



MacFarlane Announces Principal's Day

Students Elect Representatives For Each Class

By SARAH RYU
and JARED ZHANG
Staff Writers

Student Council Class Representatives for the rising senior and upper classes have been elected for the 2017-2018 school year. The rising lower class will hold a separate runoff election next Tuesday to decide their student representatives. Upper Taylor Walsh will serve as senior class president, with upper Winslow MacDonald serving as vice president and upper Oluwadara (Dara) Okereke as treasurer. Lower Michaela Phan, Samantha Resnick and Adrian Venzon will serve as upper class representatives. Seven students have made it to the runoff election for lower representative: Inwo Kang, Billy Menken, Eman Noraga, Andrew Sun, Audrey Vanderslice, Charlie Venci and Ryan Xie.

Unlike in previous school years, the voter turnout was inconsistent between classes. The lowest turnout was for the lower class, from which only sixteen percent of students voted. This abnormally low turnout was due to the fact that only three candidates qualified for the election, meaning that the three candidates were essentially secured a position even prior to voting. The upper class had the next highest turnout, with almost 50 percent of the students voting. The prep class had the highest turnout rate, with around 73 percent of the class having

CLASS REPS, A2



Diana Davidson/The Exonian

Senior Sarah Brown revels in color and excitement at Sunday's Holi celebration.

Alumni Return To Campus for Class Reunions

By DON ASSAMONGKOL
and PAUL JAMES
Staff Writers

The classes of 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2002 returned to the Exeter campus last weekend for their reunions, which gave them a chance to reconnect with former classmates and teachers. The alumni weekend brought hundreds of Exeter graduates to various events over the three-day period: Assembly, Harkness classes, campus tours and more. Throughout the spring, Exeter will host a total of 15 alumni class reunions, with more than 1,200 alumni and guests attending.

Director of Alumni and Parent Relations Ann Lockwood said that reunions give many alumni a time for self reflection and reconnection. "Reunions offer the opportunity to return to Exeter and reconnect with classmates and the school. We consistently hear from alumni that Exeter was a life-changing experience for them," she said. "Reunions are a time when alumni reflect on this gift and they leave with a renewed sense of what they gained personally from their experience here."

While the weekends are fun and relaxing for alumni, Lockwood explained that reunion planning has always been difficult. "There are many logistics to manage to ensure a smooth event and we could not do it without the tremendous support by so many departments across campus, such as Security, Dining Services, Facilities—to name just a few," she said.

Lockwood went on, saying that the hard work pays off every year. "Reunions

REUNIONS, A2

President and VP of Trustees To Step Down

By JOHN BECKERLE
Staff Writer

President of the Trustees Eunice 'Nicie' Johnson Panetta '84 and Vice President of the Trustees Marc C. de La Bruyère '77 will step down from their respective positions on June 30 this year.

Panetta initially planned to retire in 2015 when she still held the title of Vice President of the Trustees; however, to prevent Principal Lisa MacFarlane from starting her first year with a new President and Vice President of the Trustees, Panetta's colleagues urged her to stay for an additional two years to facilitate the transition.

Panetta will be replaced by John A. "Tony" Downer '75. Downer and his wife, Amy Chan Downer '75, have three children who graduated Exeter as members of the class of 2006 and 2007.

The Downers endowed the Academy's newly-constructed Downer Family Fitness Center in 2015. Panetta said that Downer will lead the Trustees well, as evident from his generosity towards the Academy. "Mr. Downer has served the school with great skill and dedication for many years, and I am confident he will continue to do so in this new role," she said.

Wole C. Coaxum '88, who became a Trustee in 2012, will succeed de La Bruyère as Vice President of the Trustees. Coaxum is currently the President of the General Alumni Association.

In an email to all Exeter employees, Panetta and de La Bruyère complimented both Coaxum and Downer. "They are both exemplary Exonians, and we are thrilled to be leaving the Trustee leadership in such good hands," Panetta and de La Bruyère wrote.

De La Bruyère plans to work in conjunction with Chief of Planning & Facilities

PANETTA, A2



Jala Govdani/The Exonian

Lowers Yaseen Ahmed, Gillian Quinto, Matthew Kang and Euwie Park to join DC.

Four Lowers Appointed to The Discipline Committee

By ZAC FENG
and MADISON KANG
Staff Writers

Lowers Yaseen Ahmed, Matt Kang, Eujing Park and Gillian Quinto were selected to serve on Exeter's Discipline Committee, joining current members Menat Bahnsy, Chi-Chi Ikpeazu, Athena Stenor and Winslow MacDonald for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year. Seniors Hillary Aristotle, Connie Cai, Alan Liu, Aidan Wolff-King and Henrietta Reilly will conclude their two-year tenures on the committee this Spring.

The Discipline Committee, comprised of both students and faculty members, is tasked with reviewing major disciplinary offenses and deliberating over appropriate consequences. According to Exeter's E-book, "The primary goals of the Academy in its discipline system are to educate students and to treat them as fairly as possible when rules are broken."

Student applicants were required to collect 350 signatures to become eligible candidates. Based on the results of a school-wide election in January, the eight lowers with the most votes from an initial pool of eighteen candidates advanced to the next round of the selection process. The current Discipline Committee

reviewed their transcripts and faculty recommendations, interviewed them to assess their personal qualities and their ability to serve on the committee.

Dean of Residential Life Arthur Cosgrove felt that the initial eight candidates represented some of the student body's finest. "The eight candidates that they brought to us were all terrific and all eight of them had the qualifications to do a great job on the discipline committee," he said.

Although all of the candidates were qualified for the job, Cosgrove felt that Ahmed, Kang, Quinto and Park exemplified the qualities that a member on the committee should have. "Collectively, the four candidates are people who are trustworthy, who are willing to listen and are not judgmental, provide an honest opinion about how they feel and also deal with nuances that come along with our disciplinary process," Cosgrove said.

MacDonald said that the committee also looked for students who are empathetic, assertive and eloquent. "One must also be open-minded, and able to separate themselves from any previous biases," he said. "The role of a member on the Discipline Committee is an important one, and it is vital that the students selected embody these values."

He added that candidates must be able to fit the responsibilities the new role entails into their busy schedules. "Disciplinary Committee is not an easy job. While student members don't attend every case, as there is a rotation, there is a significant time commitment," he said. "Members of the Discipline Committee must be able to prioritize their work and social life with what can be a very time-consuming role on the Discipline Committee."

Cai elaborated on the commitments that serving on the Discipline Committee entails. "We want someone on the committee who has a very genuine commitment to this community," she said. "This means not only caring about other students [and] faculty, but also understanding how individual actions affect others."

Ikpeazu expressed her confidence in the four newly appointed members and commended all eight of the candidates for their enthusiasm. "The decision was, without a doubt, difficult," she said. "All of the candidates displayed sound minds and dedication to our community. The new members had a variety of experiences not solely centered around life at Exeter, being open-minded. I look forward to hearing their opinions and seeing them help our fellow Exonians."

Ikpeazu also said that she will miss the senior members of the committee, who were exemplary role models and leaders for last year's newly selected members. "In addition to being well-grounded and extremely wise, they provided support for us uppers on the committee," she said. "They are people to look up to because they showed poise in the most personal and emotional situations."

Cai reflected on her time on the DC and how it has defined her Exeter career. "It is one of the most enlightening and rewarding things I've done, and has taught me a lot about myself and Exeter," she said. "I think DC is really important to shaping our community and I'm honored to have been on it for two years."

She also has high hopes for the four new members. "Those selected for next year will do an incredible job and will make our community more welcoming and like a home for all Exonians," Cai said.

Quinto hopes to balance empathy

DC, A2

INSIDE

NEWS

Faculty and students discuss "13 Reasons Why," the hit Netflix show with potentially problematic depictions of suicide. A6.

Matthew McGill '92 visited campus last Friday and gave a speech at assembly about his work as a lawyer. A2.

OPINIONS

Lower Paul James discusses the bribing of American officials by foreigners hoping to expedite the naturalization process. A5.

Lower Mark Blekherman compares the Rwandan Genocide to the conflict in Darfur. A5.

LIFE

Read about the MIT Logs, who performed for Exonians on Friday, May 5. B1.

SPORTS

Read about girls JV Lax's most recent victory over Brooks, keeping its undefeated streak this season. B5.

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Classes of '87, '92, '97, '02 Return to Campus for Reunions

Continued from REUNIONS, A1

are a highlight for our alumni and many of them begin talking about coming to their next reunion before the weekend is even over.

Reza Niazi-Sai, a member of the class of '97, confirmed Lockwood's belief. "Not a moment passes where the way I lead my life, some way somehow, Exeter is always a part of it," he said. "The way I look at things and interact with people, this place has a way of shaping you that you don't even realize until later." He also expressed his gratitude that Exeter "helps you figure out how to challenge yourself at all times and how to be closer to the moment you're in."

Alumna Kendra Miller felt similarly. "There are so many awesome clubs, classes and sports here," she said. "It's great when you get to pick electives and really go deep into things that interest you. "It's really good to be back and hear what everyone has been doing since they graduated."

Toby Muresianu '02 said that reunions were a great time for him to revisit life as

a high schooler. "There's so many details of Exeter life that you don't remember until you see them and then the memories come flying back," he said. "I was in class sitting in and somebody asked what my Reporter at Large paper was about, and I had not thought about that since I was here 15 years ago."

Muresianu went on to describe the physical connection he had made with Exeter's campus over the years. "Going to the old buildings just remembering all the things that happened like Frisbee golf—we'd be on one end of the campus and say the lighting pole outside the lighting center was the first hole and we'd throw our frisbees," he said. "There are just some things you don't think about until you come back here."

Niazi-Sai reflected on how the campus has changed since his time at Exeter. "I think the most change has been physical; the spirit of the place is still the same," he said. Roderick West '97 agreed, saying, "It's amazing seeing some of the changes on

campus. When I was here, Webster was two separate dorms: Webster North and Webster South, and now it's just one big dorm," he said. "Everything was very old school when I was back here and seeing the new developments like the Bowld really impressed me."

West also observed a shift in the culture on campus. "My time at Exeter, I think, was one of the most developmental phases in my life. The academic rigour offered here really made college easy because we focus so much on our academics here," he said. "You don't believe it until you actually see it for yourself. But I think it's better now with a balance of life, clubs and activities and academics."

Sojin Song '92 agreed and expressed awe at the students that Exeter attract. "Kids here nowadays are so talented: there was a singer who composed his own piece and was conducting the concert choir," he said. "I was amazed. The classes [themselves] were great and I was impressed by the depth of the discussions."

Song also said that although each reunion provides him a chance to reconnect with old classmates, the later ones have proved more genuine and valuable. "As Exonians, we're pretty driven and so people can be insecure about what they've achieved. On the 5th, it was centered on where you went to school. For the 15th, it was more so what you had been up to and your professional life," he said. "And now on the 25th, it's are you happy with your life, are you fulfilled. Nobody cares anymore about what you're doing in the professional world, it's more about your personal life and that's cool. We're not exchanging business cards looking to get ahead anymore."

West, like many other alumni, expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm for Exeter. "If somebody asked me if I were to do Exeter all over again, my answer would be absolutely," he said. "Yeah, winters here suck and the 333 is draining, but all in all, the positives and benefits of having gone to Exeter is incomparable. I love coming back and seeing all the old faces and memories."

Walsh, MacDonald, Okeremi Elected to Represent Senior Class



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Uppers Winslow MacDonald, Dara Okeremi and Taylor Walsh will represent the senior class.

Continued from DC COMMITTEE, A1

down in survivor." He said he looks forward to working with his fellow class representatives, noting that he has had two completely different representative combinations over the past two years, both of which were successful. "I have no doubt that Dara, Winslow and I will work well together," Walsh said.

MacDonald agreed, recalling his experiences of sharing classes with both Walsh and Okeremi. "I've had both Taylor and Dara in class before, and know them both to be hard-working individuals," he said. "I know that all three of us can work together efficiently to accomplish our goals."

MacDonald hopes to accomplish this by sticking to the goals they proposed during their campaigns. "I hope that I can push for the completion of my campaign promises, as well as Taylor's and Dara's," he said. "I also hope to incorporate new ideas that weren't necessarily on my platform initially."

Okeremi was also enthusiastic about representing her class. "I am excited to see how the entire class can work together and I really look forward to see what happens," she said, adding that during her time as treasurer, she hopes to work with her fellow representatives to bring more events and changes for the senior class. "I hope to have more senior class events outside of Exeter like a senior class trip to the beach. I also hope to bring back the possibility of having a mental health day because we didn't really talk about mental health at all this year."

He added that he wants to ensure his class's senior year, and time beyond Exeter, is memorable for the entire grade. "Our classmates are what makes Exeter exceptional, and I want the class of 2018 to be as bonded as possible," he said. "I want to make next year our best year."

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Walsh was grateful for the community's support. "Everyone ran a great campaign so it's unfortunate that only the top three get selected. With that being said, other candidates had some great ideas and I would like to work with them to achieve some of their platforms," he said. "I'm excited to work with

Dara and Winslow and I know we'll do our best to make it a remarkable and memorable last year for the class of 2018."

Upper representatives were decided earlier without any runoffs, as only three candidates qualified for the first round. Venzon explained that it was unfortunate that only three people qualified, but noted that he and his fellow representatives make a good group. "I'm super excited to get to be the class [representative] again," he said. "It was a lot of work this year but it was very fun and rewarding. I hope to continue to make fun events and do a better job of representing the lowers in StuCo."

In an unexpected turn of events, the lower representative results were delayed. Out of the thirteen candidates, the seven candidates who received the most votes in the first round of voting were selected for a second round of voting on Friday. The vote margins between the candidates were too close for three clear winners to be declared, so StuCo decided to hold a seven person runoff election.

Venci explained that he ran for lower representative to bring a "fresh perspective for the class of 2020." Sun said that his goal was to "bring the class of 2020 together." Due to the unexpected runoff, many of the lower representative candidates will be utilizing the extra time to campaign further. "I plan to continue to put up posters and spread my platform," Sun said.

New Members of DC Chosen

Continued from DC COMMITTEE, A1

and discipline during her tenure with the DC. "My plans for the next two years are to be a just and kind member of DC and to help the faculty make the best decisions possible," she said. "I want to help educate students and give them a second chance at succeeding at Exeter."

Ahmed felt similarly to Quinto. "It's important for faculty to be able to have that student voice saying this is how the actions of this individual has affected the community as a whole," he said. "I [want] to help represent my fellow students, but also try to make sure the school is the best place it can be by helping the

DC make those hard decisions."

He also hoped that next year's committee will reach flexible solutions in response to disciplinary cases. "I think we need to take a better look at how we are responding to what students do," he added. "Right now, we have pretty binary options as to how [cases] can go. How we respond to disciplinary cases and what happens to the student afterwards are important to keep in mind."

Quinto is ready to assume her role. "I know the gravity of the decisions and all [they] entail," she said. "I think the other people chosen will be great members, and we will have a good variety of viewpoints around the table."

Downer to Replace Panetta

Continued from TRUSTEES, A1

ties, Roger Wakeman, to lead a campus-wide master plan for future building projects. He will assume the role of Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to do so.

Once Panetta steps down, she will retire from the Trustees entirely. "What I love most about serving as a trustee is spending time with students, faculty, staff and alumni, making intergenerational connections," Panetta said. "The good news for me is I can still do that as an alum."

She reflected on the opportunities that have been afforded to her in her time working for the Trustees. "I am so grateful to

have had the chance to serve the Academy. I am hopeful that I will find new opportunities to keep practicing Harkness in other settings and keep infusing non sibi in my future work," she said.

Panetta and de La Bruyere hope to make the transition as smooth as possible. "Our recent time in leadership of our beloved school has been a difficult time for Exeter, but also a time of learning and an opportunity to set the stage for the Academy's next chapter," they wrote, adding that they both enjoyed their respective tenures. "Serving this vibrant and caring community has been a profound honor, and we have strived to live up to our responsibilities."

McGill '92 Discusses U.S. Supreme Court, Exeter Memories

By JACQUELINE CHO
Staff Writer

Lawyer Matthew McGill '92 spoke about the stagnancy of the United States Supreme Court over the past year, and shared anecdotes from his time at Exeter last Friday, May 5. In addition to discussing controversial viewpoints regarding the Supreme Court, he also gave his annual review of the major Supreme Court cases of the past year.

McGill is currently a partner at the Washington law firm Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he specializes in litigation before the Supreme Court of the United States and other appellate courts. He has argued more than 20 cases before the Supreme Court, and authored winning briefs in most of those cases.

McGill argued before the Supreme Court for Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010), which was described by the *New York Times* as a "doctrinal earthquake." The case overruled two Supreme Court precedents and established the First Amendment right of corporations to spend general treasury funds on speech activities to influence the outcome of elections. McGill also represented the two same-sex couples in *Hollingsworth v. Perry* (2013). This case secured the rights of same-sex couples in California to marry.

At Friday's assembly, McGill spoke about the Supreme Court's recent decision on *Lee v. Tam* (2017), which arose from a conflict between Simon Tam and the U.S.

Trademark Office. On November 14, 2011, Tam and his band, The Slants, were denied their application to register their name because the Office thought it would be disparaging towards "persons of Asian descent." The case brought up the question of whether the Disparagement Clause of 1946 was factually invalid under the Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment.

McGill thoroughly explained both sides of the case, enabling students to understand a complex trial. However, some students voiced their disappointment with McGill's subject matter. Senior Bonnie LaBonte expressed her wish to hear more about the judicial process itself. "I was hoping he would have talked more about the evolving judicial process or what goes into making monumental decisions or what the process was like for him," she said.

Senior Luna Schlor found McGill's stories about Exeter the most striking. "I really enjoyed listening to him talk about his experiences living in Main Street, and thought the picture of him and his friends was really funny," Schlor said.

McGill also visited History Instructor William Jordan's Law and American Society class after the assembly. The class had been reading about the Supreme Court's decision on *King v. Burwell* (2015), when Supreme Court Justice John Roberts ruled in favor of the Affordable Care Act. Students had just read "The Oath," a book by liberal New Yorker Jeffrey Toobin that heavily criticized the conservative view-



Gavin Hickey/The Exonian

Matthew McGill '92 shares stories of his Exeter experience at assembly last Friday.

point. McGill, who stood on the conservative side of the case, gave students a new perspective on the case.

Jordan described McGill's speech as "really interesting," and appreciated having a conservative viewpoint expressed at Exeter. "Almost everyone at Exeter tends to be liberal, so to hear somebody who's an alum explain why he thought it was the right decision was really good," Jordan said. "Nobody had ever thought about that. It's great to have a conservative viewpoint expressed in a place where they so seldom are."

Senior Lyle Seelgison, who is current-

ly taking Law and American Society, also went to hear McGill speak about arguing in front of the Supreme Court at his Lat-study lunch. "It was interesting to hear about the more experiential and personal aspects of being before the Supreme Court from someone who's had first-hand experience," she said. "That kind of perspective is not one you encounter often, so having Mr. McGill here was a great opportunity for Exeter students to learn more about not only the cases the Court has heard, but the experience of interacting and speaking with the justices up close."

PEA Dissertation Fellowship Program Discontinued

By MAI HOANG, JOHN BECKERLE
and GENESIS REYES
Staff Writers

The administration recently discontinued the Dissertation Fellowship, which has attracted emerging doctoral scholars of color to the Academy for the past four years. The fellowship has previously been offered annually to two candidates from a pool of over thirty, and has included a \$14,310 stipend alongside room, board and other benefits for one school year. Most fellows have not obtained permanent teaching positions at Exeter afterwards, due to a lack of vacant job positions. Instead, most have ended up moving to other institutions, including many elite boarding schools, such as Phillips Andover.

According to Dean of Multicultural Affairs Rosanna Salcedo, the purpose of the Dissertation Fellowship is to "introduce potential faculty of color to the Academy." As such, Ph.D. students of color who are "underrepresented in higher education" are particularly encouraged to apply. In the past, candidates have submitted their applications to Salcedo, who reviewed them and made final decision based on their demonstrated scholarship, personal journeys and financial needs. Current fellow Miriam Villanueva said that fellows are "completely independent" from the teaching activities of the school, although they usually are involved with "helping affinity groups, and maybe every now and then helping with a class."

Chief Financial Officer David Hanson explained that expenses incurred by the fellowship program drew from the Exeter Fund, annual tuition, and endowed funds—namely the

John and Elizabeth Phillips Fellowship Fund, which has a current market value of 2.3 million dollars. After finalizing the number of fellows in the Dissertation Fellowship program and other programs, the Dean of Faculty "submitted budget requests for approval by the Trustees on behalf of all faculty," Hanson said. Although endowed funds can still "continue to support program costs," funds especially designated for instant use, or "current use" funds, are expected to run out by the end of the 2017 fiscal year. The size of current use funds fluctuate based on annual donorship, once they are used up, they are gone.

As stated by Assistant Principal Ronald Kim, the portions allotted for the Dissertation Fellowship have been depleted. "The budget that had supported it has been exhausted," he said. "We are looking into adapting the program in the future and finding funding to support an even better model for attracting rising scholars and potential teachers to Exeter."

Villanueva expressed gratitude for the program for having provided her not just with housing and meals but with "a stipend for conference and research," which she spent going to Lima, Peru for a weekend to present her project.

Jacqueline Lyon, another dissertation fellow, said that "including all the non-monetary benefits," the fellowship is on par with similar ones offered to graduate students elsewhere.

The fellows are usually in the writing stage by the time they arrive at Exeter, hoping to complete their dissertations by the end of their time on campus. They are also provided various opportunities to get involved in the Exeter community. "We go through the same training

as the faculty so that we are aware of the boundaries and understand what it is like to work with boarding school students," Villanueva said.

According to Lyon, fellows took part in "student and student-faculty book and affinity clubs, attended assemblies, meditations, and lectures, and have joined in faculty fitness activities."

Villanueva and Lyon both have had mixed experiences during their time at Exeter. Lyon, who came to the Academy with a strong interest in learning about career opportunities at Exeter and similar institutions, said that, "The quality of education at Exeter and the dedication of the staff and students have exceeded my expectations."

While Villanueva agreed, she also faced a difficult transition coming to Exeter. "It's a bit of a culture shock considering that New England is very insular," she said. "The dissertation writing process can be isolating for anyone as it requires a lot of time alone in the library and a lot of mental concentration. Not having an established support system can make the process more difficult."

Nonetheless, she is grateful for all the program has offered. "It's a great environment for teaching," she said. "I learned so much and I made connections with other fellows." During her time at Exeter, she has found "a good community of kids and faculty who offer a lot of support."

Neither of the fellows will work at Phillips Exeter as faculty members next year. Lyon will be teaching anthropology at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, while Villanueva will be working in the history department at Phillips Andover. She is also excited to teach a winter

elective that will focus on the immigrant population in Lawrence, Massachusetts. "I can start teaching more about the history of the borderland and also about Panama," she said. "That's what I'm interested in—sharing my culture with everyone."

Both of the fellows have appreciated the faculty support they've been given while at PEA. "Several Exeter faculty members have offered mentorship in my job search, especially Dr. Erik Wade, Rosanna Salcedo and Ron Kim," Lyon said. Meanwhile, Villanueva said that if Exeter had had an opening this year in its history department, she would have been happy to stay.

Although disappointed by the program's indefinite halt, many expressed the need for a fundamental restructuring of the Dissertation Fellowship, were it to be reintroduced. For example, Villanueva suggested that the fellows be given an office and that the current one-year program could be replaced with a two-year program in which the fellows would work with the affinity groups during their first year and teach at the Academy the following year. "That would make the program much stronger considering people, like me, are usually thinking about teaching secondary students," she said.

Lyon agreed, pointing out that Exeter has not retained any of its past fellows, despite the fact that some have shown interest in staying. "I think more expectation of hiring needs and also more involvement from departments who intend to hire in the selection process and throughout the tenure of the fellowship can improve the retention," she said. "I think students and faculty need to be more committed to active change."

Exonians Sit for Advanced Placement Exams, Miss Class

By ZAC FENG
and MADISON KANG
Staff Writers

Each May, many upperclassmen Exonians face an additional academic endeavor: the Advanced Placement (AP) exam. The subject-based AP exams, known for their time-consuming and comprehensive nature, require test-takers to sit for three-hour long tests, missing their morning classes in order to complete them. Since the start of AP exams last week, many students have discussed the value of AP exams, their place in the Exeter curriculum and students' preparation for them.

AP exams are administered on campus for 14 academic disciplines including Chemistry, Calculus, Physics, English Literature and various foreign languages. Each exam contains a multiple choice and free response section. The tests offer students college credit, exemption from college distribution requirements or exemption from introductory-level requirements in certain disciplines in college.

Lower Ewrie Park, who took the AP Chemistry exam, says she did so in order to expedite her college course sequence. "Exeter already has a challenging pre-college education so I think it's worth taking a standardized test like the AP to measure my comprehension and possibly get credit for it," she said. "I want to be able to take more relevant and fun and interesting classes in college instead of being bored and frustrated in introductory courses that I have already learned the material for here at Exeter."

In the past, AP exams have been taken primarily by seniors who have already been accepted by colleges, but an increasing number of qualified uppers and lowers have chosen to take the tests in recent years in hopes that high AP scores can boost their college applications. "To be honest, I take them to get into college, but I guess it kind of helps that I don't have to take those classes when I'm in college," upper Isaac Browne said.

Some seniors believe that taking AP exams solely for the purpose of college admissions is unnecessary. "Colleges seem to know that Exeter curriculum is really hard on its own, so APs are not that relevant to our applications," senior Alec Sun said.

Sun added that Exeter's curriculum offers students such a broad range of academic opportunities that AP courses are not the only way to distinguish themselves in the college application process. "The pressure to take APs is definitely less here at Exeter than at public schools. For my public school friends, APs are the only way they can differentiate themselves and show their academic dedication," he said. "We're fortunate to have so many challenging and interesting

course listings so that APs are not the only option."

Senior Stephen Price advised Exonians not to fixate on the quantity of AP exams they take during their high school careers. "If you're stressed about college apps, my advice is don't feel pressured to take APs, because it's kind of useless and arduous if you aren't actually interested in the subject," he said. "My [hometown] friend took twenty-three APs, while I took seven during my high school career, but we're both going to our same dream school together next year."

Students observed that the emphasis on AP exams differs from course to course. For most of the year, Advanced Calculus students work out of Exeter's own workbook and word problems curated by the mathematics department, until late April, when teachers offer practice AP tests. On the other hand, the Accelerated Chemistry curriculum is very focused on the AP test topics and strategy throughout the school year.

"Accelerated Chem seems to be more geared toward the AP in the way that since it's accelerated course, a majority of the time they teach things that are tailored to the AP curriculum without going as in depth as the Advanced Chemistry course and doing less labs to complement understanding," lower and Accelerated Chemistry student Calvin Henaku said.

Leading up to the AP exams, most courses switch their homework topics to multiple choice and free response questions that simulate those that appear on the test. Henaku's chemistry class, for example, changed their class structure for the exam. "The workload definitely changes as you approach the AP," he said. "You get less tests and you begin to do more review and AP specific multiple choice and AP free response while getting less homework that brings up newer content."

Lower Raj Das, who took the AP Computer Science test, said his class split into two groups, one with students not taking the exam that focused on their current course material, while the other group focused on AP preparation.

Park feels that although Collegeboard's AP system does not fully align with Exeter's curriculum, test preparation will help her retain cumulative course material. "APs, with that fill-in-the-bubble and one-right-answer system, are kind of incompatible with Exeter's trademark discussion-based, Harbness and thoughtful learning style," she said. "I'm glad the school doesn't teach students specifically to achieve high scores on APs. Test prep was kind of stressful, but I think all the studying will help me remember the subject for the long run and further my understanding in college courses."

"We All Bleed Red" Exhibit To Showcase Student Work

By ROSE HOROWITZ
and KIANA SILVER
Staff Writers

We All Bleed Red, a student-organized multimedia arts project, will be displayed on campus in Agora from May 20th to May 30th, after months of hard work from student contributors and organizers. This is the second iteration of the project, which was started in 2016 by alumni Kevin Zhen '16 and Pranay Vemulamadala '16, along with current senior Carissa Chen. Chen organized the event this year, along with senior Nada Zohayr, uppers Pedro Sanson and Madison Stern and lower Jeremy Xu.

The exhibition will feature artistic submissions such as stories, paintings, drawings and other works from Exeter students. An opening will be held on May 20 from 6 PM to 8 PM. This year, the event will feature English instructor Mercedes Carbonell, musical performances from seniors Joonho Jo, Aivant Goyal and Charis Edwards, a poetry reading by upper Maria Heeter, and a dance performance from lower Katrina Schmidt. The scope of this year's project is larger than last year's, featuring a wider range of student submissions focusing on the central theme of intersecting identities. "What is it like to be _____ and _____ at Exeter?"

The event offers Exonians the chance to examine aspects of themselves that are seemingly at odds, in the wake of a vitriolic election cycle that has led to a nation-wide reckoning on topics of intersectionality and personal identity. "In the light of the current political climate, I think understanding multi-dimensional aspects of each other becomes incredibly important," Chen said. Sanson highlighted the fluidity of the event in respect to the ever-changing atmosphere at Exeter. "With every school year Exeter's identity is changing," Sanson explained. "There are always new perspectives, cultures, ethnicities and beliefs that reshape who we are as a community."

The We All Bleed Red event will feature submissions from over fifteen Exonians in a variety of media, with the intention of eliciting deeper thinking and emotional responses from the audience. "Our hope in leading such a gallery is that out of the 1000+ members of the Exeter community, a student will stop to admire the artwork, and something will shift inside of him or her...perhaps a story or a

poem resonates with the student, and they find empathy with the author," Chen said.

According to Zhen, this goal, which has not changed since the event's conception, arises from the fact that many Exonians have surface connections with each other but are not connecting on personal levels. "Rarely do we purposefully make ourselves vulnerable and share the stories that shape our core," he said. "Our hope is that through this project we can get to know one another a little better as people—not just classmates, not just roommates, not just people who attend the same clubs as us and share meals with us—but as people, as Exonians."

Lower Wynter Tracey, whose poem "A Love Letter to a Black Girl" and portraits of African-American males on campus (entitled #BlackBoyJoy showcase) are to be featured in We All Bleed Red embraced the opportunity to participate in the event. "I decided to submit mostly because there aren't a lot of opportunities outside of art classes to create visual art just for the sake of art, so I wanted to take the opportunity to do that for myself because it's something I really care about," she explained. She also highlighted the event as a platform through which to experience differing backgrounds on campus. "[It] allows students to gain different perspective of their peers outside of the classroom by exploring their unique identities," she said. "Hopefully it will inspire people to reach out and get to know their fellow Exonians' more behind-the-surface aspects of their lives."

The founders of We All Bleed Red hope to create a sense of empathy between Exonians and our community through the exhibit, and spark a conversation from that sense of empathy. "We want to start a dialogue, a discussion about our community and its culture," Chen said.

The project will be continuing next year, with Pedro Sanson '18, Jeremy Xu '19 and Madison Stern '18 spearheading it in 2018. The students intend for the event to grow as each year passes, becoming larger not only in the number of artworks displayed, but also in its significance within the community. "We need to take care—of ourselves and of each other—in this community," Lamont Gallery Director Lauren O'Neal said. "I hope to see the project continue each year as a way to inspire and engage us all in these critical issues."

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The Case for an Open Exeter

Alec Howe '17
Guest Contributor

At the heart of Exeter's core mission is a belief that Exeter ought to endow students with both strong virtues and strong analytical skills. As John Phillips himself stated, "goodness without knowledge is weak and feeble, yet knowledge without goodness is dangerous, and that both united form the noblest character, and lay the surest foundation of usefulness to mankind." Now, more than ever, it's critical for Exeter to stay true to its mission. Today's world is more interconnected than ever before, and today's problems are increasingly intractable. These challenges call for leaders with both the empathy to relate to the opposition as well as the intelligence to devise multifaceted solutions. The good news first—Exeter is doing very well on the knowledge-building front. The curriculum is challenging. Our students continue to win prestigious awards. And applications were up 7 percent this year alone, reflecting Exeter's high standing amongst peer schools. But Exeter needs to realize that intelligence alone doesn't make good leaders or moral citizens. A lack of open discussion about politics, culture and ethics risks hurting Exeter's ability to graduate students with a real understanding of what "goodness" is. It doesn't have to be this way.

The centerpiece of the "Exeter Experience" is the Harkness table and the culture of discussion that it engenders. Around the table, students learn not only how to articulate themselves, but also how to properly engage with opposition—they learn to go into discussions with an open mind and they learn to accept the fact that they might be wrong. Through Harkness, students learn to face controversy head on and to not veer from challenges. It's not intellect that distinguishes Exonians—it's the ability to navigate through nuance and reach reasoned conclusions. Exonians have proven time and time again that they are able to have mature conversations. And that's why I think it's time for the current system of top-down morality to stop.

But what exactly do I mean by "top-down morality"? I'm talking about the cultural shift that's taken place at Exeter over the past four years, in which morality has been robbed of its nuance. In which Exonians have been "protected" from grappling with uncomfortable questions surrounding contemporary issues relating to race, gender, sexuality, sexual assault, masculinity/femininity, politics and a host of other serious matters. Through

overly preachy assemblies, through the school's rejection of Fred Grandy, through new regulations that prevent students from talking to teachers from behind closed doors, through the pressuring out of Dr. Chavers after the publication of her article, through increased censorship of *The Exonian* and by preventing clubs from meeting without a teacher present, Exeter's leadership has gradually phased out moral controversy and the venues in which such controversy is discussed. This is a mistake.

When I first came to Exeter, I was just as loud as I am now, but I was much, much less willing to listen to those who disagreed with my ideas. Having come from a fairly homogenous background, I hadn't ever really been given the opportunity to interface with new and exciting ways of seeing the world. And, because of that, I hadn't learned to listen to other people. Sure, I was perfectly good at hearing the words coming out of other people's mouths—years of "etiquette classes" had taught me to wait before judging in—but I had difficulty putting myself in others' shoes without a nagging voice telling me all the reasons why they were totally wrong. And because of this, for my first few years at Exeter, I tended to be fairly combative. I took white privilege as a personal affront; bringing up abortion around me was a recipe for disaster (shoutout to Charis Edwards)—I saw the world in a binary and I was always in the right.

Obviously, my understanding has come quite some ways since prep year. I no longer identify as conservative—I'd much rather call myself "ideologically mixed," no matter how pompous that makes me sound. I fully believe that reality exists on a spectrum; that there's no one "right" opinion or Truth. And I'd like to think that I've learned a little bit of how to momentarily engross myself in the experiences of another—to listen without feeling assaulted. This isn't to say that I don't have thoughts of my own—it's more so that I'm slowly learning to bridge the gap between myself and others.

But I never would have had the chance to learn from disagreement if I hadn't had the chance to discuss serious, oftentimes controversial, topics with people who didn't share in my views. Luckily for me, the combination of my loud personality, my opinionated friends and teachers, and Exeter's culture of discussion pushed me along on my journey towards "open-mindedness." At first, such conversations consisted of little more than preps frustratedly waiting their turn to speak, repeatedly shouting bullet points at one another instead of engaging in dynamic dialogue. Over time though,

I was able to grow from these interactions—over time I was given the chance to not only evolve in my own views but also to break away from narrow minded myopic and understand a wider swathe of the human experience. It's not that I don't still have serious disagreements with some of my campus friends and teachers—it's more so that I'm now able to better understand where they're coming from. And that's a very special thing.

Furthermore, consistently participating in such discussions has had benefits beyond a greater sense of open mindedness. Constant reexamination of pre-existing beliefs has strengthened my sense of self-understanding and has allowed me to better articulate my motives. I've become more deliberate. Exposure to different ideas has increased both the breadth and depth of my education, putting me in a better position to make good decisions in the future. And last but not least, opening myself up to relationships where the other person isn't me has led to countless eye-opening discussions with Mr. Sakata, Dr. Wade, and a host of other students and teachers whose experiences differ greatly from my own. I've benefited from intellectual diversity.

The thing to note, though, is that almost none of this personal growth was the result of assemblies informing me of the dangers of the "man-box" or the injustice of "micro-aggressions." Such lectures are ineffective precisely because they don't give the listener a chance to respond, because they only serve to further frustrate those who disagree but feel silenced. Speech codes and top-down moral edicts that make it seem like right thought and right morals and right culture are as obvious as night and day make the same mistake that I made as a young Exonian—they reject nuance and don't prepare Exonians to lead in an increasingly interconnected world where different views on morality are more likely than ever to conflict. Exeter's current approach to morality also does a disservice to Exonians who fully agree with the school's rhetoric—but not exposing them to a greater swathe of the human experience, those students leave Exeter ill prepared to engage with new ideas. If Exeter wants to prepare students to lead in the 21st Century, it must reject the notion that morality is static and must encourage campus wide intergroup dialogue.

So how should Exeter go about engineering an environment where students are not only exposed to a variety of ideas, but also learn to engage with those ideas and critically examine their own thoughts? Firstly, Exeter should make a concerted effort to invite assembly speakers from a wider background and

with a greater diversity of opinion. This isn't code-speak for more conservatives—I don't think that Exeter should limit itself to some arbitrary, U.S.-centric political binary. Instead, Exeter should work towards attracting assembly speakers with not only a variety of views, but also with a variety of approaches to the same problems. Why not have an economist talk about global warming and a Russian talk about the U.S. election?

Secondly, the student body needs to affirm its understanding of the value of freedom of speech by passing the free speech bill that's currently meandering through student council. I understand the fear that such a bill will embolden edgy kids and lead to the alienation of marginalized students—but I tend to believe that although this is a legitimate concern, the humor in edginess will be reduced considerably when such students are engaged with and forced to defend such absurd statements. The benefits, on the other hand, are potentially vast. Encouraging wider campus dialogue will improve students' cross-cultural understanding while reducing ideological self-segregation.

Thirdly, the administration needs to work towards establishing a more equitable relationship between itself and *The Exonian*. Although most cases of explicit censorship involve student privacy concerns, the obvious power differential between the paper and the school may result in self-censorship. A potentially quieter student body can numb the school to legitimate student concern. The risk involved in running an un-sanitized student publication is a necessary part of running a transparent institution that can quickly adapt to changing circumstances.

Fourthly, the History, Religion and English departments should be required to grade papers anonymously. It's no secret that some students don't voice their true opinions because of a fear of a grade penalty. Such a policy would help address such concerns by removing the fear that in class behavior might lead a teacher to grade a student's papers differently.

Lastly, (and this is an idea I've stolen from Dr. Wade), teachers should be required to take implicit bias training classes. Just like everyone else, teachers have biases of their own that inhibit their ability to interface with students who are not like them. If properly implemented, such a policy would help increase the "realness" of Harkness discussions by reducing barriers for students seeking to express themselves. Exeter's an incredible place. Exonians are incredible people. Let's work towards realizing that potential. Let's make for an open Exeter.

Jordan Davidson '19
Guest Contributor

On Aug. 13, 2013, the *New York Times* published an article about Obama's "abrupt" decision to halt a strike on Syria—after Assad used chemical weapons on his own people—in order to seek congressional approval. The proposed strike came after Assad killed 1,400 Syrian citizens in a chemical attack on Damascus. On Apr. 11, 2017, the *New York Times* published an article about Trump's missile strike against Assad, and simply posed the question, "What next?" Acting within the law, Trump bypassed Congress and handled the situation with initiative and strength.

Trump's bold, executive move was clear and calculated and struck back against Assad in an efficient and timely manner. By ordering the strike three days after it was discovered that Assad had employed chemical weapons, Trump

managed to punish the regime and hold it accountable before the news moved onto other topics and brushed aside the clear and horrific violation of human rights.

Often I find myself scrolling through Facebook and watching videos showing the deplorable conditions that many Syrians have to face. I remember seeing a particularly graphic image of two children paralyzed from the sarin gas. Of course, I can share these posts with my friends or write a particularly poignant comment online, but this will do nothing to change the events in the long run.

After seeing Trump confidently push back against Assad and deliver a punishment, I felt much better about the United States' involvement in the war in Syria—we need more concrete, linear decisions like this which clearly strike back against the regime. And while the first strike was a good start, we must implement action which holds Assad accountable: an open refugee policy, hand-in-hand cooperation

with humanitarian organizations, and dialogue with the United Nations.

Of course, many critics of Trump's missile strike pointed out the hypocrisy of his travel ban, more popularly known as the "Muslim ban." I agree; if we truly want to help Syrians fleeing violence and harm, we must be able to welcome them and provide refuge. In order to do this, Trump needs to look beyond his hateful, empty rhetoric, look at the facts, and create a simple vetting process that emits Syrian refugees. America must also work closely with organizations like the Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders to ensure that refugees are safe and healthy.

I also believe that the word "dialogue" encompasses what must happen with regards to the United Nations. At this point, with tensions high and no possibility of a negotiation with Assad, there is no time for ideological talk of a peaceful solution. If Trump is invested in the future of free Syrians and of the country itself, he must take military action against Assad, while making sure

to protect the citizens. The only way to achieve this is to be bold and assertive, both with regards to military push back and the involvement of humanitarian agencies.

While organizations such as UNICEF are incredibly valuable, a peace treaty is impractical. Assad's regime of terror, if it is to be stopped, must be met with force and determination.

When the president fired Tomahawk missiles onto one of the Assad regime's military bases, he was not simply reacting to one instance of violence, terror, or mistreatment of Syrian citizens. Trump was taking a firm stance on America's view of the war in Syria, saying proudly, "Assad must be stopped." If Trump continues to see from this viewpoint, he must enact with even more confidence and assertiveness, while ensuring the safety and well-being of those fleeing the situation. Trump's missile strike was the appropriate measure and will hopefully be accompanied by much more concrete action to come.

The Exonian

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The Importance of the UN in Times of Crisis



**WORLD
COMPASS**
Mark Blekherman
Senior Columnist

When a Tutsi-dominated military in Burundi shot down the plane of Hutu president Melchior Ndadaye on October 21, 1993, the world was still. With outside interference and media interest at a minimum, Hutu extremists initiated massacres of the Tutsi minority in Rwanda. 300,000 people fled from Rwanda to Burundi, causing a dysentery epidemic.

The UN peacekeepers did nothing to aid the situation. After the massacre started, UN peacekeepers fled with expatriates and government officials to their home countries. They consciously denied thousands of Rwandans shelter and food at their bases, leaving them vulnerable to the violent militias. The Security Council reluctantly approved the UN Assistance Mission (UNAMIR) and placed Canadian General Romeo Dallaire in charge. But by the end of October 1993, only an underdeveloped UN headquarters staff was present in the nation, and the operation lacked funding.

When the Security Council placed Darfur on its "to-do" agenda, human-rights organizations breathed a sigh of relief.

resources, and equipment. The Rwandan genocide spiraled out of control because the UN failed to identify the deliberate slaughter of Tutsi civilians as a "genocide." In fact, the Security Council ignored Nigeria's draft resolution, which express concern about the deaths of innocent Rwandans. And when the

UN finally realized the magnitude of the crisis, it failed to provide the weapons and manpower necessary to quell the Hutu violence. Dallaire spent most of the time handling the logistics nightmare rather than addressing the immediate needs of the beleaguered nation. The UN has still not learned its lesson twenty years later. In Rwanda, Srebrenica and Darfur, the United Nations turned a blind eye to the ethnic cleansings and acted as a bystander. From 2003 to 2008, an estimated 300,000 Sudanese were killed in the Darfur region. The Sudanese Arab militias destroyed African villages and raped thousands of their inhabitants. The government of Sudan supported the militant Janjaweed's territorial ambition in the Darfur region, offering the group complete impunity for suppressing the rebellions in the region.

The conflict in Darfur escalated due to the UN's late response. In 2003, several NGOs including Amnesty International came out with evidence that government-backed armies were targeting civilians in Darfur. But the Security Council did not discuss the issue that year, sending Sudan the message that it would not be held accountable for the atrocities. It was only in September 2004, when the death toll had reached 10,000, that the UN declared its commitment to stopping the genocide.

When the Security Council placed Darfur on its "to-do" agenda, human-rights organizations breathed a sigh of relief. Even then, the peace-making process was hampered by China, a permanent member of the Council. From the 1970s, China had supported Khartoum by aiding its infrastructure projects and forming trade deals with oil production companies, with a net investment of five billion dollars. Between 2003 and 2006, the peak of the genocide, China sold an average of fourteen million dollars worth of guns to Sudan each year.

But it wasn't just economic interests. Just like Sudan, China used ruthless means to suppress

independence movements within its own territory. China itself had committed human rights violations in Tibet and the Xinjiang-Yugur Autonomous Region. Unfortunately, economic sanctions were not imposed on Sudan until 2006, when Western nations threatened to skip the 2008

Three hundred thousand Sudanese died and millions more were displaced because the countries in the UN were selfish and indifferent to the suffering of the people.

Beijing Olympics if China did not support the international embargo on Sudan. In February 2008, eight Nobel Peace Prize laureates wrote a letter to Hu Jintao demanding an end to China's trade with Sudan.

A few months later, China finally cooperated with the UN and forced Sudan's President to permit the deployment of United Nations-African Union force to Darfur. Just like the UNAMIR mission in Rwanda, the UN-African Union Operation (UNAMID) was severely underfunded and understaffed. Many key international players sent personnel that failed to meet UN peacekeeping standards for training.

Three hundred thousand Sudanese died and millions more were displaced because the countries in the UN were selfish and indifferent to the suffering of the people. Human rights organizations presented a plethora of evidence in 2003 confirming the genocide, but it took a year for the UN to recognize the problem—and then a few more years to convince countries like China to value human rights over economic or political interests. The UN must at last realize the wisdom and truth behind Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel's words: "Silence encourages the tormentor, never

American Citizenship for Sale



Courtesy of Google



Nicole Meyer Kushner, sister to Trump's senior advisor, Jared Kushner, used her family ties to political power to pursue Chinese investors. Speaking at an event at the Ritz-Carlton in Beijing, Meyer said that investors contributing \$500,000 or more were eligible for an EB-5 visa. The visa, which has come under scrutiny for encouraging a variety of illicit practices, allows foreign investors to be fast-tracked on their way to United States permanent residence.

**OUTSIDE
THE EXETER
BUBBLE**
Paul James
Columnist

This tactic is effective for fundraisers that have control in deciding who receives these investors visas. The investors generally do not enter into such deal expecting high monetary payoffs: their main goal is to obtain an American green card. The EB-5 program has been described as "U.S. citizenship for sale." It has also been criticized for a lack of safeguards against fraud and abuse. The EB-5 program provides visas for 10,000 investors each year, the majority of which come from mainland China, though some lawmakers may be considering changes to the policy due to negative response.

The event was publicly advertised, though controversy arose when reporters from *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* were asked to leave during Meyer's speech. It is clear that the event was branded to project transparency and legitimate business, though once it began, anyone seeking to show the truth was eliminated. Trump has had similar, though more overt, attacks on journalists since his presidential campaign. He reinforced his position recently when he skipped the White House Correspondent's Dinner for a rally against the media.

To comply with some of the ethics standards surrounding a White House job, Jared Kushner stepped down from some of his family's businesses, including the project advertised at the investor's meeting in Beijing. However, his link between the U.S. government and China was used early when he raised \$50,000,000 from Chinese investors for a separate real estate project in New Jersey, branded with the Trump name.

Another conflict of interest in the event's advertisement was the heavy emphasis on a close connection to Mr. Kushner. Although he technically recused himself from daily operations, his status within the Trump administration is being used as a bargaining chip by those left in control, other relatives and members of his inner circle. This bartering puts Chinese interests ahead of American ones, directly contradicting the President's own "America First" policy. It also sets a discouraging precedent for the qualities the U.S. values in its immigrants. Visas like the EB-5 put preference on those who can pay over those who need an American residence. The policy caters to the established wealthy instead of the needy and destitute.

Promising favors to potential investors or swaying their support by offering a reward is nothing new, or necessarily wrong, in the world of commerce. However, such practices become dangerous when they have the ability to tilt the scales of a country's policy. It threatens the sanctity of democracy even more when the administration is as volatile as it is willing to sell itself to the highest bidder. Trump's attitude of, I-thought-it-would-be-easier and I-can-change-my-mind-because-I'm-the-President gives ample opportunity for savvy members of his administration to capitalize on his inaction. The players behind the scenes that have the President's ear and hold the real power unabashedly use their connections to further their own agendas. The presidency may last four years but the impacts of their bargaining at the expense of the American people will have much longer lasting implications. For all his bluster, Trump remains incapable of enforcing any semblance of a moral agenda or even adhering to his own.

The Problematic Education of South East Asia

Mai Hoang '19
Guest Contributor

When looking at education systems in developing countries, researchers usually use literacy rates as the sole indicator of quality; thus, Vietnam and other countries in the region like Cambodia, Laos and Thailand, with percentiles ranging from the high eighties to mid nineties, fare very well indeed. Yet although the ability to read is one of the most fundamental pillars of an effective education system, focusing on a single metric is always superficial and false. Having studied in public Vietnamese schools for eight years before coming to Exeter, we do not find it hard to identify the flaws inherent in our country's system, and the dire necessity for students there to gain access to a more relevant education.

It is ridiculous how the government enforces the use of one single textbook for every school nationwide. All lessons must be conducted based on these inaccurate textbooks of narrow scope, which are updated once a decade. The Ministry of Education also dictates which lessons should be taught on which days of the school year, leaving no room for special school activities. Due to overcrowding, many schools host more than fifty students per class, far more students than their facilities can support. Teachers find it hard, almost impossible at times, to grasp all of their students' attention; thus, class discussions are usually prohibited so their would be fewer "noises" and "distractions."

But these are not the most serious problems that we see; the informal system of extra classes, with its pervasiveness and rigidity, is what stunts the rounded intellectual development in children the most. I still remember my middle school years, bombarded with extra classes: math from 5:00 to 6:30, physics from 7:00-9:00, English from 9:30-11:00, with a few minutes for dinner in between. Getting home before 11:30

was a rarity, and there was little time left to do anything but finish up my homework for the following day.

Supposedly, attending extra classes is a voluntary decision made by parents and students who want to get additional help and improve their skills in a certain subject. In reality, though, teachers deliberately give out low grades to the students who do not sign up for these classes. A significant part of school assessments are not covered in regular sessions, so students risk getting lower grades by refusing to engage in the system. Many parents are afraid that teachers will discriminate against their kids, and pressure them to attend extra classes, sometimes by using the threat of corporal punishment.

Yet it is hard to blame individual

The skills that students truly need to be well equipped for life after graduation are seldom taught in schools.

teachers, whose monthly salary would average at around 220 USD, were they to drop after-school activities. In fact, many teachers consider the extra tuition fees garnered from after-school sessions as their main source of income, especially during the exam season. Simply put, low income discourages teachers from channeling their knowledge into the public school system, the only one available for children of all financial backgrounds.

The pressure on middle school students to attend extra classes and prepare for the national high school entrance exam, though pernicious, is in some ways explicable; what never ceases to amaze me, however, is the fact that kids in grade one through five are also forced to sit still in tiny, badly-lit after school classes. The most important "subject" taught to primary school students is calligraphy, because, as an ancient proverb says, "the beauty of one's writing is

the beauty of one's soul." Although written Vietnamese uses standardized Latin characters, teachers make students practice one hundred ways to swivel As, Bs and Cs. Interscholastic competitions are held to determine who has the most beautiful writing, and teachers' performance are assessed by how well their students do compared to others.

Skills that students truly need to be well equipped for life after graduation are seldom taught in schools. One of the most prominent examples of this would be English. Native English speakers sometimes take for granted how their fluency in this language grants them, by default, a competitive edge in the global economy. For an eager Vietnamese student, plugging Vietnamese keywords into Google searchbar usually yields no tangible results, while the very same concepts might be dissected by thousands of open source papers in English. Though in recent years, English has been more emphasized in the public school system, the mushrooming of various "English centers" run by Western backpackers prove that most parents don't trust the way this language is taught in schools. Tuition fees in these centers, however, are more often than not, exorbitant; students unable to pay such fees are relegated to teachers who do not even speak the language fluently themselves. Furthermore, English centers are mostly opened in urban areas; students in more rural provinces seldom have any resources that they can easily access.

These problems are not just domestic issues of one country, but common ills that plague education systems of nations in the developing world. Until a concerted effort to channel more funds and rethink the basics of education is not made by the respective governments, students will likely continue to suffer for a long time. Meanwhile though, what we all can do is reach out to these children, and help them gain access to academic materials on the internet through acquiring the most important tool—the English language.

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Netflix Series Romanticizes Suicide, Raises Concerns

By BELLA ALVAREZ, ROSE HOROWITZ and MAKINROLA ORAFIDIYA Staff Writers

Since the release of the Netflix original series, "13 Reasons Why," the Exeter community has expressed both enjoyment for the show and concern over its graphic depictions of suicide and sexual assault.

The series, which premiered on March 31, 2017, chronicles high school student Hannah Baker, who resolves to commit suicide in response to misdeeds her classmates have committed against her.

Chair of the Department of Health Education Michelle Soucy watched the show and raised her concerns about the effect it may have on students at a recent faculty meeting.

Soucy read reports from adolescent psychologists that she felt she had to bring to administrative attention.

researchers who study mental health have deemed the show unhealthy. "The idea was presented that it was someone else's fault that a main character took her own life, and I think that it's a bad message to send because when someone takes their own life, it is their personal decision," she said.

Other faculty also felt that the show was not fulfilling its intent to raise awareness about suicide. Psychologist and counselor Christopher Thurber felt that the show romanticizes suicide.

Soucy shared the same concerns and hoped that by bringing the show to the attention of the administration, the staff could engage in productive dialogue.

Dean of Student Health and Wellness Gordon Coole wished that the show had highlighted the "many positives of intervention efforts such as mental health counseling."

positive outcomes are consistently produced."

Thurber agreed that the scene of the faults with the show is how it portrays adults as absent or unable to aid those in need.

In one of the final scenes before Hannah takes her life, she reaches out to a school counselor, Mr. Porter, and speaks to him about her experience with sexual assault.

Other concerns among faculty members were the show's graphic scenes depicting suicide and sexual assault.

Some, like former co-head of Active Minds and upper Alyssa Kuwana thought that the scene was important to portray how complicated and devastating suicide is.

Lower Emmy Goyette agreed with Kuwana, describing the scene as an important asset to the show and saying that as long as Netflix uses proper trigger warnings, she thinks that the "violence and brutal honesty of that scene is so important."

"This is the scene that stops the romanticization of suicide—it shows it as violent, painful, and the kind of tragic that almost makes you nauseous," she said.

Lower Kate Denny had a similar view, but felt that the producers could have done a better job connecting the suicidal themes to mental health matters.

Thurber hopes that the faculty on campus can inspire students in need of help to reach out to a trusted adult.

Academy Conducts Evaluations for Health Center Staff

By MAI HOANG and SAMANTHA WEIL Staff Writers

Independent consultants conducted the first review of Exeter's Health Services in 31 years last week.

According to Director of Nursing Nancy Thompson, the review process for Health Services is similar to that of the other academic departments.

"There was no incident that triggered this review, as most all departments at the Academy have some sort of review for quality assurance purpose," Administrative Director of Health Services Margaret O'Day said.

Though the Health Center has frequently been examined by the administration, according to Thompson, Health Services specifically wanted to "have a committee come in from the outside, and not have anyone who actually works here."

The Academy's administration, staff and faculty all pushed for the review to happen, and many of them formed an internal committee to generate questions for the reviewers.

The committee encountered some difficulties in finding suitable consultants, since few medical professionals were willing to make time to travel to Exeter.

The group reviewed each sub-department in Exeter's Health Services meticulously. According to Director of Athletic Training Adam Hernandez, the reviewers spent one to two hours with each sub-department, including Athletic Training, Nursing, Psychological Services, Health Education, Counseling and other medical providers.

According to Hernandez, most of the

staff in the health center have known about and been preparing for the review for over a year.

Christopher Thurber of Psychological Services said that his department submitted written "policies, operations and statistics on the number of students who use the service every year."

Health Services also invited students to participate in the review. Groups such as the Student Health Advisory Board (SHAB) and H4 engaged in conversation with the health professionals at a luncheon.

Those in attendance also discussed "fatiguing" when students sleep at the Health Center for a period instead of going to class, and why more and more students are resorting to the option at this time of year.

and so we talked to each other about that," lower and SHAB member Calvin Henaku said.

Although the consultants completed a report at the end of the four days, no one has read it but the Dean of Students and some members of the administration.

Most Health Services staff believe that the reviewing process has been well-conducted. For Thompson, reviews are imperative for the wellbeing of the school, since each and every department could always benefit from constructive criticism.

Similarly, Hernandez felt that it would have been difficult to identify points for improvement without the help of an unbiased reviewer.

Acceptance Decisions for All-Gender Houses Released

By SARAH RYU and RACHEL WON Staff Writers

After Exeter announced its first ever all-gender housing option for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year, students submitted applications to be part of the residential experience in Williams (Will) House and Kirtland House.

English Instructors Courtney Marshall and Christina Breen will act as dorm heads of the gender inclusive dorm.

Breen described the importance of having an all-gender housing option on campus. "It's important that Exeter provide a residential experience where all of our students can be their authentic selves, where they can feel comfortable and safe and fully accepted," she said.

Upper Bobby Murray, a current resident of Will House, also applied to the all-gender housing option for reasons independent of gender.

Marshall was going to be the dorm head of Kirtland House even before it was designated an all-gender dorm, but was excited at the opportunity to act as head in an all-gender dorm as well.

Breen, who is the current dorm head of Will House and who has served on the Transgender Task Force, felt that becoming an all-gender dorm head was a natural next step for her.

Upper and one of the accepted students, Maya Kim, said that her decision was less about the all-gender aspect and "more about being in the close knit community of a house."

Although the number of accepted and denied students remains confidential, accepted students have explained their different reasons for wanting to take part in the experience.

Kim raised her own concerns regarding the visitations policy that would be implemented in the new housing.

Kim raised her own concerns regarding the visitations policy that would be implemented in the new housing. "I'm a little worried about the V's policy because it's so up in the air right now, but I'm excited for everything else," she said.

Advertisement for LAS OLAS TAQUERIA featuring a logo, address (30 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter, NH 03833), phone (603-418-8901), and website (www.lasolastacos.com).

In response to these concerns, Cosgrove explained that he and other faculty members are working on how certain rules would apply to the all-gender houses.

Marshall applauded the tolerant nature of the new program and its welcoming of students with vastly different identities. "I'm really excited to see what type of community arises in the dorm, especially since day students will also have a chance to be affiliated with," she said.

Advertisement for LAS OLAS TAQUERIA featuring a logo, address (30 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter, NH 03833), phone (603-418-8901), and website (www.lasolastacos.com).



ExonianHumor



Fun Things to Do With Your Principal's Day

By EMILY GREEN
Fun

1. Swim in the Exeter River and hope you don't get attacked by lampreys.
2. Find Principal MacFarlane, wherever she is, and personally thank her.
3. Study for your chem test because the suffering never stops.
4. Eat.
5. Take a train to Boston to run away from your troubles.
6. Sit in the red chairs.
7. Get involved in a federal scandal.
8. Sleep, for once.
9. Go to the health center to finally get that one mole checked out.
10. Suffer just a little less than you normally do.
11. Eat again.

A Principled Meme for Happy Principal's Day Teens

By EMILY GREEN
Relaxing for the First Time in Years



TFW It Is Principal's Day But You Are Still Suffering

By THE HUMOR EDITORS
Environmental Protection Enthusiasts



Do you like mayonnaise?
Submit to the Humor Page.
Email exonianhumor@gmail.com.

Phrases of Foreign Tongues on Which to Brush Up for the Appeasing of Our New Overlords

By BILLY O'HANDLEY and HARRY SAUNDERS
Comrades

"奔向共产主义明天": March on towards the Communist future.

"我希望我的配偶能够像刚性共产主义意识形态一样满足我": I wish my spouse would satisfy me like rigid Communist ideology does.

"咱家乡自从来了共产党, 拨云见日得解放": The Communist Party came to our home village, swept away the dark clouds and brought us the light of liberation.

"资本家吮吸工人的血汗": Capitalists fatten themselves on the workers' sweat and toil.

"他还保留着战争年代的革命朝气": He still retains the revolutionary fervor of the war years.

"中国政府就像我父亲": The Chinese Government is like a father to me.

"天地是伟大的, 但更重要的是共产党的善意": Heaven and earth are great, but greater still is the kindness of the Communist Party.

"我的朋友的忠诚对我来说毫无意义, 因为我有共产主义的指示": My friends' loyalty means nothing to me now that I have the joy of communism.

"Я заверяю в верности Флагу Соединенных Штатов Америки и Республике, за которую он стоит, одной нации, неделимой, со свободой и справедливостью для всех": I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

"Я думаю, что российское правительство очень хорошо управляется": I think that the Russian Government is very well run.

"Моя семья - подопюк рядом с красной Владимиром Путиным": My family is scum next to the beauty of Vladimir Putin.

"Я не знаю, кто повлиял на выборы, но кто бы он ни был, он должен быть очень умным": I don't know who influenced the election, but whoever he is, he must be very intelligent.

"Мы покорные граждане, которые любят нашего лидера Дональда Трампа": We are submissive citizens who love our leader Donald Trump.

Why Trump Fired FBI Director James Comey

By EMILY GREEN
Mayonnaise

The Exonian recently gained exclusive access to the reasoning behind why FBI director James Comey was fired this Tuesday. In the words of President Trump himself, "He just knew too much."

But what does Comey know about Trump that the public doesn't? Could it be a Watergate-level scandal? Perhaps collusion with the Russian government?

The answer is neither. The truth is much, much worse.

James Comey was fired because he knew of Donald Trump's unorthodox use of mayonnaise.

According to the official report, Donald Trump used mayonnaise in highly disturbing ways. As moisturizer, as shampoo, and, worst of all, as a sandwich topping.

"Absolutely disgusting," the FBI report stated, "Never has a United States President used mayonnaise in such incriminating ways."

The FBI found hidden tapes of Trump telling his confidants of his mayonnaise use. In the president's own words, "I love mayonnaise. I love to spread it all over my orange, wrinkly body. I love to massage it through my hair. I love to eat it with ham and cheese on a brioche bun. Mayonnaise is what I love. Just give me a jar and I'm ready to rumble."

Many officials were shocked, along with members of the Clinton team. As one top Clinton advisor once privately stated, "I mean, I knew he loved mayonnaise, I just didn't think he meant it in so literal a sense."

This certainly is one of the biggest scandals ever to rock the Executive Branch. As famed historian Ken Burns told us, "I've studied American history for my whole life, and never have I heard of any government officials abusing mayonnaise in such a grotesque fashion. I just can't fathom how much mayonnaise must get stuck, lodged in that orange man's back fat."

It is absolutely shocking that such an event has rocked the American public so much. However, there is a silver lining to the incident for some. It is expected that Comey will get his job back, having been a saintly whistleblower of this condiment-based impropriety.

Comey said in an official statement that, "It's an honor to have served the American public in this way—served them with mayo."

Let us hope that future administrations don't make the same mayo-stakes.

Wholesome Yo Mama Cards for Mother's Day Featuring Newly Elected French President Emmanuel Macron

By MAJESTIC TERHUNE
Bonjour



Quote of the Week

"We knocked, the wood answered."
-Harry Saunders, '18

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 Horror of Nationalism in Macedonia

Mai Hoang '19
Guest Contributor

After an economic crisis which led to the rise of ethnic nationalism and a two-year civil war, the Republic of Yugoslavia broke down into seven different countries in South-eastern Europe. Macedonia, a state which declared independence in 1992, has been perceived as one of the more successful ones. Although its annual income per capita is still nine times lower than that of the European Union, Macedonia was ranked as one of the fastest developing ones with an environment "conducive to starting up businesses." By 1993, it had already joined the United Nations and the Council of Europe, setting up a positive example for small,

It is easy to dismiss this incident as another one of the many manifestations of ethnic conflict in multiracial countries across the globe.

newly-formed states, especially those in the Balkans. However, as events in 2016 and 2017 have shown, the temporary political and economic stability in this country was just a facade, underneath which tension was brewing between two ethnic groups, the majority Macedonians and the minority Albanians. Coupled with this the recent controver-

sial parliamentary election, and one is left with a perfect equation for mayhem. And mayhem did happen. On April 27, an angry mob stormed the Parliament, injuring more than one hundred people. Prominent politician Radmila Skerinska, leader of the opposition, was dragged by the hair and shoved onto the floor. "Never before in my life have I felt the imminent danger of being killed because of a political position," she said. After a number of stitches and a week wearing neck collar, she has still not fully recovered. Burly men in masks, waving the bright crimson Macedonian flag, threw chairs and punches at anyone they saw, party leaders, parliament members and journalists. Zoran Zaeve, leader of the Social Democratic Union of Macedonia (SDSM) party, was filmed with blood trailing from his head, as bands of protesters screamed "Traitor! Traitor!"

It is easy to dismiss this incident as another one of the many manifestations of ethnic conflict in multiracial countries across the globe. However, with its unique historical position on the cross between the European Union and the former Eastern Communist bloc, Macedonia deserves closer attention. Ever since the country's independence, its two main ethnic groups have vied for more power and control, with the Macedonians repeatedly accusing Albanians of being "traitors" who did not belong in their country. Macedonia has generally hostile relationships with neighboring countries where Albanians are the majority, including Kosovo and Albania. In 2001, the country was on the brink of civil war, as Albanian militants took up arms against the right-wing Internal

Macedonian Revolutionary (VMRO) government.

Two years ago, a wiretapping scandal revealed corruption and election rigging in the highest levels of government; the following election has led to unresolved political deadlock, with the nationalist VMRO losing its governing majority to the pro-integration SDSM, although both gained nearly similar numbers of votes. The recent storming of the par-

By joining the bustling economic zone, Macedonia will benefit from the free flow of labor and goods.

liament was the result of SDSM electing Talat Xhaferi, an Albanian, to become speaker of the opposition. His job would have included petitioning the current president, Gorge Ivanov, for the SDSM to form a government. Nationalists who were against the SDSM called this move a "coup" instigated by the minority Albanians. The mobs took control of the parliament until being overpowered by police officers. Currently, as ardent supporters of both parties prepare to take up arms, there is no end in sight for this political stalemate; keeping it from escalating into more violence is the main focus of the Macedonian government.

However, with diplomacy and a degree of international intervention, the tense situation in Macedonia might still be peacefully resolved. For one thing,

the conservative VMRO has been leading remarkably pro-NATO and pro-EU policies in recent years. Joining either of these coalitions has been one of the few common goals that both parties can agree on, as the benefits that such a membership will grant Macedonia are immense. Reports tracking the economy of less developed EU members like Ireland and Portugal have concluded that over twenty years, all have experienced a twelve percent increase in GDP per capita. By joining the bustling economic zone, Macedonia will benefit from the free flow of labor and goods. Simultaneously, membership in the NATO is coveted because of its potential for increasing national security.

In light of the recent violence, both NATO and the EU have vocally rebuked Macedonia and the lack of cooperation between parties in its government. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg has formally condemned the attacks, and the EU commissioner, Johannes Hans, has described them as "wholly unacceptable." Questions remain, however, about whether either coalition is willing to follow up on its statements with proper measures. Many EU member states, most notably the right-leaning, Orban-led Hungary, have voiced their skepticism in international involvement in the name of democracy. However, unless NATO and the EU both make it clear to Macedonia that its accession will be indefinitely blocked until president Ivanov and his party agree to mitigate nationalistic sentiments and concede to democratic election results, the political stalemate is unlikely to be solved anytime in the near future.

Macron's Good Handle on Cybersecurity



ALL ANDREA

Andrea So
Columnist

France's recent presidential election was one of the most consequential in recent times. It marked the first time that no candidate from France's two traditional parties, the Socialist Party and the Republicans, had managed to become one of the two final presidential candidates. With centrist candidate Emmanuel Macron winning a decisive victory over the French National Front's Marine Le Pen, Europe seemed to heave a sigh at the temporary obstruction of yet another far right populist rising to power.

Meanwhile, here in America, some wish that the same situation could've played out in the United States 2016 election. The Clinton campaign was arrogant enough to announce a hosting of a celebration even before all the votes were counted, and the president-elect was decided. Their careless attitude was definitely one of the things that can be attributed to her ultimate defeat and Trump's victory.

Macron's campaign didn't make the same mistake. On the eve of the French

presidential election, Macron's staff announced that their campaign had been hit by a "massive and coordinated hacking operation," and that hackers had released both real and fake documents to confuse the public. According to *The New York Times*, security experts tracking the activity of suspected Rus-



Park, le 10 décembre 2016
Courtesy of Google

sian hackers said that the same groups involved in hacking related to the latest American presidential election were also involved in the French attack. The attack included campaign documents such as emails, and the timing of the digital leak ensured that Macron's campaign would have little to no time to do

any damage control.

However, Macron's staff had already had a sense of what they were dealing with. They paid close attention to any signs of a breach and were prepared to deal with the consequences. Cybersecurity researchers noted that the same Russian intelligence unit re-

sponsible for the DNC hackings had started to set up web domains similar to Macron's party domains to trick his campaign staffers into entering their passwords and clicking on malicious links. The Macron campaign listened. In December, Macron's campaign began to receive phishing emails. In response

to Russian influence, Macron's digital director Mounir Mahjoubi stated that the campaign used "cyber-blurring" strategies, such as creating fake emails and filling them with phony documents on a large scale as traps.

In contrast, the Clinton campaign completely ignored warnings from the FBI that their computer system had been compromised and used the most basic digital security protections. Their ignorance led to Russian hackers being able to gather damaging information on the campaign that was used to influence the election in favor of Trump. There were only 18 people on Macron's digital team, which further renders the Clinton campaign's carelessness inexcusable.

In a modern and ever-changing world, we need to protect democracy better. We need to evolve and adapt American defense systems so that they are better prepared to fight against brazen foreign attacks. Russia's interference in the American election was unprecedented, but we are seeing that the global rules of what is acceptable when it comes to gaining power are being rewritten. America was always a leader when it came to the development of cybersecurity measures—let's keep it that way.

Appropriation or Appreciation?

Bianca Beck '19
Guest Contributor

Is it okay to want to wear something from another culture that you find beautiful but know nothing about? Is that an example of cultural appreciation or of appropriation? The distinction between the two is the same distinction as that between a cultural complement from an insult. This difference, though, is often not very well defined or understood. It is nonetheless important to know what cultural appropriation and cultural appreciation are, so that one may not mistake one for the other.

Cultural appropriation is defined as the "adoption of use of the elements of one culture by members of another culture." To add to that definition from the Merriam Webster dictionary, it's also when one doesn't take the time to learn the background around whatever element of culture they're adopting. Conversely, cultural appreciation is when one borrows an element of a culture and therefore "contributes to diversity and free expression." In contrast to cultural appropriation, one knows or make themselves aware of the background of whatever element of culture they're borrowing.

It's understandable that whenever someone finds something beautiful that does not belong to their culture, and belongs to a culture they're not aware of, they still want to show off and share its beauty. That's perfectly fine;

everyone has every right to appreciate beauty. However, in order to completely appreciate something, you should know its origins and its cultural significance.

For example, wearing native American headdresses to music festivals has become very controversial. People buy them at their local Party City, wear them and dance around in them at events such as Coachella. Again, it's perfectly fine and reasonable to appreciate something for its beauty



Courtesy of Google

and want to show it off.

However, headdresses, also called warbonnets, are from Native American culture, and were traditionally only worn by respected elders and men who were deemed heroes. Women did not wear warbonnets. Therefore, it is not cultural appreciation when someone is going to music festivals wearing something they don't deserve to wear. Wearing a warbonnet is equivalent to wearing a military uniform with a bunch

of medals on it, without ever having actually served in the military, much less gain any of the medals on it. It's not fair to Native American communities for anyone to dance around in a warbonnet, and it's especially not fair to those Native Americans who had the honor of being able to wear one.

If someone finds themselves culturally appropriating something, one should own up to it and learn from their mistakes. Too often, people

become defensive and don't own up to what they did because they didn't mean to offend anyone by culturally appropriating something. That is not the way to go.

Just recently during this year's Coachella, Adrienne Keene, the writer behind *Native Appropriations*, called out a few women for culturally appropriating the Native American warbonnet. One user stepped up and apologized in an Instagram post,

saying, "While the headdress I wore was beautiful and I wanted to highlight its beauty, I regret wearing it." She continued, "We are currently living in a world where hate is the focus of all issues at hand, I appreciate all of those that commented to educate me and not push forth hate."

If we are to call out people on cultural appropriation, then, as the aforementioned woman pointed out, we should do so in a way that makes people want to appreciate, rather than appropriate. In order for people to learn from their mistakes, and realize that cultural appreciation is the way to go, then we should educate and not attack people.

This is why we need to keep learning and continue the discussions around cultural appropriation versus appreciation. Cultural appreciation is when elements of a culture are honored and respected, and more specifically, the origins of that element of culture are respected. It's perfectly fine to find things beautiful and want to share beauty with others. However, it's even better if you learn to appreciate an element of a culture by learning about it, and sharing that—as well as the beauty—with others. In order to bring cultural appropriation to a full stop, we should not only respect a culture by learning about it before borrowing an element of it, but also respect one another when educating each other and spreading knowledge. After all, the more love we spread, the better the world becomes.



ExeterLife



The MIT Logs performed in the Assembly Hall last Friday.

Gravin Hickey/The Exonian

MIT Logs A Capella Performance

By HILLARY DAVIS and
MAKINROLA ORAFIDIYA
Staff Writers

Last Friday night, the esteemed MIT Logs from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology treated students to a performance in the Assembly Hall. The all-male a cappella group visits Exeter each year to grace Exonians with their lively stage presence and pleasing harmonies. Their annual performance reputation draws quite the crowd, including returning students who attend every year, searching for a picture with their favorite member, and students who have never heard of the Logs before.

The performance began abruptly at 8:30 P.M. with the members of the Logs running in from the side entrances to the Assembly Hall and climbing up to the stage. Lower Tori Simon was startled by the sudden beginning, but she felt that it contributed to the fervor of the show. "I was surprised," she said. "But, it was great because the performance began with energy and the energy carried through."

The set list consisted of songs of

varying genres and natures—from pop songs to the group's own original songs. Senior Mitchell Kirsch mentioned that he found all of the songs very upbeat and fun to listen to. "I can't pick a favorite, but I know I danced to all of them," he said. Each song was accompanied by cheering, clapping and singing from members of the audience, who were engaged throughout the performance.

Prep Shelagh Coombs emphasized the audience interaction, adding that her favorite song was their theme song because "they took input from the audience on their choreography." At one point, the group invited upper Emily Green onto the stage. This was greeted with whoops from the audience as many friends and peers of Green's raised their phones and cameras to capture the serenade. Senior Jack Telman said, "I thought it was pretty funny, especially the way they engaged the audience, such as when they serenaded that girl with the love song."

Junior at MIT and President of the MIT Logs, Neil Aggarwal, talked about his favorite part about performing with the group. "Coming to schools like Ex-

eter where people just love hearing us sing and we get to sing for people and have fun—that's really what it's about," he said. He joined the group during his freshman year and has been part of it ever since.

Another junior and three-year MIT Logs member, Brandon Sanchez, described the a cappella group as a friend group as well as a singing group. He said, "It's the same in and out of rehearsals, and it's very jovial." The group embraces the visual aspect of their performances, allowing themselves to dance and interact with each other freely on stage while producing mature and beautiful music. As well, each member of the group has signature solid colored shirts and ties that they wear during performances. "That's just supposed to help in the visual aspect and so that we can excite our audiences and excite ourselves and just make it more colorful and a bit more lively," Aggarwal explained. The colors contribute to the aesthetic and provide a more vivid image for the audience to hold onto of each individual singer from year to year. Though the singers may not have realized it, many students clutched

pictures of themselves with specific group members even years after the performance, eagerly awaiting their turn to remake the pictures and memories from previous performances.

Much like many singing groups at Exeter, the MIT Logs is an entirely student-run group. Some members teach music and choreography during their frequent two hour rehearsals, while others, like Aggarwal, manage the business aspect of the group, creating MIT Logs souvenirs to sell at each performance. Still others work hard to organize performance opportunities, allowing the boys to "gig on a lot of weekends," as Sanchez put it.

Exonians look forward to the MIT Logs performance every year, expecting to be stunned by their musical talent and vibrant stage presence. The a cappella group has earned fame on campus due to their commitment to come back each year. "We just do this every year because you guys are awesome," Sanchez said. The MIT Logs and Exonians share a bond over something traditional and exciting—expressive and beautiful music.

Puzzle Hunt

By JOHN BECKERLE
and PAUL JAMES
Staff Writers

Hundreds of students gathered in Grainger Auditorium on Friday night to kick off the second annual PEA Puzzle Hunt. To begin, seniors Arjun Rajan and Solon James introduced the rules to an eager and competitive crowd. After fielding a few questions, senior Matt Hambacher appeared on stage dressed as the most popular character from Exeter math courses, Alex the Geologist. Hambacher played the part of a lost, confused and thirsty Alex, asking the crowd to help him find the fastest way to the nearest gas station to buy a soda. With that, the puzzle-filled weekend began.

About 250 students competed in the Puzzle Hunt, which featured teams of six to ten members vying for over \$600 in prizes. This year's Hunt leaders came up with a creative story as a theme for the Hunt: Alex the Geologist had been kidnapped at the hands of the three Sodalords: Dr. Pepper, Mr. Pepsinister and the Cokie Monster, each with the goal of featuring their sodas in the Exeter math curriculum.

The winning team, led by senior Alec Sun, won an all-expenses paid trip to a Boston escape room, which is a room where players need to solve puzzles in order to escape. The team—named Pleasant Mother Pheasant Pluckers—solved a total of 34 puzzles by Sunday afternoon at 4:37 P.M. Three other teams—Rudolph, North by North Weth and The Strongs—also completed the hunt by 7 P.M. on Sunday night.

The Hunt had begun last year when a group of students, inspired by their experience at the MIT Mystery Hunt, decided to bring the tradition back to Exeter. The group spent over three months writing puzzles for this weekend's event. Upper Vinjal Vale, the Hunt Director, emphasized the value of such events, saying, "Puzzle Hunt is unique because it brings together Exonians

across specialties and interest groups to work together. The teams have art people and math people, poets and science people."

The competition is structured with five rounds, each containing four to six puzzles for teams to solve. The answers to each of those are then used for the meta-puzzle, given at the end of each round. After completing the previous five rounds, the teams must solve a meta-meta-puzzle, combining answers from the other meta-puzzles. Upon completion, the teams enter into the final round, which requires them to find clues across campus and the town of Exeter.

When teams believe they have an answer, they enter it into a website designed by the Hunt headquarters. Vale said that the headquarters received around 1,000 separate submissions over the course of the weekend.

Vale also noticed that multiple friend groups joined the Puzzle Hunt. "It's the kind of thing that you can do with your friends that come from all kinds of different backgrounds, and I think that's one of the reasons the Puzzle Hunt draws so many people." Other people were also drawn to the team aspect of the competition. "Solving puzzles certainly could not be done without a group; an integral part of the process was bouncing around ideas and splitting up tasks," said Sun.

Instructor of Physics James DiCarlo, one of the few faculty members who participated in the event, enjoyed watching students discover their own solutions to the puzzles. "It's great to be part of a problem-solving group where I'm not the 'teacher.' It's a chance to revel in just how clever and tenacious and tech-savvy and broadly-intelligent the students here are. It's humbling and fantastic," DiCarlo said. He also enjoyed the puzzle-solving process, saying, "It's satisfying to see patterns emerge from noise. You also get a peek into the intricate minds of the people writing the puzzles, many of whom are my physics

students."

Senior Gavin Cotter, who participated in the Hunt for the first time this year, remarked on the excitement of solving puzzles. "My favorite part about solving puzzles is spending a lot of time really thinking about a problem with others and then finally having that moment when you come to an answer," Cotter said.

The Hunt had something for everyone; the final round saw fierce competition. The winning team finished just twenty minutes ahead of the second-place group, after more than 46 hours of puzzle solving.

Though Sun enjoyed winning the final prize, he particularly liked the joy he and his team found in the search of puzzle answers. "Each puzzle was unique in its own way, and some of the best ones had us interacting with the Exeter campus," Sun said. "The real fun of the hunt came from actually solving the puzzles and running around the town of Exeter to try to find clues." He also appreciated the significant amount of work that the Hunt headquarters had carried out in order to give their fellow students a chance to let down and have fun. "They revamped the website, and I think a lot more teams were motivated to complete the hunt. It was a true spring term breakout," Sun said.

Most of the people that made up Hunt headquarters also met weekly with Puzzle Club, where they had discussed puzzle-solving strategies and writing. In the future, the club hopes to travel to the MIT Mystery Hunt and take part in some online competitions.

For the second year, the intensive work of Puzzle Hunt writers and organizers paid off to bring an intellectual challenge to the Exeter community. "I really have to thank the entire headquarters, especially the lead puzzle writers, Solon James and Yannick Yao, for being instrumental in running a successful event," Vale said. "We've spent the last few months writing puzzles, and I think everyone had a great time."

PRINCIPAL'S DAY QUOTE BOX

"Hallelujah."
- Brian Bae '18

"I'm excited to have some time to sleep. I was gonna have a Latin test tomorrow and a history annotated bibliography due, and I'm really happy because now I can get some sleep."
- Wendi Yan '18

"I'm so excited for Principal's Day because I'm hoping to prepare for the show coming up, 'The Rimers of Eldritch.' I'm also going to watch a movie and go to Stillwell's."
- Elliot Diaz '19

"The thing I'm most excited about is that I got out of two tests. I'm going to watch Netflix tonight."
- Noel Gomez '20

"I didn't do any homework this afternoon because I didn't have to, and it felt great. I'm going to catch up on my podcasts and work on a blanket I'm knitting."
- Katie Goyette '18

"I was really surprised. I found out during my math class, and I had to hold it together for the rest of the class. I was so excited. My tentative plan is to take an Uber to Newington to watch 'Guardians of the Galaxy.'
- Molly Canfield '18

"I am furious that Principal's Day is tomorrow. All my classes were cancelled for various reasons, and I have an AP Exam on Friday. Sad!"
- Darius Kahan '17

"I was going to have a five-class day tomorrow, so I'm glad I don't have to go through that. I also get more time for my 333."
- Jayleen Jaime '18

Senior Spotlight

Upbeat Yoshiko

By ASHLEY LIN and
VIRGINIA LITTLE
Staff Writers

When asking people to describe Yoshiko Lynch, the two words that came up the most were "genuine" and "energetic." As a four year senior in Merrill, an invaluable member of the varsity cross country team and a passionate contributor to Exeter's environment sustainability efforts, Yoshiko has touched many Exonians with her quiet, yet self-assured, nature.

Lynch credits her dorm mates in Merrill Hall with helping her to become more open and confident. "I feel just as comfortable in Merrill as I do at home, and I've got about thirty-eight or so sisters to thank for that," she said. As a proctor, Lynch has been able to share her zeal with new members of the dorm as well as returning ones, and she makes a conscious effort to get to know everyone in the dorm. "I think no matter the setting, whether it be in the dorm, clubs, or sports, Yoshi has such a great impact because of her positivity," said prep Katya Davis.

Her welcoming personality transcends the dorm, and Lynch is also a leader and talented member of the cross-country and track teams. "I like to run because I like to be outside, and it's a good stress reliever," she said. "As some of my teammates can probably recall, I was a super shy and anxious prep, but with my teammates' support, I've been able to open up and relax quite a bit. I thank my teammates for really helping me open up."

Lynch's cross-country teammates speak to her originality and humor as an integral part of the team's dynamic. Senior and teammate Christine Hu said, "Yoshiko has a way of putting everyone in a good mood by belting whatever song



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

is stuck in her head." Lynch's infectious " silliness" has made the team even more tight-knit, and she makes sure to include every member of the team in its activities. "She is also one of the most thoughtful people I know," Hu said. "It might seem like a small thing, but for each one of my birthdays at Exeter she has written a really kind and genuine letter to me. She does small acts of kindness like that all the time, and they really make everyone around her so much happier."

Upper Anna Clark agreed, recalling a hike with Lynch during her prep year. "Despite the cold temperatures, drizzle and heavy backpacks, she cheered everyone up with her renditions of blink-182 and Green Day, her excitement to get to the top, and the games she made us play," Clark said. "Once we got to the top, I was tired and more than a little cranky, she suggested that we combine our tents into one huge 'tentipede' so no one would feel isolated."

Despite her easygoing manner,

Lynch is a fierce competitor during races. According to boys' cross-country team member, senior Jiro Mizuno, her mentality in her "race mode" is one of determination. "Whenever I'm on the side of the track cheering PEA on, her face is always serious and focused. Even when some of the runners in front of her are pulling away, she just seems to never give up. Instead, she digs in harder," he said.

This commitment and drive has served Lynch well in other areas of life, both on and off campus. She is a dedicated environmentalist and enjoys being outside in nature. Lynch claimed that she discovered this passion when she returned to her home in Colorado for her first Thanksgiving break. "There's a lot of mountains and a lot of mountaintop mining back there, which really, really frustrates me," she said. "I've been concerned about the environment ever since those few weeks when I saw all that natural beauty being damaged."

This year, Lynch has also become an E-proctor and played a key role in the establishment of many of the board's ventures, such as the Trash 2 Treasure Project. "Yoshiko made sure to raise project ideas, send emails promptly and motivate E-Proctors to be the examples in their respective dorms," said senior Ioonho Jo, a fellow E-proctor. "Moreover, Yoshiko is such an amazing person to talk to both about the environment and other activities. She is always willing to lend an ear and genuinely cares about whom she is listening to."

Lynch decided that she wanted to further her knowledge of the environment by taking several classes related to the subject. "Taking these classes has been a pretty neat experience because I've been able to do a lot of active work, such as working on organic farms, growing asparagus for next year's dining hall use and even making bio-fuel," she said. Lynch is currently putting her skills into practice by making an educational video. The project is about the dining halls, and it includes information about how students can really influence changes in where food from the dining halls is sourced. She hopes to continue pursuing environment-related subjects at Carleton College next fall and to graduate with a degree in either environmental science or chemistry. "After that, hopefully I'll be somewhere in Latin America studying volcanoes or rain forests!"

Lynch's enthusiasm speaks for itself. Her love of learning is evident in the subjects she pursues, and she has brought creativity and light-heartedness to any aspect of Exeter in which she is involved. "Ever since my prep year, she welcomed me into the community with her kindness," Clark said. "Yoshiko has set a great example of balance, and she inspires me to strive for that as well."

BANCROFT BASH

By BELLA ALVAREZ and MADISON KANG
Staff Writers

Last Saturday night, Bancroft Hall hosted its annual bash in the Agora of the Phelps Academy Center. Bancroft residents set up plastic flamingoes, draped strings of pink lights and streamers around Agora's pillars, hung balloons from the ceiling, and stationed a glowing blow-up flamingo statue next to the DJ's stage before welcoming students to the dance floor at 8:30 P.M.

The dance was a bonding experience for Bancroft's members, especially between the old proctors and the new proctors, who had been appointed last week. They collaborated to decorate Agora, laying out an assortment of food, and publicize the dance with posters and a Facebook event page. "Setting up and cleaning the space was definitely a team effort," said upper and new proctor Rachel Moberg. "I was happy that the dance was a chance for Bancroft girls to talk and catch up with each other."

Amid the start of AP exams, a Saturday morning SAT session, and the looming deadlines of U.S. History papers for many uppers and seniors, the dance provided students an opportunity to relax and enjoy upbeat music with friends. "The dance was definitely worth the time," said upper and Bancroft resident Gabby Sanders. "It was really nice to have a study break during a busy weekend."

Lower and Bancroft resident Tara Weil enjoyed her time dancing with her fellow dorm mates, but she missed having the dance outdoors. She thought that the Agora was an

impractical location for fostering a lively atmosphere because the space was "too open" and the lighting was "not dim enough."

"Maybe if the weather wasn't as bad and we could have had it outside, or if there weren't alumni occupying Grainger [Auditorium], which has better lighting and crowds everyone together, we could have had a better vibe," Weil said. Upper Mila DeGuere echoed her sentiments. "The location wasn't ideal and because of that, there were way more lights on than normal," DeGuere said. "I think if it had been in Grainger, it would've been fine!"

Upper Michael Garcia, however, enjoyed the decorations. "I thought the flamingos and lights were a really nice decoration choice," he said. "I know how hard some of my friends in Bancroft worked to put the event together, so in retrospect, I'm really happy to see that their work paid off."

Many students complained about the mediocrity of the DJ provided by the school. "He played cool music but he had no sense of how to mix them together," Weil said. "I remember he tried to mash Taylor Swift's 'We Are Never Getting Back Together' with some rap number. I was just really confused." Lower Ryan Miller agreed, criticizing the DJ's bumbling transitions between songs. Garcia noted that the DJ did not welcome requests very receptively and described the music as generic and mainstream.

Senior Gracie Williams was also not fond of the DJ; however, she enjoyed dancing with friends.

Reflecting on years past, she reminisced fondly upon times when Bancroft Bash was held outside. "It was too bad that it was rained out and in Agora," she said.

In contrast, DeGuere enjoyed the DJ's selection of music. "I thought the DJ was great," DeGuere said. "[He] played fun songs and transitioned really well." Lower Raj Das' opinion also differed from Weil and Miller's, as he enjoyed the wide variety of genres. Das enjoyed the atmosphere as a whole. "It was really fun and the music was great for social dance, but at the same time, it was low-key enough for it not to be overwhelming," Das explained.

Nonetheless, many of the dance's attendees, especially residents of Bancroft, still enjoyed spending time with their friends. Optimistic about better weather and higher campus turnout for next year's bash, upper and new proctor, Ivy Tran, said, "All in all, everyone at the dance looked like they were having fun and I can't wait for next spring's Bancroft Bash."

D-HALL CREATION

By JEREMY XU
Columnist

Wetherell Dining-Hall Style Pizza

265 CALORIES! PREP TIME: 3 MINS
COOK TIME: 2 MIN TOTAL TIME: 5 MINS
AVG. RATING: 4.1/5 STARS

INGREDIENTS

Half of a Whole Wheat Pita Bread Slice (80 Calories)
1/4 Cup (about 4 spoons) Shredded Swiss Cheese (100 Calories)
1/4 Cup of Tomato Sauce (45 Calories)
Enough Grilled Chicken Pieces to fill pita pocket (40 Calories)

DIRECTIONS

Cut Whole Wheat Pita bread, and smear tomato sauce on it.
Go to the salad line and spoon in shredded cheese and chicken!
Grill on Panini Press for 2 minutes, or until both sides are crispy and the cheese has completely melted.

Enjoy!




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StaffSpotlight

Troy Saunders

By SUAN LEE and SAMANTHA WEIL
Staff Writers

As you leave Wetherell Dining Hall, a man with a jovial smile and amiable greetings is always there to help you put away your silverware. Lead Dishwasher Troy Saunders has been a valued member of the Exeter community for ten years, and is recognized by all those who regularly dine in Wetherall for his unwavering cheerful presence.

"Friendly," "dependable" and "optimistic" are just a few of the words that fellow staff members used to describe Saunders. As a supervisor in the dishwashing department, he is well-respected for his leadership and ability to remain focused and productive while also fostering close relationships with his colleagues.

When he is not working at Exeter, Saunders is busy managing his own driving business or utilizing the skills he earned from his background in auto mechanics. "I have a knack for fixing things, putting things together, breaking things and then fixing them and making them good," he said. Saunders prides himself on his diverse array of talents. "I do whatever's necessary to get the job done. Sometimes you've got to be versatile, because you never know what you'll need. For people like me? That can do odds and



Miles Mikosky/The Exonian

ends. And of course, sometimes you tend to spread yourself a little thin behind it, but that's okay."

According to Saunders, all of his jobs require frequent human interaction, both with his co-workers and clients. "I deal with a lot of people on the weekends—a lot of college kids, a lot of adults," he said. The experience of meeting and collaborating with various groups of people has taught Saunders the importance of maintaining positivity. "Attitude makes the world of difference for all of us. With a positive,

upbeat attitude towards life, you will go farther than you anticipate. It's a motivator," he explained.

Wetherell's Dining Services Manager Heidi Brousseau has taken note of Saunders' unwavering optimism. "Ninety-nine percent of life is all about attitude, and I have to say that he's one of the best positive employees that we have in our dining hall staff, without a doubt," she said. "He's gotten close with some students, faculty and staff just by saying, 'Hi.'" Lead Food Service Worker Jane Sullivan

appreciates how Saunders has improved the overall atmosphere of the workplace with his contagious high spirits. "He brings a great attitude and he has my sense of humor, which is nice," she said.

Saunders' positive attitude is not only reflected in his cheerful demeanor, but his resolute work ethic as well. "He's a hard worker and gets the job done. We work well together, and he works well with everybody," Food Service Worker Caroline Welch commented. Brousseau also noticed that Saunders is always willing to lend a helping hand, regardless of the task. "He's a great asset to our department. I can't really say anything bad about him, other than the fact that sometimes I have to tell him to be in his uniform," she said with a smile. "I can really, truly say that he's one of the employees that every supervisor or manager would love to have."

Saunders values working at a school where he is part of fueling students' process of growth and learning. "You guys are growing up. You're building your education. You're at the foundation of just getting started," he said. "Education is very important." In such an environment of growing promise, Saunders cannot help but feel a great deal of hope and ambition for his future. "I have a lot of different ideas that I'm putting to work, and life will be good," he said.

TV REVIEW: "DEAR WHITE PEOPLE"

By JOHANNA MARTINEZ
Contributing Writer

The Netflix original "Dear White People" premiered on Apr. 28, 2017. It is based on a movie of the same name released in 2014 and directed by Justin Simien. The show, much like the movie, explores today's less prominent racial issues—those that many people are unaware of, or simply don't want to acknowledge as the truth. It skillfully portrays the difficulty of formulating your identity during your college years. The ten-episode first season far exceeds the movie in terms of depth and storytelling, while maintaining the movie's brilliant central themes.

The show depicts the daily lives of the members of a traditionally black dorm at a prestigious, predominantly white university named Winchester. More specifically, the show deals with the tensions that arise when its main characters must face cultural appropriation and other racially-motivated acts of aggression from their peers that go overlooked by school officials.

The title "Dear White People" comes from the name of Sam's (Logan Browning) controversial radio show. Sam is the face of the black student body on campus, and an outspoken critic of the school's racial climate. On her show, she tries to get through to both white and black students by addressing issues like black-themed Halloween parties and the detrimental effect of Eurocentric beauty standards. Sam's main objective in having her radio show is to shine a light on the fact that racism is alive and well, contrary to popular belief. While she is often met with supportive compliments from her fellow black students, some white students take offense and react defensively. Meanwhile, other white students call in and claim to understand Sam's message, all while making classically inconsiderate comments like, "I don't see color," or, "All lives matter." These listeners only strengthen Sam's resolve, and they motivate her to fight back when the deans threaten to terminate her radio show.

At the same time, though, the show also portrays Sam's struggle with her own identity as a biracial individual. In many ways, her radio show is the avenue by which she navigates the complexity of her identity. Her romantic life similarly exemplifies her constant struggle with her identity. Sam dates an understanding white guy named Gabe for most of the show, but hides her relationship from her predominantly black inner circle because she fears how they will react. However,

she also feels a connection with Reggie, a black protester who is secretly in love with her.

Although some may say that the show spreads itself rather than sometimes trying to depict such a wide variety of experiences, it's quite concise and balanced. Each episode zooms in on a specific character. Two of the most compelling characters are Lionel, a gay, black journalist who's trying to become more comfortable with his sexuality, and Coco, an intelligent black woman who tries to befriend white girls while denying her low-income background. Coco and Sam were once best friends, but due to their opposing political views, they drifted apart. In a striking moment, the show examines the issue of colorism, a major source of tension between Sam and Coco. Coco, a scholarship student who's all too familiar with discrimination, calls out Sam for not acknowledging her light-skinned privilege while speaking for the whole Winchester black community. This conversation adds another layer of nuance to the social movement depicted in the show, and forces the viewer to think critically about all the characters.

When people hear the name "Dear White People", they immediately think that the show is solely directed at white people. Although white people would benefit greatly from viewing this show, so would any other group of people. The show expertly illustrates the daily successes and failures of student activism. Because the actors look directly at the camera, viewers, no matter what race they identify as, feel that the characters are talking to them. This is by far the best aspect of the show because it's important to realize that whoever you are, you should be aware of racial injustice.

Racism and inequality aren't just issues of the past. Eric Garner, Michael Brown Jr., Tanisha Anderson, Tamir Rice, Walter Scott and Jordan Edwards are only a small portion of the innocent black individuals shot by the police over the last few years. Every year, dozens of black and brown individuals go missing without receiving any significant media attention due to their race. People of color continue to feel the effects of long-standing racism everyday, in ways both big and small. Yet, some people still believe that racism and racialized inequality are not a modern-day issue because American society has outgrown the overt prejudice of the pre-Civil Rights era. The show shines a light on the relevance of these issues and educates its viewers. For that reason, "Dear White People" is a must-watch show.

EXONIAN HOROSCOPE

By LAUREN LEATHAM and
ALEXANDRA van DIJKUM
Columnists

Aries: Take it easy this week, Aries. With the sun in your sign, all the excitement has left you tired, so take this week as an opportunity to recharge. Don't be afraid to cancel plans and have a chill weekend.

Taurus: This is the week to try new things, Taurus! With Mars continuing to move through your sign, it is a great time to broaden your horizons. The weather's finally getting better, so go on a spring-time adventure. You'll be surprised by how much fun you have!

Gemini: You will see your hard work pay off this week, Gemini. With your sign in Jupiter's house of success, expect clear signs of improvement this week in your academic, athletic, or artistic life. Celebrate your achievements and keep up the hard work!

Cancer: Spend this week with your friends, Cancer. Neptune is in your house of relationships this week, so spend time with those around you. This week is also a good time to forge new relationships, so become familiar with that friend-of-a-friend just outside of your social circle.

Leo: This is the week to embrace your artistic side! With the moon entering your sign, you might find the need to show off your prowess in the arts. Whether that means having a spring photoshoot with the blooming flowers or breaking into song, do what you need to do and have fun!

Virgo: Tell it as it is, Virgo! With Jupiter moving into your sign, you will see the world in increasing clarity. Don't be afraid to share what you see with the people around you because they will surely benefit from your keen insight.

Libra: Look forward to a busy week, Libra! You will have a lot of work this upcoming week, but in the end, your hard work will pay off. Just stay focused these next couple days and pretty soon, you'll get a well deserved break. Don't worry; summer's just around the corner!

Scorpio: Get out in the sun this week, Scorpio! It's been pretty rainy lately, but soon, the sun will come out, and you should take advantage. Relax, throw a Frisbee, go exploring—the time is yours! Have a good time cruising through the last few weeks of classes.

Sagittarius: You might discover a new love interest this week, Sagittarius! Go to Evening Prayer, or head over to Stillwells. You'll have a great time with whoever you bring! If you're already dating someone, you can look forward to reaching a major milestone in your relationship.

Capricorn: You've been doing good work, Capricorn. The school year's coming to an end, so now is the time to really power through these last few weeks. Keep studying hard, but don't let school take over your life! Try to spend some quality time with your friends over the weekend.

Aquarius: You made it through the week, Aquarius! Congratulations! Spend some time over the weekend just focusing on you and relaxing. Take a nap, or go for a jog. Whatever you do, it's important to take this time to center yourself before another busy week.

Pisces: Keep working hard, Pisces. Focus on your studies and finishing up those projects you haven't worked on in a while. If you put in the work now, you'll be rewarded down the line! Just be sure to keep giving it your all, there are only a few weeks left.

UPCOMING

ASSEMBLY
**CHRISTOPHER
GRAVES '77**
Friday, Assembly Hall

LECTURE
**M.I.T. PROFESSOR
JOHN FERNANDEZ**
Saturday, Powell Hall

MEDITATION
MAJESTIC TERHUNE
Wednesday, Phillips Church

EVENT
SPRING FLING
Saturday, Phillips Hall Steps

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Girls' Lax Beats St. Mark's in Electric Game

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Senior Emily Ryan sprints past a defender.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

By JOHN BECKERLE
Staff Writer

Girls' varsity lacrosse played at Brooks School last Friday, followed by a Monday night game at St. Mark's School. The team tied Brooks, ending a four-game winning streak, but defeated St. Mark's 8-6.

Up until the Brooks game, the girls boasted a 9-1 record. Their only loss came from a game against Noble & Greenough School in which the girls only lost by one goal, 6-7.

During the Brooks game, PEA gained a sizable five goal lead in the game before tying with a final score of 10-10. Lower Chandler Jean-Jacques said that the team started off very strong in their Saturday

game. Senior Charlotte Polk felt similarly to Jean-Jacques. "The Brooks game was good in a lot of ways but I think that it also showed us some things that we need to work on," Polk said.

Senior Leah Jones felt that the team overestimated the size of their lead and gave up the win. "On Saturday, we played well but unevenly, and we got caught being too comfortable with our lead," she said.

The team had a quick turnaround for their next game as they played at St. Mark's just two days later. Despite no practice and little rest time between the Brooks and St. Mark's game, Jean-Jacques said that the team played significantly better against St. Mark's. "Although we didn't have practice between Saturday and our next game on Monday,

we knew exactly what to fix and were able to come together and play one of our best games against a very good team," she said.

Jones expressed similar thoughts to Jean-Jacques. "We prepared for Monday's game by just fixing our mindset and playing without a doubt that we would win," Jones said.

Polk complimented her teammates for their competitive spirit during the St. Mark's game. "We did a really good job keeping their attack out and keeping our aggression up. We had a lot of really strong plays that game. We played really well, and I was really proud of us," she said.

Most of the team felt that the season up until this point has gone well. The girls will travel to play Berwick Academy on Friday

followed by a game at home on Saturday against Tabor Academy. Polk, like many other players on the team, is eager for the team's games against Berwick.

Jean-Jacques has high hopes for the remainder of their season. "Our season has had its ups and downs so far. For the next week and the rest of the season, we expect to work hard during every practice and dominate in future games," she said.

Jones wants the team to prepare for their upcoming games, but she emphasized the importance of the team's game next week at Deerfield Academy. "I expect us to power through our fatigue and play a full 50 every game. For the remainder of the season and most importantly Deerfield, that we keep focus and leave everything on the field."

Volleyball Continues Straight-Set Win Streak

By GRACE CARROLL
Staff Writer

Boys' varsity volleyball continues its undefeated season after defeating Choate 3-0 at home on Saturday. This was the team's second game against Choate, having previously beaten the team on its home court earlier in the season. The team has consistently shut out every match, winning best of five matches in three games and maintaining its undefeated season with an 8-0 record.

This past Saturday, however, the players had to step up their game to defeat Choate. "They were a good team that kept rallies going," said senior and co-captain Ben Swett. "This really challenged us to pass well and execute our offense in order to put them away." Co-captain and senior Mitchell Kirsch also noted the high energy and excitement of the team. "The Choate game was very similar to all of our other games," he said. "We won 3-0 and had a lot of fun doing it."

The match was high both in energy and skill level, with many notable performances by several different team members. Kirsch praised lower Don Assamongkol's jump serve, which consistently sent the opposing team's players reeling. "We also had some big plays out of Grambo [Graham Rutledge] and Jacob [Grandison] at the net," he said. "Ben Swett smoked the ball per usual."

In addition to the excellent team dynamic, Swett also singled out several of his teammates for their exceptional performance in the match. "Mitch Kirsch was such an athletic setter and did a great job dis-

tributing the ball," he said. "Noah Asch had a great pipe in the final set. He and Emilio [Karakey] also passed plenty of 3's that got the offense going. Graham [Rutledge] was a killer right side and Kelvin [Green] was a jaw-dropping middle."

The team looks forward to continuing its winning streak through the rest of the season and into the NEC league championships, which will be played at Choate this upcoming Saturday. Coming off such an exceptional season, Swett has high hopes for the Championships. "Our goal is definitely to bring home another championship," he said. "We've beaten every team so far, so we control how our season finishes." Kirsch agreed, summing up the team's goals for the rest of the season in one word: Win. Swett also said that, in addition to preparing for the championships, the team is looking to continue competing outside of the NEC league games.

"We're also planning to scrimmage some public school teams that are the top teams in Massachusetts," said Swett. Swett believed that by playing school outside of the NEC league, the team would get a chance to compete at a more challenging level. "We hope to keep up with them, and win those games too," he said. In addition to the upcoming NEC tournament, the team is also looking forward to taking on Andover for the second time this season during Exeter/Andover weekend, its final match of the season. Coming off an incredible season, boys' varsity volleyball is excited to continue its unstoppable momentum through its final few matches.



Senior Ben Swett goes up for a spike.

Garvin Hickey/The Exonian

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: HANNAH GUSTAFSON

By MADISON KANG
& JARED ZHANG
Staff Writers

Senior Hannah Gustafson dashes across the field, swiveling her lacrosse stick and dodging opponents before slinging the ball into the net. Gustafson, affectionately known by her teammates as "Gus," approaches every practice and game with skill, ardor and a competitive spirit, serving as a role model and an invaluable member of the girls' varsity lacrosse team.

Gustafson began her lacrosse career as a first grader, when she played alongside third and fourth graders on a local children's lacrosse team. She credited her father's affinity for lacrosse as a reason for her attraction to the sport, as he introduced her to the game and coached her throughout middle school. Gustafson expressed the gratitude she felt for her father's involvement. "I'm thankful for all the time he devoted to bringing me to practices and games and coaching me for almost eight years," she said.

The game also appealed to Gustafson because of its competitive nature. "My favorite aspect of lacrosse is the competitiveness. Sometimes all it takes is a want to win the game," she said. "If you want the ball more and want to win more, that is usually the team who will come out on top. You always have to be prepared to play your best."

When she arrived at Exeter and transitioned from middle school to high school lacrosse, Gustafson was awed by the faster pace of the games and the players' sizes. She appreciated the support of older girls on the team during her prep year. "I was pretty small when I came to Exeter, so playing with people who were five to eight inches taller than me was an adjustment," she remembered. "However, the team was so welcoming and the returning players made it such a comfortable and happy environment to be a part of every day."

Having been on the team for the past three years, Gustafson has grown to appreciate the team's dynamic. The senior explained the team's shared competitive spirit. "I look forward to every practice because everyone loves to be around each other playing the sport we all love," she



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

expressed.

Gustafson recalled a particular memory where the team's passion for the sport was most intense. She explained that, last year, the team was defeated by Deerfield, ruining their chance at an undefeated season. Despite the devastating loss, Gustafson stressed the team's ability to rebound, which led them to defeat Andover and end the season with a 16-1 record.

Gustafson expressed her desire to impart this attitude upon the newest members of the team. "Mental preparation is such a big part of sports and I think that is a really important thing to emphasize to the team, especially to the younger, less experienced players who have not played in high school for that long," she said.

As a senior and one of the most experienced members of the team, Gustafson

hopes she can be a mentor for younger players, similar to the ones she looked up to three years ago. "It is fun to see the preps in and lowers develop each and every day in practice. It is amazing to see how far some of them have come in the short two months we have been playing together," she said. "I want to set a good precedent for attitude and the mindset everyone should have going into every practice and game." Prep Ally DeCoste described her as "supportive" and "encouraging" teammate, and calling her "a great role model for the underclassmen."

Teammates applauded her duality of hard work and friendliness during practice. "Gus always works so hard during practice and she motivates everyone else to work harder," lower Chandler Jean-Jacques said. "She brings the team together during time-outs and speaking words of wisdom."

Upper Vivi Kraus agreed, saying, "Hannah is super intense but knows how to have fun with the team."

Upper Anna Reaman also praised Gustafson's work ethic and added that her "drive to win is incomparable." Prep Denisha Rolle commented on Gustafson's competitive nature, saying, "She's very competitive [and] hates to lose. That's probably why she's so good at everything she does. Love that girl."

Head coach Christina Breen commended Gustafson's commitment to the team. "I admire Hannah's willingness to work hard, love of team, effort and energy every time she steps on the field," Breen said. "Hannah is happiest when she is playing sports and that love of the game shapes the way she treats every game and practice—with joy and hard work."

On the field, Gustafson is considered one of the strongest players of the team. Breen explained that Gustafson is a talented and versatile midfielder and described her as an "offensive threat, a defensive wall and a master of draw controls." Reaman echoed Breen's sentiments and explained that Gustafson can "fly down the field without anyone catching her, and she can check like no other." Kraus also praised Gustafson for her offensive abilities and "great shot placements." Rolle agreed with Kraus and said that when she "winds up to rip a shot, you just know it's going in."

Gustafson plans on continuing her lacrosse career next year at Amherst College. "I am excited for this next chapter in my life and for what comes next and to be a freshman again and to have a whole new group of seniors to look up to," she said. However, she is sad to say goodbye to her Exeter teammates, some of whom she has played with three or four years, and her coaches Breen and Porter Hayes.

"The thing that I will miss the most about the team is playing with my best friends. It will be hard to not play with them anymore," she said. "I am also so thankful for the coaching I have received at Exeter. Coach Breen and Coach Hayes have cared so much about my life and devoted so much of their time to make me the lacrosse player I am today."

Girls' JV Lacrosse Dominates Brooks Team Improves its Season Record to an Impressive 9-0



An Exeter mid-fielder tries to find an opening.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

By BELLA ALVAREZ
Staff Writer

After gaining momentum during its currently undefeated season, girls' junior varsity lacrosse defeated the Brooks School 12-5 in a game last Friday. This comes after a string of eight impressive victories. "In general, our season has been great," lower Caroline Matule said. "With every week of practice, we are building and improving our knowledge of the game." The team also beat Milton Academy 10-6 on April 22, to whom it lost to last year. "As a team, we work well together despite having different levels of prior experience," lower Euwie Park said. Lower Ursula Sze felt invigorated after this most recent win. "By the first

half, we were up 8-0 because we kept winning the draws," she said, recalling the fast-paced game. Sze commended lower Leni Lemos for her outstanding ability to take control of the ball. "Leni won the ball and sprinted past the defenders and passed it offense, and that was how we scored most of our points in the second half," Sze said.

Park also praised Lemos' contributions. "She gave our team a huge advantage by winning almost every draw consistently during the game," she said. Park described Brooks as a high-caliber team, although she acknowledged that the girls did not play as well as they could have. "During the game, they did not work as smoothly as they could have and often become upset with our team,

the refs, and each other," Park explained. Matule reiterated this point, highlighting the team's strengths. "Brooks was a fairly competitive opponent, with many good individual players," she said. "You could definitely tell a bunch of them had experience."

With a determination to win future matches, Matule hoped to improve on her shots and speed on the field. "As a team, I think we could improve on our transition in the midfield, and our settled offense," she added. Sze elaborated on her wish for the team to improve on its ability to pass longer distances during turnovers. "Personally, I need to improve on fitness and throwing on my left side," Sze said. Park feels confident in her position, but would like to try to work on her offense.

"Most of the girls on the team have set positions that we are all very qualified to play [in]," she explained. "But it could be fun to try different positions every now and then."

As the end of the season approaches, the team is excited to face more competition. "We are really looking forward to Middlesex and Deerfield, because those are games we have lost in the past, but now we are feeling confident that our team is much stronger than those seasons," Matule said. Park remains confident in Big Red's athletic ability. "Our captains have done a good job with keeping team spirit high and supporting the team overall," she said. "The only I can think of to improve the practices is the weather!"



Exonian Sports



GIRLS' TENNIS BESTS CHOATE 8-1



Lower Katie Yang returns a hard shot down the line.

Garvin Hickey/The Exonian

By SARAH RYU
Staff Writer

The girls' varsity A tennis team crushed its match against Choate on Saturday with a score of 8-1. After their tough losses against Andover and Milton last week, Big Red got back into the game, claiming another successful victory for their season.

With the rain, the girls weren't able to play on the home courts, but they fortunately were able to host their match at the nearby Newburyport Club. Senior Melissa Lu commented on the great plays the team displayed on the courts, despite Choate being a great competition for them. "It was definitely one of the best matches we've had all year. The girls brought their all to every point, every deuce and every tiebreaker, and our perseverance paid off big in the end," she said. "In our doubles matches, our girls were meshing especially well, covering each other

and looking out for each other's weak spots while showing off each other's strengths."

Lu added that the singles matches were exceptionally close, with great rallies, emphasizing the "power balls back and forth, winners and amazing saves." She said, "We were definitely challenged, but each of us has been honing our own games this entire season, gaining consistency, practicing inside-outs, coming to the net, hitting sharper angles and more! The focus and determination of these girls strike me every time."

Lower Elizabeth Yang also agreed with the team's excellent performance and commented on the individual strengths in each of the matches. "It just showed how every one of us can work with anybody else on the team. We definitely saw great focus in many singles matches, as Michaela, Katie and Daria's matches all went to third set super tiebreakers," she said.

With the success, lower Katie Yang credited it to the strong determination from the players. "We went into the competition feeling some pressure because our match against Choate last season was cancelled, and we were eager to win after our two previous losses against Andover and Milton. I think it was this energy that really compelled us to play aggressively and consistently," she noted.

Next up in their season will be the Kent School Tournament, beginning on May 13 and lasting the whole weekend. The top four seeds, upper Gabby Gabel, lower Isobel Anderson, and the Yang twins will be traveling to Connecticut to compete in a full day of tennis. Gabel and Anderson will be playing singles, while the Yangs will be playing doubles together.

Gabel detailed their preparation for the tournament. "We have been doing a combination of drills and point play. The

drills have mostly been focused on doubles and volleys as we are working on coming to net more and finishing off points by being aggressive rather than being on defense," she said.

Looking forward to the rest of the season, Lu hopes that the team reduces their unforced errors. In order to improve their consistency, the team has played various drills practicing cross-court and down-the-line shots aiming at cones. The team continues to use specific drills to close their current gaps and have been conditioning throughout the week to build speed, power and stamina.

With the consistent improvement in the games, Lu is proud of all the hard work the players put into every game and the camaraderie between everyone. "We have a very fun, competitive group of girls who support each other and push each other during every practice. It's a lot of fun, and it's a bond you can't get anywhere besides a team," she said.

Boys' Lax Slams Brewster and Tabor

By ROSE HOROWITZ
Staff Writer

The boys' varsity lacrosse team played and won in two away games this week. The first was on Wednesday, and was against Brewster Academy. Big Red defeated Brewster with 13-7. Its second game was on Saturday, and was against Tabor Academy. Exeter triumphed over Tabor with a score of 14-4.

In both games, the team worked well together. Its their close bond that likely helped them to win the past two games and has contributed to the team's strong record overall. Upper Jon DeBonis said, "There is a great team atmosphere and it's awesome to be a part of such a talented group." He added that this week's games were "great team efforts, where we all played well and worked hard."

Upper Seth Bowman said that senior

Will Ayscue has "stood out as a leader on the bench." He added, "His ability to energize and motivate the bench is unparalleled, and he is one of the loudest and most spirited voices from the sidelines." Bowman said that lower Matt Hawke has distinguished himself with strong play on the field. Bowman said that Hawke has "been playing better and better each game." He added that since adjusting to a new position, Hawke has "become a steadfast member of the

defensive unit."

DeBonis added that in the midst of the strong plays, the team has still faced challenges. He said the biggest challenge of the week for the team was to maintain its stellar record. The team currently has a season record of 9-1. DeBonis said that it was hardest for the team to "keep up the level of play we have been competing at for the entire season." This standard of play has led Exeter to victory over some of the most skilled teams in the league, and has solidified itself as a formidable force on the field.

Bowman said that looking ahead for the rest of the season, the team is already preparing to play Deerfield Academy. The game will be played on Deerfield's campus, and, recognizing this setback, Bowman said that "After a long bus-ride down to Deerfield, the team will have to be ready to face arguably the best team on our schedule."

Although the team has triumphed in all but one of its games, it was reminded this week that it cannot become complacent. In the coming week it will play two more games on Friday and Saturday. On Friday, Big Red will take on Milton Academy in an away game, and on Saturday the team will play the Northfield Mount Hermon School at home.

DeBonis said that a lesson learned from this week's games is that the team "needs to keep playing hard for the rest of the long season." Bowman agreed that the week ahead would be challenging for Big Red to take on. He said that the team has never before in the season played back-to-back games on Friday and Saturday. He said, "Being in the right mindset and ready to play both days is going to prove difficult, but the team will be up to the challenge."



Senior Connor Cinquegrana rips a shot.

Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

Inside This Week's Sports Section

Girls' JV Lacrosse



The girls' junior varsity lacrosse team remains undefeated, beating Milton and Brooks. Read more on B5.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

Athlete of the Week



Hannah Gustafson has been a force on the field this season for the girls' varsity lacrosse team. Read more on B5.

Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

Boys' Volleyball



The boys' volleyball team remains an unstoppable powerhouse. Find out more about the team's success on B4.

Garvin Hickey/The Exonian

Girls' Lacrosse



Girls' lacrosse manages to win another game, extending the team's win streak to seven games. Read more on B4.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian