



Exonians Walk in Women's Marches at Boston, D.C.

By GRACE CARROLL, HILLARY DAVIS and SAMANTHA WEIL
Staff Writers

Exonians joined millions in Women's Marches across the country last Saturday as part of the largest coalition of protesters in American history. The marches occurred in every continent, as well as in every state, with over three million participants worldwide. Phillips Exeter Academy's Feminist Union (Fem Club) arranged transportation for forty-five students to attend the Women's March in Boston, while other students marched in Portsmouth and Washington, D.C.

Many Exonians appreciated the chance to protest in solidarity with America's marginalized groups, such as the LGBTQ+ community, people of color and people of persecuted religions.

Others viewed the march as a means of demonstrating resilience in the face of President Donald Trump's inauguration. Cohead of Fem Club senior Autumn Herness emphasized the importance of remaining strong. "Even in the face of failure, we're not stepping down," she said. "This still matters to us a lot."

Although many were motivated by anger over the results of the election, Saturday's peaceful protests were not intended to directly condemn Trump. "They were supposed to wake him up," explained lower Sophie Faliero, who joined her family in Washington D.C. last weekend to protest. "There is so much inequality in this country...he's unaware and doesn't care."

The march also provided a concrete way for underage Exonians to voice beliefs. "There's still four years until I can vote," prep Lucy Gilchrist explained. "This was just a [way to have] my

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Senior Robyn Stewart protests with Fem Club members in Boston.

Isadora Kron/The Exonian

Inauguration Spurs Campus Political Debate

By BELLA ALVAREZ and ALAN XIE
Staff Writers

In light of the recent inauguration of Donald J. Trump, many Exonians have been engaged in political discussion. Students had differing reactions to not only the election of this contentious politician, but to their peers' views and responses.

One Exonian recalled his initial reaction after witnessing Trump's victory. "I thought it was a nightmare, but the nightmare was real," the source said. "Our country voted for a rapist, racist and sexist." The source chose to remain anonymous, as he didn't want to receive backlash from his friends who support Trump. While facing this feeling of unease on campus, the source also explained how Trump's election has already taken a toll on his safety. "Exeter will be my home for the next four years, and I don't know if it's safe here," the source said. He continued to elaborate on his concerns, citing times when he was called racist expletives while walking through town. The source also mentioned times when his friends were the subject of an offensive slur.

The troubling reason behind this source's wish to speak anonymously has been a highly debated topic amongst students on campus. Earlier this week, senior and co-head of the Exeter Republican Club Alec Howe held a meeting in conjunction with the Democratic Club about openness of political discourse. During the discussion, senior Ali Hassani pointed out that like-minded students tend to form friend groups based around their political affiliations, and therefore have no problem sharing their opinions. According to Hassani, students believe they are "inherently right about their views," and will become hostile to anything outside of those ideals.

Howe reiterated Hassani's statements, commenting on the dangers of considering a belief as part of personal identity. He emphasized that this confusion would then lead to an angry and confrontational response to any questions relating political affiliations. "When one conflates their sense of self and political beliefs, they can interpret any criticism of their political stance as an attack on themselves. That's counterproductive to an open discussion," Howe said.

Upper Christian Flores argued that if a

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Survivor Cecilia Morgan '82 Speaks Out

By BIANCA BECK and TIM HAN
Staff Writers

Over three decades ago, Cecilia Morgan '82 suffered ongoing sexual abuse at the hands of Richard Schubart, a former history teacher, department head and admissions officer at the Academy. After the school recently rescinded her confidentiality agreement and allowed her to speak openly, Morgan came forward to tell her story. *The Exonian* interviewed Morgan about her experience.

Morgan explained that, from the outset, her time at Exeter was colored by her vulnerability. "I was incredibly shy when I got to Exeter," she recalled.

She described often feeling isolated and alone as a student, and, consequently, spending more and more time with her advisor, Schubart. "We became very close when he was on sabbatical... that was my second

semester lower year... He was my confidant."

As time went on, Morgan's experience at the Academy became increasingly dominated by her relationship with Schubart and his presence in her life. "We spent a lot of time talking and I spent a lot of time listening to him; it was just nice to me as a shy, insecure person to have a really close bond [with Schubart]," she said. Morgan also elaborated on her own personal familial circumstances—"I had a very bad relationship with my father"—and how Schubart came to represent a father figure for her.

"I had this close relationship with him and then in my senior year it became a sexual relationship." Her amorous experience at this point was still quite limited, she noted. "I actually had never dated anybody in my life. I only went on one date at Exeter. I was very immature in that way."

As Morgan developed an increased emotional dependency on her abuser, she remembered thinking, "I guess... [the sex] makes me special to him, and that's even better."

Given Schubart's position as a father figure and advisor, Ms. Morgan noted just how devastating her abuse was. "The [relationship] with Mr. Schubart... messed me up... It was like if your mother, your father put the moves on you [and] they started having a sexual relationship with you. It screws you up."

Throughout her senior year, Morgan sought ways to escape the harmful relationship with Schubart. Morgan claimed that her twin sister "told her advisor about it and he did nothing." The faculty member in question has denied any recollection of that

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Diana Davidson/The Exonian

History Instructor Bill Jordan speaks at Assembly on Inauguration Day.

Jordan Reflects on Election Cycle

By DON ASSAMONGKOL and MAI HOANG
Staff Writers

After a tumultuous year of divisive politics, Donald J. Trump was inaugurated last Friday as the 45th President of the United States of America. At the suggestion of Vice Principal Ronald Kim, Chair of the History Department William Jordan gave an adaptation of the meditation he read in November, reflected on his experience growing up in a lower-middle class family and the plight of blue-collar

workers today. His speech also emphasized the importance of unity and community on Inauguration Day.

Jordan started by sharing his life's story telling about how his veteran father was able to provide for a household of six children through the unions and government subsidies given to their family. The relative comfort they were able to enjoy was also because of those institutions.

The heart of Jordan's assembly speech centered on blue-collar families such as his

own. Throughout the election cycle, the community saw how increasingly divided the nation became as fellow American citizens began to berate and attack one another. Some at Exeter viewed Trump as a bigot—a hypocritical outsider representing the worst of American xenophobia, racism and sexism. Yet Trump's rhetoric was overwhelmingly popular among the poor white workers who feared for their jobs and did not believe Hillary Clinton could help them. Instead of labeling all people with different ideas as enemies, Jordan emphasized the power of understanding and communication. "Politics in a democracy is about building coalitions with people you agree with on some issues but not on others and whose interests overlap here and diverge there," he said.

Jordan expressed frustration at the current political dialogue. As stated in his assembly, he believed that people have to be willing to compromise in order to accomplish anything. "In the past we were able to peel people from different sides of the political spectrum but increasingly that's not happening," he said. "Each party has mastered the art of keeping their members in opposition to the other side."

Jordan also found the current social groups problematic, as people tend to stick with like-minded people. "Everyone around here was shocked that Trump won; they were crying because they couldn't believe it as everyone they knew hated Trump," he said. In past mock-polls for the presidential and primary races, democrats won decisively. Jordan estimated that the Exeter community, including faculty

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Poet Performs at Assembly

By JOHN BECKERLE and MADISON KANG
Staff Writers

Nationally-acclaimed slam poet Clint Smith performed and spoke at Tuesday's assembly about historical and ongoing prejudices facing the African American community and about finding his voice as an artist and teacher. He held a lunch in the Latin Study later that day, during which he answered questions from uppers reading his work for their English classes.

Smith, a New Orleans native, graduated from Davidson College with a Bachelor's Degree in English. He is now a doctoral candidate at Harvard University analyzing mass incarceration, the sociology of race and the history of American inequality.

Smith discovered the art of slam poetry in 2008 at a New York cafe. Since then, Smith has become the 2014 National Poetry Slam champion, an Individual World Poetry Slam finalist, a Cave Canem fellow and a Callaloo Creative Writing Workshop fellow. He has served as a cultural ambassador for the U.S. Department of State. His writing has been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, *Boston Review*, *American Poetry Review* and *Harvard Educational Review*, among other publications. Smith has also delivered two TED Talks, which have garnered over 5 million views online.

During Tuesday's assembly, Smith performed several of his spoken word pieces, including *My Father is an Oyster*, *History Reconsidered*, *How to Raise a Black Son in America*, *My Jump Shot* and *What the Ocean Said to the Black Boy*. He also read excerpts from his recently published collection of poetry, *Counting Descent*, which was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award.

Through his poetry, Smith addressed themes of racial and social injustices and the

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WEB



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Political Intolerance Discussed

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student truly wanted to seek out the truth, they wouldn't immediately shut down an idea; rather, they would critically analyze and scrutinize it. Flores also noted the danger of criticizing someone's intelligence based of a set of ideas. "It's not right to say that...Unless you agree with me at least a bit, you are someone unwilling to listen to opinions," he said.

Students have begun to discuss how openly they expressed their ideals, especially those who leaned more towards the right. Upper Sagar Rao said, "the school shows bias. However, I have never felt that I have been respected less because I am Republican because we, as students, are good at having these discussions." Other students mirrored Rao's opinion that the school and teachers should share their political opinions less. "Exeter's over-reinforcement of PC culture puts a lot of emphasis on the rights of the offended," said Howe, adding that teachers should not share their political views in class, as students may feel apprehensive about expressing their opinions which may differ from their teachers.

Lower Reese Popkin, however, found a different experience from Rao. "I believe you can speak freely if you don't care about being ridiculed," Popkin said. While Popkin explained that he feels that he can talk about his support for Trump, he believes that many other students don't share the same freedom. Popkin also touched on his opinion that many students do not participate in active political discussion because of Trump's inauguration. "If anything, there has been a decrease as everyone is very sensitive about the new president," Popkin said.

Howe identified with Popkin's statements, saying that although he is unaffected by the judgement of others, many conservative voices do not feel the same way. "Often-times, criticism of certain liberal policies will take place behind closed doors because students fear being judged by teachers and students alike," Howe said. He suggested that if the school wanted to improve on its image as an environment of open discussion, it should not promote one-sided political discourse. Howe cited the posters encouraging students to "be strong" after the election and the offering of a safe-space in the church from the Office of Multicultural Affairs as ways to deter students from having political discussions, rather than bringing them together. "Such actions stifle discussion by bestowing a sense of 'otherness' on students who disagree with the liberal consensus," Howe said.

However, primarily left-leaning students voiced a different stance than Howe and

Popkins' opinions. "This is a predominantly liberal environment, but that does not mean the absence of pro-Trump voices," said senior Alejandro Arango, a co-head of Democratic Club. He elaborated on the divide between left and right, saying that while students had a number of reasons to stand behind Trump, many of the liberal students on campus had a difficult time "separating pro-Trump from pro-xenophobia, pro-racism, and pro-misogyny." Arango appreciated the school's ability to follow their intrinsic values of respectful dialogue and, in his opinion, encourage civil political discourse.

Lower Kate Denny echoed Arango's statements. In her opinion, the Exeter campus fosters an environment of respect and tolerance for a wide range of political views. Denny also commented on the effects of Trump's presidency on political discourse. "I think recently with the most recent election and inauguration, there has been a noticeable increase in the political discussion around campus, and also an overwhelming amount of support for all the people it could affect," Denny said. She cited social media platforms as well as Academy administration as ways to carry out conversations, and keep those discussions under control.

Upper Menat Bahnasy, another co-head of Democratic Club, pointed out that it is difficult for students who do not believe in an accepted opinion or belief to speak freely on campus. "Unfortunately, many unpopular opinions are very heavily attacked on campus," Bahnasy said. She cited the example of Exonians agreeing with defunding Planned Parenthood being criticized by many of the female students on campus who are passionate about women's rights. "I do believe there are more conservative or Republican views on campus that are not apparent due to apprehensions of unpopular opinions," she added. She also addressed the fact that some teachers and students feel that political discourse, especially those regarding sensitive topics, are "taboo" and uncomfortable. "Most political discussions come with layers that many feel are too complex to discuss in class or other locations," Bahnasy said.

With the upcoming four years of a Trump presidency, there are sure to be many political debates to come. Exeter offers a variety of platforms for those who want to speak their minds, such as Republican Club, Democratic Club and the variety of affinity groups on campus. Exonians should be conscientious of their words' consequences, but they should never be afraid to share an opinion, question or idea regarding politics if they can do so in a respectful way.

Jordan Gives Political Assembly

Continued from **JORDAN, A1**

and students would be upwards of 80% liberal. "We have such an imbalance. It's problematic how we stick with like-minded people," he said.

In recent years, students at the Academy have taken more STEM courses and fewer humanities courses. Jordan estimates that the number of history courses students take exceeding their average has dropped to only half a course. "It's a shame because I think those are the courses people need to take more of to understand the government and politics," he said.

However, not all members of the community were impressed by the content of Friday's assembly. Prep Leah Cohen believed Jordan's efforts to tell a personal story were not particularly effective. "I thought it was really long and he tried to tell a personal story but it did not really strike a chord with me," she said. Upper Menat Bahnasy, although praising Jordan's honesty, criticized his speech for putting emphasis on the wrong topic. She believed that in the face of a presidency that could potentially violate basic human rights, tertiary education is not necessarily the most pressing issue, stating, "It's hard to say that going to college is more important than children having clean water to drink."

However, most students reacted positively to Jordan's speech. Many appreciated the opportunity to glimpse into the perspective of families from different socioeconomic backgrounds and to learn about how their difficulties influence their voting decisions. As senior and co-head of Democratic Club Ahmad Rahman said, "For the most part, Exonians come from a privileged background, so it's interesting for most students to see a part of life that we have not thought about."

Senior Zoe Marshall agreed with Rahman's sentiment, as she believed stories at Exeter are often one sided. "People are sick of hearing one side of the story. I like to hear about stories that do not get covered much," she said. "A lot of people here are very wealthy so it's important for us to appreciate the perspective of lower middle class income families."

Kim thought that Jordan's speech was comprehensive and brought things into perspective. "Mr. Jordan did a great job of explaining some of the historical and economic context of voter preference in this election," he said. "It also encouraged us all to think more deeply about the struggles and challenges faced by millions of Americans."

Jordan's speech came as a pleasant surprise to many students attending the assembly. Prep Cody Shimer had thought the talk was

going to focus mainly on the inauguration itself, but he expressed gratitude as he believed the speech was much needed. "[His speech] had a very unifying effect and helped decrease the existing tension on campus," he said.

Prep Dawson Byrd thought Jordan's assembly was a fair assessment of the current political climate. "It's clear there exists a major social disconnect. This shouldn't come as a shock to anyone," he said. Byrd agreed with Jordan's sentiment, saying, "opening yourself to someone, starting a genuine conversation, and resisting the urge to demonize or label are all key in achieving unity."

Senior Charis Edwards, co-head of Democratic Club, praised Jordan's bravery in navigating through a myriad of complex topics, including not only the recent election but also the current political situation and race relations in America. "I appreciate his honesty in doing that and doing it from a very historical as well as personal perspective," she said.

Many were particularly appreciative of the end portion of the speech, during which Jordan called for students to hold open discussions and create dialogue on a divided campus. "The part that stood out to me was when he said that you should really not judge people based on who they vote for," lower Michaela Phan said, referring to Mr. Jordan's remark that no one is irredeemable.

Likewise, Bahnasy stated that due to the assembly, a barrier had been broken and students were more willing to voice their opinions on "an awkward topic." Edwards commended this as a step in the right direction for the administration, which had previously been criticized for being "isolationist, like they only care about the emotional responses of a certain portion of the population."

Senior and co-head of Republican Club Matthew Robbins saw value in Jordan's overarching theme, albeit he disagreed with him on certain topics. "Although I don't necessarily agree with his points on Trump, I think it's good to have open discussion like Mr. Jordan pointed out," he said. Robbins also appreciated the message as a conservative on a majority liberal campus. "The rhetoric the left use can be almost violent at times and can scare conservative opinions."

Alumni Michael McCarthy '61, who came to campus just to attend Mr. Jordan's assembly after learning about it on the school's website, agreed, saying in today's connected world it is important to be able to communicate with each other respectfully. "The Harkness method that we have here absolutely contributes towards developing that skill."



Miles Mikovsky/The Exonian

National Slam Poetry Winner Clint Smith speaks in front of student body.

Clint Smith Delivers Assembly

Continued from **SMITH, A1**

themes of racial and social injustices and the effects of former oppression on recent racial tensions. He paired his own personal experience with historical context to create metaphors for complicated racial issues.

Lower Alayna D'Amico appreciated Smith's poetry, and found it an engaging platform for relating the African American experience to a broader audience. "The subjects in his speech were very honest and relatable, and I'm glad he chose to use an artistic media to express them, because his poetry could reach all audience members," said D'Amico. "Using that media, especially at a school with such diverse opinions, to introduce his topic was efficient because more people listened. His speech has inspired me to be more observant [and] more aware of others' experiences."

English instructor Christina Breen also found Smith's poetry to be an effective way to share the African American experience, explaining why she chose to teach Smith's book, *Counting Descent*, to her upper class. "The poems [are] topical, relevant, and powerful because they so [clearly] speak the truth of growing up as an African American boy in this current society," she said.

Smith also discussed how important political and social movements, like the Civil Rights Movement, are likened to "caricatures" of the actual event. These movements are often overlooked or disregarded for their vast amounts of reform. "I hope that they [the students] realize how important it is to confront history and challenge history and challenge our traditional notions of what the history of the United States and the world is," Smith said.

Smith embraced the consonance of poetry and political reflection, saying "sometimes we operate under this notion that one's art and one's politics should be separate, and that if somebody's artistic form is imbued with some larger political message, it compromises the integrity of the work."

Smith went on, warning against writing vicariously. He said that he believes that words lose their innate meaning when they are written for someone other than the writer. "I think a lot about history in my writing and what it

means to write from a place of truth or a place of honesty and to not write simply to align with the traditional notion of what you think it means to be a writer," he said. "But instead, to create a new definition for yourself about what that means in what sort of work you want to put out into the world?"

He explained that he tries to use his platform to push others to be more thoughtful and empathetic. "I don't think empathy is at all mutually exclusive from activism, and in order to effectively confront what is a very new and uncertain political moment, you're going to need a lot of both," he said.

Upper Chi-Chi Ikpeazu agreed with Smith, noting the ubiquitous reception of his words. "I appreciated how Mr. Smith was able to address problems that he saw through spoken word and poetry," she said. "His message reached audience members in such an amazing magnitude, especially those who are not of color."

Upper CJ Penn, one of Breen's students, felt that the reception of Smith's performance was overwhelmingly positive, noting that Smith received snaps and a standing ovation from the audience. "Smith's delivery in his pieces, which had such meaning to them, was passionate and full of energy. This was clearly shown by the reaction of the audience," Penn said.

Breen concurred with Penn about the audience's enjoyment of Smith's performance. "It was exciting for me to see the students respond with the same excitement to Clint's poems that I felt in first hearing them," she said. "The students connected with him immediately and seemed to enjoy the audience response elements of spoken word poetry."

Smith expressed his gratitude for the inclusiveness of the spoken word community and how it has encouraged him to expand his views on society.

"The spoken word community is a place that has shaped my writing but also has shaped me personally and has shaped many of my politics," he explained. "It pushed me to be more intersectional in my politics and in my thinking and to consider the ways in which we sort of navigate the world with many of the identities that shape how we operate in society."

Exonians Participate in Marches

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voice heard."

The solidarity among the protesters at the march provided for an environment of understanding among a crowd of 125,000. Lower Liz Williams said, "I felt empowered, and so proud to be a part of such an important message." Faliero agreed, saying, "I have never been surrounded by so many positive, kind, well-minded people before and it was amazing." Williams added, "Standing up for not only women's equality, but the equality of all people, is something I truly think is worth fighting for."

The Boston Women's March started off slow due to an overwhelming number of participants. The organizers originally planned for only 20,000 protesters, but over 125,000 protesters attended. Limited exits caused a two hour delay in commencing the march out of the Boston Common. "I'm so proud to say that I went," lower Ashleigh Lackey remarked. "[Even] though I had to wait over two hours to even start marching, it was well worth it to be there in a community supporting each other for women's rights."

Although many Exonians were passionate about the march, some decided not to participate due to safety concerns. Senior Ahmad Rahman, co-head of Democratic Club, stated that Dem Club was planning on sending a group, but some voiced concerns about the safety and liability of the march. "There are a lot of safety precautions when it comes to marches," upper Menat Bahnasy explained. "They're hard to regulate safety-wise, and being an Exeter-supervised trip, [the school] has a lot of liability. We don't want

anyone to get hurt if there's a chance [of] that?"

Fortunately, the Women's Marches remained non-violent nationwide, unlike the anti-Trump riots that plagued Washington D.C. during and after the inauguration. Most protesters sported clever and colorful signs calling attention to a plethora of injustices in the country, urging their fellow Americans to take action. "The camaraderie of the march... really reaffirms the hope that had been dimming ever since the election results were announced," Gilchrist said.

Following the march, senior Charis Edwards, co-head of the Democratic Club, stressed the importance of discussing the events within our community. "We will be debriefing with the club about the value of rallies and demonstrations as methods of activism," Edwards said. "I think it's valuable for Exonians to understand the reasons behind what they do and not just follow along with a group because it's easy."

For English Instructor Mercedes Carbonell, who is currently on sabbatical, the marches were an inspiration for the future. The protest sparked curiosity, prompting Carbonell to ask questions regarding feminism. "The work I want to commit to further is in this critical realm. How can feminism become by nature intersectional? And inclusive? And not merely an elite space?" Carbonell was deeply moved by the protest, especially by the age range of women and men who attended. Some of the signs and chants stood out. Carbonell said, "For the older women carrying signs that said, 'I cannot believe I still have to protest this shit, I hope they saw the younger generations rising in voice and strength.'"



The Exonian

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This student's dorm room violates fire code.

Christine Baker/The Exonian

Fire Code Violations Cover Campus

By JACQUELINE CHO,
MAI HOANG and EUGENE HU
Staff Writers

Recent dorm room inspections by Campus Safety have revealed that fire safety violations are widespread among Exonians. Upon arriving at Exeter, students decorate and furnish their dorm rooms with various items which provide comfort, convenience and coziness. However, while doing so, Exonians often forget to consider the possibility of these items starting a fire in their dorm. Despite warnings from dorm heads, many boarders do not take the issue of fire safety violation seriously.

Exeter's fire safety code requires that all furniture not provided by the Academy be fire rated and assigned with an appropriate fire tag. All furniture must be flame resistant, and therefore, items such as bean bags are prohibited. Devices that produce heat are also in violation of Exeter's fire code. For example, refrigerators are strictly prohibited; however, electronic coolers are an effective alternative approved by Campus Safety. Fire code restrictions additionally forbid students from lighting candles or incense in their rooms and require that all tapestries and flags are attached by every corner to the wall. In addition, nothing can be hung from sprinkler heads or pipes. Students must also make sure that their room is orderly so that in the event of a fire they are able to leave quickly and safely.

Campus Safety conducts fire safety inspections two to three times every year. The results of these checks are alarming. McConnell Hall, for example, had 25 out of 34 rooms identified as unsafe during an inspection in November. Langdell Hall had 23 violations reported during an inspection in December. According to Tegan Vassillion, the Environmental Health and Safety Manager of Campus Safety, the top five violations found in dormitories this year include decorative lights (147 incidents), furniture not adhering to NH State Fire Code (144), hot pots (82), refrigerators (74) and items hanging from sprinkler heads or pipes (46).

Most Exonians, however, are not surprised by this prevalence of fire code violations. Senior Julia Friberg said that, "It hasn't been really enforced in previous years, so I think we have a culture of just keeping things up and thinking the problem would go away." In fact, since the inspection in November, McConnell Hall has not yet been inspected by Campus Safety again, although it is written in the E-Book on page 40 that, "three days will be given to comply before a room is reinspected." Many boarders of McConnell Hall reported that they still see some of the fire hazard items in their dormmates' rooms, although they have been asked by the dorm head to get rid of them. Although the E-Book specifies

FIRE CODE, A2

Faculty Vote "Yes" On Gender-Inclusive Dorm

By ISABELLA AHMAD
and PAUL JAMES
Staff Writers

For the first time in the 21 years since the first transgender student was housed on campus, Phillips Exeter is working with Phillips Academy Andover to create a new housing policy that accepts students of all genders and sexual orientations. Though the new initiative is a collaboration, both schools are pursuing their own visions for the future of more inclusive housing. In the past 21 years, PEA has addressed the problems that transgender students face on a case-by-case basis without implementing any concrete change to the policy. Recently, however, a group of faculty and administrators have come together to propose a more general solution for students whose living situations don't meet their needs: an all-gender dorm. Director of Student Activities Joanne Lembo said, "Our goal is to make sure students feel safe where they live," and that an all-gender dorm would be truer to the school's non-discrimination policy.

Depending on the number of students who are in need of a different housing situation, an existing dorm will be chosen to implement the proposal which will be ascertained by a survey sent out to the student body last week. The survey is intended to gather data on the number of students who would opt to live in this alternative dorm, how many students would support it but not choose to live in it and how many students openly oppose the proposal. The prospective students would be asked to fill out an application for living in the dorm and would be notified of any rule alterations—specifically the visitations policy, which could be unique to the dorm. Residents of the all-gender dorm would be offered programming to discuss issues of importance on campus with students and dorm advisors.

English Instructor Alex Myers, who served as one of the chief organizers of the project, explained that some have expressed concern that an all-gender dorm could increase the risk of sexual misconduct by letting heterosexual boys and girls live next door to each other, rather than in separate dorms. Although Exeter is legally liable when sexual misconduct or assault occurs, the school's lawyers have determined that the risk does not increase by any significant degree because if two straight students of opposite genders intend to engage in sexual activity, residing in different dorms is not going to stop them. "The building separation is superficial," said Myers.

Moving forward, many of the initiative's guiding projects, like the all-gender dorm, if proven successful, could extend to other aspects of campus. For example, committee members hope to bring about an increased emphasis on using dorms as a space to cultivate important discussions. According to Myers, the mentality of dorm life now, in which each student is given a room and expected to build relationships with other students on their own, does not inspire upperclassmen to

act as role-models for their younger dorm mates. There is no extra programming that ensures that upperclassmen will set the right standards for new members of the dorm, where many formative discussions often take place. "If you imagine a group of ninth and tenth grade boys who are listening to a group of eleventh and twelfth grade boys talk about a girl that they think is going to be an 'easy score,' what are the younger kids being taught about [the treatment of] women [on] campus?" Myers asked.

Others have expressed concern about parental approval of this project. Throughout the Academy's history, parents have often contacted the Dean of Students' Office with various special requests. "Don't let my kid off campus, don't let them go into Boston, no visitations, I want them in their room at 7 p.m.," said Myers, listing off hypothetical requests that have been made. While some parents may feel uncomfortable with their child living in an all-gender dorm, others are in full support.

Director of Admissions William Leahy does not predict that negative responses to the all-gender housing will affect the numbers of future applicants in a negative way. In fact, he believes a more inclusive housing policy and support system may bolster future applicants.

Students, too, have been in support of the idea; lower Adrian Venzon, a cohead of GSA, said, "We don't want this to be seen as just the 'trans dorm.' We want to stress that this is open to everyone, but I think the proposal is a good idea." In addressing that particular concern—that the dorm would isolate transgender students, Health Instructor Michelle Soucy explained that acceptance for residents of the dorm would be very deliberate. Administrators will work to ensure that the dorm has representation across all genders and sexual orientations (cisgender, transgender, homosexual, bisexual, etc).

Following the recent release of a survey on the all-gender dorm, many students responded to the proposal positively. In fact, the survey showed "overwhelmingly supportive results" according to Lembo. "I think it should be an option available to students who need it," lower Tara Weil said, "And the application process will prevent people with ulterior motives from living in an all-gender dorm." The faculty have since voted in favor of an all-gender dorm and will move forward with the proposal.

The goal of an all-gender dorm is to strengthen Exeter's current culture, according to the project organizers. The new dorm's conversations and programming, beginning with an emphasis on issues of gender, would educate students about creating an environment that doesn't lead to unsafe situations. A new residential life policy, if extended to other dorms (all-gender or not), would extend the spirit of "non sibi" more universally across campus, further address sexual assault issues and create a fully inclusive Exeter environment.

EASA Board Members Lead Dorm Discussions

By DON ASSAMONGKOL
and SARAH RYU
Staff Writers

The student-run club, Exonians Against Sexual Assault (EASA), is currently leading a series of discussions with members of opposite-gender dorms about the sexual climate on campus and the different experiences Exonians have had with the school's "hookup culture." The board members received training from interim Co-Director of Student Well-being Jane Stapleton and worked closely with the Dean's office and the administration over the past months in preparation for facilitating these conversations.

The discussions, which are led by two or three EASA board members, cover topics such as the societal pressures students face surrounding masculinity, as well as Exeter-specific issues like Evening Prayer (EP). Board members usually open the discussion with a "fishbowl"—a time during which students write questions anonymously on a slip of paper and answer them together—in order to zero in on the specific group's interests. Dorms around campus that have already held these discussions with different grades include Ewald, Wheelwright, Peabody, Lamont, McConnell, Main Street, Merrill, Dow House, Kirtland House, Cilley, Bancroft, Abbot, Amen, Gould House, Moulton House, Dunbar, Wentworth, Browning House, Knight House and Langdell.

Senior Myles Haigney, a board member of EASA, expressed his satisfaction with some of the discussions

he has already witnessed. "There have been some discussions that have been very productive and I feel like we've had a lot of honest contributions from all sorts of people, helping us get a better perspective of the hookup culture at Exeter," he said.

From the conversations Haigney had participated in, it has become clear to him that students' expectations of social interactions such as illegal visitations and EP differ significantly. "Just by gettings guys and girls into the same room and talking about the lack of communication they sometimes have, we're already starting to see people take a second to rethink their preconceived notions," Haigney said.

Senior and fellow EASA board member Nada Zohayr emphasized the importance of opening this kind of space for students to comfortably talk, and she noted that a lack of communication can cause misunderstandings. "The purpose of these discussions is to create a platform for students to safely and comfortably talk about gender, sexuality and sex," she said. "Once Exonians establish a culture that accepts and welcomes discussions on these topics, I believe that our sexual climate will become safer and healthier for the students."

Though faculty members do not attend the meetings, proctors are present to take general notes about the conversation, omitting specific names. According to senior Gracie Williams, another board member of EASA, the discussion structure allows for natural transparency. "People were very will-

ing to put their true feelings out on the line and I know that these genuine responses will help plan our next course of action," she said.

Upperclassmen and lowerclassmen were divided for these discussions to keep the groups small. In addition to making conversations more efficient, the smaller group size allowed EASA board members to consider the varying experiences of students based on their grade level.

Senior Emily Robb, Interim President and Vice President of EASA, understood that there were differences in the viewpoints of the upperclassmen and lowerclassmen, and she organized the discussions to make them as productive and comfortable as possible. "We thought preps might have different experiences here than the seniors, and we wanted to make sure that all parties involved felt comfortable speaking up with their fellow dorm mates in their same class," Robb said.

Williams agreed, adding that many upperclassmen have had different experiences due to a shift in campus culture since their prep or lower years. "Since upperclassmen have been here for three or four years, they've seen a change in the campus culture and can compare what they see now to what they saw prep year or lower year," she explained. She continued, saying, "The lowerclassmen [discussions] will be more telling of what the actual campus culture is right now because that's what they're seeing; they're not comparing it to anything they've seen before."

Current upperclassmen felt that the

campus has become more understanding and open since their prep years. During his sister's time here in 2012, according to Haigney, it was common practice for male students to yell numerical rankings based on attractiveness at girls walking by Grill. "The question wasn't how disgusting that was, but [girls] were just hoping they would get a good number," Haigney said. "That was 2012 and it's 2017 now, so it's fair to say that we've come a long way."

Stapleton praised the quality of the discussions and the work EASA board members have done in preparing for them. "EASA has worked hard as a group to coordinate the dorm discussions and this has involved considerable planning, reflection and adjusting as the conversations have taken place," she said. "I think that EASA's planning, training, skill building, reflection and refinement of the dorm conversations have made this a successful project so far."

Williams attributed the efficacy of their discussions so far to the training the board members received from Stapleton. "[Dean Stapleton] has really trained us on how to build on people's questions and use people's discomfort to promote better conversations," she said. "Her helping hand has been really awesome towards getting us to have very productive conversations."

Upper Mila DeGuere, another board member of EASA, noted the improvements in the discussions she has seen so far. "The conversations have

EASA, A6

MLK Day West African Drumming: Cultural Appropriation or Not?

Bella Alvarez '19
Guest Contributor

For five consecutive years, dance instructor Allison Duke has directed the Martin Luther King Jr. Day student performance, which typically happens the night before the keynote speaker and the MLK workshops occur. These shows use a variety of the performance arts to communicate the powerful messages of inclusion, diversity, equity, coexistence and tolerance—values for which Martin Luther King Jr. advocated. Among many other forms of performance arts, such as song and spoken word, there are typically a few dance pieces performed by the dance program on campus. In past years, there have been dances that breach the topics of sexism, racism and inequality, as well as many other important issues. Typically, there is also a West African piece, performed in conjunction with the student group of West African drummers.

However, this year, the MLK Committee moved to remove the West African dance from the student show. According to the committee, the West African piece did not fit the theme of racial injustice, and therefore would be

eliminated from the show. After cutting out the entire dance program from the student performance, the MLK Committee did not receive enough applications, and therefore could not run the show.

Previously, various acts in the student performance have not always pertained to the themes of their MLK Day counterparts. Last year, a group of students danced in a piece that emphasized the stereotypes and challenges women face in a beauty-centric world. At this year's keynote assembly, the Concert Choir sang about the destruction of the Earth's environment by war and natural causes, which is something completely unrelated to the theme of racial injustice. If anything, the celebration of culture, life and community unique to a certain group of countries which are currently persecuted by the forces of war and corruption that West African dance symbolizes would've had a clearer link to the topic of this year's MLK Day.

Another underlying theme of this decision seemed to be the fact that dancers in the program are predominately white, and have no connection to the culture of West Africa nor its dance. According to senior Charis

Edwards, a student on the MLK Committee, the West African dance was delinked because it made no sense to showcase "only one part of that culture," which "misrepresents the experiences of the people of all races and cultural backgrounds we have on campus." Head of the Dance Program Allison Duke also expressed concern that students around campus might see these performances and label them as "cultural appropriation."

There is a campus-wide misconception that the West African dance is not respected and contextualized by the dancers who perform it. The dance program puts time and effort into hiring experts on each type of dance that it learns. Typically, the instructor will speak of what each dance move means and what the dance itself signifies to its specific culture. Earlier this year, Master Dancer Youssouf and Master Drummer Namory Keita (both from Guinea) came to Exeter and shared a part of their culture with the program. They also offered a master class for the entire community, where both artists explained to participants and observers their backgrounds and why it's important to them to share their culture and artistry in the United States.

When students of a different background come together and educate themselves on the art form of another culture, it is not simply borrowing or stealing. It is an appreciation for, and a desire to express an important part of that culture; to educate others and to celebrate the vast diversity of cultures that inhabit our planet. When teaching the traditional Guinean dance to a group of Exonians, Master Dancer Youssouf expressed his desire to make his culture known to the world. A major part of this, he said, was teaching it to other people, particularly those around the United States, so that the dance was both preserved and revered.

When the Exeter dance program dedicates its time and funding into bringing a teacher of West African dance, the students are not disrespectful or disengaged. Instead, they push to learn more about the meaning behind each move. If we truly want to bring MLK's message to our community, we should focus on the celebration of diversity and the value in educating ourselves about cultures outside of our own. Using the West African dance as an example of this is a great way of teaching other Exonians about the joys of experiencing a completely different culture's rituals.

Merkel's Open Door



WORLD
COMPASS

Mark Blekherman
Senior Columnist

stage and corresponds with Germany's legacy on human rights.

Surprisingly, there are a few benefits from taking in more refugees. The German demographic has reached the point where adults cannot reproduce quickly enough to create a working class population that supports the elderly. The unemployment rate in Germany is the lowest in Europe for a reason: there are not enough millennials to take industrial jobs. According to a report by University of California at Berkeley, Germany currently has about 612,000 job vacancies with 43,000 open positions in IT alone. More than 45 percent of German employers struggle to recruit qualified employees and believe that an influx of educated individuals

could bolster the economy and support the aging German population who is already undergoing decay.

Once a strong advocate for refugees, German Chancellor Angela Merkel faces a hard decision: toughen her stance on the crisis or facilitate an influx of migrants. The former grants her the support of the frustrated, increasingly rightist German public; the latter gives her moral prestige on the international stage and corresponds with Germany's legacy on human rights.

However, Germany does not have a mechanism to control the migrants or apportion them to other European states. In 2015, Merkel suspended the Schengen area—European states that have abolished passport control at mutual borders. This solution is at best temporary and forces the issue onto other countries in Eastern Europe. Her response has also spurred the rise of extremist parties across Germany, especially in the southeastern provinces. In fact, the alt-right Alternative for Germany has surpassed the vote threshold necessary for seats in the Bundestag, and leftist parties like Die Linke (The Left) and The Greens have disappeared amidst popular anxiety. To make matters worse, the Christian Social Union—a long-time partner of Merkel's Christian Democratic Party—has alienated itself from the Chancellor and now sides with more

nationalist policies.

Hungarian Prime Minister Victor Orbán famously accused Merkel of her "moral imperialism," claiming that her promotion of human rights does not appeal to most of Germany's neighbors. The Visegrad group, the coalition of European states advocating for strengthened borders, hopes to create a "Fortress Europe." The construction of fences has and will never impede the constant flow of migrants. When Germany forged an EU-Turkey Pact in 2016, desperate Syrian refugees fled from the conflict by using unsafe methods,



bypassing the land border between Turkey and Bulgaria. Many boarded flimsy boats and swam across the Aegean, while others joined Libyans in the sea journey to Sicily, Italy.

What do Central and Eastern European countries hate about these refugees? Most of these states, in contrast with Denmark and Sweden, lack the infrastructure to support thousands of refugees. The rural areas

of Hungary and Austria cannot support many migrants, even when they are only transitioning to Western Europe. Nor can Merkel—despite her graceful and altruistic personality—continue disregarding the rise of dissatisfied voices.

To resolve the issue while still upholding its humanitarian Verantwortung, Germany must delegate more responsibility at the European level. I recommend that Jean-Claude Juncker (leader of the European Commission) spearhead the establishment of a European Refugee Union. This union would receive funding from the European Union and consist of representatives from each state. Instead of setting tough quotas, the union would meet to appropriate funding to states with many refugees and collectively decide the allocation of the migrants across Europe. The bureaucratic organization would allow for the efficient registration and processing of refugees, even in centers outside of the EU.

To ensure that the Refugee Union gains legitimacy and respect amongst the migrants, Europe must change the Dublin Agreement and make admission to a European state contingent on registration with the Union. Merkel once said that "we feel bound to the Christian image of humanity." It's about time that the "we" be expanded to include all of Europe.

Civility At Exeter: How to Deal with Disagreement

Araish Paul '19
Guest Contributor

Many people on campus complain about widespread political incorrectness in our society, specifically its impediment on honest, straightforward communication. For example, Donald Trump promised to end "radical Islamic terrorism" in his Inauguration speech. For years, Democrats like Hillary Clinton have been adamant on refraining from using the term "radical Islam" to describe Muslim terrorists, because the terrorists' beliefs do not represent the modern Islamic religion. Democrats fear that further associating the terrorist's actions with Islam will result in rampant Islamophobia and will inadvertently legitimize the terrorists' actions and further their goals. Republicans were fixated on this phrase, with complaints that the Democrats fail to identify the terrorists' ideologies because of petty political correctness. Both sides have substantial arguments, and chances are that you have an opinion on this singular issue.

So how do we resolve these conflicts? And how can we do it in a peaceful and respectful manner? Or should we even be peaceful and respectful in addressing this? This example shows that words are

important, and it raises key questions about civility and disagreement.

Often people have such a strong opinion about something that they will dismiss all other viewpoints. We tend to have the impression that there is always a clear right and wrong answer. The problem is, however, that sometimes dissenting arguments are the most effective and the only way to get the best resolution. The most relevant example of this is our democratic process. The United States does not have a homogenous population. There is a myriad of small groups of people around the country who have different views on national and global issues. Their opinions don't come from thin air. A person's opinions are shaped by their beliefs, which come from their experiences and their surrounding environment. The only way we can represent the population equally is by considering each argument. Then, it is through public debate and objective analysis that we arrive at a resolution that the majority can agree on. This ensures that everyone has a voice. So silencing your opposition is not the answer, and neither is remaining silent yourself.

Another example of beneficial disagreement is the scientific process. The scientific community encourages questioning preconceived concepts and assumptions. Scientists recognize that careful

experimentation in controlled environments does not remove the possibility of bias and error. Even in our science labs at Exeter we always reflect on possible sources of error. Some of the most transformative discoveries made in the scientific field have been in direct contradiction to previous widely accepted ideas.

So now you may say, "sure, I'm all for disagreement, but I don't care about

We tend to have the impression that there is always a clear right and wrong answer.

politeness and pleasantries. If you're offended, too bad!" You are free to behave however you wish, but you must accept the consequences. Understanding the problem with incivility requires understanding the psychological dynamics within a community. By offending others, you essentially devalue your argument. If you offend someone, you incite an innate emotional response in him or her. Now he or she does not try to understand your point, but rather responds with reciprocal offensive language. This results in a cycle of useless discourse that stymies progress in any direction.

The other negative aspect of uncivil dialogue is that it ostracizes you from your

community. Every community relies on trust within its members. This human response is embedded in our biology and goes back to prehistoric times. If the people in your own tribe are hostile towards you, you can't trust them to have your back in times of danger. If you make a comment on campus attacking someone's identity, you create a small divide between you and this person. When we have an entire culture of such comments on campus, the small divide becomes much larger and our trust erodes.

So the next time you find yourself in a disagreement, remember to think objectively and inhibit your raw emotions. Have an open mind and give credence to the other person's view. When great scientists disagreed with each other in the past, they didn't go on to offend their opponent's personal character or point out their intellectual inferiority. This is because they understood that all of them had a basis for their claims.

In the end being civil is not about using politically correct terms. It is about living by the principles of kindness and respect, such that you always try and understand the other person's viewpoint. In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus advises his daughter that "you never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

The Exonian

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The Looming Danger of Debt

Paul James '19

Columnist

The United States National Debt now numbers close to 20 trillion dollars, the largest in the world for a single country. In fact, the U.S. debt is fairly similar to that of the entire European Union, made up of 27 countries. This number comes from the money owed to the individuals: companies and countries who have bought U.S. Treasury bonds, bills and notes. Treasury bonds have long been the most secure form of investment around the world. The global economy is built on the view that such bonds are absolutely fail-safe. If it became apparent that the Treasury would be unable to return on bond investments, the world economy would find itself on shaky ground, faced with the possibility of a global economic recession. Treasury bonds also serve a valuable purpose in balancing investment portfolios and decreasing risk, especially in those of retirees. The U.S. dollar and Treasury notes function like gold; they indefinitely hold their value.

The majority of this debt is held by the public which includes individual people, corporations and state governments. For people, this owed money comes in the form of Social Security or personal investments. The more worrisome part of the national debt is foreign investment, the largest holders of which are China and Japan, each weighing in at around 7 percent of the total debt. Many foreign exporters buy up Treasury bonds to keep their currency low. This makes the prospect of importing goods from these countries

very attractive and cost effective to the United States, propping up foreign economies, especially China and Japan. If these foreign governments balk at the idea of taking a loss on their investments into the supposedly unshakable Treasury bond, they will be repaid in a weaker dollar and endanger their economies as well as that of the United States. Interest rates will spike and economic growth will grind to a crawl.

The issue is constantly avoided by congress and politicians on both sides of the aisle. To limit the amount of money the government can borrow, there is a debt ceiling that is supposed to be enforced to prevent exactly this kind of situation. Nonetheless, that ceiling has been raised almost every year since 1981, when it topped out at a trillion dollars, except under the Clinton administration. Funding and debt disputes, if severe enough, can lead to government shutdowns such as the one in October of 2013, estimated to have cost the economy billions of dollars and sacrificed some fourth-quarter growth.

From a different perspective, a Silicon Valley startup called Unanimous AI created a tool that allows thousands of people to respond simultaneously to a question on any subjects, including predictions on future events. This "hive mind" has proven to be wildly accurate, having correctly predicted the eight teams to make the baseball playoffs, as well as the two finalists and the champions (the Cubs). These predictions were published four months in advance. When asked to name the greatest threat facing the world, the hive mind responded with global financial collapse. Such a collapse would likely be caused

by the incredible debt of individual countries, most notably of the U.S.

The only way to decrease our national debt is to ensure that the country makes more money than it spends, through increasing taxes. Raising taxes by just 1 percent for income tax and corporate tax, as well as closing tax loopholes, would add hundreds of billions of dollars to federal revenue, enough to pay for our \$800 billion defense budget. The United States also has one of the worst infrastructures, especially regarding transit systems, among developed countries. Increasing the tax on fuel from a rate that was established years ago, when fuel was half as much as it is currently, would add billions to the Highway Trust Fund, increasing the infrastructure budget.

The government's side of the deal is to reduce spending. The United States spends more money on the military than the next eight countries' military budgets combined, which is, needless to say, a ridiculous amount. Most of this money goes to developing weapons made for outdated forms of combat, focused on conventional warfare in spite of the fact that the battlefield has drastically changed. Cutting the defense budget and allocating the remaining funds more efficiently would not only decrease the debt but force the military to focus on the wars at hand and their specific needs. Naturally, any politician who runs on a platform of increased taxes and lower defense funding won't stand a chance, pointing to a deeply rooted problem in how the U.S. elects its representatives. Unless this culture is changed and voters begin to realize the dangers of the current path, there will be no going back.

Don't Censor our Internet!

Andrea So '20

Columnist

On Jan. 22, the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information Technology published an announcement on its website. It stated that it was launching a new campaign to "clean up the internet." In most areas of China, the government censors parts of the public's internet access. Websites like Google, Facebook and Youtube cannot be accessed within the country, which is why a considerable number of Chinese citizens utilize virtual private networks (VPNs) to bypass what people call China's "great firewall." Internet censorship regulations also criminalize expressing and organizing opposition against the government and block viewership of "sensitive" words, like names of the government's political enemies. In the announcement, the authorities said that they would start a 14-month long campaign to target the public's use of VPNs and other internet practices considered illegal in China, lasting until March 31 of 2018. While the government's reason for doing so is to "maintain a healthy online environment," skeptics are unsure of the government's true intentions behind the "cleanup."

Meanwhile, censorship of information is also becoming a trend with President Donald Trump. According to employees of the agency, his administration recently instructed the Environmental Protection Agency to remove its climate change page from

its website. The page included links to the agency's data on emissions from individual industrial facilities and information on the causes and effects of climate change. According to Reuters, employees at several federal agencies were also told that that were no longer allowed to release "public-facing documents" unless they obtained prior approval from the administration itself. Public backlash against these orders has grown, with the U.S. National Park Service's Twitter account openly defying the rules and tweeting out facts about climate change.

The result of mass censorship is Orwellian, where a free and open society is nonexistent.

With the threat of authoritarianism becoming more prominent, governments are increasingly blocking public viewership of information. It is not something new. According to BeaconForFreedom.org, in ancient Roman communities, the ideal of good governance included "shaping the character of the people." This meant that censorship was inevitable for what they considered the greater good. When censorship of facts and information is present, governments can basically manipulate the thoughts of citizens as they aren't showing them all aspects of the story. Instead, they are displaying to the public a certain aspect of the story to skew their perception and make the

public believe what the government wants them to. It tries to stop people from learning the truth, regardless of how ugly it is.

When governments hunger for more power and control over their people, they can utilize constant suppression of free thoughts and ideas. Not only does this diminish the individuality of people's opinions and thoughts, it also causes blind faith and patriotism to the government.

People claim it to be for the greater good, but what good does it do for the individual if everyone thinks in the exact same way because they're presented with the exact same information? It is morally incorrect for governments to censor the information that their public receives, and history proves that people eventually begin to chafe against censorship as well.

For example, when you look up terms relating to the Tiananmen Square Massacre on the Chinese social media site Weibo, nothing appears. This is because the government blocks discussion of this topic anywhere. However, people still find a way to bypass this through referring to the event with a different name. Although the government always figures out the terms they use, they are always one step behind as the names are ever-changing. This allows them to discuss the event more openly.

The result of mass censorship is Orwellian, where a free and open society is nonexistent. However, in a world of numerous opinions and thoughts, the truth will always prevail.

Embracing Wildlife in Cities

Shaan Bhandarkar '19

Guest Contributor

More and more wild animals, including coyotes and bears, are reportedly inhabiting cities across the globe. Concurrent with this migration is an increase in our fear of the potential mishaps that might occur if these wild animals turn out to be hostile. However, though the presence of wild animals in urban settings may appear to be quite daunting at first, positive relationships can be easily formed and can prove beneficial for both parties.

The inclusion of wild animals in our cities can point to an upward trend in the amount of care and attention that is accessible for those animals. As the wild animals in question become more comfortable in an environment with predominantly humans, they become less resistant to medical procedures. Veterinarians would be able to administer treatment more efficiently and thereby increase the likelihood of the survival of an animal with an especially critical injury. According to Louis Dorfman, an animal behaviorist at the International Exotic Animal Sanctuary, for specific specialists like himself, maintaining a positive relationship with wild animals is essential, especially

when they are in a form of captivity, to ensure the safety of people and disincentivize any attacks by the animal. With regards to any endangered species, the migration of wild animals into cities provides a more accessible means of protection for these species. According to the Endangered Species Coalition, the primary way of saving endangered animals is by protecting their habitats. Migration of wildlife into cities alludes to the destruction of other suitable habitats for wild animals and offers us an opportunity to build new ones and preserve that species in the future.

Conversely, as wild animals enter our cities, we can actually feel safer regarding any potential attacks on us or our own pets if we choose to adapt our infrastructure and urbanization and fine-tune all of it to the comfortability of the wild animals. According to Tristan Donovan, the author of *Feral Cities: Adventures with Animals in the Urban Jungle*, building our environments around wild animals, in addition to benefiting those animals, significantly reduces the chances of attacks or any relevant nuisances as well as bolsters the trust in wildlife-human relations. For example, the architects of the Aqua Tower in Chicago constructed it to resemble the shape of a cliff and thus reduces

the chances of birds crashing right into it. Furthermore, such modifications to our infrastructure have shown to be a defining point between a wild animal acting against us or in synchrony. According to Donovan, feral chickens seem to be quite rampant and irritating in Miami, but feral peafowls, for which designs have been adapted for, seem to act quite benignly. Financially, such infrastructures would also conveniently reduce the exorbitant amounts of money we pool into skyscrapers and other characteristic features of an incessant inclination towards urbanization in our society.

With no doubt, the transition to permitting wild animals in our environments might be a bit rocky and will most definitely bring quite a deal of apprehension to the general public. Despite the fearful hostility that may seem to superficially propagate from bears or wolves, that hostility only shrouds the true benefits that a migration of wildlife into cityscapes can offer to both animals and people. Since there is no ethical or practical technique for removing wild animals from our cities, the most rational route in this situation is to accept the presence of that wildlife and make the appropriate accommodations.

Marching Against Melania?



Courtesy of Google

Shivani Tripathi '20

Guest Contributor

The day after Donald Trump's inauguration, millions of women all across the globe marched in protest. Washington D.C., Boston and Concord are a few of the numerous cities in America in which protests took place. The marches even extended to cities outside of America, such as Prague and Ghana. Throughout the march, signs were held with slogans such as: "My body, my choice" and "Women's rights are human rights." Many were directly related to Trump's sexist rhetoric. References to minorities Trump verbally targeted such as Muslims and Mexicans were also made. The entire day was about women supporting women. However, as the crowd surged on the streets, we didn't realize that we had left someone behind. We didn't realize that we had subjected an individual to the same hate we protested. Ever since her husband began his campaign, Melania Trump has been receiving hate for months on end about her looks, class and accent. From starring in internet memes to being publicly mocked by celebrities, Melania Trump has endured, and will continue to endure, hate from protesters.

Melania Trump was born in Slovenia and first visited the United States in 1996 on a visa for her modeling

career. She gained citizenship in 2005 after marrying Donald Trump. She speaks five languages. Like many other immigrants, English is not her first language, so it's natural that she has an accent.

Throughout her husband's campaign, Melania has been constantly ridiculed for essentially learning a new language, one of the most prominent moments being at the 2016 American Music Awards when supermodel Gigi Hadid impersonated Melania Trump, scrunching up her face and speaking with an exaggerated accent. After receiving backlash, Hadid released a message through social media claiming that it was all part of a script and the impersonation had comedic intentions. The drama soon died down and everyone returned to their normal lives and Hadid to her supermodel career. This gig has been described as "savage" and "hilarious" but it shouldn't be described as anything but racist and discriminatory. Furthermore, the women's march was about women supporting women, but Hadid's actions undermine this notion. Donald Trump has been criticized for insulting immigrants and people of other cultures, yet society found it acceptable to insult Melania in the same manner.

"My body, my right." "Don't judge me based on what I wear." These were two of the numerous slogans featured in the march on Saturday. Being judged solely on one's intellect and actions is a dream many women have had for a long time. People were so desperate to berate Donald that they used Melania Trump as ammunition. They dug up her photoshoots from several years ago and wrote articles and made youtube videos showcasing her "promiscuous ways." Whether it was "Melania Trump like you've never seen her before" or "10 Photos Melania wishes we'd forget," every single article/video berated her. Yes, Melania Trump did pose nude at some points in her career, but there is no point in constantly bringing up the past. When the media mentioned it the first time, it was to inform us. But when they kept on showcasing it, the media only displayed misogyny and sexism against Melania. She was depicted as an unintelligent, classless gold digger. And even on the rare occasions when she came into the spotlight with propositions, she was brutally chastised. For example, when she said she would work to combat cyberbullying, the internet went wild and tore her apart. All of this resulted in making Melania the central target of hate—from slurs like "trophy wife" and "prostitute" to holding signs saying "Rape Melania" at rallies. Had this appalling sexism been directed at anyone else, the backlash would have been enormous. But for some reason "Don't judge me based on what I wear," doesn't apply to our First Lady.

Just because Melania married Donald Trump doesn't warrant all of the hostility to which she has been subjected. She lacks political experience and she's different from our past first ladies, but that doesn't give anyone the right to slut shame her or portray her as a sex object. Melania Trump may not be the first lady many of us wanted, but it is time that we accept and embrace her with all of the values that millions of women marched for. Because if feminism is battling chauvinism, then we must battle chauvinism for all women.

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Sexual Assault Discussed

Continued from EASA, A3

gotten exponentially better as we continue doing them," she said. DeGuere is grateful that the discussions have been as fruitful as they have been, considering that they are held from 10-11 p.m. on Friday nights. "[The discussions] are not the most appealing thing but we've had some truly tremendous conversations that have reminded EASA why we do what we do and give hope for a better and safer Exeter," DeGuere said. "I hope and believe that everyone walks out feeling listened to and also that they learned something new."

From these conversations, EASA hopes to encourage campus-wide awareness of sexual assault and the hookup culture in general. Senior and EASA board member Eric Tang stated that the main purpose behind the discussions is "to have students critically examine the culture surrounding sex on Exeter's campus and to destigmatize discussion of sexual assault."

"Our end goal is to make people think about the culture at Exeter," Williams added. "We really just want to keep people in the mindset that, while it is rare that [sexual assault] occurs here, it still happens."

EASA recently sent out a survey to students asking for feedback. On Wednesday evening, several of the board members gathered to review the survey results and decide which areas needed to be improved the most; many survey respondents requested more fishbowl discussions in even smaller groups, more predetermined questions and greater discussion of stereotypes and misunderstandings between genders. The responses reflected a positive view towards the mixed groups of boys and girls.

Lower Elizabeth Williams, who participated in a discussion with McConnell, her own dorm, and Ewald, a boys' dorm, thought the discussion would have

been more productive if a greater number of students had spoken their minds. "If more people had joined in on the conversation, I think the discussion would have been more efficient and I could have learned more diverse perspectives."

Also noting the perceived awkwardness in talking about some of these sensitive topics, lower Gabriel Laniewski said that the discussions started off slowly. "It wasn't as productive in the beginning because everyone felt uncomfortable talking about the topics," he said. However, the discussion gradually became more open as more students shared their personal experiences. "It really helped keep the mood light which is, of course, important for a touchy topic."

Meanwhile, senior Geyang Qin thought that his dorm's discussion went smoothly, crediting the time slot allocated for Abbot, which was conveniently the night of Exeter's MLK Day. Qin felt that the facilitators moderated the discussion well and kept the mood light-hearted. However, he wished that more information was presented at the meeting. "It was informative, but if they had, even more, statistics, that would have been better so we could understand the gravity of the issue."

Looking ahead, EASA hopes to continue raising awareness of sexual assault on campus by possibly hosting producer of "Audrie and Daisy," a Netflix original documentary about two sexual assault cases. EASA also holds member meetings every Wednesday night and is in the midst of creating new projects designed to positively impact campus culture.

"We're not here to talk about specific cases or *The Boston Globe*, we're here to talk about what can be done to make this community better and safer," Haigney said. "Any way in which we can raise awareness of this issue and treat our fellow community members with common decency is worth doing."

Dormitories Disregard Liabilities

Continued from FIRE CODE, A3

that Campus Safety must notify students as well as dorm heads and the Dean of Students if a student is in violation of the fire code, Langdell dorm faculty Lundy Smith has noticed in his tenure that, "students usually get a warning from their dorm head or advisor, not from Campus Safety." The student is then supposed to get rid of the item that violates the code, and usually, students follow the warning. However, Friberg feels that inspections are "a waste of everyone's time" as it is, and "nearly impossible to enforce" the fire code. As a proctor of McConnell Hall, the E-Book notes that Friberg is expected to act when she becomes aware of any fire hazard. However, she readily admitted that she has never done that because she was unaware of this responsibility.

With almost three quarters of McConnell residents having a fire code violation, many wonder why so many students have failed to comply with the fire code. "Everybody has different reasons for [violating the fire code]," upper Jaynee Anaya pointed out. According to Friberg, as "violations are often things that are hip—Christmas lights, tapestries [and] flowy posters," it is hard for some students to give up "dorm room fashion which is so ingrained in Exeter culture." It is especially hard for students to follow the rules when fire risks do not seem eminent. Some students, including lower Niko Amber, believed that there are so many fire codes that were made when the technology was less advanced. Anaya also

noted that "things that are perceived as necessities have changed," and as a result some Exonians see many of the fire code violation items as essential assets to their dorm room.

In addition to Campus Safety speaking at new student orientations and required assemblies, more active dialogue is needed between students, faculty and Campus Safety, especially for students to understand and be convinced to follow the fire safety codes. Health instructor and McConnell Hall dorm head Michelle Soucy explained, "We can work on finding a better balance of having things we need and want in our room and being safe about it."

In the spirit of this effort, Campus Safety is currently evaluating the ban of decorative lights in the E-Book, which is the rule most violated by Exonians. Vassillion explained that traditional decorative lights generate heat and added that the manner in which the lights are secured is usually not the safest. For example, it is unsafe to have tacks through the cords of the lights to attach them to the wall, or to have the lights pinched between doors. However, with the LED lights and battery operated lights now being manufactured, Vassillion explained that Campus Safety is looking at ways to potentially modify this for next year.

Anaya emphasized that Exonians should take into full consideration why these fire codes exist. She urged Exonians to be mindful of their decisions on fire safety, whether they comply with the fire codes or not.

Alumna Cecilia Morgan Recounts Story of Abuse

Continued from MORGAN, A1

conversation.

Morgan herself was in a difficult situation as her own advisor was the perpetrator of the abuse. She attempted to receive support from the health department at the time, saying "I went to an on-campus therapist, in fact, I told Mr. Schubart... 'I think I need to go to the therapist' and he said 'That's a great idea, as long as you don't tell the therapist about what's going on between us.'" Morgan recounted multiple conversations throughout the year in which she told her therapist about a faculty member abusing her. Finally, in her last meeting with the therapist, Morgan claims that she explicitly stated that Schubart was her abuser. "To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Schubart was never reported," she said.

Her therapist, although no longer affiliated with the Academy, continues to practice in the town of Exeter. He did not return a request for comment.

Moreover, Morgan claimed that other faculty on campus understood the situation and stayed silent. "I've since found out that what was going on between me and Mr. Schubart was apparently common knowledge and other adults were aware of it... I wish that adults had spoken out."

Morgan described the extreme frustration she felt at the lack of recourses that were available to her to help her in dealing with the abuse. "I was an isolated, lonely person, and this shouldn't have happened and it did happen and I didn't know where to go... I really needed the support and the support wasn't there."

Morgan pointed to Schubart's accolades and positions at Exeter as signs that he was not reported, or that any report did not negatively affect his career until years later. Schubart went on to become the Head of the History Department, Head of Admissions, Director of the Washington Intern Program, Head of the Exeter Elderhostel Academy, founder of an alumni summer program, a Bates-Russell Distinguished Faculty Professor and a Madison Fellow, and eventually received emeritus status.

Schubart was removed from campus after another one of his victims, Beth Solowey '77, reported her abuse in 2011. However, he received a national teaching award the following year and was only stripped of his emeritus status in 2015 after Morgan came forward as well. Morgan also expressed frustration at the fact that she had not been informed by the school that the reason for Schubart's departure was his history of sexual abuse and that she was not the only victim of the former teacher. She stated that if she had been informed that there was another Schubart victim when the other victim reported her story to the school, "It would have saved me a couple years of dealing with all of this, dealing with therapy, dealing with self-doubt.... It would have started the healing process a lot sooner."

Morgan has continued to seek help from therapists in the decades after she graduated in an attempt to heal from these traumatic experiences. She described the insecurity she suffered as a result of feeling so isolated in her abuse, saying "when you think that you're the only person that this has happened to, then you take the blame on yourself." Morgan claims that had she known about the existence of another victim, she would have realized much earlier "that it's not me. I wasn't to blame. I didn't cause this to happen... This guy is a serial molester, a serial advantage taker of women."

The scars, both emotional and mental, have followed Morgan for a lifetime. As she explained, "Sexual abuse is devastating for a young person. It's devastating for anyone, but especially for a young person who is forming their self-perception, their ideas, their sexuality, their relationships with the outside world."


Morgan also claimed that, in 1992, following the arrest of former Exeter instructor Larry Bateman for child pornography, she had come forward and informed the principal at the time, Kendra Stearns O'Donnell, of her abuse by an Exeter instructor. Morgan alleges that, because she chose not to disclose Schubart's identity as the perpetrator, O'Donnell told her that she could do nothing further.

Finally, in 2015, Morgan decided to report Schubart to the Academy administration. However, after the initial response from the school, she expressed dissatisfaction with the speed of the investigation and its response. "Exeter said that it was going to conduct a full investigation and interview people that came forward that had been affected by this... I personally never heard from Exeter or its team of lawyers and investigators."

She described her subsequent feeling of helplessness. "I felt powerless. I felt really powerless." After working with her attorney Mitchell Garabedian and the school to rescind her former confidentiality agreement, Morgan decided to publicly come forward as a sexual abuse survivor to the Boston Globe in an article published on December 27, 2016.

Although Morgan still struggles to look upon the Academy with warmth, she stressed the importance of the impact that students who have reached out to her to express support and solidarity have had. "I would love to feel warm about my alma mater. I would love to and I don't. I'm beginning to, just through communications with former students, but not with the Academy itself."

At the end of the day, Morgan described the experience of coming forward as incredibly empowering and transformative. "I've gone from feeling like a victim all my life...to understanding that this was not my fault and that the impact that it had on me is not just a weakness of my own, but that I had every right to feel devastated by it... I feel as though I have gone from victim to survivor."



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Things that Donald Trump Wanted to Say After the Inauguration

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

1. "That was great. Believe it or not, this was actually my first time being inaugurated. Did you enjoy it?"
2. "Did you actually not enjoy it?"
3. "Do you really think that I had a small crowd?"
4. "Why would you ever think that? I had a huge crowd."
5. "You took a picture of my crowd? During the inauguration? Without asking me?"
6. "Okay the crowd may only look like 300,000 people, but it was really cold. I promise to you that it's at least 600,000-700,000. What I'm trying to say is that it's an above average crowd."
7. "Of course Obama had a bigger crowd than mine."
8. "Anyway, crowd size doesn't matter. It's not about how large the crowd is, it's about how you use your supporters."

An Academic Critique of Mr. O'Handley

By **JACK BAKER**
I Don't Like Him Either

1. Mr. O'Handley's "diverse" wardrobe ranges from New Jersey Devils t-shirts, to New Jersey Devils hats, to New Jersey Devils flip-flops.
2. He neglects to recognize the existence of preps, despite his physical stature.
3. He facilitates a dorm grill pecking order, in which I am at the bottom.
4. He sells hard rice krispy treats.
5. Mr. O'Handley is in constant supply of potato chips, restocked at the will of his mother.
6. Yet, he still steals my food.
7. His feet are disproportionately large compared to his body.
8. It is likely that he will convert this meticulously thought-out paragraph into a list article in order to maximize layout space.

TFW Your Advisor Wants to "Talk About Midterms"

By **THE HUMOR EDITORS**
Emily Pellicia Enthusiasts



Ways to Reduce Your Dorm Energy

By **MAJESTIC TERHUNE**
Environmentally Sustainable

1. Never shower.
2. Never wash your hands.
3. Never flush.
4. Do homework only by natural light. (Just like the vegans!)
5. Cut the wiring for the hallways.
6. If you can adjust your heater, turn it all the way down and rely on huddling with others for warmth.
7. Stop living in your dorm.
8. Turn down your heater and use Trump's cabinet picks for insulation.
9. Quit leaving all six of your computers plugged in at once.
10. Set up a treadmill and allow the entire cross country team to run on it, effectively generating clean energy.
11. Tell your dorm to kick its coffee and Redbull drinking habits.
12. Leave Exeter.

Do you want to roast one of your friends in Cilley?
Submit to the Humor Page.
Email exonianhumor@gmail.com.

EPA Social Media Blackout Ends, Followed by Official Report Confirming Earth is Flat

By **EMILY GREEN**
Member of Flat Earth Society

Late Wednesday, newly sworn in President Donald Trump's embargo on tweets from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was lifted, followed shortly by an official EPA report tweeted out to the public claiming that the Earth is, in fact, flat.

The ten-page report was written by Trump's top official staff of pseudoscientists, a committee he made up this morning, including specialists such as the Long Island Medium, the Magician for Non-Believers, and Guy Fieri. The report includes lots of eloquent, persuasive language, such as, "the world is flat because I say so."

"See? I told those whiny liberals that Trump wasn't going to hurt the EPA. They're doing real

life science now! This is the kind of answer I wanted to hear!" one Trump supporter from Louisiana told us while wearing a t-shirt from a Texas creationist summer camp.

Meanwhile, real scientists are panicking. When we contacted top members of the EPA from the Obama administration, they told us that, "dear God, we knew it would be bad, but we had no idea it would be this bad."

A spokesperson from the Exeter biology department agreed with that sentiment, telling us that, "now not only will the polar bears all die, but we can't even try to rescue them because travel to the North Pole will be restricted due to fear that planes and ships

will go too far and fall off the Earth."

It seems this new revelation on the part of the EPA will be incredibly destructive, and the entire scientific community is at a complete and utter loss as to what to do. The Trump administration's love of "alternative facts" is hurting the EPA and other important scientific organizations.

In other news, the EPA subsequently sent out a tweet saying that they will also soon release a report on the truth of other "previously thought myths," such as the existence of the Loch Ness Monster, the importance of finding Atlantis, the science behind the evolution of Bigfoot and the legitimacy of the Trump election.

For Philip Embury Kuhn

By **CEDRIC BLAISE**
But I'm Not a Rapper

His first name's Phil	He so fine he gives me the chills	Last name's Kuhn
He has looks that can kill	Middle name's Embury	But his birthday's not in June
Yeah you know he's so trill	Shot smoother than Steph Curry	He can jump over the moon
Spits bars like Meek Mill	Hotter than some spicy curry	And eats peaches with a spoon
Got more chill than Bill	But colder than a McFlurry	And can even sing your favorite tune
And more dollar bills than Tommy Hil	His hair is so dang furry	He is Philip Embury Kuhn
He's so fit he can climb a hill	He even lies in front of a jury	

When Your Teacher Won't Round Your 89.867 to an A-

By **THE HUMOR EDITORS**
Ousside



Student Gets 11.0 Midterm, No One Cares

By **MAJESTIC TERHUNE**
Got an 11.0 Midterm

On Monday lower Jerome Squalor received his midterm grades and, to his delight, learned that his GPA for the term then was a perfect 11.0. He expected praise from his adviser, Shia Labeouf, but when he approached her about the topic, her only response was "Well, you have nowhere to go but down."

In desperate need of positive feedback, Squalor called his parents to tell him the news. "Good job, son," said Squalor's father, "but grades alone aren't going to get you into the Ivy of my dreams. You take after Esme." Senior Esme Squalor, Jerome's sister, turned herself into the busiest person on campus and

has consequently not been seen in years.

Jerome Squalor has decided that, as an act of defiance, he will allow his grades to drop. "I guess I'm going to just have to get an A- or two." Squalor shuddered at this thought. "Desperate times call for desperate measures, you know?"

Top 10 Best D Squared Orders

By **EMILY GREEN**
Forced Me to Publish This

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1. London Fog | 5. London Bridge | 8. London Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs |
| 2. London Rain | 6. Glasgow Fog | 9. London Chilly |
| 3. London Thunderstorm | 7. London Lightning | 10. London Help It's Hailing |
| 4. London Light Drizzle | | |

Joke of the Week

"Midterms."
-Everyone

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

Shanghai's Math Method: Is it as Good as it Seems?

Ryan Xie '20

Guest Contributor

An elementary school math teacher in Shanghai has quite a different job than other elementary school teachers around the world: rather than teaching many subjects, they exclusively teach math to their young pupils. These teachers are given at least five years of training for a specific age of kids. With this, they acquire a complete understanding of how to teach and the way children learn.

For these teachers, a typical day would consist of a mere two classes with the rest of the time being spent on assisting students who need extra help and discussing teaching methods with their colleagues. Middle school and high school teachers are similar in that they spend more time planning and preparing lessons instead of teaching them. Additionally, school days are longer, going from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 or 5:00 p.m. and lessons are shorter—each is 35 minutes and then a 15 minutes break. For these teachers,

every student must understand the material thoroughly before moving on to the next unit. Due to this pace, teachers would not teach fractions until third or fourth grade, by which time teachers assume that multiplication and division have been mastered.

This system of teaching provides benefits to both students and teachers. Firstly, the teacher is extremely specialized in teaching their subject. The schedule of 35 minutes of school and 15 minutes of play allows both the teachers and the students to have ample time to relax and not get too stressed out. With the system of making sure that every student comprehends the material completely, children from lower classes can achieve their potential. In fact, data and testing have suggested that children from working class families in Shanghai do better academically than higher class families in the West.

However, this system is inherently flawed. Despite the many breaks, the long school hours make the day tiring. It is somewhat similar to our school schedule here; many students are very tired from a

ten hour day, despite the multiple breaks in the middle. This system also increases stress on students. 35 minutes classes are also not effective for learning. And to top it off, these class sizes are larger, making it harder to get individualized attention and help in class.

Every child must completely understand the math concept before moving on. This would inevitably waste time for some to wait for others. For example, if a small fraction of students does not understand the material, the majority of students would have to wait for each individual to completely understand. With larger class sizes, this again slows down the speed of the class. Furthermore, an estimated 80 percent of students receive private lessons outside of school. This destroys the atmosphere that this system is trying to set up—having the students advance in school collectively as a group. Compared to Western-style teaching, this method is worse. In Western-style teaching, children can often choose the courses they want and can be placed at a level appropriate for them, in which

the students are all generally on the same level. In terms of the schedule in Western schools, class days often have class times of at least 45 minutes, with one break in the middle. This system is much more efficient without having multiple breaks hindering the speed of learning.

The schedule at Phillips Exeter is similar in terms of the number of breaks in long school days, which is something that needs to be improved. However, Exeter has a huge range of courses and difficulties in mathematics, allowing small groups of students of similar interests and levels to work together rather than up to thirty students of varying capabilities

So does the Shanghai math system work? The answer is no. There are pros, including specialized teachers and having poorer children achieve their potential, but the downsides far outweigh the prostrating days, ineffective schedules, larger classes, and wasted time. The Harkness method should be applied to school systems like Shanghai's, which would take a step towards healthier and more effective learning.

How We Can Learn Hayao Miyazaki's Expression of Love

Bianca Beck '19

Guest Contributor

If you haven't heard of Hayao Miyazaki's work, then I beg of you, dig yourself out of the rock you live under and watch one of his movies. Miyazaki is a director and animator; his works, or rather masterpieces, include *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Spirited Away*, *Kiki's Delivery Service*, *Howl's Moving Castle*, *Castle in the Sky*, *Ponyo*, *Princess Mononoke*, and so many others that it would take a whole page to list all his works. He was the co-founder of Studio Ghibli, which has since created amazing animated works that are known around the world. Miyazaki himself has received countless awards for his movies in Japan and in Hollywood, including an Oscar in 2014.

When Miyazaki, back in 2013, announced that he would be retiring to focus on his short films, I, along with many of his other fans, was heartbroken. However, recently he announced that we would be coming out of retirement to create one last film. According to reports from the

Anime News Network and Kotaku, the news was announced on a Japanese TV special titled *Hayao Miyazaki: The Man Who Is Not Done*. Miyazaki revealed in the special that he had been trying to create a short 12-minute film, *Kemushi no Boro* or *Boro the Caterpillar*, and had been dissatisfied with it. He decided he wanted to make it into a full-length film, and the special shows him working on the animation. The special did not, however, reveal whether he had the "green light" from the studio heads. But, honestly, this is Hayao Miyazaki. If he wants to make a film, he's going to get a film.

It's hard to pinpoint exactly what makes Miyazaki's movies so perfect. His movies are mostly of dystopian worlds where magic, nature and spirits roam freely among humans. His movies are perfect depictions of what is means to be alive and of human nature, yet the movies aren't blatant about it. I suppose the best way one can portray his films is through a quote the mastermind himself said, "The concept of portraying evil and then destroying it - I know this is considered mainstream, but I

think it is rotten. This idea that whenever something evil happens someone particular can be blamed and punished for it, in life and in politics is hopeless."

And it's true, too. Hollywood and just the movie industry in general, like to create movies as an escape from life's harsh realities. Miyazaki finds the perfect way

Miyazaki's films, both his well-known ones and the more obscure ones, are beautiful works of art that should be watched and appreciated by all.

of blending life and human nature, both the good and bad sides of it and creating a film that also offers as an escape from life's troubles.

Another way he makes his films so perfect in terms of reflecting life is his portrayal of love between his character. In almost all his films, Miyazaki has both a boy and girl as the main characters, usually the girl being the one the story follows. Both

of them find their way in the world either together, and end up loving each other in a way much deeper than TV rom coms. They love each other like brother and sister, and like best friends. Miyazaki himself described the love of his main characters: "I've become skeptical of the unwritten rule that just because a boy and girl appear in the same feature, a romance must ensue. Rather, I want to portray a slightly different relationship, one where the two mutually inspire each other to live - if I'm able to, then perhaps I'll be closer to portraying a true expression of love." When I first heard this quote, I actually teared up, because Miyazaki's depiction of true love is spot-on. For if we aren't inspiring each other to live, then what are we loving for?

Miyazaki's films, both his well-known ones and the more obscure ones, are beautiful works of art that should be watched and appreciated by all. And because I can't possibly find words to encompass how important and *perfect* these films are, I will leave you with another Miyazaki quote. "I would like to make a film to tell children 'it's good to be alive.'"

Where Will Robots Have Taken us Ten Years From Now?

LiuXi Sun '20 and Sam Park '20

Guest Contributors

Robots are advancing at an incredibly rapid pace, but they still have far to go before they reach human ability. Some fear that they will even replace us humans, but how long will it be before we reach that point? This question is perhaps the most critical in robot research right now, and there is a multitude of factors which contribute to the answer.

The two main components of robotics which affect their potential for advancement are their hardware and software. Robotic hardware is far more advanced than those of the robots often depicted in science fiction movies or books. Jerky, single-direction movements are long in the past. New developments in movement have made great strides in speed and accuracy. Robots are also now able to perform tasks that humans cannot. New developments from the US military have resulted in "AlphaDog" that can be used as a synthetic pack animal, carry weights of up to 400 pounds and travel for 20 miles without stopping. Prosthetic limbs developed by DARPA, for example, can be controlled

like organic limbs by interpreting the user's brain waves. And new, more powerful low-energy processors from top companies like Intel, Huawei, Samsung and Qualcomm are dramatically miniaturizing systems on chips' physical size and power capacity while maximizing performance.

While great hardware is an important factor in the advancement of robots, without software that can keep up with it, robots are nothing but expensive pieces of modern art. New artificial intelligence engines like Amazon Alexa or Google Assistant are programmed to understand natural human language and speech patterns with neural networks, and big data platforms like SAS are allowing AIs access to mind-boggling amounts of information from every corner of the earth. Increasingly, with platforms like Amazon Echo or SAS, the processing is done on a server, rather than natively on the computer/device in use, reducing the need to pack so much computing power into limited space, and allowing for constant improvement in function and performance server-side.

To understand how advanced robotic hardware and software is, take a look at some of the products which use AI or

automated machinery. There are countless examples of how robots are quietly entering our lives. For example, robotic vacuum cleaners such as iRobot's Roomba can be controlled from your smartphone wirelessly, while Dyson's 360 Eye takes it a step further by implementing advanced sensors such as ultrasound and radar, and uses that data with an artificial intelligence engine to generate a map of an entire house, and can adapt to and tell the difference between movements in furniture and pets.

Machine learning is being implemented on next-generation Exynos chips from Samsung and Snapdragon chips from Qualcomm that predicts what you will do next, and pre-processes the data to provide a fluid and seamless interface. Amazon's Echo devices can be spoken to like real-life assistants, deliver data, calculations and current events all with a proficient and humorous voice that sounds close to life. New photo editing tools in development by Adobe can be controlled by just your voice, while the editor interprets your commands and applies them to the picture instantly. Drones, while controversial, provide a new format for video capture at angles previously dismissed as impossible and can

be automated for daily tasks like bringing tea from the kitchen to the bedroom and then bringing the empty cup back.

Any manual or repetitive labor jobs will be soon replaced by machines—for example, Amazon is using robots in warehouses instead of humans, leading to a much greater efficiency with robots lifting hundreds of pounds of packages at a time, and coordinating with each other to maximize time and minimize slowdowns. Truck driving, one of the most monotonous jobs, will soon be replaced by self-driving trucks, reducing the need for what is surely a job best left up to machines.

In the medical world, robots are quickly being accepted for difficult, high-precision surgeries, and these robots may lead to a world where surgeons can perform intricate operations from halfway across the world. IBM's Watson is now being used to process gigabytes of cancer data that would take physicians days to analyze properly, in a matter of minutes.

Automation is coming and it's coming fast. As automation catches up with, and exceeds, human ability, it is our directive as a society to handle it carefully and responsibly.

The Incredible Presidency of Barack Obama



THE LIBERAL AGENDA

Jordan Davidson
Columnist

Obama first decided to step onto the political plane and run for president in 2008, he coined two popular slogans: "Yes We Can" and "Hope." Over the past eight years, former President Obama has attempted to live up to those two phrases by giving our country optimism and hope for a better America. Obama has faced unquantifiable amounts of adversity; he inherited the worst economic recession since the Great Depression, issues created in the Middle East and heightened racial tension. Through all of the hardships presented to him, the 47-year-old that was sworn into office in 2009 has proven to all Americans, by killing Osama bin Laden, fixing the American economy and working to improve health care with Obamacare, that

he can persevere. Perhaps one of the most important aspects of the former president, is his ability to balance a professional setting with an easy-going attitude. His humor and ability to act like an everyday American allows us all to relate to him. At a time when our country was broken, we needed a leader who had the courage and determination to bring us through tough times while showing the American people that he was just one of us. That is exactly who Obama was.

The first thing that made me realize Obama's success as a president was the incredible decrease in unemployment under his administration. The unemployment rate dropped from 8 percent in 2010 to 4.6 percent in December 2016, which was the exact rate it was in 2007, before the recession. The crime rate also decreased every year under Obama's presidency. In 2008, there were over eleven million crimes committed compared to 2015 when the number was only nine million. Our former president also created a new health care program designed to be affordable to all American citizens, improved public education, increased the VA budget

by 85 percent and stood up for LGBT+ and minorities' rights. In addition to working on domestic issues, he also made strides in resolving global issues by pulling our troops out of the Middle East and offering asylum to refugees in America. Obama has also proposed a climate action plan to better the world and halt global warming and pollution. On paper, Obama has stayed true to his 2012 campaign slogan, "Forward," as the United States has made incredible amounts of progress over the past eight years.

Although Obama's achievements already place him as one of the greatest presidents, the fact that he can connect to the everyday man makes him all the more appealing. He is the embodiment of the guy you would want to grab a beer with—someone with whom you could imagine having a casual conversation. I remember watching him last year on "The Late Show" with Stephen Colbert cracking jokes, laughing until he almost fell out of his seat and making fun of himself and the world around him. I also recall going on the White House Youtube account to see what videos his staff had uploaded. I found presidential

announcements and press conferences, but the channel was not limited to formal documentation. The former president uploaded multiple comedic skits starring Joe Biden and guests like Steph Curry. They were nothing short of silly and genuinely entertaining. Never before have we seen a president who can be both serious and a goofball, who can let the American people trust him because he is just one of us.

When we all grow old, we should reminisce on the Obama era and remember it as the time when we had one of the best leaders this nation will ever see. Barack Obama has served this country honestly and successfully by dealing with issues head on, never afraid of even the hardest endeavors. His intense focus and dedication to the country did not, however, make him impersonal. In fact, he has become increasingly more relaxed over his presidency, forcing us to understand he is just like all other Americans, no more or less. Unfortunately, Obama's stay in the White House has to come to an end. He has left his mark on this country, though, and he will leave a strong legacy behind him.



ExeterLife



Lower Kiana Silver and seniors Meghana Chalasani and Emma Ibbotson dance in the Sound in Motion production.

Rachael Luo/The Exonian

Dance Performance: Sound in Motion

By JACQUELINE CHO and
JOHANNA MARTINEZ
Staff Writers

On Tuesday evening, the music and dance departments came together in the Bowld to put on a performance, titled Sound in Motion. The performance combined live music with dance. The musical selection included the hymn “Amazing Grace,” the piano piece “Hungarian Dance No. 5” and two West African drumming pieces.

According to Director and Dance Instructor Allison Duke, this was the first ever full collaborative concert between the two departments. “The objective of the concert was to demonstrate the amazing synergy between music and dance, both performed live, in the same space,” she said. While most other dance concerts feature pre-recorded music, the Sound in Motion performance featured Exeter students and faculty performing live. Lower Sarah Liberatore, one of the dancers, liked this addition of live music. “I learned that live music can really add an additional layer of emotion and presentation to a dance,” Liberatore

said. “Usually, choreography contributes most to the feeling of a piece, and having live musicians also expressing a feeling combined with the dance in a really cool way.”

The show began with the Concert Choir’s rendition of the “Earth Song” by Frank Ticheli, with all the dancers improvising on stage. Lower Ingrid Bergill commented on how natural the dance looked even though the audience knew it hadn’t been choreographed beforehand. “It was really interesting to see such a large group of dancers work together in a space and make it look so natural,” Bergill said.

The performance was followed by seniors Ho Joon Kim and Roger Shen’s “Hungarian Dance No. 5,” a duet written by Johannes Brahms. Students in the advanced dance class performed a character dance, a fusion of ballet and Eastern European/Russian folk dance. In order to better understand and choreograph the movements, dancers learned character dance movement vocabularies with Duke. The dancers wore

Hungarian ethnic clothing—richly embroidered blouses on top of black skirts. Although she appreciated the opportunity to learn a new style of dance, lower Ella Parsons commented on the rushed preparation for the performance. “We spent a majority of the time before the show choosing the music, which didn’t leave much time for choreography. We choreographed the dance in three days,” she said.

The intermediate dance class took the stage next with music instructor Eric Sinclair on the slide guitar, performing five verses of “Amazing Grace.” Unlike the Hungarian Dance’s fast and lively tempo, the dancers’ movements to “Amazing Grace” were unhurried and flowing, emphasizing the elegance of the choreography.

The West African drumming ensemble led by music instructor Randy Armstrong, joined by guest choreographer Marianne Harkless and guest drummer Sory Diabate, performed last. Harkless held three classes—one master class to learn more about Kou Kou dance

and two rehearsals for the dancers. In order to prepare for the dance, a style known as Kou Kou, students rehearsed in class with Duke and fellow dance instructor Amberlee Darling since the beginning of December. Dancers said that the group trained hard for the big day. Liberatore commented on the fast pace and animated atmosphere of the performance, saying, “I had a lot of fun performing the African piece. Although it was tiring, the fast pace of the drums and the knowledge that the dance is traditionally a dance for celebration made me just put all my energy into it and really have fun.”

The finale of the piece included members of the community. Towards the end of the West African drumming performance, dancers ran out into the crowd, bringing audience members down to the stage to dance with them. Children, students and elderly all joined in on the dance party, clapping and jumping to the beat as the West African drumming ensemble provided lively music.

NEW LAMONT GALLERY MULTI-MEDIA EXHIBITION CLEW: A RICH AND REWARDING DISORIENTATION

By DON ASSAMONGKOL
and SOPHIA CHO
Staff Writers

Last Friday, the Lamont Gallery opened its first multi-media exhibition, “Clew: A Rich and Rewarding Disorientation.” Clew was a collaboration of four artists from various disciplines: Deborah Barlow, a fine visual artist, Todd Hearon, a poet, and Jung Mi Lee and Jon Sakata, musicians. The exhibition consisted of paintings integrated with poetry and an overtoning soundtrack.

The team of transdisciplinary artists was formed by what Barlow called “serendipity.” Barlow was first introduced to Sakata and Lee by Hearon whom she had known for decades through her friendship with his wife. “Like a lot of things in life, [the team] just came together in a very organic and natural way. As soon as it happened, we all felt how right it was. It just clicked.”

Sakata recalled his visit to Barlow’s studio in Boston with Hearon and Lee. He felt that they were tuned in together despite being from different backgrounds. “Even from different disciplines, we shared certain wavelengths of perception,” he said. Lee agreed, saying that it felt like “immediate comfort.”

The collaboration started off as what Hearon described as a journey of the unknown. “I did not know what I was going to encounter, especially dealing with artists in their own realms, so experimental and adventurous, but that becomes a good thing. Uncertainty becomes possibility,” he said.

All of the artists credited their success to their open-mindedness. “Instead of trying to protect our territory or identity as a visual artist, a poet or a musician, we were willing to transform

ourselves and work through with one another,” Sakata said.

Hearon proposed the concept of “Clew” to the group. The word “Clew” can mean clue, a ball of yarn, a part of ship’s sail, stretch of wings or the ball of thread Theseus used to find his way out of the labyrinth. Lamont Gallery Direc-

tor Lauren O’Neal thought the word choice was fitting. “We wanted visitors to take a journey with us,” she said.

The four artists, along with O’Neal, worked together for almost a year to create their multi-sensory exhibition that enables visitors to experience the richness and complexity of the arts. Hearon said the visitors at “Clew” should be prepared to be disoriented in labyrinth or maze. “When we’re disoriented, we

don’t quite know where the directions are anymore, but we can keep going. We might not know where we’re going, but that might lead us to something potentially rich.”

Although some of the work was done off site, the exhibition took a month to set up. “Sometimes you can’t

gonna mix painting with poetry or poetry with sounds. It takes a tremendous collaborative process like around the Harkness table — you listen, build on ideas and expand your thinking,” she said.

O’Neal felt that the Lamont Gallery was very connected to the Exeter community, so the art and knowledge on display symbolized much broader concepts. “I think it represents the way we learn here: we’re grounded in a liberal arts tradition where we’re drawing from science, literature and math, and you’re creating a very holistic base of knowledge,” she said.

The artists encouraged Exonians to visit the exhibition whether they are artistically inclined or not. Both Lee and Sakata, who have been teaching music at PEA for more than two decades, felt that Exonians need to have more diverse experiences and self-experiment. “It’s sort of a cultural problem of someone coming into, let’s say, an art museum or gallery, thinking that there is already a given meaning or understanding that they need to figure out. That’s complete fiction; it’s an illusion,” Sakata said.

In this sense, Barlow challenged Exonians to stay in the exhibition space for at least an hour and “let it speak to you.” In addition, Lee and Sakata recommended multiple visits to further explore the changes in the space as well as within ourselves. The artists hope that visitors find the disoriented experience of Clew rich and rewarding. The exhibition will be open until Apr. 15, throughout which, there will be lectures, poetry readings and student performances.



The Lamont Gallery opens its first multi-media exhibition. Diana Davidson/The Exonian

really do anything before you bring it all together and see how things start to dialogue with each other in ways that you can’t foresee. We spent a lot of time playing with and manipulating the space,” O’Neal said.

She praised the exhibition that the four artists had achieved, given that this was a transdisciplinary project. “We all have different committed disciplines and it’s not as easy as to say I’m

ArtistSpotlight

Compassionate Carissa

By BELLA ALVAREZ and
MAI HOANG
Staff Writers

Senior Carissa Chen never expected to fall in love with the creative arts. As both of her parents are engineers, she didn't grow up exposed to writing or paintings, or with a few books of poetry or fiction in the house. However, she credits her first exposure to art to her preschool. "[We] would always fingerpaint, and I would create these really messy paintings, but that first got me into art," Chen explained.

When Chen first moved to the U.S. at the age of seven, she found herself drawn to the idea of using both artwork and writing as outlets to heal and express her identity. To this day, she believes her childhood experiences of moving between different places and meeting new people were instrumental to her development as an artist; around this time, Chen began to find deeper meanings behind the pieces she was creating.

"I try to create paintings that tell stories," she said, "I've painted a lot of self-portraits, and I write stories that I think are important to tell." Braving outside pressure, she is not afraid to be honest in expressing her inner self through art. "I feel that's the responsibility of the artist in some way [...] Sometimes the paintings that you paint can define the identity of not just yourself but also of your whole community," she said.

Aside from drawing from personal experience, Chen also seeks inspiration in history, especially when it comes to dealing with her heritage. "A lot of the poetry I wrote my lower and upper year came from stories of my mom and dad growing up during the Cultural Revolution," she shared. She also draws inspiration from other sources such as her favorite artists and authors. She named Frida Khalo, Sylvia Plath and British Romantic poets such as Walt Whitman and William Blake as the ones she most admired because they "made art and writing more



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

inclusive." Although she enjoys the idealistic beauty of traditional art, she believes it is necessary to focus more on the ideas embedded in art. "Sometimes, we need art that is disruptive," she said.

True to her ideals of creating art with clear and meaningful messages, Carissa Chen has been an active artist advocate for social justice. Her photograph collection, entitled "Faith & Doubt," published in the Track//Four Journal, brought the public spotlight to issues such as illness and solitude among the elderly. Likewise, on the Exeter campus, she has been working hard to raise awareness and create concrete changes with projects, such as We all Bleed Red and the Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2015 Painting Workshop. Upper Wendi Yan, another prominent student artist, commented on how conscientious Chen was as the leader of the workshop. "She really listened to our suggestions and ideas. It was a great pleasure working with her," Yan said.

Chen's work has had a great influence on the Exeter community, especially in the art-loving circles. Yan, as well as many other student artists on campus, deeply admire

Chen's creativity and work. Yan's favorite painting of Chen's was a portrayal of the River Styx. "I really loved the texture of her brushstrokes and the palette. Overall, it just worked out so harmoniously," Yan said, "I couldn't stop looking at it." She also praised Chen's work in last year's 444 Art Show, describing the beauty and intricacy of Chen's charcoal drawings. "She stitched poetry into the drawings in a very clever way that the words and the art built on top of each other," Yan said.

Senior Anishta Khan is also one of Chen's many fans. "I appreciate the power and value Carissa can see in art," Khan said. "Not very many people can do the same." Khan described Chen's work as powerful, meaningful and a means of self-discovery and political advocacy. "I think Carissa is very passionate, not just about art, but also about how art surrounds and incorporates life in many dimensions," Khan said. Some of her favorites of Chen's pieces are her self-portraits, in particular the one of Chen carrying her own ashes. Khan said that she appreciated the sense of surrealism that

Chen managed to incorporate.

Tara Lewis, the Academy's Art Department Head, also praised Chen's diverse creativity, highlighting Chen's ability to work in multiple mediums as well as her understanding of the power of art. "[Carissa] truly understands that art is a powerful communication tool," Lewis said. "She creates work that is very emotional, expressive and personal." Lewis also expressed her excitement to see Chen's artistic ability continue to develop beyond Exeter.

Echoing Yan, Khan and Lewis' words, Chen also sees the use of art as a tool to express ideas. "I think the artist has a really important role in the society, more than people seem to realize," Chen said. She believes in the power of art. She gave an example of the first self-portrait she painted in sixth grade. Chen said she had felt empowered to be able to tell her story through art, though at first the rawness of the image startled her. "I was shocked at the way I looked, but the more I painted them, the more comfortable I felt," she explained, "I do believe that if you create honest, personal art, then other people will appreciate it."

Despite her young age, Chen has already earned recognition on many local, national and even international platforms. Her work has been on display on the screen of the Times Square, in Carnegie Hall and the Rhode Island School of Design. She was also featured in the Celebrating Art Contest as one of the Top Ten Teen Artists. She has earned accolades from associations such as the Columbia Scholastic Press, the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and the National Young-Arts Foundation. Her work has been published in several publications, including the prestigious Kenyon Review. When asked about advice for other young artists, Chen earnestly suggested, "Fight for your opportunities and reach out to people as much as you can because people are much more receptive and willing to help you along the way than you might think. Also, listen to your gut."

ClubSpotlight

ESSO FEATURE:
GAL PALS

By BIANCA BECK and
ASHLEY LINN
Staff Writers

On every other Tuesday night, in the basement of Phillips Church, a group of girls from the Academy meet up with special-needs women from the local community. Sometimes, they bake cookies together or play with clay. Other times, they talk about their favorite bands or vacation plans. Since the same girls and women come to each meeting, the friendships formed are strong. Often these bonds last over four years, and sometimes, even after graduation.

Along with the activities, there's also a great sense of comfort the women have with each other, and empowerment that comes with that. Senior Sarah Brown, one of the co-heads of Gal Pals, remarked on the feminist aspect of the club, saying that it provides an environment for women to help other women. "We live in a community where often women's voices don't get to stand out as being powerful," said Brown. "Being in a community that's all female is this incredible opportunity [for us to] be confident together." She brought up an example of when a shy member of the Gal Pal community volunteered to sing during a meeting when the co-heads had started a round of karaoke, and the quiet girl finally had the courage to sing her heart out. Senior Juni Terry, the other co-head of Gal Pals, joined Sarah in reminiscing about this memorable moment,

saying: "it was really nice to see that the club I was running had really made a difference and given this girl a safe space where she felt confident enough to get up and sing." Both Brown and Terry attributed this newfound courage to the welcoming environment.

Members of Gal Pals also embrace the opportunity to bond with people with whom one may think they have nothing in common. Lower Grace Gray, a member of the club, said, "The women have inspired me to be more thankful for the great things we have in our life, and they've shown me how important it is to connect with someone based off of their character rather than their appearance or social differences." Gray said that, after attending Gal Pals, she realized just how strong human connections could be. "It really showed me and shows everyone how close people are, and how you can make friends with anyone, and how human connections are so powerful," Brown said, reflecting on her three years in the club.

Therefore, if you ever find yourself on a Tuesday night craving a safe and accepting space, go to the basement of Phillips Church! Gal Pals members will accept you into their community with open arms, and give you a place to forget the stresses of Exeter while making new friends.

TRENDWATCH

Hey Trendwatchers,

The past few weeks have been big in the political world, with the Presidential Inauguration taking place last Friday and the Women's Marches occurring across the United States on Saturday. We were on the lookout for expressive styles at both events. First Lady Melania Trump caught our eyes at the Inauguration in a monochrome, 1960s inspired look designed by Ralph Lauren. She paired her baby blue skirt suit with matching gloves, a clutch and stiletto heels. Presidential runner-up Hillary Clinton also wore a white Ralph Lauren suit to the inauguration, promoting a message of unity. At the Women's March on Washington, Rihanna came dressed to kill. In a bright pink LAPP sweatshirt detailed with a feminist slogan, Molly Goddard tulle dress and bubblegum pink stilettos, Rihanna used fashion as a creative outlet to express her strong womanhood and solidarity.

On the runway, Karl Lagerfeld debuted his 2017 couture collection in the Chanel Show of Mirrors. At the beginning of the show, Lagerfeld added a twist to the classic Chanel suit by emphasizing tailoring with wide shoulders and contrasting wide belts. He chose a candy colored palette, using light blue, pink, yellow and lavender fabrics. Once Chanel gowns took the stage, it was all about silver and gold, sparkles and lean silhouettes. Feathers were a big part of Lagerfeld's gown designs, appearing on puffs and hemlines. Stay tuned for the feather trend to take hold in the coming months!

Over the past few days, the Men's Fashion Show is being held in Paris. There have been many comments on its controversy over men's fashion. The show has been challenging the "beauty and masculinity of a man." There have also been many pragmatic questions about the purpose of some fashion trends. One question asked was, "Why do some shirts have such

long sleeves?" Overall, the week went well, and many designers are currently still reviewing the inner works.

Exonians have been killing the fashion game this week! **Lauren Wilson '17** rocked a jean skirt, velour blouse and black booties. **Henri Pratt '17** wore a cool and casual button down with a navy moped design. **Miranda Hall '19** flaunted a winter white look in white jeans layered under a comfy flannel. She completed the look in trendy black cutout booties. **Assistant Principal Kim** looked stylish on the Assembly stage in a beige blazer paired with brown pants. **Teddy Scott '18** donned an uber-casual look in a bright pink and grey drug-rug worn over jeans and grey converse. **Rachel Luo '17** broke our hearts in a red cold-shoulder top, black high waist jeans and ankle booties. **Soren Rossi '17** also rocked the jeans look this week, cuffing them over a pair of Sperry's, and matching it with a West Coast styled button down.

Stay stylish,
Caroline and Connor



Rachel Luo/The Exonian



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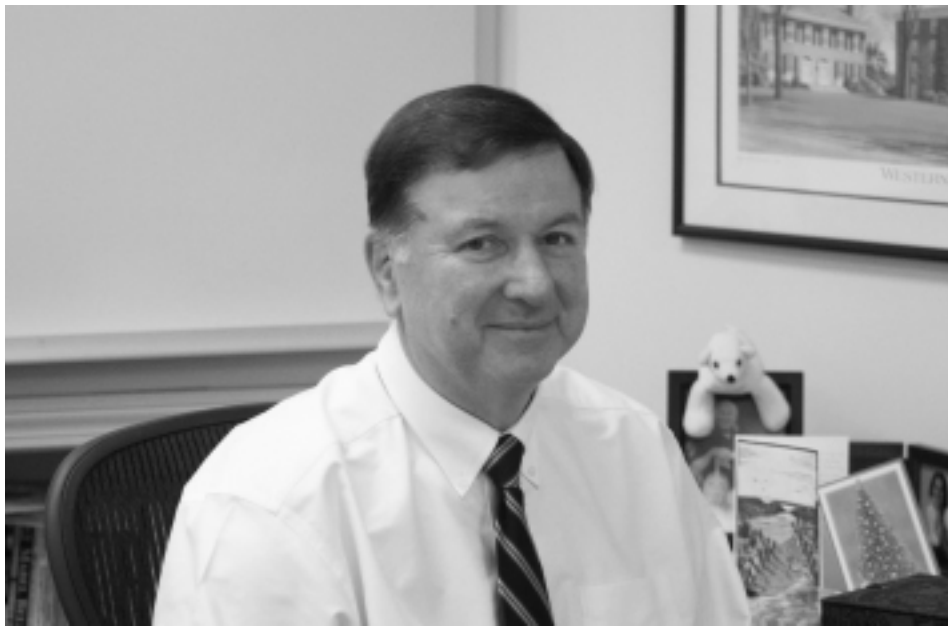
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FacultySpotlight

Hobart Hardej

By ALAN XIE and
ROSE HOROWITZ
Staff Writers



Julia Goydan/The Exonian

Instructor of mathematics Hobart Hardej has worked at Exeter for 31 years, and in that time, he has proved himself to be an invaluable asset to the Exeter community. Hardej has made an impact on the lives of generations of Exonians as a teacher, mentor, track coach and summer school faculty member. However, he is not one to boast about his role in the community. His wife, the academy's attendance specialist Linda Hardej, noted her husband's humility. "[He] is someone who does not like to be in the 'spotlight' or toot his own horn," she said.

Hardej knew he wanted to teach because his own teachers were his role models when he was young. After graduating from Bowdoin College, Hardej started teaching at the Western Reserve Academy, a boarding school in Ohio. He enjoyed the many roles he could have on the campus. "I loved working with kids in the dorm, coaching them, and teaching them," said Hardej. After becoming the Dean of Students at Western Reserve Academy and teaching at the Groton School for a few years, he decided to come to Exeter because of its proximity to his family.

Hardej works to interest his students in math by creating lively discussions, and he places emphasis on supporting the students as much as possible. "I try to have a really lively and encouraging classroom," he said. "I compare my teaching to coaching; an important part is that I think students think of teachers as grading them down, while coaches are building them up. I try to see how complicated their lives are and remember that math is not all that they do here."

He said that he likes to keep a classroom where students have fun and learn, a goal students say he has achieved. "Our class atmosphere is very friendly," lower Gordon Chi said. "He always takes a very light-hearted approach to the class. When we make mistakes, nobody is angry with each other." Hardej not only teaches the students how to solve problems—he also explains the key principles of the problems to the class after each presentation. "Mr. Hardej is really good at making sure that he explains every problem in a way that the class understands, and he always makes sure that we are straight on everything," lower Charlie Neuhaus said. "I think that a lot of the times he goes even further to talk about all the differences in the mathematical principles that are involved in each problem, so that we really know in-depth how it [the problem] works."

Due to his expertise, Hardej served as the Chair of the math department for

five years. When his appointment was over, he was gifted an Exeter "dad" mug, a sign of the high regard Hardej is held in within the community. "The sentiment was that he took care of everyone. He's a man that is a good mentor, mediator and problem solver. He cares about having not only his students succeed, but his peers," his wife said.

Hardej has done more than teaching in the math department during his tenure at Exeter. He was also the throwing coach for Exeter's indoor and outdoor track teams. Although this is the first year he has not been coaching track, his influence still extends to the team. Lower Harrison Murray, a thrower, participated in track last year, and Hardej left quite an impression on him. "He was a super caring coach," Murray said. "He had lots of funny ways to help us learn key points of throwing and also cared about our safety."

Murray recalled how Hardej had certain words he would use to get them excit-

ed. "My favorite was exuberance," Murray said. "It was just a great all-around word." Murray also enjoyed the phrase, "pull the trigger," because it helped him keep his good form at the end of a throw.

Hardej's hobbies outside of teaching include spending time outside. He said, "I do very different things from the academic and intellectual things we do here. I have a whole other life different from the work I do at school." He and his wife have a home in Maine, where Hardej builds decks and the frames of houses with wood he splits. The house is on a lake, so he does boating and water sports. However, in between enjoying these summer pastimes, Hardej devotes much of his time off of school to education.

Hardej was the Director of Summer School at Exeter from 1995 to the early 2000s. The student body changes every year, but the faculty continually return to work at the summer school. According to Hardej, the student body is "incredibly diverse." Reflecting on this job, Hardej said, "Summer School is one of the great programs in the school. The concept of the school is to let people really experience Exeter. 'Kids get to be Exonians, even if for a short period of time.'"

Hardej has spent most of his tenure at Exeter living in a dorm. He worked in Main Street until 2001, and after 14 years as dorm faculty, the students came to know Mr. Hardej for his red bathrobe. Hardej is currently affiliated with Kirkland House, which is close to his home, and therefore convenient when he is on duty.

What brings Hardej back to Exeter every year is not Exeter, but the people. "The students and the faculty and staff make this place special. This room is old, not special. It's special when you guys are here."

ANNUAL ALES REGIONAL DANCE

By EMAN NORAGA and
CHIM TASIE-AMADI
Staff Writers

Heavy bass resonated through the Grainger Auditorium this past Saturday night, flashing lights dazzling the dance floor during the annual ALES Regional Dance.

Every year, the Afro-Latino Exonian Society (ALES) holds a dance, inviting the ALES equivalents of other schools in the New England area. Students from the St. Paul's School, Tilton Academy and Governor's Academy attended. The Board of the ALES expressed that the aim of the dance was to bring together students of color from other schools and foster a greater sense of community with students in the area. Upper Amanda Sherwood said that the dance was intended "to foster solidarity between the students of color at other prep schools."

Despite this intention, many dance attendees noted that at first, students from other schools were clearly divided into their own school-based groups. "It didn't seem like people from different schools interacted that much," upper Victoria Glidden said.

Another goal of the dance was to create an event open to the entire Academy community where all students could feel welcome. "I think another big goal is to have an event that's open to the whole school," said ALES co-head senior Lauren Wilson. "A lot of what

ALES does is activism, but I think it's good having one fun event for everyone."

Based off of feedback from last year, the board tried to create a dance playlist this year that catered more to people of Black and Latinx descent. In particular, they tried to incorporate more Latin-American genres to help Latinx students feel more included. Upper and ALES board member Athena Stenor said, "the dance was meant to celebrate the creativity and resilience of black and Latinx communities. We thought it would be appropriate to limit our songs to Black and Latinx musicians."

Wilson shared similar sentiments on the topic of music played at the dance. "As the years go on, we try to tinker with music to get it right, and I think we could have gotten more upbeat music. As for the Latin music, we are the Afro-Latino Exonian Society, so it was necessary to be more inclusive."

Many students agreed that the change of music helped make the dance a better experience. Prep Genesis Baez said, "I loved the variety of music at the dance, and I was able to relate to it more. I hope next dance the committee will be able to add some of the songs that were played last night."

While some enjoyed the music choices of the ALES, others wanted a

more diverse playlist. "I wish they had a wider variety of songs, but the DJ did play what the kids are listening to right now. I liked the bachata, salsa and other Latin music that was played," prep Neruda Perdomo said. Other dance-goers responded negatively to the DJ's style. Lower Sebastian Bango expressed his dislike of the music. "I did not enjoy the DJ, but the people that were there made the energy fun."

In preparation for the dance, the ALES board met with its advising faculty and established that to some members of the community, grinding would be a potential problem due to the nature of the dance. However, Stenor explained that Black and Latinx music was not synonymous with grinding and explicit dancing.

A few students noticed that the ratio of adults to students at the dance was significantly higher than that of many other school dances like Dunbar's Back in Black. "There were more chaperones from other schools," Wilson said, "but I think that from the faculty point of view, [they thought] that there would be a lot wmore grinding."

One factor that lowered attendance to the dance was the uncertainty amongst some students on campus who felt like they could not attend the dance because they were not of Black or Latinx

descent. Uncertainty among students on campus who felt like they could not attend the dance because they were not of Black and Latinx descent lowered attendance. In addition, some students were concerned that they would not recognize the songs that were played. However, those who did go found that this was not the case. Lower Ella Parsons said, "to be honest, I didn't even think about feeling uncomfortable. It was overall just a very fun experience!" Wilson understood how people might have felt uncomfortable in the dance's atmosphere but made it clear that an all-school dance such as this would never be meant for just one segment of the student body.

While various factors affected the dance's attendance and atmosphere, the dance was met primarily with positivity from the community. Despite its success, the board members of the ALES stressed that they will continue to tweak the music to find the right feel for the dance. Many people, including Prep Genesis Baez, enjoyed seeing a completely new group of faces on campus. "I believe having the other schools at the dance was a great choice, and overall it made the dance a lot better. Although I don't have much experience with Exeter dances, I believe the ALES dance was the best one yet."

MOVIE REVIEW: ARRIVAL



By ALAN WU
Contributing Writer

Surely enough, the sci-fi movie "Arrival" begins with the arrival of something. However, it isn't the invasion of armies of alien spaceships. Instead, the film begins with the birth of a baby girl. The girl's mother, Louise Banks (Amy Adams), raises her, loves her and ultimately loses her to terminal illness. This opening unfolds similarly to the "Married Life" sequence in Pixar's *Up* and is equally heart-wrenching. Although this sequence may appear to be only a backstory for Adams' character, we come to learn that it is the most crucial thread in the film's intricate and masterfully-crafted story.

The story follows Banks, a world-class linguist who advises the United States military after mysterious alien pods start arriving on Earth. She is tasked with finding a way to communicate with these alien creatures and understand their motivations. Her partner-in-crime is genial physicist Ian Donnelly, portrayed by Jeremy Renner. Director Denis Villeneuve is very sparing when it comes to facts, as evident in his previous three films, "Prisoners," "Enemy" and "Sicario." He often disorients the audience from the very beginning and with each new fact creates a downward spiral of growing anxiety.

In "Arrival," many of the film's plot points may leave you slightly unsatisfied. Why did aliens come to earth? Are they dangerous or benevolent, selfish or confused? Villeneuve and his screenwriter Eric

Heisserer prefer to duck these questions. Midway through the film, as Doctor Banks is decoding logograms—the circle-shaped inkblots through which the aliens use to communicate—a lumpy voiceover explains that she has cracked them. All of a sudden, we see her holding a tablet with each blot attributed to an English word. How did she accomplish this? We'll never know. Quite frankly, we don't need to.

In a year filled with unfocused, mediocre blockbusters, "Arrival" is a breathe of fresh air. The film is beautifully constructed and evenly paced, flowing from scene to scene. It is driven not just by its plot but also by its emotional and thematic context. As the film progresses, its themes continue to grow and expand organically—from the dangers of alien invasion, to the complexity of language, all the way to one final message of free will and human choice. The film's eventual plot twist works perfectly because of how integral it is to the architecture of the film's overall structure and themes. "Arrival" uses its twist to an effect similar to Christopher Nolan's "Memento." Through editing, both films become a visceral experience of the manipulation of time, memory and human choice. By the time we reach the end of the film, it becomes clear why Villeneuve opened his film with the short life story of Banks' daughter. It's not a quick prologue but rather a thesis statement, guiding the film on its path before

we even realize it.

That isn't to say the film is all substance and no style. "Arrival" achieves the elusive balance between story and spectacle—a balance that "Interstellar" and "The Martian," the two biggest science fiction films of the past three years, failed to accomplish. The first forty minutes of "Arrival" revel in the exhilaration of science fiction and mystery. Seeing Doctor Banks communicating and interacting with the aliens is one of the most captivating scenes of any film released in 2016. Bradford Young's cinematography soars gracefully, gliding past breathtaking computer-generated images of alien ships. Jóhann Jóhannsson's musical score is exquisitely delicate and haunting at the same time, enriching the film's poignancy and atmosphere.

It would be a crime to not talk about Amy Adams' star performance. In a time where strong female characters have become more and more prominent in films, Adams' portrayal of Doctor Banks is a breath of fresh air. Her character is driven not by bitterness, psychopathy or love for a man but rather empathy, cleverness and most importantly, curiosity. As Banks stands in front of the glass panel separating her from the aliens, she stares like a wide-eyed moviegoer, eagerly waiting for the show to begin. It is at this moment that I remember why I go to the movies. It is for magical experiences like this.

UPCOMING

A CAPPELLA SHOWCASE

THE YALE
WIFFENPOOFS

Friday, Assembly Hall

PERFORMANCE
EAR CONCERT

Saturday, Agora

MOVIE & MUSIC
"SEVEN CHANCES" FILM
WITH LIVE PIANO

Tuesday, Phillips Church

Boys' Track Finds Success Against Tough Competition

By MADISON KANG
Staff Writer

The boys' track team prevailed at the Greater Boston Track Club Invitational this Sunday. The event is an open meet held at Harvard University's Gordon Indoor Track Facility, with athletes representing prep schools such as Phillips Academy Andover, Deerfield Academy, St. Paul's School and Governor's Academy. In addition, there were many collegiate teams like Purdue University, Brandeis University and Franklin Pierce University, as well as club athletes.

The meet did not tally team scores, but it provided an opportunity for the Exeter athletes to compete and gain race experience. It was the second or third meet for many of the runners, but Exeter athletes raced well among the collegiate and post-collegiate competition, with impressive performances from the younger runners.

Prep Will Coogan raced the mile in a tight heat with two Andover runners that went unsettled to the finish line. He ended up setting a new prep record in the mile with a time of 4:42.42. Meanwhile, prep Jinwoo Kang broke a thirty nine year old prep record in the 600 meter dash with a time of 1:35.14.

Senior and co-captain Atticus Stonestrom appreciated Coogan's resilience and the preps' potential, saying, "At meets like this, it's pretty easy to lose sight of competition and just chase times, but Will wasn't willing to settle for anything short of giving his all." He explained that seeing new

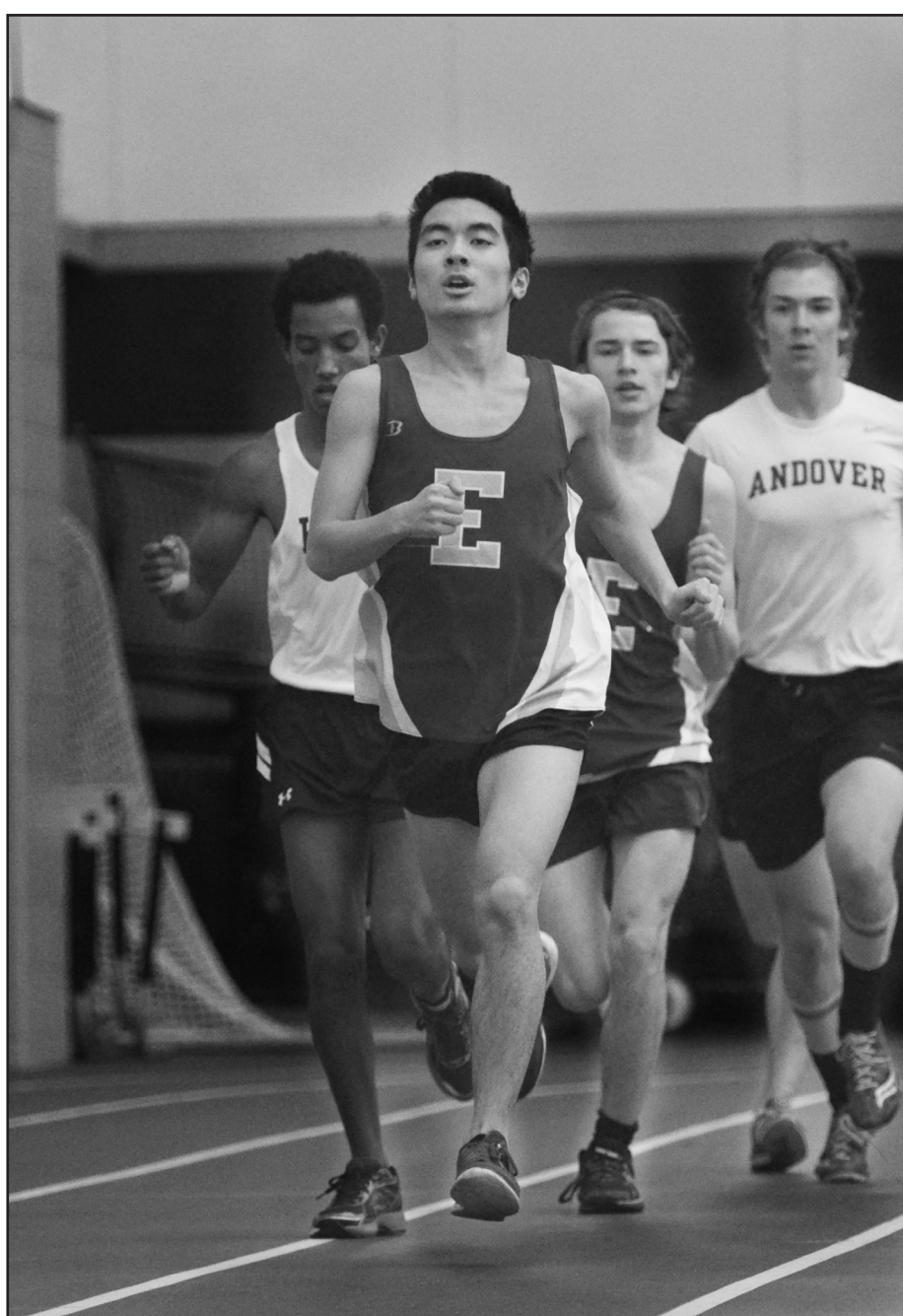
runners already achieve "such great success" was the highlight of the day.

In addition, senior and co-captain Marvin Bennett ran a couple of notable sprint races. Bennett was the top high school runner in the 200 meter event with a time of 23.38 seconds, placing third overall competing against collegians and post-collegians. In the 400 meter event, Bennett finished with a lightning-fast time of 51.53 seconds, placing third.

Stonestrom attributed the team's success to the diverse abilities of each runner. "Track is a special sport, I think, because every meet has about a dozen or so events that the team might compete in," he said. "As a result, everyone has an opportunity not only to compete for themselves but also to cheer on the rest of the team."

Senior and co-Captain Garrett Pitt credited the team's achievements this weekend to the boys' unrelenting support for each other. "I think track does a great job of voicing our support for each other," he said. "Whether it's boys or girls, sprint or distance events, everyone always cheers on their teammates. We have a strong culture of support and unity that is integral to our success on the track."

The team is proud of its success, but the boys also know that they still have room for improvement. The team's next meet is away against Andover on Feb. 8. With an incredibly long break between meets, Big Red now has a substantial amount of time to build up its endurance, perfect its form and mentally prepare to compete against its rivals.



Senior Jiro Mizuno leads the pack around the track.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

Girls' Squash Annihilates Andover 6-1



Lower Euwie Park lunges for the ball.

Jena Yun/The Exonian

By DON ASSAMONGKOL
& RYAN XIE
Staff Writers

Last Saturday, the Exeter girls' varsity squash team competed at home against Andover. Big Red battled hard and won decisively with a score of 6-1. This win raised the team's record to 7-1.

Lower Euwie Park, the girl's number one seed, thought her game was challenging. "My opponent was really tough. She went for anything. It could have been a lot worse," Park said. Nevertheless, Park won a 3-1 victory against her opponent. She felt that the team morale was upbeat and lively, but also noted the difficulty of fostering camaraderie in a single-player sport. "I think we do a pretty good job cheering each other on, but it's still hard because the sport is individual, so we have to work together as much as we can," she said.

Lower Ursula Sze, Exeter's varsity second seed player, felt nervous stepping onto the court. Sze played on the first court, the most spectated, and felt timid for the first game as a result, saying that she made a lot more unforced errors than usual. "I sometimes feel like I don't live up to people's expectations and that really affected my mental game," she said. Fortunately, Sze was able to pull through with a 3-1 victory against her opponent, crediting support from the team. "I'm so thankful I had Euwie and the team behind me because they were always cheering me on, and in the end I pulled through," she said.

Upper Alyssa Kuwana faced challenges at the beginning of her match, but eventually pulled through. "At the start, I was really not in the game, and I kept on hitting my shots out, and I wasn't moving, but in the third game I came back 3-2." Like the other team members, Kuwana is optimistic for the team's future. "I

feel like if we keep up with this trajectory, we are going to do really well this season," she said. She felt that the team's morale is always very good, and they always cheer each other on. "I think we always boost each other up and support each other at games," Kuwana said.

Senior and co-captain Jiwon Sung was happy with the results overall. She credited her own strong performance to the pre-game advice she received from her teammates. "Before the game, we always tell each other to hit the balls wide and deep, so that's what I focused on every game," she said. So far, the team has only had one loss. Sung believed that the team was in good spirits. "I think we're doing really well. The team atmosphere is really nice. We have a lot of new players this year and great managers, but I think that the team is getting more in shape as the season progresses," she said.

Prep Nikita Thummala felt that despite the obstacles, the team was very hard work-

ing. "I know that everyone worked really hard and everyone put their best efforts into playing," she said. Similar to the other players, Thummala felt that the atmosphere was very encouraging. "In our practices, we are always cheering each other on," she said.

Coach Freddy Brussel believed that the team was very hard-working, but hopes for improvement. "I think that everyone tried really hard and did their best, but I think there's still room for improvement," he said.

Senior and team manager Kaitlyn Kang was satisfied with the effort the team put in. "They brought their best game today and I'm really happy with our results today," she said. "Of course, we're not going to stop trying our hardest." The team's season continues to be exciting, with a tough match against Andover this week. Big Red squash will play against Dana Hall School and Noble and Greenough School this coming week.

Pro Bowl Predictions

Jack:

NFC - 24

AFC - 17

Taylor:

AFC - 31

NFC - 28

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AOW: QUINN ABRAMS, AJ PEDRO AND JOEY ROSSETTI

By BELLA ALVAREZ
& JARED ZHANG
Staff Writers

Seniors Quinn Abrams, Josh Rossetti and AJ Pedro, the three co-captains of Exeter's wrestling team, have lead their teammates to an impressive six wins and three losses. Big Red is currently ranked 1st in New England.

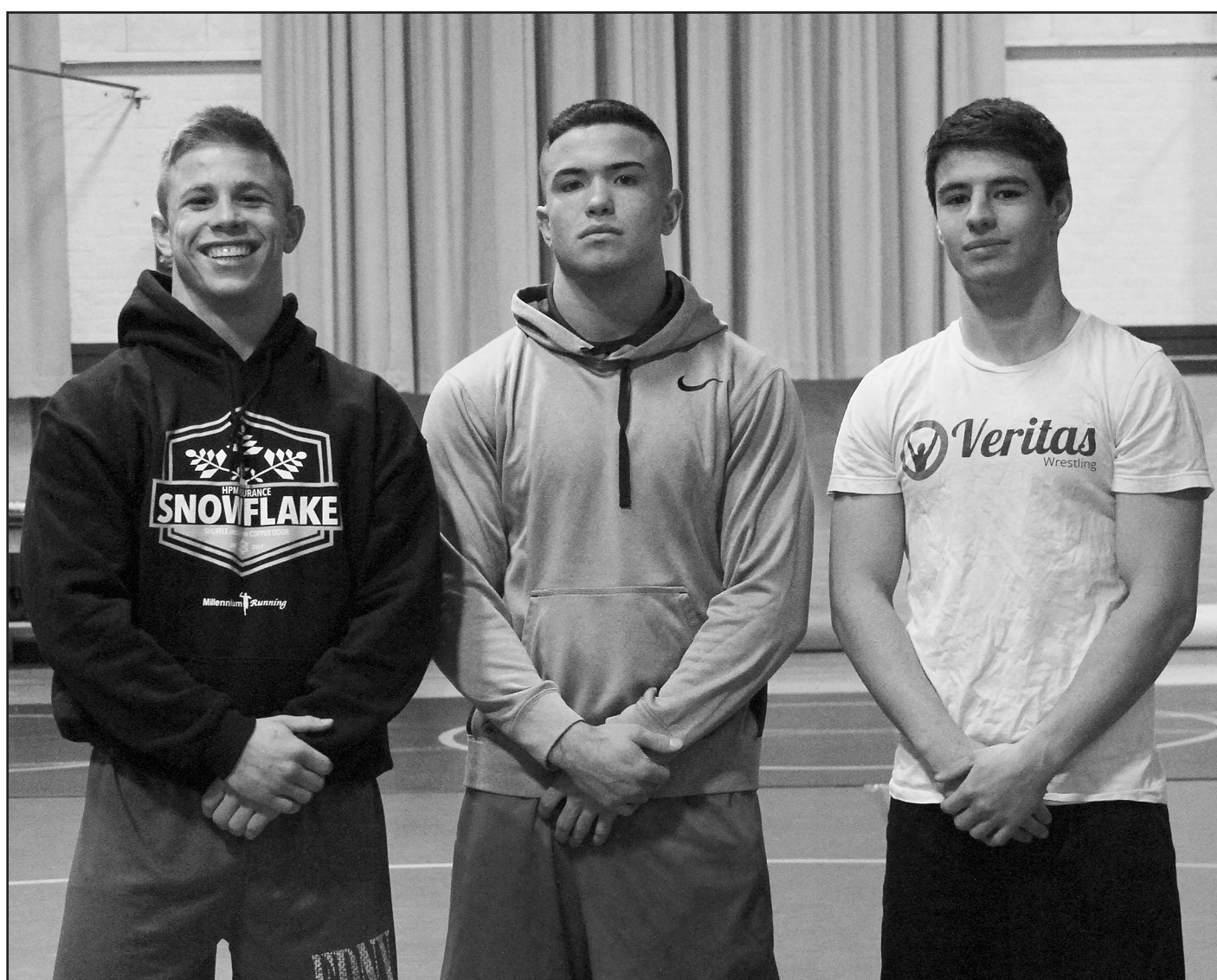
Abrams, Rossetti and Pedro happen to be close friends. According to Abrams, the three of them have known each other since middle school through wrestling against one another in New England. Years later, leading the Exeter team together has made them very close. Rossetti expressed that their close relationship has helped them improve in wrestling. "We know each other so well and we know what it takes to be great. We try and translate that over in the practice room," he said.

David Hudson, one of the head coaches of the wrestling team, complimented the captains' ability to foster a strong team dynamic. "Each brings their own unique qualities and contributions to the team," he said. "Together they have helped keep the team focused on working hard on a daily basis and improving as individuals and as a team."

In third grade, Abrams began to wrestle after finding baseball unappealing. From a young age, Abrams liked the self-reliant aspect of wrestling. He looked for a sport where his own hard work and dedication would lead to success. Since the start of his wrestling career, Abrams has trained with multiple coaches, switching from team to team. Abrams finally felt settled within the Exeter wrestling community after joining as a new lower.

For Abrams, the title of captain is about supporting his teammates, and he takes this role very seriously. "My duty as a captain is to ensure that all of the wrestlers on the team give their full effort in and out of the wrestling room," he said. He elaborated on this, citing the numerous factors he needs to look out for every practice. "[I need to] make sure that they expend their energy at the end of each day, that they are defeated physically but never mentally and that all of my fellow wrestlers come back each day hungry for more training."

Being one of the more experienced members of the team, Abrams actively seeks to share his knowledge and technique on wrestling. "It is a great joy to pass along what I know to the future leaders of the [Exeter] team after I graduate," he said.



Chiara Perrotti Correa/The Exonian

Seen by his coaches and teammates as passionate and friendly, Abrams always looks out for his teammates and encouraging them to give all their effort. Senior and teammate Josh Hemintakoon described Abrams as a "teddy bear" and commended him for his "big heart" and genuine care for others.

While Abrams provides advice and comfort for the team, Rossetti leads Big Red to success through his actions. Rossetti began wrestling in first grade. With the support of his father, a former high school and college wrestler himself, Rossetti found a deep passion for the sport.

Rossetti explained how tight-knit and motivated the team is. As a captain, he has found that leading a close group has made him feel increasingly connected to each member. "We pretty much go through hell and back together and there's no other group I'd rather do it with," he said.

Upper Kevin Lyskawa described Rossetti as a wrestler who leads by example.

Often times, Rossetti can be seen leading warm ups and demonstrating various techniques. Hemintakoon concurred with Lyskawa and praised Rossetti's dedication to the sport of wrestling. "After practice, Joey can always be found doing extra work, whether he's doing sets in the weight room, teaching our less experienced wrestlers, or recovering at the trainers," Hemintakoon said.

Contrary to Rossetti, Pedro leads with loud and assertive encouragement. Described by his teammates as a skilled and dedicated wrestler, Pedro is known for his commanding presence on the team. Hemintakoon expressed the respect the team has for Pedro. "Hard work trumps talent in wrestling and AJ has a lot of both," he said.

Together, Abrams, Rossetti and Pedro lead one of the most competitive and successful wrestling teams in New England. Though they have different approaches to leadership, their tight friendship and com-

mon passion for the sport enables them to work together successfully.

According to Hudson, the three co-captains, along with seniors Abhijay Bhatnagar, Kelechi Nwankwoala and Hemintakoon, are one of the best groups of both three and four year starters that he has seen come through the program. "Their individual accomplishments and contributions to the success of the team and program will be difficult, if not impossible to replace," said Hudson, calling each senior the "heart and soul" of Exeter wrestling.

Lyskawa echoed these comments, emphasizing the important role that the co-captains play. "They have taken upon more responsibility as ones we can rely on to get us those extra points," Lyskawa said, continuing to stress their importance as role-models for the entire team. "We accomplished everything as a team. Yet, having three role models in the room really impacts the team in a positive way."

Girl's Hockey Falls Short Against Nobles *Strong Performance Leaves Team Optimistic*



Lower Lydia Anderson prepares to dangle her defender.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

By JO DE LA BRUYERE
Contributing Writer

Last weekend, Exeter girls' hockey faced two division I powerhouses, playing St. Paul's School on Friday and Nobles & Greenough on Saturday.

Among the top five teams in the NEPSAC, both St. Paul's and Nobles regularly produce Division I recruits; their current rosters include Harvard and Cornell commits. Though intimidated, captain Bonnie LaBonté reported that the team looked forward to a glimpse of good, top tier hockey. Lower Michaela O'Brien agreed. In her mind, though Exeter certainly went into both games wary of the strong competition, they hoped to "play a little harder and a little faster" than they had in the past.

All the same, Exeter fell short in

the first period of their game against St. Paul's. The aggressive St. Paul's team capitalized on Big Red's slow start, scoring three goals in the first period. LaBonté chalked up the team's initial weakness to Exeter's game a few days earlier against the Holderness School, a Division II team. In LaBonté's opinion that game, though resulting in a decisive 6-3 win for Big Red, caused the team to slow down its pace of play.

While Exeter remained optimistic, on Friday, St. Paul's scored three additional goals in the second period. Lower Kathryn Kester credited goalie O'Brien with some stellar initial saves but noted that Exeter "had a hard time clearing out bodies in front of the net." Even after Exeter switched their goalie to prep Cam McCrystal, St. Paul's main-

tained control of the ice. The final score was 8-1.

Kester stated that though it was a difficult loss for Exeter, the St. Paul's match helped prepare the team for the Nobles game, giving them an idea of the speed of play they would be facing on Saturday. In the first period, Exeter largely fended off Nobles & Greenough, the top ranked school in the NEPSAC.

The teams went into the second period with the score at 1-0 for Nobles. Kester admired Exeter's ability to "do a better job of breaking the puck out and making tape to tape passes" in the second and third periods. Captain Sydnee Goyer scored in the second with an assist from LaBonté. Additionally, O'Brien shut-out Nobles completely in

the third period. Though Big Red ended the game down 4-1, it by no means felt like a loss to LaBonté. O'Brien called the Nobles game "one of the best games" of the season so far. "The team played at a very high intensity and everyone gave all they had," she said.

In the twenty-four hours between the two contests, girls' hockey managed dramatically to step up its game. Though the team's record now stands at 6-7-1, Exeter is now far better prepared to handle tough opponents. Kester called the games developmental, stating that Big Red is better positioned now for Wednesday's home game against Tilton. LaBonté agreed about the team's rapid improvement. "I hope we carry this pace of play into the last month of our season," she said.



ExonianSports



WRESTLING TRIUMPHS OVER NMH

Regains 'The Swamp' In Front of Big Crowd

By JARED ZHANG
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, in the team's first home meet of the season, Exeter, ranked number one in the league, faced Northfield Mount Hermon School, ranked second in the league. Coming off five straight wins, Big Red defeated its opponent with an impressive score of 53-21, improving its current season record to 6 wins and 3 losses.

Leading up to the meet, Big Red was excited by the fact that it would compete in a home crowd environment, a venue that was rare for the Exeter team. This was only the third home meet that Exeter has hosted in the past three years. The team spread the word about this meet at Friday's assembly, encouraging members of the Exeter community to give their support.

A number of excited students and faculty attended the meet in Thompson Gym. Senior Josh Hemintakoon said that he was thrilled by the overwhelming support. "Our home match had the largest crowd for wrestling in my four years here," he said. "It was great to have the support at home for a big match." With the bleachers packed with Exonian supporters, the team had an advantage going into the meet.

Co-captain and senior Joey Rossetti agreed with Hemintakoon, explaining that he thought that the large turnout improved the team's performance. "We tried to spread the word as much as possible this year and we had a much bigger turnout than previous years," he said. "I think everyone on the team fed into the hype and wrestled well."

The entire match was filled with intense matches and strong performances from each wrestler. Hemintakoon explained that the two teams scored 74 points out of a maximum of 84 points



Senior Quinn Abrams takes down opponent.

Rachel Luo/The Exonian

combined. With such a definitive win, the Exeter team proved that it rightfully owns the top rank in the league.

The team's win was highlighted by many strong performances from competitors such as Rossetti and his fellow co-captains, seniors Quinn Abrams and AJ Pedro. Rossetti, Abrams and Pedro impressively pinned their opponents in around 90, 60 and 45 seconds, respectively.

Their wins contributed much-needed points to the team total. These quick matches helped the team jump out to an

early lead, but it was a true team effort for this victory.

Even though Exeter won against one of its closest rivals, the team recognized areas of improvement. Rossetti said that although the team was very strong as a whole, it can collectively work on technical details. "We all can definitely improve on moving more on our feet, and setting up shots to get takedowns," he said. Hemintakoon also encouraged his teammates to stay healthy especially as the team approaches tournament season. Absences, he explained, are particularly

hard to substitute in wrestling because the athletes are separated into distinct weight classes.

Exeter will be hosting another dual meet this coming Saturday in the Thompson Gym. Similar to the NMH meet, the team will advertise the match with the hopes of drawing another big crowd. The team will go up against both the Bidstrup and Seabrook schools on Jan. 28. Big Red looks to extend its winning streak and produce more dominant performances as the team begins to near New England Championships.

Weekend Scoreboard

Girls' Hockey	1	Girls' Basketball	42	Boys' Hockey	5
Nobles School	4	Choate Rosemary Hall	59	Hotchkiss	1
Boys' Basketball	56	Girls' Squash	6	Wrestling	53
New Hampton	63	Phillips Andover	1	NMH	21



Senior Maya Blake charges to the rim.

Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

Girls' Basketball Beaten Twice

By JOHN BECKERLE
Staff Writer

On Jan. 18, the girls' varsity basketball team played a tough game against Brewster Academy and lost 30-46. Three days later, the team played another game in its rigorous schedule against Choate but unfortunately lost 42-59.

Upper Samantha Weaver noted that the team has stepped up its preparation for its games recently, saying, "The team is ready to end our losing streak so we have been working harder during practice. The preparation for both games was much more intense than it has been in the past."

Many players felt that the team had its toughest practices before the Brewster and Choate games. Upper Michaela McCarthy said that they prepared more intensely than they have for any previous games this season. "We ran more, we did more drills at a higher level of intensity and we began to push ourselves and each other harder than we have thus far," she said.

The fatigue each player felt going into each game definitely had an impact. The girls started the Choate game with a lot of intensity, but they quickly grew tired and lost steam. Weaver recognized the team's decrease in tempo, saying, "We need to work on playing consistently throughout the game as well as more cohesively."

Although the team lost by sixteen and seventeen points in its games, the players on the team are filled with optimism for the remaining stretch of the season. Upper and co-captain Ella Johnson addressed some of the difficulties the team faced during its

games. "We played well in many stretches of both the Choate game and Brewster game. We need to keep working on playing intense defense throughout the game and creating opportunities to get to the basket on offense."

McCarthy also remained positive about the Choate and Brewster games. "We improved in every aspect of our game in those two competitions: defensively, in transition and offensively—both shooting, passing and off ball movement-wise."

In the future, McCarthy feels that the team could beat both of the opponents they lost to. "Both Choate and Brewster were very experienced, talented teams. Though we fell short last week, I think future meetings may yield different results," she said.

She felt ready for the team's future games because she believes all her teammates are hard-working and excited for this weekend's game. "Competing the way we did in practice last week allowed us to realize collectively, as a team, what we're capable of when we really are determined to succeed."

Weaver concurred, but she believed the team must make key baskets on offense to succeed. "The past couple of games have definitely been winnable. If all of our shots fell, the outcomes would have been in our favor."

The girls' varsity basketball team will play Thayer Academy on Saturday, Jan. 28. McCarthy thinks that the team can end its losing streak. "Desire to win isn't something that can be coached, but our team—realizing how capable we are after last week, now desires and has begun to expect to win—which is much different than the initial mentality."

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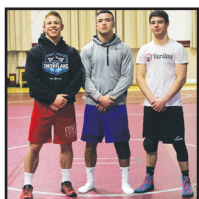
Boys' Track



Boys' Track performed well against fierce competition. Find out more on B4.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

Athletes of the Week



Seniors Quinn Abrams, AJ Pedro and Joey Rossetti are unstoppable on the Wrestling mat. Read more on B5.

Chiara Perotti Correa/The Exonian

Girls' Squash



Girls' Squash dominated the Smurf team with many solid matches. Read more on B4.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

SATURDAY GAMES:

Wrestling	Home	12:30pm
B./G. Swimming	Home	1:00 pm
G. Squash	Away	1:00 pm
G. Hockey	Home	2:00 pm
B. Squash	Home	2:00 pm
B. Basketball	Away	4:00 pm
B. Hockey	Home	4:00 pm