



Exonians anticipate a set point during the varsity girls' volleyball E/a game on Saturday.

Steven Kim/The Exonian

## Exeter Faces Rival Andover In Annual E/a

By WILLA CANFIELD, JACQUELINE CHO and ROSE HOROWITZ  
Staff Writers

Exeter students flooded the campus of their famed and longtime rival, Phillips Academy Andover, ready for a day of cheering on the competing teams at the annual Exeter/Andover (E/a) games held Saturday morning and afternoon. The location of fall E/a swaps each year, and this year, Andover took their turn hosting the games.

Senior Emily Robb, one of Exeter's red bandits, seniors selected to encourage school spirit during E/a weekend, applauded the school spirit Exonians demonstrated when they made the trek to Andover. "I think there's something really special about having E/a at Andover," she said. "It's not the most convenient location, but I think the fact that a majority of the school takes a bus to Massachusetts to support our athletes shows an incredible amount of school spirit."

Fellow red bandit and senior Abhijay Saran agreed, observing that the unfamiliarity of the Andover campus served to bring Exonians closer together on Saturday. "It's fun having it [E/a] at Andover because it's a novel experience," he said. "And by not being on our home turf or having our dorm refuge. We stick together a little tighter as Exonians."

Many students also enjoyed the opportunity to get away from the "Exeter bubble" for a day. "It was really nice to get off campus, especially driving through the town of Andover," upper Meg Bolan said. "I've never really seen Phillips Andover either, and their campus is huge, with lots to see."

E/a has been a full-day event for many years, starting in the morning and ending with an evening football game under the lights, but this year the games overlapped each other more than usual

E/A, A2

## PEA Reacts to Sexual Misconduct Survey

Survey results and commentary are now available on [theexonian.com](http://theexonian.com).

By ERICA HOGAN, and EMILY PELLICCIA  
Staff Writers

The Exonian sent a survey on sexual misconduct and the sexual climate on campus to all members of the student body two weeks ago. The survey showed that a large proportion of the students were mistrusting of the school, and were unconfident in the school's ability to handle sexual assault cases.

612 of 1060 students completed the survey, giving it a relatively high response rate of 57.7 percent. 122 of them were preps, 145 lowers, 161 uppers and 187 seniors. 51.62 percent of respondents identified as female and 48.38 percent as male, while 2.6 percent of respondents identified as either gender, transgender, genderfluid or nonbinary.

The distrust towards the Academy reflected in the survey was upsetting to many students. 54 percent of respondents reported that there was a sexual misconduct problem at Exeter. 60 percent said that, if they or a friend were a survivor of sexual misconduct, they would feel either unconfident or very unconfident that the school would properly handle

the situation. 51 percent said that in such a situation they would feel either uncomfortable or very uncomfortable going to a counselor.

Interim Dean of Student Wellbeing Tina Sciochetti acknowledged the need for continued progress regarding the relationship between the Academy and its students and the sexual climate on campus. "We continue to build in this area and know there is still work to be done to improve the culture on campus and the students' faith in the Academy's response," she said.

However, 63 respondents identified as sexual misconduct victims; five reported their cases. 47 of them answered that they would not consider coming forward.

"It is shocking and saddening that the grand majority of sexual assault victims do not consider coming out to the school," upper Francis Baviera Maloney said. "Clearly the administration has a lot of work to do to be able to regain the trust of the students."

Principal Lisa MacFarlane, too, was troubled by the survey's results, and acknowledged that there is still room for growth. "Every adult on campus--and especially

me--is concerned that many students who responded to the Exonian poll feel that they don't have confidence in the school handling sexual assault cases. It is really important for us to understand why these students feel this way," she added.

Sciochetti acknowledged some respondents' decision not to come forward. "To the extent the results actually reflect a reluctance to report sexual misconduct, I strongly encourage anyone who believes he or she has been a victim of assault to come forward," she said.

MacFarlane agreed. "We are committed to providing support and fair responses to survivors... We encourage survivors and their friends and allies to come forward to a trusted adult," she said.

Senior Tayo Zenger, chair of social media outreach for the club Exonians Against Sexual Assault (EASA), was surprised by the prevalence of sexual misconduct among Exonians. "Knowing that there are 52 victims on my campus gave me a weird feeling in my stomach... They have to walk around campus

SURVEY, A2



Students perform in the Fall Mainstage, "Nicholas Nickleby."

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

## E/a Weekend Conflicts With Fall Mainstage

By GRACE CARROLL, MAI HOANG, ARIELLE LUI and JOY ZHANG  
Staff Writers

The large crowd of students at the annual Exeter/Andover (E/a) events on Friday and Saturday evenings overshadowed Fisher Theater's fall mainstage production of "Nicholas Nickleby." In past terms, the mainstage production has sold out of tickets for its performances, but for this rendition of Charles Dickens' novel, nearly a quarter of the seats were left empty.

"I think scheduling the play and the biggest sports events of the year on the same weekend pits one against the other, which is really counterproductive," senior Maya Pierce, a member of the "Nicholas Nickleby" cast, said. "I think everyone would agree that it's not ideal."

Pierce was among many students who expressed intense disappointment at having to choose between all-school activities, which they wanted to attend, and the play. Some students also felt that the play was under-advertized in comparison to the E/a events, which began with an all-school pep assembly on Friday. On the same night, the annual pep rally took place at the stadium, and the Exeter Association of Rock (EAR) concert followed immediately after. On

PLAY, A2

## Discussions Arise Following Election Results

By ARIELLE LUI and ANDREA SO  
Staff Writers

After the presidential election results shocked much of the community on campus, students and faculty members have begun to process the idea of a Trump administration, a possibility few had predicted or seriously entertained, through discussion and debate and the creation of plans for the future.

Faculty, staff and administrators have reached out to show support for students by offering places to share opinions and feelings. Dean of Multicultural Affairs Rosanna Salcedo sent an email to students reminding them that the Office of Multicultural Student

Affairs is a safe space and resource for them to have conversations or seek advice. Similarly, Campus Minister Heidi Lee Heath offered times she would be available to speak to concerned students, and teachers offered class time to discuss feelings and confusions over the results. Principal Lisa MacFarlane has also made herself available to students on several occasions in the library and in the church basement. She has encouraged respectful discussion on campus and over social media.

Mathematics instructor Catherine Holden, who is an advisor for the Exeter Democratic club, suggested that the outpour of support for students was not because Trump had beaten Clinton, but rather that the election cycle itself

was peculiar. "This is not what it is normally like, at all," she said. Holden believes that even if Clinton had won, the adults on campus would have offered the same support for students. "Based off the polls, people expected that Hillary was going to win, so they had to reorient themselves and take a step back and absorb what happened," Holden said.

While upper Kyle Kanchuga thought the administration has been too openly sided with Clinton, he acknowledged the importance of considerate, productive conversation. He has found that more often than not, students on campus are too quick to surmise, calling Trump supporters "racist, homophobic and

ELECTIONS, A2

### INSIDE

#### NEWS

Seniors abroad in Ghana write back to campus about their experiences. A3.

#### OPINIONS

Senior Kelvin Green II calls on Exonians to reexamine race relations on campus in the aftermath of Trump's election. A7.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

Full results and commentary regarding *The Exonian's* sexual misconduct survey are available on [theexonian.com](http://theexonian.com).

#### LIFE

Read about the EAR concert over E/a weekend. B1.

#### SPORTS

Read about girls' volleyball's five set win over Andover last Saturday. B4.

Both boys' and girls' varsity and junior varsity cross country claimed first place in the interschools. B6.

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## Sexual Misconduct Survey Results Stir Reactions From Students

Continued from SURVEY, A1

with that burden and nobody knows."

Zenger also said he was distressed by the distrust the victims felt towards the administration. "There are people in my community, teenagers, that are going through something that nobody should have to ever go through. That they feel uncomfortable coming forward about it concerned me greatly."

Senior Jesus Rivera also found the lack of trust reflected in the survey disturbing. "The fact that over half of the people that answered this survey don't trust the school to handle a sexual misconduct situation is appalling to me. That statistic signifies to me that the amount of grievances about mishandled cases must be high, and that to me is unacceptable," he said.

"The responses were unsurprising to some students. Upper C/J Penn said that the distrust towards the Academy expressed in the survey results were reflective of his own sentiments. "I feel like the administration is something I can

not place any trust in or go to for anything."

Rivera also observed a similar suspicion towards the school. "The amount of mistrust towards the administration is not startling to me. I think that kids here believe that the administration has a history of covering itself rather than attempting to help kids in need."

Senior Claire Dange-Roth, President of EASA, also observed a wariness towards the school's administration. "There's a sentiment [among students] that the administration is kind of trying to cover something up" she said.

Upper Mila DeGuere, Chair of policy and student involvement for the EASA, felt that the distrust stemmed from *The Boston Globe's* coverage of the Academy. "Regardless of whether what is said in [The Boston Globe's] coverage of sexual misconduct at Exeter] is actually what happened, it painted the administration as a group who aren't really catering to the victim." However, the mistrust reported in the survey may not be reflective of all Exonians' experiences. "I've worked closely

with lots of faculty in discussing [sexual misconduct] and what they say and how they act seems to be different than the way the article described," DeGuere said.

Interim co-Director of Student Well-being Tina Sciochetti questioned the effectiveness and fairness of the questions used in the survey. Referring specifically to the question on students approaching counselors, phrased, "If you were a survivor of sexual misconduct on campus, how comfortable would you feel going to a school counselor?" Sciochetti noted that the wording could be confusing and could lead to inaccurate conclusions. "Does that [question] reflect that students might feel uncomfortable disclosing information to someone they will later interact with on campus? Are they reluctant to come forward because of something they believe the Academy is doing wrong or for other reasons having nothing to do with the Academy's response?"

As a result, she disagreed with the notion that students on campus are uncomfortable

with the counseling services on campus. "I don't think it means students are dissatisfied with the counseling services on campus, though the question could be misinterpreted to mean that," she said.

Sciochetti added that the findings of *The Exonian's* survey were not reflective of her own experiences at the Academy thus far. "I can say with confidence that my experience in handling any matters of potential sexual misconduct since early September does not comport with the numbers reflected below." Nevertheless, she emphasized that she did not want to dismiss any of the sentiments expressed in the survey. Rather, she wanted to clarify the challenges imposed on interpreting the survey results due to the terminology used in the questionnaire.

"I do not wish to convey that I am in any way dismissive of student concerns as may be reflected in the survey results, just that limitations of the terms used in the survey make interpretation of the data challenging," she said.

## Play Receives Lower Attendance Due to Other Weekend Events

Continued from PLAY, A1

Saturday evening after the games at Andover, students spent time with recent alumni or attended Soule Tea, the dance held in Grainger Auditorium. After this packed weekend, students then spent Sunday catching up on homework. Pierce was frustrated that so many events were scheduled for one weekend because many other weekends had fewer activities.

According to chair of the theater and dance department, Robert Richards, there has always been a concern about theater production dates falling on the same weekend as E/a. However, this fall the overlap was unavoidable. Richards explained that the play would not have been ready earlier in the term because of the time needed for actors and technicians to properly prepare the production. "Only those who have been in plays understand the amount of time and energy that is required," he said. Likewise, the mainstage production could not be extended another weekend because it conflicted with the dance concert series which also takes place in Fisher Theater.

Pierce admitted that she loved performing in the play, but she also wished she could have gone to her last fall pep rally. "It's also not as much fun performing in front of a half-empty audience, especially [for] three performances in a row," she said. She added that the cast and crew still put their full effort and energy into the show, despite the turnout of the audience.

Most varsity athletes who participated in pep rally on Friday and played against Andover on Saturday morning were unable to see the play. Upper Charlotte Polk, who is on the varsity volleyball team, said she would have gone to the play had the weekend not been so busy. After pep rally and her EAR performance, she went to bed in order to be well-rested for her early-morning game, and exhausted after the game, she rested in her dorm on Saturday evening. While she felt it was unfair that it was made difficult for athletes to go to the play, she was also grateful for the turnout at her game. She explained that during regular season home games her team rarely had a crowd show up. However, she acknowledged the hard work of those involved with the play and was disheartened to hear that not many people attended. "The weekend was a contest between the two which is not fair to anyone," she said.

Even students who were not involved

in sports could not attend. Upper Grace Pan danced at pep rally and then attended the EAR concert after. She also had "the normal stresses of school to worry about" for the rest of the weekend. Lower Michaela Phan also found herself busy with homework. Even though they had not been able to attend, Pan and Phan said they were sure that the show was successful and commended the actors and technicians involved.

Facing the lower turnout, the cast worked hard to keep their spirits high. Upper Harry Fitzgerald shared how those involved were initially disappointed, thinking they wouldn't be able to go to the games. Between the trip to Andover and the performances, he said many performers found it difficult to find time to fit in homework. He proposed a way around the timing conflict that would have been to put on the play earlier in the month. "Which I think is very double given the amount of time we rehearse," he said. On the contrary, lower Miles Mikofsky, who played Nicholas Nickleby in the play, thought the cast needed all the time possible to prepare. Mikofsky said he was unaffected by the small audience, saying he acted primarily for himself and his own interest in the art.

"Nicholas Nickleby" was upper Daisy Tichenor's third mainstage show. She said the cast had fun throughout the term and bonded over testing out British accents. "[The show] was totally worth it," Tichenor said. A member of the crew, upper Wendi Yan agreed. "I loved how the show turned out," Yan said. She enjoyed seeing the different types of art come together, from lighting to costume to props.

Despite scheduling challenges, the play was deemed a success by both those in the audience and those involved in its development. Richards praised the adults who worked to make sure each job was completed. He also expressed gratefulness for the cast and crew, whose "collaborative spirit was that of a true ensemble." And although there was little time to grow and improve the play between performances, he was satisfied with the quality of the production.

Nonetheless, Richards explained that publicity is important for the success of any theater company. "I think if we had more publicity then more people would've been more aware," Richards said. "Everyone is over-busy at Exeter, so it's typically tough for the majority of faculty and students to come see the play."

## 139<sup>th</sup> E/a Concludes on PA Turf

Continued from E/A, A1

and the football game was well underway by early afternoon, finishing up by around 3 p.m. so that Exeter students returned to campus by dinnertime. Though many were glad to get back to campus earlier, the change represented an unwelcome break from tradition for several students.

Saran found the daytime football game less memorable than years past. "I missed having the football game past sunset because having the game under the stadium lights created a more memorable finale to the night," he said.

Upper Tricia Moriarty agreed, explaining that she found this year's games less exciting than usual. "While it was nice that we were back on campus early, last year's night game was a lot of fun and I think it may have been a different, possibly more fun, experience if the football game were in the evening."

She described the difficulties that conflicting game times brought up for her. "The overlapping of games made me feel as though I missed out on supporting my friends," she said. Red bandit and senior Emily Robb agreed, explaining that she found it hard to split her time between the different games going on at the same time. "It was a bit frustrating to have to divvy up my time at the different games," she said. Saran acknowledged the benefit of getting back to campus early and having a free Saturday night. "It was a little cold that early in the morning and I think the crowds were a little asleep for the morning games, but it does leave the rest of the day to be utilized back on Exeter's campus," he said.

Despite these small complaints, the student body described another successful E/a weekend and applauded the school's athletes for their hard work and dedication to their sports. "I have so much respect for our athletes in particular," Robb said. For many, the girls' volleyball game, the only game Exeter won, marked a highlight of the weekend. "It was super energetic and our girls are so talented," Robb said.

Upper Pedro Sanson agreed, and described his enjoyable day as a spectator. "It was a tense five-set game and it was great to cheer for Exeter because we were all super excited," he said. "At the end, we stormed the court and it felt great to be an Exonian."

Saran agreed, saying "the volleyball game was exceptionally exciting because the community was packed tightly together in their gym and the girls played fantastically and pulled off the win." Many also commended the hard work

of the red bandits, who ran up and down the sidelines at every game, cheering madly and holding up homemade signs emblazoned with gentle quips at Exeter such as "Andover eats pizza with a fork." "I also thought red bandits did a great job with their posters," Sanson said. "And they also made sure the crowd was pushing the athletes."

In past years, the student body has kicked off the pep rally with a bonfire held in the field by the track. However, the Exeter Fire Department canceled the bonfire on Friday afternoon, due to excessive winds and Exeter's drought. Senior and red bandit Abhijay Saran expressed disappointment at the termination of the tradition. "I've almost felt like the bonfire [is] one of the single most important rites of passage for both new students entering Exeter and returning students entering the end of the fall term and the beast that is winter term in New England," he said.

Despite this disappointment, most students still managed to enjoy excitement of the pep rally. Seniors Graham Rulledge, Matthew McShea and Charlotte Sunruga emceed the event, cracking jokes and introducing the fall varsity sports teams, many of whom had prepared skits to entertain the audience. A number of dance teams, including Poms, Beat of Asia, Abs and Lionettes also performed.

Robb deemed the rally a success and said she was glad to see alumni return to campus to visit old friends and see the games. "I think the pep rally went really well and all the dance groups and teams had hilarious performances," she said. "The crews were great and it was nice having some alumni back in the crowd to cheer with us."

Bolan echoed Robb's sentiments, but said that she wished that she had been able to hear better. "The only thing was that it was really hard to hear the emcees, and they definitely had some unique jokes," she said. Sanson also found the pep rally fun. "I thought the pep rally was good because the dance group performances and the skits the teams made were great," he said.

After the pep rally, the Exeter Association of Rock, or E.A.R., hosted a concert in Assembly Hall. When students returned from Andover on Saturday evening, they got back to a Karaoke party in full swing at Elm Street Dining Hall—a festive end to a festive week.

Saran expressed love for the tradition of E/a weekend as a whole at Exeter, saying "It's one of the few moments our school gets to take a break from the usual school stress and come together for some healthy school spirit."

## Exeter Community Responds to Trump's Electoral Victory

Continued from ELECTIONS, A1

anti-LGBT." He also worries that people believe their opinions so deeply that they become fact to them. "People sometimes forget that Trump supporters hold a myriad of differing opinions and voted on reasons that aren't always about social issues," he said.

After the disclosure of the president-elect, preps Wynter Tracey, Lily Pinciaro and Eva Carchidi were informed in action. They wanted to create a video detailing not only the experiences of people who were personally affected by the election, but also experiences pertaining to social injustice.

At first, Tracey and Carchidi were shocked and angry about the outcome of the election. "All I was wishing for was some loophole in this so we could find a way around it," Tracey said. Pinciaro felt the effects of it around campus, with students and teachers crying in classes and a general air of tension between supporters and critics of the president-elect.

Soon after, they realized that their emotions alone would not change the results. "While I can't speak for minorities, I want to be an ally and support anyone experiencing the backlash of Trump's election," Carchidi said. "I wouldn't be affected as much as some other people will, but I believe this doesn't give me or anyone else an excuse not to help those affected."

Tracey, Carchidi and Pinciaro wanted to move forward with a plan of action. They felt that biggest comments were often overlooked on campus and awareness of discrimination needed to be spread. Through their video, their

goal is to show clearly the prevalence of racism, homophobia, sexism and Islamophobia, as well as to empower victims of intolerant comments.

One area of comfort for the trio was the class discussions that their teachers held on the topic. They said these conversations helped them understand the situation, looking at it in a less hateful way. Talking about the election in an environment where people were free to speak their minds helped the three students feel safer and more informed.

Similarly, lower Mary Provençal-Fogarty said that the election was a popular topic in many of her classes. Her classmates discussed what a Trump presidency would mean for themselves and the people they care about, specifically in terms of mass deportations and access to health care services for women. Provençal-Fogarty expressed hope for the future, especially after observing how exit polls showed that a majority of millennials voted for Clinton. "I fully intend to be present at every movement and rally and protest," she said.

Prep Nosa Lawani was satisfied with the results of the election. "I've always tried to fight the demonization of Trump," he said. Lawani read Trump's plan for his first 100 days in office and stated that it would be effective in changing America for the better. However, Lawani thought that discussing Trump's presidency in class was awkward and unfitting, especially with some students crying in class. "I don't think the Exeter Harkness table is the ideal place for political discussion," he said.

Some students have attended peaceful protests against Trump. Upper Mariah Jebari

attended a "Not My President" event in Portsmouth over the weekend. She said she went partially out of curiosity, having seen protests on TV, and wasn't sure of what to expect. "I was in need of some kind of validation that I wasn't the only one completely outraged about the new president-elect," she said. In Portsmouth, she joined a group that held up signs and shouted chants. She described it as a positive way to get rid of some anger and frustration. Jebari thinks that Exeter's response to the results has been appropriate. "I saw almost half the school cry last Wednesday, and I think it was a time for grieving," she said. "Upset is an understatement."

Physical instructor Olutoyin Abiodun Augustus-Ikwuakor has been "deeply disturbed" by the election of Donald Trump, but she is also hopeful. Through difficult conversations with students, she has begun to understand the ramifications of the elections, from the "hate-

fuels" platforms to the gender stereotypes addressed. "My hope is in souls being courageous enough to ask questions, listen and speak up due to the passion with which they feel their truth," she said.

Over the past year, the political clubs on campus have been preparing for the election. The Exeter Democratic Club has hosted several phone banks, attended state conferences and dinners and held their annual "Fives," an event where students go out at 5 a.m. and remind citizens to vote on election day. Advisor to Exeter Democratic Club and Public Services Assistant Jacquelynne Weatherspoon praised the democrats on campus who worked tirelessly on campaigns. "Forget about Hillary winning," she said. "These are high school students actually participating in a presidential campaign. This was not a mock UN. This was not a mock anything. This was actual political participation. So I am very proud of them."

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## E/a Challenge Moved to the Spring Term

By DON ASSAMONGKOL, MADISON KANG and CLAIRE JUTABHA  
Staff Writers

The long-standing rivalry between Exeter and Andover rekindles every fall term with the anticipation of the fall Exeter/Andover (E/a) games and, in more recent years, the E/a Challenge. In the week leading up to the games, students on campus show their school spirit in red while alumni have the opportunity to participate in the E/a Challenge, a competition to see which school has more active alumni donors. However, due to unusual circumstances including political tensions following the election, the Exeter and Andover Alumni Offices decided to postpone it until the spring.

Associate Director of the Exeter Fund, Jan Gosselin, explained that the Exeter Fund Office worked to determine the best time to conduct the E/a Challenge while considering the current events that may affect participation rate. If the challenge ran during the week leading up to E/a on Saturday, Nov. 12, it would have overlapped with the presidential election and Veterans Day. Gosselin felt that promoting the challenge last week and asking for donations would not have been respectful to the alumni. "Both schools determined it would be unfair and unsuitable to ask hundreds of alumni volunteers to make calls and send emails during this time period," she said.

In previous years, the Exeter Fund Office organized the challenge with the Andover offices and encouraged alumni of the 15 most recent graduating classes to donate to their respective schools. The school that received the most gifts and garnered the most participation won the challenge. The winning school hung its flag on the losing school's campus the Friday before E/a as a symbol of pride. The first challenge ran in fall 2011, and it has continued each year with the exception of fall 2012. Last year, Exeter lost the E/a Challenge with 1,494 alumni donating as opposed to Andover's 1,793 donors.

The challenge helped recent graduates show their Exeter spirit while still helping the school with donations. The Exeter Fund contributes about eight percent of the total Phillips Exeter annual budget to benefit several aspects of the school such as faculty support, financial aid, athletics, art, technology and student life.

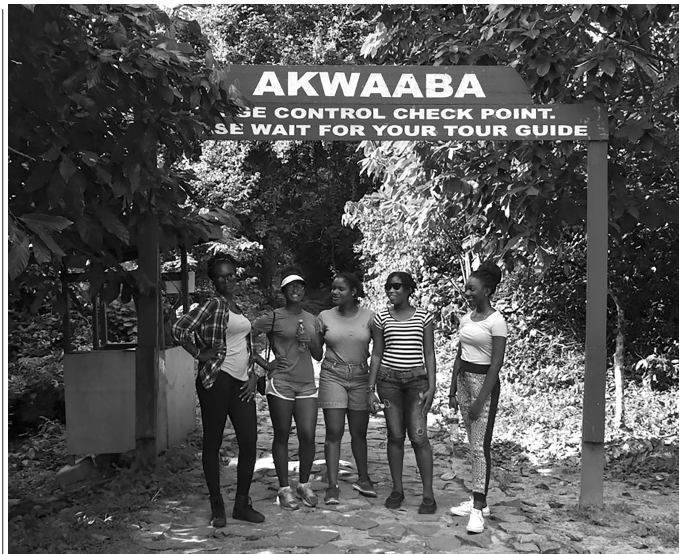
Minh Nguyen '16 thought the E/a Challenge was a good way for alumni give back to the community. "[The E/a Challenge] demonstrates the generosity of the alumni and how grateful we are for our education," he said. Nguyen also added that the challenge gave additional resources to the institution.

Alyse Clinton '16 expressed her support for all of the efforts made by the Exeter Fund Office to raise money for students at the Academy. She explained that she only attended Exeter due to the generosity of donors. "I want other kids to be able to have the amazing experiences I did, and donating is how I can help to make that happen. There are so many kids out there who deserve this kind of education and these opportunities," she said. She felt disappointed when she learned that the E/a Challenge was postponed because she did not understand why the week of the election would affect the competition. "I honestly didn't know that it was due to political tensions. I don't know if I missed an email or if they just aren't making it very public but I had no clue," she said. She felt that people should put the nerves of the election aside and have pride for their high schools.

Upper Rachel Moberg, co-head of Exeter's donor awareness and appreciation club Giving Thanks, approved of the challenge's postponement. "I think moving the E/a Challenge to the spring is a really good idea, especially with how much drama there was around the election," she said, emphasizing that the goal of the Challenge is to collect the most donations to support the school and the people on campus. "I know that if I were going to donate money, I would have forgotten about it because I would be so caught up in the election," she said.

During the E/a Challenge in previous years, Giving Thanks raised awareness around campus so that students could reach out to alumni friends. Posters of the lion rampant and Andover's gorilla mascot Gungu with a thermometer were filed as alumni donated over the week to update students on the leading school. Moberg explained that the posters raised competitive spirit. However, the Giving Thanks club did not make posters this term because of the anticipated tension from the election. Moberg believed that this change will benefit both Exeter and Andover. "I'm sure both schools will get more donations in the spring than if we would have gotten it kept in the fall," she said.

Last year, Exeter published a video featuring religion instructor Russell Weatherspoon and former Executive Director of Alumni Relations and International Gifts Harold Brown encouraging people to donate. In addition to the change in schedule, Gosselin said that there will be updates to the competition itself. After conducting the Challenge for several years, she explained that many alumni suggested ways to alter it. "In order to make the necessary changes to the Challenge, we needed more time and thus moved the Challenge to the spring. Stay tuned for details in the spring."



Contributions from Genesis Contreras and Gwendolyn Wallace

Seniors Genesis Contreras and Gwendolyn Wallace pose before an "Akwaaba" sign, meaning "Welcome to Ghana."

## Seniors Abroad in Ghana Share Their Explorations

By GENESIS CONTRERAS and GWENDOLYN WALLACE  
Contributing Writers

With fellow students at the Kakum National Park near Cape Coast in the Central Region of Ghana

As our time in the PEA Ghana Exchange Program comes to a close, we wish to share with you all some highlights from our trip. We left for Ghana in mid-August, and were surprised to find that at 81 degrees, it was cooler here than back home. Over the past three months, we have been attending SOS-Herman Gmeiner International School, an International Baccalaureate (IB) boarding school in the industrial city of Tema, some 20 miles along the coast east of the capital city of Accra. Here we've been doing the IB

curriculum, an international diploma program. Along with our schoolwork, we also tended to the gardens outside of our hostel, participated in many of the school's activities, and developed a love for jollof rice and kebabs.

Aside from schoolwork, we've had a wide range of experiences. Genesis attended Humanities Day at Tema International School, Gwendolyn competed in the ISSAG track competition, and we've both participated in the school's very competitive singing competition. We also took part in a mid-semester adventure to experience other parts of Ghana. We went to the beach, did an aerial canopy walk through Kakum National Park, learned how to weave kente cloth in Kumasi, toured Elmina Castle's slave quarters and bartered for

earrings and art in the Accra Art Center. In Kumasi we had the opportunity to visit the Asantehene's palace and caught a glimpse of the king of the Asante kingdom, Osei Tutu II Otuomfuo.

Last week, we represented America in the school's National Day. We woke up bright and early to cook enough apple pies and bacon cheese fries for the school. During the event, we sang the national anthem and recited a poem about America. This week, we've been saying our goodbyes in preparation for our return to the states. We wish we could stay another semester, but are excited to see our families and get back to cold weather.

See you back in New Hampshire!  
Gwendolyn and Genesis

## The Academy Sponsors Thanksgiving Break Trips

By ANDREW HONG and CLAIRE JUTABHA  
Staff Writers

As the fall term comes to a close, much of the community is preparing to go back home to spend Thanksgiving break with family. Some students and faculty members, however, will be heading out to Arizona, Alabama or California, attending one of Exeter's three programs this Thanksgiving break to explore wildlife with friends, further their understanding of social justice or partake in the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) program.

One group of Exonians will be traveling to the Grand Canyon for two weeks of outdoor hiking and camping with science instructors Townley Chisholm and Joseph Leger. In addition to the experiencing physical aspect of the trip, students will learn about the geology and local ecosystems that they witness in their escapades. Students must bring a backpack, a sleeping bag, hiking boots and appropriate clothing, but the Outing Club will lend more hiking equipment for the trip.

Upper Cristina Gonzalez applied for this trip because she wanted to take any chance she could to be outdoors and appreciate nature's "solitude and beauty." This will be Gonzalez's first time participating in a school-organized outdoor excursion. Her parents have the same admiration for nature, so her family loves to find new places to walk or camp when they have the chance. Despite having to carry all of her belongings, she said that she looks forward to hiking the most. "I feel that when I hike, even walking in itself is quite a wonderful experience, because despite feeling tired, you can still appreciate all that is surrounding it," she said.

The Alabama Equal Justice Institute is a six-day trip where students will be visiting historical sites and interacting with students from a local high school in Montgomery, Ala. After the 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Day events, Coach Olutoyin Augustus-Ikwuakor found inspiration from positive student response towards Bryan Stevenson, the Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, and his emphasis on the role of proximity when understanding social issues. "The goal of this trip is to bring students in close proximity

to a people and culture that is different from their own in order to help us to learn in an active and passive way," she said. The program ran last year, and due to the success of the trip, students will have the opportunity to travel with Augustus-Ikwuakor, science instructor Michele Chapman and English instructor William Holcomb this upcoming break.

Some of the activities that students will participate in include joining 16 students from Booker T. Washington Magnet School in a "Walk the Line" that the Exonians Encounters Committee previously hosted. Students will exchange personal stories and discuss aspects of privilege that are perceived differently based on location. They will also learn about the criminal justice system as it pertains to people of color. The collaboration with the local school and a visit to Selma, Ala. are additions to the program from last year.

Lawyers at Stevenson's Equal Justice Institute plan to host both groups of students. Augustus-Ikwuakor hoped that students will be courageous and open-minded in order to process different perspectives regarding challenging topics such as race. "I hope that learning from lawyers who are currently working within the criminal justice system will offer insight and clarity to ideas and preconceptions we have," she said.

Augustus-Ikwuakor hoped that more white males consider signing up for this trip next year.

"Although I understand that everyone has unique life experiences, that is one demographic whose voice I seldom hear in these types of conversations," she said.

Sustainability Education Coordinator and English instructor Jason BreMiller and Community Service Coordinator Elizabeth Reyes will be taking the final group of students to Tomales Bay, California, for a seven-day program in partnership with NOLS.

"I've heard that the students who go on these trips become really good friends and bond a lot," senior Autumn Herness said. Herness is just one of the few students excited to attend the program.

"I'm excited to go to California for the first time and camp outdoors!" she said. Students will be rising early to start a day full of sea kayaking from

camp to camp site. As they move between sites, they will be cooking their own meals, sleeping in tents and learning rescue skills.

New senior Luna Schlor cannot wait for her first off campus opportunity as an Exonian. "I'm most looking forward to the challenges that we will face and how we are going to overcome them as a group. Also, I think that people really grow together on such a trip and so I am excited to get to know new people," Schlor said.

Many students chose to attend the NOLS program because of last year's trip to the Bahamas. "I heard it was an awesome trip, except for the mosquitoes," lower Bianca Beck agreed. She said that she was excited for all of the challenges that the group will overcome. "I've also heard that there's a lot of bonding between everyone on the trip because you're all put through activities that push all of you out of your comfort zone, and you get together," she said.

Director of Global Initiatives Page Eimer explained that faculty are interested in offering a Thanksgiving program. If it is approved, the school opens the opportunity to all preps, lowers, uppers and newly admitted students towards the end of spring term. The Thanksgiving programs are domestic trips that often connect students with professionals in a specific field or access a geographical area that is different from New Hampshire. Eimer said she has already called for proposals for next year's Thanksgiving break, and after the new year, the school will know what programs will run in 2017.

Eimer felt that most Exonians already recognize the possibilities offered by traveling outside of one's own comfort. "Our teaching methodology asks students to consider other perspectives in every class, every day," she said.

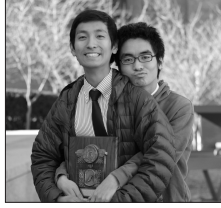
Eimer also explained that the travel programs offered are an extension of this philosophy. She wanted students to be aware that Exeter is committed to offering financial aid to support the participation of all interested applicants.

"Students and faculty return from these programs renewed, with a greater understanding of the diversity of experience and opinion to be gleaned by stepping outside the familiar," she said.

# SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

Each year, *The Exonian* prints a list of Senior Superlatives, based off of votes submitted via Survey Monkey. Here's to the Class of 2017!

### Cutest Would-Be Couple



**Issay Matsumoto and Jiro Mizuno**  
Runner-Up: Ahmad Rahman and anyone

### Least Likely Couple



**Rachel Luo and Harrison Money**  
Runner-Up: Jake Malasek and anyone

### Biggest Harkness Warrior



**Charlotte Sununu**  
Runner-Up: Hojoon Kim

### Wish You Knew Better



**Honor Clements**  
Runner-Up: Aidan Oakley

### Most Intense



**Hojoon Kim**  
Runner-Up: Lena Papadakis

### Most Well-Rounded



**Matt McShea**  
Runner-Up: Matthew Robbins

### Most Liberal



**Alec Howe**  
Runner-Up: Matthew Robbins

### Most Conservative



**Charis Edwards**  
Runner-Up: Alejandro Arango

### Class Clown



**Nico LeBlanc**  
Runner-Up: Graham Rutledge

### Most Athletic Boy



**Collin Shapiro**  
Runner-Up: Marvin Bennett

### Most Athletic Girl



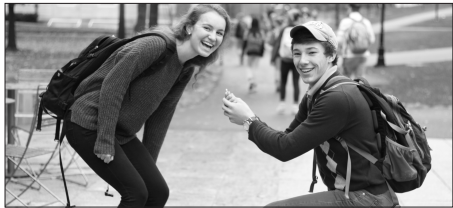
**Bella Edo**  
Runner-Up: Christine Hu

### Most Huggable



**Sydney Lamb**  
Runner-Up: Graham Rutledge

### Most Marriageable Girl



**Sarah Brown**  
Runner-Up: Ally Grounds

### Most Marriageable Boy



**Peter Chinburg**  
Runner-Up: Graham Rutledge

### Best Dressed Boy



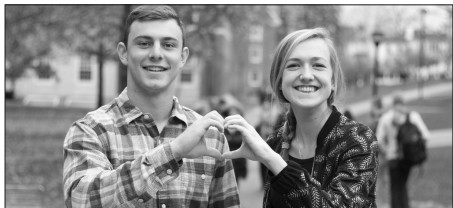
**Nolan Peacock**  
Runner-Up: JP Mullins

### Best Dressed Girl



**Rachel Luo**  
Runner-Up: Tanya Wongvibulsin

### Most Flirtatious Boy



**Jacques Farrell**  
Runner-Up: Brandon Liu

### Most Flirtatious Girl



**Gracie Williams**  
Runner-Up: Emily Robb

### Friendliest



**John Ragone**  
Runner-Up: Kelsey Detels

### Sassiest



**Margaret Coogan**  
Runner-Up: Nada Zohary

### Best Laugh



**Gracie Williams**  
Runner-Up: John Ragone

### Best Smile



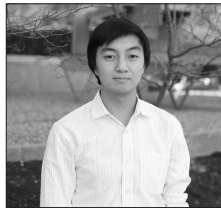
**Ivy Hong**  
Runner-Up: Kelvin Green II

### Most Changed



**Caroline Grace**  
Runner-Up: Tayo Zenger

### Least Changed



**Tyler Hou**  
Runner-Up: Jake Malasek

*Perfect Exonian Girl*

*Perfect Exonian Boy*

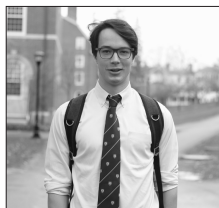
*Best Accent*

*Snapchat King & Queen*



**Sarah Brown**  
Runner-Up: Carissa Chen

**Eric Tang**  
Runner-Up: Kelechi Nwankoolala



**August Aalto**  
Runner-Up: Hannah Piette



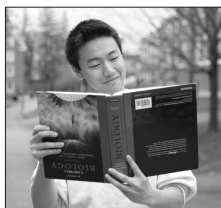
**Collin Shapiro and Michaela Corvi**  
Runner-Up: JP Mullins

*Class Genius*

*Closet Genius*

*Biggest Chicklationship*

*Biggest Bromance*



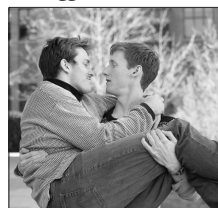
**Eric Tang**  
Runner-Up: Yaminick Yao



**Myles Haigney**  
Runner-Up: Daniela Nemirovsky



**Fall Luffin**  
Runner-Ups: Hillary Aristotle, Antigone Clark and Olivia Liponis



**Graham Rutledge and Liam Oakley**  
Runner-Up: Arjun Rajan and Solon James

**MOST LIKELY TO...**

*Be an Olympian*

*Make a Difference*

*Be a Stay-at-Home Dad*

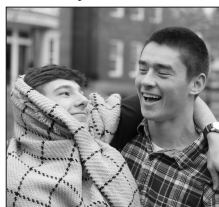
*Be a Trophy Spouse*



**Christine Hu**  
Runner-Up: AJ Pedro



**Kelvin Green II**  
Runner-Up: Eric Tang



**Stone Sulley**  
Runner-Up: Isaac Fingerson



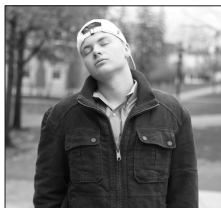
**Paul MacDonald**  
Runner-Up: Ally Grounds

*Sleep Through Class*

*Be President*

*Be a Billionaire*

*Fire a Lot of People*



**Morgan Himmer**  
Runner-Up: Samuel Long



**Joel Lotzkar**  
Runner-Up: Alejandro Arango



**Timur Luke**  
Runner-Up: Melissa Lu



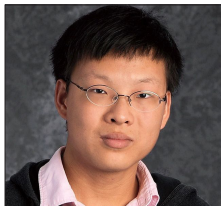
**Nada Zohayr**  
Runner-Up: Hojoon Kim

*Win a Nobel Prize*

*Be a PEA Teacher*

*Post on Bus Ride After Graduating*

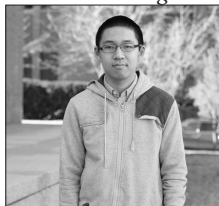
*Vote for Themselves*



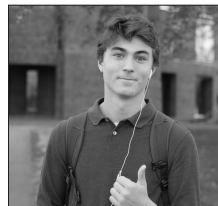
**Alec Sun**  
Runner-Up: Qi Qi



**Aidan Wolff King**  
Runner-Up: Majestic Terhune



**Yannick Yao**  
Runner-Up: Vamsi Gadde



**Jake Malasek**  
Runner-Up: Nico LeBlanc

**MOST LIKELY TO BE ON THE COVER OF...**

*Sports Illustrated*

*GQ*

*Vogue*

*Most Spirited*



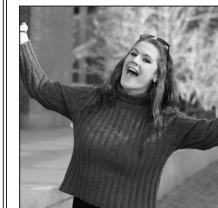
**AJ Pedro**  
Runner-Up: Margaret Coogan



**Geyang Qin**  
Runner-Up: Nolan Peacock



**Caroline Davis**  
Runner-Up: Ivy Hong



**Alex Rothstein**  
Runner-Up: Nico LeBlanc



# ExonianHumor



## Philip Quote Box, The Finale

By PHILIP KUHN  
*Big EIC Guy, Right?*

"I did a poem in his room."  
 "I was excited to share, but I felt like everyone was judging me so I am no longer excited to share."  
 "Is someone going to sing to us?"  
 "How do I tab?"  
 "I'd rather be watching Schoolhouse Rock right now."  
 "Good year ion."  
 "I'll show up on time tonight."  
 "What's the stitch... situation?"  
 "Can we not whistle?"  
 "I'm not that foolish."  
 "I grew up in South Carolina, ok?"  
 "Funny for seniors."  
 "There are very few little people from the South."  
 "I don't know where the hinterlands are."  
 "I have very bad geography."  
 "How do you spell it? J-O-Y? Oh, that's a nice name."  
 "I don't even wanna know what he does with his hair."  
 "You guys were making fun of me for my West African drumming thing, but it was a great stress reliever." \*begins to drum\*  
 "I'm in the beginners' group, of course."  
 "These articles look really funny."  
 "We're not too smart in Cilley."  
 "Obviously I'm joking."  
 "doesn't know his Facebook password"  
 "Have some manners, people."  
 "Aren't you in a band, right?"  
 "Is that the farmer's market?" "No, it's a riot."  
 "At least you have your oven mitt."  
 "singing" "Every little thing, is gonna be alright."  
 "Are we not allowed to be shirtless in photos?"  
 "I sigh in all my classes."  
 "We're going to turn our paper into Christian propaganda."  
 "He's way too Republican for me."  
 "I just liked his Southern accent."  
 "I'm scared of heights as well."  
 "What is this music? It's like a robot."  
 "I listen to Justin Bieber, yes, his recent album."  
 "Well I'm not sitting here listening to 'Baby'. My seventh grade self loved it."  
 "I have to edit. Snap snap!"  
 "That looks like the most boring book ever. Oh! Didn't realize that's the Bible!"  
 "My parents have money, I swear!"  
 "I'll bribe!"  
 "Oh because he's feasting!" "Fasting."  
 "No more Exeter games."  
 "I get random urges to whip."  
 "Pre-press is always ready."  
 "Well, you're going to die as well."  
 "I'm not being very smart about this class."  
 "Always be prepared. That's what they told me in Boy Scouts."  
 "Shot dem zombies."  
 "Back in the day in middle school..."  
 "That's a serious issue!!!" "Not in South Carolina!"  
 "If we do math correctly..."  
 "BOOM! That is math."  
 "Conservatives take it so much better."  
 "I'm hilarious."  
 "I would do it but..."  
 "The racism is overwhelming right now."  
 "I hope we don't have a selfie stick in our closet."

## Actual Senior Superlatives

By THE HUMOR EDITORS  
*Poll Masters*

### MOST LIKELY TO...



Dick an 8:55 Class After Attending an 8:00 Class



Be Called New When Actually a Four Year.



Not Remember to Apply to College



Get a "Can I speak to the manager" do



Be De-triggered



Only Be Conservative For the Facebook Debates



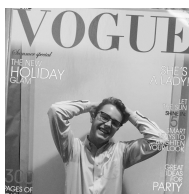
Leave Their Email Unattended



Hack Into An Email



Tag Friends in Old, Crusty Memes



Be Dress Coded While in Dress Code



Call an 11.6 "a bad GPA"



Get Hissed Off the Assembly Stage

## 10 Awkward Conversations at Thanksgiving

By EMILY GREEN  
*In the Holiday Spirit*

- "I told you so"—your racist uncle on Trump winning.
- Your mom complaining that you didn't eat the yams even though you told her you don't eat yams.
- Your own internal monologue of never-ending screaming.
- "So when do we hear back from Harvard?"—literally your whole family.
- "Have you gained weight? You really should stop stress eating"—your aunt, as she reaches for more non-complex carbs.
- "You need to eat more, you're gonna be too skinny. Men like a little junk in the trunk."—your other, internally sexist aunt as she too reaches for some non-complex carbs.
- Probably some mention of "the liberal agenda."
- An actual, passionate argument over whether or not the singers in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade are lipsyncing or not.
- A family feud as to whether or not pumpkin pie tastes the same as sweet potato pie.
- An unanimous decision to just get pecan pie instead, prompting a new argument as to what the right way to pronounce, "pecan" is.

Submit articles. Or don't.  
 Turnovers are coming. We don't care.  
 Email [exonianhumor@gmail.com](mailto:exonianhumor@gmail.com)

## Billy Reacts: Donald Trump's Win

By BILLY O'HANDLEY  
*Out of Control*

Hey you guys! My name is Billy O'Handley, commonly known as Billy from Cilley. I am a writer for the humor page. Let me tell you about my night a couple Tuesdays ago.

I decided to get a jump on my article early. Since Clinton was obviously going to win the election, I decided to write an article about how the most important thing that happened on Tuesday night was the Brooklyn Nets winning a game, with the joke being that the Brooklyn Nets winning was much more

surprising than Clinton winning the election. I finished the article, and went downstairs to check out the election coverage. I don't remember much about the night afterwards. From the videos on my phone I now know that I ran up and down the stairs in Cilley Hall singing "Oh Canada" at 2 a.m. and that I covered my face in hair gel and went into people's rooms screaming "I'M THE HAIR GEL MONSTER" at 4 a.m.

I had a good joke lined up just in case Trump won, just as a con-

tingency measure, but I was going to put it in another article titled "The jokes I would have made if Trump became president." I guess I'll just put it in this article instead.

If Clinton won, we would have had the First Man, but now, we have the Third Lady.

I actually don't know what to do or what to think. I didn't actually think that this was even a possibility until it happened. And now it's happened.

Well, at least writing for the humor page is going to be easy.

## Which Elitist Institution Should You Have Applied Early Decision/Action To?

By GRACE DUISBERG  
*Shook*

We all know hindsight is 20/20. Early apps were a couple weeks ago, and chances are most of us put a lot of thought into choosing our early application college. But I'm guessing you had some doubts. Let me clear those up right now with this simple horoscope test.

**Aries:** Stanford, because there's probably an Aries out there named Stan Ford who didn't actually go to Stanford. Do it for Stan.

**Taurus:** Columbia, because you have an electric personality, and the measurement for electricity is in coulombs. I think Physics was a long time ago.

**Gemini:** Harvard, because like the twin, Harvard has two sides: one side says it wants you, and the other side rejects you.

**Cancer:** Johns Hopkins, be-

cause Dr. Trimble did her residency there, for those of you who didn't go to the John Phillips Award assembly ("Assembly is a required appointment" -Dean Cos), and she's curing cancer. So even though Johns Hopkins will be the death of you, you should go anyway.

**Leo:** Harambe University, because you are like a lion, fiercely loyal to your first love...stay devoted. #RIP

**Virgo:** Princeton, because I'm definitely always right about absolutely everything.

**Libra:** Yale, because Yale has four letters, and four goes evenly into two, making it a balanced word, and you, the Scale, are all about balance.

**Scorpio:** The Country of Monaco, because Monaco is well en-

dowed, and you're well endowed too, but in other respects...yup, personality and intelligence! Exactly what you were thinking, I'm sure.

**Sagittarius:** UPenn, because you're the archer, archers have arrows, arrows are the same shape as pens...you do the math here.

**Capricorn:** Capricorn? I'm sorry, did you mean capriCORNELL?

**Aquarius:** Brown, because my mom is an Aquarius, and she applied to Brown.

**Pisces:** Dartmouth, because you are the sign of the fish, and fish dart around...hence Dartmouth.

And there you have it, folks. I take no responsibility for any regret I may have induced. I just report the facts.

## Exeter: A Microcosm of *His* America

**Kelvin Green II '17**  
Guest Contributor

On Nov. 9, 2016, I turned 18 years old. I could buy cigarettes, lottery tickets and I could finally vote. Although I missed being able to vote in such a high-stakes presidential election by one day, I didn't think that it would matter; because after all the phone-banking and canvassing and waking up at 4:30 a.m. on Election Day, I had all the confidence in the world that Hillary Rodham Clinton would become our next president, and more importantly to me, that he would not. Just the night before, as I watched the votes come in and the electoral map change colors, there was a corner of excitement in the room when it appeared that he would become the president-elect. At midnight, I grabbed my stuff and went to bed, unphased and optimistic that I would wake up to good news. The next morning around 7:30 a.m., I saw two notifications on my phone: one from my mother that said "Happy Birthday!" and one from CNN that said that he

surpassed 270 electoral votes, becoming the president-elect. I was disheartened. I would get up and be met with "Happy Birthday!" and "Sorry!" and I would go to one class during which we didn't even acknowledge what had happened the night before. The America I grew up in was led by President Barack Obama, a man offering hope and a dream and someone who looked like me. Now, America will go from an amazing black president to a president endorsed by the KKK. Don't get me wrong, I know this America. I know the America that disregards its black people, that fails to realize that the rivers of this country flow with the blood of the slaves, that their bodies are beneath the very buildings we students learn in everyday, that "We, the people" never included us, the black people. This America has always existed. But, I never thought that I would be a part of a country, where a man who spews so much racist rhetoric and perpetuates white supremacist culture could still assume the highest position of authority in the land. Or that voting Americans did not consider this to

be a disqualifying factor for his election. But, this is not just America. This is Exeter. I have heard the voices of classmates who rationalize and intellectualize the situation, who fail to believe that hateful rhetoric matters, who don't know that words become actions, which in turn become the law, which is how institutionalized racism works. I have seen his slogan on hats that people wear around the school and interact with students that joke about the election results. But, this is not a laughing matter. If these are the students that Exeter is producing, students that intellectualize every situation without up with compassion, who lack the humanity to empathize and understand why we are hurting, then this is a school I am not proud of attending. You may not see what I see. But, I see it. And it's real. Exeter is a microcosm of *His* America. Don't tell me that white supremacist culture and racism do not exist on this campus, when I see and live it everyday. Mediocrity from white students, white faculty and white administration alike will not dismantle the white supremacist

culture. To buy a book and invite an assembly speaker is not enough. To host a discussion is not enough. To say, "Tim an ally?" is not enough. To create new positions that use language like "inclusion" is not enough. You can't just check boxes off or fill quotas and think that you are doing enough. Actively dismantling a system requires work and commitment, not passive and uninformed decision making. We have to do better as a community. Now, granted many of these initiatives existing are in the forward direction, but I remember what it was like my prep year when discussions of race were brought up with administration and possible solutions as well. And we are having the same discussions three years later! Enough is enough! When will our motto of *non sibi* become our walk of life? When will Exeter face its issues of race and earnestly seek out help to reconcile them and create initiatives that are effective in preventing more conflict? I see potential here at Exeter and our nation, but it starts with you. So take off your safety pin and do something about it.

## The Dangers of Passive Bigotry



**ERICA'S AMERICA**

Erica Hogan  
Columnist

Immediately after the election results were announced, people from all factions of the American political sphere began to call for people to come together. We have been told that we must bridge the divide and reach out to repair our broken nation. On the surface this sentiment is heartwarming. I'm sure all of those people preaching about how we must learn to understand and forgive one another mean the best. I too am upset by how divided this nation is and how disconnected I am from a very large proportion of it. For the sake of the country that I love and for my own sake I hope that Donald Trump is a successful president, despite the many reservations I continue to have about his competency. That said, to spout idealistic pleasantries and to ask both sides of this political divide that is so clearly personal to just drop their hurt and accept an upsetting status quo silences our populace and skates

over the problems that are causing this divide. When Donald Trump was elected as the president of the United States, I, like many other Americans, felt heartbroken and betrayed. In electing a misogynist who openly admitted to groping and kissing women without their consent, who has repeatedly objectified women and taunted them based off of their physical appearances, who called for women to be "grabbed by the p\*\*\*y," my nation condoned his behavior and announced that such conduct is acceptable. Agency over my body was taken away from me. In saying that such behavior is acceptable, my nation told me that my body belongs to any old man who wishes to "grab me by the p\*\*\*y." The day following the election, I was filled with fear. Who in my home thinks that such behavior is tolerable? Who of the people that I trust would stand by as I or one of my sisters is sexually assaulted, just as over 50 million Americans not only stood by as a man

promoted such behavior, but elected that man to the most powerful office of the world? I felt nauseated all day. I continue to feel sickened that my brethren would betray me and many others like that. I can't begin to fathom the pain that others in this nation must've felt on that night. Despite the upset I felt, I remain in a position of great privilege. As an agnostic, straight, wealthy, natural-born and white-passing woman, I don't have to live in fear of homophobia, racism, xenophobia and Islamophobia as many of my fellow Americans now do. I can't even begin to imagine the heartbreak felt by those who were told by their nation that it's OK for them to be tortured until they renounce their sexuality, or that people of their race are "murderers and rapists," or that people of their religion are inherently prone to acts of violence. I will never be able to comprehend the pain felt by those who now see their attackers

emboldened, bigots of all forms crawling out of their closets to hurl slurs and, in some cases, stones, to announce their hatred to the rest of the world. To ask those Americans who were hurt in this way to get over the ugliness behind Trumpism and accept that this is the state of our nation is to silence the survivors of bigotry. This in turn emboldens the misogynists, racists, homophobes, xenophobes and Islamophobes of the world. I still have faith that the vast majority of people in this nation hope to build a society in which all people can live freely and without fear. I believe this of those who voted to take away my body, of those who declared a fear of my Islamic, Hispanic and immigrant friends in their votes. That dream that I and so many others have of a nation in which we all coexist peacefully will never come to fruition until the fears we have of each other are confronted, and the pain felt by our populace is acknowledged and hurt. To silence those targeted by Trumpism is to be complicit in their oppression. To ignore bigotry is to be complicit in it. It's a passive bigotry, but bigotry nonetheless. For the sake of us all, reject silence and speak.

**I still have faith that the vast majority of people in this nation hope to build a society in which all people can live freely and without fear.**

## The Aftermath of Grey Wednesday

**Tim Han '18**  
Guest Contributor

One week ago, we here at the Academy bore witness to an entirely singular experience. On the morning after election night, we woke up to a completely different America. The polls were wrong, we had underestimated the strength of rural, white America, and we found ourselves living in Trumpland. The day opened overcast and cold, and it seemed a perfect metaphor for the way most of us felt. Several faculty confirmed that they had never seen and felt anything like what was felt on campus that Wednesday morning. It was a Grey Wednesday. In the week after that devastating morning, we witnessed a nation in shock, and half of the country reeling from the greatest political upset in modern American politics. To be clear, I am well aware that some members of our own community were overjoyed at the outcome of the election. However, for most Exonians, and most of America, this was a far cry from the result we had wanted and expected. The scariest part of the victory, for me at least, was the vindication that racists and extremists seemed to feel following the election. That vindication in turn led to a spike in outrageous and dangerous hate crimes. In the hours following the election, the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) reported 300 incidents of hate crimes and racial discrimination or harassment nationwide. Activist Shaun King claimed that he had received over 3000 reports in the 48 hours immediately after the election. Some of the independently verified reports include high schoolers in a Pennsylvania school chanting "White power" while holding a Trump sign, and "Trump Nation, Whites Only" being scrawled on a Maryland church that offers weekly Spanish-language services. At the University of Michigan, a white

male threatened to set a Muslim girl "on fire with a lighter," a swastika and "Trump" were sprayed on the walls of a dorm at the State University of New York and a swastika and "Hell Trump" were sprayed on the walls of an Indiana church that supports same-sex marriages. "Make America White Again" and a swastika were drawn on a baseball field wall in Wellsville, N.Y., and the words "Colored" and "Whites Only" were sprayed above drinking fountains in Jacksonville, Fla. The reports go on and on, but this should not surprise anyone. Trump ran a campaign by calling Mexicans rapists, retweeting white supremacists, retweeting anti-Semites, claiming ignorance of the KKK's endorsement of him in a live interview, tweeting false statistics about black-on-white and black-on-black crime, mocking the disabled, picking up one of the most homophobic men in the nation as his running mate, attempting to build a wall to keep immigrants out and promising that he would "bomb the s\*\*\* out of" his enemies. As I have said all election long, Trump is fascist, authoritarian, hawkish, anti-Semitic, anti-black, racist, xenophobic and has advisers as homophobic as Adolf Hitler. Do I believe that Trump will become Hitler? No, but the reason why we must remember, and we must never forget the campaign that Trump ran, is because we now have a responsibility as the electorate to keep Trump in check. The Republicans won the House, the Senate, will soon get the Supreme Court and have a supermajority of the state governors and legislators. There are no legislative or judicial checks on Trump, and there are no state level checks against Trump. We, the American people, are now the last check and the ultimate balance to

counteract Trump. Perhaps Trump will shift to moderation, as he has already begun to do, but we must remain vigilant, and forever watch his actions. There are no other boundaries against Trump's actions but the American public. We the people must consistently denounce his hate speech when he says it, prosecute the hate crimes he inspires and defend the minorities he attacked this entire campaign. Now I have heard responses from the right wing claiming that the protests against Trump's elections are equally bad, and yet, I fundamentally disagree with that claim. The protests against Trump are exercises of American democracy and liberty and an engaged electorate. We all agree in disavowing those instances where they have turned violent, but there is a fundamental difference between the late crimes of racists and an exercise of liberty that does not harm others. There is no equivalency between the two. One is inherently evil while the other is not. In the effort to heal a partisan nation, some of us have called for increased discussion and conversation between everyone. They have called for an attempt to understand the sentiments that drove others to vote a certain way. That is certainly a noble and noteworthy cause. However, in these conversations, we must remember what the difference between facts and feelings is. One side of the conversation, more so than the other, has consistently been misinformed. Of 333 Trump statements, Politifact rated a jaw-dropping 70 percent of them as "Mostly False," "False" or "Pants on Fire" false. By comparison, the same was true for only 26 percent of Hillary Clinton's claims and 26 percent of President Barack Obama's. In an inter-

view with Alisyn Camerota at the Republican National Convention this summer, Trump surrogate Newt Gingrich was fact-checked by Camerota after he falsely claimed that violent crime is up in big cities. He responded to the facts by saying, "That's your view." Later, when Camerota pushed the issue, Gingrich said that, "People feel more threatened." He concluded by saying that he, as a politician, prefers feelings to facts. Both sides of the conversations are not using as many facts as necessary, but there is no equivalence here: Trump and his surrogates built a campaign on using feelings instead of facts, and blatantly lying to the American public. In these conversations with Trumpers, we must remember that facts are facts. We cannot argue or debate over facts. When one side of the table refuses to use facts, it is our job to call them out on it. To understand feelings is a great start, but we must always correct the misinformed or worse, those attempting to misinform. So, in the aftermath of Grey Wednesday, we need to keep fighting. We need to protect what progress was made in the last eight years. John Oliver called for donations to nonprofits that protect the very minorities that Trump has preyed on this whole election cycle. He has also called for compensating newspapers to support them in the pursuit of journalism. Others have called for peaceful protests when possible. However, most importantly, what we as an electorate must do is stay informed. If Trump makes any move to discriminate, to hurt, to oppress, or is ignorant in any manner, we must be there to call him out on it. If misinformation is thrown around, or if facts are disputed, we have to correct the misinformation. Now more than ever is the time to be engaged and to take charge of our democracy. There are no safeguards for our liberties but us. The ultimate challenge of keeping our democracy is now upon us and us alone.

**So, in the aftermath of Grey Wednesday, we need to keep fighting. We need to protect what progress was made in the last eight years.**

## The Exonian

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## Russia's Best Friend



WORLD  
COMPASS

Mark Blekherman  
Columnist

After the Russian invasion of Crimea, only one country did not support the United States' and European Union's sanctions on Russia and remained neutral: China. Just recently, Russia announced its cooperation with China in countering the United States' missile defense system, which both countries see as a threat to their national security. The supportive relationship between President Putin and President Xi is surprising, given the divergent paths of their respective economies. The Russian government continues to expand its grasp over the country's vast hydrocarbon resources, refusing to diversify and liberalize its economy. China, on the other hand, has given rise to financial centers and booming megacities. Large migrations from rural to urban areas have led to a modernized economy, lifting millions out of poverty. So why has this asymmetry only strengthened the ties between these two largely authoritarian regimes?

The answer lies in Russia and China's expectations on the international stage. They both believe that international institutions, like NATO and International Court of Justice, discriminate against them—though both have a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. President Vladimir Putin recently criticized the Olympic Committee's decision to ban a few Russian athletes from Rio Olympics as a political maneuver intended to

undermine Russia. Similarly, China rejected the Hague's ruling on the South China Sea and only increased its military presence on the islands. It's too naive to classify this aversion to compromise as simply an "aggressive foreign policy." After all, Putin and Xi have significant incentives to contradict other world leaders as a way of spurring nationalist pride and legitimizing their own leadership. To prevent revolution and guarantee public satisfaction, both leaders portray their dedication to service as a constant struggle and fight against other "antagonistic" countries. Russia and China want to challenge US-dominated institutions like the World Trade Organization and NATO, and by working together, they can construct their own coalition of states and secure their own sphere of influence.

Surprisingly, Russia and China have similar political structures despite their divergent economic paths. Both governments believe that human rights and civil liberties are secondary to their political ambitions and material wealth. In the twentieth century, Stalin's purges and Mao's Cultural Revolution proved that the survival of the party and the elimination of the bourgeoisie was the leadership's top priority. Not much has changed. Putin's approach to politics has become more reactionary over time. By renationalizing the oil/petroleum industry and covertly obliterating all opposition parties or journalists, Putin tightens his muscular grip over Russia, isolating his government from the goals that Gorbachev spelled out in Glasnost and Perestroika. Perhaps China's political environment is not as apocalyptic, but it continues to suffer from widespread corruption and co-optation. It

may be that the two dictators' empathy for one another allows both to make mutually convenient deals on the global stage.

Russia is no longer the world power that it used to be during the Cold War. Increasingly dissatisfied with nuclear deals such as the New START Treaty and upset by NATO's expansion into former Soviet republics, Putin attempts to augment Russia's power by allying with China and thus counterbalancing the Western order. Both Russia and China have played a key role in setting and fulfilling ambitious agendas in BRIC, an organization of the four main newly industrialized nations: Brazil, Russia, India and China. In 2014, Putin and Xi collaborated on a Power of Siberia deal that would pave for the construction of a gas pipeline. In the Security Council, China supports the Russian stance on Iran's nuclear program, while Russia supports the Chinese stance on North Korea's nuclear program.

One might ask the question: Does the Russia-China relation pose a threat to American security interests? In my opinion, the United States will face little repercussions as long as it realizes that Putin still plays by Cold War rules. Some politicians believe that making concessions to Russia will ease tensions and open room for cooperation. But these politicians forget that the very existence of Putin's authoritarian regime relies on the portrayal of the United States as a weak power incapable of challenging Russia's superiority. If we choke Russia's global image but engage China into world institutions, we will accomplish two goals. One, we will create a rift in Russia-China relations by changing China's priorities. Two, we will challenge Putin's political legitimacy.



## Where Ends Meet and Progress Meets an End

Eleanor Mallett '18  
Columnist

On Nov. 9, the world shook. Television screens

blared red in every living room of every home as people awaited the 2016 election results. I was one of these people, huddled around a computer with my four best friends, passing around Kleenex and Cup Noodles. We watched as the map of electoral votes bled a scarlet red, pouring over the Midwest and claiming Texas, Florida and Pennsylvania. Both horror and stupefied astonishment overtook me. I was angry at the news sources for being so drastically wrong, but most of all I was mad at the silent majority for proving us right.

Walking around campus the next day was like walking around a graveyard; I have never witnessed such a silent landscape. I have also never seen such unity in a single group of people before. On that day, you could walk up to any given person and give them a hug, and they would know why. This divided nation has only brought our community closer together.

The progress we have made in our mindset is what I believe to be paramount. A racist, sexist, unqualified, unintelligent and misogynistic man who swoops in and wins the election cannot set this progress off course.

The results of this election have disturbed me, like many of my peers. I am outraged that the American people decided to ignore all of the malicious, non-progressive and discriminatory concepts that Trump stands for, and casted a ballot for him regardless. Endorsing Donald Trump is directly perpetuating the culture of rape and sexual misconduct in our world today. At Exeter we have worked so hard over the last year to make sure that we are building a climate for ourselves in which healthy sexual behavior is essential to our wellbeing as students and our quality as humans. We have held workshops, assemblies, facilitated conversations with Principal MacFarlane, taken surveys and published dozens of articles on this issue. The progress we have made in our mindset is what I believe to be paramount. A racist, sexist, unqualified, unintelligent and misogynistic man who swoops in and wins the election cannot set this progress off course.

As a small community that is committed to obtaining the utmost knowledge and goodness as people, I believe that we can make a difference. I believe that we are stronger together. Many of us will graduate in the middle of Trump's term. We will move onto bigger and better things in a world of boundless opportunity. We will go to college, go to the army, upstart businesses and make differences in our own magnificent ways. The significance of a Trump presidency will penetrate all of its conceived limits. It will change our country in ways we never thought possible, but it cannot change us and it cannot change who we've become during our time at Exeter.

Furthermore, this time in our lives should not be the peak of our quality as people. Just because the Academy's Deed of Gift persuades us to combine these essential traits of knowledge and goodness, does not mean that they no longer apply once we have been handed a diploma—it is advice for life. The social awareness, political education, acceptance and involvement and genuine interest in the world are some of the attributes that make Exeter stand out. In many ways, these are qualities that are unique only to Exeter, but they do not have to be. The best thing that we can do for our school and for the world around us is to bring the accepting and aware people that we are into the world beyond high school. If we can carry Exeter's cultural progress to the real world, it will not matter if our president is a genius or an ignoramus; the future is up to the people and how we react now.

## Spread the Positivity



LET'S TALK  
ABOUT IT

Jack Stewart  
Columnist

Unbelievably, Trump is president. Against all odds, he pulled through and won the right to govern our country. This past week has been, to say the least, uncertain. It has shown the division among our nation and the price we pay as a nation for listening to the person who shouts the loudest and promises the most, as opposed to the one who speaks firmly and offers a tinge of realism. This unfavorable outcome shouldn't dishearten us democrats, nor should it make it seem like there is no hope in a Trump presidency; as Hillary Clinton hinted in her concession speech, the only way to succeed is to work together towards a common, hopefully bipartisan, goal. One thing that every Democrat nervous for the future has to do is to buckle down, get his or her nose to the grindstone, and begin preparing for the Trump administration in every way they can.

I myself was remarkably upset when I found out that Trump was elected presi-

dent. I was upset about the ideals he spoke about during his campaign. I was upset for the image his presidency would project on America. Yet I was most upset at what his presidency meant for my close friends who would be affected the most. However, I knew within my gut that what had happened, happened, and that nothing anyone could do would ever change that. And now, as I look back, I realize that being overcome with emotion, while still a perfectly acceptable and normal response, isn't necessarily the one that will bring the change we direly need.

Instead of protesting, we need to strategize and think ahead. We need to insist upon particular institutions that we are proud of and remain united throughout his four years. Instead of protesting against Trump, protest for Obamacare, or Roe v. Wade, or whatever matters to you most. That is the way we can get things done in this country and how we can make it a better place for everyone.

This country has found itself facing a very two-dimensional view of politics. We have liberals and we have conservatives, republicans and democrats, people on the left and people on the right. What has this done to the political climate of this country? It has led to an entirely partisan

government, with both sides pushing their own agendas merely for the sake of pushing them. Even more heinously, it has edged out those with non-mainstream views, and forced potential candidates to change themselves to appeal to a particular party's values. Some even argue that Trump won because he represented suppressed values of the American people. In the end, if you bring Trump's own personality into the mix along with his Republican obligations, and you have a dangerous combination.

But together we can overcome it. The future is bleak, but we don't have to make it any drearier than it already is. In spreading positivity, we need (as hard as it is) to reach out to Trump supporters. We need to listen to them and put our emotions aside and strive for level-headed discussion. Most importantly, we need to show them that we are willing to do as much as is possible for our interests and for this country. I understand that this is easier said than done; I empathize with those who Trump has disenfranchised and mocked, and I get how scary it is that we live in a country in which a man like that has the same views as millions of Americans. But we have to strive for what we believe in and always do our best to make this country united. We must, in the end, go high.

## Are Trump's Positions Changing Already?



THE LIBERAL  
AGENDA

Jordan Davidson  
Columnist

If there is one aspect of Donald Trump's presidential campaign that I admire it would be the great fortitude and consistency with which he expressed his views. During the entirety of the race, Trump stayed confident in his views about issues facing America. His conservative voice resonated with many citizens across the nation. Trump's harsh, right-wing views were the vehicle which he used to access and harness our country's rage. Not only did he succeed in utilizing this anger to get him the RNC nomination, but he received enough support to get to the White House. With every vote that was cast in Donald Trump's name, every vote that lifted him up to the presidency, a wager was placed. Each voter bet that Trump would not just successfully lead the country, but that he would stay true to his values. But the way the map is laid out, it is likely that opinions Trump expressed during the campaign are changing, such as those on the Affordable Care Act, same-sex marriage and even Hillary Clinton.

From day one, Donald Trump has scrutinized every part of the Affordable Care Act aligning right with the Republican Party's classic "repeat and replace" motto. In 2012 the GOP nominated Mitt Romney for the presidency. One of Romney's biggest accomplishments was

his implementation of RomneyCare, a healthcare system for the state of Massachusetts. Our president's health care system, commonly referred to as Obamacare, is based on RomneyCare so much so that Romney has taken credit for the creation of Obamacare. This means that angry anti-Obamacare voters did not have a candidate that strongly opposed the program in the 2012 election. The same irritated individuals saw Donald Trump as a ray of hope, an adamant anti-Obamacare figure who would replace the system they hated. Trump has kept that persona alive, that is, until his interview on "60 Minutes" during which he said that he liked some key components of Obamacare such as the keeping of children on their parents' insurance plans until the age of 26 and continued coverage for those with pre-existing conditions. This change in viewpoint on Obamacare is not a typical political flip-flop; it is a betrayal of his supporters.

Another important aspect of the Trump campaign and this election was LGBT rights. More specifically, same-sex marriage. Although he has not been defiant about his position on gay marriage, Trump has stated numerous times over the past 16 years that he is in favor of traditional marriage. This highly conservative view is becoming more of a rarity in each election cycle. Trump's stance against this caters to those who cannot put their faith in a candidate, Republican or Democrat, who is in favor of gay marriage. Then again, Donald Trump has recently betrayed the trust of his supporters by stating after he won the election

that, "[Gay marriage] was settled in the Supreme Court. I mean it's done. These cases have gone to the Supreme Court. They've been settled. And I'm fine with that." This recent change in opinion only draws suspicion for more flip-flopping by Trump.

The most vital part of the Trump campaign was the absolute hatred of Hillary Clinton. In the past he has called Hillary "crooked" and has repeatedly claimed he will hire a private investigator to look deeper into the email case and send her to jail. The level of rudeness and detestation Trump has showed toward Clinton not only helped him, but it hurt her. Voters across the country believed Trump's rhetoric and grew to despise Hillary and everything she stands for. Yet in his acceptance speech he said, "Hillary has worked very long and very hard over a long period of time, and we owe her a major debt of gratitude for her service to our country." Although the winning presidential candidate generally has to speak fondly of the loser, Trump has never been one to follow the rules. Never has he abided by social norms or basic manners. This is one of the only times throughout the whole election where Trump has been out of character, speaking fondly of Hillary.

It has been only eight days since Donald Trump was elected President of the United States. In those days Trump has effectively flip-flopped on many of the values he spoke about during the campaign. From what we can observe, the Donald Trump that we saw for two years in the race was simply a mirage.

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# ExeterLife



Stone Sulley, Lucas Stevens and Rohan Upadhyayula jamming out at the EAR Concert last Friday.

Chiara Perotti/The Exonian

## Exeter Association of Rock

By JAMIE CASSIDY, JOY ZHANG and JACQUELINE CHO  
Staff Writers

After pep rally, the cheering of sports teams turned into the clapping for musicians at the annual EAR concert, held this past Friday. Students poured into the Assembly Hall to hear the talented artists of the Exeter community. The second half of the pre-E/a festivities showcased members of the Exeter Association of Rock (EAR), who held their second concert of the school year. Students of all grades took the stage as they shared songs from artists such as the Eagles and Maroon 5.

As a student-run club with concerts open to the Exeter community, EAR encourages students to cast off any insecurities and perform confidently on stage. This year's EAR concert featured

many well known songs such as the Eagles' "Hotel California," and Ed Sheeran's "Don't." Impressed by the performances, the crowd gave multiple standing ovations to all students. Lower Hanna Pak, a member of the EAR, commented on how involved the audience was and how excited she was to perform. "I honestly loved the atmosphere of the concert so much. It was just a bunch of people who love music playing and jamming out to songs and appreciating everyone's talent," Pak said.

Pak's group had been working on "Hotel California" throughout the term and found it to be a great way to not only build spirit but to celebrate the musical accomplishments of Exonians. Support from the audience was key to the success of the EAR concert. Many performers commented felt connected with the audience when performing on stage, espe-

cially because the crowd was hyped from pep rally. Lower Tobias Abelmann, a returning member of the EAR, was excited to take the stage again. "It's a blast to get up and play for part of the school," Abelmann said.

The crowd's enthusiastic response was a testament to the performers' talent, and effort while preparing for the concert. "Since I was doing a lot of songs, I would spend three to four hours on the last two Sundays playing with groups. But it was always fun; everyone loves playing their instrument so we have a good time," Abelmann said. Pak agreed, sharing that her band Stepping Stones met every Sunday morning to rehearse their songs. All the hard work paid off, excited Exonians rose to cheer for their fellow musicians.

Along with the audience, the concert served as a very special experience for its performers as well. It provided students

with the opportunity to debut their self-composed songs. Prep Pepper Pieroni has been working on a music project labeled "Sometimes" for a little over a year and was very excited to share it with the community. "I really love to perform, and that EAR concert was a pretty special one because of my album release," Pieroni said. Senior Matilde Liboni performed an original song with piano accompaniment inspired by her personal life experience. Her performance left many students in awe. Students such as lower Eugene Hu approached Matilde later that night to tell her how moved he was by her piece.

For a frigid November night, the engaging performances and festive vibes warmed the campus with a vigorous spirit, preparing athletes and spectators alike for a thrilling game of sporting events ahead.

## Dog Spotlight

By EMILY PELLICCIA and WILLA CANFIELD  
Staff Writers



BREED: Chocolate Lab  
OWNER: Daniela Nemirovsky

Meet Kona Nemirovsky, senior Daniela Nemirovsky's one-year-old Chocolate Lab. Kona and Daniela have worked hard over the course of the year to maintain their relationship, even though Kona lives thousands of miles away at Nemirovsky's home in California.

Kona joined the Nemirovsky clan last September when they adopted her from a ranch in California.

Kona spends her days at doggy daycare with her work colleagues: Amo, Finn, Daisy and Benny. During the weekends, she socializes with her best friend Estie and her boyfriend Ringo, a White Retriever. According to Nemirovsky, Kona met Ringo because he lived nearby, and fell in love immediately. "It was a 'boy next door' kind of love," Nemirovsky said.

When she isn't spending time with her canine friends, Kona enjoys a variety of different hobbies. Kona also enjoys eating anything she can get her mouth on, sleeping and looking cute. A true Californian, she is an avid fan of the Golden State Warriors.

Kona can also solve a Rubik's cube in under eight seconds and is the proud owner of a very soft pair of ears.

Nemirovsky and Kona communicate frequently in order to maintain their loving and close relationship, video chatting each other often. "Long distance has been heartbreaking for me and Kona," Nemirovsky said. "Luckily we stay in touch in bi-weekly FaceTimes and over text." Though Kona has never been to Exeter, her larger-than-life cut-out lives in Nemirovsky's room, reminding Nemirovsky daily of her wonderful friend.



KONA NEMIROVSKY



BREED: Golden Retriever  
OWNER: Bonnie LaBonté



HENRI LABONTÉ

@henri\_thedawg

Meet Henri LaBonté, senior Bonnie LaBonté's dog. Henri, who is a hybrid of a Yellow Lab and a Golden Retriever, was born on Canada Day in the summer of 2013. LaBonté's parents purchased the dog on the first day of the field hockey preseason her prep year.

In his free time, Henri is fond of taking long walks on the beach, riding shotgun during car rides, cuddling, smiling and napping. Henri loves playing tug of war, retrieving tennis balls and watching Hockey Night in Canada.

Henri makes friends wherever he goes. "He is often compared to a frat boy by our family and friends," LaBonté said. "We say that he has a thousand friends he hasn't even met yet." Henri is close with senior Emily Ryan's Basset Hound, Abe and his two sisters Lulu and Hazel. He also considers all of LaBonté's friends and dormmates close friends.

According to LaBonté, overcoming the difficulties of their long distance relationship has only brought her and Henri closer together. "Long distance is hard, [but] he is very comforting to me," she said. "It makes our time together during the summer and school breaks more special."

She explained that her absence has had some detrimental effects on Henri's health. "Henri has put on a bit of weight since I have been at school. We think he stress eats because I am not home," she said.

Henri often visits Exeter on the weekends to enjoy walks through the foliage, the snow or the nearby beach, and to check in on his friends in Dunbar.

## Senior Spotlight

## Kevin Elaba

By ALICE LITTLE, PAUL JAMES and  
ANDREW HONG  
Staff Writers

Senior Kevin Elaba walks out onto the stage, microphone in hand. As the lights in Assembly Hall dim, he is left illuminated by a spotlight overhead. Students' hushed voices whisper excitedly as the opening guitar chords of "Harder to Breathe" by Maroon 5 echo through the room. Elaba begins to sing, and heads bob among the crowd to keep the beat of the song. Students are smiling—not only because of the beautiful way that Elaba sings the song, but also because they know his kind nature and are happy for him.

Elaba's passion for music began at two years old when he began learning English songs in the Philippines. At age four, Elaba's family moved to the United States, where music became even more crucial to him—it allowed him to overcome the barriers caused by his foreign accent. "When I was on stage at six years old, singing 'Puff the Magic Dragon,' I didn't really notice the difference [in my accent] at all," Elaba said.

Now, Elaba serves as a co-head of Exeter Association of Rock (EAR) and he often performs for the Exeter community. He first gained interest in the club as a lower, when he attended an EAR concert and was "blown away" by the voices. He immediately knew that he wanted to join. As a co-head, he helps to organize EAR concerts, performing and inspiring others to do the same.

Later this year, Elaba hopes to compile a senior recital that blends the best elements of classical and contemporary music. He considers himself less of an orthodox



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

technical singer and believes in letting his emotions show through. Students say that the passion in his songs is palpable, as he often sings well-known pop songs with a catchy beat.

Elaba is also a co-founder of Pinoy Society, a group for students of Filipino descent. Last year, he visited the Philippines on a service trip. He also tries to return each year and visit extended family. "Whenever I go back to the Philippines, it seems like something out of a book. It's so surreal and everyone there seems to live in the present,"

Elaba said. "They don't really want to worry about what they have to do for tomorrow or the next day. It's a very different environment from Exeter, where we're all worrying about our 333s, or squash tryouts or college essays. It's very refreshing." The change in culture served as a release for him and allowed him to reconnect with his family, some of whom he hasn't seen in over a decade.

Elaba's impact on other students is unmistakable. As a proctor in his dorm, Abbot Hall, he is always there to give advice or motivate his dormmates. Senior Chris

Nivera, who is one of Elaba's best friends, said that Elaba is known in the dorm as being "an easy-to-talk-to, really funny and bubbly person." "In the dorm, he's really kind to everyone and also jokes around with them a ton. People always go to his room just to chill, listen to different kinds of music he's blasting and have fun," Nivera said. Elaba also demonstrates his leadership as a co-captain of the JV tennis team, leading the team to a 9-3 record last season.

However, Elaba said that his main priorities are academics and music. Nivera, who often accompanies Elaba on piano, says, "He's obviously an extremely talented singer and I'm really lucky to be able to play onstage with him. Oftentimes, we'll go to the music building and jam out a couple songs with friends." Elaba has succeeded in getting some of his friends to open up and show their musical side by performing onstage or in the dorm.

In spite of looming college applications and the duties of a classics scholar, Kevin still manages to remain upbeat and put on great shows for the rest of the Exeter community. His dedication goes far beyond his music, extending to his sports, setting an example for others in his dorm and studying Latin and Greek simultaneously. As he moves through his last year at Exeter, Elaba is optimistic about experiencing the college music scene and working with people as invested in music as he is.

Nevertheless, there are things he will miss, chiefly his dorm. "I'm probably going to miss Abbot Hall the most," Elaba said. "Even though the dorm has been changing throughout the past three years, it seems like whenever I go back to check-in, Abbot's always there for me."

## Faculty Spotlight

## Mrs. Reyes

By JAMIE CASSIDY  
and SARAH RYU  
Staff Writers

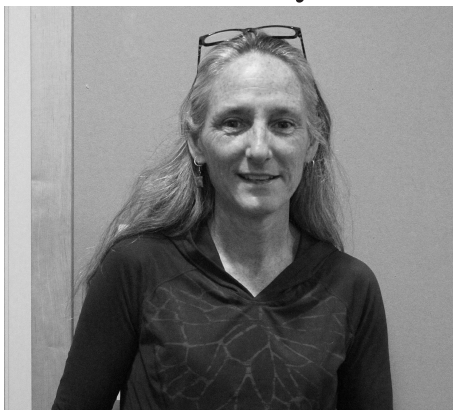
For over 25 years, Community Service Coordinator Elizabeth Reyes has dedicated her career to guiding communities and individuals alike. Whether her work called for generating awareness among disadvantaged groups in Africa or establishing opportunities for empowering youth, Reyes has utilized her passion for service to drive improvements throughout many demographics.

This passion for service was first kindled after college when she served with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. Reyes worked in a variety of capacities, specifically targeting inner-city children and teens, to help them envision a better future for themselves. Reyes' field of work emphasized bridging the gap between potential and basic resources necessary for success.

With many years in the United States under her belt, Reyes grew interested in development overseas and joined the Peace Corps. She was sent to Namibia to train teachers in a nearby college. Yet, the experience proved to be even more beneficial for herself. "After two years I returned home having learned so much more from the community in which I lived than I could have ever taught them," Reyes said.

On campus, Reyes works with students looking to get involved and help others in the community with the Academy's Social Service Organization (SSO). Reyes referred to working with the board as a "privilege." Members learn from one another, always thinking of ways to build opportunities for expanding involvement of non sibi. She often finds the highlight of her week when working with the student board as there are many new, uplifting stories to be shared.

"Ms. Reyes has always been a very supportive figure for everyone on the board. ESSO not only helps the community but fosters



Jena Yun/The Exonian

student leadership. Ms. Reyes truly focuses on each and every one of us, helping us gain leadership capabilities that will not only be used here, at Exeter, but in the future as well." On-Campus Coordinator upper Jackson Parel said.

SSO co-President and senior Sarah Brown remembered how welcoming Reyes was when the new board was decided and described how Reyes plays the important role of holding the entire board together.

"I can say with certainty that Mrs. Reyes is the backbone of ESSO. She works hard to think about every aspect of each club and event and makes sure that everything runs smoothly. She focuses on the positive, thinking through what

we could do to make change and how we can create a large impact. She contributes to Exeter like no other. When I talk to her I know she is listening deeply to what I say," Brown said.

Reyes additionally expressed her gratitude for what she considers to be one of the best jobs at the Academy. What she finds to be a valuable aspect of her position is the opportunity to work with students of many backgrounds and interests while also interacting with faculty and staff from a wide spread of departments. "It is never a dull moment in the ESSO office whether we are preparing for the ESSO opening Assembly, interviewing for the ESSO Board, working with the principal's staff or collaborating with a

number of departments to help Exonians be the best we can be," she added.

To ESSO board member upper Emmett Shell, Reyes' role on campus expands past her job description. She added that her dedication to ESSO is distinctively displayed through the effort she puts in to keep ESSO running smoothly on a daily basis. "It's always been clear to me how much Ms. Reyes truly cares about ESSO; it seems like much more than a job for her," he said.

With the ESSO board, Reyes oversees a little over 60 student clubs designed to educate students about the importance of meaningful service and how to identify service needs and impact, both positive and negative. She provides guidance and support for students to successfully offer service to the local community and student body. Reyes added, "Accountability and sustainability are two of our biggest focus points. I try to quietly teach life skills including, how to listen to others needs, make changes as needed while things develop over time and how to set up a program to be successful after they graduate."

Parel said, "Considering ESSO is over 60 clubs, it takes someone really special to be able to run an organization effectively as big as ESSO."

Besides her responsibilities with ESSO, Reyes taught the Senior Studies course: Social Innovation this fall. Working around the Harkness table with 11 students motivated to make a positive change has since given her new ideas and insights for her role as teacher and ESSO coordinator.

Simply put, Reyes' contributions have been invaluable to the community. Senior and ESSO Children's Coordinator Evan Xiang agreed.

"She's always coming up with new ideas for ESSO to improve, so I would say that she is one of the main driving forces behind how far ESSO has come over the past few years," Xiang said. "She's really such a great person—I can't see anyone else taking on her role as well as she has."

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## TwinSpotlight

## Teddy and Sammie Weaver



## TEDDY WEAVER

1. Definitely very positive. We care for one another and help each other out when we're feeling down or have a problem.
2. I don't know how she feels, but I definitely think it's less awkward seeing her around campus than it was in the halls of middle school.
3. **Favorite:** She's good at the things that I'm bad at i.e. math, killing insects, organization skills, getting enough vitamin C.  
**Least favorite:** How unresponsive she is when you ask her a question. On a good day it takes her a minute and 20 seconds to respond and at that point I need to restate the whole thing. Sometimes I wonder if she's been in a war and is lapsing into traumatic flashbacks.
4. Whenever she acts like my mom and bosses me around in front of my friends.
5. In terms of grammar and vocabulary I'd say she edges me out, but I'm much better at pronunciation. When we have classes together, I'd say things are pretty normal. We help each other with homework and studying like a roommate or dorm-mate would. Sometimes we can get all the way to midterms before our teacher even knows we're twins.
6. Projectile vomit, pour bleach into my eyes, and die from the heavy weight of awkwardness... I'm just kidding, it wouldn't be a big deal.
7. This might be a little outlandish to you, but we usually eat turkey.
8. She'll probably be a health conscientious power-mom taking the world and her husband in reins.
9. I always have someone that will have my back and push me to do my best.

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## QUESTIONS

1. How would you describe your relationship with your twin?
2. How do you think your relationship has changed since you came to Exeter?
3. What is your favorite/least favorite thing about your twin?
4. What is your most funny/embarrassing memory of your twin?
5. Who is better at Spanish? (What is it like having classes together?)
6. What would you do if your twin started dating one of your best friends?
7. What is a Thanksgiving tradition you are looking forward to?
8. Where do you see each other in forty years?
9. What is one of the best parts about being a twin at Exeter?

## SAMMIE WEAVER

1. I would say Teddy and I have a pretty great relationship. We get along really well and barely ever fight with each other. Sometimes we disagree over what song to listen to on the car ride to school, but usually we find something that we both like.
2. I think Exeter has only made us closer. The past three years has been a roller coaster of up and downs, but it is great to always have someone to cheer you up or be the first one to congratulate you.
3. My favorite thing about Teddy is his sense of humor. He is the funniest person I know and never fails to make me laugh. My least favorite thing about Teddy is that he knows exactly what buttons to push to tick me off.
4. One vacation we went to California. Our mom took us to a boardwalk on the beach. There was a ferris wheel and a roller coaster and a lot of rides. We went on one ride together and a couple thought my brother and I were dating. They yelled at Teddy to "give her a smack on the lips." It was really embarrassing, but Teddy promptly yelled back, "She's my sister!" which made the couple turn bright red.
5. I think I'm better at Spanish overall, although Teddy has a talent for making hilarious Spanish videos. I generally enjoy having Teddy in my classes. We've been in the same history class, Spanish class and math class together. It's nice having him in the same class because you always have someone to study with or read over your work.
6. If Teddy started dating one of my best friends I probably wouldn't care too much. My friend would just have to know that I would always take Teddy's side no matter what.
7. We don't have many Thanksgiving traditions but we both enjoy watching the Thanksgiving day football game.
8. In 40 years, I see Teddy as a pediatrician with a wife and three kids. He would also be the coach of his son's lacrosse team.
9. Like I said before, being a twin at Exeter is great because your twin is always there to cheer you up or congratulate you. Being a twin also provides plenty of material for English narratives. We both have written multiple pieces ragging on each other which creates some sibling rivalry.

## MUSIC REVIEW: A MOON SHAPED POOL

By ALAN WU  
Contributing Writer



It must have been hard to imagine back in 1992 that a band called Radiohead would go on to be the most important band of its generation. The band's first hit single "Creep" fit in well with the grunge-heavy landscape of the early 90s. Radiohead could have just been one of those angst-ridden guitar band one-hit wonders. Flash-forward 24 years, and Radiohead is the last great rock band standing. There is no other group, except perhaps U2 and Metallica, that can generate the same frenzy of speculation and excitement as Radiohead can. The difference is, Radiohead is still at its creative peak while bands like U2 have become old money.

Since its second album, 1995's critically adored "The Bends," Radiohead has continuously pushed the boundaries of mainstream rock. From the art rock disillusionment of 1997's "OK Computer," to the fierce experimentation of 2000's "Kid A," all the way to the lush and gorgeous melodies of 2007's "In Rainbows," Radiohead created masterpiece after masterpiece. Every album they released broke new ground. They brought progressive rock, krautrock, electronica and jazz fusion back to the consciousness of audiences and fellow musicians. They never made the same album twice. It is with this prospect in mind that fans eagerly anticipated the band's ninth studio effort, 2016's "A Moon Shaped Pool."

I was one of those fans, staying up late at night, hunched over my laptop, waiting for the record to drop. All we got were two singles and a release time, no album cover, no title, no tracklist. Will they continue to experiment with new sounds? Has Radiohead finally lost

it? Does the album even exist? On May 8, 2016, we got our answers. Yes, no and yes, in that exact order. In a year during which prominent artists are redefining their sounds (Frank Ocean with "Blonde," Bon Iver with "22, A Million") Radiohead manages to accomplish something completely different.

The band, all of the members now in their late forties, is no longer obsessed with uncovering grand political lies or detailing the end of the world. Such profundities can easily become hackneyed. On "A Moon Shaped Pool," lead singer and primary lyricist Thom Yorke explores simpler truths with a level of clarity that is rarely seen in Radiohead's music. "This goes beyond me, beyond you," he croons on "Daydreaming," one of the album's most hypnotically beautiful songs. Cynicism is nowhere to be found in Yorke's singing, nor the music that encases it. For the first time ever, the paranoid android of modern rock has opened up his soul, bare for the whole world to experience.

Many of the songs on "A Moon Shaped Pool" have preexisted in some shape or form. Album opener "Burn the Witch" dates all the way back to the "Kid A" recording sessions in 1999-2000. On the album, the song bursts with great intensity. Col legno strings, composed by the band's multi-instrumentalist genius Jonny Greenwood, attack with sharp, rapid cuts and are backed by an eerie synth bassline. "This is a low-flying panic attack," Yorke announces, calling back to the old days of plane crashes and wolves at doors. The song's aggressive nature contrasts with the rest of the album and yet it manages to not feel out of place. It's the

exorcism of Radiohead's acidic bloodstream. All that's left is a broken, weary and oddly content soul.

Lyrical, the album mostly discusses love, forgiveness and regret, colored by Yorke's separation from his partner of 23 years and the mother of his two children. However, I'd be reluctant to call this a breakup album. Breakups are entire stories, plateaus of bold emotions. Radiohead's music isn't bound to such limits. Its music is an enigma of soundscapes that somehow, almost magically, creates an experience that is viscerally palpable on a very deep level. It fully envelops you and attacks the most inherent parts of who we are, like a car crash to the soul. We don't cry or laugh, we just feel.

Musically, "A Moon Shaped Pool" is exquisite and is a drastic shift from the computer looping and sampling of Radiohead's previous album, 2011's "The King of Limbs." Radiohead always functions best as one collective unit and on this new record, that creative dynamic is as awesome as it has ever been. The band displays an immense amount of maturity and control. Every element is fine-tuned for perfection and nothing is more than what it needs to be. Guitars sound like pianos, pianos sound like guitars. They layer and interlock with each other. The intricate production highlights this quality of the record, often giving the spotlight to ambient drones and twinkles from Ed O'Brien's guitar. This doesn't necessarily mean that they've stopped experimenting with new sounds. Jonny Greenwood's use of strings and choirs decorates the record with a sense of gorgeous eeriness, a paradoxical

feeling that Radiohead has mastered so well. The band blends these organic elements perfectly with synths and drum machines, as exemplified in the song "Identikit." "Broken hearts, make it rain," Yorke wails as a tide of synths and choral vocals carries the album's most memorable lyrical hook. Bassist Colin Greenwood and drummer Phil Selway are top-notch, holding down everything with a tight, infectious pulsing groove.

And then there's "True Love Waits," the album's closer. It's the oldest song on the album, one that has existed since 1995. Unlike "Burn the Witch" and all the other older tracks on the album, "True Love Waits" has long been a part of Radiohead's live show canon. However, the album version is completely reworked. Instead of an acoustic guitar, we get pianos drenched in echoes and reverberations. The track is drum-less. It leaks into our ears pouring every last ounce of itself. "Just don't leave," Yorke sings tenderly and sincerely, never fabricating any emotions.

Some people have criticized Radiohead's decision to use older, unfinished songs on "A Moon Shaped Pool." I disagree. You can write a song like "True Love Waits," filled with hard hitting lyrics like, "I'm not living, I'm just killing time," and set it all around the world and perform it to legions of screaming fans. The very essence of the song could be planted in your mind, but it may take a lifetime for its true power to bloom. The inherent truth of something, in some sense, is always there. Some truths just take longer to see than others.



Courtesy of Google Images

# Girls' Volleyball Takes Down Andover

By JACK BAKER  
Staff Writer

Hundreds of Exeter students stand quietly, holding their index fingers in the air. The girls' volleyball team is just one point away from defeating its rival in the fifth set. Exeter serves and Andover manages to put the ball back over the net. Big Red controls the return and sets its hitter for the kill. The ball soars off a hand before smacking against an Andover player's face. The ball hits the floor, and a sea of red bodies storm the court. Exeter is once again victorious.

Last Saturday, Exeter played against Andover on enemy turf. The team battled hard against its opponents and ultimately came out on top. Andover won the first and third set, and Exeter won the second, fourth and fifth. This win raises Exeter's record to 8-5.

The team took many positives away from this victory. Exeter maintained its composure, despite going down early in the game. The girls were successful in channeling their frustration, and used it to compete for every point.

Upper Margaret Kraus said, "One turning point was in the huddle after we lost our second game. Kat looked us in the eyes and said that losing the next set was not an option." This mentality resonated with the team and motivated to push the game to the fifth set.

Andover had a few strengths that were particularly difficult for the team. Kraus described Andover's team as "scrappy," as they work hard to try and win every ball.

Big Blue also had a strong serving core. Senior and co-captain Kat Dumoulin said, "They gave me a hard time with the serving and definitely made things interesting."

On top of their serving and defensive ability, Andover players also were very aggressive hitters. "Defense was



Big Red huddles in between points.

Jena Yun/The Exonian

tough because we never knew where the ball was going, since Andover's hitters just like to hit it as hard as they can," Dumoulin said.

Exeter played at a higher level, despite Andover's strengths. Exeter improved as the game went on. "In the beginning of the game, we weren't blocking well. It was actually losing us points and hurting us. But, by the end of our game, it was our strongest resource," Dumoulin said. This recognition allowed Exeter to successfully counter

Andover's kill attempts.

Kraus also pointed out that the team's passing and serving was strong. However, it was the "losing is not an option" mentality that carried the team to victory. Senior and co-captain Rachel Luo explained, "As long as we let them make the errors and wear them out, we'll keep winning games."

Exeter is looking to work hard in practice with the hopes of winning New England's. "We're working on passing and serving skills for playoffs," Kraus

said. Kraus also mentioned that Coach Bruce Shang is also working to scout out the teams Exeter will be up against, so Exeter will also be modifying its block and hitting placements based on the other teams' strengths and weaknesses.

Big Red's first playoff game will be this Wednesday at home against Loomis. "We're hoping to crush every team and get better as we keep playing, because we need to keep excelling if we want to beat the top teams," Dumoulin said.

# Field Hockey Loses Hard-Fought E/a Battle

By TAYLOR WALSH  
Staff Writer

This past weekend at E/a, the girls varsity field hockey team played Andover in the first event of the day. The early game meant that not all of the Exeter fans watched the full game, yet many fans showed up from both schools.

This game had been circled on every Exeter player's calendar for the entire season because they were hoping to avenge their 0-1 loss from a year ago. Unfortunately the girls did not beat their rivals this year, but they still played a very good game.

Andover field hockey has been a powerhouse in the league for the past few years so this was a very tough matchup for Big Red. Andover won last year's playoffs and had a season record of 13 wins, 1 tie, and only 2 losses going into the game.

Nonetheless, the Exeter team was ready for the challenge. Lower Catherine Griffin said that the team was, "very excited about the game, but a little nervous because [they] lost to them last year."

The game was very competitive from start to finish, with both teams rallying behind the support from their respective crowds. Andover scored first, but the girls did not get demoralized or slow down. Down by only a goal, the team the Andover net with ferocity.

Andover's defense stopped these attacks, which limited Exeter's opportunities. Senior and co-captain Abby



An Exeter player maneuvers around a smurf.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian

Yu noted that the team, "had some problems with making accurate passes, so they kept turning over the ball, but on other hand, [Andover] did too." Andover scored their second goal later in the game, and Exeter did not close the gap. Senior and co-captain Michaela Corvi said, "Although we lost, we were definitely in that game and we almost scored a number of times."

The girls played their very best, right down to the final whistle. The Andover game concluded Moxie's season, and there are some mixed emotions from the team members. Most of the girls are very happy with how the team came together this season, but they will also miss playing together on the field each day.

The seniors on the team felt the most sad about the season ending. Corvi

explained, "We got really close at the end of the season so it's sad not getting to see everyone every day but I think we will stay close and the team will continue to have that moxie bond next year." Many of the Exeter players will play on other varsity teams in the next two years, but they hope to have captains' practices in the spring so that their field hockey skills stay in check.

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# ATHLETES OF THE WEEK: MICHAELA CORVI, BELLA EDO AND ABIGAIL YU

By **BELLA ALVAREZ**  
Staff Writer

The three girls' varsity field hockey co-captains, seniors Bella Edo, Michaela Corvi and Abby Yu, have led the team to seven victories this season. "I really treasure every goal and every win," Yu said. She was uncertain at the beginning of the term, but after seeing how well the team did, Yu was optimistic and proud. "I wasn't sure how well we would do because we only had eight returners," Yu explained. "But all of the new people are exceptional girls and came to Exeter with open minds and hearts."

Edo shared the same concerns. "Our team was really young this year, and I was a little nervous about that," Edo said. However, she felt that the age differences only contributed to the energy and positivity of the team dynamic.

Edo, Corvi and Yu were all introduced to the game in various ways. Corvi and Edo began playing during middle school and struggled to choose between field hockey and soccer as their fall sport. "I liked it because it was something kind of foreign to me," Edo explained. "I liked the challenge of it."

Yu, however, picked up the sport on a whim. She'd done gymnastics, fencing, swimming and figure skating before, but after pressure from her gym teacher, she decided to try out field hockey during eighth grade.

Lower Lydia Anderson admires each captain's athleticism. She elaborated on Yu's strong defense skills, citing her talent for stopping the ball as an inspiration. Anderson commended Edo's versatility as well. "Bella is amazing at both defense and midfield," she said. "I'm always relieved when an opponent with the ball goes toward Bella, because I know that she's going to intercept the ball."

Anderson described Corvi's control of the stick as "fantastic." Lower Ashleigh Lackey also commented on Corvi's willingness to try new dodges and lifts. "I think I'm really aggressive," Corvi said. "I think my speed helps with transitioning the ball, but I also try not to be selfish."

Edo also labeled herself as an aggressive member of the team. "Sometimes my excitement gets the best of me and I end up getting called for fouls," Edo said. However, as she has gotten older and gained more control over her body, Edo's tenacity has developed into a



Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

more technically-sound determination to win.

Yu described Edo's deftness for locating the position of the ball. "Bella is like Sherlock Holmes," Yu said. "She is really good at deducing who has the ball." Yu characterized her own technique as reactive. "Everything I do really depends on where my teammates play the ball, and how I can react to the moves of the players on the opposite team," she said.

Each captain employed different strategies to guide the team. Corvi described her approach as an enthusiastic one. "I try to pass my knowledge onto them," she said. "I also try to get them energized and ready for games." Corvi was surprised when she was voted in. Because she came in as a new lower, Corvi didn't expect to become a co-captain. "It makes me really happy knowing people think

I'm a good leader," she said. Yu elaborated on her responsibilities as captain, saying she had to make sure to set a good example for the team, and ensure that everyone got on well with each other.

Edo found that she had to balance being tough on her teammates, while offering friendly advice and being a supportive figure. "I [pushed] them to be their best, while also having fun with them and being someone they felt they could talk to about things related or unrelated to field hockey," she explained.

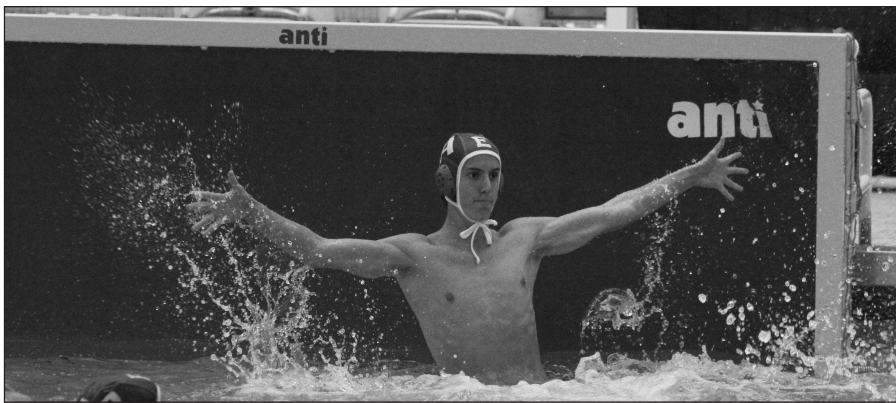
Anderson attested to the captains' positive spirits. "They all are nothing but encouraging," Anderson commented. "Their attitude has really kept our team on track. I can't remember a time when any of them were in a bad mood at practice."

Although the team did not win their E/A game, each captain is very proud of their effort. "We fought really hard all the way to the end," Yu said. Corvi agreed, citing the 3-4 times when the team almost scored. "I honestly think we got unlucky," Corvi said. "It was still fun to play though."

Lackey shared the same feelings, saying that she was extremely grateful to have shared her first E/A experience with the team. She also commented on the atmosphere of the stadium. "It was the most fans we've had, and they definitely helped us get hyped up," Lackey said. "We played an amazing game."

When asked to describe her overall feelings about the season, Corvi recalled the closeness of her team and their chemistry. "We had a really tight-knit team," she said.

## Water Polo Runner-Up at NE Interschols



Upper Will Soltas defends Exeter's goal.

Chiara Perotti/The Exonian

By **ERICA HOGAN**  
Staff Writer

Bear Polo ended its season on a high note, earning the finalist title at Interschols last weekend at the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn. Entering their final competition seeded second, the boys defeated Loomis Chaffee 8-6 in their first game and lost 12-4 to Brunswick in the championship. Bear Polo's final record for the season is 14-2. In addition, two Exeter players, uppers Jackson Parell and Taylor Walshe, were named to the Interscholastic all-star team. The finish was a significant improvement from the previous season, in which the team failed to qualify for Interschols.

The boys went into the weekend relaxed and ready to compete after a full season of practice. The night before the whistle blew, they practiced in Hotchkiss' pool to prepare. They came into game day feeling ready to compete.

The first game against Loomis proved successful for the boys, who employed their tried and tested hard defense strategy. Bear Polo narrowly defeated Loomis earlier in the season. The boys were confident in their abilities, but were also aware that Loomis wouldn't give in easily. "We knew that the game was ours," co-captain and senior Liam Oakley said.

Walshe scored two goals early into the game, putting Exeter ahead. However, Loomis soon caught up, making the score 2-2, and the two teams remained close for much of the game. While both teams displayed their excellent defensive skills throughout the game, the Exeter boys ultimately wore Loomis down until their opponent gave in.

Exhausted by its first match, Bear Polo rested up in anticipation of their championship game against Brunswick, the only team to have defeated them so far in the season. Nerves were high going into the game, especially as

Brunswick had won the last two championships. "We knew it was going to be a tough game," Oakley said.

Although Exeter kept up with the Brunswick boys for the first quarter, their exhaustion from the first game and the opposing team's skill got the best of them. Many Brunswick players had been playing the game their whole lives, and play water polo all year around, giving them an advantage over Exeter's team. "We were overmatched by a very experienced Brunswick team," upper Harrill Saunders said. "Although our boys worked well together and gave it their all, their tenacity was beaten in the end by Brunswick's technical ability." "In the end, I think it just came down to pure skill and knowledge of the sport," Oakley said.

While the team didn't get the result that they wanted, they were happy with their gameplay nevertheless. "We played some of our best water polo in the tournament," Walshe said.

The boys were very happy with

their season results overall. Team members highlighted their attitude and cooperation as key factors in their success. The team last year had not connected in the same way that the boys did this year.

"We had each other's backs in and out of the pool, so when it came time to play, we trusted each other completely," Oakley said.

Walshe highlighted how the team's teamwork and persistence enabled them to overcome other shortcomings. "We were easily the smallest, least talented, most inexperienced team Exeter has had in a long time, but we played like a team and were tenacious. We worked really well together and had each other's backs," Walshe said.

Oakley and his co-captain, senior JP Mullins, both expressed pride and gratitude for the team. "I couldn't be more proud of the boys. The weekend was a great end to an amazing season and it was such an honor to be a part of this team," Mullins said.



# ExonianSports



## CROSS COUNTRY VICTORIOUS

*Varsity, JV Teams Take First Place in NE Championships*



Photos courtesy of Ashley Lin

### BXC Reclaims the Fame

By ASHLEY LIN  
Contributing Writer

It is Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016. Pale blue skies and light winds circulate the start line of Exeter's cross country course. The air is crisp, and seven boys from 13 DI New England prep schools line up side-by-side on a mission to bring home the interscholastic champion plaque. To many Exonians, this is just another *Era*, another weekend leading to the end of the term, but today is the day the Exeter boys' cross country team has been dreaming about during every practice of the season. Adrenaline pumps through the veins of each boy on the team, blood boiling red with the drive to win. As soon as the gun goes off, the team fights for gold in a sub-18-minute race filled with determination and the hunger for redemption.

This weekend, seniors and co-captains Jiro Mizuno, Issay Matsumoto and Garrett Pitt led Big Red to victory. The boys' cross country team had been undefeated for four years, until last year, when they lost their top eight runners in the graduating class. They had to work hard and persevere to compensate for their loss, making the best of what they were left with, which was essentially their JV team. Each member of the team filled the shoes of those who left, bringing them to a third place result in the 2015 Interschols. Since then, the boys have run day and night, rain and shine to set the record straight.

As the team was called down to the floor at the awards ceremony to be titled "New England Champions," tears streamed down each and every one of their faces as they waved their plaque in the air. The team was back in their place as the best team in New England. Order

had been restored.

The team secured the gold with a total score of 68 points, edging out the second place team, Andover, by 14 points. Atticus Stonestrom grasped the first spot by a whopping 11 seconds, continuing his undefeated streak this season. Co-captains Garrett Pitt, Issay Matsumoto and Jiro Mizuno followed closely after, placing sixth, ninth and 11th. Isaac Fingerson pulled through with a 41st place in the race, nailing the fifth spot.

"We ran for each other and won for each other," Pitt says. "Each of us gave everything we had to the race, not because we wanted to run a fast time or place well individually, but because we each knew that every other member of the team was going to sacrifice all they had in the race and were counting on us to do the same."

The JV team also managed to place in first, with an even more amazing score of 28 compared to the second place score of 54 points.

"Nolan was instrumental in leading the team to victory, continuing the tradition of an Exeter runner taking first in the JV race," Pitt said.

Most of the time, people run on anger, using competition to fuel their race. This time, there was something different. The boys ran on pure love.

"As I came out onto the final field stretch into the stadium," Matsumoto said. "I remember seeing Jiro right by my side, and feeling a weird sensation. It was love."

The team credited their success to their coaches Brandon Newbould, Nick Unger and Bill Jordan. "Without Coach Newbould's guidance and support, we wouldn't have achieved any of this," lower Jed Breen said.

### GXC Runs for One

By ELEANOR MALLETT  
Staff Writer

Last Saturday was a busy day for all Exonians. Away at Andover, sports teams battled it out with Big Blue while fans cheered, alumni reunited and parents lit up the barbecues. Back on the Exeter campus, cross country warmed up for their last meet of the season—the Interscholastic championships.

Interschols is held every year at the end of the cross country season and pits all of the prep schools in the league against each other. The 13 other teams from the NEPSIA league included Deerfield, Andover, St. Pauls, Choate, Brooks, NMH and Loomis Chaffee, all teams that Exeter has defeated in their regular season. Nothing changed on Saturday, as Exeter finished strong, taking home a first place plaque.

The race was off to a fast start once the gun shot, with over 100 runners tearing off of the start line. First place went to the top varsity Andover runner, a postgraduate recruit who has dominated in the league this season. Lower Hanna Pak said, "Lots of the other teams had one or two strong girls as well. Exeter came away victorious because all of our girls are really fast, which allowed us to get a lot of low scores instead of just relying on the top few runners."

Exeter's success has always come from a deep and even pool of talent, rather than relying on a few select stars to pull the team. Senior and co-captain Sarah Brown agreed that, "what put us above other teams is the depth of our team. Not only did we have [senior and co-captain] Christine Hu who placed second but in the varsity race six of our girls placed in the top 20." This is the trait that has allowed them to receive such collectively low scores this season and achieve their undefeated record.

Exeter brought this same teamwork and hard working mindset to Interschols this weekend. Lower Grace Gray commended the team's hard fought effort during the race. "I think our

team did a great job of working as a unit while racing, cheering, or working the meet," she said. "It was definitely different and exciting to have so many people racing on the course at once, and I think our team approached this change well by working off of each other while racing and overall giving it our very best."

Brown was also very proud of the team's success and congratulated her team on a well-fought battle. "Many of our runners ran personal records and overall it was a great day. We felt very prepared going into the race. We knew the course, our team and how to race," she said.

This race was especially significant because it was held on Exeter's home turf for the first time in many years. The girls spent all season practicing and holding small meets on our trails, so they knew the course inside and out, and when the day came, they were prepared. One physical challenge that Pak noted was the unexpectedly long grass. Grass is an obstacle that hinders speed in country and the Exeter runners weren't exactly used to. The race was also a mental challenge due to the sheer magnitude of the event. "It was one of the more mentally challenging races since it's such a big deal," upper Sara Kopunova said.

Pak said that the thing she will miss most about this season is their team dynamic. "I'm going to really miss the work ethic this season because we all pushed ourselves and each other beyond what we thought we could do, and our drive to be the best was really admirable," Pak said.

Brown said her final goodbyes as well, after four years of membership to the girls cross country team. She said, "I will miss my team, my coaches and getting to train and race in our woods. I will miss our dress up days and the spirit that I saw each time I came to practice. For the seniors, there couldn't have been a better end to four seasons of cross country at Exeter. We have slowly climbed up from eighth, to third, to second and now to first."

### InsideSports

#### Water Polo



Water Polo ended their highly successful season with a second place finish at NES. Read more on B5.

Chiara Perotti/The Exonian

#### Athletes of the Week



Field hockey captains Michaela Corvi, Bella Edo and Abby Yu led their team to success this fall. More on B5.

Reina Matsumoto/The Exonian

#### Volleyball



Volleyball came back from behind to defeat Andover this weekend. Read more on B4.

Diana Davidson/The Exonian