alcohol intoxication, fails to seek help out of fear that her seeking help will get her friend in trouble."

According to Thurber, these two programs were brought forward in the mid 1990s to ensure that students could get the medical help needed in the moment, as well as continuous support and counseling afterwards.

"Faculty and Health Center staff could be confident that the students' parents, adviser, and the deans would know about the incident and that the student would be required to do some follow-up meetings with Health Center staff for evaluation," he said.

Coole also upheld the idea that ASAPs and NDAs are made solely for the purpose of helping students. "This can happen but rarely, if ever, does in fact take place," he said on the topic of "malicious" ASAPs.

"Before a student is actually entered into the ASAP a conversation takes place with the student so we can corroborate the accusation and better understand why an ASAP should be considered."

Jordan Moderates Political Discussion during Assembly

Continued from ASSEMBLY, A1

up ever increasing debts that the next generation will be forced to pay." He also stated that small, limited governments were more likely to be transparent and accountable, making it easier for them to avoid "rampant corruption." Chisholm also claimed that he would love to see a worldwide one child per woman/man policy to reduce carbon emissions and overpopulation. "Yes these are drastic measures that are very hard to imagine, but the alternative for our environment and future is worse," he said.

The assembly allowed Exonians to hear opposing political viewpoints discussed in a civil manner. According to Chisholm, the goal of the assembly was not to persuade the opposing speaker, but rather to listen and understand different opinions. "We hope to encourage students to talk with each other in a similarly respectful way knowing full well that many students already do, but fearing that our political leaders rarely set a good example of respectful discussion," Chisholm said. Chisholm also admitted that the assembly arose in response to the political climate of Exeter that has moved progressively "left."

In addition to questions posed by Jordan, students also lined up to ask Chisholm and Schwartz questions. The students, many of whom served as co-heads of Republican Club, appreciated the opportunity for polite political discourse that did not villainize or glorify any one party. Senior Sagar Rao asked, to much applause, "why [Schwartz's] willingness to give her property and freedom to the groups constituted any justification for why the group [America] should take my property and my freedoms." Rao's question addresses America's history of

opposition and expansion of state power at the expense of minority groups.

Senior and head of Republican Club Pradyumn Dayal expressed his excitement of seeing political discussion taking place in an all-school context. "Our members hold such a diverse set of political views," Dayal said. "One thing we have in common, however, is a passion for discussion." Upper Gordon Chi found that although the debate was insightful and served as a good model for a political debate, the viewpoints on the social spectrum didn't necessarily reflect reality. "I enjoyed the points made, but I acknowledge that those viewpoints in no way reflect the majority of republican or conservative views," Chi said. "Obviously, gay marriage and gender issues are much more supported in Exeter compared to the rest of the country. Similarly, opinions on immigration and terrorism are more extreme outside of the Exeter bubble."

Similarly, lower Meredith Worden noted that while it was a great idea to try and encourage productive and respectful conversations between people with different ideas, the way the debate was carried out did not express any majorly different opinions between the two teachers. She also commented on the small number of faculties participating in the assembly. "I would have liked to hear more people and their opinions in the conversation as well," Worden said.

Dayal voiced his opinion on the need for more political discussions, stating that "Exeter is a relatively politically active and aware campus, but I'm always a fan of more discussions." Dayal asserted that moving forward, more civil debates on campus would allow students to strengthen their own convictions, or think of issues in a new light.

NHPD Investigators Drafted Arrest Warrant for Two Deans

Continued from NEW YORK TIMES, A1

full support." According to the New York Times, Cosgrove and Mischke declined to be interviewed by investigators.

Alumnus Tom Cronin '78 distrusted MacFarlane's statement and the extent of the deans' cooperation in police investigations. The Times article asserted that the deans had declined to comment in an interview conducted by NH State Police. "Declining to be interviewed by the State Police...is not cooperating, and an obstruction of justice by impeding the investigation," Cronin said.

He thought that MacFarlane's email may have been referencing an internal investigation, but her conflation of a state police investigation with an internal one was "blatantly disingenuous" and that the deans' stated cooperation was "an outright lie."

Cronin said that, besides the issue of PEA's reporting, the deans' supposed omission of the sexual misconduct incidents was a violation of their duties.

"[Their] justification for making a poor decision is a lack of information, which is a laughable argument," Cronin said. "They didn't know what they should have known. The reason they 'didn't know' is that the deans carefully did not get the details, so they wouldn't know."

Alumnus Michael Jones '75 impugned MacFarlane's account of the deans' failure to report the cases to the EPD and DYCF

as being "alleged."

"It is quite simple. The deans broke the law," he said. "I'm disappointed in MacFarlane's statement because her interpretation disregards the facts."

MacFarlane ended her email by referencing the Academy's amended memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the EPD, formalized earlier this year. The new MOU stipulates that any and all suspected acts of campus sexual assault, regardless of legal classification or timing, shall be reported to DYCF and/or the EPD. Furthermore, PEA will not undertake any investigation on reported incidents until cleared by an authoritative representative of the EPD.

Upper Euwie Park also expressed her disappointment in MacFarlane's email and hopes the school's review of reporting protocol will help prevent future administrative miscommunication. "It seemed like the administration was trying to avoid the blame, a means of protecting the deans involved," she said. "However, I am glad the school is taking tangible action towards a safer, more trusting environment."

Despite its controversial subject, lower Gloria Sun recognized the worth of the Times article. "It's sad to read about our school on an esteemed publication with such a large readership," she said. "However, I appreciate the publicization of the sexual assault, because it is an issue that affects not just PEA, but schools across the nation, and needs to be addressed."



The Exonian

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

New Grill Initiative Provides Weekly Snacks for Dorms

By DON ASSAMONGKOL
and SARAH RYU
Staff Writers

Exeter recently piloted an evening snack program that provides dorms with healthy snacks from Grill one or two nights each week. English Instructor and Wellness House Dorm Head Christina Breen first proposed the idea last fall, but the program has not been implemented. In her eight years at Exeter, Breen has noticed that while some dorm residents would order food late at night, those lacking the means were unable to sate their appetite. "Some students with less resources were surely just as hungry but could not afford the supplemental nighttime meal," Breen said. "I thought the school should provide a nourishing snack for all boarding students. When the idea of this dorm snack program was first raised, it gained some support, but once the economic factors were taken into consideration, the proposal was put away."

The weekly food trucks that visit campus exacerbated the separation between students who could afford a "fourth meal" and those who could not. "It was clear that the divide between the fed and hungry would continue," Breen said. "I made a push for the snack program again, and this time it gained important administrative support."

Mischke hopes the program will make sure that all students have some access to extra food without extra cost. "The equity issue and accessibility issue was really the inception," she said. For the administration, the main goal was to

provide food "in a way that is fair, healthy and doesn't put any burden on any of the staffs that are already working longer hours."

Each dorm is allocated \$1.25 per student per week and can only pick from the provided options on the snack list. All dorm orders must be in by midnight on Wednesday the week prior to pickup. Dean Mischke has drawn from the Dean of Students office's budget, and Principal Lisa MacFarlane's and the Dining Services' discretionary funds have also been used to cover the cost of the program.

The administrators devised a plan for implementing the snack program. "Each of us looked in different places to find a way to support this program and figure it out," Mischke said. "It's our intention to keep something like this if it works, and we need to know if this program is working in dorms."

If dormitories approve of the trial run, administrators will retain a similar program. Chief Financial Officer David Hanson explained that the school will pilot a few different options, such as providing the snacks or perhaps giving dorm heads a list of options each week.

Hanson was enthusiastic about the program, emphasizing that it made the boarding experience much more equitable. "We do not want anyone to be hungry on this campus," he said.

Academy dietician and nutritionist Pamela Stuppy highlighted the potential benefits of such a program. "Although we don't advise that students stay up late at night writing papers, when

they do, having snacks can give them a brain boost and make them work more efficiently," she said. "The thought here is to provide a basic healthy option who might have been choosing less healthy option, or who may benefit from a healthy option at that time of the day. This is just equalizing things across the board."

The Department of Information Technology Services collaborated with Acting Director of Dining Services Melinda Leonard and Grill Manager Robert Brown to create an online order form that allows dorm heads to place weekly orders.

"The Grill operation was chosen based on our goal to centralize the process of ordering while enabling dorms to pick up their snacks until 9:30 p.m., that align with the Grill hours of operation," Leonard said. She also shared a positive outlook for the program and looks forward to suggestions. "I think it's a good program, and I continue to invite feedback from students and dorm heads in its development and ongoing success."

Soule Hall Dorm Head Filip Sain expressed his satisfaction with the program. "Hopefully, with the ability to tailor to the needs of our residents, we can have something that people find useful. It seems like people tend to get hungry at night so if a snack, or two can help them get through the night, I'm all for it," he said. "It's definitely worth a try, and I'm looking forward to this program continuing."

Brown explained that there could still be improvements made to the program, such as

getting a separate space to operate the program and an extra dedicated person to manage it. "I also think a better plan would be for the dorms to get money put into their account so that each dorm could choose where to buy other types of items like ordering pizza at night or from other sources," he said.

Upper Cade Napier agreed that certain adjustments could be made to improve the efficiency of the program. "The first time I went to pick up the snacks, we were given stuff that I don't think anybody in the dorm touched, like hummus. We had to throw that out and it seemed like a waste." However, Napier did see potential. "Hopefully when we can input our own orders things will smoothen out and we won't have to waste as much," he said.

Overall, students have been positive about the new program. "I think it's a good source of dorm bonding because we all get together to share the food," senior Kate Lu said. "I also like the idea of how good, nutritious food is provided for everyone, making sure everyone has access to it."

The program will continue throughout this school year. Once Dean of Residential Life AJ Cosgrove gathers feedback from dorm heads and students, administrators will determine the future of the program.

"Through the hard work of many administrators and finance professionals in J-Smith, the program has begun," Breen said. "Dorm heads are still working out the logistical links, but I am excited that it is up and running."

ABS Prohibited from Performing at E/A Pep Rally

By SARAH RYU
and ANGELINA ZHANG
Staff Writers

The Academy Bellydancing Society (ABS) did not perform at the annual Exeter/Andover pep rally this year, as the pep rally faculty committee cancelled their performance a few days prior to the event. The news came as a shock, as the team had choreographed their scheduled dance already, and had been practicing throughout the term. All other skits and performances from fall team sports and dance clubs remained in the schedule.

The pep rally faculty committee made the final decision for ABS not to perform on the Wednesday morning before E/A. Theater and Dance Instructor Allison Duke notified the group of the news, explaining that the pep rally committee believed that movement of the hips and the pelvic region can be viewed as inappropriate and hyper-sexual, especially for girls, in today's Western society.

Duke explained that the decision was not out of the blue, since the discussion had been circulating around among some of the faculty for a couple of years, before the current members of the team were here. "The material performed by a dance group like ABS, which performs non-western dance, has origins from so many different cultures like Lebanese, Egyptian and Turkish. I feel that all non-western dances should be contextualized, so that the audience has an understanding of the meaning embedded in the movement," she said.

According to Duke, the pep rally committee and Director of Athletics Shane LaPointe had also felt that pep rally was not

the appropriate venue for ABS to present their dance. "The committee believed that the dance assembly would be a more educational setting to display non-western dancing, as opposed to pep rally where people aren't focusing on learning something new," she said. The pep rally committee gave the group the choice of performing at dance assembly near the end of the term or not dancing at all this term.

The group made suggestions to accommodate the concerns from faculty, asking if the group could talk about the culture of belly dancing at pep rally. However, the suggestion was turned down, as members were told that the pep rally was not a suitable place for such a presentation. Members of the community, including members of the group, were upset with the cancellation of the ABS performance at pep rally, especially since the group had always been allowed to perform the night before E/A during previous years.

Co-head and upper Ogechi Nwankwoala expressed disappointment due to the abrupt decision, which she felt neglected the time and work that the group had put into the performance. "Personally, I felt very defeated because I have worked very hard this term to bounce back from ABS' previous reputation of being overly sexual but my work was not being recognized by these adults. I think the whole situation was very unfair to myself and the members of my club," she said.

Upper Hannah Brown explained that the team had spent the entire term practicing, even waking up at 6am on some days to get together and practice. Though Brown agreed



Students in ABS performed at the E/A pep rally last year.

Chiara Perotti Corroia/The Exonian

that bellydancing in an American context seems to be extremely sexualized and misunderstood, she explained that the coheads have worked hard throughout the year to stress the traditional aspect. "Our coheads have worked so hard this year to educate us about where this dancing originated and choreograph clean dance moves, whereas in years past, ABS' moves may have been less traditional," she said.

Members of the group felt that their voices were unheard and emphasized that the purpose of ABS was to "explore the world of belly dance and share it with the Exeter community through our performances," according to Nwankwoala. "Now we are struggling trying to fit our dance meant for the football field on the small assembly hall stage," she said.

Lower Selma Uriver shared this disappointment, while understanding that not having shirts on could be interpreted as sexual. "I personally come from a country where belly dancing is a very prominent form of entertainment and art, and the reason we wear no shirts is to show the small movements of the stomach that would otherwise not be seen that help isolate our body parts," she explained.

Though many students were dismayed, Duke pointed out that the decision was made with the intention of increasing the student body's understanding of belly dancing. "There wasn't anything different this year but it's just been something that's been discussed over the past couple of years. Though some students seem to be upset, the decision wasn't a means of exclusion. It was actually to promote cultural understanding," Duke said.

Wrestlers Discuss Challenges of Required Weight Management

Continued from WINTER SPORTS, A2

athletes face to start the winter season after limited time for rest and recovery. "We get one day of rest between E/A and tryouts, which means you have no time to prepare for your winter sport as most of the day is spent doing homework." She added that playing a fall sport has kept her from practicing with her teammates. "Although fall athletes are most likely in shape because of their fall sports, time limitations have made us unable to commit to scrimmages with our winter teammates, which is a huge disadvantage at tryouts."

Senior Bobby Murray, a member of the hockey team, agreed that it was challenging for him to begin winter tryouts directly after the fall season. "Last year I was on the soccer team and remember trying to prepare for the hockey season during soccer season." He added that he had limited time to rest between the seasons, and he no longer plays a fall sport. "There's not a lot of time to prepare and I had some lingering injuries," Murray said.

Hudson helps his team members avoid this issue by allowing fall athletes to take the week off from tryouts to recover. According to Hudson, wrestling differs from other sports in that the team doesn't compete until after returning from Thanksgiving break, and therefore he uses the tryout time as a training period to help athletes acclimate to the team. Hudson said, "We sort of have an open roster where if you are putting in the time and the commitment we have a spot for you."

At the start of the season, athletes take a hydration and a body composition test. According to Hudson, Exeter's trainers are certified to do a body composition analysis on the wrestlers, the results of which are entered into a national database. The database provides students with a safe weight class and a minimum weight class they are permitted to wrestle at, and athletes are only allowed to lose 1% of their body fat each week. According to Tasié-Amadi, wrestlers are given a decent plan to ensure they have no less than 7% body fat by the end of the season.

Before the test, athletes are not supposed to manage body weight by using unhealthy means such as dehydration and intensive dieting. Despite this, Lyskawa loses a small amount of weight before the initial test. He said, "Usually before I take the test, I'll cut down a little bit even though we're not technically allowed to, but I'll cut down a little bit to get to the weight and then make sure I'm hydrated."

Upper and wrestling team-member Chimenum Tasié-Amadi commented that most athletes concern themselves with training for the season, and consider their weight after making the team. "For people who are trying out, what you weigh doesn't matter. It's more about getting adjusted to the program first and then seeing your future as a wrestler as opposed to looking at weight," Tasié-Amadi said. He added that athletes adjusted to the weight management process throughout the season. "Sometimes we do worry about cutting, but truthfully if you're smart about it, it's not as bad as we make it sound usually," Tasié-Amadi said. XXX GRADE Aaron Baez added that as wrestlers gain experience, they develop effective methods for weight management. "It's tough, but it's something you're used to," he said. Baez added that he loves the sport, and said, "Wrestling's awesome."

Hudson explained that the school has worked to ensure the weight management process is healthy. "We've done a lot as a school to make sure kids establish a safe weight that they can compete at," he said. "Weight management is part of the sport." Lyskawa commented that the wrestling is unique because it is weight-oriented and therefore "nutrition is a big part of being successful."

Each week before their matches, wrestlers are weighed and their weight is inputted in the database to ensure they are managing their weight in a healthy manner. "Basically, it's a check and balance of the sport so that kids aren't going way up and way down and losing ten pounds the day before," Hudson said.

Lyskawa said that as the season progressed and he gained more muscle mass, he had to

lose weight to stay in the same weight class. "As the season went on and I sort of started to get a little bit bigger, I was probably losing upwards of ten pounds a week." He added that after the weigh-in before each match, he would refuel and gain back the lost weight before starting the process over each Sunday. Lyskawa originally found this practice challenging, but asserts that he has adjusted to managing his weight. He said about wrestlers, "I guess we just have some really strange bodies."

Although most wrestlers' weight does not fluctuate as much as Lyskawa's, according to Davidson, many do some form of weight management to ensure they remain in their weight class. Davidson said that a lot of kids on the team will exercise in very hot rooms to sweat and consequently lose weight. "They'll drink only water, tons of water so that they feel filled. A lot of kids will just go a long time without eating or eating really small portions," he added.

Tasié-Amadi explained that after athletes sweat out their water weight, they "rehydrate after weigh-ins about two hours before [their] match with stuff like Pedalyte or fruits." He added about the practice, "If you're just sweating before a meet, like the day before, it's not as bad. It's not perfect, but it's also not life-threatening if you're only doing it the day before."

According to Baez, the majority of the team has done some weight management. However, the practice is not universally challenging. Upper Jalen Thomas said, "Even though I opted this season I didn't work out at all. My weight is fairly stable, so I didn't have to cut or gain much." Morris explained that he has never been pressured to weigh a certain amount and his weight does not play a large factor in the season. "My answer stands that I wrestle what I weigh and that's it," he said.

Schwarz attributed the differences in the weight management process to athletes' differing physical conditions and their starting and goal weight classes to wrestle in. "There's a difference of 100 to 200 pounds for the weight classes, so I would say that's why there is such a disparity in

terms of the wrestling experience," Schwarz said. He added that if a student was losing weight at an unhealthy level, the coaches would intervene. "If there is a serious health problem with weight loss, the coaches aren't going to push that."

Hudson explained that practices are less effective for athletes who are approaching them with the goal of cutting weight. "I've been doing this a long time and have really found that if wrestlers are coming to practice to cut weight, they're not getting better as a wrestler, so our kids tend not to have cutting and weight management be the focus of their season," Hudson said.

Weight management can also affect students' academics. Lyskawa commented that wrestling limited his time for other activities, including academics, and said that his schoolwork was challenging during the winter "because you're trying to have a healthful diet, but you're not getting the energy you need so trying to do homework at night is tough." He added that throughout his first three years at Exeter he has adjusted to this challenge. "Your GPA takes a little dip for sure, but you find ways to just fight through it."

Baez added that he dealt with the increased time commitment to wrestling by managing his time more efficiently during the wrestling season. "If you play a sport, you're sacrificing something in your life to train for that sport," Baez said. In his case, he spends less time socializing and the sport does not affect his academics.

Team dynamics' make up for athletes' reduced time for socializing. "For me, wrestling is a place for me to be free, just to have no worries and focus on what I'm doing," Baez said. Oyeboye said that she does, "small things to keep spirits up" during tryouts, including cheering for her teammates. She added, "keeping spirits up really helps to create a positive atmosphere during tryouts." Lyskawa added that he enjoys being on a winter team because of the close dynamic. "My favorite part of wrestling is the team... watching someone else succeed was just as good of a feeling as watching yourself succeed," Lyskawa said.

Fluctuating Course Enrollment Impacts Faculty Job Security

Continued from FACULTY.A1

handbook, that he/she continues to meet the Academy's standards of excellence." The annual conditional contract for faculty on continuing appointment is sent out in the form of a salary letter in March of each year.

"We fool ourselves by saying that it's tenure in everyday conversations to make us feel more secure but it's really not," Modern Languages Instructor Ahmed Jebari said.

Due to the ever-changing enrollments within departments, faculty sabbaticals, periods of leave and reassignment to administrative positions, teaching positions can fluctuate drastically from year to year. For this reason, many faculty members are hired for specific, short-term positions with few prospects for future employment.

For example, Computer Science, part of the larger Science Department, has two permanent positions, but requires two and a half instructors to handle each term's teaching load. As a result, the third instructor can never be on continuing appointment. Chair of Science department Alison Hobbie said she hoped the process was as clear as possible. "The third person is never a continuing appointment person and that's a shame but they know that from the start," she said. "It's a conversation every year."

Teaching positions in the science department are currently reserved for Dean of Students Melissa Mischke and Dean of Residential Life Arthur J. Cosgrove, who were both hired as continuing appointment science instructors. While these two colleagues are absent from the classroom, full-time teachers are hired to cover their classes. "We make it very clear to the replacements that when the continuing appointment teachers come back we may no longer have a position for them," Hobbie said.

Instructor in Chemistry Ross Brodsky is currently filling in for Sasha Alcott, who is on leave. "I have been aware of [my one year tenure] since applying to the post and to be honest, I think I am fine with it," he said.

Eben E. Bein, who served as a one-year instructor of science last year, still stays in touch with former students through email and social media, and even occasionally returns to Exeter for events like fall E/A. "There's so much

"We fool ourselves by saying that it's tenure in everyday conversations to make us feel more secure but it's really not."

good work going on, so much resources and money and brainpower being poured into making this experience the best one possible for students," he said.

At the end of last year, he proposed two sandbox courses, one of which was in environmental studies. Because he did not have continuing appointment, his courses did not make it past the first round of approval. Despite this, Bein believes that with his knowledge of and passion for environmental teaching, he still has much to offer Exeter. "The beauty is, if a position opens up in the future for tenure-track positions, I can reapply, knowing exactly what I'm getting myself into."

While it is uncommon, some one-year faculty members are retained; in fact, current chair of the history department William Jordan was first hired in 1997 as a one-year replacement for an instructor who was on sabbatical. As different history instructors went on leave during the following three years, there was always a vacancy for him to fill. Jordan became a continuing appointment faculty member after passing the review process during his fourth year. Now a department chair, Jordan acknowledges that security for Exeter teachers often comes down to chance.

"You never know," he said. "I didn't think [my department] would have an opening for this year but someone quit. People can retire or quit to go somewhere else at any time."

II. Faculty Review Process

All faculty members undergo a yearly review process during their first four years at the Academy. "The review process is exactly the same, it doesn't matter if you're full-time, part-time or [a] one-term replacement," Hobbie said.

In this process, teachers' classes are observed by at least three different senior colleagues. These preferably include both a lower-level and an upper-level class. Teachers also sometimes have their grading methods for assessments such as tests, essays and lab reports examined. At the end of the term, the department chair, along with these senior faculty members, write a report

on the instructor's performance. The teacher under review is then given the choice to agree or disagree with the report. In the latter case, they are granted the right to write a rebuttal.

The evaluation and sometimes the rebuttal, as well as other documents such as a letter from a dorm head or the Dean of Students regarding that instructor's performance as a dorm faculty, athletic coach or club advisor are then all sent to the Appointment & Leaves committee (A&L).

The A&L, chaired by the Dean of Faculty, is composed of six faculty members, each representing a different department. The committee reviews all the submitted materials and recommends that the faculty member either should or should not be retained for the next year. The Principal ultimately makes the final decision on whether to agree with A & L's recommendations.

Though there is a standard guideline, the review process for each department can vary significantly at the chair's discretion. Exeter's science and history departments, for example, conduct year-round assessment, instead of doing all evaluations during winter term.

"We want to make sure faculty members feel confident in the wide variety of content areas we're asking them to teach throughout our year-long classes," Hobbie said. "In rare cases, we might recognize that a colleague would benefit from taking graduate courses during the summer to support their work in the classroom." According to Hobbie, year-round assessment also helps the reviewers see an "arc of growth," which they can then comment on in their evaluation.

Jordan sits in on all of his teacher's classes as part of the review process. "It

"You never know. I didn't think [my department] would have an opening for this year but someone quit. People can retire or quit to go somewhere else at any time."

is a lot of work to review people," he said. "I have to type out the transcript, sit down with the teacher and go over it, and then write up a letter [...] for everyone to send it to A & L."

Jordan sees the review as a "collaborative process" that ultimately benefits the new teachers, because they receive relevant feedback from "fellow practitioners" in their own department. "I think the reason why Exeter teachers are so good is because they have four years of guidance from other colleagues," he said. "We do a very good job of hiring, we get a lot of different resumes and we pick qualified, dedicated people, so it's not so much a matter of evaluating and getting rid of people but helping people adapt to the teaching method here, at the Harkness table."

Chair of Modern Languages Evelyn Christoph agreed. "It's meant to be constructive feedback to support the new teachers," she said. "Our goal is to bring to campus experienced instructors for whom Harkness pedagogy is a good match." As a result, Christoph said, "Most new teachers move easily toward continuing appointment."

During their first four years, teachers also receive guidance from a designated mentor, who does not participate in the teacher's assessment process. "You want the mentor to be as much as possible a resource, someone that person can confide in, so not having them do the review would help towards building a more trusting relationship," Jordan said.

Brodsky's time at Exeter has been rewarding so far in large part because of his relationships with older faculty members. "My mentors have been very helpful, have observed my classes and given me feedback with regards to how to make Harkness my own," he said.

Christoph believes the review process is inherent to being an instructor at Exeter. "Teaching is not static and I think it's fair to say that every teacher here is constantly looking to improve," she said. "Being a teacher means you're a lifelong learner by nature. I personally did not feel that it would make-or-break my professional career. I saw it as constructive feedback that was more or less what we as teachers have to naturally do."

The English Department goes through a similar process. "The hope is to have an experienced teacher talking to a new teacher about all aspects of teaching at Exeter so they get accustomed to working here, while also listening to the fresh perspectives they bring," English Chair Nathaniel Hawkins said. "In the time I've been here, people almost always succeed in the review process, and I think that's because we're doing some-

thing right with our mentor program, and we are hiring well."

English Instructor Courtney Marshall, now in her second year at Exeter, feels that her mentor has helped her adapt to Exeter's unique teaching style. Though she had been teaching literature at the University of New Hampshire and other schools since 2001, Marshall appreciates advice from her colleagues on aspects of Exeter English teaching like "how to do a paper conference, and how to handle a Harkness class, where I feel I could improve."

As a new dorm head for Kirtland House, Marshall also went to her mentor, Instructor of English Matthew Miller, the former Main Street dorm head, with questions about residential life. "My colleagues are always there to give me helpful hints," Marshall said.

Bein's mentor, instructor of biology Michelle Chapman, gave him feedback on the homework he assigned to students. "I was very thankful, [...] one of my lessons was when I had scheduled too much to do for students in one day and she called me out on it," he said. He felt fortunate to be observed by someone who "genuinely cared about student learning." This, Bein thinks, is imperative to a good review session.

For Jebari, however, the review process, though constructive, was very stressful, because he felt like he was "constantly being observed." His stress level got progressively worse over the course of the four years. "After the first year, the screws start to get tightened," he said. "In the third year, there's a general mentality that either you improve and incorporate the suggestions from your colleagues to obtain continuing appointment or you get out of here."

As an immigrant from Morocco, Jebari was acutely conscious of the role race plays in the process of faculty evaluation. "Racism happens on this campus, some people will try to undermine people from other communities," he said. "We've seen it and we continue to see it. These factor into the issue of retention of faculty of color [...] They get discriminated and don't know how to defend themselves."

Before he obtained continuing appointment, Jebari felt unsafe speaking up about the microaggressions he experienced. "I admired the courageous people who brought up these issues in department meetings [...] I had a fam-

"Being a teacher means you're a lifelong learner by nature. I personally did not feel that it would make-or-break my professional career. I saw it as constructive feedback that was more or less what we as teachers have to naturally do."

ily to take care of, I did not want to lose my job," Jebari said, noting that even though he has been at the Academy for thirteen years now, he still finds it hard to overcome his fears.

III. Student Enrollment

Fear of speaking out aside, varying degrees of job insecurity pervade the teaching faculty at Exeter. Obtaining a full-time continuing appointment does not grant faculty members immunity from being laid off, and changing finances and student enrollment can pose a threat to teacher's job security.

Jordan stressed that all positions at the Academy were subject to staffing need, as is true in all financially responsible institutions. According to David Hanson, the Academy's Chief Financial Officer, faculty salaries are "part of the Academy's operating budget, which is roughly \$100M annually and indeed limited." This budget is then allocated to each department, and department chairs typically take their department's

specific financial constraints into consideration, alongside enrollment and the consequent staffing need, before making human resources decisions for the following school year.

Enrollment is decreasing for some departments, including History and Modern Languages. According to Jordan, the students in the Class of 2016 took an average of 0.43 history courses above the minimum requirement, compared to .75 for the Class of 2010. "I can't imagine it going any lower than that," he said. "If it did however, I don't know what would happen if students were taking, say, zero above the minimum," he said. "Would we have to lay someone off? That might happen [...] or we just won't need any part-time teachers any

"In the third year, there's a general mentality that either you improve and incorporate the suggestions from your colleagues to obtain continuing appointment or you get out of here."

more." According to Jordan, however, this is a highly unlikely scenario.

Evelyn Christoph has seen students in recent years gravitate more towards the STEM fields. The average student in the Class of 2016 took 4.5 science courses above the minimum. "The reality is our enrollment beyond the diploma requirement can be subject to college admissions pressures," she said. "That's just how it is."

Christoph does not feel that she is affected too much by this shift. "I personally do not feel pressure to make students take French for fear of having insufficient classes to teach," she said. "Learning a foreign language is an essential component of an Exeter education and that means we offer classes accordingly."

Recently, more students have taken Spanish than in the past. Due to this trend, enrollment for many of the less popular languages such as Russian, Japanese and Arabic, is suffering. "This year we don't have an Arabic class, and this has happened a couple of times in the last ten years," Jebari said, noting that there is opposition from members of the department regarding the continuation of this language "for political reasons."

Instructors like Jebari, who can teach Arabic, French and Spanish, allow the Modern Languages Department to adapt to shifts in enrollment. "We're lucky that several of our teachers are fluent in multiple languages, which means we are more flexible," Christoph said.

Jebari now teaches a 999 Arabic course without monetary remuneration. He is grateful that he can teach three languages. "Two of them are always in demand, so my job is secure," he said.

This is not the case for all other faculty members in the department. "A few years ago, when enrollment dropped for Japanese, the teacher was not receiving her continuing letter until the end of May," he said. "That doesn't make a person secure or happy, that's scary. Especially to some of us who are a little older, especially in a place like this, where do you go?"

In most departments, teachers' job security is much less affected by fluctuating student interest. In English, for example, there may be an association between an elective and a teacher, but this association is much more fluid. "I proposed a course on Literature of the American West last year and it didn't run because not enough students signed up," Hawkins said. "At worst, it's a bruised ego, but there's no salesmanship competition in the sense that we're advertising for students to take our classes to keep our jobs. My course didn't run and I still have the same teaching load... and a healthy ego."



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Consequences of the APEC Conference

Mai Hoang '20
Columnist

Mocked as the global leaders' annual fashion showdown, the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit usually does not produce anything headline-worthy except for a few comical photos of Obama, Putin, Duterte and their likes during the "silly dress" tradition, trying to look comfortable in whatever garb the host country had prepared for them to wear. In last year's conference, hosted by Peru, they stood in line flashing mustard-colored alpaca shawls.

The 2017 conference however, with the participation of fresh faces like the newly-elected US President Donald Trump, Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam and thirty-seven-year-old New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ahera, attracted more attention than usual, if only for the high potential of meme-worthy Trump moments. It was the first time this US president met Rodrigo Duterte, whom Trump held in highest regard for his "unbelievable job on the drug problem," achieved through tactics such as "riding in tandem"—vigilantes on motorcycles shooting at everyone in sight.

Their first encounter went smoothly enough, as did Trump's sideline diplomatic exchanges with Vladimir Putin on the issue of alleged Russian meddling in the previous US election and Russia's involvement in Syria. Yet the most notable, and also most ironic moments of the summit, came when Trump made his public address to the audience on the subject of multilateral agreements and trade deals.

At one of the world's largest forums

on free-trade, in front of an audience which included the top 21 Pacific Rim economies, the President of the US lambasted previous trade partners for their "chronic trade abuses," making specific jabs at countries that committed "theft of intellectual property" to cheat on America. He pointedly criticized many major multilateral deals, and insisted that bilateral relations was a better choice for all countries, especially those wanting to trade with the US.

Immediately following him, President Xi Jinping, representing the PRC, delivered an impressive speech that emphasized the exact opposite values. "We should support the multilateral trading regime," he said, to "allow developing members to benefit more from international trade and investment." This, coming from a country that only four decades ago was virtually inaccessible to foreign corporations, except maybe, those controlled by Soviet Russia. Ever since the reversal of Maoist economic policies however, the leadership of China's PRC has pushed for development through vehement trade with regional economies, and eventually, the West, so that by 1985 it has set itself up as a world economy friendly to investors from all over the globe.

Beijing has abolished most of its non-tariff barriers, such as import quotas and licensing requirements; statutory tariff itself has been reduced from 45 percent in the mid-1980s to 10 percent in 2001 in order to become a member of the WTO, the very same organization that Trump denounced. Accession to this organization, after a six-year period of vehement negotiation, greatly boosted China's economy, by opening the world market to its exports. For the last eight years, China has been the world's largest exporter of



Courtesy of Google

tablets find themselves in the hands of youths across East and Southeast Asia, while Chinese washing machines and dishwashers flood the market of Europe. The state's GDP has been increasing at a steady rate of 10 percent per year. Its foreign direct investment stands at roughly \$100 billion, while Chinese outbound investment reached \$67.8 billion in 2010. All of this is frequently attributed, both by the government and the general public, to WTO membership.

It is true that not all of China's recent economic advances have been the results of fair competition; in fact, most of the time, Chinese corporations wholly skip the initial R&D phase necessary before the release of a new product elsewhere. Instead, they engage in government-approved intellectual theft, by counterfeiting American fashion designs, pirating movies and video games, and stealing softwares, alongside other technologies. President Trump's accusations of China's intellectual right infringements, either direct or

Representative Robert Lighthizer's formal initiation, in April, of the investigation into whether China is unfairly getting hold of American technology and intellectual property or not, was almost overdue. Every year America loses \$600 billion to intellectual theft, and China accounts for most of that loss.

Nevertheless, being petty about its "unfair treatment" at the hands of other trade partners in a major conference on trade is not going to get the US anywhere, or gain back on its losses to China. The irony here is quite delightful. President Trump, representative of a country traditionally seen as the pioneer in trade negotiations, is offering a bleak view on the future of multilateral collaboration, driving off potential partners, while China, the strictly Communist state, is winning over small countries thanks to its seeming willingness to trade. Will the trend seen at APEC gradually lead to China being the new economic leader worldwide? Only time will tell.

The Benefits of Gun Restrictions

Mark Blekherman '19
Columnist

Newton South, Orlando, Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs. Recent shootings have rocked the United States and impelled both everyday Americans and legislators to realize the flimsiness of our domestic peace. Long concerned about lone-wolf terrorism, the US government now faces a more pertinent dilemma: mass shootings perpetrated by US citizens.

In response to the Texas shooting, GOP lawmakers called for more "total and thorough examinations" of all potential gun-owners. Although their willingness to consider new gun control measures is reassuring, legislators will need to think outside of the box, as their current measures have done nothing but allow criminals to slip through the cracks. Adam Lanza, the shooter at Sandy Hook Elementary School, obtained his guns from his mother, who had registered them legally. Stephen Paddock, the Las Vegas shooter, raised no red flags at his background checks.

Neither have mental health check-ups assisted in pinpointing potential convicts, so it is overly simplified for Trump to blame the Sutherland Springs shooting on a "mental health problem."

In addition to being ineffective, gun restrictions have historically empowered whites at the expense of minorities.

Psychologists have shown that one's mental health does not correlate with a predisposition for gun violence; individuals with mental diseases are no more likely to commit gun-related crimes than anyone else. In that sense, mental health is solely a scapegoat that politicians em-

Mark Blekherman



ploy when fending off criticism.

In addition to being ineffective, gun restrictions have historically empowered

Although their willingness to consider new gun control measures is reassuring, legislators will need to think outside of the box, as their current measures have done nothing but to allow criminals to slip through the cracks.

whites at the expense of minorities. For a long time the South prohibited blacks from owning guns, especially after the slaves became freedmen. During the civil rights movement, federal licensing laws indirectly restricted firearm ownership amongst the African-American community, making it difficult for blacks to stand up against racial violence. The Gun Control Act of 1968, for example, specifically restricted the sale of "Saturday Night Specials," cheap handguns that were popular with minorities. Although not explicitly, these laws targeted disadvantaged groups and widened the gap between the oppressed and the op-

pressors.

Today minority groups feel a renewed need to buy firearms, and for good reason: more and more minorities feel defenseless in the face of police brutality and fringe groups like the Ku Klux Klan. For many guns are not a genuine instrument for self-defense, but rather a deterrent against unwarranted police violence. In 2007, Professor of Psychology Joshua Correll tested for racial bias by using videogames to simulate encounters with potential criminals; he discovered, unsurprisingly, that participants were more likely to shoot at black criminals over white ones. When formulating any proposal, legislators must take into account the disproportionate effects of disarmament on certain sectors of society.

In places with high gang activity but little law enforcement, more gun control will only exacerbate underground markets. The state had denied Devin Kelley, the perpetrator in the Texas church shooting, the right to carry a gun. Many criminals obtain firearms through straw purchases, wherein a certified and mentally sound adult buys the gun and then passes it on (often illegally) to an ill-intentioned individual. A solution must be enforceable; mandating time-consuming procedures would discourage even the most law-abiding citizens

from following the rules and give rise to powerful, unregulated cartels.

A long-term solution to the gun debate would involve tackling the root causes of gun violence. Gun violence is most prevalent in urban communities with meager economic opportunities

A long-term solution to the gun debate would involve tackling the root causes of gun violence.

and poor law enforcement, as people tend to take more risks when they live with no hope—with no job prospects and with no financial security. In Chicago's case, it was a contraction of the police force, and not the poor implementation of gun control laws, that led to a spike in homicide rates this past year. The new mayor, Rahm Emanuel, closed the detective bureaus, dismantled gang task forces, and lengthened the bureaucratic process for most investigations. Chicago should serve as a warning for all lawmakers: without the fundamental building blocks—everything from school funding to drug prevention programs—any lofty nationwide law will only condone the status quo.

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*Letter to the Editor:***Exonians: Let's Depolarize America**

During Tuesday's assembly, I moderated a political conversation between Amy Schwartz and Townley Chisholm. One complaint I've heard from some students is that their views weren't far enough apart. Students may have been expecting something like the political arguments we see on TV every day, between shouting pundits and party functionaries with diametrically opposing views. The networks have found that these kinds of conversations drive up ratings and bring in ad revenue. (I recommend the film "Best of Enemies" to see the origins of this phenomenon.)

But that is not how most people talk about politics. Think about it. The networks hire people to represent a particular point of view. Their livelihood depends on being able to stick to the party line. They are not paid to moderate or change their minds.

In real life people have all kinds of doubts and change their

minds all the time and we don't go through life with one rigid, fully formed ideology to guide us. We listen to what others are saying and consider new evidence.

Political scientists and psychologists who study how people think about politics have found that when we talk to others with different viewpoints, our political positions become more moderate. When we talk only to like-minded people, our ideas become more extreme.

As Americans increasingly separate themselves into red and blue enclaves, they speak to fewer people with different views and the nation becomes ever more polarized. Consider just one of many headlines on the topic: this one from Vox: "We need political parties. But their rabid partisanship could destroy American democracy. We're trapped in a frightening 'doom loop' of mutual distrust."

In preparing for Tuesday's assembly, Mr. Chisholm and Ms. Schwartz and I had a number of

conversations over two or three weeks. The views you heard expressed on Tuesday were somewhat different than what I heard them saying at different times earlier in the process. Their opinions converged a bit. Like most thoughtful people, these two do not have opinions that are set in stone. They are open minded, intellectually flexible, and open to new evidence. Most importantly know that their own knowledge and perspective are limited, that they could be wrong. That's something Harkness teaches us every day if we are doing it right.

Maybe we would become less polarized if Americans saw more of these kinds of political conversations and fewer of the politics-as-combat and politics-as-entertainment spectacles that the media and the two-party system offer up every day. Perhaps the home of the Harkness method has something to teach the country about how to conduct those better conversations.

—Bill Jordan, History Teacher

Keep ABS a Part of Pep Rally

Andrea So '19
Columnist

As usual, the annual E/A pep rally took place on the Friday before E/A weekend. Various dance groups on campus, such as Poms and Imani, performed. However, one dance group was noticeably absent from the lineup—ABS, Exeter's belly dancing group. Members of Exeter's administration had privately told members of ABS that they would not be allowed to perform at the pep rally, instead relegating them to the annual dance assembly. Members of the community allegedly thought that members of the Exeter community would view the ABS dance as hyper-sexualized, and they thought that it wouldn't fit well with the pep rally's theme.

This was significant for a few reasons: For one, ABS has always performed at the E/A pep rally. Their performance was something that I personally looked forward to, as I knew that members of ABS had worked extremely hard to prepare for the rally and had wanted the rest of the school to witness the fruits of their labor. ABS has always performed at pep rally, and for it only to be a significant problem now simply doesn't make sense.

I appreciate ABS' effort to educate the Exeter community about belly-dancing, as well as the culture behind it. Belly-dancing originated in Egypt, and it is performed as a "social dance" or as performance art in various countries in the Middle East. The style of dancing can vary in countries such as Turkey and Lebanon, and it is usually performed as a form of joyous celebration. If ABS had been given the chance to convey the true meaning that belly dancing embodied (which they would have been willing to do), people would've viewed the performance through a much more thoughtful and culturally sensitive perspective. Exposure to other cultures can never be a bad thing, and I'm sure while the pep rally is supposed to be "American," inclusion of other cultures and the beauty of them certainly doesn't bring anything away from the event.

Abs has always performed at pep rally, and for it only to be a significant problem now simply doesn't make sense.

My main problem lies with the idea that because people will view the ABS performance as hyper-sexualized, we should take their platform away from them. I understand that the ABS dancers' stomachs are exposed during the dance, but this is considered normal in the practice of the dance itself.

If members of the administration really do believe that, shouldn't the answer to the problem be to change the perspective of the viewers, of people who are sexualizing an event that isn't inherently sexual and is an art form, instead of penalizing the people who have worked hard to produce something that they are passionate about? The administration's response is not dissimilar from the nationwide debate around dress code. In a lot of schools around the country, girls are told to "cover themselves up." They are forbidden and punished for showing parts of their bodies in an effort to shelter others (usually boys) from what the school believes is inappropriate behavior. That is the wrong response to a problem that actually stems from the attitude that we view each other with. Why are we not working instead to change the attitude of boys, and girls in a lot of cases, who wrongly sexualize a dance meant to celebrate the school and prepare it for E/A?

The Exeter administration's intentions may have been good enough, but the message they are sending out through their actions is wrong. As long as it continues to punish and silence girls for the thoughts of other people, their actions will continue to be extremely problematic.

Where's Our School Spirit?

Bianca Beck '19
Columnist

Just this past weekend, Exonians both past and present donned their Exeter gear and drew red stripes on their faces. E/A was finally here, the day during which Exeter's and Andover's varsity teams faced off against each other. The stands were packed, half of with those wearing red and the other half blue, screaming cheers at each other and the players. Red Bandits scurried around, screaming cheers at the crowd until their voices got hoarse, and the crowd responded, screaming cheers back as they shivered in their jackets. At least, that's how it usually goes.

Everyone looks forward to E/A as a time to unify with fellow Exonians against the Smurfs, and to get hyped. People make posters such as "Ken Bone wore red" or "Andover cites Wikipedia," and some people literally paint their entire faces red. Getting excited for E/A and cheering on classmates is a great way to de-stress and to end your term on a high note. But sometimes, both sides get a bit too enthusiastic to the point where we are almost insulting each other: for instance, screaming "George Bush" while pointing at the Andover section. It can be cringe-worthy at times, but it's also so fun to see people have a great time and get so pumped up. However, this year, red bandits struggled in getting everyone to stand and cheer. We were so quiet, the Smurfs' cheers overpowered us whenever we screamed cheers at each other.

It wasn't as hyped up as EA usually is, and it made me sad. I under-



JaQ Lai/The Exonian

stand that everyone is exhausted at this point in the year; as an upper, I especially understand the bone-deep tiredness everyone is feeling. But in the past, everyone rose to their feet without being asked to do so to scream their heads off, despite being almost delirious with exhaustion. The enthusiasm electrified the air and made us forget how tired we are. And what can we do to always be hyped?

Andover always gets super hyped up before E/A. Their version of red bandits, called blue key heads, are integrated into their daily lives at Andover, and don't serve as cheerleaders for only E/A. They're pretty serious about school spirit: they have try-outs, so to speak, where they have to make their own cheers and yell them in a public space. The ones who are the most spirited and enthusiastic become blue key heads, and do all sorts of spirit-related things around campus. This includes welcoming new students to Andover: they stand outside the area where the cars of new students drive into the

Andover campus, and cheer and wave, pumping up the new kids and alleviating the nervous butterflies in their stomachs. People go to them, because they're known as happy and enthusiastic people: they're like super excited proctors for the whole campus.

We should do something like that too! Our dorm pride at Exeter is so great; people proudly screaming their dorm names whenever someone from their dorm introduces themselves on the assembly stage can attest to that. But our school pride is not nearly as spectacular. Our goal as a school should be to do put those two at the same level, and I think we can take some notes from Andover. Getting people excited to become a part of our community and hyped up for events, like the blue key heads do, would not only unify us more as a school, but also, I think, make us happier and more content to be at PEA. So then why don't we make our spirit leaders a normal part of our lives here at Exeter, to increase our school pride?

We Need to Take Mental Health More Seriously

Jordan Davidson '19
Columnist

It has been one and a half months since the tragic suicide of a senior at our sister school, Andover. The suicide paralyzed both the Andover and Exeter communities and forced us all to face the issue of mental health. Well, at least the heart-breaking situation should have made us recognize that maintaining good mental health needs to be the top priority, especially in such a high-stress environment as Exeter. Yet, the Exeter community and our administration have not shown that they are willing to take steps to improve the mental health of our student body.

Our administration, as it should be, is adamant on continuing to ingrain values of equality within our community in terms of race and gender. But the focus on racial and gender equality has completely overshadowed the issue of mental health. Even in light of the tragedy at Andover, we have continued to have assemblies and conversations regarding the same topics that we have been talking about for years. The administration did not even send an email to the student body acknowledging the suicide after news of the tragedy broke. No information about emotional

support opportunities has been offered to the general populous, no discussions regarding mental health have been organized by the administration, and after one week, the community pretty much stopped talking about mental health altogether.

It is hard to say that we need to talk about mental health on this campus. Not because anyone would disagree that it is a topic more than worthy of focus, but because the administration would need to make room for it in their agenda. If we were to talk about mental health, we would need to sacrifice time otherwise spent talking about racism, gender-oppression, feminism, sexual assault, and all the other typical subjects of conversation. And at a school where being politically correct seems to be a way of life for some people, it would be almost impossible to suggest to anyone outside of your friend group that our community should talk about suicide, depression, mental illness, etc in place of race or gender without being labeled a bigot. This fear applies to me especially. I am a straight, white male who has lived in Fairfield County, Connecticut, my entire life. I am the last person who is "allowed" to say that we need to prioritize mental health over issues we have been constantly talking about since my prep year. But I have personally witnessed the effects of depression and bipolar disorder in

friends and in larger communities. Some of my closest friends go to Andover and the toll that the suicide took on them was more than tremendous. Yet our community cannot seem to understand that we need to take a serious stance on mental health. It is imperative that we take measures to ensure that we are all in a good state of mind because nobody should have to suffer from the kind of pain the Andover student was in.

So view this as a call-to-action for the entirety of the Exeter community. The administration, faculty, students, alumni, trustees, parents, and anyone else involved with our school need to make an effort to prioritize mental health. For far too long our school has been reacting and responding to problems as they arise instead of addressing them before they start. It took ALES months to get the faculty to watch a video they created about racism on our campus and it took the sexual assault of multiple students before serious conversation began. We should never stop talking about the importance of equality, but we need to be able to discuss other prevalent issues as well. So, when thinking about mental health, let's not make the same mistakes we have made in the past. It took a student suicide for our sister school to seriously discuss mental health; it should not take the same for us.

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.

The European Union: Gearing Up for War

Paul James '19
Columnist

Two years since the infamous Paris attacks, the European Union finally looks set to streamline its military cooperation. 23 member countries agreed on a program to join investment efforts in military equipment and research. The proposed fund of 5 billion Euros would be used to ensure greater commitment from all European nations, with another fund of unspecified amount dedicated to funding joint security operations. German Chancellor Angela Merkel made clear that it is time for the EU to step up, but she also remarked on the importance of continuing to include the United Kingdom and United States in these international efforts. A more unified EU, especially when it comes to security, would greatly increase the safety of all member states. A former Belgian prime minister imagined what would happen if each U.S. state had its own intelligence agencies. There would be difficulties sharing information and the country would be much more vulnerable. The EU is currently in the same position, though this new initiative is a step towards streamlining European security.

The same Monday, France mourned the second anniversary of the terror attacks that killed 130 and wounded over

600 people at the Stade de France arena, the Bataclan concert hall and two restaurants. The country's lengthy state of emergency gave police extreme powers and redefined the balance between liberty and security. It has been of some use; the interior minister says that 13 potential attacks were prohibited in 2017 alone, some born of international conspiracies. Furthermore, 7,000 French soldiers have been stationed across the country to protect anticipated targets. But even with these new powers of widespread surveillance and unwarranted detention, French police were unable to stop the deaths of two Marseilles civilians and the loss of one of their own on the Champs-Élysées.

Following the attacks in France, Germany, Sweden and Britain, among others, it was often found that the perpetrators had previously been on national watchlists. However, they were able to travel freely throughout Europe and, due to a lack of cooperation in the Continent, evade police while they carried out their plans. With greater attention on joint security efforts, EU members will hopefully be more open to sharing information instead of competing as intelligence agencies.

It seems most of the EU members have learned their lesson, the United Kingdom, who opposed this type of measure for years, excluded. The other members that didn't sign: Denmark, Ireland, Malta and Portugal. Agreeing

that NATO sometimes inhibited necessary action in conjunction with other countries, the EU members on board decided to take action to supplement the current organization. As one statement put it, "[It is intended to] help reinforce the E.U.'s strategic autonomy to act alone when necessary, and with partners whenever possible." That statement makes the deal much more palatable and practical. NATO even endorsed the new measure because it's not designed to replace the treaty organization. It also

In this tense climate, the joint military program promises that unity isn't quite out the door. It provides a relieving alternative to the headlines that prophesy a European downfall.

shows that the signatories are actually committed to unity, even with nations that don't see eye-to-eye on the security plan.

The new initiative will go a long way to cutting down on fragmented military efforts in each of the member nations. A unified purpose and more widespread access to the same information will likely see to a safer Europe. The European chief of foreign policy touted it as a historic moment, and he may be right.

This program began to appear in discussions after Russia's annexation of

Crimea; the EU found itself unable to take meaningful action through regular channels. Now, tensions are still just as high and populist movements are on the rise. At the Polish Independence Day march, which many argue has been co-opted by right-wing followers, 60,000 people carried flares and flags. Some news sources even documented signs that read "pure blood, clear mind" or Nazi and Christian iconography. This in the country that lived through some of the worst moments of the Second World War. The Polish president has since denounced the demonstrators, but that doesn't lessen their numbers or sentiments. In addition to domestic problems, extremist terrorism is here to stay too. The number of attacks has decreased since last year and a new security plan will continue to bring the number of deaths down, but the EU recognizes that the Islamic terrorism problem won't immediately go away. More importantly, it won't solve itself.

In this tense climate, the joint military program promises that unity isn't quite out the door. It provides a relieving alternative to the headlines that prophesy a European downfall. Even as the United States president marks decades of progress, the leaders of the EU have decided to finally rely on themselves. With this amount of support from most countries in the bloc, the agreement should be made formal at a summit meeting for European leaders next month.

How Climate Change Will Affect Exeter

Edward Klatskin '21
Guest Contributor

In the very early hours of Monday, October 30, during violent winds and torrential rain, the power flickered off for a split second. For the hundreds of students still awake finishing their homework, it was little more than a flash and a buzz on their phone. But it was also a wakeup call to the community; these storms will only get more frequent and more intense due to climate change.

The last time a major hurricane directly hit the Exeter area was the Great Atlantic Hurricane of 1938, which caused 13 deaths and over 8.6 million dollars in damage in New Hampshire

With just a 6-foot sea level rise, predicted to occur before 2100, a large swath of downtown Exeter including Stillwell's, the Boathouse, and the entire Swasey Parkway will be completely submerged.

alone. However, several recent hurricanes such as 1999's Hurricane Floyd and 2012's Hurricane Sandy have only missed the area by a small margin.

This year's Atlantic hurricane season has been especially harsh. Dozens of Exonians from Florida and Texas have been affected by storms such as



Courtesy of Google

Harvey, Irma, and Maria. And this pattern of harsh storms will only increase until every week there will be a major storm, of which many will reach all the way to New England.

Another aspect of climate change that will affect Exeter will be rising sea levels. With just a 6-foot sea level rise, predicted to occur before 2100, a large swath of downtown Exeter including Stillwell's, the Boathouse, and the entire Swasey Parkway will be completely submerged, and Ewald Hall will be a waterfront property, at risk of severe flooding. The Academy will have to plan for the future by building replacements for at-risk structures much further away from the water.

Yet New Hampshire will by far not

be the hardest hit by climate change. Places like Bangladesh and the Maldives will have huge portions of their land submerged, and millions of people will be forced from their homes. Will Exeter have to accommodate by instituting mandatory acceptance policies for climate refugees?

Many Exonians have suggested divesting from companies which deal in fossil fuels as a way to stop climate change. I ardently disagree with this proposition, as it would do nothing except hurt the endowment. As President of the Trustees Tony Downer reminded the student body a few weeks ago, the Academy does not make its investments public, and therefore the divestment of a piece of the endowment from a

fossil-fuel using company would go unnoticed by the media and the public, and therefore fail to affect the public image of the school. In addition, although the Academy's endowment is large, it would be unlikely that more than a small percentage would be invested in one company, and even a few million dollars would be considered pocket change to a huge conglomerate, which would have no effect on its stock price or overall performance at all. Therefore, divestment accomplishes absolutely nothing except depriving the endowment of a good investment, the likes of which are necessary for growth and improvement to the Academy, including dorm renovations and the much-coveted Need Blind Admissions Policy.

Is Facebook Watching You?

Jasmine Liao '20
Guest Contributor

Recently, there's been outrage over Facebook maybe using voice recognition software to listen in on our conversations and show us ads based on things we've talked about. Users have been complaining on Twitter, coming up with reasonings behind this, and even making YouTube videos to prove that Facebook is listening to us. This conspiracy theory is nothing new.

The whole idea that Facebook is listening to our conversations started way back in 2015, when a group of individuals saw ads on their social media pages about things they've just talked about in real life, whether it's seeing adverts for

I don't believe Facebook would go through all the trouble of programming and coding a software system that can track and detect words that we say in our everyday conversations, mainly because Facebook doesn't need to.

cat food after talking about cats or travel agency ads after talking about taking a vacation. After Facebook addressed it in a tweet saying that they were not using the microphones to detect what people were saying after users started



Courtesy of Google

to post their suspicions about it on Reddit and Twitter, the theory still refused to die. It has resurfaced two years later. Last week, Facebook had to tweet again stressing that they were not listening to our conversations to settle the situation.

I first thought about the technical capabilities tied to this theory. One must think whether the app is physically capable of listening in on us. The app has to 1) listen to a conversation from your mobile device; 2) identify specific terms or phrases; and 3) funnel those interests and propensities to audiences for ad targeting. This is very technically difficult because natural language is hard to filter from ambient noise and static. I don't believe Facebook would go through all the trouble of programming and coding a software system that can track and detect words that we say in our everyday

conversations, mainly because Facebook doesn't need to.

Facebook already has all the information it needs for good ad target-

Sure this may be a breach of privacy, but it's not like Facebook is trying to see what kind of gossip you're talking about with your BFF or an argument you have with your parents.

ing—they know who we are, our names, where we're from, where we go to school, how old we are, what pages we follow and what we like. They know where we stand on the political spectrum, all our electronic devices, our family and what we view on other websites (with cook-

ies, pixel-tags, IFrame, etc.). They can even track where we are through location services. So why would they need to track what we say on a daily basis if they already have tons of information on us?

Even if Facebook could listen to us, so what? Sure, this may be a breach of privacy, but it's not like Facebook is trying to see what kind of gossip you're talking about with your BFF or an argument you have with your parents. The words you say that are linked with Facebook are simply put into an algorithm that spits out an ad that you might be interested in. Though the thought might be scary that Facebook knows that you have two cats through the conversations you've been having, all they are doing with the information is that they are trying to target specific ads that pop up on your feed to increase business for many companies. That's it. And frankly, there is no problem with that. Personalization is extremely useful for ad targeting and it's always better to see an ad that you can relate to than an ad for a service you would have completely no interest in.

I can see the issue about it, however; critics believe it's an invasion of privacy, while others view it as a business opportunity. But at the end of the day, signing up for Facebook means you are giving up your privacy rights. By using the internet and liking or clicking something, you are acknowledging the fact that companies will use this information to try to sell you their products. After all, this is all for the benefit of the consumer.

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

Each year, *The Exonian* prints a list of Senior Superlatives, based off of nominations submitted via Survey Monkey. Here's to the Class of 2018!

Thank you all for a wonderful fall of beach cleaning, Academy Life Day discussions, Saturday classes, college applications, mobius strips, a football win, bingo and kilts.

Cutest Couple



Megi Topalli and James Fortin
Runner-Up: James Fortin and Megi Topalli

Cutest Would-Be Couple



Jamie Cassidy and Taylor Walsh
Runner-Up: Jamie Cassidy and Jackson Pirell

Least Likely Couple



Billy from Cilley and Charlotte Polk
Runner-Up: Michaela McCarthy and Jack Pimetral

Most Non Sibi



Emmett Shell
Runner-Up: Lucas Schroeder

Most School Spirit



Emily Green
Runner-Up: Meg Bolan

Class Clown



Billy from Cilley
Runner-Up: Emily Green

Sportiest



Daisy Ella Johnson
Runner-Up: Lauren Arkell

Best Dressed



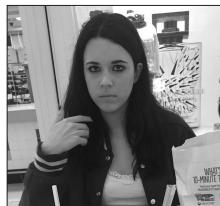
Grace Huang
Runner-Up: Abel Ngala

Sassiest



Mila DeGuere
Runner-Up: Emily Cardenas

Most Changed



Jacqui Byrne
Runner-Up: Kevin Lyskawa

Most Liberal



Menat Bahmasy
Runner-Up: Vivi Kraus

Class Genius



Vinjai Vale
Runner-Up: Athena Stenor

Closet Genius



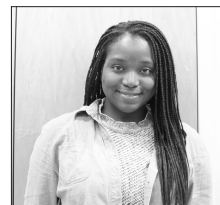
Celeste Wu
Runner-Up: Brian Zhao

Biggest Harkness Warrior



Greg Miller
Runner-Up: George Matheos

Perfect Exonian



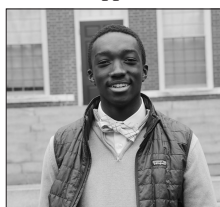
Athena Stenor
Runner-Up: Peter O'Keefe

Edgiest



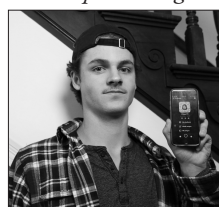
Ciara Cagney
Runner-Up: Maya Kim

Preppiest



Michael Bamah
Runner-Up: Marie-Leighton McCall

Snapchat King



Andrew McGurrin
Runner-Up: Seth Bowman

Snapchat Queen



Mila DeGuere
Runner-Up: Tricia Moriarty

MOST LIKELY TO...

Win an Oscar



Anzi DeBenedetto
Runner-Up: Daisy Tichener

Win a Grammy



Charlotte Polk
Runner-Up: Bobby Murray

Be a Reality TV Star



Tricia Moriarty
Runner-Up: Abigail Waite

Be a Cult Leader



Nate Sassoon
Runner-Up: Ian Johnson

Hug a Tree



Molly and Willa Canfield
Runner-Up: Lauren Maguire

Be the Next Dan Brown



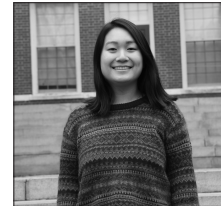
Charles Smith
Runner-Up: Dan Brown

Drive a Minivan



Abby Clyde
Runner-Up: Jack Baker

Start a Non-Profit



Sophia Zu
Runner-Up: Menat Bahnsy

Become a Dictator



Joaquin Riojas
Runner-Up: Pedro Sanson

Post on Exeter Memes



Stuart Rucker
Runner-Up: Evan Stanton

Be a Frat Star



Avery Giles
Runner-Up: AJ Bravo

Be a Snat Star



Chloe Socimara
Runner-Up: Sophia Oguri

Win John Phillips Award



Jamie Cassidy
Runner-Up: Brian Zhao

Become President



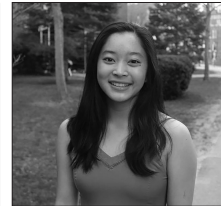
Taylor Walsh
Runner-Up: Billy O'Handley

Wear their Class Ring



Theo Jaffrey
Runner-Up: Billy O'Handley

Cry in Class



Claire Jutabha
Runner-Up: Elly Lee

Still be Mad About Kilts at 20th Reunion



Michaela McCarthy
Runner-Up: Nobody else

Be the Next Mark Zuckerberg



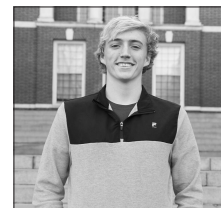
Stuart Rucker
Runner-Up: Virjai Vale

Run a Large Corporation and Fire Lots of People



Tim Han
Runner-Up: Jo de La Bruyere

Get a Portrait of Themself in Assembly Hall



Jackson Porell
Runner-Up: Jo de La Bruyere

Be on Forbes 30 Under 30



Anna Clark
Runner-Up: Will Soltas

Always Say Hi to You on the Path



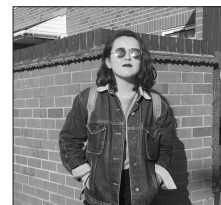
Molly Canfield
Runner-Up: Margaret Kraus

Get Arrested for Tax Evasion



Sagar Rao
Runner-Up: Pedro Sanson

Be the Next Roxanne Gay



Maria Heeter
Runner-Up: Charlotte Polk



ExonianPhoto



Exeter/Andover





Students in the West African Drumming ensemble perform at the concert on Tuesday.

JaQ Lal/The Exonian

Band, Jazz and Drumming Concert

By MAI HONG
and ISABELLA AHMAD
Staff Writers

The fourth concert of fall term, the Band, Jazz and Drumming concert, took place this past Tuesday in the Bowld. Featuring performers from four different ensembles—Concert Band, PEA Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Combo and West African Drumming Ensemble—the concert attracted more than 200 adult members of the community and students.

For many new students at the Academy, the concert was their first performance. Prep Charlotte Lisa spoke fondly of the experience, saying, "Yesterday at the concert was my first time performing in 'The Bowld and I really enjoyed it!" Citing the space's aesthetics and acoustics as inspirations for her own musical expression, she added, "Overall I think all the bands performed really well and it was a fun night, which many of the grandparents in the audience enjoyed." Prep Sophie Liu said that she had enjoyed the cooperative aspect of performing at the band concert. "I really love being able to play with the group, rather than being a soloist," she said.

Randy Armstrong, director of the West African Drumming Ensemble, was also ex-

citied to welcome so many novice drummers into the group, expressing his excitement at hearing them play in the public for the first time. Of course, getting the new drummers up to performance quality was a bit challenging. "We did have to spend a lot of time working on the technique before they could comfortable start practicing the pieces," Armstrong said. However, Armstrong found the rehearsal process to be very enjoyable and productive, and he believes that this ease was reflected in the quality of the performance. "Western African drumming always has a unique way of engaging the audience. I think every person can be moved by the rhythm and the beat, which always comes first, before the tune or the melody," Armstrong said.

Upper Samantha Onstead started Western African Drumming this fall because she wanted to go beyond her comfort zone. For her, seeing the pieces develop from the basic backbone rhythm into complete performances with layers of additional rhythmic structure was fascinating. Similarly, lower Genesis Reyes decided to join after hearing "good reviews from other Exonians," even though she was not familiar with the culture or the history behind the music before starting. Still, Reyes found that playing with the ensemble has helped her learn so much in a

short amount of time. For Reyes, one of the highlights of the term was participating in a workshop led by the nephew of a composer whose work was featured in the concert. "There was a workshop with Namory Keita, who is the nephew of drummer Famoudou Konate, who actually wrote 'Lolo' [the second piece in the Ensemble's repertoire]. We were able to hear someone who was so close and familiar with it actually play it for us and with us. We could hear the passion that he had for the piece, and drumming in general. Being able to play that later on in the ensemble tonight was like making a full loop with the piece," Reyes said.

Concert Band performed three different pieces for the concert, each from a unique period in musical history. The variety of styles suited the large group of players, who all had different preferences and repertoires. Lower Avery Clowes, for example, favored the first set of Bach chorales, because they were "fun to play" and forced different sections of the band to work together. Clowes believes that performing pieces like these helps everyone become better at getting in tune with each other.

The second piece, "Loch Lomond," a traditional Scottish song of unknown origin, tells the tale of two rebels with different fate. While one gets captured and executed, the

other lives in peace and freedom for most of his life. Lower David Kim, the band's saxophonist, said he liked this piece the most because it included a chorus where the saxophones played the highest notes in the band. Meanwhile, upper Christine Baker enjoyed playing John Williams' "Midway March" because of its fast tempo. "I played 'Midway March' before at my middle school and it's a really fun piece," she said. "It's interesting how differently it sounds in the Exeter Concert Band than it did before, and I think that could be because this band is much bigger, and there is a greater variety of instruments."

The Jazz Combo also had a successful performance, featuring Joe Zawinul's "Mercy Mercy" a staple for the ensemble, and "Revelation," a more recent piece. Senior William Swift commented, "It's really fun to play 'Mercy Mercy' on guitar because it's based on the blues scale, so it's really fun to solo off." Swift also plays the drums and the guitar. As a jazz player, he enjoys anything that involves improvisation. "I love taking pretty standard simple charts and giving songs their own personality," he elaborated. After three years with the Jazz Combo, Swift still felt that the performance on Tuesday was special, stating, "It's always fun to jam out with people."

DRAMAT

By SUAN LEE
and VERONICA CHOULGA
Staff Writers

It's Saturday night. A group of audience members sit quietly in the Fisher Theater black box, enraptured by the actors' intricate costumes and the confident voices projecting across the colorful backdrop of a brightly lit stage.

DRAMAT, PEA's student-run theater company, puts on a wide variety of shows, including musicals, dramas and comedies, on an almost weekly basis. The board holds auditions and receives directors' applications at the beginning of each term in order to determine the types of shows they will put on in the following weeks, and the shows' casts. "Our productions cover a range of topics. Someone will see a play or read a script that they find to be really interesting, and want to perform it at Exeter. The shows we put on depend entirely on the directors, although we read the scripts to make sure there isn't too much profanity, and that the content is relevant to the Exeter community," board member and upper Anna Clark said.

Unlike the mainstage productions, DRAMAT allows students to take on roles besides acting, including the writing, producing and directing of a show. "We've given the opportunity to learn about every aspect of theater," lower Paula Perez-Glassner said. "Last spring was my first time directing. It offered me a new perspective on performing, and proved to be a positive experience because everyone was really supportive and receptive to my notes."

Clark recounted a similar experience from her prep spring, emphasizing the value of teenagers having so much control over a show: "It's very special when teens get to direct their own shows. It puts you in charge of overseeing how all the components of a show come together and allows you to communicate with different people and make choices of your own."

The fact that DRAMAT is an extracurricular commitment allows all Exonians to get involved, including athletes whose schedules do not permit them to join mainstage produc-

tions. In addition, because DRAMAT puts on several shows each term, it is less selective than the mainstage production, which encourages a greater number of people to get involved, especially those with little to no prior experience.

Upper Emline Scales, now a DRAMAT board member, was one such student. "I hadn't done theater before I came to Exeter, but I wanted to see if I could. The mainstage was really daunting, so I decided to try DRAMAT instead," she said. "It proved to be a much more comfortable environment in which to try something new."

According to fellow board member and upper Gillian Allou, the proportion of theater novices involved in DRAMAT has increased significantly in recent months. "A lot of the people in DRAMAT are really passionate actors and actresses who take part in mainstage productions, but this year we've also been engaging football players, postgraduates, preps and other people new to the world of theater," she said.

Senior and board member Harry Fitzgerald explained that in response to this change, the new board has been making a greater effort to distribute roles more equally: "We used to cast the seniors in bigger roles, and double-cast experienced actors. This year's board has been trying not to do that. We've been casting as many people as we can in order to be more inclusive, especially of younger students," he said.

Scales elaborated, explaining that these efforts have also stemmed from the belief that a student's level of experience is not directly correlated to their theatrical capabilities. "Some of the best shows I've seen have been put on by students new to theater. You can tell that they're just having fun on stage, even if the show itself isn't flawless to every detail. It works out really well because that positive energy translates to the audience," she commented.

For many, DRAMAT's greatest appeal is not only the opportunity it provides to perform in or lead a production, but the dynamic spirit and close relationships of the community. "DRAMAT is a place where you can have fun and get to know different people. It's my favorite club on campus for that reason. I've made some really wonderful memories so far," Scales said.

Trendwatch

Hey Guys!

We are already in the final week of fall term. Many of you may already be exhausted from the cold New England breeze, homework and college apps, but we are almost there, so stay strong! For seniors like us, this will be our last fall term at Exeter.

As the weather continues to get chillier, today we would like to share some tips about how to stay warm while also looking on point. One of our favorite clothing combinations consists of bold patterned pants with simple solid-colored cropped sweaters or turtlenecks. Black cropped sweaters are a must-have item for the chilly weather. They go well with literally anything, from boyfriend jeans to suede skirts to simple black leggings. Molly O'Day '18 and Sophie Faliero '19 wore gray cropped sweaters with simple black leggings. Ali Markowitz '20 wore a black turtleneck with original blue jeans.

No winter wardrobe is complete without a pair of Timberland boots, which we lovingly call Timbs. When you walk across campus during the winter, you will definitely see more than half of your friends sporting either Timbs or Bean Boots. But honestly, we are a huge fan of Timbs because you can match them with anything and still look stylish. We've seen girls showing off their Timbs with white sweaters and denim skirts. The Timbs made them look more edgy and fashionable. Plus, they are super warm and prevent you from getting snow in your socks! We've also spotted guys rocking their Timbs with denim or khaki pants. A nice sweater or hoodie will complement that winter look well. Guys can rock Timbs too! Nathan Lee '21 showed off his sleek black Timberlands with navy blue pants and a patterned blue Patagonia.

Of course, we can't forget bomber jackets, which are also loved by all. Bomber jackets come in various styles and colors. It is always fun to choose a different bomber jacket for a different occasion. You can match bomber jackets with anything, from a classy black dress to a simple t-shirt and leggings. But for the winter, we would recommend thicker bomber

jackets, preferably hooded. Kojo Aduhene '19 wore a black bomber jacket with a vanilla-colored hoodie beneath. He completed the look with a pair of black skinny jeans, a classic navy blue baseball cap and a black and white pair of vans.

Last but not least, coats are always perfect for the cold. They also come in all lengths, but for the winter, we would recommend coats that stop right above our knees. If you don't think you look fashionable, just throw on a coat, and you will transform into a trendsetter! Coats also come in various colors, but we would like to recommend these classy colors: black, grey, camel and burgundy. These four colors may seem basic, but trust us, everyone will look unique and stylish as they show off different fashion senses. This past week, we saw Grace Huang '18 wear a long black coat. She looked amazing with the coat and a pair of brown suede heels.

With these tips, we hope everyone stays warm and stylish, even faculty!

Sherry & Michael



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Senior Spotlight

Amazing Aiden

By MADISON KANG and ALAN XIE
Staff Writers

Admired as a steadfast friend, a supportive leader in Exeter's Mock Trial program and an adept athlete, senior Aiden Roberts brings his humor and positivity everywhere he goes, from welcoming prospective students as a head tour guide to sipping a mug of coffee and laughing with friends at Elm Street dining hall on Sunday mornings.

Roberts began his Exeter career as a new lower after spending freshman year in his hometown of Hope, ME. For Roberts, leaving home meant leaving the snow-capped mountains he loved skiing on as a competitive ski racer.

"Skiing was a huge part of who I was growing up in Maine and it was actually one of the biggest factors in my decision to come to Exeter, a school with no ski team," Roberts said.

Even without an interscholastic team or a slope to ski down, Roberts has not given up his passion for the sport. He serves as a co-head of Ski Club, planning overnight trips to mountains and guiding fellow skiers.

Another thing about Roberts that many Exonians may not know is his long-time passion for playing the piano. He started playing when he was seven years old, and continues to take private lessons at the Academy. He enjoys performing for others and looks forward to his Evening Prayer performance with Cilley Hall dorm mates this December.

Roberts said that one of the things that drew to the Academy was the boarding experience. In the course of his three years at the school, Roberts has lived in three different residences—Dutch House, Will House and Cilley Hall.

Dorm mates and faculty alike cherish Roberts' presence in the dorm. Senior Josh Velazquez, who was Roberts' roommate in



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

Dutch House and has transferred dorms with him every year, appreciates his reliable optimism and banter.

"Aiden always knows how to turn a bad situation into a fun one and always thinks positively about everything he does," Velazquez said. "I would describe Aiden as a fun, loving person. He enjoys the little moments that other people don't care about." Roberts' good friend senior Curtis Haas agreed, adding that Roberts also possesses a tenacious sense of responsibility. "He doesn't take himself seriously, but when it's important he can be serious and take care of what he has to do," Haas said.

Will House dormitory head and Roberts' adviser Christina Breen has enjoyed watching him grow as a leader, in and out of the dorm. "Aiden is a clear dear boy who has grown so much but also has kept at his core his kind heart," she said. "Aiden is squeezing every drop out of his Exeter experience."

Now, living in Cilley Hall, Roberts recognizes his role as a mentor in the dorm. "It's nice having preps and lowers where you're kind of the mentor for them and they look up to you," said Roberts. "It's fun to goof around with them." Haas, who spends many hours in the dorm with Roberts, describes his role in the dorm. "I'd say Aiden is funny; he's dedicated to stuff and he's a good leader, but he can also connect with underclassmen well in the dorm," Haas said.

According to Spanish Instructor Mark Trafion, who has guided Roberts as a dorm faculty in Dutch House and as the coach of the junior varsity baseball team, Roberts' cheery temperament carries from dorm life to the field. "His humility is as admirable as his remarkable people skills," said Trafion. "He gets along with a wide variety of people on campus."

Lower Matt Pangan, a friend and soccer and baseball teammate, agreed with Trafion. "He's welcoming to everyone and can transition from

all of his friend groups from clubs, sports, and dorms with ease."

Haas commended Roberts' leadership on their sports teams. "On sports teams, he wasn't necessarily a captain, but he set a good example," he said. "He is someone people want to be around."

Roberts cited alumna Holly MacAlpine '16 as one of his Exonian role models. Like Roberts, MacAlpine was a genial tour guide and dedicated member of Exeter's mock trial program.

He decided to become a tour guide his lower year after attending Exeter's admissions fairs, where he developed an interest in the Academy's admissions process. "It's really fun to meet some cool families and kids coming to campus," he said. "It's good public speaking practice and there are good skills to be learned by giving tours and answering and asking questions for new students."

Admissions visit facilitator Deborah Waleryszak said that Roberts' cordiality and empathy engage his tourists during their visits. "He listens to your words and has a delightful wit! Upon returning from a tour he has everyone smiling and asking questions," she said. "You just can't help feeling happier with Aiden nearby."

Roberts' amiability is also appreciated by fellow mock trial members. Senior Peter O'Keefe, another co-head of Mock Trial, says that Roberts "always has a smile on his face."

Likewise, Roberts appreciates the sense of camaraderie that he has harbored with his peers over the course of his Exeter career. "There aren't that many people in the world where you can do what you want to do and have a bunch of people who want to do it with you," he said. "The people here want to support what you're doing and want to spend the time to make what you're doing the best it can be. I really like that about being an Exonian."

ESSO QUIDDITCH

By GILLIAN ALLOU
and MIRANDA DEROSSI
Contributing Writers

Are you a Harry Potter fan? Do you like Quidditch? Do you want to learn the mysterious art of magic? Are you a witch, wizard, or ambiguously magical creature? ESSO Quidditch with Kids is a club where children from the community join us to play the favorite sport of the Harry Potter world. Since we don't have access to flying broomsticks, though, we play our own version! Children ages 5 - 11 play alongside Exonians in this team-based game that includes some elements of hide and seek, tagging each other with Bludgers (dodgeballs), and passing the Quaffle (a volleyball) to get it into hoops on either side of the quad. Other Harry Potter-themed activities might include trivia, a sorting ceremony, and Pin the Hair on the Weasley. Lower Paula Perez-Glassner loved her experience as a former Quidditch child, and is now a Quidditch club member. "As a kid, Quidditch was one of my favorite ESSO clubs to participate in because I loved Harry Potter and the world of Hogwarts. Now, being in Quidditch is such a surreal experience for me, coming from a childhood playing the game." Upper Emeline Scales echoed that, "being in Quidditch is a great way to spend an afternoon away from stress, homework, and the limitations of muggle law. I love each meeting."

We play every Sunday from 2:30 to 3:30 PM on the quad in front of Jeremiah Smith Hall, in the fall and spring. If you want to have a magical experience and learn how to play Quidditch, come to one of our meetings! If you have any questions please feel to reach out to our club heads, Gillian Allou '19 (gallou@exeter.edu), or Miranda Derossi '19, the November ESSOonian of the Month (mderossi@exeter.edu). All muggles welcome!



Courtesy of Google

ALBUM REVIEW: *THE DUSK IN US*

By ALAN WU
Staff Writer

Can I have a moment to talk about how unbelievably awesome heavy metal is? The key to appreciating heavy metal is understanding how it taps into our reptilian brain. The ancient, urgent instinct, buried deep beneath all of our intellectual and emotional capacities, to survive and act in aggression. Fight or flight. Kill or be killed. There are other genres of music that can be described as physical or primal—synthpop, ambient music, dub, certain strands of experimental hip-hop, EDM, really anything that falls under the bracket of "dance" music—but none of them dives so genuinely into the nucleus of our evolutionary core as metal does. That's because metal's ultimate power does not just come from a physical instinct. For all of the genre's maximalist tendencies, its craft is subtler than one may initially think. It stimulates some ineffable place where body, mind and soul are inextricably one.

Contact to this ineffable place is what situates metal in an extremely difficult position. The stubborn and fascinating vitality in metal's primal aggression often goes against contemporary notions of technological development, political savviness, intellectual hubris and a general sense of apathy. But it is only in this fashion that metal can uncover some unwanted truths, namely that we are organic beings of violent descent. We exist because our ancestors killed their way through life. As far as removed as we want to be from that force, it still exists in the dark alleyways of our DNA. Metal stokes the muck in those alleyways and turns what is potentially destructive into something absolutely beautiful.

This dynamic between beauty and violence in metal creates a high-wire balancing act for its practitioners. The fine line between great and not-so-great metal is excruciatingly thin. Metal that is far too self-aware, too ironic or too "intellectualized" ceases to be metal. This is why so many people within the metal scene, including myself, reject flutulent jokers like Liturgy, who use their albums as pseudo-socio-academic anthropological studies to poorly dissect and re-contextualize the question of what it means to be metal. They can rightfully rise off with that kind of needless rubbish. However, metal shouldn't be unintelligent. Wearing bison fur, sitting around a fire, screaming and banging on rocks for an hour isn't metal either. Like jazz and classical music, heavy metal requires craft, skill, discipline, proficiency and artistic integrity. A place in metal should be bled for and earned.

Striking the perfect balance between unadulterated power and musical prowess has been proven to be immensely rare. For the most part, it falls terribly short. But when does it work? Oh man, there is nothing in this world that can replicate the same feeling of great metal music,

something so simultaneously complex and innate. Iron Maiden did it with *Powerslave*. At the Gates did it with *Slaughter of the Soul*. Darkthrone did it with *Transhuman Hunger*. Celtic Frost did it with *Into the Pandemonium*. Neurosis did it with *Through Silver in Blood*. Metallica did it with their first five records. Death did it with all seven of their brilliant studio albums. As for modern metal bands, Vektor, Deafheaven and Pallbearer all come pretty damn close. But no metal band from the past twenty years has perfected the metal dichotomy quite as gloriously as Boston metalcore band Converge.

As Stereogum's Tom Breihan pointed out in his review of *The Dusk in Us*, the first time he had ever seen a person do a backflip in a moshpit was at a Converge show. Considering the several broken headphone cords that lie in my drawer, I can attest to the factuality of Breihan's observation. Converge have always been that kind of a band, a band whose stampeding, rolling blasts of pure fury demand new forms of physical expression, whether it be in the middle of one of their shows or at the comfort of one's home. For almost twenty-five years, Converge have taken aggression, pain, fear and anger and merged them into a volatile musical entity, one that is angular, precise and constantly evolving.

They began in the late 90s, with a series of off-kilter, mathematically brutal records that were solid but not the unique brand of metal we would come to later expect. Then, beginning with 2001's genre-defining *Jane Doe* and continuing all the way to 2012's monumental *All We Love We Leave Behind*, Converge released five great albums in a row, cementing their place as this generation's most consistently creative metal band. In addition to their ferocity, the band discovered groove, sludge, mood and atmosphere, experimented with dynamics, and embraced melody and clean vocals. Somehow, none of these additional elements have diluted Converge's original power. In fact, I believe they've enhanced it. Even for all the ways that Converge has changed, I still find it to be remarkable that *The Dusk in Us*, the band's ninth album and their first in five years, opens with a love song.

Opening track "A Single Tear" does not sound like a love song. If anything, it bursts like a typical Converge rager. The song launches forward with guitarist Kurt Ballou's signature dizzying riffs while bassist Nate Newton and drummer Ben Koller, one of the tightest rhythm sections in all of metal, take absolutely no prisoners, grinding the track's stance deep into the ground through its various verses and breakdowns. Lead singer and lyricist Jacob Bannon is as pained and passionate as ever, alternating seamlessly between screams of exorcism and clean vocals of tenderness. As is usual, half the lyrics are indecipherable, but taking a closer read at them reveals that "A Single Tear" is indeed about love. Not sappy romantic love, rather the all-encompassing love that emerges when becoming a parent. "When I held you first the first time, I knew I had to survive," Bannon wails, almost on the verge of tears.

The Dusk in Us is an album of great maturity, not just lyrically but instrumentally as well. The album still contains its fair share of all-out head-bangers. Koller continues to shine on tracks like the barreling "Arkhipov Galm" and the relentless "I Can Tell You About Pain,"

propelling both songs with airtight machine gun snare rolls. His drumming has only grown, now able to merge grooves into the seams of his dynamic blast beats and fills. The sludgy "Under Duress," thunders with a rumbling bassline, heavy floor toms and juicy guitar screeches, highlighting the simultaneous meanness and clarity of Ballou's production. "Trigger" continues the band's increasing proficiency in groove, leading with Newton's funkist bassline to date and a danceable double-time drumbeat.

Like any other latter-day Converge record, the album also designates space for slower, more atmospheric tracks. Penultimate track "Thousands of Miles Between Us" is developed around an uncharacteristic open chord riff and a drone-like vocal delivery from Bannon. Over four-and-a-half minutes, the song slowly builds itself up, with anthemic floor tom pounces and several crystalline guitar lines that sneak their way into the mix. It's a sweet track, arranged strongly and provides the record a tasteful respite. But the track I really want to talk about is the record's moonlit: seven-and-a-half title track, one of the best tracks Converge has ever put to tape.

The song is calm but also menacing and eerie. Clean guitars prowled carefully as waves of howling ambience linger in the background. Bannon doesn't scream all that much, instead finding expressive power in a resigned lower-register murmur, the voice of a man that has experienced the apocalypse. The track then enters sudden walls of deafening guitars, anchored by a swinging rhythm. "Our denial it speaks in tongues, there's monsters among us, and at night they come, when protectors are gone, not in waves, but in shadows," Bannon whispers, carving viscera out of the song's backlashed sonic landscape. It all ends in a dense cacophony, as Bannon finally exorcises his demons through screams, and the song erupts as if we were in the eye of a hurricane. Converge have spent many years constantly re-perfecting the perfect metal song and they've done it yet again. The emotional palpability and aggression have only been heightened, and the instrumental and compositional prowess have only grown more impressive.

The Dusk in Us closes with the monumental "Reptilian," a song that displays Bannon's penchant for simple but poetic lines of lyrical truth. "Devils do not need a hell in order to exist." "Remind reptilian me that time is not through sharpening our tested daws and teeth." "We must lose sight of the shore to know what courage means." All these lines perfectly summarize the album's ideas. It is a record of fear, of innate desires and, most importantly, of survival. As the track comes to its close, I am immediately brought back to "A Single Tear." From beginning to end, *The Dusk in Us* represents a new direction for Converge.

I think it's no coincidence that Converge have returned at such a tumultuous time. Only metal can truly capture the alarming sense of life-endangering terrors. Now with children in their arms, the dread, the fear, the monsters that Converge have yelled about for so long are no longer abstractions. They are men who roam dimly lit halls, determining the fate of our world for our children. It's a hell of a realization to have, and Converge have made a hell of a record to accompany it.

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FacultySpotlight

Christopher Matlack

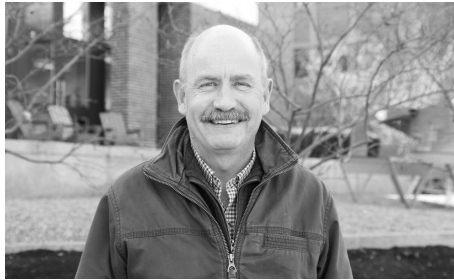
By NIKITA THUMMALA and
SHIVANI TRIPATHI
Staff Writers

Since his first day on campus, Instructor of Biology Christopher Matlack has been inspiring students' interest in the natural world. Whether students see him teaching one of his many classes, advising the Outing Club or coaching boys' junior varsity ice hockey, they cherish Matlack's enthusiasm and charismatic personality.

Matlack was born and raised in upstate New York before receiving his undergraduate degree at the University of Vermont. Then, he volunteered for the Peace Corps in Africa as a biologist before going to Canada to attain his MSC degree. He taught for a year at the Academy in 1984 while Biology Instructor Richard Aaronian was on sabbatical leave. After his one year appointment ended, he taught at the Hadley School for four years before returning to the Academy in 1989 to assume a permanent position as a biology instructor.

At the Academy, Matlack has been teaching introductory biology, ecology, ornithology and advanced biology for thirty years. One of his heroes is Charles Darwin, the English naturalist, geologist and biologist best known for generating the theory of evolution. His other hero is Aldo Leopold, an American ecologist. "All my heroes have the same haircut," he joked.

Matlack said that spending time with students outside the classroom is



Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

one of his favorite parts about life at Exeter, as he believes it creates stronger bonds between students and faculty.

"Most faculty members are living with the kids and running dorms," he said. "That's what makes this faculty unique—we're living with you for a period of time."

Another aspect of Exeter life Matlack loves is how modest the students are. "Exeter kids don't call attention to themselves," he said. "They are so humble." He praised the faculty for emulating this same quality, describing humbleness as "the culture I love about this place."

Matlack is known as an adventurer, partly due to his love of the outdoors. As a result, he has led many student and alumni trips all over the world. Places

he has visited include Costa Rica, the Galapagos and the Amazon.

Matlack also played a part in obtaining and assembling the massive whale skeleton that hangs in the atrium of Pheps Science Center. The building's architect had originally wanted to place a dinosaur skeleton in the area, but the teachers of the department were unable to get one. After a whale carcass washed up on the shore of Eastham, MA, the biology instructors had a new idea. "Chisholm calls me up at ten o'clock Friday night and says, 'We're going to miss class tomorrow. We're going to go down and get a whale,'" said Matlack, reflecting fondly on the experience.

With the help of two students, Matlack, Chisholm and Aaronian

traveled to the shore, dissected the whale, and ended up being allowed to keep it for the school. Three months later, once all the flesh had decomposed, ornithology students cleaned the bones that make up the structure that hangs in the atrium today.

Matlack also helps to manage the Exeter summer school. He has intermittently taught introductory biology, advanced biology, and ecology to students during the five-week session since 1991. "Lab work and Harkness are the two things the students don't really get other places as much, so those are the two things we try to focus on," Matlack said.

Students appreciate Matlack's teaching methods and warm personality at the Harkness table. "He made the class enjoyable, in the sense that it wasn't just throwing around information," lower JILL Cloonan said. "He wanted us to be able to discuss it in depth. I really enjoyed him as a person," Cloonan added. "He's warm and easy to be around."

Throughout his thirty years at Exeter, Matlack has not only been an exceptional instructor, but a beloved member of the Exeter community. Lower Alphonso Bradham described Matlack as kind and perceptive. "Throughout the term, his jokes, his analogies and the comradery of the class created a wonderful environment," Bradham said. "He always does his best to make sure that everyone understands the problem at hand and will go out of his way to make sure everyone is comfortable."

HOROSCOPES

By LAUREN LEATHAM and
ALEXANDRA VAN DIJKUM
Columnists

Aries: Speak now, Aries. Uranus is moving through your third house of communications, creating the opportunity for good conversation. With the term coming to a close, now is the best time to say what's on your mind and get things off your chest.

Taurus: This is the final stretch of the term, Taurus! This is your week to make all the power moves. With Mars continuing to move through your sign, be bold and power through the last week of school.

Gemini: Focus on self-love this week, Gemini. The weeks leading up to finals have been extremely stressful for you, and this week the sun stays in your sign. When you aren't studying for finals, take the time to relax and focus on yourself.

Cancer: This is the week to hunker down and hit the books, Cancer. Venus is in your house of work, creating the ideal study conditions for you. This weekend will be the easiest time to focus on your schoolwork and get stuff done, so take advantage of it!

Leo: Stay present this week, Leo. The moon is continuing to move through your sign and is affecting your house of time. While finals are rapidly approaching, all you can think about is Thanksgiving break and all the sleep you're going to get. Focus on taking things day by day.

Virgo: Mars is in your sign this week, greatly increasing your sociability this weekend. Take this time to initiate a study-party for finals or to take a small break from the books with your friends. Either way, try to incorporate your friends into your plans.

Libra: This will be your week, Libra! You are almost at the end of the term, and you have worked so hard to get this far. You'll end the term strong and with good fun, too! Your life will be all about balance this week, but since you're good at balancing, it'll be easier than you think.

Scorpio: You can make it through, Scorpio. Finals won't be easy, but if you keep putting in work, it will pay off. It will be difficult for you to stay focused this last week, but being focused will be the key to your success.

Sagittarius: It's almost Thanksgiving, Sagittarius! To help you through your days spent in the library, think about the Thanksgiving feast and upcoming time with your family. Better yet, if you have some free time, get the Thanksgiving sandwich from Green Bean.

Capricorn: Eye on the prize, Capricorn. Don't let anything distract you from your finals. Put all of your effort into your assignments, and feel proud of the work you've put in this term. If you focus on your finals right now, you will have a very successful end to the term.

Aquarius: You've worked hard, Aquarius, so now take some time to reconnect with friends before heading home. Talk with people you haven't seen during this busy term, because it's never too late to rekindle or make new friendships.

Pisces: Don't stress yourself out too much, Pisces. Finals are scary, but you've prepared all term. Study hard, but allow yourself some breaks. Take the time to enjoy the end of the term amid your study sessions.

EXONIAN ENCOUNTER

By MAI HOANG and
PAUL JAMES
Staff Writers

On Sunday, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, in conjunction with Exonian Encounter—a club dedicated to shedding light on the racial, socioeconomic and cultural differences on campus—held an event called "Othered" to open discussion on the East and Southeast-Asian experience in America. Student and faculty panelists shared their own experiences and onlookers asked questions to gain a broader perspective on the struggles their fellow students face. A description of the event written by Exonian Encounter members stated its purpose: "We hope participants will leave with a better understanding of the challenges of this racial minority in America, a desire to create inclusion for a diversity of experiences in conversations about racism, and a critical awareness of systems in play in the formation of narratives around any group."

Among the main topics of discussion were college admissions and affirmative action for Asian students, standards for Asian beauty, racism in daily lives, the model minority myth and how Asians fit in to the American racial dynamic. The model minority myth perpetuates the idea that Asian Americans are all successful, high-achieving and highly educated.

Upper Adrian Kyle Venzon, who helped plan the event and acted as a panelist, discussion mediator and speaker, said, "A big part of the event was the question of whether Asian-identifying students are included in the

umbrella term, 'people of color.'" The focused discussion proved insightful for many students during the two-hour period. "I had several people tell me after that they learned a lot, and that they had wanted an event like this for a long time," Venzon said. He also praised its success in laying bare some of the issues that concern Asian students at Exeter.

Some Asian Exonians feel that events such as this one are necessary to make them feel included in the discussion surrounding race on campus. Senior Sophia Zu said that Exeter should have more dialogue around the many different types of Asian-American identity. "So many schools, including Exeter, have at least a quarter, if not more of their students, who identify as Asian, so they definitely are not as catered-to as a minority," said Zu. "They're not the minority that schools like PEA have in mind when they're talking about people of color."

Venzon reflected on moments when Asian students are left out of racial discussions. "Students feel silenced and unable to contribute to the discussion," he said. Upper Elizabeth Madamidola, a member of Exonian Encounter, agreed, "It was interesting to hear the Asian perspective on being an American of color. Asian voices often go unrecognized in discussions of race." But at this event, students felt comfortable sharing their own experiences and asking questions.

Venzon said he thinks the event will have positive effects on the future. "My hope is that students will be more mindful about their Asian peers' experiences in their conversations."

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The 5 Types of Preps at Dances

By MAEGAN PAUL
Dancing in the Rain

1. The Confused - You can find this prep frantically looking around for a familiar face as they get jostled in the middle of the mosh pit. You might even hear a faint cry for help if you listen close enough. They probably alternate between being in the middle of the mosh pit and going to the snack table while texting their friends.

2. The Aspiring Upperclassmen - This prep voluntarily goes in the middle of the dance circles during most of the songs. This person also tries to grind on the upperclassmen and infiltrate their friend groups as they dance. You can find them hovering around really tall people or known seniors like the Red Bandits.

3. The Antisocial Extrovert - Like the confused prep, they float between the snacks and mosh pit, but this is all intentional. They want to have fun, but are unsure if they can handle being around everyone else. Surely everyone at PEA is looking at that prep and will judge their dancing abilities, so it's better for them to just hide behind their friends or people who happen to be in their dorm.

4. The Snack Bar Raider - Every time you go out for water, they are standing by the table. They say that they just aren't "feeling this song" but have been outside for the whole dance. Sometimes they actually walk into Grainger, but as soon as they see another group of preps, they join them in eating the gummy worms and Oreos.

5. The Hard Working Exonian - This prep is not even at the dance. They are in Agora or their room doing homework to maintain a GPA of Pass for all of their classes this term. They will probably ask their roommate how the dance was and say that they were "swamped" in homework. Once winter term comes around, they will be even more stressed than during the fall and the mere idea of going to a dance will be an atrocity to them. You can find them in the library pretty much any time that it is open.

The 5 Types of Uppers

By ABBY ZHANG
She Knows

1. The Glow Up - Came into prep year looking like a two year old goblin child and now they definitely don't look like that anymore and it's just super confusing for everyone! We all know one of these kids.

2. The Mean Teen Caffeine Machine - One cup of coffee = 45 minutes of sleep, yes? That is, coffee black and strong, of course. (Boy, those jokes sure aren't getting old!) Has probably used up half of D-Hall's supply of disposable cups. Buys lukewarm Grill coffee at 8pm. Hasn't slept since lower fall.

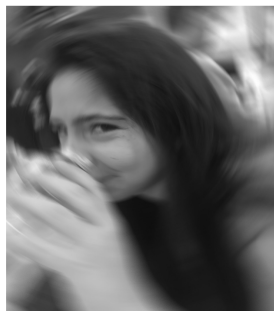
3. The New Cohead - This kid has worked harder in their club than all of those bees in "Bee Movie" (2007) combined, until recently, when they became cohead. Now they barely exist. I wonder why.

4. The 3 Year Prep - Even though this upper has been at Exeter for three years, they somehow still never know what's going on. They relate to Alex the Geologist a lot in the sense that they're always lost, probably thirsty (teenagers, am I right?), and most importantly they're super incompetent even though it's literally the same solution every single time.

5. THE upper - Always sees the glass as half empty, but hey, it could be emptier! Catch them throwing two lonely spinach leaves over a plate of waffle fries at dinner. Don't worry, that'll make sure they won't die at age 20. (They'll die at 21 instead)

TFW It's Over

By THE HUMOR EDITORS
Engaging Politician Enthusiasts



Do you have dorm funds to spend?

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Email exonianhumor@gmail.com.

Humor Page Superlatives

By THE HUMOR EDITORS (AND CHIEF)
With a Little Help from Our Friends

Disclaimer: There was not enough room in the actual superlative section, so this is just a truthful extension from your humor editors.

Most likely to ghostwrite your next speech: Harry Saunders

Best hype man: Jamie Cassidy

Most likely to use the color name "Nantucket Red": Michael Bamah

Most likely to summer on a yacht: Chloe Scociimara

Most likely to give unsolicited boy advice: Pa Sukhum

Fly voyeur extraordinaire: Sagar Rao

Most likely to accidentally join a drug cartel: Danielle Apple

Most likely to ask if they can get a superlative despite the fact that they have already graduated: Sara Michaels

Most likely to be the next Tommy Song: Oren Stern

Most non sibi: Menat Bahnsay

Most likely to tie for most likely to hug a tree: Molly Canfield and Willa Canfield (Tie)

Most likely to edit this article while drinking kombucha: Emily Pelliccia

Most accurate name: Joy Zhang

Most likely to be a strict but fair teacher: Sophia Zu

Most likely to become a kindly capitalist: Will Soltas

Kindest eyebrows: Meg Bolan

Most likely to inadvertently become an internet meme: Claire Jutabha

Most likely to refuse a superlative given to him: Pedro Sanson

Most likely to laugh at an impression of Mr. Jebari: Mariam Jebari

Most likely to argue with you in the debate group chat: Daniel Li

Least likely to argue with you in the debate group chat: Grace Huang

Most likely to be broadly and generally pleasant: Savannah Roth

Most likely to exchange subtle looks of discontent during Contemporary Middle East: Emily Pelliccia

Most likely to run a laundry service: Cody Nunn

Most likely to donate a building and spell their own name wrong: Jacqui Byrne

Most likely to be a co-CEO: Jackson Parrell

Most likely to disappear for a year and come back with a goat: Erica Hogan

Class clown runner up's runner up: Cedric Blaise

Most likely to be smarter than you but you're not even mad about it: Athena Stenor

Most likely to run a for-profit: Pedro Sanson

Most likely to be the next Dan Brown: Teddy Scott

Most likely to sue *The Exonian* for this article: Theo Jaffrey

Most likely to be the next Stephen Colbert: Billy O'Handley

Best cuddler: Jack Baker

Most likely to preach in favor of ab-

stinence: Ian Johnson

Most likely to run a farm: Winslow MacDonald

Most likely to ask what your favorite cloud shape is: Lauren Maguire

Most breakups with a single person: Michaela McCarthy

Most likely to claim he's a senior: Sebastian Bango

Most likely to get into an argument about not being a Harkness Warrior: Greg Miller

Most likely to crush himself with the bar while benching: Carson Fleming

Most likely to crush the bar: Jonathan Chen

Most bathroom mirror selfies: Mila deGuere

Most likely to let you know that they're on the football team: Wyatt Foster

Most likely to tell you about how she's in her bag: Lara Galligani

Most likely to define the relationship: Avery Giles

Most likely to drown a pet rock: Tim Han

Most likely to nag you about about photo creds: Chiara Perotti Correa

Most likely to get a ball kicked at them during a soccer game: Kevin Lyskawa

Most likely to peak prep year: Taylor Walsh

Most likely to skip assembly to read the Bible: Oge Ezekwenna

Most likely to wear a man bun and call it "style": Cameron Najafi

OMSA Announces Major Budget Cuts to Their Funding; In Other News, PEA Administration Spends \$20,200 on Kilts to Create a "More Inclusive Community on Campus"

By NICK SONG
None of this is true, but it feels true

Earlier this term, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs announced severe cuts to their funding. OMSA's funds are typically used to fund activities organized by the numerous student affinity groups such as ALES, LAL, and the newly established Asian Voice Club.

In response the Administra-

tion responded by stating that the purchase of the occasional Large Pepperoni Front-Row pizza totaled to an exorbitant amount of money.

On a completely separate note the PEA Administration announced their plan to allow all Seniors to wear kilts for fall EA

as well as the purchasing of nearly 20,200 dollars on new kilts. This move was done in order to create a "more inclusive community on campus" and to "discourage people on campus from feeling safe." Rosanna Salcedo, the former Dean of Multicultural Affairs, declined to comment on this issue.

Unnamed Dean Shows Up at Exeter Police Department Asking To Be ASAPed

By BILLY O'HANDLEY
Wanted to go Anonymous

This past Tuesday, an anonymous Dean at the newsworthy high school Phillips Exeter Academy showed up at the local police department and asked for an

ASAP. The dean was quoted as saying "Okay, I did it! I'm not in trouble anymore!" before sending *The New York Times* an email reading "You have to delete the ar-

ticle now, I ASAPed myself." This unnamed dean also gave him- or herself stricts, saying "that's the punishment that the crime deserved."

We need friends. Add us on social media. [@billyfromcilley](https://twitter.com/billyfromcilley), [@green_beans](https://twitter.com/green_beans) or [@senorblaise](https://twitter.com/senorblaise) on Snapchat.

[@ced_blaise](https://www.instagram.com/ced_blaise) and [@green2000](https://www.instagram.com/green2000) on Insta. DM us a funny joke or zesty meme.

Or just DM us ;)



ExonianHumor

Intellectual Ways Exonians Can Use Leftover Turkey This Thanksgiving

By EMILY GREEN
Turkey Enthusiast

1. Use it to go bowling. Make the legs be pins. Make the body the ball.
2. Feed it to the pigeons.
3. Nevermind, that's feeding a bird to a bird. Feed it to a prep.
4. Play tug-of-war with the thighs.
5. Put it in a blender, then bathe in it.
6. Stick your feet in the hole parts. Do this with two turkeys to get a stylish pair of winter boots for the upcoming holiday season.
7. Chuck it at people whilst Black Friday shopping. You can't beat me to that refrigerator if you're dead. (Foul play?)
8. Use the skin as wrapping paper. #reduce-reuse-recycle
9. Pull the body over your head. Mmm, toasty hat.
10. Use the drumsticks to literally drum.

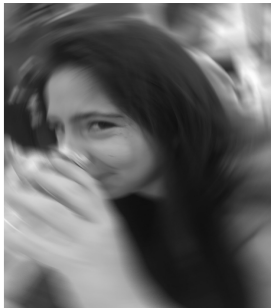
Things to Argue With Your Family Over Thanksgiving

By BILLY O'HANDLEY and EMILY GREEN
Fans of Beef

1. Those Gosh-darned liberals.
2. Whether humor is a realistic pursuit.
3. God's opinion on abortion.
4. Where grandma currently is.
5. Whether or not you need to marry a nice Jewish boy/girl.
6. Why can't your school win a gosh-darned football game?
7. Whether getting press in The New York Times is a "good thing."
8. Thanksgiving: fun with family, or a celebration of genocide?

TFW You're Mid Humor Page, Getting into Your Writing Stroke, Just About to Finish a Page, and Chief Pulls Up and Tells You You're Doing Two Pages so You Get Ready for Round 2

By THE HUMOR EDITORS
yuh dat way



Do you have dorm funds to spend?
Submit to the Humor Page.
Email exonianhumor@gmail.com.

Roy Moore Defends Himself at a Rally in Alabama

By BILLY O'HANDLEY
Southern Gentleman

"Hello Everyone! Thank you, thank you! Thank y'all so much for your support!"
"Lady and Gentlemen. I stand here today wrongly accused by the godforsaken and godless members of the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, and everyone else without God-given Christian values. Let me just say that I love the Bible and its teachings. I mean Mary was a teenager when he had Jesus Christ. And at this point, God was around 3000 years old. If nobody's talking about that

2987-year age gap, then why do people care about that 18-year age gap between me and that 14 year old? Isn't there some sort of rule about age gap anyway? Take your age, cut it in half, add seven, then use your position of power to take advantage of little girls!"

And let me just address my supposed racism, islamophobia, and homophobia: I love all people. They touch me deep down. But some people touch me more than others. As they say on the Titanic, women and children first, am I

right?"
"No, the real evildoers are the demipublicans accusing me of these terrible acts. There is no proof that I sexually harassed teenagers under the age of 16. Is there proof that I sexually harassed teenagers OVER the age of 16? Does it really matter? But more importantly, would the founder of the charity 'the Foundation for Moral Law' do something as terrible as this?"

An Email from Principal MacFarlane

By BILLY O'HANDLEY
GOOD EVENING EXONIANS

Subject: EVERYTHING IS FINE THERE IS NOTHING TO SEE HERE

HELLO STUDENT BODY! WELL, WHAT A NORMAL WEEK THAT WE ARE HAVING AT THIS MOMENT. THERE SEEMS

TO BE NOTHING WRONG AT ALL, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF THE ADMINISTRATION. ISN'T THE WEATHER PERFECT TODAY? YOU KNOW, IS IT WEIRD IF I ASK ALL OF YOU TO AVOID THE NEW YORK TIMES FOR A COUPLE DAYS? WHY? OH, NO

REASON. WELL, I GOTTA GO BACK TO MY NORMAL JOB AT THIS NORMAL SCHOOL.

YOURS TRULY,
P MAC

Quote of the Year: "This Year Can't Get Any Worse..." -PEA Varisty Football Team, Exeter Deans, Hollywood, Entire Country of the United States of America

Who Would Win?

By EMILY GREEN
Sad Reacts Only :(

WHO WOULD WIN?

the entire Phillips Exeter Academy varsity football team



some smurfybois



Quote of the Week

"They may be the narcs, but I'm the narcoleptic."
-Sebastian Bango '18 19

We need friends. Add us on social media. @billyfromcilley, @green_beans or @senorblaise on Snapchat. @ced_blaise and @egreen2000 on Insta. DM us a funny joke or zesty meme. Or just DM us :)

Wopo Whips PA, Places 2nd Overall

By ROSE HOROWITZ
Staff Writer

Exeter's water polo season culminated with the team taking second place at Interschols, triumphing in its first game against Phillips Academy Andover before falling to the Brunswick School in the finals. The tournament was held at Brunswick, and in the first game Big Red scored eleven goals to Andover's three. In the second match, Exeter scored six goals to Brunswick's fifteen.

Although the players were disappointed not to win a title, Big Red's strong record shows the team-members' determination and improvement over the course of the season.

According to upper Troy Marrero, the captains, seniors Taylor Walsh, Jamie Cassidy and Jackson Parell, were essential in helping the team maintain this determination. "They really wanted to win and never gave up," Marrero said.

The players showcased their enthusiasm in the match against Andover. Senior Will Soltas said that during the Andover game, "We played some of the best defense that we had ever played as a team." Big Red stopped Andover from scoring any goals for the first three quarters in the game before lowering their intensity in preparation for the championship match.

Marrero credited Soltas, the team's goalie, for strong play in the net that helped the team to maintain its lead. "Will Soltas, the whole tournament, was a stone wall," Marrero said. The combination of Exeter's strong press defense and Soltas' solid goalkeeping kept Andover off of the scoreboard until the fourth quarter.

Soltas' skillful play earned him the tie for Goalie of the Tournament, sharing the award with the Brunswick goalie. Taylor Walsh and Jamie Cassidy also received awards at the Liquid Four tournament, both winning the NEPSAC All Tournament Award. The two seniors combined scored eight of Exeter's



Senior and co-captain Jamie Cassidy loads up for a shot.

Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

eleven goals in the Andover game. Milo Walsh said, "All the seniors had huge impacts on both playoff games."

According to Marrero, the team fought hard in its second match against Brunswick. "The championship game was certainly a tough one, but we couldn't get it done," Marrero said. Although the team was unable to triumph in its final game, the match highlighted Exeter's strengths and helped the team learn areas to improve upon next year.

Milo Walsh explained, "Our team's best strength is our ability to adapt mid-game to different tactics used by opponents. If one of our players is being shut down, someone else will quickly step up."

Along with the team's strength in adapting to unforeseen challenges, the players credit their team dynamic with contributing to their successful season. Marrero said, "I will never forget this season." He added, "Without the team we had, we wouldn't have been nearly

as successful."

Soltas agreed that the close friendships between players contributed to the team's strong record, and added that being a member of the water polo team has improved his time at Exeter. "Everyone is so friendly, so driven, so genuine, it's hard not to feel included and valued on the team," Soltas said. "The seniors, with their sense of humor and work ethic, have become some of my closest friends and I wouldn't give them up for anything."

Boys' XC Takes 4th at Interschols

By JO DE LA BRUEYRE
Contributing Writer

With three minutes to go before the start of the New England boys' cross country championship race, held this year at Choate Rosemary Hall, prep Varun Oberai couldn't get his warm-up pants off. His teammates surrounded him. They offered words of encouragement and tried, in vain, to help as Oberai struggled. "It felt like an eternity," said senior and co-captain Grayson Derossi. "But finally, he was ready. We laced up our shoes and walked to the line, our spikes crunching on the asphalt. Most teams already toed the line; their singlets billowed in the cold breeze. We packed into starting box five, huddled up, and stared into each other's eyes. Each of us reached out a hand. 'ACHE TE VITU!' The air resonated with our chant. Then, silence. It was time for the greatest test we'd ever take; the biggest race we'd ever run."

The gun went off. As he has for the entirety of the season, lower Will Coogan led Exeter's squad. Upper Charlie Neuhaus and preps Connor Chen, Croix Mikofsky and Oberai followed him in hot pursuit. Through the first mile, that pack remained together and dominant. Watching from the sidelines, upper Jimmy Liu described one of the more beautiful moments of the race: "Varun leaned over to Connor as they passed the first mile neck and neck. 'Speed is, in my not-so-humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic, capable of both influencing injury and remedying it.' Connor glanced over, his breath uneven. He stared deep into Varun's eyes; the brown orbs glistened under the strain of the five-minute mile. He suddenly felt a wave of emotion, and whispered: 'Ah,

speed. A magic beyond all we do here.' As they raced together, pushing forwards, they spoke in synchronized monotony—'come on, let's finish this the way we started: together!'"

And they did. Coogan sprinted into the chute to claim an impressive sixth place. Behind him, Chen, Neuhaus, Oberai, and Mikofsky, respectively, all finished within fifteen seconds of each other—no small feat in a five-kilometer race with hundreds of competitors. In the end, though, Exeter's pack proved inadequate. The team finished a distant fourth, with 120 points to first-place Andover's 71.

The boys claimed their only victory of the day in the junior varsity race. But that victory was a commanding one; seven of the top ten finishers ran for Big Red. And Exeter scored a near-perfect 21 points—the second place team, St. Paul's, racked up exactly 100.

At first glance, the results of the day seemed a disappointing end to a season of high hopes. But members—past and present—of Exeter boys' cross country made very clear that they felt only one emotion: pride.

Atticus Stonestrom '17, last year's New England prep school cross country champion, journeyed from Oxford to watch his team race. "Seeing the sweat-stained singlets and the knit-browed agony in every Exeter face that crested the final hill, I knew that no one was going to leave the race without having given up a part of themselves to it—to the course, to their competitors and, above all, to their teammates," he said. "This, this blood sacrifice, made me as proud as I've ever been."

The season has now officially come to a close. But according to Neuhaus, Exeter boys' cross country takes no time off. "Ache te vitu. All day, every day. All year, every year. Forever."



A pack of Exeter runners grinds through the race.

Gavin Hickey/The Exonian



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GOOD LUCK TO
ALL OF THE EXETER
ATHLETES TRYING
OUT FOR WINTER
SPORTS TEAMS.
Go BIG RED!

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: GRAYSON DEROSI

By SARAH RYU
JARED ZHANG
Staff Writers

Senior and co-captain Grayson Derossi's cross country career has been defined by perseverance and resilience. Currently the fastest 1500m runner in the school and one of the top seven runners for the team this year, Derossi began running during spring track of his prep year. Originally intending to be a jumper, Derossi was accidentally placed into the distance running group and decided to go with it. Lower fall, Derossi tried out for the cross country team for the first time. However, he was cut from the team. Despite the setback, Derossi continued to train and improve through club running, winter and spring track. His hard work and dedication paid off his upper year, when he not only made the team but was elected as a co-captain. Now as a senior, Derossi continues to lead the 35 members of the cross country team in his final season.

Derossi credits former teammates Cam Corso '17 and Issay Matsumoto '17 as being two of his "biggest motivators." The senior recalls Corso encouraging him to start running during his prep year and expressed his gratitude for Corso's encouragement. Derossi also explained that he has looked up to Matsumoto, who always pushed him to be better. The captain also expressed his appreciation of the cross country coaches. "They always believed in me, even when I didn't believe in myself, and are the heart of our XC program," he explained.

Since joining his upper year, Derossi has become a leader of the tight knit cross country team. Derossi's familiarity with the team comes naturally after being a part of the distance group during track seasons. "I already knew most of the team because of my seasons on the track team," he said. "More than anything, joining the cross country team felt like a natural continuation of my seasons running distance track."

He continued to emphasize the team's close dynamic. "Boy's XC is a cult, and we like it that way," he said. "I love how close our team is; all of us are connected by a bond forged through adventure and pain." Derossi also discussed how the team's traditions makes them closer. "We have many proud traditions that we pass on year after year which make our team unique and



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

bring us all closer together," he explained, citing the team's catchphrase, "Ache te vito," as an example.

Derossi recalled a memory that illustrates the team's atmosphere. "Last year, the team ran to the beach for one practice," he explained. "It was about ten miles away, and the whole time, even though we were moving at a pretty good pace, we were talking, laughing, and just enjoying each others' company."

As a captain, Derossi tries to serve as a role model for everyone on the team. "I strive to provide support and inspiration for all the guys, especially our younger runners," he said. Despite being on the quieter side, Derossi asks his teammates how their days were and how the races went.

"I want everyone to feel welcome, and to understand that they are all important members of the team and part of a really tight community," he said.

Teammate and senior Greg Zhu described Derossi to as a supportive and dedicated leader. "He's a student athlete at

heart, always grinding. He's compassionate, attentive, hard-working and, most of all, he's a total badass," he said. "It's really hard to encompass how amazing Grayson really is."

Other teammates expressed similar views. Upper Charlie Neuhaus explained that Derossi had a "soft-spoken but commanding presence." "Grayson leads by example. While he isn't strict or authoritative, most people tend to follow his lead, getting work done in practice, and competing against other teams in races," he said.

At the recent Interschols competition, Derossi exemplified what it meant to be a captain and an athlete with grit. Liu explained that despite the difficult course, Derossi was really smart about how he could be successful. "Though Derossi is on the quieter side, he really leads with his feet and not with his voice. As he was running down the hill during the race, it was just the most intense face of anger and showed how much he wanted to catch up with the people ahead of him," he said.

According to Derossi, he hopes to en-

courage his teammates to fall in love with cross country and with the team just like he did. "I hope that I can also encourage them to keep running in the future and to continue upholding the values and traditions that make our team so incredible. In short, I hope to be a mentor and a friend to the team, just as the runners who graduated before me," he said.

Derossi plans to continue running once he graduates from Exeter, as the sport has become a big part of his life. Though he doesn't plan to run as part of a college team, he hopes to keep training on his own through a club or even compete in local races. Derossi expressed his bittersweet sentiments in leaving the team, since the team itself was one of the best parts of the sport. "The group of guys on the team, both those who have graduated and those running now, are the biggest reason I love the sport and our program. They have made my time as a runner and as an Exonian so much more meaningful, and I will miss them greatly," he said.

Girls' Soccer Draws 1-1 with Andover

By JARED ZHANG
Staff Writer

On Saturday morning, the girls' varsity soccer team hosted Andover in its final game of the season. Following a heated matchup, the two teams tied, with a final score of 1-1. Despite a tough season, the team (nicknamed "Soxie") ended the season with a strong performance and completes the season with a record of 2-12-2.

On the previous Wednesday, the team traveled to play against the New Hampton School. Led by a goal from lower Abby Smith, Big Red defeated New Hampton 1-0. As a result of this win, the team was fired up and inspired going into E/A weekend. Upper Juliana Merullo explained that Andover has a strong team and is "better than us on paper" but the win proved to the team that it had the "talent and ability to beat Andover."

Senior and co-captain Anna Reaman explained that the team prepared for the unique conditions of the game on Saturday. "We were expecting cold weather on Saturday so we really pushed ourselves to practice on Friday when it was also freezing," she said.

Merullo also explained that the team prepared itself to play on the turf field of Phelps Stadium rather than the grass fields it has played on all season. "We also [practiced] on the turf field, instead of our regular grass field in order to get used to how the ball moves," she explained.

Reaman also pointed out the team's other preparations. "We made sure to get to bed early, stay warm, visualized our game plan and had a team breakfast to pump each other up."

As the opening act of the E/A day schedule, Soxie started the day off with a bang. The team's intensity and excitement were evident as soon as the game started. Within the first ten minutes of the game, Smith maneuvered around multiple defenders before scoring the first goal of the game. Exeter held that 1-0 advantage throughout the first half and part of the second half. However, Andover's offense was able to tie the game up near the end of the game. Big Red stormed back in the



Lower Abby Smith surveys the pitch for a pass.

JaQ Lai/The Exonian

final minutes with multiple offensive endeavors, however it was unable to regain the lead, ending the game in a 1-1 draw.

Despite not securing the win they were looking for, members of the team still expressed their satisfaction in how the game played out. Smith praised the team for the energy its brought to the game. "Everybody was playing with aggression and speed," she said. "Our communication was also better." Merullo agreed with Smith and also highlighted the defense and midfield players' performances. "Our defense did a great job on closing down on any possible one-on-one runners, and our midfield was awesome

at intercepting passes," she explained.

Members of Soxie also emphasized how the environment of the E/A game affected their game play. Merullo expressed her appreciation for the spirit and support from the home crowd. "From the first minutes, I loved the atmosphere, with the Red Bandits pumping up the crowd. It was so great right after Abby scored when our section of fans went wild, and they started chanting." Smith also explained that the energy of the game was far greater than its other games of the season. "There was more adrenaline, so everybody played with more intensity," she said.

After concluding the season, Soxie reflected upon its final game and the overall season. Merullo discussed the potential of the team next season. "Even though we all wanted to win, for us to tie against a good team like Andover really just shows the talent we have and the promise we have for next season," she said. Reaman also addressed her confidence in the team to improve in the future. "We might not have finished with a great record, but day in and day out we put in a lot of work and shared a lot of great laughs," she said. "I'm excited to see how the team will improve in the coming years."



ExonianSports



Girls' XC Finishes 3rd at Interschols

By JOHN BECKERLE
Staff Writer

Unlike many other teams on campus, Big Red Girls' Cross Country did not host Andover this past weekend. Instead, the girls, led by captains seniors Sara Kopunova and Jo de La Bruyere, traveled to Choate Rosemary Hall for Interschols—a race between the numerous New England preparatory schools.

Interschols was the team's second race at Choate this season. Uppers Ashley Lin and Grace Gray finished in the top two at the Choate Invitational, which was the team's first meet of the year.

Since first racing at Choate just after preseason ended, the team built an impressive resume—finishing sixth overall at the Codfish Bowl and defeating Northfield Mount Hermon, the Brooks School and St. Paul's School in head to head meets by no less than 19-point margins.

The team, however, dropped two meets to Deerfield Academy and Phillips Academy Andover to finish with a 3-2 dual meet record.

At Interschols, Deerfield and Andover edged out Big Red, who placed 3rd overall. Lin and Gray both finished in the top twenty runners, qualifying as NEPSA All-Star runners, and will race at one more meet this coming Saturday.

Many runners on the team were proud of the team's performance at Choate. "I think the team ran as well as it could. Everyone ran with love, and many people PR'd. We are all very happy with how we placed," Kopunova said.

Upper Hanna Pak also felt that the team competed as well as it could given the strength of its opponents. "I think there may have been a small chance at beating Andover, but we did lose to both Andover and Deerfield in our meets against them," she said, adding that the girls were up against very



Upper Alexandra Van Dijkum sprints toward the finish line.

Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

talented opponents. "Deerfield got some really fast new runner this year, so I think given the circumstances, we did the best we could."

Kopunova, who just finished her last season on the Girls' Cross Country team, expressed her sadness about moving on. "I will miss running [cross country] so much. Overall, this season was incredible for the team and that's all that matters," she said.

Some people on the team appreciated the experience on the team more than a

first place finish. "I'm eternally thankful for whatever we have created together as girls cross country, so that each and every one of us are able to run for the sake of each other. What we have is really special," senior Anna Clark said.

Similarly to Kopunova, Clark reminisced on her past years with the team. "Cross country has been such a wonderful source of positivity and support for me for past four years and I'm going to miss this

team so much."

Moving into next year, the team has great potential with JV runners like upper Gabby Allen and lower Madison Machado who finished top two at JV Interschols, propelling the JV team to a first place finish overall.

Pak expressed immense excitement for the future of the team. "I absolutely can't wait for next year," she said. "We have a group of extremely dedicated girls so next year is sure to be amazing."

Weekend Scoreboard

Girls' Soccer	1	Field Hockey	2	Water Polo	11 6
Andover	1	Andover	3	Andover Brunswick	3 15
Boys' Soccer	1	Girls' Volleyball	3	Football	14
Andover	0	Andover	0	Andover	17

Football Falls to Andover 14-17

By BELLA ALVAREZ
Staff Writer

After a close battle, fighting strong until the final buzzer went off, varsity football lost by a mere 3 point margin to Andover on Exeter/Andover weekend, with a score of 14-17.

Although the team didn't win, post-graduate Alex Gladu reflected positively on the match. "Overall, the game was incredible. Both teams gave everything they had, and there's nothing else you could want to end the year," he said. "We gave them all they could handle, and they squeaked out with a win. We came up just short, but I'm proud of my guys for the unreal effort to end the game."

Upper Neil Daily echoed these same sentiments. "We did poorly in the first half, but in the locker room we talked about it and got a lot of energy and motivation—we really pulled together in the second half," he explained. Daily cited Head Coach Robert Morris' halftime pep talk as an inspiring way to start out the last two quarters. "Coach said the alums were very proud; these were alums who'd been on the team around 20 years ago and came back to watch us play," Daily said.

Members of the team acknowledged the prowess and strength of their rivals. Lower Ervin Williams, describing Andover as a "great opponent," said, "I think they came prepared and ready to battle; their linemen were strong, but some of their movements were slow," Daily and

Gladu commended the opposing team's quarterback. "The quarterback was very good and shifty," Daily said. "He was a good safety too. He was probably their star player." Gladu felt that both teams had an equal chance when stepping onto the field. "Overall, we couldn't have been much more evenly matched, and the score reflected that," he explained.

During the final 30 minutes of the game, Exeter managed to score two touchdowns, accumulating 14 points. "There were highlights every drive, as most games of this magnitude consist of," Gladu said, highlighting senior and captain Wyatt Foster's "huge fumble" on the one yard line, which was quickly picked up by prep Owen McKiernan. He further emphasized "[Postgraduate] Charlie Dalape's pick to give us a shot to win at the end," and cited senior and captain Abel Ngala's incredible catch, which led to a rushing touchdown by senior and quarterback Jake Calnan. "The play of both offensive and defensive lines was huge, led by [senior and captain] Nick Swift, who really carried the load upfront," Gladu continued. Daily also praised postgraduate Samson Dubé's effort during the entire game. "Samson was beastly as always," Daily said. "He just comes out there and grinds."

Dubé was proud of the way the season ended. "It was awesome to end our season with this game," he said. "Even though we were unable to get the win, everyone really came together and left

everything they had on the field." Daily also acknowledged that the match against Andover seemed to be the "best half of football that the team played in the whole season," and hopes to continue with this momentum next year.

For Gladu, the bittersweet end of the season made him grateful to have been a member of the team and to take part

in its traditions. "It was great to see the team rally the way we did in front of our crowd. The effort we gave was fantastic and I couldn't be prouder of my boys," he said. "A lot of these kids turned into men over the course of the year, and I'm happy to have been there to see it. It's an amazing rivalry, and I'm very thank to have been apart of it."



Postgraduate Jake Calnan slings a pass.

Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Inside This Week's Sports Section

Boys' Water Polo



The boys' water polo team placed second at Liquid Four Interschols last weekend. Read more on B6.

Chaira Perotti Correa/The Exonian

Boys' Cross Country



Boys' XC raced at Choate for Interschols on Saturday. The varsity team finished fourth and JV won. More on B6.

Garvin Hickey/The Exonian

Athlete of the Week



Boys' cross country co-captain Grayson Derossi led this years team to a great season. Read more about Grayson on B7.

Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Girls' Soccer



Soxie demolished Andover on Saturday but the game finished in a 1-1 tie. Read about the team's final game on B7.

JaQ Lai/The Exonian