



Assembly Hall Alterations to Be Considered

By DON ASSAMONGKOL and ROSE HOROWITZ
Staff Writers

The faces of past headmasters and notable alumni—predominantly white males—cover the walls of Exeter's Assembly Hall. But that could soon change. At opening assembly, Principal MacFarlane alluded to her intentions to modify this gathering space to better represent the current Exeter community. "One symbol of the work of building our future together is to change this place," she said.

In her speech, MacFarlane said that the hall's walls do not reflect the diverse community that Exeter embodies today, and over the course of the 2017-2018 school year, she will be working to facilitate discussions about how to revitalize the Assembly Hall in a thoughtful and purposeful way. These conversations will occur alongside a variety of steps taken by the school to build cultural competence as a community.

MacFarlane's comments come as the nation reconciles with issues of race and how best to represent its past. Communities across the nation have been pondering the removal of Confederate statues and how to strike the delicate balance of honoring figures from the past while also recognizing what they stood for. Some educational institutions, including the University of Texas at Austin, have taken action by removing statues of figures such as Confederate General Robert E. Lee, while others have vehemently claimed them as part of their history. Perhaps the most memorable manifestation of these tensions is the fatal protest that took place in Charlottesville, Virginia this past summer.

During a break in the opening of school meetings, a faculty member brought up that there had previously been talk of changing the portraits to more accurately reflect the current Exeter community. According to Science Instructor Francis Johnson, a group of



EAR members rock out at club night.

Chiara Perotti/The Exonian

think Principal MacFarlane did, of the history of it. But I can also see the value of making it more reflective of our current population."

Head of the Academy Archives and Special Collections Peter Nelson said that the portraits were either presented as alumni gifts to the academy or commissioned by the school over a long period of time. "Of course, this is part of an academic tradition that goes back centuries—the idea of honoring those who came before us who are deemed important in the founding or sustaining of the institution," he said. Nelson said he does not know how the decisions are made as to which portraits stay on the walls.

In her speech, MacFarlane said, "I look around this place and I really honor my predecessors. I so deeply appreciate the Exeter that they've built." However,

living predecessors. Thus, he supports removing some of the paintings from the walls, but hopes to see an intentional process in deciding on the changes. Golay said about the portraits, "We should probably know more about these people than we do, rather than just take their portraits down and replace them with something else."

He advocated for identifying which portrait subjects had particularly important effects on Exeter and using that as criteria to decide which paintings to remove. "I think we should do an inventory of who's up there, and make decisions about who ought to stay to preserve the history and culture of the school," Golay said.

MacFarlane expressed similar hopes for the school to undergo a thoughtful process in deciding on how to update

ASSEMBLY HALL CHANGES, A2

Students Face Harassment in Town of Exeter

By GRACE CAROLL and MAI HOANG
Staff Writers

From groups of girls being yelled at while walking down Water St. to accounts of a white pickup truck harassing students on Front Street, Academy students have reported stories of slurs, names and catcalls hurled at them on the streets of Exeter.

"I've personally experienced catcalling in the town of Exeter but very rarely on the actual Exeter campus," said senior Jacqueline Byrne. "Unfortunately, I think in Exeter it is somewhat of a common occurrence."

"Usually it's not anything particularly obscene but just people making rude and loud noises," senior Milena DeGuerre said of the harassment. "It's often a group of young guys with their friends. I'll walk around town a few times a week and hear something."

Senior Molly Canfield noted the feelings of discomfort or surprise that come from being harassed on the streets. "In my two years at Exeter, catcalling has always been an issue," she said. "When walking to Lexie's or D Squared [Java], it was always a bit shocking when you were catcalled."

Canfield also mentioned that, from her personal experience, the severity and frequency of such harassment dramatically increased after President Trump's election last November. "After the election, catcalling became a frequent occurrence," she said. "The calls changed from creepy but harmless to shouts of genuine rage. Local men driving by in pickup trucks felt empowered."

Campus Safety Officer Paul Gravel also noted that Campus Safety had observed a rise in the number of hostile encounters between Exonians and members of the town. Gravel attributed this increase to the fact that Court Street had just been closed off, leading to an increase in pedestrian traffic through Front Street. "Just last week I got four reports and two phone calls from Exeter residents about issues at crossroads," said Gravel. The majority of such incidents simply stemmed from students

CATCALLING, A3

New Residents Adjust to All-Gender Dorms

By EMILY CLOONAN and SARAH RYU
Staff Writers

Exeter's first gender-inclusive housing option has officially gone into effect with the start of the 2017-2018 school year in Williams House and Kirtland House. The school worked on the housing option following years of discussion and the creation of a faculty task force with the intent of meeting the needs of all students regardless of their gender expression, gender identity, sex or sexual orientation. The dorms have already proved successful in creating a comfortable and welcoming residential environment.

English Instructor and Kirtland House Dormitory Head Courtney Marshall enjoys the close knit community. "Everybody really goes far to make the space warm and cozy. It really feels like a place to relax and rejuvenate after a long day," she said.

Senior and current resident of Williams House Michael Garcia also praised the positive atmosphere, and added that the all-gender house feels bigger than just a place where people who identify with different genders live together. "Since it is currently such an interesting time for Exeter and our country in terms of the political climate, living in the dorm has been incredibly



Seniors in Will House spend the night jamming out.

Miles Mikosky/The Exonian

fulfilling in the sense that I sometimes feel as though I'm doing something bigger than myself. We're not just living together; we're leading the way for Exonians to begin to deconstruct their preconceptions regarding gender, sex and sexuality," he said.

Garcia believed that the faculty were instrumental in creating a positive and healthy culture that functions as a welcoming space for residents. "By the faculty acknowledging that they don't know everything there is to know about gender, they enabled an open dialogue to be created so people feel comfortable learning more about gender and about themselves," he said.

Residents of the dorm also acknowledged the aspects of the dorm that feel new, such as the visitations policy or gender-inclusive language. In order to

create a comfortable dorm environment, both faculty and students acknowledged that they all had more to learn regarding race and gender.

Senior and current resident of Williams House Maya Kim discussed the great opportunity to learn brought by the chance to live in the house. "I love living in a space that has such good representation among genders. We have some great conversations that we would probably not have otherwise," she said.

Despite how different both Kirtland House and Williams House may seem from the rest of the dorms on campus, the atmosphere and unity that makes a dorm a dorm is clearly still present. Cam Speck, proctor and current resident of Williams House, noted that his favorite part would be that "in many

ALL-GENDER HOUSING, A3

Scheduling Shifts Cause Confusion

By PAUL JAMES, MAK ORAFIDIYA and RACHEL WON
Staff Writers

The beginning of the fall term brought an unusual amount of scheduling confusion to many students, new and old, at the Academy. While some of the pandemonium could be attributed to the usual last-minute changes, much of the unexpected reshuffling was a result of students that requested a GH-format sports option. As a result, some classes will have to deal with unusually low or high numbers of students, changing the Harkness experience. Many students whose schedules were affected began their first few days acclimating to one class dynamic and then switching to a new and different one.

The main source of confusion was the school's policies on requesting specific formats for sports options or other activities. According to Brooks Moriarty, Dean of Studies and Academic Affairs, the school has clear, faculty-approved policies that "do not allow students to make format requests." The Sports Opt language in the courses of instruction makes it clear that students cannot request GH free." Nevertheless, the athletics department compiled a list of 105 student names designated for a GH opt, allowing these winter term athletes to practice with their sports teams during the fall. Also, some students signed up for GH sports with no intention of trying out, thus forcing a different activity or

SCHEDULING MISHAPS, A2

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ESSO Interest Night and Club Night took place last weekend. A3.

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Senior Sara Kopunova, captain of the girls cross country team, is the athlete of the week. B5.

WEB



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Scheduling Miscommunications Disrupt First Week of Classes

Continued from SCHEDULING MISHAPS, A1

free into their GH formats. "If we need to change policies, then we need to get together and change them together and not try to find ways to work around them behind the scenes," Moriarty added.

The new Registrar, Sarah Herrick, "correctly followed school policy when building the schedule and did not accommodate these requests." Herrick soon learned that these requests had been accommodated in the past, however, and began making changes to the schedule, though 16 students were left without the opt they requested.

Upper Michaela O'Brien requested a GH opt after talking to her hockey coach. "My request was granted although it was a bit tough to get GH just because I was in an H format Astronomy class and it was hard to switch astronomy to another format with my schedule," O'Brien said. Upper Chiara Christie explained her reasons for changing the schedule, saying, "I was hoping for GH because it is the most convenient time to work out. I

believe that it was granted to me when the [scheduler] decided to grant it to everyone who originally asked for it."

Moriarty attributes these requests to "the interest of students in specializing in an activity or pursuing a particular passion." He added that requesting specific format sport options "is most visible in athletics." He suggested this pressure also comes from other activities, such as theatre, dance, music and community service, and seems to grow each year.

Senior Gabby Gabel requested a GH opt to be able to meet with her tennis instructor off campus. "Ultimately, after several times of going back and forth and meeting with administration, it was not granted to me, even after eight boys on the hockey team got their opts changed to GH." Her rejection provoked suspicions of favoritism and sexism regarding sports opting. "I definitely think that favoritism was at play and I really hope that in the future girl athletes on this campus will be treated with fairness when it comes to these things," she added.

The scheduling conflict has also

created confusion for students about which classes they are in. Lower Phoebe Weil found herself caught in a dilemma when her schedule repeatedly made new alterations. "My classes on Canvas and OLS were changing, making it very difficult for me to know which class I had to go to next and which homework assignment to complete," she said. Lower Jack Liu explained his adjustment to a math class consisting of 15 students. "One thing I have noticed in the case of math is that with this class size, there are often too few problems assigned for everyone to present at least one in class," he said. "People generally double up on one or two problems when this happens." However, he noted the large class number isn't too detrimental to the learning experience. "I don't think it's a huge issue, but it maybe makes it slightly harder for students who arrive to class later to participate in presentation," he said.

Lower Caroline Fleming said that in one of her classes, "We can't have discussions because there are too few people to share ideas, and two or three people

are talking the whole time." Lower Sam Chang added that in his classes consisting of 15 students, "the distribution of speaking is scattered." Moriarty agreed, saying, "Too many students or too few undercuts the whole premise of student-driven collaborative learning."

During the first day of short classes, Moriarty gathered along with Ms. Herrick, Dean Wolff and Assistant Principal Lassey, to address the imbalance across many classes. Eric Bergofsky, Chair of the Math Department, helped frame the problem and gave his input as an Instructor. The faculty decided to follow the current policies, which don't allow for special format requests. Going forward, Moriarty acknowledged that, "Our current policies may be in need of revision so that they serve students well. We need to think more carefully as a faculty about how our schedule or how our 'use' of the schedule acknowledges our students' desire to pursue a passion." Until the faculty decide whether or not to revise current policies, the Academy will continue to follow the current guidelines and work on an interim solution.

MacFarlane Calls on Exeter to Rethink Assembly Hall Space

Continued from ASSEMBLY HALL CHANGES, A1

the Assembly Hall. "I would like us to be deliberate and thoughtful about creating a space that embodies Exeter's values of inclusion and belonging, that celebrates the excellence that can only come when diverse perspectives and experiences come together—that is a way of living Harkness in our surroundings," MacFarlane said.

She added that the changes would take place over the course of the 2017-2018 school year, and that Exonians would have the opportunity to deliberate before the school would make changes. "In good Exeter fashion, I look forward to a process for thinking, talking and listening—and then acting," she said.

Math Instructor Joe Wolfson agreed that a committee should decide on the wall decorations, but added that keeping the portraits on the wall could show students how the Academy has increased diversity since it was founded. Wolfson witnessed a student look at the portraits and say, "Hey, all you old white guys, look who's here now!"

Reverend Heidi Heath was pleased to hear that Exeter was exploring the option of changing the Assembly Hall walls. "As we seek ways to live more fully into diversity and inclusion, it is important that we understand the myriad ways white supremacy and systemic racism can manifest itself in both visible and hidden ways at PEA," she said. "That is acutely true in the only space that is large enough to hold the entire community for public conversation. This is an important step to fully living into the community we seek to be."

Upper Bella Hillman hopes that all members of the Exeter community will be able to take part in the decision-making process. "I think it should be a mix of students and faculty that decide on what to do, because both groups go to the Assembly Hall all of the time, and the photos portray who we all look up to in the caste of Exeter."

Hillman added that she enjoys being able to see Exeter's past concretely represented by portraits in the Assembly Hall. She said about the portrait subjects, "I think they were all important to the past of Exeter because they all influenced how we got to where we are today. I think that instead of taking them down, we can add more to show how our school has grown over the years." Hillman hopes that by adding more portraits to the Assembly Hall, Exeter can demonstrate a more inclusive history. She said, "We will be showing that there are many different faces to Exonian greatness."

Lower Carsten Bressel also emphasized the importance of an open dialogue. "Those former alumni and principals are there because they've contributed in an important way to Exeter. Their lineage shows the continuity of this institution," he said. "They are the bedrock of Exeter, and each portrait shows just how far we've come. We should only take them down after thorough discussions."

Nelson believes that the Assembly Hall portrait gallery is Exeter's attempt to express its respect and gratitude to its predecessors. "PEA doesn't just exist because of us here today," he said. "We have a long line of forebears to thank: people like our founder, John Phillips; Edward Harkness, one of our major benefactors and key influencers of our curriculum



Portraits of important figures in the Academy's history adorn assembly hall

even today. Benjamin Abbot, the first principal, Kendra Stearns O'Donnell, a principal who accomplished a lot for Exeter and Dolores Kendrick, a gifted poet and masterful teacher who was also PEA's first emerita faculty member."

Although Nelson thinks the portraits are on the walls to honor Exeter's influencers, he added that the school should reconsider which paintings hang in the Assembly Hall. "PEA was a different place in 1800 vs. 1900 vs. 2017. We wouldn't knowingly put an outdated periodic table on our chemistry classroom wall, or a map showing East Germany and the USSR on our history classroom

wall, when that's no longer what we know to be 'true,' he said. "In the same way, it's healthy to periodically inspect the ethos behind the pictures we hang in the Assembly Hall." MacFarlane spoke of her goal of creating a hall that represents both the whole community and the school's aspirations of moving towards a more inclusive future. "It should reflect symbolically who we are today, and especially should reflect and include the students of today," she said. "Everyone at our school should feel themselves to be a part of Exeter and its history, a part of Exeter and its future."

Students and Faculty Share Ideas on Assembly Hall Changes

By 139th LOWER BOARD
Staff Writers

"When I think of the Assembly Hall, I think of both the collection of students and faculty who today and over time have sat in that space, will sit there in the future. I also think of the variety of viewpoints and the types of speakers that we have on that stage every week. Whatever is on those walls in the future, I hope that it captures the vibrancy of the students, the faculty and staff in the room, and what is generated on that stage."
- History Instructor Meg Foley

"My personal opinion is that they [the portraits] shouldn't be removed at all. The portraits showcase the history of Exeter, and aren't meant to represent the community now. Even if they weren't racially diverse, that doesn't undermine their achievements in maintaining and building upon an establishment as historically rooted as Exeter."
- Lower Orion Bloomfield

"History and tradition are an integral part of Exeter. These portraits represent those who made Exeter what it is today. Change is necessary if it betters the lives of students on campus, but with dozens more pressing issues and no real rationale behind this plan, taking down the portraits seems like a meaningless gesture."
- Senior Pradyum Dayal

"I want to see something that shows Exeter's value of youth from every quarter, since one of the best things this school has to offer is a peer group full of diverse backgrounds."
- Upper Lizzie Madamidola

"I don't see why we are changing the portraits. I think we should keep them. I just don't understand what the need to change the portraits is."
- Senior Amanda Sherwood

"I think one of the biggest objections to replacing the Assembly Hall portraits is that Exonians are afraid that we will be erasing our history. But the fact that the Academy still stands today is a testament of our strong tradition. It's time to represent our current, diverse community more accurately in the place that current Exonians most often gather. I would mount new pictures of alumni that have changed Exeter for the better."
- Upper Ariane Avandi

"I feel like the people on the walls of assembly hall should be more representative of the current student body. Since it's changed dramatically since those portraits were put up, I think it has been due time to change and include more time, women, and diversity. Who exactly is hard to pick, but I think it is an important change that needs to be considered through hard work and discussion."
- Upper Elizabeth Yang

"I think the portraits should be replaced by pictures of people who have influenced today's Exeter community, whether they are notable alumni or Assembly speakers or even current students."
- Prep Gabi Shetreet

"I'm not sure I have very strong opinions about this. Here's an idea, though—maybe photos of recent graduates and some quotes from them, sort of like Rachel Luo's senior project. Those photos could reflect the Exeter of today, and our hopes for the Exeter of the future, rather than portraits that reflect Exeter of the past (which, let's face it, was entangled with the racism, sexism and injustice of the past). Photos of recent grads could reflect the world that Exeter, hopefully, will be a part of creating. That's just an idea to throw out there!"
- History Instructor Betty Luther-Hillman



Seniors Katie Lee and Eero Korpea and upper Catherine Griffin eagerly tell upper Yazmina Abukhadra about their club. Chiara Perotti/The Exonian

Students Crowd Club Interest Nights

By ZAC FENG, SUAN LEE
and ANDREA LIU
Staff Writers

fter a busy week adjusting to new classes and fresh faces, new and returning Exonians had the chance to explore the wide range of extracurricular opportunities offered by Exeter at the ESSO interest night and Club Night. Over 200 booths filled Grainger Auditorium this past weekend as excited cohorts frantically waved signs, handed out fistfuls of candy, collected email addresses and advertised their clubs, ranging from ESSO Quidditch to Model United Nations.

ESSO Interest Night was held on Friday evening and showcased the 56 student-run social service clubs under the Exeter Student Service Organization (ESSO) umbrella this year. "There are a lot of people who want to help, but they don't know how," upper Matt Kang, who spent the evening promoting ESSO Beach Clean Up, said. "ESSO Interest Night is a great way to show people what opportunities are out there."

From serving the homeless in the Salvation Army to teaching local children how to swim, ESSO allows every Exonian to make an impact in both the local and global community. "It's so easy to get sucked into the grind of going to classes and doing homework. I think it's because of our busy schedules that we should take the time to look beyond ourselves. ESSO is there to remind us that we're really, really lucky and that there's always more we can do to give back," upper and ESSO board member Jenny Yang said.

The ESSO board employed a new

method of organizing student signups this year. Instead of registering for the full year, students were asked to make their club selections for the term. This was done through an online form, as opposed to previous years when students had to sign up for ESSO clubs at Interest Night, causing many to join more clubs than they had time to attend. "It's really good to go, meet people and see what the clubs are about, but it gets a little chaotic when you're signing up for so many," upper Caitlin McGinty commented. "I didn't want to say I was going to do something and have to pull out at the last minute. The electronic signups definitely made it very easy." Upper Peter Tuchler, a co-head of ESSO Swimming Buddies, agreed, saying that the event "ran as smoothly as possible."

The remaining 157 non-social service clubs on campus were displayed the following evening. New lower Justin Li expressed his excitement about his first Exeter Club Night. "I think it's so cool to see how many clubs there are at Exeter and how different each and every one is," he commented. He described the atmosphere to be "a little bit overwhelming," however, and believed the night could have been more successful if different grades had attended at different times to reduce the noise level and the number of people overcrowding the room.

Senior Jamie Demopoulos believed some adjustments could be made to the spacing of club booths in Grainger Auditorium as well. "I suggest that they don't put clubs behind the fish tank. I think a few clubs struggled with sign ups because people didn't know to go back there," he said, elaborating on how

the placement of a booth could affect a club's success at Club Night.

In spite of these suggestions, Demopoulos voiced his praise of the event, saying Club Night was "very well organized this year." Getting involved in numerous clubs across numerous fields is an essential part of the Exeter experience for many Exonians, and the vast number of people and clubs at the event as well as its festive atmosphere served as a clear testimony of this.

Several Exonians expressed their appreciation for the diverse offerings. "I usually try to walk around to all of the tables. I make sure to sign up for clubs that I did last year, but I also look for new clubs to join," Demopoulos said. McGinty noted that her extracurricular commitments had reconnected her with old passions whilst also introducing her to new ones. "A lot of my friends have been in dance groups in the past like Imani and Precision and I've always wanted to try some of them," she commented. "And EAR was playing a song that I used to play when I was younger with my old group. I knew I had to go for it."

Senior Chi-Chi Ikepezu detailed the many benefits of being involved in clubs at Exeter. "I participate in clubs because I know I'll get to do something I'm interested in during the week, bond with club mates, and meet Exonians with whom I wouldn't have otherwise interacted," she said. "Aside from enhancing college applications, Exonians should make time for clubs because they can get your mind off of school work and, since there are so many here, you're bound to find at least two that interest you."

Addiction to Video Games Harms Some

By DON ASSAMONGKOL
and JOHN BECKERLE
Staff Writers

Exeter's rigor inside and outside the classroom places students under heavy amounts of stress. Many students play video games with dorm mates and friends as a way to relax at the end of a hard week. But for some Exeter students, an enjoyable hobby can turn into an obsession detrimental to their education and social life.

One of the school's four on-site counselors, Dr. Christopher Thurber, said that he sees about one or two students a term who struggle with video games. "Addiction is classified through medical literature as when a person is continuing some behavior despite its having a significant negative effect on their social functioning, emotional functioning, or vocational functioning—in the case of students, vocational functioning is how you're performing academically," Thurber said.

Dean of Student Health and Wellness William Coole believes that video games can be helpful to people in general, not just students. "There's a significant positive aspect to gaming. It helps people focus well on specific tasks, there's problem-solving involved and it produces in us a hyper sense of involvement in a task which is always positive," he said. "Anything that trains us to be present in a singular task is good."

Thurber agreed that video games can be important for Exonians. "The stressful nature of this [Exeter's] environment, and the way that you're engaging your brain throughout the day in classes is different [than it might be off-campus]. We all need time to play, and video games are one convenient way to play especially after check-in," he said.

Upper Payton Gulliford said that gaming provides much needed stress relief. "Exeter can be really stressful especially towards the end of the term, and it's during those times that gaming can afford us a breather," he said.

However, video games can certainly pose a problem if left unchecked. "It can go wrong, and that's when people get deep into it and they don't want to socialize or get their homework done because of it," Coole said. He added that this can be a larger problem at Exeter than at other schools. "If you take an hour out of an Exeter student's life, that's a large chunk of time. You can barely find time to eat and socialize and study. The potential is there for it to be much more disruptive."

VIDEO GAMES, A6

Students Experience Catcalling while Crossing Streets

Continued from CATCALLING, A1

not making eye contact with drivers. "There was an incident where a student crossed on a bicycle in front of traffic, and a driver barely missed him. The driver was very irritated."

Despite the frequency of such incidents, students often ignore or overlook the verbal harassment. "Sadly it's just one of those things people accept," Byrne said. "And it's not only women who are harassed—while more frequently at night than in the day, I've been with guy friends who have slurs yelled at them."

Gravel believed that catcalling and harassment are frequent occurrences in Exeter despite the small number of official reports made. "We have seen reports—and I would like to hear more of them come through—of obscenities being yelled from windows or racially-motivated verbal attacks. We document every one of those and send to Exeter Police Department (EPD)," he said.

Officer Bruce Page, the Problem-Oriented Police officer at the EPD, agreed with Gravel. "We welcome any reports," he said. "We won't tolerate them in this town—we want Exeter to be a safe place for everybody to live in."

Page added that overall, Exeter has one of the lowest crime rates and most active police departments in the state. When reports are filed with Campus Safety, according to Gravel, the date and

time of the incident, severity of the incident, and any information on the driver or the car is passed onto the EPD. Gravel noted that most reports are made either by faculty members or students' advisors.

He also encouraged any students who have experienced harassment in Exeter to file reports with Campus Safety, adding that a report filed by two summer school students this past summer resulted in the arrest and charging of the harassers. "Everyone should report, even when there is not enough information," he stressed. "We don't know but the Police Department might keep track of other cases with similar descriptions, they can piece two and two together."

Officer Page mentioned a previous incident of racist comments being made to an African American faculty member, who managed to get a description of the harasser. Page assisted the faculty member in tracking down the suspect, and when she declined to press charges, he hand-delivered a letter she wrote to the suspect. Additionally, after several complaints were made about a specific vehicle that repeatedly catcalled students, the EPD was able to make an arrest. The suspect was charged with disorderly conduct, which in New Hampshire can result in up to a \$1,000 fine or a year in jail.

However, many Exeter students still felt that little could be done to prevent such instances from happening. "I

think people have such good relationships and experiences with the locals of Exeter and with the people on campus that it is sometimes something that is overlooked," said Byrne. "And people in general are catcalled pretty often, so it's not something that everyone constantly discusses."

Senior Ben Harrison, co-head of the Feminist Union, felt that there was little the school could do to address the issue of catcalling, even with students on campus. "The school can do mandatory meetings, but having something school-enforced doesn't really grab the attention of people who need it," he said. "The most effective thing would be just having groups of friends talk about it."

Given the fact that most reported incidents stem from people not a part of the Exeter community, Gravel acknowledged that Campus Safety also had difficulty ensuring total protection for the student body. Although he had recently increased Campus Safety patrolling at crossroads during peak times, because the Academy is "an open campus with major roads that run through," Gravel said that it's "virtually impossible" to track the people who come in and out.

Still, DeGuere—who is a co-head of Exonians Against Sexual Assault (EASA)—felt that catcalling and harassment are facets of an overall unhealthy culture, and are therefore worth addressing. "It's those little things that happen everyday that we don't think

about that tip the scale, and it says something about the culture," she said. "If you break down someone's humanity and self worth from the start eventually you're left with someone who doesn't feel comfortable saying no."

However, aside from raising student awareness, DeGuere agreed that there was little concrete action the Academy could take. "Most Exonians would not catcall each other especially not on campus," she said, "but we should still have more discussions about this and some of those discussions may end up back in the homes of people around town."

In the same vein, Gravel noted that the best thing members of the Exeter community could do is to be aware. "We should get the message to students that catcalling does happen, and they need to be careful and courteous," he said. Gravel also added that being mindful at crossroads would help, as some drivers might be in a stressful situation trying to commute to their destination in time. According to him, stopping, crossing as a group, waving and a little smile or a thank you can greatly deescalate the situation and improve relations between Academy students and Exeter drivers.

"I'm not saying that the fact that a driver sitting in traffic condones anything that he says, that's just ignorant," Gravel said. "But we can police ourselves to decrease the amount of negativity between interactions between students and people in town."

Kirtland, Williams House Pioneer New Type of Housing

Continued from ALL-GENDER HOUSING, A1

aspects it's the same as any other dorm." He added, "Everyone is friendly and respectful which contributes to our own unique type of atmosphere."

Both houses have also implemented a different visitations policy from

other dorms across campus, a topic surrounded with lots of discussion from both faculty and students. Under the current policy for the two dorms, people of all gender identities and expressions are allowed to visit the resident's room as long as the door is open. English Instructor and dorm head of Williams House Christina Breen said that there

have not been any issues with the new visitations policy.

The all-gender housing program has been a great change not only for the residents but also for the community. Despite the changes, residents are enthusiastic about the new housing option. To continue to ensure that all students are comfortable on campus, Breen and

Marshall will be developing a curriculum for the student body throughout the year regarding gender identity. The curriculum kicked off with the opening of the newest art exhibit "Queer Kids" in the Lamont Art Gallery this past Friday, and according to Breen, there will be "several speakers throughout the year and a spring symposium."

The Catastrophe of the Venezuelan Welfare System

Mai Hoang '20
Columnist

Welfare. A benevolent system that redistributes wealth, brings much-needed resources to the poor and decreases social inequality. A useful tool that fetches much political capital for any aspiring leader. Yet, as President Nicolas Maduro, heir of a Venezuelan economy crippled by 14 years of overspending found out, welfare is no longer working in his country. After 14 years of being carefully provided for by a semi-communist government rich on crude oil exports, the poor of Venezuela are now lacking basic necessities like food and medicine. And for anyone who read the news, turned on the radio or watched television over the summer, it is clear that they are not happy. Protests have been erupting everywhere in Caracas since Feb. 2014, when a university student was nearly raped on the campus of her own school. Though the opposition has been mostly peaceful, employing tactics such as sit-ins and strikes, the authoritarian government unsurprisingly responds with abuse, detentions and firearms. Accusations from Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the United Nations remain neglected.

It is only getting worse. Concerned about his fragile hold on power, President Maduro

had his Supreme Tribunal Court of Justice take over the National Assembly, which was mainly composed of opposition leaders. Although the decision was reversed only three days later, public dissent escalated throughout the month, and culminated in the president calling for the formation of a Constitutional Assembly, supposedly to increase democracy and pacify protesters. The people's trust in Maduro, however, had been forfeited; the Constitutional Assembly was seen as nothing but another platform for government cronies to exercise power.

It is fair to say that socialism, or more particularly the South American branch of government outreach, is not bound to fail.

Yet only five years ago, the very same nation was hailed as not only an example of sound democracy, but of stellar economic growth in South America. Venezuela has always been a country rich in natural resources, but income inequality was a big problem until the socialist Hugo Chavez became president. In one decade, he managed to double the national GDP and half infant mortality as well as poverty rate. The former president also decreed that the state-owned PDVSA (Petroleum of Venezuela)

must spend 10 percent of its annual investment budget on social programs and food subsidies.

In catering to the poor, though, Hugo Chavez demonstrated his myopic view of the economy: during the president's prime half of the state income came from oil revenue, and Venezuela's foreign trade became wholly dependent on one sole commodity, petroleum. But that was not all. Chavez heavily borrowed from foreign countries, especially socialist pals Russia and China, so that by the early 2010s, Venezuela owed the former nearly \$50 billion and the latter, five billion. He also decided to fix the price for everyday commodities including food items like corn, making them affordable for the poor yet unprofitable for anyone who grew them. Eventually, this disincentivized local farmers, and the country turned to importing agricultural products that could have easily been grown at home.

Whenever critics try to point to Chavismo socialism as the culprit of the Venezuelan crisis though, they are most certainly faced with backlash from those who believe the problem was with Venezuela's leader, and not the socialist system he operated or the ideology itself. The most oft-mentioned foil to the situation in this country is that of Bolivia, another socialist South American state that is definitely on the rise. Run by socialists since 2006, Bolivia sees a booming economy, with the highest regional growth rate of five percent and government surpluses for ten years straight. In the capital,

La Paz, entrepreneurs set up small to mid-sized businesses in their living spaces, supported by an effective banking system; shortages of basic commodities are basically unheard of. In a unique move away from what is popularly considered leftist extremism, the Bolivian president Evo Morales refuses to take total control of foreign oil and gas fields to manipulate the financing of social programs, instead choosing to obtain only some portions of their profits. His government also steers clear away from overspending, hence the estimated trade surplus of more than \$1 billion.

It is fair to say that socialism, or more particularly the South American branch of government outreach, is not bound to fail. As the case of Bolivia demonstrates, if the leader and their advisers are people with good intentions and a working sense of finance, the state can undergo major, long-lasting developments that benefit large sections of the population without ruining the country's economy. Yet the question remains—how can anyone ensure that such leaders are the ones in power? In a system where too few people paternalistically decide what is good for "the populace," there is a shortage of self-correcting mechanisms in case things do go wrong. Capitalism, imperfect as it is, generally lends itself to correction more easily, as the market, or more accurately, the people who participate in the market, exercise power upon the economy and their representative government.

Boycotting the NFL

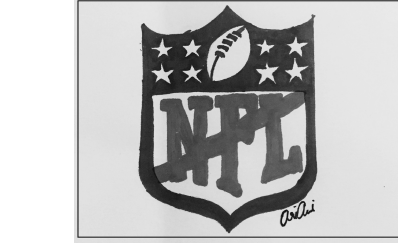
Andrea So '20
Columnist

This may sound like a ridiculous idea, but hear me out.

Watching the NFL is a uniquely American pastime. Whether you're a fan who watches games religiously and supports a team or someone who stops to watch a game for a bit while flipping channels on a Sunday afternoon, the professional sports league is ubiquitous and appeals to many. It'd be near impossible to find an American who hasn't watched a NFL game. It's also an integral part of American culture—people gather at tailgates before games, and many fans have long-standing traditions. It's ingrained into the collective American psyche.

Those reasons are precisely why we should be boycotting it.

The 49ers' first preseason game on Aug. 14, 2016 was the first time quarterback Colin Kaepernick refused to stand for the national anthem. By the third game, he was garnering media attention for his decision to sit instead of stand. A few days after the game, Kaepernick explained to the media that he was making the conscious decision to sit during the national anthem in order to stand up for oppressed people, and that while he had "great respect for the men



and women that have fought for this country," he pointed out that he had born witness to circumstances where veterans had been subject to injustice in the country that they fought for. He ultimately could not stand for a country whose values did not reflect what the flag was supposed to represent.

Instead of respecting Kaepernick's freedom and tribute to the oppressed, the NFL decided to punish him. According to The Undeclared, Colin Kaepernick may never play in an NFL game again. The Seattle Seahawks recently passed on him and instead decided to sign Austin Davis,

who didn't appear in any games last season. Kaepernick may not be the best quarterback, but he is far from the worst. With NFL fans, sports commentators, the media and even President Trump weighing in on the matter, it's not hard to understand why no team wants to sign Kaepernick. However, it's ironic that the people who speak out the most about freedom as an inherent right and American value are also the ones who want to persecute Kaepernick for exercising his freedom to do what he wants—in this case, it was shining a light on serious social issues that are often swept under the rug.

Boycotting the NFL is already gaining traction. Endorsed by public figures such as Shaun King, the boycott is proving effective, with first week ratings down 13 percent from last season. To be fair, other factors may also play a role in this decline, but this movement is undeniably a big reason. Because the NFL is so popular, its revenues surpass tens of billions of dollars every year. To watch NFL games is to agree with their actions and help them profit off your viewership.

With its tolerance and willful blindness toward domestic violence and punishment of players who stand up to injustice, the NFL should not be such an influential part of American culture. Their roster includes players who have committed domestic abuse, assault and even murder, allegedly, who still aren't shut out of games, whether directly or indirectly. We shouldn't boycott the NFL forever—we should just do it until they are willing to correct their history of injustice.

My old history teacher once told me a phrase that I've never stopped thinking about since. "If everyone in the world who say they hate war actually sat down and protested it, do you think there'd be any wars?" Public opinion actually has more influence than we think, especially in a democracy like America. Our actions actually matter and can help cause change. Like Kaepernick, now is the time to stand up for what we believe in and give a voice to the voiceless.

Radically Personalizing Medical Treatment

Shaan Bhandarkar '19
Guest Contributor

It's no secret that life-saving drugs can be especially costly. Despite their irrevocable communal benefit, the drugs' profits can be high enough to entice those who produce them. After all, it's only been a couple of days after Martin Shkreli, infamous as the "pharma bro" for hiking the price of Daraprim by over a factor of 50, was convicted and sent to jail. Over the summer, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advocated for the screening and consequent removal of fraudulent cancer treatments which cheat patients of their lives for profit. In the wake of the recent string of such unfortunate events, individualized treatment has been considered a tenable solution. According to the FDA, gene therapy, which has manifested as the face of this revolution, has now become a reality in the clinical world.

This past month, CAR T-cell gene therapy, a cutting-edge treatment developed by Novartis, has become the first gene therapy to be approved by the FDA. Widely

commended by the scientific community, this therapy identified as KYMRIAH offers the embodiment of individualized treatment by keying in on the specific needs of one patient. As more and more of these personalized treatment regimens pop up, we have to consider if these treatments are really tenable options.

Most certainly, one of the biggest arguments promoting individualized treatment out there is the clinical benefits. As we've seen time and time again since the Human Genome Project, we all have unique genetic profiles. On paper, the ideal form of recovery would be to tailor a certain genetic therapy to be able to cleanly match such a profile. However, as the opposition to genetic therapy will argue, it's not as easy as it sounds. Genetic therapy has actually been heralded as indispensable tool for clinics ever since the conclusion of the Human Genome Project. However, a notorious clinical trial in 2000, where a three year old boy with severe combined immunodeficiency unfortunately contracted leukemia, caused gene therapy to be maligned for almost two decades. In this particular case, the genetic therapy did indeed cure the boy of his the unfortunate unwanted side-effect of tampering with genes intricately

linked to leukemia, always a major risk in such therapies. But, it's not 2000 anymore: in 2017, CRISPR-mediated gene editing has even made it to the classroom setting in some high schools across the nation. Due to the specificity of this treatment, CRISPR has truly been an asset to properly target the genetic profile as unique to each patient. In the broader context of individualized treatment, we have a great many tools now that should ensure that off-target effects can no longer diminish the vaunted positive effects of the treatments.

One common misconception about individualized treatment is that it will inherently increase costs to treat everyone. In implementation, to the contrary, individualized treatment can actually be much cheaper in the long-term. As much as the clinical world hates to admit it, medicine can sometimes be trial and error. In a majority of cases, clinicians have to consistently check-in with the patient to see the effect of a single drug week after week and may accordingly change the dosage of that drug or even prescribe another one. The "individualized" aspect of the approach comes too late and makes for a haphazard approach that proves

to waste too much time and money. Instead, individualized treatment advocates envision to first genetically profile a patient and then prescribe biologics, therapeutic agents informed by profiling.

So, isn't the question of individualized treatment a no-brainer? Surely, individualized treatment promises the best of both worlds: clinical and economical benefits. It's unfortunately not that simple. The problem is that there is some merit to the economic argument that individualized treatment may be more costlier. Up front, a small demand for drugs or biologics will be accompanied by high prices for those therapeutic agents. Of course, that's where price control for drugs should come into the picture, but there's no guarantee there. The other likely option is that other companies will compete and lower the exorbitant prices as long as more demand comes from more clinics that embrace the concept of individualized treatment, which is rather easily achievable by FDA endorsement. Despite the economic gamble, with the right vigilance and action, individualized treatment can materialize into an esteemed asset for a variety of therapeutic regimens in the clinical setting.

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The Westernization of the Ukraine



WORLD COMPASS
Mark Blekherman
Senior Columnist

In his speech to the United Nations Security Council on Wednesday, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko urged the UN to dispatch a peacekeeping operation to Donbass, a region mired by civil war between Russian separatists and Ukrainian nationalists. He suggested that peacekeepers would "restore justice rather than freeze the conflict and cement the occupation" and asked Western powers to supply him with weapons to retaliate against Putin-backed militias. More broadly, Poroshenko wants to unite with Western political and economic institutions in an effort to distance his Russian nation from the manipulative Russian regime. If Poroshenko hopes to succeed, he will need to reconsider his approach to Ukraine's humanitarian refugee crisis and acknowledge his administration's weak spot: an odd resemblance to the Russian government itself, an affinity towards fraud and bribery.

Ukraine came into the limelight when Putin challenged the former Soviet republic's sovereignty and organized an illegal referendum in Crimea. Russia's illegal seizure of Crimea in March 2014 deprived Ukraine of the valuable peninsula, which harbors significant natural gas fields and boasts a dynamic tourism industry. The country lost 4 percent of its GDP in the immediate aftermath of the invasion, and the pursuant violence in eastern Ukraine weakened foreign direct investment. The conflict in the region cost 10,000 civilians their lives and left many more without shelter.

Unable to support the growing number of refugees, the Ukrainian gov-

ernment ceased to pay pensions to these internally-displaced people. Anxious about the uncertain, volatile environment, businesses have fled to the Western and Central provinces, causing a sharp drop in production in the East and furthering intrastate inequalities. So far,

Although the government created the Anti-Corruption Bureau in 2014, a plethora of transparency initiatives have yet to be implemented.

only Germany and the United Nations Human Commissioner on Refugees have demonstrated a genuine concern for the crisis, donating millions of dollars and resources to the displaced Ukrainians; it remains to be seen whether Poroshenko will summon his political capital and dedicate more resources to the region. Until then, Putin will continue to use the refugee crisis as an pretext for interfering in Ukraine's internal affairs.

If Poroshenko wishes to integrate with the West, he will have to reform Ukraine's elitist government, which still harbors Soviet-era tendencies. In some places, property ownership is only weakly enforced. The metallurgical sector struggles to compete in the global economy because of outdated production models developed back in the Soviet era. Similarly, the agricultural industries are constrained by low productivity and restrictive laws on land ownership, a sign of the ineffective transition from socialism to capitalism.

Ukraine ranked 131 out of 176 surveyed countries in the 2016 Corruption Perceptions Index, at the same level as Russia and Iran. Civil servants receive paltry salaries, and many resort to bribery for personal and career growth. Polit-

ical parties rely on large private contributions from wealthy donors, so legislation tailors more to the upper echelons of society. Within the state-run healthcare system, patients make "donations" against their will in order to receive vital medical services. Purposely intrusive regulatory inspections, cumbersome barriers to market entry, and rampant extortions in the judicial system discourage young Ukrainians from taking entrepreneurial risks.

Although the government created the Anti-Corruption Bureau in 2014, a plethora of transparency initiatives have yet to be implemented. Tetiana Chor-novol, the former Commissioner for the Bureau, confided that "there is no political will in Ukraine to carry out a hard-edged, large-scale war against corruption." Indeed, Ukrainian prosecutors

If Poroshenko wishes to integrate with the West, he will have to reform Ukraine's elitist government, which still harbors Soviet-era tendencies.

pursued an investigation into a former president's alleged stealing of \$7.5 billion reluctantly, a reminder that rules do not apply to those in power. Like his arch-nemesis Putin, Poroshenko dispenses favors to his supporters and co-opts his opponents; in some cases, his political rivals are found dead for dubious reasons.

At the moment, Poroshenko is merely a wannabe liberal and a wannabe Westerner. The Ukrainian leader must understand that there is a distinction between being anti-Russian and anti-authoritarian. To enter the club of Western nations, Poroshenko will have to check both boxes.

Addressing Saudi Arabia's Curriculum

Shivani Tripathi '20
Guest Contributor

Explain that when someone dies outside of Islam, hellfire is his fate."

"Someone who opposes God, even if he is your brother by family tie, is your enemy in religion."

"The Jews and the Christians are enemies of the believers, and they cannot approve of Muslims."

Do you think that you're reading propaganda issued by ISIS? Actually, you're reading excerpts from Saudi Arabian elementary and middle school ministry approved textbooks.

In Saudi Arabia, children are taught from a very young age to hate other religions and minority Muslim groups through a branch of radical Islam called "Wahhabism." When it surfaced that 15 out of 19 of the 9/11 hijackers were Saudi Arabian, Saudi Arabia's educational resources were internationally condemned. After multiple studies were conducted on Saudi Arabia's religious studies curriculum, the Saudis were forced to acknowledge that ministry-approved textbooks encouraged violence towards people of other religions. Since then, the country's current foreign minister has claimed that the textbook issue was "overblown" because the curriculum has since been "changed." The Late King Abdullah repeatedly claimed to have completely transformed their curriculum. But this is a lie. These textbooks continue to spread the message of bigotry and violence on a global scale.

After Saudi Arabia's claims of "moderation" in their textbooks, Freedom House published a report documenting the content in the country's religious studies curriculum. While the Qur'an has a variety of verses regarding other religions, Saudi Arabian textbooks have cherry picked the most violent ones to fit their agenda. In a first grade textbook, students are asked to "Explain that when someone dies outside of Islam, hellfire is his fate," and to "give examples of false religions, like Judaism, Christianity, paganism, etc." What starts as contradiction of other religions transitions into hating members of those religions. "It is not permitted to be a loyal friend to those who oppose God and His Prophet," a fifth grade textbook says. "It is forbidden for a Muslim to be a loyal friend to someone who does not believe in God and His Prophet, or someone who fights the religion of Islam." Textbooks also include attacks at the Shiite and other minority Muslim groups, denouncing Shiite funeral and mourning traditions.

The curriculum escalates to a more antisemitic approach in later years. "The Jews lost their religion and attacked the religion of Islam, which consists of accepting the oneness of God and the worship of Him alone," an eighth grade textbook said. After a solid groundwork of hate is established, high school textbooks make direct calls for violence and discuss religious wars against Jews and Christians. "The hour [of judgment] will not come until the Muslims fight the Jews and kill them," a ninth grade textbook said. "[It will not come] until the Jew hides behind rocks and trees. [It will not come] until the rocks or the trees say, 'O Muslim! O servant of God! There is a Jew behind me. Come and kill him.'" In tenth grade textbooks, there is a lengthy section of antisemitic conspiracy theories citing "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," which is a Russian propaganda book.

This is a serious problem because it affects the entire world. The Saudi school system consists of 25,000 schools which indoctrinate more than 5,000,000 students. The government places extreme control on Saudi educators, even charging one teacher with 750 lashes and a 3.5 year jail sentence because he cast "doubts about the infidelity of Jews and Christians."

Furthermore, Saudi Arabia has spent \$100 billion funding mosques and madrassas (Islamic schools) around the world. An additional 70 billion dollars have been spent exporting the ministry-approved textbooks to these religious centers worldwide. Saudi Arabia has also exploited poverty in poorer Muslim nations, such as Pakistan. If a madrassa is the only school nearby, where else will a child from a poor village be able to go? Millions of poor children will spend their youth learning hate from Saudi textbooks.

Wahhabism is festering even in remote Balkan countries, such as Bulgaria, Bosnia and Macedonia, which has resulted in radicalization and terrorist attacks in Europe. Saudi Arabia even made an outrageous offer to build 200 mosques in Germany for the refugees while not even taking in a single one themselves. The firm grip of this propaganda has permeated other nations, trying to change the minds of impressionable young Muslims.

Considering the thousands who have lost their lives to terrorism, this is not something to be taken lightly. What is taught in these textbooks will influence how members of a generation of Muslims treat other people and religions. No matter how much Saudi Arabia portrays itself as against terrorism, they will continue to be a driving factor behind radicalization if they don't revise the textbooks which feed this toxic ideology. Until then, Saudi Arabia must be prevented from ever holding an authoritative, religious voice in Western countries.

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Handling Hurricanes

Jordan Davidson '19
Guest Contributor

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Jose have caused massive amounts of destruction across the southeastern United States, taking lives and ruining homes and forests. Despite the devastation, there is a glimmer of hope. Throughout the storms, the U.S. government demonstrated its previously unseen ability to work together as the natural disasters have united the forces of local, state and federal governments. It is typical that greediness for the spotlight by each level of government decreases its efficiency. But, in light of the hurricanes, our elected officials have proven that they can put their egos aside and work with each other toward a common goal.

Before the hurricanes struck the U.S., the nation was in a state of worry. This apprehension was largely due to FEMA's disappointing failure during Hurricane Katrina. FEMA's response to Katrina in 2005 was feeble at best, as they displayed their inability to evacuate people and control damage caused by the storm. Many feared that Harvey would be handled just as poorly as Katrina, which would have led to ruin in multiple states. But when Harvey arrived, FEMA surprised us by being cooperative and effective. Instead of rushing in to help, the federal government allowed local government to take control over the natural disaster themselves. If towns needed assistance that went beyond the grasp of what local officials could do, state and federal forces were ready to give help.

Exeter: A New Experience

Emily Cloonan '19
Guest Contributor

The last thing I could have asked for to make my emotions run even higher on my first move-in day at Exeter was for the weather to not cooperate with the lugging and carrying of boxes that lay ahead for my parents and me. Of course, as I was driving down Front Street, the sky did nothing but open up and rain came pouring down. I could hear the thunder right above my car. Like most people, this initially put a damper on my mood and created so much more angst that I had to wrap my mind around besides the typical first day anxiety.

I pulled up to my new home, the wonderful Hoyt Hall, and was flooded with questions about what to grab and where to put it by the most kind, outgoing



Courtesy of Google

Even President Trump is making an effort to have more communication with local and state officials, meeting with Texas governor Greg Abbott. After their discussion, Abbott gave Trump and FEMA an "A+" for the way they handled Harvey in the state of Texas. The remarkable collaboration between Trump, FEMA and state and local governments has saved lives and reduced damage caused by the hurricanes.

Although the government's effort to work together toward a common goal should be praised, it seems as if this is the first time they have displayed good teamwork. When Hurricane Sandy struck in 2012, the government's response was merely an argument about who was best equipped to manage the catastrophe. It has taken 12 years and multiple natural disasters for FEMA and the U.S. government to understand that being well prepared and combining forces is necessary when dealing with a crisis.

As a nation, we have been able to stifle political greed enough so that our government can adequately deal with emergency situations. When planes hit the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on 9/11, local fire and police departments did not worry about jurisdiction.

Whoever was closest to the scene assisted anybody who was in danger. The National Guard, Marines and Navy also offered support to local level departments, ensuring that the search and rescue mission would be successful. 9/11 and the recent hurricanes show that we can work efficiently in times of distress. Yet it appears that this level of functionality between local, state and federal government cannot be repeated outside of matters of life or death.

Our government's reaction to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Jose are examples that we should look to in the future when other disasters strike. But our elected officials still need to work on widening their scope on what issues require collaboration. Coming together to tackle a natural disaster or terrorist attack should not be something we need practice to achieve. But now that we have finally gained an understanding of how to grapple with a crisis, our government needs to move toward working as a team when attempting to solve everyday issues. If the leadership exhibited during the hurricanes can be reciprocated, our government will be able to provide better solutions to problems both large and small.

them or it was my sister on the path.

It is really easy to get overwhelmed by the swarms of people that all seemed to be strangers to me, and the first few days were really hard. But no matter who you talk to, someone will always be there to welcome you in the dining hall or at the playing fields in your new community. The weekend activities definitely made the transition a little bit easier, too. From meeting people while a trapeze act goes on at the Big Red Carnival or learning how to be a more positive person with your classmates and Ed Gerety, there are always people who want to welcome you to the school.

The first days of being a new student teach you how you want to treat the new students next year. The inclusion and welcoming of the Exeter community is one like no other, and I will make sure to carry that with me for years to come in every aspect of my life.

Video Games Offer Escape for Students, With Risks

Continued from VIDEO GAMES, A3

Thurber added that video games are created in such a way as to keep their playerbase playing the same game. "Video games are designed by really smart people, and I don't just mean by good coders. They are all fundamentally the same: they all rely on what's called a variable ratio schedule of reinforcement," Thurber said. "You get opportunities to be rewarded, but variable ratio means that it's not predictable when you get those [rewards]. It's how slot machines are arranged."

That's not to say that Thurber is opposed to video games. "I'm not anti-technology no more than I'm against chocolate, but it depends on how much you have," he said. "If people like playing video games, that's great as long as they can balance that out with sleep and homework and friends."

Webster dorm head Alex Myers agreed, adding that students must be careful when they are engaging in video games. "Playing video games can be a fun way to connect with others and can provide some stress relief. It just needs to be

done in moderation and at appropriate times," he said.

Severe gaming problems are not an issue for most students. "Based on the knowledge I have, gaming is a problem for a very small percentage of kids," Coole said. "Maybe it's much more pervasive and I'm just not hearing about it because the kids are seeing their advisors and counselors, but those problems where I have to come in are very small."

When gaming does become a problem at Exeter, however, it is treated like any other addiction. "We get them to the appropriate people and that involves a thoroughly trained mental health counselor. We very often loop in the parents and dorm faculty because it takes a multi-faceted approach to help solve this issue," Coole said.

Other than self-help, concerned friends can also urge a student to seek help from adults on campus. "Often, counselors will talk with the students who call in and are concerned about a friend to help them make a plan. It's usually the case that when a student expresses directly or indirectly

about a peer, that peer isn't overjoyed that their life has temporarily become more complicated, but they're simultaneously relieved that they are getting some help," Thurber said.


Medical Leave is an option reserved for the most severe circumstances. "Looking back to last year, I can say there were maybe two or three kids who we were really concerned about that warranted a medical leave and that's pretty standard," Coole said. "The whole reason behind a medical leave is we feel the student can't adequately address the health issue while still maintaining a good work environment because of their academics." He added that what students do during medical leave is a collaboration between Exeter and their providers at home, and that the majority of students who do go on medical leave for gaming do come back.

Senior Nader Babar, a proctor in Wentworth, said that although he hasn't seen any gaming problems in the dorm, he is prepared to help with any issues that arise. "We keep an eye out for any signs that a student is having trouble, whether

academically, socially or otherwise in day to day life and step in to talk to them and help them," he said. "If issues become too serious, then the entire dorm team (faculty and proctors) would address it together. I think gaming is mostly positive and can even be for socializing especially when someone with a console has others around or has an open door so that students can play together."

Gulliford added that he and his friends only game when they are free. "We only play during the weekends. Games are just games and we know when we have to work. When we do play, there's no shame in calling it early because we all understand that we have homework to do."

Senior John Woodward, who games during the weekends as well, feels that students should be free to game as they like. "I think that we're responsible for ourselves and for the most part, I think we do ourselves justice," he said. "Problems depend on how people label them—you can call socialising too much a problem—so for the most part you have to help yourself and friends keep tabs on one another."



The Exonian

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First Draft of My College Essay

By **BILLY O'HANDLEY**
Going to Community College

As I walked up to the stage to accept my award for most impoverished orphans saved, I paused to reflect on all the good I had done in my summer internship at the United Nations after I had battled through the loss of my pet hamster to the cold fist of time. I recalled how I juggled my academics and my extracurriculars, which include being United States Secretary of the Agriculture and a position on the ESSO board. I remembered I performed resuscitative CPR on the Harvard Admissions officer, even though he didn't really need it. I pondered how I had gotten a 2400 on the new SAT. I ruminated on the research I had done in my spare time with the help of my good friend Elon Musk. And as I put out my hand to take the orphan trophy, I came to a personal realization. It was now clear that, in my moment of greatest triumph, all I could think about was how much the Physics department at Harvard had to offer me. I took the microphone, and spoke.

"Yale sucks!" I shouted, and pulled up my shirt to reveal a tattoo of the Harvard Crimson's logo. The orphans' cheers were loud that day, as they lifted me onto their shoulders and chanted "Billy Billy Billy! Harvard Harvard Harvard!" As I was carried off of the UN General Assembly floor, I smiled, thinking about my life at Harvard to come. Harvard Harvard Harvard H arvard.

A Selection of Horoscopes For The Cultured Exonian

By **EMILY GREEN**
Pseudoscientist

Aries: Mercury is in centigrade. Do your English homework this week.

Taurus: Take a chance this week. Wear a bowtie instead of a tie.

Gemini: /

Cancer: The recent solar eclipse is impacting your psyche lately. This is proven by the fact that you are reading your horoscope in the humor section of a highschool newspaper.

Leo: Rawr XD

Virgo: Go to Back in Black. Get a little sweaty.

Libra: Take a nap. No matter what the stars say, this is never a bad option.

Scorpio: Eat a big, meaty sandwich.

Sagittarius: Don't dick assembly!!!! Jk.

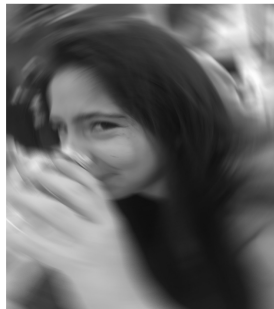
Capricorn: Eat some corn. Lol.

Aquarius: Omg we're the same sign!!!!

Pisces: Go for a swim.

TFW a Prep Has a Better Resumé Than You Do

By **THE HUMOR EDITORS**
Enigmatic Pirate Enthusiasts



Do you want to be a vindictive little man?
Submit to the Humor Page.
Email exonianhumor@gmail.com.

30 Official Big Moods of Fall 2017

By **EMILY GREEN**
The Biggest Mood

1. The squeak of prep boys' voices.
2. Cheering harder for the debate team than for the football team.
3. Giving d-hall the high praise of calling their macaroni and cheese "edible."
4. Considering that maybe, just maybe, the Mooch would be a better president than Trump.
5. Wondering if your own self-abhorration is a good topic for your Common App essay.
6. The way you can just tell that someone plays lacrosse. Maybe it's the hair.
7. Being late to 8:00 am class but everything being fine because your teacher is even later.
8. Doubting the administration.
9. The way family weekend always falls on the one weekend you're most busy and the subsequent guilt you feel when you're not with your mom the entire time.
10. People cutting in line.
11. The Puritans.
12. Hearing preps discuss their future careers at Goldman Sachs.
13. Eye contact with the one other person who actually talks in your English class.
14. Going to Club Night, then being surrounded by yelling people and Wanting to Die™.
15. Dean Cosgrove's sensual, curly mane.
17. Your mom asking if G-nesh is a restaurant.
18. Using temporary hair dye because you're not edgy enough to go all in.
19. Wondering if Stu Co is going to get anything done besides getting the entire Exec Board into Harvard.
20. Wondering what your life would be like if you were tall enough for crew.
21. When preps haven't discovered how to tweeze their brows.
22. Asking your advisor how required that one "required appointment" really is.
23. Ordering Penang not because it is delicious, but because it is there.
24. Wanting to ask a proctor for help, then realizing that you are the proctor and having to ask yourself for advice.
25. The way new students dress exclusively in Exeter gear.
26. Principal MacFarlane's art scarf.
27. Thinking you're on the fourth floor of Phillips Hall, then realizing you still have one more flight to go even though you're perspiring both rampantly and aggressively.
28. Being told to "have fun" dealing with issues of racism and cultural difference.
29. When your teacher brings snacks but you've already had breakfast so you can't eat them without feeling ingenuine.
30. Replying all to emails.

The 5 Types of Exonians Who Participate in ESSO Clubs

By **ABBY ZHANG**
Essontian

1. The Guilt Tripped - this kid got way too excited on ESSO club night and signed up for everything in sight and ended up receiving way too many emails that they felt bad ignoring. Catch them looking confused as they monitor a bunch of young children running around on the quad, wondering what they got themselves into.
2. The Dedicated Co-Head - this kid is in charge of one super obscure ESSO club you had no idea existed. There are a total of 3 people in this kid's club.
3. The Model Exonian - this kid genuinely loves helping the community and the community loves them back. Great with kids. Great with adults. Great at life. Already looks iconic in the yellow shirt. It even brings out their eyes.
4. The Sibi - this person went to one meeting of one ESSO club their prep fall but "it totally still counts!" Nowadays they "would totally love to do ESSO" but it "just doesn't work" with their schedule!
5. The Only Doing It For College - this one is pretty self-explanatory. Little kids are gross. People suck. Doing things for your enjoyment is the worst. Having fun is a waste of time. Happiness is overrated. Welcome to Exeter.

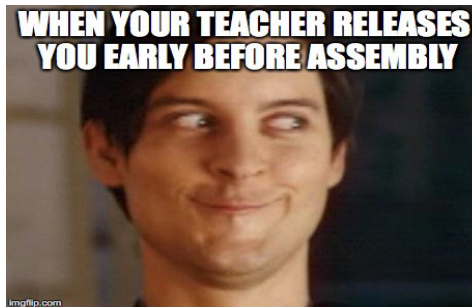
Quote Box: What Should Replace the Portraits in the Assembly Hall?

By **THE HUMOR EDITORS and FRIENDS**
Esteemed Journalists

- "Have portraits of the same people, just cubist style instead."
-Mr. Myers
- "Pictures of Kanye."
-Billy O'Handley '18
- "You know those bad drawings and paintings that people do in Art 200s that they have hanging all over dorms...? We should just replace the paintings with those."
-Sophia Zu '18
- "Well I think the whole thing is just an undercover plan to replace all the photos of Exeter people with Andover people instead."
-Paul James '19
- "You know those ridiculous photos of Putin shirtless on a horse? We should do that, but with Principal MacFarlane."
-Erica Hogan '18
- "We could just literally cover the entire wall with shiny paper, and make it a lesson about seeing ourselves or something."
-Billy O'Handley '18
- "Just pull a Rolling Stones and paint it black."
-Billy O'Handley '18
- "Let's just replace them with pictures of everyone on the current StuCo exec board."
-Harry Saunders '18

A Meme

By **RYAN XIE**
Ryan Xie CG



Quote of the Week

"I am a vindictive little man."
-Jack Stewart '19, while editing the Op-Ed section.

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 ;)

The Precarious Future of Kurdish Independence



OUTSIDE THE EXETER BUBBLE

Paul James Columnist

Iraqi Kurds may finally get the independence they've been fighting for, or at least a version of it. Masoud Barzani, President of the Kurdistan Regional Government, set the date of the referendum for September 25. The vote will not only take place within the autonomous Kurdistan region, recognized by Iraq's 2005 constitution, but also in other disputed Kurdish territories seized in battles with the Islamic State.

Kurds number about 30 million, and are spread across Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Iran. They are often described as the largest ethnic group without a homeland. They have a history of oppression, most recently and notoriously at the hand of Saddam Hussein. The dictator attacked the Kurdish minority with military might, and even targeted civilians with chemical weapons.

After the first Gulf War, Iraqi forces withdrew from Kurdistan, paving the way for a constitutional settlement in 2005, which followed an informal independence referendum. A tenuous relationship with the Iraqi government has already decomposed except where a war coalition, born out of necessity, is concerned. Baghdad will not recognize the results of the vote, and every other nation in the region opposes it because it may set a precedent for Kurdish minorities in their countries. Even the United States, the great protector of freedom in foreign countries, is cautioning the Kurds against this measure.

Without international support and legal groundwork, the referendum is unlikely to change anything. Kurdistan is surrounded by Syria, which is collapsing,



Courtesy of Google

and the hostile nations of Turkey and Iran, both with a history of Kurdish mistreatment. Turkish officials in particular worry about the precedent an independent Kurdistan would set for Turkish Kurds, who are often in open conflict with Turkey's government. Even some parties in the Kurdistan Regional Government are against the referendum because it is being held outside of the two year dormant Kurdish Parliament. The Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) majority is pushing for the referendum to happen now, opposed by the Gorran Movement, the party with the second-most seats.

Other detractors point to Kurdistan's volatile economy. When the price of oil collapsed, Kurdistan plunged into an economic crisis that left civil servants without full salaries for years and the government

with \$20 billion in debt. As an autonomous region, Kurdistan also lacks financial support from Baghdad and doesn't do much trade with the international community.

The United States fears that a Kurdish independence will harm the war effort against the Islamic State and render its goal of an intact Iraq unattainable. At the center of much dispute is the city of Kirkuk, an oil-rich, multiethnic city seized by Kurds from the Islamic State after Iraqi soldiers abandoned it. Trump's envoy to the anti-Islamic State coalition believes a referendum now comes at the wrong time and will incite fighting in disputed areas like Kirkuk. Baghdad, however, will not negotiate on Kirkuk, claiming the city for Iraq.

The vote will make clear the need for Kurdish independence and may give Kurds the leverage they need following the

war against the Islamic State. Peshmerga fighters have been instrumental in territorial gains made against the Islamic State and now have the chance to retain their captured territories. Once the war against the Islamic State wanes, Kurds will lose much of their bargaining position with the Iraqi and U.S. governments, making now a good time for a declaration of their intentions. A successful vote will give 20 percent of the Iraqi population the freedom of complete self-government they deserve.

According to The New York Times, Kirkuk's governor dismissed arguments that Kurdistan isn't ready for independence, saying, "Did the U.S. have a constitution when it declared independence?" he asked. "No. Before African countries declared independence did they have everything in order?"

Discussing the Impact of the ALES Video

Johanna Martinez '20 Guest Contributor

The "Exeter Experience": Most of us were sold on the idea of a united community where we can be ourselves. It's what made us decide to come here. Yet what some people don't realize is that not all Exonians have the same experiences. Racism exists in our community, and it affects our lives at Exeter. The ALES video, produced by senior Ori Evans last spring, examined the experiences of a few Exonians and their encounters with racism in the Exeter community. It held up a mirror to our community so that faculty and students

could acknowledge often overlooked instances of racism both at the Harkness table and in an Exonian's life outside of academics.

During assembly last year, Principal MacFarlane mentioned the video, but not the context of the video or not how the school would take action. She didn't mention ALES, which caused confusion for people who weren't a part of it. As a result, some students left assembly feeling unheard, confused, angry and disappointed. This led to a sit-in at her office, which indicated that there was more work to be done. There is still a lack of diversity in Exeter, a lack of representation of faculty of color, especially those with tenure or administrative positions and a lack of justice for victims of racism.

We should not ignore the experiences of racism on campus, but rather talk about them more and create change. Showing the faculty this video was a good first step, but it wasn't enough.

At this year's opening assembly, MacFarlane rightly mentioned the ALES video and acknowledged her mistake in the last assembly. She declared that all students will have to watch the video on Academy Life Day. Some students have never been a victim of discrimination and don't realize that racism occurs on campus, which is why they should view and internalize the ALES video. Exeter is trying to amend their mistakes and become more active instead of reactive to racism and justice for students. I'm optimistic that the work that the Racial Lit-

eracy Task and Ms. Wolf are doing will be successful in changing things around campus. A consultant was brought in, and training was required for all faculty; exposing them to the hardships students of color face. Students should not have to worry about being targeted or having a fellow classmate use a racial slur. Faculty members are also being sent to diversity conferences. I only wish that more faculty would attend to make a larger impact and teach their colleagues. What is certain is that although the strides taken to try to amend things are an incredible start, there is still lots of work to be done in the Exeter community. We all have to do our part to make sure that Exeter is a safe, inclusive and aware community for everyone.

Keep our DREAMers in America

Johanna Martinez '20 Guest Contributor

She clutches the blue straps of her backpack as her short legs trudge behind the adults. Her sneakers dig into the hot desert sand with each step. Her face reddens under the beating of the sun. The towering shadow of a man carrying his son on his shoulders provides her a temporary relief of the heat. Her parents look older, with dark circles under their eyes after working three jobs for years and only sleeping four hours a night, if they were lucky. They look different from the pictures that her aunt had shown her.

School has already started and she immediately enters first grade. She can't even say "hello" in a language that is not her own, a language of a nation she doesn't know. Her classmates push her down the stairs and pull her braids. They laugh because they know that she laughs too, not knowing that they're laughing at her.

We cannot let discrimination and stereotypes rooted in hate determine what happens to DREAMers.

Yet, somehow amidst all this bullying, she manages to become valedictorian, go to college and graduate with honors. She is more an American than anyone. She goes to football games with her friends in college, lives in New York City and is well educated. She spent the majority of her life here and barely remembers Ecuador. She became a financial analyst for a Fortune 500 company in New York City and pays thousands of dollars in taxes each year. She's a home-



Courtesy of Google

owner and is married to an American. Her sister goes to the top boarding school in the nation because of her help and support. Her parents feel accomplished because it was all worth it thanks to her success.

Who is she? She is my sister. She is a DREAMer. She is one of the 800,000 immigrants under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, or the DACA. This is her story, but there are hundreds of thousands of other stories just like hers. Thanks to the Obama administration, DACA was issued in 2012. This gave work permits and social security cards to people like her that came before they were 16, are younger than 31, have lived here since 2007 and are pursuing (or have pursued) secondary school. DACA allows DREAMers to have a temporary relief of deportation. It also enables people like my sister to get a license and work legally.

President Trump and his supporters have called DACA recipients criminals and think that they are costing them tax

dollars. As a DREAMer, you can't have a criminal record to qualify and you must go through a process of biometrics every two years. If during one of these appointments a crime shows up on your record, you will be deported. In regards

In a nation built by immigrants, Americans should push together for a permanent legal solution for DREAMers.

to tax dollars, DACA recipients are actually contributing \$11.64 billion in state and local taxes each year, according to Unidos U.S. Not only are DREAMers good for the economy, but they are also incredible, bright and hard working. The only difference between them and "Americans" are papers. We all have a DREAMer that we're close to, whether it's our teacher, friend, doctor, lawyer or relative. Like my sister, they grew up

alongside citizens and have known this country as their own for almost all of their lives. Most DREAMers don't remember their parents' country, and being deported there would not only be inhumane but illogical.

Trump took away DACA and placed the lives of 800,000 people on hold because of it. No new applicants will be considered, and the current people covered will only get to renew it once more, before March 2018. In 6 months, the program will be dead. Without a work permit and license, DREAMers will not be able to drive or work legally in a country that is and has been their home for years. Yet, there is also an impending problem of being deported to a country that is unknown, with a different language and lifestyle.

In a nation built by immigrants, Americans should push together for a permanent legal solution for DREAMers. We should push for a clean immigration bill that will not compromise other undocumented people like the parents of DREAMers. A clean immigration bill will make sure that there isn't an increase of deportation and ICE agents targeting communities of people of color. All that DREAMers have been asking for is a line to stand in for a pathway to becoming legal in this country. We cannot let discrimination and stereotypes rooted in hate determine what happens to DREAMers. We cannot let them be deported simply because they don't have papers. They are American at heart and deserve a line to stand in at the very least. There are currently 3 bills on the table that are being considered in Congress. Yet, the best one for everyone is the Dream Act which will require bipartisan support and backing by Trump. DREAMers are part of this country and papers should not decide their fate. We should all do our part to push for a permanent legal solution for Americans at heart, DREAMers like my sister.



ExeterLife



A visitor to the Lamont Gallery admires a portrait in the "Queer Kids" exhibit.

Garvin Hickey/The Exonian

Art Exhibit: "Queer Kids"

By MAI HOANG and SHIVANI TRIPATHI
Staff Writers

This past Friday, Michael Sharkey's photography exhibition "Queer Kids" had its opening night in the Lamont Gallery. Students, faculty and others in the Exeter community came to observe photos and read about the life of youth around the world who identify as LG-BTQ.

Director of Student Activities Joanne Lembo and Curator of the Lamont Gallery Lauren O'Neal and Sharkey started planning for the exhibition in 2015. Lembo knew Sharkey from college and decided to connect him with O'Neal, who was very excited to bring Sharkey's works to the Exeter community. It took a long time for the project to materialize, as the three "had many email exchanges and a few conference calls," according to O'Neal. "We also worked closely with the Stonewall Museum & National Archives in Florida, where 'Queer Kids' was displayed previously," she said.

While he has showcased his work in galleries all over the world, from Florida to New York to Southern France, this is the first time Sharkey's works have been brought to a high school art gallery. The photographer hopes that

his works would inspire students to "see how powerful a documentary project can be."

Especially given the recent emphasis on diversity and inclusion on campus, O'Neal hopes that this exhibition will do more than simply inspire students who are interested in arts. "For some students, we hope that the exhibition validates who they are, inspires them to celebrate their identity, and signals that there are people—students and adults—who care deeply about their well-being," she said. She also hopes that other members of the community can realize the necessity to "challenge ourselves—to learn to engage with people and ideas that are different."

At the exhibition, Hadley Camilus, Associate Dean of Multicultural Student Affairs, highlighted the importance of spreading knowledge and offering insight into what it's like being queer. "It's not often that we get to have the opportunity to talk to people whose lived experience is different," he said. "I'm a black man, so it's not often that someone can sit with me and say: 'What's it like?' because they don't really know me, so these photographs, especially with the interviews underneath them, are very informative, and I imagine it would be like this for others as well."

Echoing Camilus' sentiments, lower Skye Newhall found that the exhibition

has removed certain stereotypes about the LGBTQ community and has encouraged the notion of not judging a book by its cover. "I know a lot of people who are queer, and I'm part of that community mostly as an ally," she said. "I feel like this exhibit shows that everybody looks like something. You can judge someone based off what they look like, but you don't know what's behind the surface." Meanwhile, upper Ollie Young said that he was happy because the exhibition showed diversity. "There are people from Brussels to Washington, all races and all genders," he said. "It's nice to see that everyone's being represented, and no one's being left out."

Aside from showcasing Sharkey's photography, the exhibition also includes literary works from the library, such as Queer and Trans Artists of Color by Nia King. O'Neal also requested alumni, faculty members and students involved with the LGBTQ movement at Exeter to contribute by writing short essays and poems. At the opening night, Mercedes Carbonell, instructor of English and one of the first faculty to advise the Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA), read out a poem she had written about the alliance's formation in the early '90s.

O'Neal and Stacey Durand, Gallery Manager, also set up a button-making station during the premiere, so that students can have fun creating buttons—

each come with a meaning—after reflecting on the exhibition's content. "Buttons tend to be something that are cute but people wear them with a message," said Durand. Upper and Lamont Gallery proctor Jacob Hunter agreed, also adding that activities like these function as an added attraction to draw more gallery-goers. "Some people aren't interested in just observing the art, so we try to find interactive ways to engage them," he said.

Many students appreciated the support Exeter had shown towards the LG-BTQ community through organizing the exhibition and encouraging faculties and students to come. Prep Emily Kang said, "I think it's cool that Exeter does this since we have such a big community. Back in my old school, people who were LGBTQ didn't usually come out because it was a small town." Kang also described the exhibition as part of a "revolution that's spreading across the world."

In a similar vein, Office of Multicultural Students' Affair intern Jessica Alvarez reflected on how the global view on LGBTQ had dramatically changed since she was growing up. "When I was figuring out my identity, this wasn't something that would happen," she said. "I'm queer, so getting to see an actual exhibit celebrating that is heartwarming for me."

Trendwatch

Hey Guys!

Sherry and Michael here. The past couple days have been quite gloomy, but we still saw Exonians sporting chic fashion trends. To start, **Valeria Rios '18** stunted on everyone in a forest green long-sleeved velvet top paired with solid white pants. She completed the look by wearing a lace headband that matched her shirt. Similarly, **Kojo Aduhene '19** rocked an olive green knitted sweater. Green certainly seems to be a hot color this fall season! **Anna Reaman '18** and **Jeremy Xu '19** both wore edgy white slides with aggressive cats on them to round out their classic looks. As it's been a bit chilly recently, we also saw some more traditional fall looks. **Lauren Arkell '18** looked sophisticated in her black, wool long-sleeved sweater and ripped skinny jeans. She matched her camel-colored suede boots to a camel-colored fedora, completing her fall aesthetic. Although it gets windy these days, the weather can't stop people from wearing cute mini skirts. **Lhamo Dixey '20** looked sweet in a cream, cropped sweater and a button-down denim mini skirt. She also wore a gold pendant necklace to add some bling to her look.

In other news, the 69th Annual Emmy Awards were held this weekend in Los Angeles. Actress Samantha Bee showed off an emerald green gown with a fishtail hem, continuing this green trend. Outside of the Emmy's, Gigi, Bella and Anwar Hadid strutted the runway together for the first time ever at the Tommy x Gigi Rock Circus at London Fashion Week. The latest collection of Tommy x Gigi was totally

rocker chic, with lots of plaid, leather and dark florals. One of the floral dresses Bella modeled featured mesh paneling and bell sleeves, while Gigi's dramatic jacket featured a cape flowing behind her. She paired the statement jacket with a black crop top, leather shorts, black boots and over-the-knee socks.

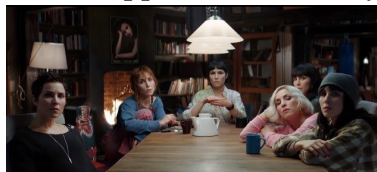
This week, we'd like to introduce be a new segment in our column, and it's called Faculty Advice. Our inaugural fashion wisdom speaker is Mathematics Instructor Kevin Bartkovich. Mr. Bartkovich's advice for the week is to ditch designer jeans. Don't forget to serve looks!

Love,
Michael & Sherry



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Movie Review: What Happened to Monday?



Courtesy of Google

By NIKITA THUMMALA
Staff Writer

Full of guns, bombs, government interference and sisterly love, "What Happened to Monday" a Netflix original thriller, soon became a popular movie among viewers. In some distant future, one governor, Nicolette Cayman (Glenn Close), enacts the Child Allocation Act in order to counteract overpopulation, which is now recognized as a major problem. This law restricts families to having one child; no siblings are allowed. If a set of siblings are discovered, all but the eldest child are put into cryosleep. Cryosleep is a procedure that will supposedly put the children to sleep until the population goes down, at which point they'll awaken to a new and better world. Unfortunately, due to chemicals in the food supply, one couple ends up having septuplets. When the mother dies during childbirth, her father saves the children from the system, and makes the septuplets live under the single identity of Karen Settman, which was their mother's name.

The seven sisters, all masterfully played by Noomi Rapace, were each named after a day of the week, the day

that she would be allowed to go outside. During their childhood, their grandfather taught the sisters to work together and act out the same personality in the outside world, although he still let the sisters exist as individuals inside their home. The movie subtly portrays their distinct personalities as they grow older, their individuality creates tension in the family. Every day, the sisters' resentment about their confinement to the home grows and grows until one night, Monday doesn't return home. Their secret exposed, these clever sisters have to avoid government-sanctioned execution while searching for their missing sibling. An endless cycle of violence and survival ensues as they evade the government, and rebel against the oppressive Child Allocation Act.

"What Happened to Monday" is a film that will leave you on the edge of your seat. Its excellence hangs on its gritty portrayal of the lengths that people will go to protect their loved ones, and its refusal to shy away from the destructive impact of well-intentioned laws. "What Happened to Monday" is a unique movie in the oversaturated dystopian genre that will leave your heart racing, even after the credits start to roll.

FacultySpotlight

STEPHANIE GIRARD

By JACKY CHO and
SAMANTHA WEIL
Staff Writers

Whether she's sitting around a Harkness table teaching a math class, serving on the Discipline Committee or performing in Fisher Theater with students, Stephanie Girard is the paradigm of non sibi, readily devoting her time and considerable knowledge to helping the students in our community.

Before she came to Exeter, Girard was a public school teacher in Charlottesville, Virginia, who "happened to be at the right place, at the right time" to get her position here. She attended an Advanced Placement (AP) workshop at the Taft School in Connecticut, where she met David Arnold, a former teacher in the PEA math department. The next year, Girard was offered a job as a math teacher and swimming coach at Exeter. "It obviously worked out," Girard said, "because I'm still here 32 years later!"

In her years at PEA, Girard has made valuable contributions to the math department and to her students. Math Instructor Joe Wolfson commended her admirable dedication and sparkling personality: "As a teacher, she's straightforward; she's responsible; she's cheerful; she does her job, and she's also been the social chair of the math department for 20 years." Wolfson especially praised Girard's eagerness to master the math curriculum, saying, "What makes her a convincing colleague is that she knows the material, she asks for questions when she has them, and she's willing to admit that she's wrong when she's wrong. Her sense of responsibility is really important."

Upper Abby Zhang shared Wolfson's opinion of Girard, stating, "She's one of the

smartest people I've ever met." Zhang also lauded Girard's mathematical prowess, and revealed that even though students may find Girard to be a hard teacher, "everything [Girard] does is because she genuinely cares so much about her students and she wants them to succeed." Zhang was so moved by Girard's dedication to her students that she decided to switch into Girard's advisory at the start of this year, despite Girard not being affiliated with Zhang's dorm. Senior Katie Lee echoed Zhang's sentiments, recalling how Girard supported her emotionally at the beginning of her Exeter career: "The first couple of weeks of prep year, I was really homesick, so whenever she was on duty I would go talk to her about life, nothing particular. She was always a great person to talk to; she has a motherly aura, I guess. She's a very maternal figure, so she definitely helped ease my transition into Exeter."

When she first came to Exeter, Girard coached the JV boys' swim team for about a decade. However, once she had kids, it became too much of a sacrifice to continue coaching, Girard recalled, "And then it was just too hard to be a new mom, and to be coaching a sport, where not only did you give up two hours each day for practices, but you also had to give up six hours on a Wednesday or a Saturday for a swim meet." Despite no longer being a coach, Girard still has fond memories of her time as a coach, such as the time that the boys on the team tossed her into the pool after a meet.

In addition to being a swim coach, Girard also used to be part of the dance program at PEA. She has performed several pieces choreographed by students and dance faculty, and even choreographed her own pieces.

Despite her lack of formal instruction in dance, Girard pursued her passion. "I did two



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

pieces, one one year and one the next, and Ms. Girard had helped me a great deal, because I had had no dance training," Girard said. The following year, though, Girard worked abroad in Ryn, France. When she returned, a fellow instructor remarked that he had missed her socially conscious dance pieces. Girard is well-known for her commitment to racial equality, an aspect of her identity that she brought to the dances she choreographed. "Both pieces I did were socially conscious, and set to music that was about injustice in some way," Girard noted.

Overall, students all over campus expressed their love for Girard, and her ability to positively impact the people around her. Senior Carolyn Girard, her daughter, expressed her appreciation for her mother's nurturing spirit, saying, "My mom's a good role model for hard work, especially when I first got to [PEA]. She's very reasonable, and easy to talk to."

Lower Milo Walshe, a former student

of Girard, described Girard's classroom as demanding environment, but a rewarding one. "I was placed incorrectly into 21T my prep fall year. She was my teacher, and she noticed I was struggling, so she moved me down to 12T a week later. She was very understanding about all the different levels of knowledge in the room. And her ability to recognize who was struggling with what helped me in my first week at school, and also in winter term, when I had her for 130," he said.

With as much enthusiasm as other Exonians expressed their gratitude for Girard's presence in the PEA community, Girard similarly thanked PEA's collaborative learning style for making the past several decades unforgettable: "To me, the memorable moments are when students are helping students, tackling a new problem, and feeding off one another. To me, that is what makes this place unique."

BOOK REVIEW: THE INVISIBLE MOUNTAIN



By BELLA ALVAREZ
Staff Writer

In the lyrical, lush tradition of Latin American authors, Carolina de Robertis deftly weaves a masterful tale in her debut novel, "The Invisible Mountain," published in 2009 by Knopf. The story spans three generations of Uruguayan women, beginning at the turn of the 20th century in a small town in the countryside, venturing into the neighboring country of Argentina, jumping on trains into the heart of Brazil, but always longing for the comfort of Montevideo. De Robertis portrays her three main characters—Pajarita, Eva and Salome—with multidimensional complexity that allows them to breathe, live, love and lose beyond the page. Each woman faces a set of challenges that revolve around their social standing, their gender, their sexual orientation and other uncontrollable circumstances. Each of the women face prejudices and injustices with strength, determination and clenched fists.

Echoing tones of her contemporaries—Isabel Allende, Sandra Cisneros—de Robertis treads the waters of feminism while still maintaining and acknowledging the machismo attitudes prevalent in Spanish-speaking and Latin American cultures. Eva grapples with sexual assault and the shame and victim-blaming that often accompany this issue; Pajarita deals with an abusive husband; Salome pushes against expectations, trying to gain both intellectual and sexual liberty during a resurgent movement in the 1970s. At times, de Robertis verges on the edge of painting flat male characters, some seem to be one-dimensional in their abuse and assault. However, there are instances during which men are seen as equals and as people helping to uplift the central women, rather than as hindrances to their success.

While the novel reads as though it were one continuous breath of poetry, de Robertis ingrains South American history into her tale without dulling the storyline or the beautiful prose. Eva, after leaving Montevideo to escape her estranged father and her abuser, settles temporarily in Buenos Aires, where, after marrying a wealthy, prominent doctor, becomes entangled in the political corruption and scandal. Eventually, Eva is forced to escape with her family after speaking out against the new president with her poetry. De Robertis, herself an Argentinian citizen, expertly described the predicament of the elite class during Juan Perón's reign of terror: support him and face no consequences, or be killed for opposition. De Robertis also sheds light on the insurgency in Montevideo during Ernesto Guevara's height during the 1970s when Salome joins a group of young guerrillas in support of his cause.

The landscape and terrain of South America plays an important role in de Robertis' novel. She brings a repeated emphasis to the word Montevideo, describing the first Portuguese conquerors who claimed to have seen a mountain from their ships, and hence named the capital Monte-vide-eu, meaning "I see a mountain" in Portuguese. Each of the characters reflects on this name, and each character finds a different connection to the city. In Pajarita, Montevideo represents a new life, a new chance at meaningful, purposeful existence. To Eva, Montevideo brings with it both old strife and renewed love and friendship. To Salome, Montevideo represents a lost hope for a brighter future, for revolutionary ideas, and reminds her of struggle and captivity during the regime. In the end, de Robertis is ultimately behind each of these interpretations, infusing both her love and hate for the city and the country of her upbringing, inviting the reader to share in a poetic celebration of the land closest to her heart.

HOROSCOPE

By LAUREN LEATHAM and ALEXANDRA VAN DIJKUM
Columnists

Aries: This is a big week for you, Aries! With the moon in your sign for the next two weeks, expect big ideas to dawn on you. What may have seemed unclear in the past weeks will suddenly shift into focus. Take this time to act on your thoughts, and you will be happy with the results!

Taurus: This is your week to dive deep, Taurus. Saturn's fifth house is in your house of inflection, forcing you to think about your ties to the people around you. Take a moment amid the chaos of school just to think about life. Your hard thinking might pay off into some strong ideas.

Gemini: This is a fun week for you, Gemini! Your schoolwork and extracurriculars are manageable this week, giving you extra time. How you want to spend your time is up to you, but try to enjoy yourself!

Cancer: Uranus is in your sign for the next couple weeks, Cancer, giving you wanderlust. Even though you are two weeks in, you will still feel the urge to escape the Exeter bubble. Whether it's a trip to Portsmouth or a bike ride to Memories, take that time to discover a new place.

Leo: The sun has been in retrograde in your sign for the past week, disrupting your social life. You might have noticed that you aren't as "out there" as before. It's okay. Don't worry. Take this time to focus on other aspects of your life.

Virgo: Your caring instincts are heightened by Saturn's presence in your sign, Virgo. This is not the week for your succulent to die, but rather a week to maybe add a pet plant to your collection. You may also notice people approaching you for help or advice. This is your "non sibi week."

Libra: Look forward to a great week, Libra! Keeping your workload and social life balanced is key to having a good day. Start to get in a rhythm of classes and sports and everything will start to come easier. You are in for a good year with lots of fun!

Scorpio: Look for love this week, Scorpio! Keep your eyes open for someone new to take to EP or go to Stillwells with. There will be a lot of social excitement in your life coming up! Hang out with friends and meet new people on campus.

Sagittarius: This week is a week of focus for you. Take advantage of it. Get ahead on your work and start studying for your upcoming tests. You will be thankful later for the work you put in now. It may not seem fun, but it is well worth it.

Capricorn: Take a week to mellow out, Capricorn. Use this week as time for yourself, to organize your work and get everything in order. Spend some time just relaxing and getting use to life at Exeter. It is important to look out for yourself even before you take care of others.

Aquarius: This upcoming week will be tiring, Aquarius, so conserve your energy. A lot will be asked of you in your classes, but try not to get overwhelmed. You will also run into some strains in your social life, but conflict is a requirement for growth, so don't worry because it will all turn out ok.

Pisces: This week will have its ups and downs for you, Pisces. Try to keep a level head when faced with conflict. You may have to make some changes in your life that you don't feel ready for. Just hold on because after this week things will level out, and you will start to feel more relaxed.

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SeniorSpotlight

Peter O'Keefe

By SEBASTIAN BANGO
and ALAN XIE
Staff Writers

Many know senior Peter O'Keefe as a loyal friend, invested learner and stoic athlete who possesses a profound strength of character. Classmates and teachers alike have noted the integral role O'Keefe plays in many groups on campus—from the boys' crew team to the Exeter Association of Rock (EAR). Even O'Keefe's constant humility cannot overshadow his quiet power at the Harkness table and in the boat.

When asked to name O'Keefe's most prominent traits, his friends and teammates came to a similar conclusion: he is the epitome of reliability and efficiency. Senior Lucas Stevens, a friend of O'Keefe's from the crew team, emphasized O'Keefe's hardworking nature. "Peter is what you might call a mover and a shaker." He makes things happen; he gets stuff done," Stevens said. Senior and fellow co-head of Mock Trial, Anna Clark, agreed. "He is consistently the one that has prepared all the case files or case law that we're supposed to have that day," Clark said.

Many of O'Keefe's friends consider him as one of the most diligent people they know. Senior Jackson Parell complemented O'Keefe's persistence during the crew season. "He is super dedicated and he inspired everyone through his actions because he was relentless," Parell said. O'Keefe himself



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

humbly acknowledged his success, saying, "I've learned that with hard work and the right pressure, I can exceed my own expectations."

O'Keefe brings this mentality into the classroom as well. Joseph Leger, O'Keefe's crew coach and former chemistry teacher, couldn't curb his praise for his pupil. "He is the best Harkness student... he is incredibly smart, but he never puts anybody down—he just brings everybody up," Leger said. "In terms of the boathouse, he's incredibly modest, he works very hard and ended up on the first boat last year, never asking for anything,

never taking shortcuts. Just a great model of hard work and perseverance."

Parell also noted O'Keefe's ability to shine in many areas. "I think it's his ability to transfer skills from one area to the next that is most admirable," Parell said. "He is just as dedicated on the boat as he is in his academic life." Senior Joaquin Riojas agreed, saying, "I think Peter takes advantage of a lot of what Exeter has to offer and does his best to excel in it, which is pretty damn good. I mean, he's O'Keefe."

O'Keefe's has also become adept at the art of Harkness. "You could always

count on him to get conversation going, even though he would rather first listen to inputs from his peers before weighing in," said History Instructor Kwasi Boadi. O'Keefe's advisor, Physics Instructor John Blackwell, also noted O'Keefe's thoughtfulness. "Peter is a careful listener, a considerate and pensive individual," Blackwell said. "I count on his voice of reason and interest in getting involved."

Stevens nostalgically recalled a memory with O'Keefe from the crew season. He explained that last year, he and O'Keefe worked out for crew every day during every vacation to prepare for the crew season. He described how he always had a slight edge over O'Keefe, "but Peter never backed down."

Stevens emphasized how O'Keefe would always push himself as hard as he could, and recalls with amazement how during the crew tryouts, O'Keefe beat him by six seconds, even after Stevens broke his previous personal record by six seconds. At the end of the workout, when O'Keefe came back to check on Stevens, Stevens thanked him. In reply, O'Keefe said, "No need to thank me, you would have done the same."

However, while O'Keefe achieves so much, he manages to stay modest. "Peter has remained the most humble and professional person I have ever met," said Stevens. "I have no doubt that he will go on to do amazing things for the world, just as he has already done amazing things for our little world here in Exeter."

ClubSpotlight

OUTING CLUB

By MAI HOANG
and PAUL JAMES
Staff Writers

Since its revival six years ago, Outing Club has become a popular way for Exonians to explore the New Hampshire area outside of the Exeter campus and take a break from their daily stress. The club typically organizes two to three day-long hikes and one overnight trip per term, depending on the availability of club advisers.

According to Biology Instructor Townley Chisholm, one of the Outing Club's advisers, popular destinations include Pawtuckaway State Park, Mount Cardigan near Bristol, New Hampshire and the Franconia Ridge Trail. For overnight trips, the club has tried out Crawford Notch and Camp Pasquaney on Newfound Lake. "We usually have around fifteen people go, and it's sometimes rather selective," said upper James Liu, one of the active members of the club. "However, new members will always have chances to go." Chisholm takes the fitness level

and safety of every club member into consideration when choosing the next destination. "Sometimes conditions can arise that are more challenging than expected, but not often. In that situation we turn around if we can or proceed very carefully," he said.

Members of the club have remarked that going on trips is a great way to bond with friends, create memories and get away from the tedium of campus life from time to time. "I was drawn to Outing Club because I do a lot of hiking and camping with my family and was looking for a way to do those activities during the school year with friends," said senior Victoria Glidden, a co-head of the club. Liu's reason for joining the club was similar—so that he could spend more time in nature and "get more in touch with the wild."

Chemistry Instructor Michael McLaughlin remarked on Chisholm's influence on the club saying, "Mr. Chisholm, by the way, is the heart and soul of that club and deserves tremendous credit for the time and effort he puts in." Co-head and senior Matt Alburn

agreed. "He [Chisholm] has been all across New England, so he's amazingly experienced and talented."

Alburn went on to describe one of his favorite experiences with the club. "[Chisholm] has this campsite in the middle of a forest where there's a cliff and a river. We camped on the cliff and then went down a little winding trail to the riverbed. We lit a campfire right in the middle of the river, on the island. Last time we did this, we cooked out there and brought steaks."

The trip that club member and lower Jimmy Allen remembers most is the multiple-day camp at Franconia Notch. "We stayed in the woods, ate raw eggs, and hiked to a waterfall," he said. For Glidden, it was the hike through Ice Gulch Forest in the middle of last winter term; she enjoyed challenging herself by hiking for several hours in the snow. Meanwhile, Chisholm said, "I have great memories of last spring's overnight trip to Crawford Notch when we had lovely sunny days to hike along snowy mountaintops with great views in all directions."

McLaughlin added that the winter trip into the White Mountains is particularly popular. "We typically stay with Kirk Phelps—the man who ran the Outings Club when I was a student at The Cate School. His log cabin with a wood-burning stove and wood-burning hot tub has become a bit of a legend."

The club is not limited to just hiking, either. Alburn recalled a time when the outing club built an igloo in front of the Academy Building. "Two or three years ago, when there was one day of canceled school for the snow, we spent probably 20 hours over the weekend building an igloo. We researched it and made a textbook igloo that stayed on campus until the spring," Alburn said.

If you are an adventurous Exonian who loves the outdoors, the Outing Club may be just the club for you. As Liu remarked, "The outing club is a great way to take a break from Exeter and have an awesome time with friends for a day or two."

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Girls' Soccer Faces Tough Competition



Senior Jennifer Zecena works the ball up the pitch.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

By JARED ZHANG
Staff Writer

On Saturday, the girls' varsity soccer team ("Soxie") travelled to Wallingford, Connecticut, to face Choate in the second official game of the year. Despite its valiant efforts, Soxie was unable to overcome its opponent, falling to Choate with a final score of 0-7. This game brought the season's current record to 0-2.

Going into the game, the team was aware of Choate's reputation of having a strong soccer program. However, senior and co-captain Anna Reaman stressed her team's ability to stay level-headed and unfazed leading up to the game. "Going into the game, we knew that Choate is one of the strongest teams we'll face this season. However, we managed to stay upbeat and determined," Reaman said. Upper Juliana Merullo explained the team's attitude

of responding to adversity with positivity. "We just put our all into practice on Thursday trying to work on playing as a team against good opponents," Merullo added.

Throughout the game, Big Red encountered many challenges. According to members of the team, the three hour bus ride and hot weather was detrimental to the team's performance. However, Reaman said that the team persevered through these uncontrollable factors. Senior and co-captain Lauren Arkell agreed with Reaman and added that the team "never gave up" at any point in the game regardless of how tired the players felt.

The team got off to a slow start in the game. Unfortunately, this set the tone for the rest of the game as Soxie's defense was pressured throughout the match without many opportunities to go on the offense. Merullo explained that this game opened the team's

eyes to how important it is to start the game aggressively. "I thought that we definitely improved on defending set plays and our communication, but we still had problems sustaining offensive attacks, in order to score and give our defense a break," she said.

Arkell also discussed her hopes for the team to improve its teamwork and cooperation. "We all get along so well off the fields but we can't seem connect on the field," she said.

Arkell recalled the inspiration she received from Jason Kuhn from the Stonewall Solutions program in the beginning of the year. She explained that Kuhn discussed the importance of being supportive teammates by boosting the team's morale. "He told us that you're never just cheering for yourself, you're cheering for your teammates and making sure they know you're playing for them," she added.

Despite the loss, Merullo expressed her optimism and belief that the team will learn from this game and improve in the near future.

"I know that this game isn't going to define our season, because we are constantly looking to improve and use our past failures to motivate us in the future!" she exclaimed. Reaman echoed Merullo's sentiments, discussing the team's excitement to perform better at future games. "This game was definitely challenging but it helped us identify what we can work on," she said.

Soxie will be playing in two games this week. On Wednesday, the team will travel to Brooks. On Saturday, Exeter will host Deerfield for the team's second home game of the season. With a home turf advantage, Soxie will be looking to redeem themselves with strong performances.

V-ball Crushes Taft, Hotchkiss in Straight Sets

By MADISON KANG
Staff Writer

The Big Red girls' volleyball team kicked off its 2017-18 season with two statement victories against Taft and Hotchkiss last Saturday. The girls defeated Taft in three games with scores of 25-16, 25-10, 25-22, and Hotchkiss in three games with scores of 25-16, 25-23, 25-9.

Exeter's players anticipated tough competition, since Taft's volleyball team placed second in the league at last year's New England championships.

Upper Tara Weil believes Exeter's triumph against Taft is a "good sign" of the team's potential this season. The fact that Big Red didn't drop a single set to last year's runner-ups bodes well for the team's future.

"[The game] was very validating for our team, especially against such a strong team like Taft's team. This win has me excited for what's coming," Weil said.

Despite a tight match in the second game against Hotchkiss, Exeter's players maintained their vigor through all six games. "In the second Hotchkiss game, we lost a bit of our control and we went out of system. But we kept our energy up and stayed focused," said upper Jenny Yang. "We also had a lot of good communication and covered each other and communicated well to get the ball over the net for our hard-earned win."

Yang was one of Saturday's standout players. She set a crucial hit in the third game against Hotchkiss, carrying Big Red

to a staggering victory. "Jenny always sets a perfect hit and we always get a great kill-off. But this time she set the ball just lightly over the net, rather than setting up for a kill, and the ball just landed exactly where it should have," Weil remembered. "It was the most beautiful set I have ever seen in my life."

Upper Sophie Faliero acknowledged the encouragement and enthusiasm of captains and seniors Margaret Kraus and Charlotte Polk throughout the games. "The captains were our leaders and the best cheerleaders! They maintained our energy on the court," she said. "They were always cheering. Even when we lost a couple of points they kept us focused by encouraging us to move on to the next play."

Prep Brody Faliero credited the team's breakout performance to its rigorous workouts, which included scrimmages and strategizing "out-of-system" plays, as well as the "hype" leading up to the games.

Weil expressed her satisfaction in the girls' teamwork. "We are a strong ensemble. It was a team effort and we all played to the best of our ability," she said. "Winning is a bonus, but playing for the team is what we do the best."

Now 2-0 on the season, the volleyball team looks to extend its win streak. Next up on the team's list is BB&N. Girls' volleyball has won the New England championships two out of the last three years and it hopes to return to the throne at the end of fall term.



Senior Margaret Kraus winds up for a spike.

Nuni Oryebode/The Exonian

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: SARA KOPUNOVA

By CHIM TASIE-AMADI
& SARAH RYU
Staff Writers

On the track, she sprints towards the finish line with determination in her eyes, as her coaches and teammates cheer her on from the sidelines yelling, "Go, Sara!" On Fridays, she can be seen wearing underwear over colorful, wacky leggings and taking pictures with her other teammates who are also dressed up in crazy costumes. All in all, senior and co-captain of the cross country team Sara Kopunova embodies the characteristics needed in a successful and respected captain who is both hard-working and cares about the team.

Kopunova first started running the year before she came to Exeter but started running competitively once she came here. She currently leads the cross country team with co-captain and senior Jo de la Bruyere, both of whom dedicate all of their passion and commitment to the team.

Kopunova explained that, undoubtedly, her favorite part about the sport was the team, especially since cross country is one of the few sports where teammates can talk to people as they run. "When you run, you can tell everyone about your day and it's just a very talkative sport. I love talking to people and running with them," she said.

As co-captain, Kopunova always tries her best to keep a strong sense of team unity and spirit, whether it's through dress up days on Friday or just always being there for the runners. Kopunova emphasized that there was definitely a more personal aspect, as well, in terms of leading the team. "I try to get to know each of the runners, have deeper conversations with them and just be there for them. Running is a hard sport and whether it's nutrition or injuries it's good as a captain to be a person that every runner can go up to," she said.

Teammate and senior Claire Melvin explained that Kopunova "isn't a captain because of an arbitrary title, but because she leads through action and empathy." "Sara is the first to run alongside you



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

while asking about your day. Sara doesn't just support the team, she raises us to a higher level of performance with her drive and dedication," she added.

Kopunova's teammates praised her hard work and dedication to communicating with the team this year. Senior Anna Clark explained that it was one of Kopunova's goals to make sure that everyone on the team knew about the different activities the team would do, whether it's tie-dye or superhero day. "She's been pouring a lot of effort into sending out emails, making sure people are included and of course she's been creating a positive environment through little things like jokes and positivity," Clark said.

Even people who are not on the cross country team feel the immense amount of optimism Kopunova radiates. Senior

Dolapo Adedokun, a close friend of hers, echoed the comments of both Melvin and Clark. "If you've been around her, she is constantly emanating positivity and happiness. "Just being around her is enough to make your day better."

Like a true Exonian, Kopunova excels beyond the cross country trails—she is a dedicated student as well. Adedokun described her as a hard worker in the classroom. "I don't know a lot of people who can handle doubling up on AP Sciences, Latin and calculus all of lower year. She takes advantage of what Exeter has, and audits courses so she can get the most of her time here," he said.

Even though a bright smile is always seen on Kopunova's face, she admitted that the running itself is tiring and painful. Yet she noted that all of this culmi-

nates into a rewarding experience and that she will always feel accomplished. "Sometimes it's difficult to not get burned out from running so many miles daily. Races and meets are a challenge, but it's important to stay positive and not put bricks on anyone else. Always put your maximum effort in there," she said.

No matter the difficulty or the circumstance, Kopunova will always cheer people on and always find something positive for the team. As Clark describes, "She doesn't try to be perfect and so it's very inspiring to see someone who is human, can complain, can be discouraged, but still pulls through to care about other people. She isn't afraid to go out of her comfort zone and make new friends and meet people. In all, she's just a lovely person."

Soccer Puts Up a Fight against Loomis



Upper Behaylu Barry dribbles around a defender.

Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

By ASHLEY LIN
Sports Editor

This Saturday, the boys' varsity soccer team travelled two and a half hours south to face off against Loomis Chaffee. Loomis is reputedly one of the strongest teams in the league, and according to co-captain Silas Lane, they recruit more players than most teams. Though there was a slim chance of the boys taking back a win, they still gave it their best effort to the very end, returning home with a tough loss of 5-1.

There was a general consensus among the team that they had struggled through the first half of the game. The boys associated their hardship with a

lack of teamwork. However, they quickly learned from their mistakes. As the game continued, the boys' chemistry grew. Lower Jake Gehron noted that, "We started to work together rather than individually." The team gained possession of the ball, and scored its first goal of the season.

Working off of the notion that teamwork was the ultimate source of success, the team tried to implement equal playing time among the grades. By putting in the preps to play, they made the team deeper and more experienced as a whole. As people say, a team is only as strong as its weakest link.

Something that co-captain and senior Dolapo Adedokun noticed during

the game was the team's perseverance. "The most positive thing I saw was that no one quit the game." This shows that the team's attitude is in the right place, and all that needs to be improved is how they are on the field.

Moving on from the loss, the team is looking to hold their heads high for the rest of the season. Adedokun says, "I don't think we should let this game discourage and define us for the rest of the season."

Co-captain and senior Silas Lane echoed Adedokun's sentiments. "I think everyone knows we can play better and get good results, it's just a matter of growing and performing in games we can win." To generate more wins throughout

the season, the boys will have to work on their skills. Postgraduate Tiago Schwartz commented on some of the aspects they work on at practice. "We've been working a lot on our defensive shape and creating chances in the attack."

The boys are still looking to snag a few wins throughout the season. "We want to get a good run of wins and our next couple games are an opportunity to get a start on that," Lane said.

Big Red's next boys' soccer game is on Wednesday at Belmont Hill. They will use this game as a chance to redeem themselves from last week's close game against Belmont Hill. Hopefully the team is able to turn things around and gain momentum for the rest of the season.



ExonianSports



Boys' Water Polo Dominates Double-Header



Senior and co-captain Jamie Cassidy surveys the pool for a pass.

Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

By ROSE HOROWITZ
Staff Writer

Exeter's boys' varsity water polo team started off its season with two wins in a double-header against the Suffield Academy and Hotchkiss. The team played both games on Saturday, and triumphed over Hotchkiss with nineteen goals to the other team's nine, and prevailed against the Suffield School with a score of fifteen to two.

Prep Adam Tuchler said that Saturday's wins demonstrated how hard the team is working to improve. He said about the games, "They reflected the effort that we have put into our practices in this previous week."

The team credited their captains, seniors Taylor Walshe, Jamie Cassidy and Jackson Parell, with helping them to improve by being skillful players and instilling determination in team members.

Upper Troy Marrero said, "All three of our captains bring energy to every game and always play very well."

In particular, upper James Wang said Walshe showed strong effort by winning every sprint to the ball. Senior Avery Giles also praised Walshe's work in the game. Giles said that Walshe won a swim off and brought the ball down the pool's length to his opponent's side.

The team also highlighted prep Ostris Russell's play, in particular his goal in the game against Suffield Academy. According to prep Adam Tuchler, Russell received a pass to score with only sixteen seconds remaining in the game.

Another play that stood out to team members was James Wang's penalty shots in the game against the Hotchkiss. Tuchler said that Wang was awarded three 5-meter shots, one of which was taken by prep Aidan O'Brien and two of which Wang

scored.

Although the team played well and was able to win its games, players were challenged by their opponents. Wang said that the matches highlighted areas the team can improve upon. He said, "Because one of our team's biggest strengths is our defense, we were somewhat disappointed that they were able to find holes in our defense and score some goals." However, he added that this was an important lesson, and the team plans to patch up any holes in their defense in their upcoming practices.

In addition to learning how to enhance its defense, the team improved on playing as a cohesive unit. According to Giles, the team may have the strongest starting line-up ever.

However, the starters only played a quarter of the game against Hotchkiss, and the second-string played for the remainder of the game. Giles said that this

was a positive for the team. "We grew as a team, and it was good to develop trust with our second-string as we know they can hold the game for us," he said. The second-string players put on quite the performance and even maintained Exeter's throughout the final three quarters.

Wang added that the team also improved their dynamic in its two games. He said, "The team is as close as ever, and I believe we can go even further than we did last year." Giles seconded this and said, "We would like to beat Brunswick this time in the finals."

In the coming week, Big Red will take on Andover with a home game on Wednesday. The team hopes to both continue their winning streak and improve upon their level of play in their match against Exeter's rival school to prepare for the inevitable Brunswick rematch in November.

Boys' XC Scopes Out Schols Scene at Choate



Senior Grayson Derossi sprints to the finish. Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

By JO DE LA BRUYERE
Contributing Writer

At the annual Choate Rosemary Hall Invitational this Saturday, boys' cross country took on one of the NEPSTA's most grueling courses. They did so alongside teams from ten other schools: Loomis Chaffee, Andover, Choate, Westminster, St. Mark's, Brunswick, Trinity-Pauling, Williams, Kingswood-Oxford and Cheshire. The turnout was considerably more impressive than the Invitational's usual one; this year, the race carried with it particular weight.

The 2017 NEPSAC Division I cross country championships will be held at Choate. In November, Exeter's boys will defend their 2016 Interschols victory there, battling for their sixth one in seven years. So the Invitational offered Big Red's thirty-four runners a unique opportunity to scope out the terrain on which they will run the most important five kilometers of their season.

In the words of senior and captain Grayson Derossi, "this was our chance to learn not just our strengths and weaknesses on the course, but also to learn where other runners faltered and flew—all to prepare for the championship race."

Course-scouting aside, the team hoped to make a strong impression at its season opener. "Exeter's cross country team has a fierce reputation," said senior Gregory Zhu. "We wanted to let other schools know that even though many of our best runners graduated last year, we are still a force with which to be reckoned."

In the novice race, the team asserted its

dominance and achieved its goal. Preps Connor Chen, Croix Mikofsky and Varun Oberal led the pack from the start. The rest of Exeter's novice runners trailed closely behind; the final results counted eight of Big Red's team members among the top ten finishers.

Derossi lauded the new runners' performance; "they raced with spirit, packing together and pushing each other forwards. I think they struck some fear into the hearts of the other teams."

To Zhu, the veteran race was "decidedly less glorious." Led by lower Will Coogan, who placed seventh, Exeter finished third behind Loomis and Andover. The team's top runners were more spread out than usual, but Big Red still finished with five of its members—Will Coogan, Alex Renaud, Charlie Neuhaus, Grayson Derossi and Jed Breen—in the top 25.

Upper Charlie Neuhaus acknowledged that though the results were disappointing, they weren't altogether surprising. "We knew that the competition would be difficult," he said. Zhu echoed that sentiment; "Last year, Andover and Loomis had really strong guys—we knew it was going to be a gritty race."

Derossi emphasized that the results of the Choate Invitational have little bearing on the rest of the team's season. "We each ran hundreds of miles over the summer to prepare for cross country. We train through races, not for them—except Interschols. We don't give up easily. We've been a good team for so many years because we put in the work day after day after day. If anything, this race strengthened our conviction to train with purpose this season."

Inside Sports

Girls' Soccer



Nami Oyebo/The Exonian

The girls' soccer team faced tough competition last weekend. Find out more on page B4.

Athlete of the Week



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Senior Sara Kopunova is a stud on the cross country trails and an even better captain. Read more on page B5.

Boys' Soccer



Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

The boys' soccer team played Loomis, one of the best in the league, last Saturday. Read more about the game on B5.

Girls' Volleyball



Diana Davidson/The Exonian

Volleyball demolished the competition in its opening games. Read more about the team's domination on B4.