



Exonians prepare for the main stage performance later this term.

Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

## Mainstage Production Modifies Play Script

By JOHN BECKERLE  
and SUAN LEE  
Staff Writers

Mainstage has adapted a potentially racist scene from this term's rock and roll rendition of Shakespeare's *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* in the hopes of making it less controversial.

Upper Anzi Debenedetto and senior Alejandro Arango are playing the leads in the show, which will debut on Friday, Feb. 17 in Fisher Theater. Originally, the objective of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* musical was to unite the New York City community through a comedic play that showcased a racially diverse cast of characters. "In the context of the play in the 1970's, the play was going out of its way to include different members of different races around New York City. [The play] really got to show the unity and community aspect of New York," Debenedetto said.

Despite the play's focus on diversity, controversy arose when director Sarah Ream asked the cast how they felt about a scene in the play in which senior Jonathan Lee's character, Eglamour, rides into battle on a Chinese dragon. When cast and crew members gathered for a

discussion, some voiced concerns about the potential cultural insensitivity of the scene. Ream said that some cast members wanted to omit the dragon so as to not alienate the audience.

Debenedetto said that some cast members did not like the idea of including the dragon. "Some people [in the cast] are uncomfortable with a Chinese character being paired with a Chinese dragon," he said. "There's arguments regarding this that may be interpreted as racist and anti-PC."

Lower Natalie Love, the assistant stage manager, felt the dragon perpetuated negative Asian stereotypes. "In the notes, it says that the character is Chinese. Originally, it [the dragon] was added to the show with a good intention because it was just supposed to be celebratory and fun," she said.

Love and many other cast members felt that the dragon might offend some of the audience members during the show. "We [the cast] thought that it [the dragon] would be culturally insensitive, accentuating the fact that he's Asian and otherworldly," she continued.

Lower Anna Clark echoed this sentiment, explaining that Eglamour is

portrayed to be "more foreign than the other characters." Love also discussed how discrimination against Asians in the United States is often less "outright" than that towards other races and found this scene in the play to be yet another subtle example of racial prejudice.

On the contrary, other cast members believed the incorporation of the dragon into the scene was an effective way of promoting Asian culture. Debenedetto, one of the few Chinese cast members, did not find the dragon racist. "I wanted my culture to be put up on stage," he said. "I thought this was going to be the perfect platform for showing a bit of Chinese culture on campus."

Lee, a Korean-American student who plays the role of Eglamour, also felt that the dragon scene celebrated Chinese culture. "Not including it [the dragon] would actually be disrespectful since so many other cultures are represented," he said.

"Most of the other Asian cast members weren't offended by the dragon; we were more upset that Asian culture was now not being represented as much," he continued.

MAINSTAGE, A2

## PEA Faculty Uncovers Lost Poem, Archives Explored

By MAI HOANG  
and SHIVANI TRIPATHI  
Staff Writers

After the recent renovation of Bissell House (Admissions Building), English instructor Lionel Hearon visited the building's storage area and stumbled upon a 1926 portrait that had previously hung in the lobby. Upon close examination of the artwork, he found an inscription to the 1920s Lantern Literary Society and a signature of the famed New England poet Robert Frost, winner of four Pulitzer prizes and a Congressional Gold Medal.

When asked about the discovery, Hearon expressed joy and appreciation but said he was not too surprised, as "that's not [my] first discovery pertaining to Robert Frost." A few years ago, Hearon "went digging" in the English department and unearthed a checkbook of Robert Frost, first edition, signed to the English Department: "From an old, old, friend Robert Frost." According to Hearon, Frost had "an Exeter Connection," having visited campus on numerous occasions. He is not the only acclaimed writer whose works and personal items the Academy possesses, however. "You can find stuff all the time, if you know where to go," said Hearon, citing rediscoveries of Samuel Johnson's dictionary in a former faculty's classroom and a Donald Hall poem in discarded cardboard boxes. Over hundreds of years, Exeter has amassed an impressive collection of cultural and historic artifacts that still lie around

campus, some of them undiscovered to this day.

Following efforts by the administration to locate, categorize and preserve these valuable artifacts, a large number of them now reside in four places: the Class of 1945 Library, Lamont Gallery, Latin Study and the Anthropology Museum. The library and gallery mainly collect items of artistic and literary value donated by alumni and other Exeter affiliates. Meanwhile, the Latin Study and the Anthropology Museum, maintained by the Classical Languages and History Departments, respectively, are home to archaeological and ethnographic objects that date as far back as the Hellenistic period (330 B.C.)

In 2015, the Academy appointed Olivia Knauss as Collections Assistant and Archives Coordinator of Lamont Gallery to reorganize and keep track of the 663 items in the gallery archives. According to Knauss, the gallery's inventory "has not been updated since the early 2000s." Throughout the gallery's history, many valuable items such as Diego Rivera's original oil painting of Irene Estrella have gone missing for a period of time, only to resurface a few years later in obscure places. "For years and years, the [Irene Estrella] painting was lost," said Knauss. "It was rented out to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and so one director solidified the loan, then another director came in, and then a third who didn't know this even existed." One factor that contributed to the chaos was

the gallery's past decision to rent artwork to faculty members for only eight dollars apiece. According to Knauss, this policy caused valuable items to be "disseminated around campus," as many borrowers simply forgot about them.

"We found five prints in the Academy attic just underneath students' projects and covered in dry dust," said Knauss.

The gallery is now making marked progress in tracing and preserving artworks. Another important part of their work is piecing together the stories of how these items came to Exeter. In some cases, minute records are kept—Knauss pointed to the two hundred traditional crafts from Indonesia and Africa that were brought to the Academy by Class of 1946 alumnus James Perrin, who served abroad as part of the Foreign

## Trump Signs Immigration Order, Student Groups React

By BELLA ALVAREZ,  
MAKINROLA ORADIFIYA  
and KIANA SILVER  
Staff Writers

The Exeter community has engaged in discussion, reflection and protest since President Donald J. Trump's Jan. 28 executive order, which banned all immigrants, refugees and non-Green Card holders from seven countries in the Middle East: Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen. As of Feb. 6, Homeland Security has temporarily suspended the travel ban. In response to a challenge from the State of Washington's Attorney General, Bob Ferguson, a federal judge from Seattle issued a ruling last Friday that will temporarily suspend President Trump's executive order. Many other judges from around the United States have also filed lawsuits against Trump, declaring the ban unconstitutional.

The Sunday following the signing of the executive order, Principal Lisa MacFarlane sent out a school-wide email, briefly referencing the ban itself before reminding the community that it stands strong together. "For 236 years, Phillips Exeter Academy has welcomed youth from every quarter," MacFarlane wrote. "We always will." She emphasized that the school's staff is striving to understand how the ban affects members of the Exeter community and is working in conjunction with other schools and colleges in the area.

MacFarlane concluded the message with a positive reminder to all students. "Each of you—regardless of national origin, or religious affiliation or background—is precious to each of us," she wrote. "That will not change."

Many community members from the Academy and from the town of Exeter responded to the ban by holding a candlelit vigil on Sunday evening of Jan. 29. Participants walked through the town accompanied by the Academy's

TRUMP, A2

Service. Corliss Lamont, the alumnus who donated money to establish the gallery, also contributed significantly to its collection, having acquired a substantial number of paintings through his connections with artists like Diego Rivera and Roy Lichtenstein. "Corliss Lamont was a philosopher and he was very interested in social movements and how they were influenced by art," said Knauss. "He would go to the Soviet Union over his summer breaks and do his own private research." Previous gallery directors and faculty members also donated their works to the academy from time to time; sculptor Cabot Lyford and painter Glen Krause, both affiliated with the academy in the 50s, contributed extensively to the gallery's

ARCHIVES, A2

## SNOW DAY NOTICE

Weather report warns of hazardous conditions due to heavy snow fall; emergency parking ban in Town of Exeter goes into effect immediately; Principal MacFarlane cancels all classes and required appointments for Thursday, Feb. 9.

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Phillips Exeter Academy's Library is host to an extensive archive collection.

Julia Goydan/The Exonian

## Access to Lesser-Known Campus Artifacts Examined

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collection.

The Class of 1945 Library, on the other hand, is the hub of literary artifacts on campus. From a second edition Shakespeare folio to John Phillip's knee buckles, it has history at every single corner. Though most of the library's artifacts pertain to literature, the building also houses a variety of artworks and maps. Elaborate paintings are scattered throughout the building, depicting royalty such as the Duchess of Portsmouth. The maps date back to the 1700s, providing an ancient yet realistic view of our world. Literature gifted to the Academy by various Lamont Poets also hang. Surprisingly, only a very small percent of the library's archives are left out in the open; the archive managers lock most items in safes with precisely con-

trolled conditions. According to Peter Hearon, Head of Archives and Special Collections, many books, especially those made after the advent of wood pulp, "break down easily" and need to be preserved in rooms with "just the right temperature and humidity."

"There's stuff everywhere, if you just look around," said Hearon. This includes an original copy of the very first Exonian issue. Published in 1878, it was a symbol of not only literary advancement at the Academy, but also one of the first opportunities for Exonians to have their thoughts read and preserved. Another important artifact was the original Deed of Gift, written by John Phillips himself. It has been described as the constitution of Phillips Exeter. On these sacred pages, Phillips articulated the founding philosophy of the school, which included phrases that we still use

today, such as "non sibi" and "The great end and real business of living."

Many faculty members expressed concern regarding students' apathetic attitude toward the extensive collections owned by the Academy. "I don't think that students notice [the artifacts] because the lifestyle here is so much just go, go, go," said Knauss. Echoing this sentiment, Nelson stated that most students don't have much information about the library archives, despite his efforts to "make people aware" as much as possible. "To others, they go to a school that was established in 1781 and that doesn't mean much to them," said Nelson. Another factor responsible for students' negligence is lack of accessibility. Knauss admitted, "the anthropology museum is locked, the special collection room you have to get permission to go in, and I hold the keys to the gallery stor-

age area." At any given time, both the gallery and the library only put a fraction of their total collection on display.

Despite these obstacles, faculty and staff encourage students to take advantage of the learning opportunities that lie all around them, even when they are not in the classroom. From a painting of Irene Estrella lost in an Academy attic to a photo signed by Robert Frost in the admissions building, campus is littered with fascinating objects beckoning students to take a closer look. Many faculty hope that increased exposure to these archives will help students develop an appreciation for the extensive range of artifacts that the Academy has acquired. Lionel Hearon marveled at the enriching archives hidden in many corners of the Academy. "Now what secondary school has that to boast about?" he asked.

## Executive Order Discussed Mainstage Alters Script

Continued from TRUMP, A1

school minister, Reverend Heidi Heath, and English instructor and College Counselor Cary Einhaus, who originally arranged the event.

At the end of the walk, Heath offered prayers for the town of Exeter and for the wider world. She also recognized her privilege as a white woman, saying that although the current executive orders do not directly affect her life, she feels empathy for those who suffer under its consequences. "A blow to one of us is a blow to all of us," Heath said. "As our school minister and the head of religious life on campus, I feel a deep responsibility to stand in solidarity with our Muslim students, faculty and staff who may feel oppressed or further marginalized."

Her prayers focused also on the themes of inclusivity and love. "We are not about being a community rooted in fear," Heath said, at the vigil. "Let's be a community who affirms the worth and dignity of every one of us and says no bans, no walls."

Currently, MacFarlane is taking action to help students whose lives are impacted by the executive order. According to lower Ahlam Ibrahim, MacFarlane met with an affinity group, the Muslim Students Association (MSA), and discussed her active steps towards protecting them. "She assured us that the school will support any and all students impacted by the ban and that there's a list of pro bono attorneys willing to defend students," Ibrahim said.

Senior Anishta Khan, who is a co-head of the club Baraka, a discussion-based group focused on Islam, also commented on the necessity of open discourse. "Baraka has been hosting discussions through the term, about the campaign and growing Islamophobia [while] also acting as a space for students to raise their concerns," Khan said. The club also hopes to discuss their concerns in conjunction with Democratic Club and Republican Club.

Khan has noticed an overwhelming atmosphere of support and social activism on campus since the ban. "More people are engaging themselves in the spirit of advocacy," she explained. "Not only for their personal causes, but also [because of] a clear awareness for community causes."

Khan said that these activists should look at the situation from a rational perspective, as she believes that this ban and Trump's other executive orders are serving as a distraction. "The ban has... specifically targeted certain countries which would not economically harm

the president's interest," Khan said. "I hope people do not get swept up by this emotionally, [but] rather find constructive ways to combat this."

Ibrahim also pointed out some of the inherent flaws she sees within the executive order itself. Since the attack on the Twin Towers on 9/11, terrorism attempts have been perpetrated mostly by American citizens. "The seven countries included in the ban have not been responsible for any [major] attacks since 9/11," Ibrahim said. "[Trump] is solving a problem that doesn't exist."

Although it is currently on hold, Trump's signing of the executive order sparked opinions about his intent behind the ban and its benefits for U.S. citizens. "Trump's executive order was not executed with the intent to protect our country, but for some other reason that is selfish and not for the greater good," Ibrahim said. She also mentioned that the most recent attacks in the U.S. have stemmed from "home-grown terrorism," as opposed to so-called "Islamic terrorism" from the seven barred countries.

Senior Ahmad Rahman echoed Ibrahim's sentiment, saying that although he hasn't seen anyone in the Exeter community directly impacted by the ban, the ramifications of the executive order have been widespread and detrimental. "Article after article talks about the people that have been affected by this order, from the Iranian scientists who were supposed to deliver speeches, to the Somali refugees who were set to start their lives in America, to the four-month old baby who needed to come here to receive necessary surgery and care; [they were] all denied entry to the US," Rahman said.

Rahman also said that Trump's extreme vetting process and favoritism towards Christian immigrants—something the president promised—would only serve to support the idea that America is at war with the religion of Islam. "The U.S. accepted almost as many Christians as Muslims last year. And unlike the current administration, numbers don't lie," Rahman said. He also emphasized the fact that this ban is unconstitutional. "It's morally wrong and against American principles and our constitution to set a religious test for entrance."

Although the full range of implications that Trump's executive order will have on the Exeter campus is not yet clear, many have encouraged solidarity, informed conversations and kindness in the community. As Heath said, "Help us to be a community grounded in love and to care for one another well."

Continued from MAINSTAGE, A1

Ultimately, the cast replaced the dragon with a horse. To some, the dragon's removal jeopardized the integrity of the original performance. "We wanted to respect the work itself since this is how the play was created in the first place. It was right that we respect the role of Eg-lamour as it was first written," Lee said.

Debenedetto felt similarly. "The dragon is a part of the show and we should do everything to preserve the show's integrity," he said.

Lee sympathized with the decision to alter the script, however. "Still, I can see where the directors are coming from. They're trying to make it enjoyable for everybody, and I understand that."

Lower Taylor Robertson felt the show's integrity was unaffected by this change. "If the scene was about the culture and was actually a Chinese New Year celebration, it would have contextual significance, but I don't think it did, and so by taking it out, I don't think it took away from the integrity of the show," he said.

Robertson felt it was unnecessary to upset audience members by keeping a controversial scene in the show. "I personally didn't want to offend any of the audience coming to see it [the play] because you don't want to be offended while you're watching a show," he said. "Shows are meant to be enjoyed, not to be discussed afterwards because they were questionable and upsetting."

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# Recruitment Process for Phillips Exeter Admissions Examined

By DON ASSAMONGKOL  
and ZAC FENG  
Staff Writers

Each year, the Admissions Office of Phillips Exeter Academy receives over three thousand applications, and although some include supplements documenting student specialization or department recommendations, committees made up of faculty and admissions officers read all applications equitably and comprehensively.

During the review and selection process, athletic, math or music skill does not affect admissions. Rather, the selection committees consider each candidate holistically, taking into account their character, academics, extracurriculars and personal background. Director of Admissions, Bill Leahy, explained that specialization does not "tip the balance in favor of someone who is not qualified." The admissions department does not only look for athletes, for example, but a "wide range of interests, in and out of the classroom."

Although all students send in the required materials, some may choose to include supplements that demonstrate their proficiency in specific fields such as arts or athletics. These talents may be considered when the admissions office is deciding between two equally qualified candidates, but they will not be enough to admit a student who does not already meet Academy standards. "Everyone who is admitted has met the admission standards," Leahy said.

In an agreement with other New England boarding schools, Phillips Exeter is not allowed to actively recruit students. That is, students who receive endorsements from any department will still "need to be admitted like any other student," accord-

ing to Director of Athletics Shane LaPointe. This rule goes for athletic postgraduates as well. Each team is allowed to have as many postgraduate students as are admitted—the football team, however, is allowed at most eight PGs.

"The Phillips Exeter Math team is consistently ranked among the top in the nation, and while instructors can show support for certain admission candidates, there is no formal math recruitment process. Instructor in Mathematics and Supervisor of Exeter's Math Club and Math Team, Zuming Feng, believes that the word "recruitment" is not applicable to this scenario. "In a recruitment, you have to go out of your way. For example, in colleges, many times recruits will get free tuition and extra benefits," he said. "I don't think any of our programs, in that sense, [are] recruiting."

However, a strong background in mathematics still provides students with a competitive edge. If a student chooses to contact Feng when applying to Exeter, their test scores in various math competitions will be provided for review. "[In] the US, Mathcounts and the AMC8/AMC10 are the biggest competitions so they will give us the best indication of a student's strength," he said. "If we see something special in [the prospective students], we'll write a recommendation to the [admissions office] telling that this student would contribute to the school in a very special way. We're helping make a case for the prospective students." Feng said. For international students, Feng considers equally prestigious competitions in their respective countries.

Feng emphasized that a lack of outstanding capability will not negatively affect their application. "Like many of the

students here, to get in, you don't have to play a varsity sport or play an instrument. All applicants go through the general application process anyway," he said.

The Admissions Office is also free to disregard Feng's support for certain applicants. "I do not know how much our support helps," Feng said. "However, in most cases, it definitely helps other readers to get to know the students better," Feng said.

In terms of outreach to talented, prospective math students, Feng describes it as "a two-way process." In past years, letters have often been sent to prospective students with outstanding math scores to inform them of Exeter's program. During math competitions, the Exeter math team also promotes its activities. "However, it's more of a process to let parents know about our math program, [to show] them what our students do at Exeter and our philosophy," Feng said. "If we get some people to apply for our EMCC (Exeter Math Club Competition) competition, great. If they also listen [to] our talk throughout the competition and want to apply to Exeter, great."

Additionally, there is no set number of students that can be recommended for math. "If one year we have ten students with a really strong math background, I will tell admissions where they would be if they came to Exeter," Feng said. "If there [are] only three students, then we only have three."

The music department's recommendation process is similar to that of the math department in that students are never formally recruited; a recommendation is simply attached to their application. Prospective students record themselves playing their instrument. It is then viewed by

a music instructor for that respective instrument. Everyone in the department is involved and in a single admissions session, each teacher can go through hundreds of recordings.

After these supplemental recordings are evaluated, the applicants are grouped into three categories: the General Category (students who would participate in the programs offered at Exeter); the Special Needs Category (students who would fill chronically lacking spots in the department); and the Impact Musicians (the rare students who would have a significant impact on the programs on campus.)

Chair of the Music Department Peter Schultz explained that a recommendation would only be included in an applicant's admissions folder if they were in the latter two categories. The music department is also restricted in the ways they can help an applicant. "We don't say to the admissions department that we really need this certain violist even if they aren't qualified. Recommending is as much as we do," Schultz said.

Schultz noted that music department was looking for more than skill. "It's not about setting the bar high for our applicants. Part of what we're looking for in the video is their potential to develop if they come here," he said. As a trained musician, Schultz can tell the experience of the musician by other indicators such as how they hold their instrument, or their basic mechanics.

Although not compensated for the additional work, Schultz believes it is worth the effort. "Not every applicant will either get in or choose to attend, but it gives us a significant start on our program for next year," he said.

## Exeter, Noble Partnership

By JACQUELINE CHO  
and SAM WEIL  
Staff Writers

As Noble Academy continues to implement the Harkness method in its classes, it will maintain its partnership with Exeter. A charter school in Chicago, Illinois, Noble Academy originally adapted the practice of Harkness with the intent of helping students thrive in their learning environment, while also preparing them for college. Phillips Exeter Academy has worked with Noble Academy since its genesis to fine-tune its usage of Harkness.

History instructor Margaret Foley, along with a team of other Exeter faculty, has been helping facilitate ideas for the application of Harkness at Noble Academy. Teachers such as math instructor Gwyneth Coogan and Foley herself have been frequently visiting the Academy to compare and contrast their school's usage of the Harkness method to Exeter's.

Noble Academy is a charter school that belongs to a network of high schools in Chicago. Unlike PEA, it is non-selective. Everyone who applies is accepted, and if the applicant pool is larger than the number of spots available, enrollment is decided through an objective lottery system. Because of its non-selective nature, Noble Academy enrolls students from a broad range of educational backgrounds.

Pablo Sierra, the principal of a similar charter school called Pritzker College Prep, originally wanted to establish a new school that addressed his concerns about college dropout rates among Pritzker College Prep graduates. Sierra observed that although students at Pritzker were getting into college, their college dropout rates were just as high as those of students from other schools with similar socioeconomic and racial-ethnic backgrounds. Sierra partnered with Dean of Faculty Ethan Shapiro, who at the time served as the principal of Exeter's summer school, to design a school that incorporated the Harkness method into its teaching pedagogy.

Foley explained that in his pursuit for a unique take on learning, Sierra turned to Exeter for guidance. "Sierra started thinking about how Harkness teaching seems to increase self-advocacy [and] intrinsic interest in education," she said. "And he had a hunch that those were some skills that would help his graduates stay in college."

Even before the school opened, faculty from Exeter had been working alongside Noble Academy for several years. In the beginning, the school did not intend to use the Harkness method until a few years after its inception, allowing teachers time to find their bearings. According to Foley, once the teachers learned about the Harkness method, they could not wait to use it in their classes. "They thought when they started the school that they'd be doing Harkness once they had older grades," she said. "But then some of the teachers got really excited about it, and started right away with their 9th graders."

Several aspects of Noble Academy's use of Harkness differ from Exeter's. For example, its classes are much longer than Exeter's, and include a range of objectives and assignments. A typical class might start with individuals thinking about a

topic on their own, and then coming together in small groups to discuss what they have thought about. Rather than gathering around one big Harkness table, Noble students spread out among many smaller tables to begin discussions.

"When it's a large class, they have to adapt considerably," Foley said. She explained that class sizes at Noble Academy can range from 16 to 35 people, making fitting all students around one table impossible. "Sometimes what they'll do is they'll have two [or] three circles going in a class. The teacher goes from one to the other, or sometimes just sticks with one," Foley said.

Foley also commended Noble Academy for its dedication to thinking about how to best use Harkness. "They spend a lot of time talking about how well they're doing in their discussions," she said.

This introspection is not so different from Exeter's "Mid-term Efforts to Improve in Class," or "METICS," in which students discuss how their class can improve around the table. According to Foley, however, Noble Academy spends more time throughout the year, rather than just once a term, thinking about how to best use Harkness.

For example, students often write discussion questions at home, allowing them to identify specific parts of the text that they find important to examine before class. "They do a lot of thinking about their own roles in the discussion, [and] I think for some reason we don't do as much of that here," Foley said.

Since Noble Academy is an independent school, it must abide by certain rules established by the head of the network of the charter school system. Because of this, the Academy emphasizes testing—for example, the strengthening of students' ACT scores—to aid students in getting into good colleges. "They really have to work on standardized test scores, because their primary goal is to get their students into college, and if you can't achieve a minimum score on the ACT, then your chances of going to college are minimal," Foley explained.

Since Harkness is a discussion-based learning system, test-prep for the ACT or SAT can often fall by the wayside at Exeter, Foley said. Since Noble Academy has longer classes, there is time for Harkness as well as ACT practice, independent work and follow up exercises.

Foley and Coogan both expressed appreciation for the opportunity to learn more about the usage of Harkness from their visit to Noble Academy. "We could be more explicit about what we expect of everyone around the table, and we can talk to each other more about how we refine what we do at the table," Coogan said.

She went on, saying that observing how Harkness can manifest itself in different environments has been "reaffirming and inspiring."

Foley agreed with Coogan's sentiment, and applauded the partnership between Noble Academy and PEA, which has demonstrated to her how two institutions can learn from one another. "I think any time a teacher comes into another teacher's classroom, there's something to learn about your own teaching, and that's true even when the school setting is quite different, like it is at Noble Academy," she said.

## Faculty Boundaries Revisited

By ANDREW HONG, MADISON  
KANG and CHARLIE NEUHAUS  
Staff Writers

Exeter faculty and staff participated in boundary training workshops in which they discussed the parameters for professional relationships between adults and students and reviewed New Hampshire state reporting laws last fall. In 2013, Dean of Faculty Ethan Shapiro, Dean of Students Melissa Mischke, Dean of Residential Life AJ Cosgrove and Associate Director of Counseling and Psychological Services Christopher Thurber developed and implemented a two-step plan of instruction for faculty training.

Every Exeter employee is required to attend two boundary training sessions. The first level of training outlines appropriate behavior and legal matters. In the second level of training, faculty and staff examine and analyze specific case scenarios of social situations, such as favoritism and improper proximity, and what to do when faced with these circumstances.

Mischke explained the purpose of the training sessions. "A few years ago, a group of us got together and wrote a powerpoint deck of boundaries," she began. "The goal was to train all staff and faculty because [some] had never had [exposure to] reporting laws or boundary training."

Boundary training has, in fact, existed at Exeter for quite some time. "I started doing boundary training here [at Exeter] before anything emerged about sexual misconduct cases," Thurber explained. "It was something that was always important to PEA and I think it's just become more important, or that we've become more diligent to make sure to include all the faculty and staff."

Religion instructor Russell Weatherpoon, who has been teaching at the Academy for more than 40 years, expressed his approval of the revisions in the updated boundary training program. "Sometimes when you are training people, you are either reminding them of what they already know, or you may be telling them about things which have changed, particularly legal changes," he said. "Since I started teaching back in the early 70s, a lot has changed about the world. Telling them [faculty] that the law has changed in this particular area here's what it was five years ago, here's what it was last year, here's what it is now, helps people stay on top of what's happening."

Boundary training has been imperative to fostering a healthy school environment for decades, but the training agenda has been altered over the past three years. This year, the training was further modified with a legal review from Attorney Holly Barcroft and Exeter's internal legal counsel, Nixon Peabody.

Thurber, who presented his boundary training course to the Harker School in San Jose, California in 2004 and to the Association of Boarding Schools in 2005, described the importance of faculty boundary training in maintaining a comfortable learning environment.

"There is an inherent power differential that exists between any person in a position of authority, like a teacher or a coach or a staff member, and a student," he explained. "The most powerful learning happens in the context of a relationship where two human beings are interacting. To preserve the

sanctity and power of that relationship and leverage it for the students' educational benefit, it is always the adult's responsibility to pay attention to and respect the boundaries that exist."

Thurber outlined how he aimed to use the training to achieve this relationship. "My goal in boundary workshops, whether it's an hour or five hours is to do two things," he said. "The first is to raise educators' awareness in what a boundary crossing is and what it looks like. The second is to make them realize that we all have these human vulnerabilities."

Thurber explained that the training covers what makes for a beneficial professional relationship and how an adult can stay aware of the small boundary crossings so that it never grows into a larger issue. "We spend most of the time talking about the more common things that happen, like favoritism [and] more personal involvement in a student's life that is well intended but if left unchecked might grow to be a significant boundary violation," he said, adding that all teachers make low level boundary crossings "once in awhile."

English instructor Alex Myers stressed the importance of the training as a refresher of established methods of handling certain situations, as well as an opportunity to share situations that have actually occurred. "Just because you learn something once doesn't mean you always remember it, and so it needs to be refreshed," he said. "I think it needs to be enlivened with examples that actually happen to faculty members, so the dean of students office probably talks to advisors, and dorm parents, and proctors and collects stories of like 'this really happened.'"

Myers suggested that both adults and students should be aware of professional boundaries. "It would be helpful if the students knew what was in the training in some ways and understood what the legal and ethical constraints and professional guidelines are for faculty members," he said. "If students got an idea of what's both professional and legal, there would be more trust, and they could understand where we are coming from."

English instructor Tyler Caldwell agreed with Myers' suggestion. "These training sessions are important for the faculty to attend. It is important, though, that the students are aware that the faculty have had to participate in these workshops," he said. "It could be helpful for students to go through similar workshops so that the faculty and students can be on the same page."

He went on, proposing that students should also be aware of the training process so they are not hurt by any perceived distance from their teachers. "If the student body does not know of the faculty boundary training, then it might be easier for a student to perceive a faculty member as cold or aloof when that faculty member is trying to follow the boundary training they received," he said.

Thurber stressed that all members of Exeter's community should embrace and understand faculty boundary training. "It's not to make teachers scared, as if they're walking on eggshells, as if they look at a student sideways they're going to jail," he said. "Instead, I think if it's done well, make teachers more confident that they can do their jobs well and be a positive influence."

## Why We Need the TPP in Developing Countries

**Mai Hoang '20**  
Guest Contributor

On his first full day in office, the 45th president of the United States President Donald J. Trump formally signed an executive order to once and for all withdraw the country from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a trade agreement painstakingly negotiated between twelve states (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam) from 2008. This move permanently ended all the hopes cherished by Barack Obama and other individuals who wanted to see free and equal trade expanding across a region that made up 40 percent of the world's economy. Not everyone is spilling tears over the deal's funeral—in fact, many trade unions, isolationists and members of Obama's own party are congratulating Trump on what they term "a righteous decision" that would timely prevent big corporations from "selling out American jobs behind closed doors." Yet without the TPP, in certain parts of the world, transitional smuggling of ivory and shark-fin will thrive, corrupt governments will continue imposing sky-high tariffs to render products inaccessible to half the population, and factories will go on flushing tons of waste into local rivers without heeding. And up in the mountainous regions of rural Dien Bien, thirteen-year-old Hieu, like 1.75 million Vietnamese children his age, will continue to wake up to

the smell of the dingy assembly line, ready to do the work that he loathed for a few thousand dollars (0.04 USD) per day.

An important feature of the TPP that its opponents tend to conveniently forget is the multitude of regulations on labor conditions, environmental protection, intellectual property and governmental transparency that it enforces on its signatories. It is the first free trade agreement in the world to devote an entire chapter to environmental commitments. To the workers in developing countries, the deal's regulations on labor rights would have meant drastic improvements in their living standards. In the status quo corporations in Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam ruthlessly sacrifice the benefits of their laborers and the sustainability of their environment to lower production cost. The respective governments, spurred by economic incentives, for a long time did not even attempt to mitigate the effects of these practices by enforcing stricter laws. With the TPP and the consequent access to more selective markets and educated consumers, these states were finally pushed to make concrete changes.

Malaysia, for example, has pledged for the first time to face its human trafficking crisis, specifically focusing on lowering the number of sex workers forced into indentured servitude. In 2014, the country was downgraded from Tier 2 to Tier 3 on the Trafficking in Persons report, indicating an increase in trafficking activities and failure on the part of the government to "make significant efforts to meet the minimum standards." In response, Senator Bob

Menendez added a provision in TPP legislation which explicitly stated that unless Malaysia cracked down on human trafficking, it would be excluded from the partnership, prompting the government to make amendments to the prosecution as well as victim protection system which officially went into force in November 2015. Similarly, the Sultan of Brunei, Hassanal Bolkiah had to reconsider his plan of imposing conservative laws against gay people when the alternative was exclusion from the TPP. In Vietnam, TPP would have meant the implementation of the U.S.-Vietnam Plan for the Enhancement of Trade and Labor Relations which dictated that the Communist Party of Vietnam allow larger labor federations to be established within five years. To monitor the government's compliance with the TPP's labor chapter, a Labor Expert Panel was created, comprising of representatives from both countries. The Vietnamese government also had to upgrade its Biodiversity and Forest Protection laws to comply with what Hung Phan, deputy head of Legal Affairs Department termed "the largest and strictest environmental commitments" Vietnam has ever signed. These commitments encompassed everything from protecting the ozone layer, preventing ship pollution and developing a low-emissions economy.

As negotiations continued and TPP partners worldwide drafted drastic legislative changes, developing states awaited eagerly for the economic boon that were promised them if they cast off their backwards, authoritarian mantra. The price for modernization was

worth it—they would now be able to export their agricultural products to larger markets and import high-quality technology craft from developed nations. The millions of long-suffering citizens in Malaysia, Brunei, Mexico, Peru and Vietnam held their breath.

And then the U.S. withdrew from the deal. Of course, it is true that the U.S. is just one country, and as of now there has been talk among the eleven other members on moving ahead without the participation of U.S. However, according to the lead economist for trade and regional cooperation at the Asian Development Bank Jade Menon, it is extremely unlikely that weighing the pros and cons, other governments would be willing to sign the deal and commit to strict regulations on key aspects of their industries without the expected access to U.S. market. To worsen the situation, Japan officially stated that it would not consider the deal without the U.S. Together, these two countries made up 75 percent of the gross domestic product among member states.

Although the deal carried many benefits for everyone involved, the TPP is nowhere close to being perfect, especially to the U.S. where its implementation would have led to disadvantageous repercussions for a significant population demographic. America has made its choice according to what it deemed best for its people. Yet there is a somber finale to the conclusion of the "trade deal of the 21st century", which had only a short time ago promised so much to developing nations on the other side of the globe.

## Our Growing Dependence on Social Media

**Shaan Bhandarkar '19**  
Guest Contributor

Apps like Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat have unequivocally dominated the social media network landscape for the past decade. In the third quarter 2016 earnings report for Facebook, this last year set a new record in terms of users (1.79 billion users monthly) and generated \$7.01 billion of revenue. Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat all witnessed similar profits and hikes in users during 2016. If all these titans are ruling the world of social media, is it possible that other developers have just given up and are choosing to side with one of the big-name companies instead of creating a unique initiative?

The number of big-name social networks has been quite restricted to only three or four, but that result can't be simply attributed to a lack of new initiatives. Acquisitions and mergers provide for a less than accurate portrayals of all the social networking-related initiatives that have been set forth. Big companies like Facebook and

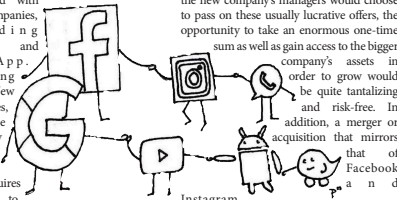
Google specifically look out for such novel companies and acquire them if the specific company in question seems to provide an edge over competitors in terms of adapting to new clientele. Facebook has acquired or merged with 61 companies, including Instagram and WhatsApp.

According to 'The New York Times', Google actually merges with or acquires about 40 to 50 companies (such as the famed YouTube) yearly. Even though the big-name companies serve as the face of many sub-initiatives, we can't forget the people who originally set out to revolutionize social media.

From a developmental standpoint, offers from big-name companies such as Facebook or Google are very appealing to

entrepreneurs. Firstly, the big-name company will be able to invest in the acquired company and supply much more resources than the startup had to work with before the merger or acquisition. Though there's a chance that the new company's managers would choose to pass on these usually lucrative offers, the opportunity to take an enormous one-time

sum as well as gain access to the bigger company's assets in order to grow would be quite tantalizing and risk-free. In addition, a merger or acquisition that mirrors that of Facebook and Instagram 2012, the less-renowned company can obtain more skills through learning at the side of an already established company. As a bonus to integrating more diverse products from the established company, a startup would also be able to reduce competition and prices from the shared marketing budget with the bigger company.



## Stepping Into the Shoes of a Third Culture Kid

**Bianca Beck '19**  
Guest Contributor

The question, "Where are you from?" is more complex than people intend. I find it too commonly utilized as a social device for bonding, and I, frankly, am tired of trying to answer it. The question is too ambiguous, and my answer always seems to confuse people. And no, me being half-Latina and half-German is not an invitation for you to tell me where your ancestors are from or ask me to say something in the languages I know, like a circus animal performing a trick.

And just because I live in a place that I'm not ethnically from does not mean that I am actually from that place. I may live in Japan and speak Japanese, but that does not mean I'm Japanese. Just the other day, one of my good friends even confused that; when G Yamazawa performed last Friday, he asked for Asians to raise their hands. She looked at her, waiting for her to realize her mistake. Where I come from may take a while longer to explain than most people, but it really isn't that complicated.

Before, I would always cater to what people would want me to say. Whenever someone asked me, "Where are you from?" I would always scramble for a reply, not wanting to make my answer too long or "inconvenient." My answer would always either be, "I'm German," or, "I'm Latina," or, "I'm from Tokyo."

I did this, because in my experience, whenever people don't understand where you're from, they get annoyed. Once, after I explained where I was from, a girl asked me, "Are you sure you're not just Italian? You look Italian." And recently another person got so frustrated with my answer not being simple enough that she yelled, "What actually are you?!" I explained to her, again, my version of the third-culture kid story.

A third-culture kid is a term used to refer to children who were raised in a culture outside of their parents' culture for most of their lives; their parents are also from two different cultures. I'm half-Latina and half-German and have lived in Tokyo for most of my life. I speak five languages as a result of my diverse upbringing. Those are the cold hard facts. And there are always the same three reactions: there are the people who ask me to say the same sentence in all five languages,

the people who take it as an invitation to tell me their ancestors' ethnicities, and the people who just stare at me, asking me to repeat what I said because they couldn't grasp it the first time and probably won't the second time either.

One of my biggest peeves is that after I explain where I'm from, the person I'm talking to will reply, "Well, I'm one-eighth German, and one-sixteenth Irish, and one-fourth Chinese..." and so on. No, when I say where I'm from, it may take a while to explain, but that's really as simple as it gets. I'm not trying to impress anyone; it's just my life as a third-culture kid.

However, if someone who is just plain American decides to go into their distant past and explain all the places their ancestors are from, that's not really the truth. Being "American" in general has no meaning; honestly, only native-Americans can call themselves truly "American" and be completely truthful about it. America is the melting pot of the world, therefore every American has ancestors from all over the world, and nowadays that's what being an "American" means. But just because your ancestors are a certain ethnicity, does not

mean you are of that ethnicity as well.

On one occasion, the annoyance caught up with me when someone decided to "try to connect with me" by telling me that they were "a little bit" German. I asked, "Do you speak German? Have you ever been to Germany? Do you know what a Weihnachtsmarkt is?" When the person responded "no" to all my questions, I simply replied, "Then you're not German. You're American." They got mad, but I saw it as doing them a favor for telling them the truth, sooner rather than later.

This is not a job at anyone. I'm just tired of having to explain myself. My diverse background is not a challenge to your background; again, you don't need to try to impress or overshadow me with your many ancestors and their diverse ethnicities. And please, stop asking me to say sentences in all the languages I know. I understand that it's not every day you meet someone who has as diverse a background as I do, but I'm tired of playing that game.

Where I'm from may take longer to explain, and my answer may not be as simple as some expect. Where I'm from is not that hard to conceptualize; just think a little harder than usual, and it will be easy to understand.

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## When Progress Unravels

Emma Paltrow '18  
Guest Contributor

When progress unravels, it unravels fast. Once upon a time, four million slaves were liberated after 250 years of slavery, slaves who immediately contributed to society by pouring their energy into government positions. Eight years ago, we had our first black president after 219 years of white presidents. Towards the end of the Civil War and during the decade that followed, a fragmented America set out to mend fences, as well as wounds. The movement, devoted today as Reconstruction, featured much careful consideration to how to reintegrate southern states into the Union, and also reassessed the role of African Americans in American society.

During Reconstruction, newly freed slaves still remained largely encumbered by racist policy, including the advent of odious Black Codes in 1865. Somehow, Freedmen quickly overcame their imposed circumstances to eventually attain government positions at every level—from postmasters, to state legislators, to even the first black state governor, P.B.S. Pinchback, in 1871.

By the time Reconstruction

came to a close, more than 2,000 black men had served in the United States government. After 250 years of slavery, the United States seemed to be swiftly approaching a new age of racial equality, making immense strides in a very short span of time. However, the nation's population of intolerants sought to reverse this political atmosphere of acceptance. And reverse it they did, at a strikingly sudden rate.

When Reconstruction efforts ceased in 1877, the Democrats regained political power and promptly terminated the majority of African American office-holders. The very freedmen who had so actively participated in society were now being denied previously promised land—and were forced to return to work for their former masters as “wage laborers.”

The black commission summed up the stark reality in response: “The man who tied me to a tree and gave me 39 lashes and who stripped and flogged my mother and sister . . . that man I cannot well forgive. Does it look as if he has forgiven me, seeing how he tries to keep me in a condition of helplessness?”

To reiterate, four million slaves broke free of their fetters after 250 years of bondage, proceeded to set records for the number of black men holding government positions at one

time, and were then swiftly reduced to servitude once more.

The United States' progress had been completely nullified in the blink of an eye.

Today, history threatens to repeat itself, albeit to a lesser extreme. We have recently witnessed the position of President of the United States transfer from the steady hands of the first black president, Barack Obama, to the much smaller hands of an openly racist, misogynistic TV personality, Donald Trump, who has fallaciously claimed that his predecessor was not a fit president because he was “not born in the United States.”

We have learned that although a substantial percentage of citizens who voted for Trump did so because his economic policies gave them hope, many of his supporters also sympathized with his racist, sexist, xenophobic, and islamophobic beliefs. You need only to scroll through Facebook, glance at the headlines, or read Trump's late night posts to Twitter to see these disgustingly discriminatory sentiments rise to the surface without cease.

Supporters of bigotry decided to undo the strides the United States had made towards racial equality, and many Americans were left to stomach the bitter truth that when rapid progress occurs, it can just as rapidly disappear.

## The Future of Moon Mining

Aarash James '19  
Guest Contributor

In July of 2015, Moon Express became the first private company to gain approval from the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a commercial mission to the moon. The California based company also has partnerships with NASA and Rocket Labs USA and is participating in Google's Lunar XPRIZE competition. The company plans to send a robot spacecraft to the moon's surface by the end of 2017, which would grant them a 25 million dollar prize from Google. With such ambitious plans for the near future, what does this mean for the future of space exploration?

The co-founder of Moon Express, Naveen Jain, envisions a short-term plan that consists of “bringing precious resources, metals and Moon rocks back to Earth.” More advanced and cost effective technology allows private companies like Moon Express to embark on space missions successfully and more frequently. Jain predicts that “in 15 years, the moon will be an important part of Earth's economy, and potentially our second home.” Moon Express is focused on the presence of rare elements, water, and helium-3 on the moon. Additionally, the moon serves as a good starting ground for companies to develop their technologies before exploring other celestial bodies such as

Mars. But ambitious plans to harvest resources from beyond Earth's orbit raise ethical and practical questions about the practice of privatized space mining.

The United Nations Outer Space Treaty of 1967 declares all celestial bodies to be universal territory, and thus no nation can lay claim to any part of outer space. Private companies, however, can bring back resources and sell them for a profit. Can we allow companies to make a profit off of resources from outer space? We would need to regulate mining practices in order to limit damage to celestial bodies and maintain sustainable methods. Can you imagine living without the moon in the night sky? The lack of state control in outer space makes regulation even more challenging. Jain argues that the goal of his company is not to exploit the moon's resources. He says, “Mining has such a negative connotation, people think you're drilling a hole and destroying things. This is more like collecting or harvesting.”

Harvesting resources on the moon has significant benefits to us, humans, back on Earth. Moon Express can bring back rare metals to the Earth. With our pre-existing issue of climate change and the depletion of Earth's resources, the income of extraterrestrial resources acts as a boon to our local environment. Perhaps the most exciting prospect of mining on the moon is getting our hands on some helium-3, which accumulates in large amounts on the moon's surface

as a result of solar radiation. Helium-3 can serve as a clean power source for nuclear fusion. The possible impacts of harnessing helium-3 are so promising that the Chinese government has made plans to mine helium-3 on the moon. Another valuable resource on the moon is water. It fuels rockets and provides oxygen to strengthen the atmosphere. Its presence on the moon allows for colonization there.

The main problem with Moon Express is the practicality and cost of this project. Despite the developments in cheaper and reliable methods of escaping Earth's orbit, space exploits remain a business reserved for the wealthy. Are the unlikely outcomes of limitless energy and interplanetary civilizations really worth the energy, time and effort put into these projects? We already have pressing global issues like climate change, overpopulation and scarcity of resources to worry about. Some might argue that romantic space adventures aren't the solution to any of our problems, but the realm of space exploration has the greatest potential for groundbreaking innovation. We are set to make progress by investing in risky, new ideas like space mining. For years, humans have lost their thirst for exploration. The whole Earth has been mapped, scouted and devoted of its resources. Projects like Moon Express can reinvigorate that desire to explore, and bring us much closer to a brighter future.

## Travel Ban: Terror to the Middle East



Courtesy of Google



THE LIBERAL

AGENDA

Jordan Davidson  
Columnist

This ban promotes anti-US propaganda, religious polarization, and fear mongering.

In the United States, we use the image of Uncle Sam and patriotism to persuade people into joining the Army. The way in which we do this is by projecting nationalism as well as encouraging a sense of hatred for our enemies. This strategy is used not only by us, but by terrorist organizations such as ISIS. The travel ban instituted by Donald Trump is perfect propaganda for the Islamic State. The anger which we convey can be taken advantage of by the very groups that we are trying to fight. The idea of being a patriot to the Islamic

**This measure taken by the new governing regime has confirmed our isolation by separating ourselves from certain groups of people.**

State and fighting America is supported by radical policies that discriminate against mass groups of people just like those in the seven countries we have banned. This measure taken by the new governing regime has confirmed our isolation by separating ourselves from certain groups of people. Although this is not a Muslim ban, the reasoning for the executive order was because of the fear of “Islamic” terrorism. The exclusion of innocent, primarily Muslim people from America insinuates that those who reside in these countries are bad individuals. Donald Trump, the man who we must trust from this point forward, has further pitted us against Muslims and Islam. He has made religious polarization worse by creating physical boundaries between American citizens and a large portion of the Muslim community.

Trump claims to put American safety before personal needs, but the events that have occurred in the last week contradict that. Saudi Arabia continues to be our second largest supplier of crude oil, selling us over 1,000,000 barrels per day. Although we have a good business relationship with them, Saudi Arabia is responsible for the most American murders committed by foreign born terrorists. The country is home to 19 terrorists who have killed a total of 2,369 Americans from 1975-2015. Our President chose not to ban the country with the most American blood on their hands most likely because of fear of hurting our oil based relationship. Also, unlike Saudi Arabia, not one of the countries that are on Trump's list have committed an act of terrorism since 9/11. One of our top concerns is that if we allow refugees to stay in our country, members of ISIS and other various terrorist organizations will slip into the US. In 2016 alone, 38,901 Muslim refugees entered our country. Many of those people were from the places that are now banned. But not one of the thousands of refugees that have entered America has carried out a fatal terrorist act.

The bottom line is that Donald Trump's travel ban is doing more harm than good. As a result of this executive order, families are separated and people in the US with green cards are scared as to what fate lies ahead for them. Many who left their home countries to escape oppression and poverty are forced to go back. The lack of compassion for others is a serious issue in our country, and we have elected a leader who shows no signs of empathy. We are hurting others and ourselves by moving forward with the travel ban. This needs to be put to an end for the sake of the peace and progress.

## Conflict in the South China Sea



WORLD

COMPASS

Mark Blekherman  
Senior Columnist

A few days ago, President Trump's most cherished advisor, Stephen Bannon, said, “We are going to war in the South China Sea... there is no doubt.” Indeed, it seems that the Trump regime is on a collision course with China, hoping to escalate tensions until China backs down from its claims in the South China Sea. President Trump is under the frivolous impression that President Xi Jinping will sacrifice his own reputation and the nationalist fervor of his people for the trade interests of the United States. And yet, there is some truth in his opinion on the conflict, though his harsh demands are not conducive to a peaceful resolution.

In July of 2016, an international tribunal at The Hague rejected China's argument that it enjoys historic rights over most of the South China Sea and gave the governments of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam more leverage in their own maritime disputes with Beijing. Xi defied the tribunal's legally binding ruling and reasserted its claim to sovereignty. Essentially, the South China Sea looks like a slice of Swiss Cheese.

China has etched many holes into the Sea, and some of these holes infringe on the sovereignty of Southeast Asian countries. The Chinese have harassed U.S. ships in the South China Sea. In 2010, a People's Liberation Army Navy ship snagged a sonar array towed by the USS John S. McCain, disrupting the US's joint military exercises with Malaysia and Vietnam. Beijing expressed strong objections to the USS Lassen, the USS Curtis Wilbur and the USS William P. Lawrence operations in October 2015, January 2016 and May 2016, respectively, and sent fighter jets on multiple occasions to threaten the United States' innocent passage.

China's actions are more than just a benign military threat. They present a danger to one of the world's largest passages of commercial vessels—a vital thruway for global commerce. The U.S. Department of Defense estimates that eight of the world's ten biggest container ports are in the Asia-Pacific region and that thirty percent of the world's maritime trade transits the South China Sea annually. China has aggressively blocked huge portions of the Sea by constructing artificial islands in contested regions and conducting nefarious military drills with the Russians.

How should the United States demonstrate its commitment to international law and its economic interests without sparking World War III? Inaction is not a possibility for several key reasons. First, China

will continue subjugating the region if the United States turns a blind eye. Second and more importantly, inaction in the South China Sea will prompt China to behave more belligerently on other domestic issues such as Taiwan and Tibet.

The solution lies in containing China in international institutions. The United States should strengthen political and economic relations with Vietnam, Malaysia, and Philippines. Members of ASEAN—Association of Southeast Asian Nations—should bond together and lower barriers to trade between one another. By becoming more dependent on each other and less dependent on China, Southeast Asian countries will send a powerful signal of resistance to Xi Jinping. The United States should also send more commercial ships through the South China Sea to prevent China from beginning new construction projects.

According to Xi Jinping, the South China Sea has been Chinese territory “since ancient times.” Chinese elementary students come to school and read textbooks that exalt the natural resources on the Paracel and Spratlys, a group of islands that China has unlawfully claimed for itself. The Chinese are taught from an early age that the South China Sea is sacred Chinese territory. If the U.S. truly wants to teach China a lesson, we need to isolate them from the UN and WTO, we need to make them feel lonely.

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## Fact or Fiction? Starring Kellyanne Conway

Paul James '19  
Columnist

Kellyanne Conway, advisor to the president, made the news when she covered up White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer's lies under the pretense that they were "alternative facts." This time, she has pushed her own narrative of an entirely fabricated terrorist attack on U.S. soil. In an interview with CNN, Ms. Conway was quoted saying, "Two Iraqis came here to this country, were radicalized and they were the masterminds behind the Bowling Green massacre. Most people don't know that because it didn't get covered."

On the contrary, most people don't know that because it never happened. No massacre nor terrorist attack occurred in Bowling Green. This false statement adds to the Trump administration's track record of dreaming up fake stories to gain sound bite publicity.

That being said, she may have been referring two Iraqi citizens, living in Bowl-

ing Green, Kentucky, who were found guilty of a roadside bomb attack in 2005, in Iraq. The two men, Waad Ramadan Alwan and Mohamad Shareef Hammadi, were indicted in 2011, and they were given a 40 year and life sentence, respectively. They entered the country as refugees, lying about their ties to terrorist groups.

Conway has since tried to defend herself, claiming she only "misspoke one word." In addition to her claims of a massacre, the preceding portion of her false statement alleged that President Obama had banned Iraqi refugees for six months following the arrests of the two terrorists hiding in Bowling Green. This also entirely misrepresents history as no such ban was ever enacted. At the time, former President Obama created stricter measures to make immigration safer. The former administration enforced better background checks and screening for Iraqi nationals in the United States. Unlike Trump, he never made the incident a religious issue, nor did he take the drastic measures Trump has.

Small missteps in the business of television are fairly common. Anchors or in-

terviewees sometimes say something that comes out wrong. Some people also see this as valid justification for Kellyanne Conway's mistake. Almost. The major reason for the lack of an excuse in her defense is her previous comments about the mistakes of some reporters, portraying her own "mis-hap" as less important. Furthermore, she was quick to denounce those who pointed out her mistake as "haters."

This line of denial through discrediting others is very similar to Donald Trump denouncing any news source he doesn't agree with as fake news.

The irony of the situation gave rise to satirical marches in remembrance of the Bowling Green "massacre," memorial plaques and a barrage of humorous social media posts.

Looking beyond the hilarity of the situation, however, we see a much deeper problem developing. The White House has always put a favorable spin on their stories, and media outlets all come with their own biases. Never before, however, has the president of the United States, his press secretary and adviser all blatantly lied to the public—to the voters they owe their positions of

power.

In the past, even a quarter of Trump's gaffes would have been enough to cut his political career short before it began. Now, we see his actions as spectacles, his presidency as one very long season of "Celebrity Apprentice." The so-called "Leader of the Free World" is a social media joke, a danger in the eyes of most world leaders and an attention seeking threat to the future of this country.

Whether he influences his advisers, or the other way around, the entire administration has shown itself to be entirely unequipped for the responsibilities of its office. Lying to the American public may not be the first grave mistake, but it will also not be the last.

A recent article of *The New York Times* profiles Trump's first two weeks in office, revealing, among other things, the vein of ignorance that runs deep through everything the current administration touches. Whether it is fake news stories, unqualified cabinet picks or signing executive orders without reading them, they bring a new scandal to the doomed Trump administration every day.

## Saturday Night Live's Portrayal of Comedy in Politics

Andrea So '19  
Columnist

Last weekend, actress Melissa McCarthy appeared on the late-night comedy show "Saturday Night Live." Donning a wig and an elaborate costume, she portrayed White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer in a press conference. Her performance was met with rave reviews—according to Rolling Stone, McCarthy "perfectly captured the frosty, often acrimonious relationship between Spicer and the press." Actor Alec Baldwin has also played a recurring role in SNL's skits about President Trump, and cast member Kate McKinnon regularly stars in skits as Hillary Clinton.

While the show's skits may be popular on the internet, politicians seem to disagree with these public opinions. President Trump has repeatedly denounced "Saturday Night Live," which he claims to be "totally biased," "unwatchable" and "not funny." He tweeted that Alec Baldwin's portrayal of him couldn't get any worse, and that the sketch involving

him was an example of the media rigging the election. Sean Spicer's response to the skit about him wasn't as confrontational as Trump's, stating that while SNL was a funny show, McCarthy could "dial back" her impression of him.

Trump's claims about SNL being biased actually have no basis whatsoever as they also repeatedly mocked Hillary Clinton throughout the duration of her campaign. Some of the most enduring ones that come to mind include a sketch called "President Barbie." It showed young girls playing with toys in their room. When handed the President Barbie modeled after Clinton, the girls commented that it was "cool," but they continued to play with their Lego blocks. As the narrator pressed them again to play with the doll, saying that it wouldn't have been possible for a woman to be president decades ago, the girls simply shrugged and said that they weren't alive back then, and that president Barbie should stop "trying so hard." This was obviously mocking Clinton's image of a candidate who was always meticulously prepared for every situation and tried to impress voters of all age groups. Another

skit called "Hillary Campaign Ad" showed McKinnon as Clinton slowly morphing into Bernie Sanders's likeness through adopting a Brooklyn accent and wearing a wig and suit. It was referring to how Clinton took more left-leaning stances due to Sanders' popularity, especially amongst millennial voters.

**TV shows like these are important because they breathe new life and a fresh sense of humor into a political system that more people are growing disillusioned with.**

TV shows like these are important because they breathe new life and a fresh sense of humor into a political system that more people are growing disillusioned with. While I admit that SNL can have a liberal bias, it still tends to be bipartisan in who it chooses to make fun of. Victims have included all the former presidential candidates, ranging from Marco Rubio to Jim Webb. At the

same time, shows like SNL can also make viewers who were only looking for entertainment cognizant of events happening around the world. The topics of their skits change according to current affairs, and they can inform people of news that they might not usually pay attention to. Cast members tackle important issues while mocking everyone involved. Shows with humorous political commentary are also popular, such as late-night shows with John Oliver, Trevor Noah and Stephen Colbert. The beauty of late-night television is that viewers could just be flipping through channels, and suddenly come across satirical commentary that draws them in. I've seen Jon Stewart cover topics ranging from his hatred of deep dish pizza to Senate inaction to Black Lives Matter, and he manages to be both compelling and funny every single time.

After a difficult election, people are searching for some escape. Political skits and shows serve as hilarious moments that we don't take too seriously, while still reminding us of issues that are relevant to society and our lives. We could all use some cheering up in these tough times.

## Regaining Respect and Interest: A Proposed Reformation of Assembly

Ryan Xie '19  
Guest Contributor

We all know the feeling of staying in your dorm or a bathroom, waiting for an assembly to be over, and then leaving as if nothing happened. Every Tuesday and Friday, while a fraction of students are "dicking" an assembly, the others attend it for half an hour. Often, we learn about many interesting topics, hear a guest speaker or announcements from students in school—but not all of us. Since attendance at each assembly is rarely taken, Exonians can easily miss it without consequence. We all know that next to no one has attended every assembly. Out of those of us at an assembly, many of us are studying for a test, doing homework, using our devices, sleeping or just not paying attention. When the final speaker asks, "Any questions?" everyone puts on their jackets and packs up their backpacks to try to get out of Assembly Hall as soon as possible. This goes to show that many of us do not care that much about what the speaker

has to say and are trying to leave quickly to get to our next destination. I am guilty of some of these things as well. The point is, the amount of students actually benefiting from an assembly is quite small.

Additionally, because of the way that



certain schedules work and where dorms are placed, some students can miss an assembly much easier than others. Not to call out anybody or any groups, but take prep spaz for example, who have spaz CDVW. Because prep spaz ends early, students in spaz can

easily avoid assembly on Fridays and just stay in their rooms. If winter track, which is during ABTU, does end early sometimes, the same goes for them, but on Tuesdays. Also, students living in dorms next to the Academy Building could "dick" an assembly easier

compared to students in dorms far away.

Finally, after every assembly, there is a short break of about 25 minutes, when many students walk back to their dorms briefly or hang out in Grill. This time is used unproductively by walking or talking.

Not to mention, many students do the same during faculty and department meetings. Many students wish for their free periods to be grouped together, especially small breaks when nothing can be done.

I do not suggest that Phillips Exeter Academy abolish assemblies entirely because they do have benefits. However, all of these points show that assembly needs to be changed. I propose to have one assembly per week for a slightly longer time during Wednesday mornings and move faculty and department meeting to other times, possibly after students' last classes. One possible way to do this would be to have assembly during meditation, and students could choose which one to attend. If desired, there could maybe be a brief break after the first two blocks on full days. This schedule would hopefully prevent students from wasting time after the first two blocks and allow school to end 55 minutes earlier on Tuesdays and Fridays, and maybe even Mondays and Thursdays as well. With this proposal, I suggest that attendance and attention at assembly be further enforced in order for the assemblies to be as useful as possible.

## Widespread Islamophobia Violates Human Rights

Isabella Ahmad '20  
Guest Contributor

A few weeks ago, Aziz Osmanoglu and Sahabat Kocabaş, two Turkish-Muslim parents in Switzerland, were fined 1,400 Swiss Francs, or 1380 U.S. dollars for not allowing their daughters to participate in mixed gender swimming lessons at school. The couple brought this infringement of their religious freedoms to the European Court of Human Rights, but in the end it was determined that Switzerland was justified in its reaction and the country won the case. The conclusion was that Kocabaş and Osmanoglu were "acting in breach of their parental duty" as the whole purpose of this requirement was for all students to be integrated into a program that promotes safety and inclusion.

Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights states that, "Everyone has the right to religion; this right includes freedom to change one's religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in a community with

others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance." Local authorities who were in charge of the case before it entered

a global lens, proposed that the girls wear burkinis during the lessons. However, the reason behind the burkini is not just to cover skin but also the shape of the body. The suggested solution was rejected because the outcome of it would still go against Muslim family's beliefs.

The second section of Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights states that the "freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limita-

tions as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals or for the protection

of the rights and freedoms of others." The young girls exercising the first portion of their given liberty does not threaten "public safety." They may not consider the ability to swim a life skill and not learning to do so could potentially cause them harm, but that is not the issue of the government. Another case Switzerland made that contributed to the win was that they were "seeking to protect foreign pupils from any form of social

exclusion." However, exhibiting the differences in beliefs of this family in front of the whole world hardly keeps them from being considered outsiders by the people around them.

In fact, it is the society that does not single out its citizens that is pluralistic. The definition of this concept is "a condition or system in which two or more states, groups, principles, sources of authority coexist." Different values within the same society exist and in the intended reality societies are considered free because of the right to choose these values.

Basic human rights like religious freedom to Muslims are being denied all over the world today. A similar incident with swimming lessons took place just weeks ago with an eleven year old Muslim girl in Germany. France, Belgium and the Netherlands all have put bans on hijabs, burkinis and any form of Muslim veil in public. Other parents of a Muslim student were fined for their refusal to shake hands with a female teacher. Islamophobia is too widespread of a problem and has turned into infringement on basic human rights.





# ExonianHumor



## Future White House Press Release Statements

By **BILLY O'HANDLEY**  
*Senior Political Correspondant*

"Donald Trump would like to point out that the phrase 'I hate orphans' can have multiple connotations, and that making fun of a toddler on live television for not getting Christmas presents doesn't mean he is opposed to good Christian values."

"Donald Trump would like to say sorry to all of the citizens of Little Falls New York. He didn't mean to drill directly through the main sewage pipe with a jackhammer and is sorry about the smell."

"Donald Trump wants to apologize for saying that he 'hates poor people with a passion' before making a executive statement that he would 'go around the country kicking every poor person he saw.'"

"Donald Trump would like to defend his 'who cares if women have miscarriages' statement. This is a quote out of context. The full quote is 'who cares if women have miscarriages, any abortion is murder'"

"Donald Trump would like to state officially for people to please not feed the ducks on his resort. They are starting to annoy him, and he wants them to starve."

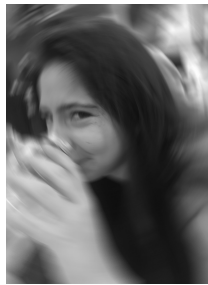
"Donald Trump would like to use this platform to 'hit up' Angela Merkel."

"Donald Trump would like to ask Taylor Swift if the song 'You Belong With Me' is about him, and would like to say that it makes him tear up a bit every time."

"Donald Trump wants to say in this official capacity that he 'misspoke' when he said 'Hail Satan, prince of darkness' during the state of the union. On a related note, he also said that the red liquid that he ingested directly through a tube connected to his throat was 'Hawaiian Punch.'"

## TFW You See Your Crush in D-Hall on Valentine's Day

By **THE HUMOR EDITORS**  
*Eggplant Parmesan Enthusiasts*



## 16 Ways to Become My Valentine

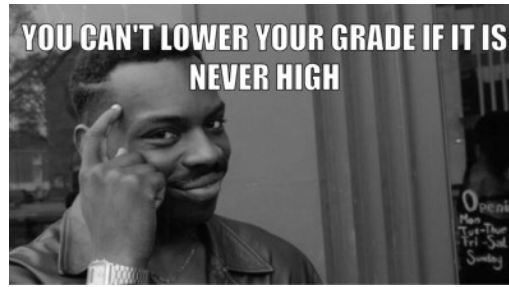
By **EMILY GREEN**  
*Desirable*

1. Buy me chocolate.
2. Sacrifice yourself for me.
3. Make me a card.
4. Figure out how to impeach Donald Trump.
5. Duel with another boy and win.
6. Write a humor article.
7. Engage in intellectual conversation with me.
8. Carve my name in a magic tree to give me special powers.
9. Take me out for dinner.
10. Take me on an adventure, riding on the back of a zebra.
11. Figure out the meaning of life.
12. Cook some good barbecue.
13. Inaugurate me for president.
14. Have a wild side.
15. Become a wolf god.
16. Become the sun.

Do you want to be our valentine?  
Submit your number to the Humor Page.  
Email [exonianhumor@gmail.com](mailto:exonianhumor@gmail.com).

## Words of Encouragement

By **CEDRIC BLAISE**  
*Optimist*



## Humor Page Valentine's Day Cards for Foxy Exonians

By **MAJESTIC TERHUNE**  
*Flirty*

hey babe, want to discuss sartre?		to:		from:
to:	from:	this term i'm OPTing to to spend more time with you		
	i'm great at walking to and from churches	to:	I heard you like 'em bad. yesterday i didn't wave while crossing the street	
(pictured: Martin Luther)	from:	to:	from:	(pictured: guy that comes up on eoogle)

## Ask Emily #1: How do I De-Stress?

By **EMILY GREEN**  
*Health Guru*

As the enlightened individual I am, I decided to start a life advice column to help my fellow Exonians live as happy and successful of a life as I do.

Question 1:

How do I de-stress?  
-Anonymous

Well you came to the right place to ask! I tend to be a pretty busy person myself, so here are the ways I deal with stress when Exeter starts to be a little much.

1. Eat your feelings. Go to D-hall and eat dinner. Afterwards, go to Grill and eat a snack. After that, shamelessly order pizza during study hours. If your mom notices you getting a little chubbier, say it's "delayed baby weight."

2. Make friends with the dogs on campus. There's nothing more calming than sobbing into a furry body.

3. Become a monk.

4. Switch to Andover.

5. Go to the Health Center. Purposefully ingest a strain of the flu. When you become sick, sue the school for enough money that you don't have to go to school anymore and therefore won't be stressed.

6. Build a rocket ship in physics class to get you the heck off this planet.

7. Make friends with someone who knows all the drama. Hearing about other people's problems will make you feel significantly better about your pathetic life.

8. Learn yoga! Yoga is a great way to de-stress. Plus, rumor has it it helps your flexibility.

9. Become a bear and hibernate until winter term is over.

10. Exercise. (Just kidding. Go eat some pizza.)

11. Go to D Squared and drown yourself in London fog until the pain goes away.

12. Get an extension on a major assignment. Beg your teacher for a longer and longer extension. Ideally, you'll never have to turn it in at all.

13. Find a new hobby! I recommend photography, origami, big game hunting or dressage to liven up your life.

## The Ten Exeter Commandments

By **EMILY GREEN, HILLARY ARISTOTLE, CHRISTINE BAKER and SARA MICHAELS**  
*Enlightened*

1. Thou shall not cut in line at D-hall.
2. Thou shall not leave hair clumps in the dorm shower.
3. Thou shall not take someone else's bagel in Wetherell.
4. Thou shall not stand up at assembly before "senior class" is said, especially if thou art a prep.
5. ~~Thou shall not~~ Thou shall go to assembly always.
6. Thou shall hiss if Andover is mentioned, especially in petty contexts.
7. Thou must not sleep, then spend the rest of the week complaining about the one night thou did not sleep.
8. Thou shall not go in for the kiss after EP.
9. Thou shall return D-hall utensils after stealing them.
10. If thou dicks 8:00 class, thou must also dick 8:55 class if you can combine dickleys.
11. There shall be only ten commandments.

## Quote of the Week

"Can we omit the Daddy?"  
-Willia Canfield, '18

We need friends. Add us on social media. @billyfromcillee, @green\_beans or @senorblaise on Snapchat. @ced\_blaise and @egreen2000 on Insta. DM us a funny joke or zesty meme. Or just DM us :)



# ExonianPhoto



## Abbot Casino



Photographers: Reina Matsumoto, Miles Mikofsky, Numi Oyebo





# ExeterLife



Lower Natalie Pang, Tommy Kim and Paul James play poker at Abbot Casino.

Nami Oybode/The Exonian

## Abbot Casino

By BELLA ALVAREZ and MADISON KANG  
Staff Writers

Flashing cameras and clinking of poker chips in red plastic cups marked Abbot Hall's annual casino event last Saturday in Grainger Auditorium. Elegantly-dressed Exonians arrived at Abbot Casino, which started at 8:00 PM, for a long-anticipated night of "gambling" and taking stylish photographs.

Each year, the uppers of Abbot Hall plan the school-wide event, and Abbot residents manage games of Blackjack, Texas Hold'em and Roulette at green fabric tables distributed throughout the auditorium. According to lower and Abbot resident Tobias Abelmann, the boys in his dorm worked for three hours to set up the event. "After we got dressed, we went to Grainger to learn how to deal," he said. "It's a lot of work to host, but it's still a lot of fun."

Although some may think it strange that high schools host a mock casino event, the occasion has become an established Exeter tradition. Senior and Abbot proctor Kevin Elaba explained that the Abbot uppers found inspiration for the event from the movie "The Godfather." "They were going for an Italian mafia type of thing," he said.

Lower and Abbot resident Aaron Willard enjoyed dealing cards and dispensing poker chips among players. "I hope everybody that came had the chance to have a good time. I had fun being a dealer

and seeing everyone come to my table to play," Willard said, commenting on the "energetic" and "happy" atmosphere of the night. "People seemed like they were enjoying themselves," he said. Willard felt as though the casino night helped to bring Abbot Hall closer together. "All in all, I felt like it was a fun bonding experience for the dorm to put together such a large event," Willard explained.

Abbot residents invited all students to the casino by sending out green invitations shaped like dollar bills with the face of an Abbot senior replacing George Washington's. Lower Ariane Avandi commented on her excitement upon receiving the invitation in her post office box a few days prior to the event. "I didn't go to Abbot Casino last year, so I was curious to see what all the hype was about," she remarked. "I think the event was well-organized and the dealers were really friendly."

Appointed student photographers milled about the room, taking professional pictures of casino-goers in their formal attire. After the event, many attendees shared the commemorative photos on social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram.

According to lower Anna Clark, the photoshoot opportunity that Abbot Casino's classy atmosphere presented was just as enticing as the card games. "It was a bunch of people looking swanky and

playing poker," she said. "I'm admittedly not good at poker, and I lost my chips very quickly, but I loved getting all dressed up and feeling like a million bucks."

However, some students felt that the auditorium was not the ideal place for taking photos. Upper Layne Erickson found that the lighting in the room was not optimal. She remarked that the room was stuffy and overcrowded, and she expressed a desire to see other activities at the casino, as she found that some people didn't seem to enjoy or know how to gamble.

Another student expressed his dissatisfaction with the event, as he was barred from entering because his outfit was not deemed formal enough. Senior Yannick Yao, dressed in a blue jacket, a purple T-shirt, jeans and sneakers, was told by faculty and students that he could not participate in the casino unless he changed his attire. Yao took to protesting this by facing a wall outside the auditorium for the remainder of the event. According to Yao, "Enforcing formal dress codes in social events is fundamentally discrimination based on clothing." He explained that he sees Abbot Casino as a venue to have fun and bond with peers and that it shouldn't be as serious as a business meeting or a college interview. "Requiring formal attire at an event that is informal in nature is self-contradictory," Yao said. He also com-

mented on the fact that "formal attire" can be discriminatory to other cultures, as the standards for those words are generally Eurocentric.

Senior Isabel Bagger echoed Yao's statements and explained why she has continually chosen to abstain from attending Abbot Casino in years past. "I would love to go to these formal events, but I'd rather stay home than wear something I'm not comfortable with," Bagger said. She elaborated, voicing concerns about the formal attire policy that Abbot Casino enforces. "From my perspective, the only thing having a strict dress code accomplishes is making sure that people who can't afford formal clothes, people who might be gender nonconforming and have a harder time finding formal clothes that suit them, and people more self-conscious about their appearance don't attend the event," Bagger said.

Despite some dissatisfaction, Abbot Casino was seen as a triumph in the eyes of most. "I think it's a great event," said Abelmann. Elaba expressed his pride in the enduring success of his dorm's beloved tradition. "The event itself provides Exonians an outlet to take a moment, just two hours, out of their busy lives and put everything on hold, and have fun," he said. "This year, Abbot Casino accomplished that, and I hope that in the coming years the tradition will hold up."

## Trendwatch

Hey guys!

Spring break is just around the corner, but winter weather is at full force! We hope you're all breaking out your fluffiest jackets and softest scarves to stay warm during the next couple of weeks.

Superbowl LI was surprising for many, but what surprised us the most was Lady Gaga's cool style at her half-time performance. From the moment Gaga first appeared on the roof of Reliant Stadium in a silver bedazzled bodysuit with matching tall boots, we knew it was going to be a wild ride. After she jumped off the roof, she put on a gold spiked jacket made out of jewels and sequins. Then, she took inspiration from the field, and changed her costume into a pair of bedazzled shorts and white football shoulder pads. Her dancers wore purple, which many saw as a symbol of equality. We're happy to see that Lady Gaga killed her performance and outfit game with a great message.

Supreme's long time brand director, Angelo Baque, has left the company to pursue his own project. His new brand will be called Baque Creative. He will still be consulting for Supreme for a little longer as the company hasn't found his replacement yet. He spoke about Supreme's growth since the founding of the company and their new collaborations with Louis Vuitton. As he will still be consulting for other companies, Baque said that he will slowly grow Baque Creative in a different way than Supreme, with products designed when he "has something to say, not just for the sake of selling clothing."

This week, Michael Garcia '18 wore a chic outerwear look in a pair of distressed winter boots and a long navy

wool coat. Bella Thilmany '17 rocked a black leather skirt paired with a metallic long sleeve shirt and black moto boots. Emma Norton '17 looked cool and casual in a bright red vest worn over a red plaid flannel with a pair of Wayfarers. Science instructor Sasha Alcott had killer style in a pink striped sweater and scarf to match her hot pink 'do. Liam Luddington '18 styled black loafers under a pair of beige pants and a double-breasted wool coat. Sophia Oguri '18 wore black jeans and heeled booties under a trendy black and gold mockneck tweed blouse. Great looks, everyone!

Interested in writing for Trendwatch next year? Applications will be out within the next couple of weeks, and they will be due Mar. 3.

Stay stylish,

Caroline and Connor



Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

## A Classic Power Couple

By JACQUELINE CHO and  
JARED ZHANG  
Staff Writers

On Friday evening, a large crowd of students, faculty and classical music enthusiasts filed into the Bowl auditorium to watch the cellist David Finkel and pianist Wu Han perform. Voted Musical America's 2012 musicians of the year, Finkel and Han came to Exeter with high acclaim: *The Wall Street Journal* has called them "America's power couple of chamber music," and they have performed across the world, from Mexico to Korea to Saint Petersburg, Russia. At Exeter, the couple performed works by Bach, Shostakovich, Grieg and Beethoven, ranging from delicate melodies to thundering sonatas.

As part of the Gilbert Concert Series, funded by former Academy trustee Clint Gilbert '47 and his wife Jane, Finkel and Han's performance is a gift from alumni for students to experience live music. Music instructor Rohan Smith called the experience an "incredible privilege." To him, it was very important to bring "talented musicians" to work with and play for students in person. "We search for artists who have a unique appeal to different sections of the community. That way we are giving students a cross-section of the different kinds of music," Smith said.

Many students involved with music programs on campus came to the performance. Lower Dylan Yin, an avid saxophonist, enjoyed the couple's skilled collaboration. "During the performance, they both made constant eye contact and were constantly listening to each other, allowing them to play perfectly in sync with tempo, dynamics and feeling," he said.

Even students who were inexperienced in the realm of classical music praised the performance. Lower Ella Parsons, who noted that she hadn't been to many classical concerts, said that she found Finkel and Han's music "dynamic" and "engaging."

Smith also mentioned the widespread appeal of the concert. "I invited a few students who weren't really music people, mostly into popular music rather than classical, and they were so blown away by the communication and expression," Smith said. "I would say that for our community, this concert was a world-class experience."

Students—especially those who are experienced musicians—admired the musical skill of Han and Finkel. Yin respected Han's musical knowledge, which Han demonstrated when he explained the program at the beginning of the concert. "It was clear that Wu Han knew which pieces went well with others, and the program was balanced and highlighted many different time periods and styles of great music," Yin said.

Prep Hojun Lew was very impressed by the couple's musical ability, complementing Finkel's mastery of the cello. "David Finkel made the music come alive," he said. Prior to the performance, Lew also had the privilege of attending Finkel's "master class," when Finkel and Han instructed a group of Exeter's best budding musicians about accentuating the nuances in their pieces. Lew appreciated the advice that Finkel gave. "He showed us how to make the music continuous and to make it flow. To cut out all the unnecessary sound that doesn't add anything to the music."

Lew also commended Finkel's ability to understand the background of the music and to play with that knowledge in mind. "He taught us to know the history of the music, to know what the composer was thinking to convey the composer's emotion when we, the quartet played the piece," Lew said.

Smith thought that one of the best aspects of Finkel and Han's performance was the opportunity it provided for the Exeter community to become more interested in classical music. "[This performance] can cause someone to fall in love with music and stay in love for the rest of their lives, which is why we bring these people here, to give students this experience," he said.

## SeniorSpotlight

## Nifty Nolan

By JOHN BECKERLE and PAUL JAMES  
Staff Writers

Whether he is running through Exeter's woods as a member of the boys' cross country team, competing in a long-distance track event or directing a show on the DRAMAT stage, athlete, therapist, proctor and friend Nolan Peacock remains a witty, kind and adored member of the Exeter community.

Nolan has been a member of Exeter Boys' Cross Country for four years. Many of his teammates expressed great respect for his strong work ethic and positive outlook on life. "He's the person on the cross country and track team that always elicits a laugh or brightens someone's day," senior and teammate Garrett Pitt said.

"Nolan is a hard worker," Pitt continued. "He has the effusive, playful personality of a puppy and the wisdom and steadfast character of Gandalf."

According to Pitt, Peacock has continually served as a leader on the cross country team. "[He is] someone whose care for his teammates is abundant and apparent," he said. "He is an empathetic and kind person who is a great role model for younger runners on the team."

According to Peacock, the long-distance squad has been just as important to him as he is to them. "I have yet to meet a team as welcoming, friendly, and tight-knit as the Exeter boys' distance team," he said.

Peacock has also made many long-lasting friendships and connections in his dorm, Ewald Hall. As a proctor and student listener, he welcomes new students into the dorm and supports many underclassmen. Senior and resident of Ewald Hall R.C. McShane described Peacock as a steadfast friend and an invaluable



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

member of Ewald. "I've known Nolan since the first day I arrived in Ewald," he said. "He has been a constant friend in the dorm, and has been someone who has supported me throughout my time here."

Peacock explained that the dorm has been a meaningful part of his life since his prep year at the Academy. "We're one of the smaller dorms on campus, so we have a bit of a tighter atmosphere, and there are a lot of late nights crammed into someone's room just talking, listening to music and laughing," he said. "The dorm has been a huge part of my Exeter experience, and the hardest part of every year is watching my friends from the dorm graduate and go on to college."

Peacock is also a formidable scholar. History instructor Michael Golay, who has taught Peacock for two terms, recognized his quick wit and intellect, saying, "He's relaxed

and informal with a good sense of humor, but not afraid to provoke a clash of ideas [in class]." Golay also noted Peacock's strong writing skills. "He's a gifted history student. He's a very good writer, and his research skills are very highly developed, and he's curious," he said.

Golay went on, saying that Peacock's sense of humor often manifests itself in his realistic impersonations of movie characters. Pitt also referenced Peacock's impressions, saying that they have helped both of them to get through their cross country or track runs. "Nolan is very gifted at improvisation and has the uncanny ability of accurately reciting movie scenes, such as: the Incredibles, Pirates of the Caribbean and Harry Potter," he said. "[These] two things always make our runs much more enjoyable." Off the wooded trails or track, Peacock is a co-head of Dramat, Exeter's student-run drama association. Over the years, he has

played an integral role in many shows, both as a director and an actor. He is currently directing *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which he believes will be "a ton of fun when it goes in the spring."

Peacock is also a former writer and sports editor for *The Exonian*. "The Exonian is responsible for the vast majority of both my stress and my writing improvement over the course of my time at Exeter," Peacock said. He wrote for *The Exonian* for three years as a staff writer before becoming a sports editor after his upper fall. "It's a very intense club, but it's hugely rewarding and I do miss it sometimes," he said.

According to Peacock, the connections he has made in the past years have been some of the most meaningful parts of his time at Exeter. "My experience here would be nothing without my classmates, teachers, dorm-mates, teammates, and friends," he said.

He continued, emphasizing the positive power Exeter has had on both his humility and his maturity. "Coming in as a prep, I was cocky and kind of arrogant," he said. "I thought I was so much smarter than everyone else because I was a good student at my old school." Though he quickly realized that this was not the case, it took a few years and a lot of learning for me to really take a deep look at myself and try to be better," he said. "I'm certainly not perfect by any measure, but I like to think that I've improved."

He went on, encouraging new students who may feel overwhelmed by the daily business of Exeter to focus on how unique the experience is. "Take some time out of every day to appreciate where you are and how special all of this is," he said. "I've definitely done a lot of growing here. More than anything, Exeter has taught me that a lot of the value of an education isn't in the knowledge, but in the experience."

## MOVIE REVIEW: "BOYHOOD"

★★★★★

By ALAN WU  
Staff Writer

"Boyhood," written and directed by Richard Linklater, follows the life of Mason Jr. as he grows from a six-year-old boy living in Texas to an eighteen-year-old man heading off to college. Alongside him is his single mother Olivia (Patricia Arquette) and his older sister Samantha, portrayed by Linklater's own daughter, Lorelei. "Boyhood" became the center of media attention after Linklater announced that he had been working on the film with the same cast and crew for twelve years. Understandably, the gimmick attracted equal amounts of praise and derision. Gimmicks are tricky for artists, as they can come off more contrived than brilliant. Fortunately, Linklater is a director who is well-versed in humility and nuance. Had "Boyhood" been in the hands of a lesser director, the film might have been one of 2014's most memorable films, but not one of its best. What elevates "Boyhood" from an interesting experiment to one of the decade's bold-est films is how Linklater manages to convey some of life's deepest truths in an organic, compelling way.

Every actor plays their part perfectly, never overacting, but Ellar Coltrane's performance of Mason Jr. is especially noteworthy. Coltrane doesn't have the look of a potential movie star, but the inherent sweetness and subtlety in his performance carries the film better than any forced sulkiness ever could. Still, it is Olivia, Mason's mother, who undergoes the most character development in the film. She shoulders the responsibility of being a young mother of two with a mesmerizing combination of optimism and resentment. Arquette is given particularly dramatic material to work with, but she masterfully manages to avoid detailing the film's tone with melodrama. Unlike the film's other main characters, her character changes in much subtler ways. Although she's always adhered to her strong principles, after finishing grad school and becoming a teacher, she becomes a person of considerable influence in her community. We can only assume that during the making of this film, Arquette herself grew as an actress and as a person. Each year she brings some of that wisdom and maturity into her character until eventually, she doesn't need to play a role anymore. It just happens.

"Boyhood" doesn't follow a strict storyline, nor does it have any larger design. It doesn't jump from birthday

to birthday, or season to season. There are no time stamps to document which year we are in. We only realize time has passed if we hear a popular song from that year, or see a cultural event that occurred in another, or notice that one character has grown taller and gotten a different haircut. The entire film unfolds like a series of short films, which allows the genius of film's structure to shine through.

The unflurry deployment of Linklater's time-lapse approach to filmmaking, along with Sandra Adair's impeccable editing, allows the audience to connect with "Boyhood" immediately. Occasionally, the film can feel aimless or stagnant, and that's because Linklater didn't know what any of the footage would mean by the end of production. All of the film's cultural references are incidental. The characters in the film, children and adults alike, are all just living life, doing the best they can for that moment. They have no idea what their actions will mean in the grand scheme of things, and if that isn't the truest fact of life, then I don't know what is.

"Boyhood" isn't a perfect film. Coltrane's performance as a child is unfocused at times, and the various drunken stepfather scenes occasionally fall flat. However, fixating on these minor flaws is petty, like criticizing the individual stones of a large cathedral. For a film like "Boyhood," it's the totality that matters. At its core, the film is a living, breathing exploration of time and our interaction with it. Film is unique as an artistic medium because of how it engages with time and space. "Boyhood" takes that quality to a new level to create a powerful and immersive experience. The movie skips many of the milestones in Mason's life, opting for the moments in between. In that way, the focus shifts from the turmoil of individual moments to how the passage of time changes us, and more importantly, how that change is reflected in our daily lives. Despite being with these characters for just three hours, we feel like we've known them the whole twelve years. Although the film moves quickly, it still takes the time to convey what life means to Mason at a particular instant, and digs out a more substantial story from those small moments. "Boyhood" reminds us all that living, for the most part, happens between all of the milestones and photographs.

## HIP HOP CONCERT

By BIANCA BECK  
Staff Writer

Last Friday, George "G" Yamazawa, a Japanese-American spoken word poet from North Carolina, performed in Agora, where he energized the audience with his charisma and his rapping. Yamazawa is considered one of the top young spoken-word artists in the country. He is a National Poetry Slam Champion and an Individual World Poetry Slam Finalist. In addition to appearing at the Sundance Film Festival, he was nominated for Best New Hip Hop Artist by the Carolina Music Awards in 2016.

Yamazawa's music spoke to his experience as a first-generation American. According to Yamazawa, his identity "affects everything." He elaborated on the advantages and disadvantages of his ethnicity: "I grew up with a real outsider's perspective, which prevents you from feeling very included in many parts of American society. But at the same time, it also gives me a kind of freedom and access to many different cultures. People welcome me into their homes and their cultures, and I was able to learn more about what it means to be from the South and what it means to live in the Bible Belt as a Buddhist."

The event kicked off when Aiden Wolf-King, a senior, introduced Yamazawa. As soon as Yamazawa started rapping, a group of lively students congregated right in front of the stage, bobbing to his words. He promptly delivered an infamous punchline, "I don't rap like you, cuz dawg I'm Asian, I eat cats like you!" The crowd hollered in appreciation. Yamazawa later explained that, depending on the audience, he can receive very different reactions when he says that particular punchline. "Out of all the poems I've written about cultural identity and about my grandma, 'Dawg I'm Asian, I eat cats like you' is the greatest one I've ever written," he said. "I said that at a high school in southeast DC once, and I was like 'yeah, I eat cats like you,' and the whole lecture hall was

like 'Oh!' Laughing, he also recounted a performance in Hawaii. In front of four hundred Asian-Americans, the punchline didn't work out like he thought it would. "They looked at me like what? They were dead silent, and it was actually kind of a traumatic experience."

One of the songs he performed was "Dining Room," in which he described his parents' Japanese restaurant and how his whole family worked there. In a touching verse, Yamazawa praised his mother's resilience and open-mindedness. "What a talent, to be openly sharing your culture with strangers...She showed me the way of the Shogun is patience." In addition to discussing his family, Yamazawa also injects a bit of social commentary into his music. In "Rich Chigga Freestyle," a "diss" directed at Rich Chigga's music video, Dat SticK, Yamazawa began with a sarcastic reference to "Asians dropping n-bomb." He continued, saying, "Best see you at the protest, front row." With that song, Yamazawa offered a sharp criticism of those who liberally appropriate hip hop tradition without having a true commitment to combating racial injustice.

Students loved Yamazawa's performance. Senior Ore Marie said that she particularly enjoyed his upbeat yet meaningful words. "He used his smooth flow and cool beats to make some really unique music that was fun, while touching on more serious topics like his upbringing, immigration and even police brutality and race relations. But even with that, his music didn't take a serious tone, which is hard to do." Lower Gabby Brown was one of the people in the first row. "I liked his song lyrics. I thought they were very meaningful. I feel like his writing had purpose, and he was very inspiring. He also had great energy," she said. Prep Eman Noraga, who was also in the first row, said, "I thought he was a really cool act to bring, and he was really different from all the acts [the Academy] usually brings. He also catered to my music taste. I thought it was pretty cool how he talked about so many issues, like the immigrant crises."

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ClubSpotlight

# Active Minds

By SARAH RYU  
and JARED ZHANG  
Staff Writers

As the only mental health club at Exeter, Active Minds seeks to bring awareness to mental health at the Academy and to help students find ways to relieve their stress. Through making stress balls, inviting assembly speakers to campus and hanging up posters to address stigmas surrounding mental illness, Active Minds leads the fight against misconceptions surrounding mental health on campus. Each Monday during lunch, upper Alyssa Kuwana and lower Ursula Sze lead discussions about mental health as the co-heads of Active Minds.

Kuwana first joined Active Minds during her lower year, after realizing how stressful Exeter can be. According to her, there is a significant lack of regard for mental health on campus. "People like to brush it aside, and that can be very detrimental to students' health," she said.

Kuwana added that coming to Exeter made her realize the importance of mental health. "I never really thought twice about [mental health] until coming to Exeter," she said. "I now realize how important it is to take care of your mental health."

At first, the club struggled with low attendance at their meetings, but both Kuwana and Sze feel that the club is finally gaining momentum. "I really enjoy everyone's enthusiasm and their willingness to contribute to removing the stigma around mental health on campus," Kuwana said.

In an effort to promote awareness, Active Minds invited Hakeem Rahim to speak at assembly on Jan. 31. Rahim, who began suffering from bipolar disorder during his time at Harvard College, has now dedicated himself to being a powerful advocate for mental health. Rahim spoke to the audience about the vast spectrum of mental illnesses and discussed with students ways to overcome mental health stigma. He also stressed the importance of creating a community where members feel comfortable seeking help.

Rahim's accounts of his experiences with mental health

resonated with many Exonians. "He brought mental health into perspective, and helped people realize that mental illness is lot more common than we think," Kuwana said. Upper JP Kim agreed with Kuwana, commending Rahim for shedding light on a topic that is typically avoided. "The assembly was really nice because the speaker not only shared his own experience, but also reminded students that we shouldn't be ignoring the significance



Julia Goydan *The Exonian*

of mental health," he said.

Active Minds is currently working on a project called "Post Secret," a biennial event inspired by Frank Warren's original community art project. Students and faculty are welcomed to submit anonymous secrets written on index cards. The club will then display these cards in Agora on Friday, Feb. 17.

PEADQUACS, a student cappella group, will perform during an opening ceremony showcasing the project. "The goal of this event is to try to let go of secrets and show people that they are not alone," Sze said. Lower Adrian Venzon, who recently joined the club, expressed his excitement about the upcoming event. "We're participating in a project that has reached the entire nation."

In addition to planning events, Active Minds continues to encourage students to be brave when it comes to discussions about mental health. Not only does the club want students to reach out to one another, but also try to talk to adults and counselors around campus. During the Latin Study lunch, Rahim brought up the problem of students feeling uncomfortable talking to counselors. Students expressed fears that counselors may question and invalidate their problems, or even force them to take a medical leave. "We were talking about these problems with the speaker and I think that's a good goal to work towards—making sure that when kids have problems, they don't think that their problems are smaller than they actually are and that they feel comfortable reaching out to counselors," Sze said.

Active Minds provides an open and comfortable space for these discussions, and is known for their hard work and welcoming atmosphere. Lower Maddie Moon, a member of the club, expressed her admiration. "The coheads are amazing and super sweet," she said. "They are the ones who make the club as great as it is." Like Moon, lower Lizzie Madamida described the club as a safe and comforting environment, saying, "People are accepting and nice, and I would feel free to talk openly there."

Kuwana also attributed her increased comfort with encouraging friends to ask for guidance to Active Minds. "I'm less afraid to go seek help or even help my friends who need a little nudge to ask for help," she said.

## REVIEW: THE INN BY THE BANDSTAND

By HILLARY DAVIS and GRACE CARROLL  
Staff Writers

The charming and historic Inn by the Bandstand lies in the heart of downtown Exeter, just two blocks from campus. The sunshine yellow federal-style mansion, which dates back to 1809, houses eight unique and inviting guest rooms, a sitting room, dining room and an outdoor terrace.

As you enter the Inn, fireplaces greet you in each drawing room, while a beautifully carpeted staircase—with its sprawling banister still intact from the original house—leads up three stories to guest wings. The inn is run by Jaime Lopez, owner, innkeeper, chef and occasional repairman, with his co-owner, Agostinho Nunes.

Nunes, a self-professed "history buff," takes immense pride in the Inn's robust history. In 1809, George Sullivan, a prominent attorney and son of Revolutionary War general John Sullivan, constructed the building. During an earlier renovation of the house, historians uncovered an original Dunlap copy of the Declaration of Independence on the property.

The house eventually changed ownership into the Sleeper family, which led to the construction of the adjoining Sleeper jewelry store, now the Otis restaurant. Nunes cites this change of ownership as the reason behind the property's dual architectural styles; the original property is built entirely in the federal style, and the Sleeper-era renovations were done in a more elaborate victorian style.

Nunes, who is still in touch with descendants of the original owners, described the 19th Century tenants as "eclectic." "They would get drunk and rowdy, and they would shoot their guns into the fireplaces," he said.

According to Nunes, in the 1950s, the town moved to demolish the house in order to expand the roundabout and make the entrance to the gas station—now known as Me and Ollies—more accessible. To prevent the loss of such a historically significant property, the Exeter Historical Society intervened and purchased the estate. Following the purchase, the estate was broken up into tenant housing before becoming an inn for the first time some 25 years ago.

When Nunes and Lopez acquired the property about four years ago, the property had fallen into a state of dilapidation. "It was over a year before we bought

it, and the place had been really let go," Nunes said. The original post-and-beam construction, left uncared for by previous innkeepers, was so rotted that construction crews told Nunes and Lopez they were lucky the property hadn't collapsed. Since they acquired the property in June of 2014, the inn has remained in business throughout an extensive renovation and restoration process that continues today.

Neither Nunes nor Lopez have any prior background in the inn business, though Lopez earned a graduate degree in Hospitality Management from UNH. After immigrating to Boston from war-torn Portugal at nine years old, Nunes worked his first management job at a cheese store in Framingham, Massachusetts when he was seventeen. Nunes originally got his degree in Political Science at Sciences Po in Paris, France at age 23, never predicting that he would end up owning an inn in Exeter. However, both owners have extensive backgrounds in public service. Lopez served in the Navy for almost six years, while Nunes spent two years in Morocco. They speak Spanish, Portuguese and French in addition to English. As an immigrant, Nunes has great appreciation for those who serve America. "Immigrants don't take America for granted. It has been a gift that this country has given us that we have been able to express ourselves with freedom," he said. "I am a great believer that I think that every young woman and every young man should serve."

Both owners make great efforts to retain the historical roots of the building. They remain in contact with the descendants of the original owners, meet with members of the Exeter Historical Society, and even hosted a reception for Exeter's American Independence Museum when it received a letter from George Washington to John Sullivan. Formerly named after major European destinations, each guest room now bears the name of a famous person or place from Exeter's colonial history. Nunes said, "When we took over, they used to be all British names: Windsor, Summerset... We wanted to bring it back to the colonial period and connect it locally." Some of the room names include Exeter, Wheelwright and Phillips. Nunes pointed out his favorite guest room, Wentworth—named after one of Exeter's earliest settlers—which includes a massive, exposed brick

fireplace and a four-poster bed.

Proximity to the Academy has been a defining feature for the inn. Nunes estimates over half of the inn's customers are parents or relatives of Exonians. One of the Inn By The Bandstand's most unique offerings is its home-away-from-home program for Phillips Exeter Academy students. Over the past four years, Nunes and Lopez have connected with many on a personal level. Whenever possible they welcome students to the inn to stay, share a meal or simply say hello.

Nunes is proud to say that he serves as an emergency contact for multiple international students whose parents aren't always accessible. At the request of a student or parent, the innkeepers will share meals with students, drive them between locations or provide a quiet space for the students to do homework. As immigrants themselves, Nunes and Lopez both empathize with students who feel the cultural shock and homesickness that comes with living far away from family. The house itself has a long history as a family home, a reputation which Nunes and Lopez have worked hard to maintain. The Inn By the Bandstand welcomes each and every student from the Academy, offering a sanctuary for them to call home.

## UPCOMING

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>FAIR</b>                                    | <b>SHOW</b>                     |
| <b>GAP YEAR &amp; SUMMER</b>                   | <b>THINK FAST</b>               |
| Friday, Phelps Science Center                  | <b>GAME SHOW</b>                |
|  | Saturday, Phelps Science Center |
| <b>EVENT</b>                                   | <b>ASSEMBLY</b>                 |
| <b>THANK-A-DONOR DAY</b>                       | <b>SARIA SAMAKIE</b>            |
| Tuesday, Academy Building, Agora, dining Halls | Friday, Assembly Hall           |

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# Exonian Sports



## GIRLS' SQUASH DEFEATS MILTON

By RYAN XIE  
Staff Writer

Girls' squash faced off against Milton Academy on Wednesday, Feb. 1. The varsity team won in an exciting 4-3 triumph, and the junior varsity easily won with a combined match score of 6-1. On Saturday, the girls played a tough match against Winsor School, with the varsity losing 2-5 and junior varsity 1-6.

For the Wednesday game against Milton, senior and co-captain Serena Cho was very happy with the team's performance, considering the difficulty of the games. "I am so proud of how we played on Wednesday—Milton's one of the best teams in the nation and in my past four years here, we've never beaten them," Cho said. Despite Milton having better technique, Cho felt that Exeter's mental game was much higher. "They may have been slightly better than us in terms of technique as they recruit many players who've been playing since they're very young, but our mental game was so much better than theirs."

Like any other match, every member of the girls' squash team gave it their all. "Everyone put up their hardest fight, and with our willingness and dedication to perfecting that one shot, or really getting to the ball, we ended up winning." Even though Milton was a tough opponent, Cho won her match 3-0. "Everyone was watching my game and it was 2-0, 10-9 when the fire alarm rang. We had to clear the building, so we waited for around 30 minutes and finished the match as I proceeded to win that last point in around 30 seconds!"

Although the team celebrated the narrow victory and Cho's delayed win, it did not find the same success three days later against Winsor.

Lower Ursula Sze, the team's num-



Lower Euwie Park prepares to hit a backhand.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

ber two seed, eagerly wanted to win her match against the tough Winsor opponent. Despite feeling optimistic at the beginning, Sze felt that many wanted to have played better. Like the other team members, she agreed that the team had a high morale. "We are all very supportive of each other. I am thankful to have Euwie next to me during my games to give me good advice. I always trust what she says and she helped me come back in the third game."

Lower Chandler Jean-Jacques also

felt that Big Red fought well in the match. "Even though we lost, all of us fought hard until the end," she said. She also agreed about the team morale and complimented the captains' encouragement. "Our team is very close and push each other every day in practice so we can improve before each match. Serena Cho, one of our team captains, always reminds us to play with conviction and with passion," she said. She is very happy to be able to attend Nationals due to the team's hard work. "Because of our

ability to focus and work hard, we have been able to not only have a great season but make Division 1 for Nationals," Jean-Jacques said.

Lower Bella Ilchenko said that the girls are training hard each day this week with the goal of succeeding at Nationals on Feb. 11. They are competing in Division 1 for the first time, which is a big accomplishment. As a result, the girls will be facing fierce competition and need to play their strongest if they want to win their matches.

### Weekend Scoreboard

Boys' Hockey	8	Boys' Swimming	103	Girls' Swimming	88
Tilton	7	NMH	69	NMH	86
Girls' Hockey	1	Boys' Basketball	44	Girls' Squash	2
BB&N	4	Brooks	61	Winsor	5



Chiara Perrotti Correa/The Exonian

Senior Michaela Corvi drives to the basket.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL FALLS TO ANDOVER 40-37

By JOHN BECKERLE  
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, girls' varsity basketball played against Andover in its 14th game of the season. Andover edged Exeter out to win the game, 40-37. Big Red's record fell to 2-12. Upper Maria Heeter felt the score did not represent how the game played out. She said, "We won the 2nd half. We played our 2-3 [defense] very effectively, but we need to improve on the other side of the court."

In previous games, the team has struggled to score points. In 7 of its 14 games so far, it scored fewer than 35 points. In the team's games against Thayer and Governor's Academy, the opponents outscored the girls by double-digits.

The Andover game, however, provides hope for the team going forward in the season. The team's defense improved since their game against Governor's Academy, where Exeter lost by 14 points.

Heeter said that the team's defense improved significantly since the beginning of the season. She believes the team can become even more competitive if its offense can keep improving. Upper Michaela McCarthy agreed. "Our shooting and transition was much improved against Andover from earlier in the season."

Both Heeter and McCarthy felt the Andover game was one of the better games they have played this season. McCarthy said, "There was definitely a lot more energy in our Andover game than in any of our previous competitions.

We did a good job of channeling that energy into intensity and using it as motivation to play every possession to the best of our abilities."

McCarthy credited this improvement to the way the team practiced in recent weeks. "Our cohesion, shooting, passing and off-ball movement are some of the areas in which we made the greatest improvement, which can be directly attributed to the way we've competed with one another in practice," she said.

Exeter will have one more opportunity to beat Andover during their Winter E/A on Feb. 25 at home. That game will be the team's last of the regular season this year. The team hopes that the rematch will yield a different result.

McCarthy, however, believes the team should focus on its game against Worcester this Saturday, Feb. 11. "Andover is always exciting, but we need to concentrate our efforts on our next game."

She indicated that the team still needs to improve throughout the rest of its practices this season and prepare for its upcoming games against Worcester and Tilton. "We will be able to use the loss as motivation to compete harder and more intensely in practice this week and will surely help us to prepare for our games before our next rematch."

The team has had a tough season, losing more games than hoped for. Even though the girls have faced many challenges, they still believe that they can turn their season around. They plan to learn from their mistakes earlier this season and win the rest of their last four, including the Andover rematch.

### WEDNESDAY GAMES

Girls' Hockey	2	Boys' Hockey	8	Girls' Squash	7
Kimball Union	1	Proctor	5	Tilton	0
Girls' JV Hockey	2	Boys' JV Hockey	8	Girls' JV Squash	5
St. Paul's	1	Winchendon	7	Berwick	2

## Girls' Hockey Falls to Both Andover and BB&N

By JO DE LA BRUYERE  
Contributing Writer

The girls' hockey team faced off against Andover away on Wednesday, Feb. 1 and Buckingham Browne & Nichols (BB&N) at home last Saturday. It suffered two disappointing losses.

Andover came into Wednesday's game with a considerably stronger record than Exeter. Prior to the game, lower Kathryn Kester had expressed her hope that Exeter would "come into the game, give 100 percent and play to the best of our ability." Big Red came up short in its game against Andover. In senior and co-captain Bonnie LaBonté's opinion, goalies lower Michaela O'Brien and prep Cam McCrystal both played very well.

That said, senior and co-captain Sydnee Goyer cited Exeter's inability to clear people from in front of the net as one of the team's biggest weaknesses. The team also consistently "took bad angles when pressuring the puck." Andover capitalized on that weakness and controlled the ice from the start. Big Red ended up with a hard 0-6 loss.

Two days after that game, the team played against BB&N. The girls sought to

clean up some of the mistakes that had cost them their previous match. According to Goyer, the team "worked to improve competitive consistency" and tried to maintain speed from the first drop of the puck to the last whistle. However, come Saturday, those efforts proved futile; Exeter started off slow, letting up three goals in the first period. Frustrated, the team found some momentum in the second period. Though Exeter did not score, they largely held off BB&N, who only scored once. In the last period, prep Ally DeCoste tipped in a shot from upper Kaleigh Conte on a power play. Exeter ended the game with a 1-4 loss.

Last week's results were especially disappointing given the team's initial impression that they were ready to compete at a higher level of play. Looking forward, lower Kathryn Kester said that the team would be working on consistency, limiting odd man rushes, and bringing more energy to the ice. The team has been focusing on its energy for quite some time; hopefully, the back-to-back losses will fuel some fire in Exeter's playing.

This Saturday, Exeter will go against New Hampton School in an away game. As for Andover, Big Red will have a chance to redeem itself on Feb. 18 at home.



Lower Hannah Littlewood sprints down the ice.

Gavin Hickey/The Exonian

## Boys' Basketball Trounces Tabor by 21 Points

By BELLA ALVAREZ  
Staff Writer



Senior Ben Swett charges down the baseline.

Chiara Perrotti Correa/The Exonian

Boys' varsity basketball crushed Tabor Academy by a 21 point margin on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at home. With eight wins so far, the team has set an impressive record, which was expected, according to senior and co-captain Mitchell Kirsch. "We just committed to things we pride ourselves on," Kirsch said, explaining why Exeter was able to defeat Tabor Academy 76 to 55. "We set the tone defensively and played well in transition."

Post-graduate Kyle Copeland concurred with Kirsch's statement, emphasizing the strength of their defense. He also touched on the importance of blocking Tabor Academy while on the offense. "Having good ball movement and our ability to get depth from others on the bench kept us in the game," Copeland said.

Kirsch, who described Tabor Academy as a "scrappy" team, noted that its roster was missing one of the key players. However, he emphasized that Exeter had succeeded due to its strong preparation and determination. "I think we prepared well and were ready for anything they came at us with," he said.

Post-graduate Jacob Grandison didn't view the opponents as a threat. "They were not difficult to beat," Grandison said. "We could have won by a lot more." He also found that by stopping Tabor Academy from possessing the ball,

Big Red could easily switch to quick offense, rather than having to constantly guard the other team.

Grandison reflected on the season so far, acknowledged that the team chemistry has improved since its first game together. "Our understanding of the offense and each other's games has increased exponentially," he said. However, Grandison recognized that Exeter still has a lot of room for growth.

Copeland also commented on his own personal experience. "I think my whole mentality about the game has expanded," he said, crediting Exeter's high collegiate level competition as the reason for this increased focus. "I have to bring my best effort every time I step onto the floor."

Big Red will face Worcester Academy on Feb. 8, and the team will also play a home game, defending the court against Deerfield Academy on Feb. 11. Kirsch hopes that the team will continue working on a bold offense. "We want to make opposing teams guard us for long stretches of time," he said. Grandison also looks forward to these matches, describing them as "dog fights." "Both are AA teams," he explained. "We can't underestimate any of our opponents if we want to be a championship team."

Upper Ben Eckstrom felt that Exeter has found its niche during the second half of this season. "Our foundation offensively and defensively is there," Eckstrom said. "Now we just have to fine tune some things."

## Boys' Swim Team Crushes NMH At Home

By ASHLEY LIN  
Staff Writer

This past Saturday, the boys' varsity swim team defeated its opponent, Northfield Mount Hermon, with a 103-69 final score. NMH drove to Exeter's pool to put up a good fight, but by the end of the diving event at the halfway point, it was clear that Big Red was going to win as it was in the lead by 53 points. "They tried their best but we still won by a huge margin," prep Andrew Sun said.

NMH is a team known less for its skill, but more for its good-heartedness and notable sportsmanship. Its team usually competes with Exeter's junior varsity team. This allowed Big Red's swim team members to explore new events and have fun before Interschols, which will be in less than a month. "We had the chance to swim events we didn't usually get to," upper Joaquin Riojas said. "Because of this, there were some really surprising and exciting swims."

Big Red dominated most of the events, placing in the top three spots in the 200 individual medley (IM), 50 freestyle, 100 butterfly, 100 freestyle and 500 freestyle. These were just the events for which score was kept. Since Exeter was winning by so much, Don Mills stopped counting the points after the 500 free and put swimmers in exhibition to events they had never done before.

Lower Peter Tuchler, a strong distance swimmer, competed in the 100 yard breaststroke and easily grasped first place. Captain Joel Lotzkar, whose strength lies in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke, swam in the 200 freestyle, managing to win the event without much competition from NMH. Upper Taylor Walshe, normally a sprinter, also



Upper Harry Saunders races down his lane.

three non-exhibition teams, and a whole two seconds in front of NMH's first relay team.

"Overall, we had fun racing in a mix of events and are looking forward to three more weeks of training in preparation for Loomis, Andover and New England," Lotzkar said. This upcoming weekend, Exeter will be facing much tougher competition when they host Loomis. Last year, Loomis edged out the boys with a small

three non-exhibition teams, and a whole two seconds in front of NMH's first relay team.

victory, so the team is looking for some revenge. The team has now won three meets in a row, dominating its opponents, and they hope to use this momentum to their advantage.

Loomis has had a similar season to Exeter, losing and beating the same teams, which means that this will be one of the team's closest meets in the season. Be sure to cheer on the boys as they challenge the Loomis team at 4:00 p.m. this Saturday, Feb. 11.

Jena Yun/The Exonian



# ExonianLove

<p><i>Shoutout to all my Wentworth Preps.</i></p> <p>-David Kim</p>	<p><i>Gangly Gautam's calves are yuge! His squash boast is incredible. Love me, Gangly Gautam.</i></p> <p>-Sam Michaels</p>	<p><i>Sending love to all the members of Cilley Hall.</i></p>	<p><i>Brandon Newbould is my hero.</i></p>
<p><i>Bone Apple Tea</i></p> <p>-Jamie Cassidy</p>	<p><i>Can't imagine myself without you, thanks for everything Sherry. Love you!</i></p> <p>-Brian Choi</p>	<p><i>Milo Walshe is the fastest swimmer in the entire school. No arguments.</i></p>	<p><i>Meg Bolan is kinda cute.</i></p> <p>-Your secret admirer</p>
<p><i>Abby Waite, I love you, but please stop stealing my food.</i></p>	<p><i>Sending all of my love to my parents and Phoebe my cat &lt;3</i></p>	<p><i>Happy Valentine's Day, Bella! Love you.</i></p> <p>-Jack Baker</p>	<p><i>Issay, you love me with all the force of a Shinto dojo, thank you sensei. From your sempai.</i></p>
<p><i>Nolan, you are like a apple on an pear tree in a corn field...unique and beautiful.</i></p>			<p><i>Ms. MacKean is the greatest teacher ever.</i></p>
<p><i>To the most beautiful goat on campus and the best roommate in the world. I love you, Emma!</i></p>	<p><small>Robert Doisneau/Courtesy of Google Images</small></p>		<p><i>Shoutout to all of the D2 baristas for keeping us awake.</i></p>
<p><i>Happy Valentine's Day to every girl on campus.</i></p> <p>Love, Jamie</p>	<p><i>Arielle Lui is the light of my life.</i></p>		<p><i>Maggie Hock, You rock.</i></p>
<p><i>Jamie, we love you more than you love "Little Yachity" and The Exonian.</i></p> <p>Love, Your secret admirers</p>	<p><i>139 sends its love to you all.</i></p>	<p><i>Weldon and Gautam, you make varsity squash the hottest team on campus.</i></p>	<p><i>Kathryn McCaughey: Roses are red, violets are blue, be my valentine or cash me outside how bou dah.</i></p>
<p><i>Ah, you are my sunshine....Ich liebe dich.</i></p>	<p><i>Ad Quintum meum amatum, te solum amo et semper amabo!</i></p> <p>- Virgo bona et fida tua, Tiberi</p>	<p><i>Shoutout to all my lovely Dvmbabes.</i></p>	<p><i>Dear PF Chang, I love you even more than your secret admirer. I'm writing this thinking about you and my eternal fire that burns inside me. I need your loving and fiery touch to feel alive again. Please be mine. I love you baby. I need you.</i></p> <p>Love, TW</p>
<p><i>Dear Elizabeth Fier, Roses are red, violets are blue, you're a bad-die, I can't wait to take you (to EP).</i></p>	<p><i>Hugs and kisses for all of the pets on campus!</i></p>	<p><i>Hey B, I've noticed you eyeing me recently...EP?</i></p>	<p><i>Isaac Fingerson is super cuddly. I wish you would love.</i></p>
<p><i>Thank you to everyone in Facilities for making Exeter a safer and brighter place! We &lt;3 you all.</i></p>	<p><i>Emily Green is the prettiest girl on campus.</i></p>	<p><i>-Kojo Aduhene</i></p>	<p><i>Greg Zhu, take me to the zoo.</i></p>
	<p><i>Bancroft Hall is the best.</i></p>	<p><i>Garrett Pitt has nice legs.</i></p>	